

money, about \$250 a year for 5 years in matching grants made to appropriate entities so that progress will occur more rapidly in the next phase of implementation of those two technologies.

So I ask my colleagues to not only help us but to take these three essential parts of this piece of legislation and pass it, and let's send it to the President for his signature. I think that is about the best Christmas gift we could give to people who rely on emergency services.

RETIREMENT OF BOB GRAHAM

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I appreciate the good works of my good friend from Florida. I see both Florida Senators are in the Chamber. Of course, Senator GRAHAM is just about to close out his career in this Senate, and he will be missed. He was one of my neighbors when I first came here some 16 years ago, when they were living just not too far down the street. So I appreciate him and all the talents and the contributions he has made to this body and to the country.

I hope he is successful in the Black Angus business in Florida. He will be going back to his beloved ranch and probably do a little writing, get a little philosophical. I know he has done that at times. He can do it in an environment that is befitting a retired Senator. We appreciate him.

We do not say goodbye in our part of the country. We just say so long. Our trails will cross one of these days.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CORNYN). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BURNS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

INTELLIGENCE REFORM BILL AND COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I want to say a few words about what we have done here today in passing the intelligence reform bill and say that I support this effort. It was a difficult but necessary step to making America safer.

I do not believe we should fool ourselves to think we have actually finished the job. By that I mean I think some of the objections that had been made to this legislation or I should say some of the proposals for additional measures that were excluded from this bill, I believe, were well taken. Specifically, what I am talking about is some of the security challenges relative to our immigration system, our broken immigration system.

I know many Americans would be shocked to learn that the 19 9/11 hijackers had a total of 63 validly-issued U.S. driver's licenses. Because of this astounding fact, the 9/11 Commission recommended, on page 390:

The federal government should set standards for the issuance of birth certificates and sources of identification, such as driver's licenses. Fraud in identification documents is no longer just a problem of theft.

The Commissioners aptly pointed out that "For terrorists, travel documents [can be just] as important as weapons."

I am pleased the conference report that we have voted on today and passed overwhelmingly includes some needed enforcement measures. But, as I say, I do not believe we should stop there. I strongly believe that issuing driver's licenses to individuals who are not lawfully present in our country has the potential of posing a national security risk in a post-9/11 world.

The example I just mentioned about the 9/11 terrorists: It is well documented that Mohamed Atta had a driver's license that was valid beyond the date of the expiration of his visa. Inasmuch as he had been stopped for an ordinary traffic violation, a lapsed driver's license, if its lapse was concurrent with the end of his visa, would perhaps have raised a signal which would have caused some additional questions to be answered. Of course, I do not want to speculate what the outcome of that would be, but it makes sense to me, and I think it makes sense to most people, that why in the world would you issue a driver's license to someone who is not lawfully present or allow that driver's license to extend beyond the date of their visa?

Driver's licenses, after all, are used for access to airplanes all across this Nation; therefore, invalid driver's licenses held by someone not lawfully present, or perhaps even fraudulent documentation, pose a potential terrorist threat. We know that documents like a driver's license also function as a breeder document that is used to obtain other official documents, blurring the line between those who are in the United States legally and those who are not lawfully present. Without strong standards for driver's licenses, we ignore the clear security threat of fraudulent documents.

For all these reasons, I submit that our work here is not yet finished until we begin to address this potential threat.

We are a nation of immigrants, but we are, at the same time, a nation of laws, or at least we claim to be. But when America fails to enforce its own laws, it becomes more and more difficult to claim, with a straight face, that we are indeed a nation of laws.

We should have no qualms and make no excuses to anyone about enforcing our laws in pursuit of our Nation's security, and as the Commissioners of the 9/11 Commission pointed out, immigration reform goes hand in hand with protecting our security. We should not

allow ourselves to be distracted or our attention to be diverted from these critical issues. No, Mr. President, border security is not anti-immigrant. As Speaker HASTERT has said:

Immigrants to America are as victimized by terrorists as American citizens.

I hope we will work promptly next year to carefully reconsider the enforcement measures included in the House bill that are not included in today's conference report.

Let me mention some of those provisions in the bill that was passed by the House but which are not included in the conference agreement that we have passed.

No. 1, the House required, but this bill does not include, a requirement that applicants for driver's licenses show proof of legal status in the United States. It does not contain the House requirement that temporary licenses should include a requirement that a license term should expire on the same date as a visa or other temporary lawful presence authorizing document and that the face of the card should show the expiration date.

This bill does not require, but we should require in future legislation, that the Department of Homeland Security certify that States have met minimum driver's license issuance and document standards.

This bill does not contain, but should contain, or at least future legislation should contain, provisions providing for the electronic confirmation by State motor vehicle departments of the validity of other States' driver's licenses and information.

This conference report does not contain but should contain and I hope future legislation will require that half of our new immigration investigators should focus on enforcing our existing immigration laws and requiring that each State receive at least three of the new State immigration investigators.

We should also require limits on judicial review of visa revocations. We should make it more difficult for terrorists and foreign criminals to win delays of their removal from the United States. We should explicitly require verification of certain information—such as identity, mother's maiden name, or other information—for the issuance of birth certificates accepted by a Federal agency. And we should require that the States adopt standardized practices for how they secure vital records offices.

Mr. President, I believe that common sense tells us that each of these provisions should be the law of the land, and I regret they were not able to be included in this legislation. But certainly all that means is that our work is not yet done, and we have much left to do.

I support the measures in the House bill that I have mentioned that were not included in this conference report. But the truth is, we need comprehensive immigration reform. I come from a border State, one with a 1,200-mile border with Mexico, and we know that