

NATO HEADQUARTERS IN BOSNIA AND  
HERZEGOVINA

Pursuant to the June 2004 decision made by NATO Heads of State and Government, and in accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 1575 of November 22, 2004, NATO concluded its Stabilization Force operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina and established NATO Headquarters-Sarajevo to continue to assist in implementing the Peace Agreement in conjunction with a newly established European Force. The NATO Headquarters-Sarajevo, to which approximately 250 U.S. personnel are assigned, is, with the European Force, the legal successor to SFOR. The principal tasks of NATO Headquarters-Sarajevo are providing advice on defense reform and performing operational supporting tasks, such as counterterrorism and supporting the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.

I have directed the participation of U.S. Armed Forces in all of these operations pursuant to my constitutional authority to conduct U.S. foreign relations and as Commander in Chief and Chief Executive. Officials of my Administration and I communicate regularly with the leadership and other Members of Congress with regard to these deployments, and we will continue to do so.

Sincerely,

GEORGE W. BUSH.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 15, 2006.

EDUCATING NEW MOTHERS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the importance of educating new mothers about postpartum depression. The bill I am introducing today with Senator MENENDEZ will provide screening and education for women who have given birth and will promote research into the causes, diagnoses and treatments for postpartum depression.

The Commonwealth Fund released a study last month that finds postpartum depression inhibits a mother's ability to safely and effectively care for her children after pregnancy. Mothers who are affected by postpartum depression are less likely to provide essential developmental support for the child through playing, talking, showing picture books, and following daily routines.

For many mothers, the depression worsens if it isn't diagnosed, which can lead to substance abuse, loss of employment, divorce, further social alienation, self-destructive behavior, and even suicide.

A few years ago in Chicago, within a 4-week period, several new mothers who were affected by postpartum depression took their own lives.

Melanie Stokes jumped from a 12-story Chicago hotel, taking her life only a few months after her daughter was born. The day before her daughter's first birthday, Amy Garvey's body was found floating in Lake Michigan. Jennifer Mudd Houghtaling, from Wisconsin, jumped in front a subway train in Chicago less than 5 months after giving birth to her son. Five days after giving birth to quadruplets, Ariceli Eriivas Sandoval drowned herself in Lake Michigan.

These are tragic, heart-wrenching stories. I wish I could say that is the end of the story, but the problem is far more common than that. Each year, far more than half of women giving birth suffer from postpartum mood changes. The more mild "baby blues" affect up to 80 percent of new mothers. Postpartum mood and anxiety disorders impair 10 to 20 percent of new mothers, and postpartum psychosis strikes 1 in 1,000 women after birth.

The Menendez-Durbin bill authorizes postpartum depression screening and information for mothers before they leave the birthing center. Through a State grant program, health care providers are given the tools they need to recognize signs of depression and to educate women and their families about the disorder and how to access help.

We also call on the National Institutes of Health to convene a series of national meetings on postpartum depression and psychosis and then to expand and intensify research around that consensus.

Our bill has been endorsed by the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics; the Illinois Psychiatric Association; Postpartum Support International; the Association of Women's Health; Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, AWHONN; the Family Mental Health Institute, Inc.; the National Mental Health Association and the New Jersey chapter, and the New Jersey Chapter of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, ACOG.

I urge my colleagues to join Senator MENENDEZ and me in supporting the MOTHERS Act, which will ensure that new mothers are educated about postpartum depression and that research will help us prevent and treat postpartum depression in new mothers.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS JAIME JAEENKE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the first female Iowan to have lost her life in the Iraq conflict. Petty Officer 2nd Class Jaime Jaenke was a naval reservist who had been in Iraq for only 3 months. She was killed on Monday, June 5, when the humvee she was traveling in was hit by an improvised explosive device. She was 29 years old and was assigned to the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 25 at Fort McCoy, WI.

Petty Officer Jaenke has given her life for our country, and I would ask that all Americans join me today in remembering and honoring Petty Officer Jaenke. Her loss will be felt deeply in the town of Iowa Falls. Although she had lived in Wisconsin for a number of years, she returned to Iowa 2 years ago and last fall opened an equestrian business outside Iowa Falls. My thoughts and prayers are with Petty Officer Jaenke's daughter, Kayla, her parents, Susan and Larry, as well as all those other family and friends who are grieving the loss of this young mother.

We owe a huge debt of gratitude to Petty Officer Jaenke for her sacrifice. I am greatly saddened by her passing but deeply proud and grateful for what she gave for America. Her loss remains tragic but she died a true patriot.

MARRIAGE PROTECTION  
AMENDMENT

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I strongly support traditional marriage, the bedrock of our society, and I therefore support the Marriage Protection Amendment.

Like some of my colleagues, I believe that marriage is typically a State issue. Unelected, lifetime-appointed judges, however, have forced our hand on this issue. We can no longer sit idly by while a handful of activist judges lay the groundwork to overturn the Defense of Marriage Act and redefine marriage for the entire Nation.

I voted in favor of the Defense of Marriage Act a decade ago, which reinforced States rights on this issue. Since then, 26 States have passed statutes designed to protect traditional marriage by defining marriage only as the union of a man and a woman. Further, 19 States now have constitutional amendments that contain this same definition. Voters in seven additional States will vote on constitutional amendments this year. Another four State legislature—including that of my own State, Iowa—are considering sending constitutional amendments to voters within the next 2 years. Ballot initiatives are currently underway in three States. Only a handful of States have redefined marriage to include same-sex partnerships, created a version of civil unions, or lack actual or planned protection for traditional marriage.

The states have spoken. A great majority of them have decided that marriage, in their States, shall consist solely of the union of a man and a woman. But, it has become a common prediction that the Federal Defense of Marriage Act will be overturned by the judiciary. In that case, the full faith and credit clause of our Constitution would require every State to recognize so-called marriages performed in States that allow the union of same-sex couples, many only by judicial decree. We cannot allow unelected judges to force their will upon the people, who have acted through the democratic process to defend traditional marriage.

Under our Constitution, Congress has the responsibility to enact legislation. Congress also has the responsibility to initiate the constitutional amendment process. We must fulfill this duty to protect traditional marriage. We must provide the States the opportunity to defend marriage as they have defined it.

SCHOOL SAFETY ACQUIRING  
FACULTY EXCELLENCE ACT

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to express my support