

(i) the ability to access a site on a remote seller's out-of-State computer server is considered a factor in determining a remote seller's tax collection obligation; or

(ii) a provider of Internet access service or online services is deemed to be the agent of a remote seller for determining tax collection obligations as a result of—

(I) the display of a remote seller's information or content on the out-of-State computer server of a provider of Internet access service or online services; or

(II) the processing of orders through the out-of-State computer server of a provider of Internet access service or online services.●

RECOGNITION OF BRUNO NOWICKI

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend of mine and a great leader in my home state of Michigan, Bruno Nowicki. On October 11, 1998, Bruno's friends and family will help him celebrate his 90th birthday at a celebration at the Polish Century Club.

Bruno Nowicki is well known in Michigan and in his native Poland for his efforts to commemorate and celebrate the contributions of Polish people to the United States and to the world. He has designed monuments to Polish-American heroes of World War II and Vietnam and to Revolutionary War Generals Pulaski and Kosciuszko. Bruno Nowicki has also been a strong supporter of public libraries, and served on the Board of Governors of the Detroit Public Library from 1971 until 1994. He melded his interests in promoting Polish culture and supporting public libraries by arranging for statues, mosaics and busts of prominent figures in Poland's history to be displayed in the Detroit Main Library and the Hamtramck Public Library. Bruno worked with artist Zygmunt Dousa of the University of Krakow to design the Polish Room of the Ethnic Conference and Study Center at the Wayne State University in Detroit. He is a co-founder of the Polish Riverfront Festival, which provides assistance to children's hospitals in Poland.

I was proud to work with Bruno Nowicki in 1993-1994 on an issue especially close to his heart, promoting chess to students in schools. An avid chess player who participates in (and has won) tournaments in the U.S., Bermuda and Cuba, he believes that the skills children develop by learning to play chess can be applied to everyday life. A four-year study of school chess players confirmed Bruno Nowicki's belief. The study found that chess helps children build self-confidence and self-worth, dramatically improves children's ability to think rationally, and results in higher grades, especially in English and Math. Bruno provided me with important information which I used in drafting an amendment to the 1994 Goals 2000: Educate America Act, which allows State educational agencies to use certain Title III funds to promote instruction in chess as a tool for teachers to use to motivate students to develop critical thinking

skills, self-discipline and creative resolution methods.

Mr. President, Bruno Nowicki has demonstrated time and again his commitment to his community. He is truly a person who has touched the lives of thousands of people. I know my colleagues join me in wishing Bruno a happy 90th birthday and in commending him for his remarkable dedication to community service.●

ONE GUN A MONTH FORUM

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, last month I convened a forum to investigate the problem of gun-trafficking. At the forum, we heard from a number of compelling witnesses and I have been submitting their testimony into the RECORD so that my colleagues and the public can benefit from their insights. Taken together, this testimony makes a compelling case for the Anti-Gun Trafficking Act, S. 466, which I introduced earlier this Congress.

Today, I would like to submit the final testimony from this forum, that of Captain Thomas Bowers, Director of the Office of Crime Gun Enforcement for the Maryland State Police. Two years ago, the Maryland Legislature passed the Gun Violence Act of 1996, which restricted the purchase of handguns to one in a thirty day period. The results have already been dramatic. In fact, Maryland saw a 78 percent decrease in the number of handguns sold as a result of multiple purchases in the first year after the enactment of this law. This means fewer lethal weapons supplied to criminals in cities nationwide.

I hope that my colleagues will work with me to pass this important piece of legislation. Keeping handguns out of the hands of criminals, and reducing the gun violence across our nation should be of paramount importance to all.

Mr. President, I ask that the testimony of Captain Thomas Bowers be printed in the RECORD.

The testimony follows:

TESTIMONY OF CAPT. THOMAS BOWERS

Senator LAUTENBERG, I am Captain Thomas Bowers, Director of the Office of Crime Gun Enforcement for the Maryland State Police.

On behalf of Colonel David B. Mitchell, our superintendent, thank you for the opportunity to address you today.

The troopers seated behind me represent the subject matter experts in the area of firearms enforcement.

The Maryland State Police is the point of contact for regulatory and criminal oversight of all regulated firearm purchases in Maryland. In 1966, Maryland initiated an application process to purchase handguns. This process included a 7-day waiting period and a background check.

In 1995, Governor Parris N. Glendening, Lieutenant Governor Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, and Colonel Mitchell initiated a comprehensive program entitled Operation Cease-Fire, one element of the cease-fire initiative was the Maryland State Police Firearms Investigation Unit. This unit provides the "front line" response to the problem of

firearms related violence throughout the State of Maryland.

The Firearms Investigation Unit was initially tasked with the responsibility of enforcing Maryland's existing firearms laws and, more importantly, identifying the source or sources of firearms used in the commission of violent crimes.

Through the work of the Firearms Investigation Unit and information provided by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms the straw purchase was identified as the major source of crime guns in Maryland, even more significant, based upon crime gun trace data from the city of Baltimore. The straw purchase of firearms through multiple sales was determined to be the source of the majority of regulated firearms used in the commission of violent crime. Let me repeat that the straw purchase of firearms through multiple sales was determined to be the source of the majority of regulated firearms used in the commission of violent crime.

Each multiple straw purchase tells a dramatic story. I'd like to give you two examples.

1. The first is that of a 32-year old male who was recruited by a drug organization to purchase 9 9mm semi-automatic handguns from a Maryland regulated firearms dealer. Upon receipt of the handguns from the dealer, the young man immediately provided them to a member of the hierarchy of the drug organization who then distributed the handguns to drug traffickers whom he controlled. Within a few weeks, two of the 9mm handguns were used in two separate homicides.

2. A second example is that of a young man who purchased 11 9mm and 45 caliber semi-automatic handguns from a Maryland regulated firearms dealer. A short time later, the same resident returned to the same regulated firearms dealer and purchased 30 more semi-automatic handguns. An investigation was initiated which revealed that all 41 semi-automatic handguns were smuggled out of the United States and into the country of Nigeria in violation of both United States and Nigerian law.

In 1996, through the efforts of Governor Glendening, the Maryland legislature passed a comprehensive violence reduction initiative entitled, The Gun Violence Act of 1996. This act limited the purchase of a regulated firearm to one in a 30-day period and also required a background check and 7-day waiting period for secondary sales of regulated firearms between individuals. (Three charts; regulated firearm definition, secondary sale definition, and secondary sale regs.)

Maryland's one gun a month law limits the number of handguns an individual can purchase to only one during a 30-day period not per calendar month. There are codified provisions for specific exceptions to the law. They are enumerated on the chart displayed before you. (Two charts; exceptions to one/month and Maryland State Police From 77M (multiple purchase).)

(1) Residents may apply to the Maryland State Police to be designated as private collectors.

(2) Residents may purchase two handguns during a single visit to a licensed gun dealer if the dealer has offered a second handgun at a discount when purchased with the first. Under this exception the resident cannot purchase another handgun for 60 days.

(3) Law enforcement agencies and licensed private security organizations are exempt from the multiple purchase law when purchasing handguns for use by their employees.

(4) Residents may purchase more than one handgun if they are part of a set or sequential serial numbers as in an accepted collector series.

(5) To facilitate the replacement of a firearm that was lost or stolen with documentation from a law enforcement agency.