

means, and that those documents can be in the form of computer files, discs, or templates.

I expect strong action by law enforcement agencies to enforce both the existing provisions of title 18, section 1028, and the expanded authority provided by this legislation. The intent of S. 2924 is simple and clear—to stop those who use the Internet to sell, distribute, or make available false identification.

I am pleased that the new law will make it a crime to place false identification, regardless of its format, on an on-line location. Thus, the posting of such tools as scanned false identification documents or templates of state driver's licenses on Web sites will, without doubt, be illegal.

Mr. President, I am pleased that the House retained the provisions that will establish a coordinating committee to concentrate resources of federal agencies on investigating and prosecuting the creation of false identification. This multi-agency effort should draw on the resources of several agencies to investigate and prosecute those who engage in the production and transfer of false identification of any type. I urge the Attorney General and the Secretary of the Treasury to involve all agencies that can assist in curbing the use of false identification.

The House also approved another important portion of the Senate bill—the elimination of a section of law that unfortunately allowed criminals to manufacture, distribute, or sell counterfeit identification documents by using easily removable disclaimers as part of an attempt to shield the illegal conduct from prosecution through a bogus claim of “novelty.” No longer will it be acceptable to provide computer templates of government-issued identification containing an easily removable layer saying that it is not a government document.

I thank my colleagues for their support of this important legislation.

COMPUTER CRIME ENFORCEMENT ACT

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 2816.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2816) to establish a grant program to permit State and local law enforcement in deterring, investigating, and prosecuting computer crimes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

H.R. 2816, THE COMPUTER CRIME ENFORCEMENT ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate is passing the Computer Crime Enforcement Act, which is now headed to President Clinton for his signature into law. I intro-

duced the Senate version of this bill, S. 1314, on July 1, 1999, with Senator DEWINE and is now also co-sponsored by Senators ROBB, HATCH and ABRAHAM. This legislation also passed the Senate as part of H.R. 46, the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act. I thank my colleagues for their hard work on the Computer Crime Enforcement Act, especially Representative MATT SALMON, the House sponsor.

The information age is filled with unlimited potential for good, but it also creates a variety of new challenges for law enforcement. A recent survey by the FBI and the Computer Security Institute found that 62 percent of information security professionals reported computer security breaches in the past year. These breaches in computer security resulted in financial losses of more than \$120 million from fraud, theft of information, sabotage, computer viruses, and stolen laptops. Computer crime has become a multi-billion dollar problem.

The Computer Crime Enforcement Act is intended to help states and local agencies in fighting computer crime. All 50 states have now enacted tough computer crime control laws. They establish a firm groundwork for electronic commerce, an increasingly important sector of the nation's economy.

Unfortunately, too many state and local law enforcement agencies are struggling to afford the high cost of enforcing their state computer crime statutes.

Earlier this year, I released a survey on computer crime in Vermont. My office surveyed 54 law enforcement agencies in Vermont—43 police departments and 11 State's attorney offices—on their experience investigating and prosecuting computer crimes. The survey found that more than half of these Vermont law enforcement agencies encounter computer crime, with many police departments and state's attorney offices handling 2 to 5 computer crimes per month.

Despite this documented need, far too many law enforcement agencies in Vermont cannot afford the cost of policing against computer crimes. Indeed, my survey found that 98 percent of the responding Vermont law enforcement agencies do not have funds dedicated for use in computer crime enforcement. My survey also found that few law enforcement officers in Vermont are properly trained in investigating computer crimes and analyzing cyber-evidence.

According to my survey, 83 percent of responding law enforcement agencies in Vermont do not employ officers properly trained in computer crime investigative techniques. Moreover, my survey found that 52 percent of the law enforcement agencies that handle one or more computer crimes per month cited their lack of training as a problem encountered during investigations. Without the necessary education, training and technical support, our law enforcement officers are and will con-

tinue to be hamstrung in their efforts to crack down on computer crimes.

I crafted the Computer Crime Enforcement Act, S. 1314, to address this problem. The bill would authorize a \$25 million Department of Justice grant program to help states prevent and prosecute computer crime. Grants under our bipartisan bill may be used to provide education, training, and enforcement programs for local law enforcement officers and prosecutors in the rapidly growing field of computer criminal justice. Our legislation has been endorsed by the Information Technology Association of America and the Fraternal Order of Police. This is an important bipartisan effort to provide our state and local partners in crime-fighting with the resources they need to address computer crime.

Mr. STEVENS. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 2816) was read the third time and passed.

THANKING OUR CREATOR

Mr. STEVENS. Mr. President, I want to publicly state I think we ought to thank our Creator for giving us the opportunity to serve in this body, and to have a period of time like we have just come through, where I have been able to speak for people of different nationalities, different tongues, who have come to our country and sought freedom and an opportunity to work for themselves, so that they will now be able to continue that work. It really is, to me, a very significant day. To be able to accomplish this is very much a humbling experience.

ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

Mr. STEVENS. I now ask unanimous consent the Senate stand in adjournment sine die under the provisions of H. Con. Res. 446.

There being no objection, at 8:03 p.m., the Senate adjourned sine die.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate December 15, 2000:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

ISLAM A. SIDDIQUI, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNDER SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE FOR MARKETING AND REGULATORY PROGRAMS, VICE MICHAEL V. DUNN.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

EDWIN A. LEVINE, OF FLORIDA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, VICE DAVID GARDINER, RESIGNED.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION

SARAH MCCracken FOX, OF NEW YORK, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION FOR A TERM EXPIRING APRIL 27, 2005, VICE STUART E. WEISBERG, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JULIE E. SAMUELS, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE, VICE JEREMY TRAVIS, RESIGNED.