

(3) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy on the board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(b) ADVISORY COMMITTEES.—The board may establish advisory committees to advise the board and to make recommendations to the board concerning legislation, policies, administration, research, and other matters.

(c) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which all members of the board have been appointed, the board shall hold its first meeting.

(d) MEETINGS.—The board shall meet at the call of the Chair.

(e) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number of members may hold hearings.

(f) CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.—The board shall select a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members.

#### SEC. 5. DUTIES OF THE BOARD.

(a) PROMOTION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—In order to assist in expanding the theoretical and practical knowledge of weather modification, the board shall promote and fund research and development, studies, and investigations with respect to—

(1) improved forecast and decision-making technologies for weather modification operations, including tailored computer workstations and software and new observation systems with remote sensors; and

(2) assessments and evaluations of the efficacy of weather modification, both purposeful (including cloud-seeding operations) and inadvertent (including downwind effects and anthropogenic effects).

(b) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—Unless the use of the money is restricted or subject to any limitations provided by law, the board shall use amounts in the Weather Modification Research and Development Fund—

(1) to pay its expenses in the administration of this Act, and

(2) to provide for research and development with respect to weather modifications by grants to, or contracts or cooperative arrangements, with public or private agencies.

(c) REPORT.—The board shall provide the Secretary with a report of its findings and research results biennially.

#### SEC. 6. POWERS OF THE BOARD.

(a) STUDIES, INVESTIGATIONS AND HEARINGS.—The board may make any studies or investigations, obtain any information, and hold any hearings necessary or proper to administer or enforce this Act or any rules or orders issued under this Act.

(b) PERSONNEL.—The board may hire an executive director and other support staff, as provided by the appropriations act, necessary to perform duties and functions under this Act.

(c) COOPERATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES.—The board may cooperate with public or private agencies to promote the purposes of this Act.

(d) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The board may enter into cooperative agreements with the agencies of the United States, States of the United States and their counties and cities, or with any private or public agencies or organizations for conducting weather modification activities or cloud-seeding operations.

(e) CONDUCT AND CONTRACTS FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—The executive director, with approval of the board, may conduct and may contract for research and development activities relating to the purposes of this section.

#### SEC. 7. COOPERATION WITH THE WEATHER MODIFICATION OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH BOARD.

Agencies of the United States and other public or private agencies and institutions

that receive research funds from the United States are directed to the extent possible to give full support and cooperation to the board and to initiate independent research and development programs that address weather modifications.

#### SEC. 8. FUNDING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the Treasury of the United States the Weather Modification Research and Development Fund, which shall consist of amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (b) or received by the board under subsection (c).

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the board for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of this Act \$10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2004 through 2013. Any sums appropriated under this subsection shall remain available, without fiscal year limitation, until expended.

(c) GIFTS.—The board may accept, use, and dispose of gifts or donations of services or property.

#### SEC. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The provisions of this Act shall apply on and after October 1, 2003.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 2171. A bill to establish a first responder and terrorism preparedness grant information hotline, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

Mrs. BOXER. I am pleased to introduce the First Responders Homeland Defense Act of 2004. This bill would help alleviate funding shortages that our Nation's first responders are experiencing, and would help alleviate confusion about Federal grant programs.

The first provision of the First Responders Homeland Defense Act is a grant assistance hotline. When the Department of Homeland Security was created, many local emergency responder agencies were hopeful that a one-stop shop for homeland security resources would be available. Unfortunately, an easily accessible and understandable resource does not yet exist.

In addition to grants from the Department of Homeland Security, there are many grant programs available to first responders from other federal departments. For example, as part of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention assists state and local public health officials improve hospital preparedness. The Bureau of Justice Assistance at the Department of Justice distributes funding for law enforcement agencies to prepare for terrorist events.

For a local law enforcement agency or fire department, determining eligibility for the wide range of grant programs in a number of different Federal agencies—not to mention even knowing the full range of funding that is available—could be a confusing and daunting task. In order to help make it easier for first responders, my bill would establish a grant assistance hotline at the Department of Homeland Security that would provide local first responders with information on available grants and how to apply for them.

The First Responders Homeland Defense Act also creates a new grant pro-

gram for tax-exempt non-profit organizations that provide first responder training. Many public and private agencies are creating projects and training programs that involve the business community in defending the homeland. Organizations with non-profit, tax exempt status should be eligible for Federal grant funds when working on community-wide terrorism preparedness. The Department of Homeland Security should fulfill the goal of community-wide preparation by providing Federal assistance to non-profit organizations that operate training programs in conjunction with a local agency.

