state sponsored terrorism. When a Court of competent jurisdiction has determined that a terrorist state has sponsored acts of terrorism resulting in the death or personal injury of a United States national, any and all of their assets in this country may be attached and executed to satisfy the judgment. The significant financial loss to terrorist states will be a critical deterrent to further acts of terrorism targeted at the citizens of this country. I applaud all those members who helped make section 117 a reality.

THE BIGGEST FAILURE OF THE 105TH CONGRESS—NO HATE CRIMES LEGISLATION

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 21, 1998

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, on this our last day of the 105th Congress, I must voice my deep regret that we refused to take any action on a Federal ''hate crimes'' bill. Many of my colleagues argued that the assault and homicide statutes in the individual states were sufficient to address any abuses perpetrated against our citizens because of race, religion, ethnicity or sexual preference. Others argued that many states already had hate crimes laws on the books and therefore a Federal statute was simply an unnecessary duplication.

Unfortunately, our failure to act signals much more than a concern about duplication of laws or an honest debate about the sufficiency of state laws to protect innocent citizens against crimes which occur simply because the victims are in some way ''different'' from their attackers. These physical attacks have increased with alarming frequency; they have been both racially motivated and homophobic. During the 105th Congress, we saw violent racial attacks on Black men and children which resulted in severe injuries in two cases and death in another. The recent death of Wyoming student, Matthew Shepard, was due solely to the fact that he was gay and his attackers hated gays. Bias and prejudice are not figments of a liberal imagination; they are very real acts especially when they result in death or injury.

Unless we make a clear public policy statement opposing these acts, we give the attackers the impression that their abhorrent behavior is acceptable. That is why I have sponsored amendments to The Civil Rights Act, H.R. 365, which would give Federal civil rights protection against discrimination on the basis of sexual preference. But we must go beyond anti-discrimination laws; we must ensure that there is a Federal statute to punish the perpetrators of bias-based attacks.

It is my fervent hope that the biggest failure of the 105th Congress will not be repeated in the 106th Congress. Let us pass a Federal hate crimes bill as our first order of business in January.

STATEMENT BY CONGRESSWOMAN CONNIE MORELLA, CHAIRWOMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 21, 1998

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address the House on an issue of importance to our Nation's ability to compete in the 21st Century's high-tech economy. Although the issue involves arcane subjects such as international standards, chip rates and band width, it has the potential to impact every American consumer who owns a cell phone and every U.S. manufacturer and service provider whose products enable our citizens to communicate on-the-go.

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) is currently in the process of deciding on a third generation wireless communications standards, better known as 3G. 3G is intended to provide cell phone customers with seamless global roaming capacity. In theory, wireless communication devices will be able to work not only in every State in the Union, but in virtually every country.

Such a universal standard, or series of standards, clearly has the potential to greatly benefit U.S. consumers, cell phone manufacturers, and wireless telecommunications providers. It also has the potential to harm all three.

That is why I, along with Technology Subcommittee Ranking Member JAMES BARCIA (D–MI) and Congresswoman ELLEN TAUSCHER (D–CA), wrote to the administration outlining our findings from a hearing entitled ''International Standards Part II: The Impact of Standards on the Digital Economy.'' The hearing was held by the Subcommittee on Technology on June 4, 1998, in advance of the U.S. submission to the ITU of proposed standards for 3G. As the letter stated:

> While the witnesses at the hearing had divergent views on a number of substantive issues, one issue which seemed to generate a significant degree of consensus was the need to ensure that any future glogal standard not strand technologies which are currently in use. While some members of the panel made the point that this is only one of several important issues that must be addressed in 3G, they all agreed that avoiding stranding systems was an important goal for any global standard.
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> One method to ensure technologies are not stranded is to require backwards compatibility. With the significant investment made in the U.S. by developers, manufactures and service providers of wireless telecommunications technologies, [it is imperative that the U.S. Government] should work diligently to ensure that these investments are not rendered worthless through the international standard setting process.

To further emphasize this point, I entered into a colloquy with Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman HAROLD ROGERS (R–KY) on August 3, 1998 indicating that the Department of Commerce, the Federal Communications Commission, and the Department of State need to work diligently to ensure that the large U.S. investments in built networks are not rendered useless through the international standard setting process.

That danger persists today. The European Union (EU) is currently considering adoption of a single technical standard known by the acronym W–CDMA. W–CDMA is not compatible with existing CDMA technologies. Because of previously approved EU-wide technological standards, CDMA is not being used in the EU. CDMA, however, is one of the leading technologies used in the United States. While U.S. consumers, manufacturers, and service providers use a variety of technologies, many are heavily vested in CDMA technology.

I have long been a proponent of allowing the marketplace to determine which technologies survive. In the case of wireless standards, however, we currently face a government mandated technological monopoly in Europe and a free and open technology marketplace in America.

Clearly, the current system is unfair and greatly disadvantages a number of U.S. companies. It is my goal to ensure that the 3G process does not perpetuate this unfair technical barrier to trade, and unnecessarily waste billions of dollars in U.S. investments.

Though often overlooked, international standards, including 3G, are an extremely important component of international trade. We must, however, be ever vigilant to ensure that these standards are not used to bar U.S. businesses from competing abroad.

Mr. Speaker, as the 105th Congress draws to a close, I want to assure my colleagues that, if my constituents give me the honor of representing them in the 106th Congress, I will continue to vigorously pursue, through hearings and if necessary legislation, the arcane but vital issue of preserving U.S. competitiveness in the international standard setting arena.