

too much progress has been made in Kenya to allow for a reversion to old, corrupt, violent political practices.

#### LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On February 13, 2002, Paul Chmiel was murdered in a Michigan prison by Michael Keep. According to reports, Keep confronted Chmiel after he had made a sexual advance toward him. During the altercation, Keep slapped Chmiel, crushed his ribs, and strangled him to death.

I believe that the Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that are born 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.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### HONORING OFFICER PETER ALFRED KOE

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Indianapolis police officer Peter Alfred Koe for his extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty. Today, in honor of his courageous service, Officer Koe received the Public Safety Officers Medal of Valor from President Bush. Officer Koe is one of only five public safety officers selected nationwide to receive the medal, and I could not be more proud that a Hoosier like Officer Koe is the recipient of such a prestigious award.

On August 18, 2004, Officer Koe of the Indianapolis Police Department received information that several fellow officers had been shot by a violent gunman. He and other officers responded immediately to the scene, where a hidden gunman shot and wounded Officer Koe. He suffered a gunshot wound to his left leg and additional injuries to his face and body from flying glass and debris. However, rather than succumbing to his own injuries, Officer Koe charged the gunman to prevent him from further harming any of the other wounded officers. Despite his own critical injuries, he exchanged fire with the attacker and effectively subdued him. When medical personnel responded to the scene, Officer Koe urged them to assist the other officers, selflessly deflecting attention from his own serious wounds.

Throughout this encounter, Officer Koe displayed remarkable valor and composure under fire. For this, I commend him and offer my sincere gratitude on behalf of Indiana for his outstanding service to the citizens of our state.

While the events of August 18 demonstrated Officer Koe's abilities, I also want to thank him for his day-to-day work that may not generate the same headlines as a shoot-out or enjoy the glamour of an award but is equally crucial to the safety of Indianapolis residents.

Officer Koe and all of his colleagues at the Indianapolis Police Department make daily sacrifices to ensure the safety of our Indianapolis streets, keeping our families safe and our neighborhoods secure. In an increasingly dangerous world, we depend on our first responders to defend us against violence and other threats to our communities, and I know that many Indianapolis families sleep better at night knowing that people like Officer Koe are protecting them.

Officer Koe and countless others like him dedicate each day to justice as they protect and serve all Hoosiers. I am sure I speak for many Indianapolis area residents when saying thank you to Officer Koe. He went above and beyond the call of duty, and we are forever indebted to him for the lives that he has saved.

On behalf of the State of Indiana, it is my honor to enter this tribute in the official record of the Senate in recognition of Officer Koe's award and his many years of service.●

##### COMMEMORATING DR. JOE AGUILLARD

• Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize Dr. Joe Aguillard, who will be inaugurated as the eighth president of Louisiana College on March 23. Dr. Aguillard has been serving as president of this Christian liberal arts school since January of 2005.

Joe Aguillard has been on faculty at Louisiana College since 2000, but his personal history with the college is a long and storied one. Both of Dr. Aguillard's parents attended Louisiana College and met at the liberal arts school. He and his wife also met at Louisiana College, and all three of their children have attended their parents' alma mater.

On top of having a close connection to Louisiana College, Dr. Aguillard also has a proven academic track record. In addition to a bachelor's degree from Louisiana College, he also has two master's degrees from McNeese State University, as well as a doctorate in education from Nova Southeastern University. Dr. Aguillard previously held the positions of chair of the Division of Education, coordinator of the Department of Teacher Education, and Associate Professor of Education.

Joe Aguillard is a top notch educator whose ability is sure to lead Louisiana

College to its greatest days. Under his leadership the Teacher Education Department has consistently received high marks from the Louisiana Board of Regents, among others. He also led a group of Louisiana College education students in researching and writing the curriculum for the Heart of Spain art exhibit at the Alexandria Museum of Art in 2003, and that curriculum was used by teachers and their students around the world.

Dr. Aguillard has maintained a lifetime commitment to learning and educating, and his contribution to the state of Louisiana is greatly appreciated. I come to the Senate floor today to join the students and faculty of Louisiana College in personally commending Dr. Joe Aguillard and wishing him great success in his new post.●

##### A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT E. BAUTE, M.D.

• Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I am pleased to pay special tribute to Dr. Robert E. Baute of Warwick, RI.

Since 1970, Dr. Baute has tended to the needs of Rhode Islanders in various capacities, specializing in internal medicine and pulmonary diseases. For the past 10 years, he has served with distinction as the President and CEO of Kent County Memorial Hospital in Warwick, RI. On March 30, 2006, Dr. Baute will retire after 36 years as a member of the Kent medical staff, and nearly 20 years as an administrator.

A graduate of Yale University in 1959, Dr. Baute went on to serve with distinction in the U.S. Navy and received his degree from the Hahnemann University School of Medicine in 1966. Following in the footsteps of his father, he engaged in a private medical practice for 18 years, and simultaneously emerged as a leader in the administration at Kent County Hospital. Throughout his distinguished administrative career, Dr. Baute served as chief of internal medicine, vice president and medical director, and as a member of the board of trustees. In 1995, he was named as president and chief executive officer.

In all of these capacities, Dr. Baute fought tirelessly to further the scope and quality of care provided by Kent Hospital, and successfully brought new services and modern treatments to the community, while holding himself and his staff to the highest standards of quality, safety, and patient satisfaction. His support for the creation of the Care New England Health Care System was instrumental in its success, and his lifelong pursuit of quality, affordable, and accessible health care services has been nothing short of remarkable.

I join with all Rhode Islanders in expressing gratitude for Dr. Baute's efforts to advance the scope and quality of medical treatment in our State, and I congratulate him for the many achievements in his outstanding career.●