Finally, the First Responders Homeland Defense Act creates a grant program for another important purpose: interoperable communications systems. Many homeland security experts recognize that while there are many Federal funding opportunities for anti-terrorism activities, there is very little money dedicated to interoperable communications systems. These are systems that allow different local and State agencies to communicate directly with one another—something that is vital to terrorism prevention and response. Yet these systems are all too rare. This bill establishes a grant program at the Department of Homeland Security for the specific purpose of assisting local agencies improve existing communications systems or purchase new systems.

Making the Department of Homeland Security more accessible to local communities and making more resources available to first responders should be a top priority. Many law enforcement officials and other first responders have reviewed this legislation, and I am pleased to introduce the First Responders Homeland Defense Act in response to many of their concerns.

This bill is an important step in fulfilling the Federal responsibility to protect the homeland. I urge my colleagues to support it.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 310—COMMEMORATING AND ACKNOWLEDGING THE DEDICATION AND SACRIFICE MADE BY THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE LOST THEIR LIVES WHILE SERVING AS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. ALLARD) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 310

Whereas the well-being of all citizens of the United States is preserved and enhanced as a direct result of the vigilance and dedication of law enforcement personnel;

Whereas more than 850,000 men and women, at great risk to their personal safety, presently serve their fellow citizens as guardians of peace;

Whereas peace officers are on the front line in preserving the right of the children of the United States to receive an education in a crime-free environment, a right that is all too often threatened by the insidious fear caused by violence in schools;

Whereas nearly 150 peace officers across the United States were killed in the line of duty during 2003, well below the decade-long average of 166 deaths annually;

Whereas a number of factors contributed to this reduction in deaths, including better equipment and the increased use of bullet-resistant vests, improved training, longer prison terms for violent offenders, and advanced emergency medical care;

Whereas every other day, 1 out of every 9 peace officers is assaulted, 1 out of every 25 peace officers is injured, and 1 out of every 6,000 peace officers is killed in the line of duty somewhere in the United States; and

Whereas on May 15, 2004, more than 20,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington, D.C. to join with the families of their recently fallen comrades to honor those comrades and all others who went before them: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes May 15, 2004, as Peace Officers Memorial Day, in honor of Federal, State, and local officers killed or disabled in the line of duty; and

(2) calls upon the people of the United States to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies and respect.

Mr. CAMPBELL. Madam President, today I am joined by the chairman and ranking member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senators HATCH and LEAHY and Senator ALLARD in introducing this resolution to keep alive in the memory of all Americans the sacrifice and commitment of those law enforcement officers who lost their lives serving their communities. Specifically, this resolution would designate May 15, 2004, as National Peace Officers Memorial Day.

As a former deputy sheriff, I know first-hand the risks which law enforcement officers face every day on the frontlines protecting our communities. Currently, more than 850,000 men and women who serve this Nation as our guardians of law and order do so at a great risk. Every year, about 1 in 9 officers is assaulted, 1 in 25 officers is injured, and 1 in 6,000 officers is killed in the line of duty somewhere in America every other day. There are few communities in this country that have not been impacted by the words "officer down."

On September 11, 2001, 72 peace officers died as a result of a cowardly act of terrorism. This single act of terrorism resulted in the highest number of peace officers ever killed in a single incident in the history of this country. Before this event, the greatest loss of law enforcement in a single incident occurred in 1917, when nine Milwaukee police officers were killed in a bomb blast at their police station.

In 2003, nearly 150 Federal, State, tribal and local law enforcement officers gave their lives in the line of duty, well below the decade-long average of 166 deaths annually, and a major drop from 2001 when a total of 230 officers were killed. A number of factors contributed to this reduction including

better equipment and the increased use of bullet-resistant vests, improved training, longer prison terms for violent offenders, and advanced emergency medical care. And, in total, more than 16,000 men and women have made the supreme sacrifice.

The chairman of the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, Craig W. Floyd, reminds us that

a police officer is killed in the line of duty somewhere in America nearly every other day. More than 850,000 officers put their lives at risk each and every day for our safety and protection. National Police Week and Peace Officers Memorial Day provide our Nation with an important opportunity to recognize and honor that extraordinary service and sacrifice.

On May 15, 2004, more than 20,000 peace officers are expected to gather in our Nation's Capital to join with the families of their fallen comrades who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities have rendered a dedicated service to their communities. In doing so, these heroes have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens. This resolution is a fitting tribute for this special and solemn occasion.

