

band and the drama club. She participates in caroling at nursing homes, and makes crafts, food and toy drives for Hopelink, a local nonprofit organization. She is very active in the reading tutoring program, often giving up her lunch recess to help others learn to be successful readers. Kaaren is also an active member of her church and local Girl Scout Troop and enjoys playing soccer, softball, basketball and swimming.

She and all of the other AAA winners deserve our thanks and applause.

On behalf of the Senate, I extend congratulations and thanks to these young men and women. They are assets to their communities, and their families and neighbors should be very proud of their courage and dedication.

I would also like to recognize the American Automobile Association for providing the supplies and training necessary to keep the safety patrol on duty nationwide.

Since the 1920s, AAA clubs across the country have sponsored student safety patrols to guide and protect younger classmates against traffic accidents. Easily recognizable by their fluorescent orange safety belt and shoulder strap, safety patrol members represent the very best of their schools and communities. Experts credit school safety patrol programs with helping to lower the number of traffic accidents and fatalities involving young children.

We owe AAA our gratitude for their tireless efforts to ensure that our Nation's children arrive to and from school safe and sound. And we owe our thanks to these exceptional young men and women for their selfless actions. The discipline and courage they displayed deserves the praise and recognition of their schools, their communities and the Nation.

GAMING LAW POLICY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, last month I had the wonderful opportunity to speak to students in a gaming law policy class at the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. As I am sure you are aware, yesterday the Senator from Arizona reintroduced legislation that would make it illegal to wager on college sports in Nevada, where it is legal and heavily regulated. The legislation will not solve the problems the sponsors of the legislation seek to solve. Recently, I received a letter from several students in the class who have done a great deal of research on the subject. I share the views they have, and I ask unanimous consent to print their letter in today's RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

WILLIAM S. BOYD SCHOOL OF LAW,
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA AT LAS VEGAS
Las Vegas, NV, April 24, 2003.

Hon. HARRY REID,
U.S. Senate, Hart Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR REID: We write to you as members of the Gaming Law Policy Class at

the William S. Boyd School of Law at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas. Our class includes students from states that have no legal gaming, such as Hawaii. One of the topics that our class has researched this semester, under the direction of Adjunct Professors Tony Cabot and Bob Faiss, is congressional legislation that would outlaw collegiate sports wagering in Nevada casinos. After researching this matter in detail, we have come to the conclusion that such legislation would not effectively address the problem that its proponents are trying to correct.

We recognize this is the conclusion that you and the other members of Nevada's congressional delegation have also reached in your consideration of this subject. We have reviewed the legislation that you co-sponsored with Senator John Ensign during the last Congress and agree that this approach would do much more to eradicate the problems created by illegal sports wagering on college campuses.

Based on our in-depth analysis of this subject, we felt compelled to send this formal expression of support for your efforts. Our letter is not to be considered an official expression of the law school. We have prepared it as individuals sharing a common view.

Our examination of this subject has led us to the following conclusions:

1. Banning collegiate sports wagering in Nevada would do nothing to eradicate or reduce illegal collegiate sports wagering. Banning gambling in Nevada is unlikely to end any illegal gambling on college athletics. The amount of wagering that takes place on collegiate sport wagering in Nevada is a minuscule fraction of the overall amount of wagering that takes place nationally. The money wagered in Nevada on college athletics would flow to the domestic black market or to offshore Internet gaming companies.

2. Nevada casinos actually assist law enforcement in exposing illegal gambling schemes. Nevada sports books have a proven record of uncovering suspicious gambling activity. Absent the scrutiny of Nevada sports books, law enforcement would have no real-time monitor on unusual wagering trends.

3. Nevada collegiate sports wagering is not the problem. The money that is legally wagered in Nevada on college athletics is only two percent of the estimated total amount wagered on college athletics across the country. The proponents of legislation to outlaw collegiate sports wagering in Nevada have presented no credible evidence that legal wagering in Nevada is the cause of the problems such legislation is attempting to correct.

4. The idea that Nevada encourages illegal wagering throughout the rest of the country is without any factual support. As stated, such wagering in Nevada comprises a very small percentage of the total amount of wagering that occurs. Newspapers, including USA Today, are on record as stating that they will publish betting odds and point-spreads regardless of whether wagering on college athletics is legal. Offshore Internet sites would also continue to publish betting odds and point-spreads.

5. Nevada sports book operators are highly regulated and subject to intense scrutiny. Nevada sports book operators have never been involved in a point-shaving scandal.

In conclusion, our research shows that banning regulated wagering on college athletics in Nevada will not address the problem of the influence of illegal wagering on student-athletes and will, in fact, remove a tool that law enforcement has to expose illegal betting schemes.

We therefore hope that others members of the Congress will support the common-sense approach taken by you and the other mem-

bers of the Nevada delegation to address the problem of illegal wagering on college athletics.

Respectfully,

Jeremy Aguero, Kevin Bumstead, Anthony Celeste, Zachary Fritz, Edward Magaw, Nathan Miller, Shannon Okada, Jennifer Stallard, Douglas Walker, Members of the 2003 Gaming Law Policy Class.

Anthony Celeste, Nathan Miller, Student Project Chairmen.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a great American, a great patriot, a courageous Airman, husband and father, LTC William Watkins III of Halifax County, VA.

Lieutenant Colonel Watkins fought so that our families—all Americans—could lead our lives and freedoms in greater security. His mission was noble—and embodies the absolute greatest of the American ideas.

Lieutenant Colonel Watkins' F-15 went down on April 7 near Tikrit, Iraq. His courageous actions contributed to the success of our mission—the prevention of the spread of weapons of mass destruction, and the permanent removal of the heavy boot of oppression from the throats of the Iraqi people.

Lieutenant Colonel Watkins left his home and family to travel around the world to liberate an oppressed people—most whom he had never met. There was no personal benefit, there was no monetary reward.

When Lieutenant Colonel Watkins was called to action, he knew the mission, the purpose and the goal was larger than one man. He answered his country's call with a simple, "yes sir"—steady in his love for the cause of freedom.

Shortly after Lieutenant Colonel Watkins death, The Danville Register and Bee, his hometown paper, aptly noted:

We live in a safe, free and prosperous country because men like Watkins have always been willing to sacrifice their lives to protect the birthright of every American. It is a sacrifice made on behalf of millions of people who don't have to risk anything . . . Watkins' sacrifice on behalf of freedom will help protect many lives in the future. The world was better with Watkins in it, and it is safer because he was willing to fight to make it that way.

Truer words were never written.

William Watkins was recently promoted to lieutenant colonel. A promotion well deserved. He graduated from the U.S. Naval academy in 1989 and served as a flight officer in the Navy for 12 years. In 2001, he transferred to the Air Force to continue his service to his country—where he served as a weapons system officer. He loved this country.

Serving our country wasn't something Lieutenant Colonel Watkins "did." It was something he lived. His wife, Major Melissa Watkins, continues to serve our country as an intelligence officer. And while we will never know