

2005, that Senator KYL placed a colloquy in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD arguing that Section 1005 should be interpreted to retroactively strip the courts of jurisdiction over pending cases. At the same time, a number of other Senators placed statements in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD stating their belief that the provision would not strip the courts of jurisdiction over pending cases.

Those statements, coming as they did after the conclusion of the conference and final action on the bill in both the House and the Senate, carry no more weight as legislative history than the statement that Senator KYL placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD last week or any other after-the-fact statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Both the contemporaneous legislative history and the language and structure of the Graham-Levin amendment itself demonstrate that this provision was not intended to, and did not, retroactively strip the Federal courts of jurisdiction over pending cases.

#### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today during Black History Month to celebrate and remember the rich history of the millions of African Americans who have made this country what it is today.

It is a time to honor leaders from across the country—some who are well known and others who are almost forgotten. It is a time to cherish the pioneers to give them the recognition they deserve and to preserve their names, faces, and stories for generations to come.

This Black History Month, we especially remember and mourn the recent loss of two of the key players in the civil rights movement Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King.

In October, we said goodbye to the “First Woman of Civil Rights,” Rosa Parks. When Ms. Parks refused to give up her seat on a city bus in Montgomery, AL, in 1955, we know that a movement had already begun, but she poured fuel on the fire—inspiring the historic Montgomery bus boycott. She refused to give up her seat to a White man because she was tired—tired of being treated like a second-class citizen, tired of being forced to move because someone else decided they deserved to sit more than she did. And she became a model and a hero for me and generations of Americans looking to make our country truly the land of the free.

And then we just lost another icon. Not only was Coretta Scott King married to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., but she was a pioneer with her own voice in the civil rights movement at a time when women were not often recognized for their own talents and merit. She was resolute, but she was feisty—someone after my own heart. She founded the King Center for Nonviolent Social

Change and saw to it that the center became deeply involved with the issues that she believed breed violence—hunger, unemployment, voting rights and racism. And when her husband was tragically shot, she comforted a nation that was torn apart. She is the reason we have a national holiday that honors Dr. King.

While we remember the lives and deeds of Rosa Parks, Coretta Scott King, and countless others, we need to honor their memory not just with words, but with deeds. We need to reexamine what this country must still do to ensure equality every day. We need to evaluate the work we still need to do to guarantee that African Americans are not left behind when it comes to the issues that matter.

This Black History Month, I am still concerned and dedicated to fighting for the issues that matter to African Americans. We must make higher education more affordable for families. We must fight for adequate health care. We must fight to keep our neighborhoods and communities safe. We must fight to make sure the needs of Hurricanes Katrina survivors are not forgotten.

The cost of college tuition has been skyrocketing. It is putting stress on the families and students who have to struggle just to be able to pay their bills. That is why I have introduced legislation to create a tuition tax credit to families and to students who pay for their own tuition. This legislation would offer a tax credit of up to \$4,000 a year per student to help them with the cost of the education they deserve. America needs our young people to know that they will not be limited by the size of their wallet to follow their big dreams.

I also want to assure African Americans that they are not limited in the health care they receive because of spartan or skimpy funding for the health issues that affect them most. That is why I teamed up with Congresswoman STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES in the Uterine Fibroids Research and Education Act of 2005, to double fibroid research funding and to launch an education campaign for patients and physicians. Uterine fibroids are a terrible, painful ailment that plague mostly African-American women. Fibroids affect the entire family—not only the woman who has to endure them but also those who love her and who hate to see the lady they love in so much pain. They have gone ignored for too long. We need to fight for the resources to find the cause, to find better treatments, and hopefully to find a cure for this devastating disease so that women and families don't have to deal with this pain in their lives.

Families also want to know the neighborhoods they live in are safe. The number of gangs nationwide and in my own home State of Maryland has been rising. Families don't want to have to worry about gang violence in their streets. That is why in Maryland

I have helped launch a statewide antigang initiative that I hope can serve as a model for the country. This initiative will not only go after the bad guys through suppression and enforcement, but it will offer prevention and intervention efforts to help the good kids in the communities who are trying so hard. Mothers and fathers shouldn't have to worry about losing their children to gang violence in their neighborhoods, and that is why I am going to continue to give help to our communities to protect themselves.

We need to offer protection to the survivors of Hurricane Katrina in the gulf coast communities because the Federal Government really let them down. I know the African-American community feels very prickly about this and feels abandoned. They should know that even though President Bush hires cronies and doesn't have competent people working for him, the American people haven't abandoned them. We are going to work to rebuild the communities in Louisiana. We are going to get the survivors housing and jobs and health care. We are going to open the schools. We are going to stick with them, and we are going to fight for them.

So this year during Black History Month, I honor the memories of the great leaders who have come before us with my commitment to fighting for these important year-round issues. And I am going to do it not just with words, but with deeds. I urge you all to join me.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### IN RECOGNITION OF DR. ROBERT W. GORE

• Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the lifetime of accomplishments of Dr. Robert W. Gore, who was recently inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame.

In 1957, during his sophomore year at the University of Delaware, Bob Gore came up with the idea of using polytetrafluoroethylene, PTFE, to insulate wire. Little did he know how this seemingly simple idea would impact everything from supercomputers to Arctic exploration.

In 1958, Bob's parent's, W.L. “Bill” Gore and his wife Genevieve, began W.L. Gore & Associates in the basement of their Delaware home. Bill was a research chemist at DuPont and, based on Robert's idea, developed and patented a process for insulating wire with PTFE.

Bob Gore went on to graduate from the University of Delaware 2 years later and joined his parents in developing and expanding their home business. After an order for 7½ miles of insulated cable from the city of Denver, W.L. Gore & Associates opened their first manufacturing plant in Newark, DE, in 1961.

In 1969, insulated cables from W.L. Gore & Associates were used during the