

the New York Times, writes that “the concentration of power—political, corporate, media, cultural—should be anathema to conservatives.” John Roberts in the Chicago Tribune deplores the “blatantly disingenuous, if not dishonest, explanations being given by FCC Chairman Michael Powell and his supporters for their actions.”

No prizes for guessing who supports the commission: the major media conglomerates who have coincidentally spent more than \$80 million on lobbying, plus over \$25 million in political contributions, in the past three years and stand to gain enormously from this.

Regardless of their political ideology, we cannot risk nonelected media bosses having inappropriate local, regional, or national power. The FCC was created to ensure that the public interest is served by the media companies that use our airwaves. Everyone is entitled to a mistake sometime, but the FCC is abusing the privilege. Congress must act now and reverse the FCC’s irresponsible new rules.

CHANGES TO H. CON. RES. 95 PURSUANT TO SECTION 401 MEDICARE RESERVE FUND ADJUSTMENT

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, section 401 of H. Con. Res. 95, the FY 2004 Budget Resolution, permits the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee to make adjustments to the allocation of budget authority and outlays to the Senate Committee on Finance, provided certain conditions are met.

Pursuant to section 401, I ask unanimous consent that the following revisions to H. Con. Res. 95 be printed in the RECORD.

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

	Dollars in millions
Current Allocation to Senate Finance Committee	
FY 2004 Budget Authority	769,846
FY 2004 Outlays	773,735
FY 2004–2008 Budget Authority	4,504,397
FY 2004–2008 Outlays	4,513,658
FY 2004–2013 Budget Authority	10,591,162
FY 2004–2013 Outlays	10,606,226
Adjustments	
FY 2004 Budget Authority
FY 2004 Outlays
FY 2004–2008 Budget Authority	113,540
FY 2004–2008 Outlays	113,570
FY 2004–2013 Budget Authority	400,000
FY 2004–2013 Outlays	400,000
Revised Allocation to Senate Finance Committee	
FY 2004 Budget Authority	769,846
FY 2004 Outlays	773,735
FY 2004–2008 Budget Authority	4,617,937
FY 2004–2008 Outlays	4,627,228
FY 2004–2013 Budget Authority	10,991,162
FY 2004–2013 Outlays	11,006,226

PROTECT ACT OF 2003 TECHNICAL AMENDMENT

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I rise today to speak to an issue that we need to promptly address. As part of the Protect Act of 2003, we authorized a pilot program to study the feasibility of instituting a national background check for those who volunteer in children’s activities. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children will provide its expertise to assist volunteer organizations in evaluating the criminal records of volunteers to determine if the volunteers are fit to interact and provide care for children.

Currently, the Protect Act tasks the National Center with operating the cyber tip line in addition to its participation in the pilot program. The Protect Act presently immunizes the National Center for operating the cyber tip line as long as it does so consistent with the purpose of the tip line. However, no similar protection was provided with respect to the National Center’s activities related to the pilot program. The bill I have offered will extend the immunity to the National Center for its participation in the pilot program.

I would urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this technical fix so that the worthy goals of the pilot program can commence.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Madam President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Act, a bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred in San Jose, CA. On October 12, 2001, a pregnant Yemini woman wearing a hijab and a long dress was beaten by a group of angry teenagers. After the attack, the woman needed to be hospitalized and remained in guarded condition until she delivered her baby.

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 is 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.

WRITING CONTEST ON IMMIGRATION

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, each year fifth graders across the United States compete in a writing contest on immigration sponsored by the American Immigrant Law Foundation and the American Immigration Layers Association. Thousands of students participated in this year’s competition, responding to the question, “Why I’m Glad America is a Nation of Immigrants.”

In 1958, President Kennedy, who was then completing his first term as a Senator, published a book with the title, “A Nation of Immigrants,” and I had the privilege of serving as one of the judges for this year’s contest. It was impressive to see how the students responded. Their essays illustrate the wealth of diverse cultures that immigrants share with our Nation. The students’ writings radiate with pride for our diversity and our immigrant heritage. Many students told personal sto-

ries of their families and friends and their immigration to the United States.

The winner of this year’s contest is Miranda Santucci of Pittsburgh. In her essay, “An American Patchwork Quilt,” Miranda explores the value of her friends’ cultures and how their diversity has enhanced her life. She compares the United States to a colorful patchwork quilt where “every fabric piece tells an immigrant’s story about overcoming hardship, seeking opportunities, and reaching for dreams,” and where “threads of different languages, customs, foods, cultures, religions and skills hold these pieces together.” Miranda’s eloquent essay reaches to the heart of what makes us all uniquely American.

Other students honored for their exceptional writing were Rachel Adams of Houston, Melissa Cheng of Atlanta, Jessica Du of Alameda, and Elias Reisman of Indianapolis. I congratulate these students on their outstanding achievement, and I know my brother would be proud of them too.

