

would reclassify .50-caliber rifles under the National Firearms Act, NFA, treating them the same as other high-powered or especially lethal firearms like machineguns and sawed off shotguns. Among other things, reclassification of .50-caliber sniper rifles under the NFA would subject them to new requirements, including registration with federal authorities. These additional requirements would help law enforcement officials identify "straw purchasers" and other sources of illegally trafficked .50-caliber rifles recovered in Mexico more easily.

The United States has a responsibility to do what it can to help prevent the illegal export of dangerous firearms outside of our borders. By enacting commonsense legislation, like the Fifty-Caliber Sniper Weapon Regulation Act and the Assault Weapons Ban, we can improve the security of communities in the United States, as well as those in neighboring countries.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, last year, I joined with Senators ENZI, HAGEL and ALLARD to introduce S. 1562, the Safe and Fair Deposit Insurance Act of 2005, legislation to overhaul and reform this country's deposit insurance system. I also wish to thank Senator BEN NELSON for joining us as a cosponsor.

I have been closely tied to deposit insurance reform for many years, and I am pleased to see that my strong commitment to this issue will result in the enactment of critical reforms that will provide tangible benefits to financial institutions and their customers. Many of my colleagues on the Banking Committee will recall when I first introduced the Main Street Act back in 2000. We have come a long way since then. The legislation that is now making its way to President Bush's desk is the result of many years of debate and careful deliberation, and has garnered strong bipartisan support along the way.

The enactment of this legislation will mark a notable milestone in the history of banking and financial services in this country. Deposit insurance is one of the cornerstones of our country's financial system, and it is especially critical to our Nation's smaller financial institutions and community banks.

I am pleased that we are giving the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the National Credit Union Administration the requisite tools to appropriately operate and manage the newly merged deposit insurance fund and assess premiums based on the risks that institutions pose to the system. These reforms were long overdue. It is imperative that the framework of deposit insurance that was established to promote the stability and soundness of our banking system not fall victim to the political process or become static but

rather be appropriately reformed and dynamic enough to keep pace with the evolution of that system.

The key reforms embodied in the legislation will promote depositor confidence by ensuring that depositors' hard-earned money, from the funds that cover daily living expenses to funds they are saving for retirement and a rainy day, will continue to be insured against risks over which they have no control.

By merging the bank insurance fund with the savings association insurance fund, we create a stronger and more diversified fund, and eliminate the possibility for disparities in premiums between banks and thrifts. Implementing a system of risk-based insurance premiums will ensure that banks pay based on the risk they pose to the system, and the FDIC will be able to price insurance premiums accordingly. By increasing the level of coverage for retirement accounts to \$250,000, we are adjusting for the real value of coverage, and will promote financial stability for individual retirees. In the current environment, with the uncertainty surrounding Social Security and pension benefits, it is critical that we provide appropriate coverage for the hard-working Americans who have saved for their retirement and long-term needs.

I would again like to recognize the banking community in South Dakota for the invaluable and critical role they have played in this process over the past 5 years. I truly appreciate the input and recommendations that I have received from the industry overall. I would also like to thank Chairman SHELBY, and Ranking Member SARBANES for their leadership, Senators ENZI, HAGEL and ALLARD for the many hours of hard work, and former FDIC Chairman Don Powell for his commitment to deposit insurance reform and tremendous leadership.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE COMMISSION ON INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

• Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to recognize a remarkable organization, the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities, cIcu, with which I have had the pleasure of working closely in the years since I was elected to the U.S. Senate. I am delighted to announce that this year cIcu is celebrating its 50th anniversary. In 50 years of service, cIcu has been at the forefront of every major issue facing postsecondary education in New York. With Abe Lackman's leadership, cIcu has been a powerful champion for college access, helping to increase opportunities for thousands upon thousands of New Yorkers.

cIcu's more than 100 members—private, nonprofit colleges and univer-

sities in New York—offer an exceptional educational experience, with personalized attention, and world-class faculty. New York is home to more of the Nation's top 100 colleges and universities than any other State and a leading destination for students attending college out of State. Because of the hard work and commitment of the people at cIcu and throughout the independent sector, cIcu member campuses have been pioneers in expanding access to higher education in New York, serving more low-income and minority students than many public higher education institutions. New York's independent colleges and universities are also a robust economic engine, generating innovative ideas and sustaining thousands of jobs—a fact that Abe would never allow me to forget.

cIcu schools enroll 452,000 students, including 300,000 New Yorkers, employ 131,000 people with an annual payroll of \$6 billion, and generate \$40 billion of annual economic impact. From major research universities to small faith-based institutions, cIcu's schools are shaping the future of individual students' lives and New York's economy. So happy birthday cIcu. May your second 50 years be as successful and productive as your first 50.●

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM MATTHEW BYRNE, JR.

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I would like to offer a few words in observance of the passing of U.S. District Judge William Matthew Byrne, Jr., a great legal mind and ambassador of justice who nobly served our country for over 30 years on the Federal bench.

I extend my deepest sympathy to the family of Judge Byrne, his many friends and colleagues, and the members of the legal community everywhere who had come to know his talent and charm. A giant in his field, Judge Byrne tirelessly traveled the globe teaching and promoting the rule of law. His efforts touched countless individuals and left an immeasurable impact on legal systems on an international scale.

After honorably serving our Nation in the U.S. Air Force and amassing an unparalleled 96 percent conviction record as a U.S. attorney in Los Angeles, Judge Byrne was named head of the Commission on Campus Unrest by President Nixon. As head of the Commission, Judge Byrne sought to bridge the growing cultural divide that had developed as a result of the war in Vietnam.

