

better to fight terrorists overseas, than in our own country.

We cannot afford—no country can—to suffer the attacks that the Russian people have seen in the last few weeks.

The attacks on the school in Russia, where hundreds of children were slaughtered, makes that terribly clear.

No American mother should have to visit the “small graves” that so many Russian mothers are mourning over.

The United States can, must, and will win the war on terrorism. I am confident in our military, I am confident in this administration, and I am confident in the American people.

A key element to winning the war on terrorism is overhauling our intelligence community. We can't afford to wait, to study this issue further, to delay.

Intelligence reform has been studied for years by a number of commissions. The 9/11 Commission is just the latest, and they studied it for many months, with scores of staff, and conducted hundreds of interviews and dozens of hearings.

The time for study is over; the time for action is overdue.

It is true that we may make a misstep, that we may get something wrong, but we can always go back and fix that. Overall, I believe the improvements the Senate will consider on the Floor next week will exceed any deficiencies.

We must capitalize on the great work done by the 9/11 Commission, and on the will of the American people, and do all that we can to improve our Nation's intelligence community, our homeland security, and our ability to defeat terrorists.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

Mr. REID. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the grand opening of the National Museum of the American Indian. The museum has been two decades in the making, and it can now take its place as our only national museum dedicated to the history and culture of the indigenous peoples of the Americans.

More than 50,000 people visited the Mall this week for the dedication ceremonies. Twenty thousand Native Americans, representing hundreds of tribes from around the country, have come to Washington to celebrate the Museum's opening. The enthusiasm of so many people for the Museum is a fitting testament to the hard work and dedication of the many individuals who helped realize this project.

I would like to take a moment to recognize two of those individuals, my colleagues Senator BEN NIGHTHORSE CAMPBELL and Senator DANIEL INOUIE. Their commitment to this endeavor over the last two decades is truly commendable. Their work has resulted in one of the Nation's premier cultural institutions, a museum that will provide the opportunity for millions of Ameri-

cans to learn about the history and culture of Native Americans.

The museum also represents one of the most ambitious architectural endeavors ever undertaken by the Smithsonian Institution. Its design is certainly pleasing to behold, but it is intended to do far more than that. The museum's landscape features a diverse array of environments—wetlands, an upland hardwood forest, meadowlands, and traditional crops—that recall the vast and varied environs that Native Americans have inhabited. This will help visitors connect with the experience of Native Americans, by highlighting their reverence for their natural environment and their belief that all of us, as human beings, are but parts of a larger living universe.

Native Americans have made unique and enduring contributions to my home State of Nevada. One of those individuals is Sarah Winnemucca. The first native woman to publish a personal history, she embarked on a nationwide lecture series in 1879 to teach people about Native American culture and the difficult life her people experienced on reservations. An artist is now creating a statue of her, and when finished it will become Nevada's second memorial in the Capitol's National Statuary Hall Collection.

Sarah Winnemucca was a Paiute, thousands of whom continue to live in Nevada to this day. The Paiute along with the Shoshone, Washoe, and all of Nevada's native peoples have made unique contributions to our heritage and history.

I am pleased that those contributions and those of all Native Americans will now be honored in the heart of our Nation's Capital in the National Museum of the American Indian.

STENNIS FELLOWS PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, over the years, the Congress has created a number of programs to focus attention on important issues.

Today I call attention to one of those programs, which is a testament to the life and career of the late Senator John C. Stennis.

In 1988, Congress created the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service. The mission of the Center from its inception to the present has been to promote and strengthen public service leadership in America. The center accomplishes its goals through conferences, seminars, special projects and leadership development programs, one of which is the Stennis Congressional Staff Fellows Program.

In each Congress, a bipartisan, bicameral group of senior congressional staff are each nominated by a Member and selected to participate in the fellows program. The fellows explore topics which address ways to improve the effectiveness of Congress.

The 108th Fellows selected the topic that I think is quite appropriate: “Building Greater Trust and Civility.”

Over the course of the last 15 months, these fellows have heard from past Members of Congress, journalists and historians in their quest to fully explore this subject and suggest initiatives to restore some level of trust and civility—which appears to have deteriorated over the past several years.

The work of the 108th Fellows is contained in a report which I would ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD.

Mr. President, I urge all Members and their staff to take a look at the report, and perhaps we can return to a Chamber where there is more bipartisanship and collegiality.

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

BUILDING GREATER TRUST AND CIVILITY

A level of trust and civility is necessary for democracy to work well and for governance to be effective. Without a basic shared framework of mutual understanding, trust and civility, legitimate public action is very difficult to initiate or sustain. The 108th Congress Stennis Congressional Staff Fellows—senior staff leaders drawn from both chambers and from both sides of the aisle—worked together to explore the core question: how to build greater trust and civility both within Congress and across society?

Successive groups of Stennis Fellows, beginning in the 103rd Congress ten years ago, have underlined that the challenge of building trust and civility is becoming both more important and more difficult in the face of 21st century realities that include:

The increasing fragmentation of our society, and growing gaps between rich and poor, leading to a multiplication of groups with very different values, assumptions and worldviews, and too little life experience in common;

A proliferation of single interest organizations advocating narrow viewpoints;

The burgeoning role of the media with its tendency to accentuate conflict;

Greater partisanship and polarization within Congress and other governing institutions;

The effects of a cascade of corporate scandals that undermine confidence;

A rising tide of public cynicism and mistrust of institutions of all sorts (business, religious, charitable and media as well as political);

Increases in disrespect and rudeness, and a decline in common courtesy that Americans report in their dealings with government, business and each other; and

A greater sense of insecurity and uncertainty in the aftermath of 9/11 and in the midst of a war on terrorism that may continue for a long time.

As Stennis Fellows of the 108th Congress, we set and pursued our own learning agenda within this broad theme, looking ahead to the next ten years and focusing on ways to build greater trust and civility both within Congress and across society.

LEARNING JOURNEY

We were drawn in roughly equal numbers from the House and the Senate and from both sides of the aisle, and represented a diverse range of backgrounds and political perspectives. Despite these very different starting points, Fellows quickly found we could work together effectively and find common ground, building on our shared respect and concern for the institution of Congress. That common ground grew throughout the period of Fellowship. In the words of one Fellow,