

I hope the FCC will act quickly to assure adequate compensation for each call. I hope the FCC will take immediate steps to enforce the requirement for non-discriminatory and fair line rates. I hope the FCC will take those basic steps required by the 1996 law. Fair competition—and the resulting benefits to consumers envisioned by Congress—will not occur until these actions are taken. As Chairman of the Senate Communications Subcommittee, I will be carefully monitoring actions taken by the FCC on these important issues in the weeks and months ahead.

THE BULLETPROOF VEST PARTNERSHIP GRANT ACT OF 2000

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I wanted to inform the Republican leadership that the House of Representatives today passed the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 2000, H.R. 4033, by an overwhelming vote of 413-3. I hope that the Senate will quickly follow suit and pass the House-passed bill and send it to the President. President Clinton has already endorsed this legislation to support our nation's law enforcement officers and is eager to sign it into law.

Senator CAMPBELL and I have introduced the Senate companion bill, S. 2413. Unfortunately, someone on the other side of the aisle has a hold on our bill. We have been working for the past week to urge the Senate to pass the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 2000, S. 2413. The Senate Judiciary Committee passed our bill unanimously on June 29. It has been cleared by all 45 Democratic Senators.

But it still has not passed the full Senate. This is very disappointing to our nation's law enforcement officers who need life-saving bulletproof vests to protect themselves. Protecting and supporting our law enforcement community should not be a partisan issue.

Senator CAMPBELL and I worked together closely and successfully with the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee in the last Congress to pass the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 into law. Senator HATCH is an original cosponsor this year's bill to reauthorize this grant program. Senators SCHUMER, KOHL, THURMOND, REED, JEFFORDS, ROBB, REID, SARBANES, BINGAMAN, ASHCROFT, EDWARDS, BUNNING, CLELAND, HUTCHISON, and ABRAHAM are also cosponsors of our bipartisan bill.

But for some reason a Republican senator has a hold on this bill to provide protection to our nation's law enforcement officers. According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, more than 40 percent of the 1,182 officers killed by a firearm in the line of duty since 1980 could have been saved if they had been wearing body armor. Indeed, the FBI estimates that the risk of fatality to officers while not wearing body armor is 14 times higher than for officers wearing it.

To better protect our nation's law enforcement officers, Senator CAMPBELL and I introduced the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998. President Clinton signed our legislation into law on June 16, 1998. Our law created a \$25 million, 50 percent matching grant program within the Department of Justice to help state and local law enforcement agencies purchase body armor for fiscal years 1999-2001.

In its two years of operation, the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program has funded more than 180,000 new bulletproof vests for police officers across the country.

The Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 2000 builds on the success of this program by doubling its annual funding to \$50 million for fiscal years 2002-2004. It also improves the program by guaranteeing jurisdictions with fewer than 100,000 residents receive the full 50-50 matching funds because of the tight budgets of these smaller communities and by making the purchase of stab-proof vests eligible for grant awards to protect corrections officers in close quarters in local and county jails.

More than ever before, police officers in Vermont and around the country face deadly threats that can strike at any time, even during routine traffic stops. Bulletproof vests save lives. It is essential that we update this law so that many more of our officers who are risking their lives everyday are able to protect themselves.

I hope this mysterious "hold" on the other side of the aisle will disappear. The Senate should pass without delay the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 2000 and send to the President for his signature into law.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, July 25, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,670,717,940,248.21 (Five trillion, six hundred seventy billion, seven hundred seventeen million, nine hundred forty thousand, two hundred forty-eight dollars and twenty-one cents).

Five years ago, July 25, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,940,346,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred forty billion, three hundred forty-six million).

Ten years ago, July 25, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,161,885,000,000 (Three trillion, one hundred sixty-one billion, eight hundred eighty-five million).

Fifteen years ago, July 25, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,798,533,000,000 (One trillion, seven hundred ninety-eight billion, five hundred thirty-three million).

Twenty-five years ago, July 25, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$535,316,000,000 (Five hundred thirty-five billion, three hundred sixteen million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,135,401,940,248.21 (Five trillion, one hundred thirty-five billion, four hun-

dred one million, nine hundred forty thousand, two hundred forty-eight dollars and twenty-one cents) during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM T. YOUNG

• Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my good friend and fellow Kentuckian, Bill Young, in recognition of his service and dedication to the state of Kentucky. As Bill steps down from a few of his many leadership positions, I pay tribute to him for his lifelong commitment to this region.

Born in Lexington, he has always focused on the state's higher education. Bill's many leadership positions, including Transylvania University Board of Trustees member and chairman of the board of Shakertown, have guided the growth and success of Kentucky. As he is known for his single-minded determination to help the future success of Kentuckians, he has left a legacy behind that would prove he is one of the state's greatest assets.

No opportunity has been missed by Bill to continue Kentucky's prosperity. Beginning with investments in peanut butter that is now better known as Jif, his business endeavors started successfully. With an interest in horses, he continued his success in the business world by becoming a prominent leader of thoroughbred racing. Over the years, he became a leading philanthropist by helping construct the YMCA located on Lexington's High Street, Shakertown, and the University of Kentucky's new William T. Young Library. He still continues other projects for the community that are significant and meaningful to him.

Kentucky would not be what it is today without Bill's leadership and guidance over the past years. Though Bill has stepped down for others to guide the future, Kentucky will feel the effects of his accomplishments for years to come. Thank you, Bill, for putting so much of yourself into this state to make it a better place for others. Your hard work and successes are admired, and they will continue to impact Kentucky for years to come. My colleagues join me in congratulating you on a job well done, and I wish you all the best for your future. •

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF COACH JEROME VAN METER

• Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I rise to celebrate the life and accomplishments of one of West Virginia's most esteemed citizens, Coach Jerome Van Meter. On August 15th of this year, Coach Van Meter will celebrate his 100th birthday. A remarkable milestone for a truly remarkable man, Coach Van Meter's birthday provides a special opportunity for all of West Virginia to join in thanking him for a lifetime of service to our state.