The Commission's report revealed Judge Byrne's unassailable judgment and great courage. Bravely stepping into the middle of the fray, he found fault with students and police alike. Judge Byrne's work on the Commission played an important role in reuniting the country around our shared values. His contribution was recognized in 1971, when he was confirmed to a Federal judgeship at the age of 40, making

him at that time the youngest man in America's history to rise to this prominent position.

Although he dealt with many high-profile cases, Judge Byrne was most remembered for his courageous handling of the trial of Daniel Ellsberg, the man charged with releasing classified documents in the infamous Pentagon Papers case. The Government, he ruled, did not have a case, and a mistrial was declared.

In a time of rampant government scandal and deep-seated corruption at the highest levels of power, Judge Byrne courageously stood up for his convictions, sending the powerful message that nobody was above the law.

"The totality of the circumstances in this case," Judge Byrne ruled, "offend a sense of justice." It is for this sense of justice that Judge Byrne will always be remembered.

Throughout his long and remarkable career, Judge Byrne distinguished himself as a man of sound jurisprudence, honor, and integrity. His lasting legacy of sensible legal adjudication serves as an inspiration to all Americans.

Once again, my heart goes out to Judge Byrne's family and all those who knew him.

He will truly be missed.●

THE RETIREMENT OF TOM CAMPBELL

● Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the life work of Mr. Tom Campbell as he retires from Dow Agrosciences after more than 40 years of dedicated service. Tom will leave a legacy of leadership and a belief in the unlimited potential of American agriculture.

Mr. Campbell joined the Dow Chemical Company agriculture division in 1965 as a field representative servicing corn and soybean producers in Illinois and Missouri. From there, he transferred to Louisiana to work with producers of sugar cane, rice, soybeans, sweet potatoes, cotton, strawberries, timber, and livestock. He moved to Hawaii in 1973 as manager for the company's Hawaii operations where he worked with sugar cane, pineapple, and fresh fruit producers as well as customers of product groups Dow served. In 1975, Mr. Campbell was moved to Midland, MI, to manage the market introduction of a new insecticide into the cotton and corn markets in North America. Transferring to Dallas, TX, he then managed product sales for Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Montana, North and South Dakota, Wyoming, and Colorado. He then returned to Michigan to manage the marketing of agricultural products serving the rangeland and industrial vegetation markets of North America.

In 1989, he became the Federal Government Affairs manager, based in Washington, DC. In this capacity, Mr. Campbell has been responsible for Federal legislative activities, interfacing with governmental agencies on regu-

latory matters, continued involvement and cooperation with domestic trade associations, and support to business development in other countries. Mr. Campbell held this position until his retirement on December 31, 2005.

On the home front, Tom and his wife Lynda have raised two sons, been members of the St. John's Episcopal Church of McLean, VA, and are active in numerous community groups and boards, from the Langley High School Boosters Club to their local homeowners association.

In this business, there are people who tell you what you want to hear and people who tell you what you need to hear. Tom Campbell has always been someone who tells me and other Members of Congress what we need to hear, and I thank him for that.

The reason that I mention all these things, the reason that Mr. Campbell has had such a long and rich career, of course can be traced back to his roots on a wheat and cattle farm in Mitchell County, KS, and the bachelor's degree in animal science he earned at Kansas State University. Kansans join me in celebrating the many accomplishments of Tom Campbell.●

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5520. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General for Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Fiscal Year 2005 Competitive Sourcing Report; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5521. A communication from the Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Information Sharing Environment Interim Implementation Plan"; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-5522. A communication from the Deputy Chief for National Forest System, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2004 Report for the Granite Watershed Enhancement and Protection Stewardship Project; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5523. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Treatment of Fruits and Vegetables" (Doc. No. 03-077-2) received on January 28, 2006; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5524. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tuberculosis in Cattle and Bison; State and Zone Designations; Minnesota" (Doc. No. 6-004-1) received on January 31, 2006; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5525. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to

law, the report of a rule entitled "Add Argentina to the List of Regions Considered Free of Exotic Newcastle Disease" (Doc. No. 04-083-3) received on January 31, 2006; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5526. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Report to Congress on Adoption and Other Permanency Outcomes for Children in Foster Care: Focus on Older Children; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5527. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Office for Civil Rights Fiscal Year 2004 Annual Report; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5528. A communication from the Secretary of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Fiscal Year 2005 Competitive Sourcing Report; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5529. A communication from the Deputy Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Fiscal Year 2005 Competitive Sourcing Report; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5530. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Case-Zablocki Act, 1 U.S.C. 112b, as amended, the report of the texts and background statements of international agreements, other than treaties (List 06-09-06-20; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5531. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hague Convention on Intercountry Adoption; Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000; Accreditation of Agencies; Approval of Persons" (RIN1400-AA88) received on January 28, 2006; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5532. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Intercountry Adoption—Preservation of Convention Records" (RIN1400-AB69) received on January 28, 2006; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5533. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs, Agency for International Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to competitive sourcing programs; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5534. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relating to post-liberation Iraq under Section 7 of the Iraq Liberation Act of 1998 for the August 15, 2005 through October 15, 2005 period; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5535. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relating to the report on the amount of Department of Defense purchases from foreign entities in fiscal year 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5536. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report on the account balance in the Defense Cooperation Account as of December 31, 2005 and a listing of personal property contributed by coalition partners to the Global War on Terrorism for