CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
September 22, 2004

S9518

[Rollcall Vote No. 187 Ex.]

YEARS—77

Alexander  DeWine  Lott
Allard  Dole  Logar
Allen  Domenici  McCain
Baucus  Donnelly  McConnell
Bayh  Ensign  Mikulski
Bennett  Eiz  Miller
Biden  Feingold  Murkowski
Bond  Feinstein  Murray
Boxer  Feuer  Nelson (FL)
Breaux  Frist  Nelson (NE)
Brownback  Graham (FL)  Nickles
Bunning  Graham (SC)  Pryor
Burns  Grassley  Reid
Campbell  Gregg  Roberts
Cantwell  Hagel  Sessions
Carper  Hatch  Schumer
Chafee  Hollings  Sessions
Chambliss  Hutchinson  Shelby
Coehran  Inhofe  Smith
Coleman  Inouye  Snowe
Collins  Johnson  Stevens
Cornyn  Kohl  Sununu
Craig  Kyl  Talent
Craig  Landrieu  Thomas
Daschle  Lieberman  Voinovich
Dayton  Lincoln  Warner

NAYS—17

Ringman  Daschle  Wyden
Byrd  Dorgan  Wyden
Clinton  Kennedy  Sarbanes
Conrad  Lautenberg  Stabenow
Corzine  Leahy  Wyden

NOT VOTING—6

Akaka  Jeffords  Santorum
Edwards  Kerry  Specter

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to legislative session.

The Senator from Kansas.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. ROBERTS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period of morning business, in the evening, with Senators speaking for up to 10 minutes each.

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

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. 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 Enhancement 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.

On November 20, 2000, in Savannah, GA, the body of Billy Jean Levette, a transgender individual, was found in a secluded area. His body was face up with a wound to the back of his head, his pants pulled halfway down and his shirt pulled up. Levette was the second transgender individual killed in the Savannah area in a year.

I believe that the 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.

SECURITY FOR SUPREME COURT JUSTICES

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased to be an original cosponsor of S. 2742, which is a short but important piece of legislation that Senator HATCH and I have cosponsored at the request of the Supreme Court. This legislation would renew authority to provide security for the Justices when they leave the Supreme Court. Recent reports of the assault of Justice Souter when he was outside of the Supreme Court highlight the importance of security for Justices. If no congressional action is taken, the authority of Supreme Court police to protect Justices off court grounds will expire at the end of this year.

Another provision in this legislation allows the Supreme Court to accept gifts “pertaining to the history of the Supreme Court of the United States or its justices.” The administrative office of the Courts currently has statutory authority to accept gifts on behalf of the judiciary. This provision would grant the Supreme Court authority to accept gifts but it would also narrow the types of gifts that can be received to historical items. I think this provision strikes the proper balance.

Finally, this legislation also would provide an additional venue for the prosecution of offenses that occur on the Supreme Court grounds. Currently, the DC Superior Court is the only place of proper venue despite the uniquely Federal interest at stake. This legislation would allow suit to be brought in United States District Court in the District of Columbia.

ROTTERDAM CONVENTION ON PRIOR INFORMED CONSENT

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, this week, seventy-four nations are meeting in Geneva at the first Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention on Prior Informed Consent (PIC) for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides. This international agreement establishes a legally binding framework that requires exporters of listed substances to secure informed consent from governments of importing countries prior to any shipment of such chemicals. Simply put, the convention recognizes and incorporates the basic principle of right-to-know with respect to trade in hazardous chemicals. As such, it marks yet another positive step in the direction of a comprehensive international approach to chemicals management.

Unfortunately, the United States is not yet a party to the convention, and thus will not be at the table this week when important decisions are made regarding organization, scope, and future direction. Earlier this week, for example, the parties agreed to add fourteen new chemicals to the convention's list of substances requiring informed consent. Because we are not yet party, the United States did not participate in that decision.

Lest one think this is an exceptional case, the Rotterdam Convention is one of three important agreements on chemicals that the United States has signed, but so far failed to ratify. The two other agreements—the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and the Montreal Protocol to the Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution—ban or severely restrict the production and use of some of the most hazardous chemicals in existence. Both agreements have entered into force, and preparations are being made for the first meetings of the parties. Yet, the United States is not on board.

Although our Government played a leading role in negotiating all of these agreements and despite the fact that the United States was a party to each, the current administration along with the leadership in Congress has so far failed to move the necessary implementing legislation that would allow the United States to become a party.

Such legislation involves the work of four different committees in the Congress. To date, however, only the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee has reported a bill, which I co-sponsored with Senator CHAFEE. This bill provides a reasonable and effective approach to meeting our current obligations under all three of these agreements, while also providing a robust mechanism for accommodating future decisions of the parties.

I urge my colleagues to sign our lead and swiftly enact sensible implementing legislation. The United States cannot afford to sit on the sidelines any longer.

LANHAM ACT CLARIFICATION

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD some additional information about the genesis and intent of a bill introduced last week, strengthening and clarifying a provision of the Lanham Act. Specifically, S. 2796 was introduced to clarify that service marks, collective marks, certification marks, and tradenames are entitled to the same protections, rights, privileges of trade marks.

It is my hope that the Congress will act on this measure in short order, and I offer this information to assist my colleagues in evaluating the bill.

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

AMENDMENTS TO LANHAM ACT

Sec. 3 [15 U.S.C. 1053]. Service marks registrable

Subject to the provisions relating to the registration of trademarks, so far as they are