WCIL has devoted innumerable hours and incredible effort toward giving senior citizens and members of our community with disabilities the gift of independence. The WCIL was founded in 1976 during the height of the ''independent living movement.'' Originating in Berkeley in 1970, the independent living movement has strived to provide disabled persons with the opportunity to manage their own lives. Today, centers such as the WCIL have become a vital staple of urban life across the Nation.

Through an array of innovative methods, the center allows seniors and disabled persons to become more fully integrated into our community. One such technique is the peer training system, whereby veterans of the independence training program share their tested knowledge with people who are new to the program. Such pairing instills a sense of confidence in new participants, as it lets them know that they are not alone and that others like them have succeeded in leading a more independent life.

WCIL's Advocacy Action Group works with the disabled community and elected officials to modernize existing disability legislation. The group collects the ideas and complaints of disabled people and transforms them into substantive legislation. Through true grassroots campaigning and issue advocacy, the group ensures that elected officials stay abreast of current accessibility issues in their community.

Recognizing the necessity for information regarding accessibility throughout Los Angeles, the WCIL, in partnership with UCLA, has established Living Independently in Los Angeles, LILA. LILA provides a host of useful information regarding the accessibility of public and private places, community organizations working for the betterment of those with disabilities, and advocacy groups. Thanks to LILA, numerous disabled persons are better equipped to navigate Los Angeles.

The center provides invaluable educational services, including public awareness about the Americans with Disabilities Act. Countless businesses, community organizations, and local community members credit WCIL for helping them to ensure that buildings and offices are accessible for Americans with disabilities.

I am pleased to join the thousands of beneficiaries of this important organization in commending the Westside Center for Independent Living. The Center's work has bettered the lives of countless disabled and senior citizens and has enabled them to participate more fully in our community. The center's efforts have clearly shown that ''a disability need not be disabling.''●

TRIBUTE TO DAVID L. CROW

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the distinguished public service of David L. Crow. After 15 years at the helm of the largest air-pollution control district in the Nation, he will soon retire as the air pollution control officer and executive director of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, SJAPCD. During his tenure, the district grew from a fledgling union of regional air boards into one of the Nation's most active air-pollution control districts.

After completing his undergraduate and graduate studies at California State University, Fullerton, David built a solid resume in public service before he assumed the leadership of the SJAPCD in 1991. He served as the acting city manager for Foster City, CA, budget director and director of policy development for Fresno County, as well as deputy county administrative officer for Fresno County before lending his considerable talents to improving air quality in the Central Valley.

David accepted the challenge to address and solve the air-quality issues in a region that perennially rank among the worst nationwide in summertime smog and wintertime particulate pollution. Under his stewardship, the Valley air basin has made great strides in reducing ozone exceedances, as it has seen a 50-percent reduction in the emissions from statutory sources. The SJAPCD has implemented programs such as the ''Check Before You Burn'' winter wood-burning restriction program; a system to reduce smoke emissions from agricultural burning, and creating cost-effective rules to encourage conservation management practices for farms.

During his tenure as the head of the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, David has earned a reputation as a skilled consensus-builder who forged partnerships between interests which seldom agreed. Under his leadership, the air-pollution district has distributed over $100 million to implement a myriad of projects to reduce serious air pollution in the region. David Crow's efforts, and those of the talented staff that he helped build, are helping to improve the air quality in California's Central Valley, one of the fastest growing regions in the Nation.

Throughout his career, David Crow has proven to be a highly effective administrator who was committed to protecting the public's health. As he gets set to spend more time with his wife Vicky and sons, Ryan and Matthew, I wish him continued success and good luck in all his future endeavors.●

CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICER EARL HARWOOD SCOTT

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I rise to honor the memory of a dedicated public servant, Officer Earl Harwood Scott of the California Highway Patrol. Officer Earl Harwood Scott spent nearly 5 years with the California Highway Patrol, providing the citizens of California with safety and service. On the morning of February 17, 2006, while on motor patrol near the City of Salida, Officer Scott was mercilessly murdered in the line of duty during a traffic stop.

The California Highway Patrol was in Officer Scott's bloodlines. Officer Scott's father, Sergeant William Scott, as well as two uncles, are proud retired California Highway Patrol veterans. Officer Scott was to celebrate his 5-year anniversary with the California Highway Patrol on February 19. Officer Scott dutifully served the citizens and communities of Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties with great dedication and integrity. Officer Scott's commitment to help others, combined with his passion for law enforcement, enabled him to become a model California Highway Patrol officer. Officer Scott's colleagues shall always remember his gregarious nature and commitment to his job.

Officer Scott is survived by his father, William Scott, and his mother, Judith. When he was not on duty, Officer Scott enjoyed spending time with his neighbors, especially the children who would often play darts and watch sporting events in his garage. Officer Earl Harwood Scott served the State of California with honor and distinction and fulfilled his oath as an officer of the law. His contributions and dedication to law enforcement are greatly appreciated and will serve as a shining example of his legacy.