These award-winning essays will be of interest to all of us in the Senate, and I ask unanimous consent that they be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, so ordered.

There being no objection, the essays were printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Winchester Thurston School,
Pittsburgh, PA]

AN AMERICAN PATCHWORK QUILT

(By Miranda Santucci)

America reminds me of a beautiful patchwork quilt that covers our nation with a diversity of immigrants. Each quilt square is made up of different colors and textures with a unique design and pattern. Every fabric piece tells an immigrant’s story about overcoming hardships, seeking opportunities, and reaching for dreams. Threads of different languages, customs, foods, cultures, religions, and skills hold all these pieces together. I’m glad America is a nation of immigrants because these individual patchwork pieces make the whole American quilt more beautiful.

The quilt covers my home, school, neighborhood, and city. It warms me when I celebrate the feast of fishes on Christmas Eve like my father’s Italian ancestors did, when I play with my Greek friend Katarina Konstantinos after school, or when I share the basket blessing tradition at Easter with my neighbor, Peter Muszalski, in his church on Polish Hill. I see many colors in the fabric at my school when I look around at all the different skin tones. I feel how enormous the quilt is when I go through the Strip District and read the storefront signs like Sambok, Stamboolis, Benkovitz, and Sunseri.

I cherish each piece of our country’s quilt. All the immigrant patches are still unique, even though they are sewn together as one. They make our country rich, full and strong. America’s patchwork quilt is a precious heirloom that should be handled with pride, and handed down through the generations of American history.

[From the Mayde Creek Elementary,
Houston, TX]

AMERICA—MY NEW HOME

(By Rachel Adams)

America, America

lovely and bright,
so full of bluebonnets
and coyotes at night.
Free as a bird,
that soars in the sky,
oh, how I love the way
your flag waves far and wide.
Immigrant, immigrant,
traveling from afar,
warmly welcomed in America,
are those who are scarred.

That's what I am,
and I want to be free,
I want to have value,
and I want to be me.

I set out on a journey
and far will I roam
until I reach my new country,
a place I'll call home.

In this country of immigrants,
I want to have meaning
to have a life of peace
and freedom of being.

I travel to America
where opportunity awaits,
the land of the free
and the home of the brave.

[From the Montgomery Elementary School,
Atlanta, GA]

WHY I AM GLAD AMERICA IS A NATION OF
IMMIGRANTS

(By Melissa Cheng)

The Dutch Butcher, the German Baker, The
Chinese who created paper, to this
great land gathers great skill, and we
all contribute, so do I, and make Amer-
ica greater still.

From some lands people flee,
To America the place of democracy,
For where they originated they had no free-
dom or rights for they had a dictator
who didn't treat them right.

I am glad I have hearts of hope, dreams of
freedom to be and practice who and
what I want to be. For freedom there is
a price.

We all must stand together willing to fight.
To all must stand together and earn this
right.

Without these cultures from near and far,
today we wouldn't be who we are.

Pasta from Italy, bread from Germany, and
piniatas that come from Mexico, are
what makes America unique.

All these things put together strengthen our
unity and create one big community.

America the land of opportunity is a place
where everybody has an equal chance
including me!!!

That is why I am glad America is a nation of
immigrants.

[From the Amelia Earhart School, Alameda,
CA]

I AM GLAD AMERICA IS A NATION OF
IMMIGRANTS

(By Jessica Du)

America is a nation of immigrants
As you can plainly see
Someone in your history
Made a change in your family tree.
Everyone must have a time
When they moved from place to place
To live a better life
And challenge it face to face

People come to America
For freedom and for rights
To speak freely and be educated
And explore new heights

My parents are from Vietnam
Dad escaped by boat
If someone was lucky, they'd make it to
shore

If not, in the ocean they'd have to float
My parents changed my whole life
If they hadn't moved here
I would be in a different country
Living in a land of fear
My classmates are from here and there
We are all different races
We speak many languages
And smile with different faces
America is a nation of immigrants
We don't care what race you are
The poor and rich should know
You're welcome from near or far.

[From the International School of Indiana,
Indianapolis, IN]

OPEN TO DIFFERENCES

(By Elias Reisman)

My grandma was from Russia
Her dad had a different belief.
The army came and seized him
Which caused her family grief.
She made it to the United States,
Fell in love with a Russian man,
War was looming, he signed up.
"Let's marry while we can."

They had three kids
All three were raised as Jews.
My dad met mom, a Christian girl
And they had two little new.
Our self portrait is not crystal clear.
When asked, what do we tell?
There is no single label
That tells our story well.

We go to an international school
There are kids of every kind.
Every race and faith and country
Makes it even a better time.

When we seek out those who differ,
Respect all points of view,
We are happier, wiser, stronger,
And our country's safer too.

We do not care
Whether yellow, black, or white,
Immigrant or native—
IT IS ALL RIGHT!

