

and humanitarian relief. While there is a great deal of work to be done in the Gulf States, Congress has and will continue to demonstrate an ongoing commitment to this region.

Congress also engaged in one of the most important debates we could hope to have as far as our national security is concerned, that of enhancing the security of our borders. This year's Homeland Security Appropriations Act provides unprecedented funding to protect our borders from those who wish to enter illegally. This year we passed more than \$31 billion in new budget authority for the Department of Homeland Security, increasing border security accounts, providing an additional 1,000 border patrol agents, and providing more 220 detention beds.

Among the most high-profile issues of the year were the nominations, hearings, and thus far one confirmation for the U.S. Supreme Court. Not only did the Senate confirm John Roberts to the Court, but Justice Roberts was also named to be the new Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. In the time since Chief Justice Roberts came before the Senate, we have also worked through a pair of nominations, one of which we will take up as our first order of business in the new year. The Roberts nomination demonstrated the value of our system and all of its various parts, working together for a greater good. I look forward to the timely hearings on Judge Alito's nomination and an up-or-down vote on his nomination.

This has been an amazing year of accomplishment for the Congress. As I said earlier, there has not been a more productive year in my time here. As proud as I am of these many accomplishments I would also like to discuss a few accomplishments a little closer to my home, the State of Colorado, where we have had a pretty big year, as well.

One of the ongoing projects I have worked on for many years now is the cleanup of Rocky Flats. This year, we secured more than \$560 million for the final stages of the cleanup. Contrary to what many may expect, this cleanup was completed ahead of time and below projected costs, serving both the region and the taxpayer by cleaning up this facility.

Another long-term project that I have worked on is the destruction of chemical weapons at the Pueblo Depot. By working with the Department of Defense, we have increased funding and maintained good management principles to meet our treaty obligations in the destruction of more than three-quarters of a million chemical weapons on site.

Just down the road from Pueblo is Fort Carson. I recently held a town meeting at Fort Carson to discuss a variety of issues important to that base and to that community, including the political process that accompanies BRAC. We secured more than \$120 million in military construction funds for new barracks and training at the facil-

ity as well as securing funds to prevent encroachment at the base. Even further on up the road is another jewel in America's military infrastructure, the U.S. Air Force Academy. Our ongoing efforts to assess progress and address problems at the Academy have been very productive thus far, and we secured \$18 million to upgrade academic facilities and family housing this year. It is with some pleasure that I can also say I attended all four board of visitor meetings at the academy this year.

This has also been a year of accomplishment for Colorado's space industry. This year we added \$60 million for military satellite projects in Colorado, secured \$12 million for the space control facility at Peterson Air Force Base, and \$6 million for the space warning facility in Greeley. In keeping with these efforts to modernize and expand our posture in space I held four Space Power Caucus events. Space is indeed a great frontier, and it is one where we must maintain an aggressive stance. Just as it is important that the military sector be moving forward in space, it is equally vital that our workforce and our students learn about space science and perform cutting-edge research. This year we secured more than \$10,000,000 for student space programs at the University of Colorado, Colorado State University, the Challenger Learning Center, and the Space Foundation. The students who will benefit from these programs are our future.

Students in my home State will likewise benefit from our continued support of the University of Colorado's Center for Micro and Nano-technology, which will receive three-quarters of a million dollars for cutting edge scientific research that dwells on the cutting edge. Congress has seen fit to support Colorado State University's Pueblo campus, as well, providing \$250,000 for the Western Forensic Law Enforcement Training Center.

I spoke earlier of the importance of the highway bill and its impact on our Nation's infrastructure. In Colorado, this will translate in to a variety of projects. We secured \$80,000,000 for the T-Rex highway improvement program, \$5 million for the west corridor, and \$9 million for the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies, a statewide coalition of agencies focused on the future of mass transit in my home State. Our successful year of investment in infrastructure includes a variety of projects around the State, including projects such as the Rio Grande bike trail in Garfield County, funding for the Pikes Peak Highway, State Highway 145 from Dolores to Stoner, the Ports-to-Plains Corridor, and Frisco's West Main Street.