I urge my colleagues to join in supporting passage of this important resolution.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, I proudly rise today to join my colleagues Senators CAMPBELL, HATCH and ALLARD to introduce a resolution to designate May 15, 2004, as National Peace Officers Memorial Day. We submit this resolution to keep alive in the memory of all Americans the sacrifice and commitment of those law enforcement officers who lost their lives serving their communities.

I commend Senator CAMPBELL for his leadership in this issue. This marks the eighth year running, I believe, that he and I have joined forces to introduce the resolution to commemorate National Peace Officers Memorial Day. As a former deputy sheriff, Senator CAMPBELL has experienced first-hand the risks faced by law enforcement officers every day while they protect our communities. His knowledge in this area is a true asset to the U.S. people.

I also want to thank each of our Nation's brave law enforcement officers for their unwavering commitment to the safety and protection of their fellow citizens. They are real-life heroes, too many of whom too often give the ultimate sacrifice, and they remind us of how important it is to support and respect our State and local police.

Currently, more than 850,000 men and women who guard our communities do so at great risk. Each year, 1 in 15 officers is assaulted, 1 in 46 officers is injured, and 1 in 5,255 officers is killed in the line of duty in the United States every other day. After the hijacked planes hit the World Trade Center in New York City on September 11, 2001, 72 peace officers died while trying to ensure that their fellow citizens in those buildings got to safety. That act

of terrorism resulted in the highest number of peace officers ever killed in a single incident in the history of this country.

In 2003, 146 enforcement officers died while serving in the line of duty, well below the decade-long average of 165 deaths annually, and a major drop from 2001 when a total of 237 officers were killed. A number of factors contributed to this reduction including better equipment and the increased use of bullet-resistant vests, improved training, longer prison terms for violent offenders, and advanced emergency medical care. And, in total, more than 17,100 men and women have made the ultimate sacrifice.

During the 108th Congress, we have improved the Department of Justice's Public Safety Officers Benefits (PSOB) program by making law the Hometown Heroes Survivors Benefits Act (Public Law 108-182), which allows survivors of public safety officers who suffer fatal heart attacks or strokes while participating in nonroutine stressful or strenuous physical activities to qualify for Federal survivor benefits. The Senate also passed the Campbell-Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act (S. 764), which will extend through FY 2007 the authorization of appropriations for the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program that helps State, tribal and local jurisdictions purchase armor vests for use by law enforcement officers. The House has yet to act on this important measure that will continue our efforts to ensure that every police officer who needs a bulletproof vest gets one. This week, the Senate added to the gun liability bill by a vote of 91-8 the Campbell-Leahy Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (S. 253). This measure would establish national measures of uniformity and consistency to permit trained and certified on-duty, off-duty or retired law enforcement officers to carry concealed firearms in most situations so that they may respond immediately to crimes across State and other jurisdictional lines, as well as to protect themselves and their families from vindictive criminals. The support for such bills that will keep our law enforcement officers is there, but we need to do more.

We Vermonters this National Peace Officers Memorial Day will remember our brave State Police Officer, SGT Michael Johnson, who was killed last Father's Day while trying to stop a suspect leading two other State troopers on a high-speed chase. Sergeant Johnson was not even on duty, but he went out nonetheless to help his fellow troopers that Sunday afternoon after hearing their trouble on his radio. He had just deployed a set of tire spikes across the interstate when the suspect swerved to avoid the spikes and struck him. Johnson left behind a beloved wife and three children, as well as hundreds of police officers who called him "brother." Words seem insufficient to acclaim the brave sacrifice of the man

who was so admired by his family, community and the Vermont State Police force.

National Peace Officers Memorial Day will provide the people of the United States with the opportunity to honor the extraordinary service and sacrifice given year after year by our police forces. More than 15,000 peace officers are expected to gather in Washington to join with the families of their fallen comrades who, by their last full measure of devotion to their responsibilities and the right and security of their fellow citizens, have rendered a dedicated service to our Nation. I look forward to passage of this important resolution, a fitting tribute for this special and solemn occasion.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 311—CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO IMMEDIATELY AND UNCONDITIONALLY RELEASE FATHER THADEUS NGUYEN VAN LY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

Mr. BROWNBACK submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

**S. RES. 311**

Whereas, in February 2001, Father Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly, a Roman Catholic priest, was formally invited to testify before the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom but was denied permission to leave the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and thus, instead, submitted written testimony critical of the Government of Vietnam, which was read into the Commission record on February 13, 2001;

