

single card, powerful encryption technology ensures that personal information is seen only by those who the individual wants to see it.

The technology available today allows us to select what information is carried on our smart card and guarantees that we are the only ones who can grant access to that information.

Even though we can store our financial and medical records on the same smart card the card's microchip is divided into separate compartments that make it impossible for our bank to see our medical records and our doctor to see our last bank deposit.

And if we should lose our card, anybody who finds it will discover that it's useless to them.

Because without the proper authorization code that only the individual knows—and with more sensitive applications, without biometric authentication like hand geometry scanners—the card won't work in the hands of anybody but its owner.

Just as our ATM card is useless to a thief without the proper PIN number, a thief will find that, without authentication by its owner, a stolen smart card is a worthless piece of plastic.

In an era where our personal information is becoming increasingly easier for others to access, where our very personal and private activities can be electronically tracked, smart cards are a way to return control over this information where it belongs: in the hands of the individual.

And with modern-day encryption and other security measures built into the chip on a smart card, the information on this card is more secure from theft or fraud than any credit card or ATM card in use today.

Mr. President, there is no doubt of the need for increased efficiency, security, and portability of information across all sectors of our Government.

We have the technology, literally, in our hands to make it happen.

Already, several other Government agencies have begun to implement this technology in a variety of applications across Government.

Today, for example, smart cards are used as identification and security badges in Government buildings.

In States like Wyoming, pilot programs are underway to use smart cards to electronically disburse WIC and food stamp benefits.

In several western States, a smart card called the health passport is being used to increase the portability and accessibility of an individual's medical records while safeguarding their confidentiality.

At colleges like the University of Michigan, a single smart card can call up a student's financial aid records, buy her books, and open the door of her dorm.

On our subways, and our military bases, in our hospitals, and our schools, across the public and private sector, smart cards can cut down the time we spend on burdensome administrative

work and save us valuable time and resources.

But the reason I'm so enthusiastic about this new technology, Mr. President, is not just because smart cards can eliminate waste.

I'm not here speaking today simply because smart cards can save us time and money.

I'm strongly supportive of this new technology because smart cards can make our lives better and easier.

Whether it's reducing the time we wait in line at a government office or providing a doctor the information needed to save a life smart cards can make our entire infrastructure more user-friendly and efficient; smart cards make technology work better for us.

I am confident that pilot smart card programs, like the MARC program, will demonstrate the effectiveness of smart cards and the need for this technology across government, and will lead to increased use of this technology in our future.

That's why I'm so excited about it, and that's why I'm so pleased the managers seem willing to include this provision in their manager's amendment.

With that, Mr. President, I thank the chair, and I yield the floor.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I just want to commend the Senator from Virginia on his amendment. It is a very thoughtful amendment, the product of months, and, indeed, years of work by Senator ROBB. I hope that in the next day or two we will be able to work with the majority to see this amendment is adopted.

I want to commend the Senator on his constant attack on waste and his constant effort to achieve efficiency, not just in the military, but all branches of Government.

Mr. ROBB. I thank the distinguished Senator from Michigan. I did not display my own MARC card here, but it is my hope that in the not-too-distant future not only will all members of the Armed Services, but all members who interact or interface with our Federal Government will have one of these and be able to use them in the same efficient way that the MARC card is being used today, and is being used in this particular experiment.

I yield the floor.

Mr. THURMOND. I want to say to the able Senator from Virginia, Senator ROBB, that you made a very interesting discourse here. What the Senator is recommending appears to deserve serious consideration. That consideration, I am sure, will be given by the committee.

Mr. ROBB. I thank the distinguished chairman of the committee and the senior Senator from South Carolina.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

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

TRIBUTE TO J. MELVILLE BROUGHTON, JR

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, North Carolina lost a very special, very valuable and very distinguished leader this past April. He was known affectionately and respectfully across our State, and far beyond in every direction, simply as Mel Broughton. His full name was J. Melville Broughton, Jr., but you seldom heard all of that name.

Mel Broughton, by all measurements, was one of those nature's noblemen who comes along only once in a while. Though his family was one of North Carolina's most distinguished, Mel Broughton was one of the least pretentious men I have ever known.

His grandfather was North Carolina's Governor during the World War II years, 1941 to 1944. And in November 1948, former Governor Broughton was elected to the U.S. Senate. But fate was to allow Senator Broughton to serve in the U.S. Senate only a few months, because he had been sworn in as a Senator shortly after his having been elected in November 1948 but he died of a heart attack the following March.

Incidentally, Mr. President, misfortune hovered over North Carolina throughout the 10-year period between the late 1940's and the following 10 years. Our State had a succession of 10 U.S. Senators during that decade. Five of them died in office; three were defeated in their reelection bids; and the two surviving Senators of that decade were Sam J. Ervin, Jr. and B. Everett Jordan. Senator Ervin served 20 years; Senator Jordan served 17.

But let me return, Mr. President, to Mel Broughton, Jr., who was honored by North Carolina's general assembly on June 26 of this year when both Houses of our State legislature adopted "A joint resolution honoring the life and memory of J. Melville Broughton, Jr."

As that resolution states, Mel Broughton was devoted to North Carolina and to the people of our State. And he served in countless ways. Only once did he venture into Federal service, and that was when President Ford nominated him to serve on the board of directors of the U.S. Legal Services Corporation. And during those years, one of his colleagues on the Legal Services Corporation board was a young lady who today is the First Lady of America, Mrs. Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Mr. President, needless to say, Dot Helms and I have long been devoted to the Mel Broughton family. As a matter of fact, Mel's parents, Governor and Mrs. Broughton, were very dear to us and thoughtful to us in so many ways.

And last, but certainly not least, I am privileged that Mel Broughton's son—one of them—whom all of us call Jimmy, is administrative assistant and