In the Agriculture Appropriations Act we secured more than \$300,000 for the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Services for the Russian Wheat Aphid Resistance, Stress Tolerance and Quality Enhancement Project, more than 800,000 for infectious disease research to the Center

for Economically Important Infectious Animal Diseases at Colorado State University, and almost \$900,000 for the National Beef Cattle Evaluation Consortium, comprised of Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Cornell University, and the University of Georgia.

Our efforts this year also yielded \$400,000 for tamarisk eradication efforts, more than \$10,000,000 for new science and technology facility at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and \$10,000,000 for design and construction of a new NREL Administrative Facility, and more than \$55,000,000 for the Animas-La Plata project. In addition to securing funding to help my home State combat chronic wasting disease, we worked this year to direct the Animal Plant Health Inspection Service at USDA to begin to promulgate rules for dealing with this disease.

Another ongoing project that I have been pleased to work on with my colleagues is the modernization and expansion of the Centers for Disease Control lab in Ft. Collins. This facility, which provides vital research on vector-borne disease, will receive \$24,000,000 this year.

We have been very fortunate in the State of Colorado. I appreciate the efforts of my colleagues in recognizing the vital research, military, and educational facilities housed in Colorado.

On a more personal note, this year I opened a new State office in Durango, CO. I would like to urge colleagues, if they have not been, to pay a visit to this charming mountain community in southwestern Colorado. Durango offers terrific recreation in summer and winter, and I look forward to being able to enhance my constituent service with this new office.

Each of my State offices and my office here in Washington joined with the University of Denver and the University of Northern Colorado this year to host the sixth annual Allard Capitol Conference. This year, we hosted more than 100 Colorado citizens for 3 days of civic learning and participation. This annual conference is one of the most enjoyable things I am able to do with constituents each year.

It has been an extraordinary year of accomplishment for the Congress and for Colorado. We have a tremendous amount of inertia going in to the second half of the 109th Congress, and I look forward to the new year and all of its challenges.

CLERICAL ERROR CLARIFICATION

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I submit for the RECORD a clarification to the conference report to accompany S. 1932, the Deficit Reduction Omnibus Reconciliation Act, to correct a clerical error in drafting in Section 11101(a)(2) regarding bankruptcy fees. The language, "in paragraph (2) by striking '\$1,000' and inserting '\$2,750'", refers to the wrong subsection of the bankruptcy code. The language should read, "in paragraph (3) by striking

'\$1,000' and inserting '\$2,750''. Any reading of the language in context would indicate this clerical error, as the numerical references in the language are illogical otherwise. We will make the technical correction at the appropriate time.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in support of the reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act.

The scourge of trafficking in women and children was a priority for me as First Lady and continues to be a priority for me as a Senator. Since the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, I have been working to raise awareness of the heinous practice of buying and selling women and children like commodities. I have seen the devastation that it causes, and the lives it ruins. I have met with the families from Eastern and Central Europe, who, with tears in their eyes, pleaded with me to help them find lost ones who had been stolen from them, and I have met with the victims, including a 12-year-old girl in Thailand who was dying of AIDS after being sold twice by her family. This barbaric practice has caused far too many to exist in a perpetual state of fear and vulnerability, and we must do everything in our power to bring the scourge of trafficking out of the shadows and to the attention of the world.

I am proud to say that the United States has, for the past decade, been the leader in trying to persuade the rest of the world to eradicate this abhorrent practice. As the Clinton administration increased the antitrafficking activities of our Government through programs at the State Department and the Department of Justice, Congress was developing legislation to eradicate trafficking. We worked with the late Senator Wellstone, his Republican cosponsor, Senator BROWNBACK, and Congressman CHRIS SMITH and former Congressman Sam Gejdenson in the House, to introduce the first comprehensive antitrafficking bill in Congress. This culminated in the passage of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000. I believed then, and I believe now, that this is one of the Clinton administration's greatest achievements and one of the most important parts of Senator Wellstone's legacy. That law has meant the difference between freedom and enslavement for unknown numbers of potential trafficking victims, and this reauthorization provides us with the opportunity to strengthen its ability to help those who have been trafficked, and I would like to thank Senator BROWNBACK and Representative SMITH, my colleagues on the Helsinki Commission, for their continued commitment to this act since its initial passage.