RECOGNIZING GENERAL ERIC SHINSEKI ON HIS RETIREMENT AS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF

Mr. INOUE. Madam President, on
June 11, 2003, I had the honor and privi-
lege of attending the retirement cere-
mony at Fort Myer, VA, for GEN Eric
Shinseki, who served with distinction
during his 4 years as Army Chief of
Staff. A native of Hawaii who rose
through the ranks while devoting 38
years of his life to defending our Na-
tion, General Shinseki ended his career
as the highest ranking Asian-American
in the history of the United States
military.

His farewell speech was a message of
thanks, a reminder of the need for
shared values, and an underscoring of
the importance of inspired leadership
and the dangers of arrogance.

I ask that General Shinseki's speech,
as well as the remarks that Acting Sec-
retary of the Army Les Brownlee made
during General Shinseki's retirement
ceremony, be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the speech
was printed in the RECORD, as follows:
SPEECH BY GENERAL ERIC K. SHINSEKI, 34TH
CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE U.S. ARMY, AT HIS
RETIREMENT CEREMONY, AT FORT MYER,
VA, ON JUNE 11, 2003

Secretary Brownlee, thank you for the
generosity of your remarks, and for hosting

today's ceremony. You lead the Army
through a difficult period; best wishes in the
execution of your important duties.

Secretary and Mrs. Norm Mineta, Trans-
portation, thank you for being here.

We have received tremendous support from
the defense oversight committees: Senate
Armed Services Committee—Senators War-
ner and Levin; Senate Appropriations Com-
mittee for defense—Senators Stevens and
Inouye; House Armed Services Committee—
Congressmen Hunter and Skelton; Congress-
man Bill Young, Chairman of the House Ap-
propriations Committee; and Congressmen
Lewis and Murtha, House Appropriations
Committee for Defense. Thank you all and
your dedicated staffs, Sid Ashworth, Valerie
Baldwin, John Bonsall, Dan Cox, and former
Staff Director Steve Cortese, for your sup-
port of the Army, its initiatives for the fu-
ture, and its soldiers.

Let me also acknowledge the leadership of
the Senate and House Army Caucuses: Sen-
ators Inhofe and Akaka, Congressmen
McHugh and Edwards. We truly appreciate
the tremendous support you provide for the
Army's initiatives.

We are fortunate to have some members of
Congress with us today: Senators Dan
Inouye, Daniel Akaka, Jack Reed, and
former Senator Max Cleland; Congressmen
Jerry Lewis, Ike Skelton, Gene Taylor, Neil
Abercrombie, Rodney Frelinghuysen,
Sylvestre Reyes, Charles Taylor, Chet
Edwards, Eni Faleomavaega. Patty and I are
honored that you could join us. Thank you.

Sincere thanks to the members of Congress
who paid kind tributes to my service in re-
cent days: Congressmen Lewis, McHugh,
Edwards, and Skelton. I deeply appreciate
the graciousness of your remarks.

Senator Dan Inouye, special thanks to you,
sir, for your friendship and mentoring. I am
indebted to you for introducing me at my
Senate confirmation hearing. Your words
then and your support over the last four
years have been humbling. Thank you for
your patriotism and your leadership.

Deputy Secretary England—Homeland Se-
curity, Secretary and Mrs. Jim Roche—Air
Force, General Al Haig, thank you for hon-
oring us with your presence. General Barry
McCaffrey and Jill, thank you for honoring
us as well.

Secretary Togo West, 16th Secretary of the
Army, Secretary Tom and Susan White, 18th
Secretary of the Army, thanks for your un-
wavering support of soldiers and the Army,
for your friendship, and for being her today.
When they call the roll of principled, loyal,
tough guys, you will be at the top of the list.

General Dick Myers, our Chairman, his
wife, Mary Jo, and Lynne Pace, wife of our
Vice Chairman, fellow members of the Joint
Chiefs of Staff and your ladies: Vern and
Connie Clark, CNO; John and Ellen Jumper,
CSAF; Mike and Silke Hagee, Commandant,
Marine Corps; Tom and Nancy Collins, Com-
mandant, Coast Guard. To the Joint Chiefs,
you have my respect and admiration for the
experience you bring to deliberations, the re-
sponsibilities you bear for the nation, and
the care you engender for people.

Former Army Chiefs of Staff, General and
Mrs. Reimer, General and Mrs. Sullivan,
General and Mrs. Vuono; members of our
outstanding Army Secretariat, including Joe
Reeder and Mike Walker; former undersec-
retaries of the Army; our Vice Chief of Staff,
Jack Keane and his wife, Terry, who have
worked tirelessly for four years on behalf of
soldiers and the Army, thank you both for
your dedication and support.

Counterpart Army Chiefs who have trav-
eled long distances to be here today: General
and Mrs. Gert Gudera, old friends from Ger-
many since our service together in Bosnia;
General Edward Pietrzyk, Poland; General