

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT
OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of last year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred November 1, 1991 in Brattleboro, VT. Two gay men were beaten by two juveniles who were heard to make anti-gay remarks. The assailants were charged with a hate crime in connection with the incident.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

THE SECTORAL MARKET ASSESSMENT FOR REGIONAL TRAINING ENHANCEMENT AND REVITALIZATION ACT

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on a bill that Senator CANTWELL and I introduced yesterday that will make it easier for States and localities to secure meaningful work for dislocated workers. Senator CANTWELL is a true advocate for unemployed workers and for economic development, and it has been a pleasure to work with her on this and other initiatives designed to strengthen our workers and our communities.

This is designed to increase the ability of States and local workforce investment boards, under the Workforce Investment Act, WIA, to match trained workers with productive jobs and also to create systematic change in a targeted industry or occupation. Our bill creates a three-step process for States and local workforce boards to accomplish this goal:

The first step involves a study. Using the latest labor market and economic information, States or local workforce boards will prepare detailed assessments of local areas that identify the gaps between the expected and demand and supply of labor in industry sectors. The second step involves plan. Local workforce boards will join with partners from industry, labor, and the economic development and training sectors to develop comprehensive plans for implementing the assessments, in order to fill the gap between supply and demand. The third and final step involves grants. The local boards will make seed grants for training individuals to meet the demand for workers in certain industries.

In my home State of Maine, I have worked with local workforce boards, regional technical colleges and high

schools, businesses, workers and community leaders to develop training programs that focus on particular market sectors within a particular region. I secured federal appropriations for programs to train workers in the metal trades in northern and western Maine. Today, dislocated workers in Aroostook County and Rumford, Maine are being trained as metal workers.

I also secured funding for a training pilot project in the Central Maine area that will introduce a photonics curriculum in the regional technical high school to train students for careers in the growing field of photonics. This year I am hopeful that a request to fund a program targeted at training in the health care area in Southern Maine will be granted.

This bill takes an innovative approach and provides tools to states, localities and regions to implement the provisions of the Workforce Investment Act more effectively. By retraining dislocated workers, we give them access to productive and well-paying work. We also make our workforce stronger to face the challenges of the global marketplace.

IN HONOR OF SECRETARY OF STATE COLIN POWELL'S 65TH BIRTHDAY

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to recognize a milestone in the life of one of America's most honored and honorable leaders on the occasion of his 65th birthday, our 65th Secretary of State, Colin Powell.

Time and again, when Colin Powell's country has needed him, he has answered the call. He spent 35 years as a professional soldier, in which he rose to the rank of four-star general and then served as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff under the first President Bush. In 1991, Secretary Powell led the American effort to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi aggression in the Persian Gulf War.

In 1997, then-General Powell helped found America's Promise the Alliance for Youth—designed to marshal Americans to get involved in the lives of young people so that every child, regardless of race or income, has a life with caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, marketable skills, and opportunities to serve. In this capacity, Colin Powell proved that his tenacity, skill, and focus could just as easily help inspire a child as it could help win a war.

Now, as our Secretary of State, Colin Powell faces yet another formidable challenge, and he is once again leading with confidence, competence, and a principled vision. Our country is deeply grateful for his service as he guides our foreign policy, including the twin challenges of coordinating the diplomatic component of the war against terrorism and attempting to guide the Middle East toward peace. America needs his sharp mind, calm voice, and sound judgment now more than ever,

and I know that Secretary Powell will not let us down. He will help this country protect its people, live up to its most precious values, and build a safer, freer, and more democratic world.

Thomas Jefferson, our nation's first Secretary of State, once said that, "A character of justice . . . is (as) valuable to a nation as to an individual." I can't think of a life that exemplifies that sentiment more powerfully than that of Colin Powell.

Secretary of State Powell talked candidly about his life's accomplishments, and the many challenges before him, in a revealing profile on the occasion of his birthday, written by White House and State Department correspondent Trude Feldman. To pay tribute to one of our strongest and most admired leaders, I ask unanimous consent that Ms. Feldman's article, syndicated, by International Press Syndicate, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

COLIN POWELL AT 65: A DYNAMIC STATESMAN
(By Trude B. Feldman)

At an age when most Americans are looking towards a comfortable and secure future for themselves and their families, Secretary of State Colin L. Powell is confronting two of the most serious crises the U.S. has faced in the past 50 years.

Between the war on terrorism and the powder keg in the Middle East, there was little time for reflection as Mr. Powell marked his 65th birthday last month.

"I'm not terribly sentimental about birthdays," he told me in an interview. "But frankly, I don't feel any different at 65. Aging is part of living and I'm not bothered by it. Every now and then, I realize that there are fewer years ahead, but that is also part of living. Most important is that I've been blessed with continued good health, a loving family and sincere friends."

While Colin Powell grew up in modest circumstances, he has always been rich in spirit and an inspiration to others. He personifies success, achieved not because it was handed to him, but because he earned it.

Today, a major player on the international scene, he has a strong presence, a calm voice and his demeanor generates confidence and admiration. He is the one President Bush sent to the Middle East to meet with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian leader Yasir Arafat to arrange a ceasefire between the parties.

He is not content to retire and enjoy leisure activities like playing golf or fixing old Volvos (one of his hobbies). His attention and energy are focused on making safer a troubled, dangerous world.

In the Middle East, Mr. Powell is demonstrating diplomatic elegance by relating, respectfully, to each of the participants, however intractable they may be. His dynamism and apparent empathy are qualities much in need for his current challenge.

I asked the Secretary if he would do anything differently if he were able to relive his 65 years.

"I never look back to see what I could do or might have done differently," he responds. "I guess I'm a total pragmatist. I can't relive my life, not for one minute, so why reflect on that instead of thinking about today and tomorrow? Each day I do the best I can, and move on. I also learn from lessons of the past by improving on the present and future."

What are some of his regrets? "Oh, what good are regrets? Regrets slow you down. Regrets cause you to fail to pay attention to