I am proud to see that this reauthorization enhances the 3 P's strategy—

prevention of trafficking, prosecution of those that engage in these acts, and protection of the vulnerable individuals who have been trafficked—that we developed in the Clinton administration. It gives the Justice Department the authority to pursue extraterritorial prosecutions of Federal employees or those accompanying them if they engage in trafficking activities. It encourages the prevention of trafficking by requiring organizations or contractors engaged in U.S.-supported peacekeeping efforts to have antitrafficking policies in place. And it will protect those who have been trafficked overseas by increasing funding for programs like residential treatment facilities.

But there is still so much work to be done. Although reliable statistics are difficult to find, we know that 800,000 individuals—the vast majority of whom are women and children—are trafficked from one country to another every year, with 15,000 being trafficked to the United States. The FBI estimates that trafficking generates \$9.5 billion annually for organized crime syndicates around the world.

I am deeply concerned about the growing domestic commercial sex trade, and I believe that we need to increase funding and target efforts to end all forms of exploitation. Any expansion of our focus must not dilute our commitment to eradicating human trafficking in all its forms in the United States, nor detract from the progress we have made in increasing prosecutions and working with law enforcement agencies. We must ensure that our government has all the resources it needs to make inroads against these awful acts on our own soil.

In the fight against trafficking in persons, patience simply is not an option. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to end this barbaric practice in both the United States and around the world, because this is not about politics, but about what we all share: universal freedom and universal human rights.

KATRINA RECOVERY EFFORTS

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, this holiday season is a time for families to come together, reflect on the year's challenges and opportunities, and give thanks for all that has been accomplished. It is also a time to take action to help those less fortunate.

The year 2005 was a year of great challenges, and among the greatest were the hurricanes that ripped through the gulf coast.

The magnitude of Hurricane Katrina was unprecedented. Its aftermath brought us images that we thought we would never see in America—lives lost, communities destroyed, families uprooted.

The toll was particularly devastating for hundreds of thousands of young children and students torn from the

surroundings and institutions they depend on, and I'd like to spend a few moments discussing this aspect of the recovery effort.

We are all familiar with the devastation that past hurricanes have caused. Some have temporarily closed schools and colleges. In the aftermath of Hurricane Andrew in 1992, the Army, Navy, and National Guard joined in helping to repair classrooms and reopen school doors in about 3 weeks. Last year, Florida schools damaged by Hurricane Charley reopened within a month, and students were quickly back on track in their classrooms.

But Hurricane Katrina caused vastly greater devastation, especially in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. More than 700 schools and 30 colleges and universities were damaged or destroyed. Almost all have been closed, at least temporarily, and many will not open until January at the earliest. Some are in danger of never reopening.

The number of students affected is staggering. More than 370,000 elementary, middle, and high school students were displaced. Over 100,000 college students were affected by the disaster. And 18,500 Head Start or Early Head Start children were uprooted from programs.

These are not just statistics. These are real people whose lives have been changed forever.

Hurricane Katrina reminded us that we are all part of a single American family. And we have a responsibility to help members of that family when they are in need.

For too many weeks, our friends in the gulf region have waited for Congress to provide help in rebuilding their lives and their communities. Today, I am pleased that we will take an important step in actually providing the assistance so obviously needed.

The Katrina and Rita relief provisions in the conference report passed by the Senate today include several proposals developed by Senator ENZI and myself to help the children and students affected by these hurricanes.

It includes assistance to ensure that the youngest children uprooted by these tragic storms receive the services, help, and support they need. The bill dedicates funding to provide access to Head Start preschool programs and child care.

It provides much-needed relief for the public and private schools across the country that generously opened their doors to schoolchildren whose lives were turned upside-down by these disasters. These schools provided classrooms, teachers, and services for all of these students, and did so without a penny from the Federal Government.

It also includes relief for colleges in the affected areas, and ensures that college students displaced by the hurricane will receive the financial aid they need to stay in school and continue working toward their degree. Several colleges in Louisiana are in danger of