Whereas Father Ly's testimony before the Commission documents numerous specific actions of the Government of Vietnam against religious freedom that he classified as collectively being "extremely cruel" and requiring a "non-violent and persistent campaign" to achieve full religious freedom for all people in Vietnam;

Whereas Father Ly has been detained by the Government of Vietnam since February 2001, when the Government placed him under administrative detention, and, as a direct response to his testimony, branded him a traitor for "slandering" the Communist party and "distorting" the religious policy of the government;

Whereas the Government of Vietnam issued a second decree suspending Father Ly's ability to "carry on any religious responsibility and functions" and later formally removed Father Ly from his church, detained him, and denied him access to legal counsel;

Whereas, on October 19 2001, the Thua Thien Hue Provincial People's Court convicted Father Ly of all charges after a one-day, closed trial without the benefit of counsel and sentenced him to 2 years in prison for violating the terms of his administrative detention, 13 years in prison for, "damaging the Government's unity policy," and 5 years of administrative probation upon release from prison;

Whereas, after pleas from United States Government officials and the world community, Father Ly's sentence was reduced by 5 years;

Whereas, in June 2001, Father Ly's nephews Nguyen Vu Viet, age 27, and Nguyen Truc Cuong, age 36, and his niece Nguyen Thi Hoa, age 44, were arrested for allegedly being in

contact and receiving support from "reactionary" organizations in the United States concerning the religious situation in Vietnam and disseminating information concerning the detention of Father Ly;

Whereas after their cases generated much concern in Congress, Nguyen Thi Hoa, Nguyen Vu Viet, and Nguyen Truc Cuong all have been released;

Whereas, on November 27, 2003, the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention issued Opinion No. 20/2003 stating that "the Group is convinced that [Father Ly] has been arrested and detained only for his opinions . . . [and] the deprivation of the liberty of Father Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly is arbitrary, as being in contravention of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and of Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights";

Whereas Father Ly has been deprived of his basic human rights by being denied his ability to exercise freedom of opinion and expression; and

Whereas the arbitrary imprisonment and the violation of the human rights of citizens of Vietnam are sources of continuing, grave concern to the Congress: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That—*

(1) the Senate—

(A) condemns and deplors the arbitrary detention of Father Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and calls for his immediate and unconditional release;

(B) condemns and deplors the violations of freedom of speech, religion, movement, association, and the lack of due process afforded to individuals in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam;

(C) strongly urges the Government of Vietnam to consider the implications of its actions for the broader relationship between the United States and Vietnam; and

(D) strongly urges the Government of Vietnam to consider the implications of its actions in the context of the United States-Vietnam Bilateral Trade Agreement, under which Vietnam currently receives Normal Trade Relations (NTR) status subject to chapter 1 of title IV of the Trade Act of 1974 (commonly known as the "Jackson-Vanik Amendment"); and

(2) it is the sense of the Senate that the United States should—

(A) make the immediate release of Father Thadeus Nguyen Van Ly a top concern;

(B) make it clear to the Government of Vietnam that it is not in the Government's interest to detain Father Ly and others like him for political or religious reasons or to inflict human rights violations on such people or groups because such actions create obstacles to improved bilateral relations and cooperation with the United States; and

(C) reiterate the deep concern of the United States regarding the continued imprisonment of Father Ly and other persons whose human rights are being violated and discuss the legal status and immediate humanitarian needs of such people with the Government of Vietnam.

**AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED**

SA 2676. Mr. DASCHLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2677. Mr. DASCHLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2678. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. BAUCUS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 671, to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty, to make other technical amendments to the trade laws, and for other purposes.

SA 2679. Mr. VOINOVICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2680. Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. FRIST) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2660 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. FEINGOLD) to the bill S. 1637, supra.

SA 2681. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2682. Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. BREAUX, and Mr. KOHL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2683. Mr. SANTORUM (for himself, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mr. KYL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2684. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2685. Mr. THOMAS (for Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. WARNER)) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2660 proposed by Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. FEINGOLD) to the bill S. 1637, supra.

SA 2686. Mr. BUNNING (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1637, supra.

SA 2687. Mr. GRASSLEY (for Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. DORGAN)) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2686 proposed by Mr. BUNNING (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) to the bill S. 1637, supra.

SA 2688. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2689. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2690. Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. CONRAD, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2691. Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. KOHL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1637, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.