We shall always be grateful for Officer Scott's heroic service and the sacrifices he made while serving the community and protecting the people he loved.●

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANDREA BRONFMAN

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Andrea Bronfman, a respected philanthropist and a dear friend. Andrea passed away on January 23, 2006, at the age of 60.

Born in Great Britain in 1945, Andrea quickly demonstrated remarkable compassion for those in need and an ardent desire to improve the world around her. She was married to Charles Bronfman in 1982, and together they raised five children and six grandchildren. While their wonderful family was certainly one of Andrea's proudest achievements, she will also be fondly remembered for her generous nature, her passion for life, and her multitude of charitable endeavors.

Andrea's philanthropy benefited citizens of all countries and faiths, but she is best known for her activism within the Jewish community and her devotion to Israel, Jewish life, and the Jewish people. In addition to serving on the boards of several well-respected Jewish organizations, she and Charles cofounded Birthright Israel, a program that offers young adults a chance to travel to Israel and experience the roots of their ancestry firsthand. As a result of these good works and her undying devotion to Jewish life, Andrea

was named an honorary citizen of Jerusalem in 2002 and was given the key to the city by then-Mayor Ehud Olmert.

Throughout her life, Andrea proved herself to be a true pillar of decency and generosity both within the Jewish community and outside of it. Not content just to fund projects, Andrea was actively involved in the community and was constantly devising new undertakings that would benefit society and help more people. Most recently she served as founder and deputy chairman of The Gift of New York, a nonprofit initiative that provided free admission to concerts, theatrical productions, and sporting events to the families of those who died at the World Trade Center in 2001. Andrea recognized that grief is not an emotion that subsides after a few months. Long after the rubble of 9/11 had been cleared, she ensured that the bereaved families knew that their loss and heartache had not been forgotten.

Our hearts go out to Andrea's family and friends as they deal with the inevitable pain and sadness that come from an unexpected death. To mitigate that pain somewhat, we can remember and be grateful that Andrea lived a life filled with love, kindness, and compassion. Her dedication to humanitarian causes and deep devotion to her faith served as an inspiration to everyone who knew her and benefited from her achievements and generosity. While her determination and spirit will be missed, her legacy will live on through the millions of people her work has touched.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Mrs. Andrea Bronfman and the legacy she left to philanthropy and caring about people whether she knew them or not.●

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY BLOCKING PROPERTY OF PERSONS UNDERMINING DEMOCRATIC PROCESSES OR INSTITUTIONS IN ZIMBABWE—PM 41

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency blocking the property of persons undermining democratic processes or institutions in Zimbabwe is to continue in effect beyond March 6, 2006. The most recent notice continuing this emergency was published in the *Federal Register* on March 4, 2005 (70 FR 10859).

The crisis constituted by the actions and policies of certain members of the Government of Zimbabwe and other persons to undermine Zimbabwe's democratic processes or institutions has not been resolved. These actions and policies pose a continuing unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue this national emergency and to maintain in force the sanctions to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *February 27, 2006*.

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–5774. A communication from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Weighted Average Interest Rate Update'' (Notice 2006–19) received on February 16, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5775. A communication from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Appeals Settlement Guidelines: Notional Principal Contracts'' (UIL: 9300.20–00) received on February 16, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5776. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''HIPAA Administrative Simplification: Enforcement'' (RIN0991–AB29) received on February 16, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5777. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, transmitting, authorization of 4 officers to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5778. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Report to Congress on Head Start Monitoring for Fiscal Year 2004''; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–5779. A communication from the Ombudsman for Part E, Energy Employees Compensation Program, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Ombudsman's 2005 First Annual Report; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–5780. A communication from the Chairman and President (Acting), Export Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to India; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5781. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's semiannual report entitled ''Monetary Policy Report''; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–5782. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Texas Regulatory Program'' (Docket No. TX–055–FOR) received on February 16, 2006; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–5783. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the United States Merchant Marine Academy's Board of Visitors; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–5784. A communication from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Notice Providing Examples of Non-Reportable Transactions and a Reporting Safe Harbor for Certain Reportable Transactions, Involving Notional Principal Contracts'' (Notice 2006–16) received on February 16, 2006; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–5785. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to U.S. military personnel and U.S. civilian contractors involved in the anti-narcotics campaign in Colombia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–5786. A communication from the Assistant Administrator, Office of Administration and Resources Management, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's 2005 Competitive Sourcing Report; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5787. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Georgia Update to Materials Incorporated by Reference'' (FRL No. 8022–4) received on February 22, 2006; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5788. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Indiana; Dearborn County Sulfur Dioxide Emission Limits'' (FRL No. 8036–3) received on February 22, 2006; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5789. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans and Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Arizona'' (FRL No. 8022–5) received on February 22, 2006; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5790. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Iowa'' (FRL No. 8037–9) received on February 22, 2006; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–5791. A communication from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting,