

America's major cities have been flooded with illegal guns. The underground market for guns is largely a product of the diversion of massive numbers of guns from licensed gun shops into the hands of criminals. A variety of sources supply the illegal market, including theft, unlicensed sellers who buy guns for the purpose of reselling them, corrupt Federal firearms licensees, and straw purchasers who buy guns for other unlicensed sellers, criminal users, and juveniles. Based on its own gun trafficking investigations, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, ATF, has concluded that corrupt gun dealers are the source of the largest number of firearms diverted to the illegal market. In 1998, the ATF found that 56 percent of dealers and 30 percent of pawnbrokers who sold 50 or more guns, had Federal firearms violations. In addition, 18 percent of the dealers and 45 percent of the pawnbrokers had guns missing from their inventory.

Despite the fact that the ATF inspections often reveal multiple illegal acts by gun dealers, the revocation of a dealer's license is a rare and difficult event. In 2003, the ATF conducted 1,812 inspections that uncovered regulatory violations with an average of over 80 violations per dealer. Despite this large number of dealers with multiple violations, the ATF issued only 54 notices of license revocation that year.

I have consistently supported commonsense legislation to help stop the flow of guns to the black market. Unfortunately, the failure of Congress to act on several commonsense bills has allowed criminals and terrorists continued easy access to guns. In addition to endangering our families and communities here in the United States, congressional inaction may also be helping to fuel international trafficking of powerful firearms.

If we make it harder for criminals to get guns, there will be fewer gun violence victims. By helping to keep guns out of the wrong hands, we can save lives.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT AND NATIONAL SECURITY ACT

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to support S. 3549, the Foreign Investment and National Security Act of 2006, because it makes great strides in modernizing the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, CFIUS, process. I firmly believe that national security is paramount, and confidence must be restored in the CFIUS screening process. CFIUS creates a careful balance between national security and the economic benefits of foreign investment. As such, we must protect our national security while not inadvertently and unnecessarily hurting this job-creating investment.

Over 5 million Americans work for insourcing companies with a payroll of nearly \$318 billion. In my State of Pennsylvania, 227,700 people owe their

jobs to a foreign-based company. Pennsylvania is a State that has worked hard to attract international companies like Mack Trucks Inc., SAP America, and Sony. That effort has yielded positive results.

With regard to S. 3549, there are a few unresolved issues that were raised in the Banking Committee process that could raise barriers to beneficial foreign investment. While the bill passed the committee unanimously, with my support, it was understood that a couple of outstanding concerns would be addressed before the bill would be signed into law. At this time, these concerns remain.

Two provisions in particular that could have a negative impact on positive foreign direct investment that creates jobs, fosters innovation and sustains U.S. manufacturing are: (1) the extension of the initial 30-day review period to allow an additional 30-day review and (2) the creation of a congressional reporting requirement for individual regulatory filings for each stage of the review process.

Mr. President, I hope that these concerns will be addressed in conference. While I support CFIUS reform, I believe there are issues that need to be addressed prior to passing a final bill to ensure that Congress takes a reasonable approach to reforming this process. I look forward to working with Chairman SHELBY to resolve these issues.

HONORING BOB FELLER

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I rise today in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 110, sponsored by my friend, the senior Senator from Ohio, which honors an American hero, Iowa's own Bob Feller.

Robert William Andrew Feller, better known to baseball fans as "Bullet Bob" or "Rapid Robert," will forever be recognized for his talent, courage, and heart. Throughout his life, Feller has achieved tremendous success. Born on a farm in Van Meter, Iowa, in 1918, Feller began his baseball career playing American Legion, amateur and semi-pro baseball on fields across the State.

He signed a contract to pitch for the Cleveland Indians in 1935 at the age 16. In his first major league start in 1936 he struck out 15 batters, showing the entire league that he was not just a kid but a true talent that could play with the big names. As anticipated by fellow coaches, players, and fans, Feller only progressed. He was the first pitcher to win 20 or more games by the age of 21 and pitched the only opening day no-hitter in major league baseball history. At the height of his astounding career, Feller put his loyalty to his country above all and enlisted in the U.S. Navy 2 days after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. While putting his big-time baseball career on hold and valiantly serving in the Armed Forces for nearly 4 years, Feller earned eight bat-

tle stars working primarily aboard the USS *Alabama* in the gunnery department.

After being discharged, Feller was ready to go back to the game he loved. Having not played for 4 years, there was much speculation that he would not be the recordbreaking pitcher he once was. That year, he proved they were wrong. His 1946 season was the most successful of Feller's career. Throwing pitches clocked as fast as 109 miles per hour, Feller completed 36 of the 42 games he started while compiling a 2.18 earned run average. He also pitched his second career no-hitter against the New York Yankees, pitched a shutout victory for the American League in the All Star Game, and, for good measure, saved four out of six games in relief for the Indians. Feller overwhelmingly led the American League that year in wins, shutouts, strikeouts, games pitched, and innings. In 1962, 6 years after his last season, Bob Feller was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in recognition for his extraordinary abilities, on and off the field.

It is my honor today to stand in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 110, commemorating the 60th anniversary of the 1946 season of Iowa's native son, Bob Feller and his heroic military service to the United States.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I am honored to join Senator DURBIN in introducing the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Act which focuses on the important issue of preparing future generations to live and work in an increasingly interconnected and complicated world. My colleague and I strongly believe that in order for the United States to effectively confront global challenges, to compete successfully in a global economy, and to lead responsibly in the world, we must dramatically increase the number of Americans gaining international experience through study abroad.

In 2004, Congress recognized the value of study abroad when it formed the Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program. The Commission issued a report in November 2005 calling for a national study abroad program to greatly increase and diversify the number of U.S. students participating in study abroad while at the same time addressing the institutional barriers which hinder many students from studying abroad. Again, the Senate recognized the significance of the study abroad experience when it declared 2006 as the "Year of Study Abroad," and encouraged initiatives to promote and expand study abroad opportunities.

With this legislation, my colleague and I move this important agenda one step further by sponsoring a bill that will change the country. It will enable our students to graduate with skills

necessary to work effectively in today's global society by making study abroad an integral part of the undergraduate educational experience.

Today, only 1 percent of all enrolled undergraduate students spend time living and studying abroad for academic credit. And only approximately one-third of those students chose to study in locations outside Western Europe, even though an estimated 95 percent of the world's population growth will occur outside that area in the next 50 years. The percentages of minorities among individuals studying abroad are extremely low, and underrepresentative of the numbers of those students in the general student population.

Minnesota ranks third in the Nation for study abroad participation rates. During the 2003–2004 school year, 8073 students enrolled in Minnesotan colleges and universities studied abroad, which is a little less than 3 percent of the overall enrolled undergraduate student population in the State. I would like to see this number grow—study abroad opportunities will help make the next generation of Minnesotans and all Americans more competitive in the global marketplace.

The reality of the global environment commands that far more of our students study abroad, regardless of their field of study, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or gender, and that more of them study in nontraditional destinations. In order for graduates to be effective in the increasingly interconnected global society, they must better understand the broad world, not just a small part of it.

Study abroad should become the norm, not the exception for U.S. college students. It can only be good for our campuses, our communities and our Nation to have more U.S. students understanding more about the rest of the world.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO PERRY M. ZIMMERMAN

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am pleased and honored to salute labor leader Perry Zimmerman, the distinguished business manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, IBEW, Local 1245, and a vice president of the California Labor Federation, AFL–CIO. Perry is retiring after 5 years as IBEW Local 1245 business manager and more than 40 years of outstanding service to the labor community in California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Idaho.

Perry Zimmerman began his career at Pacific Gas and Electric Company in 1962. During his 19 years there, he was an active union member, serving as a shop steward, unit chairman, and advisory council member.

In 1981, Perry joined the staff of IBEW Local 1245 as business representative, where he served members in Sac-

ramento and the San Francisco Bay Area. After 11 years, he was promoted to assistant business manager and served area members in both the private and public sectors.

Perry was elected business manager/financial secretary of IBEW Local 1245 in 2001. He was reelected in 2004 and has held this post ever since. As the leader of more than 18,000 members working for over 50 employers and 100 contractors, Perry Zimmerman is the voice of energy and communication workforces in 5 Western States. During this time, he was also a vice president of the California Labor Federation, AFL–CIO.

Throughout his career, Perry has demonstrated great enthusiasm and compassion for his fellow workers. As business manager, Perry was committed to being in regular touch with members, informing them of leadership decisions and requesting their opinions. He has said this was his favorite part of his job.

After more than 40 years of service to working families, Perry Zimmerman deserves some time off. Along with his friends and admirers throughout the Western United States, I wish him a long and pleasurable retirement.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 9:31 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

S. 1496. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a pilot program under which up to 15 States may issue electronic Federal migratory bird hunting stamps.

H.R. 4019. An act to amend title 4 of the United States Code to clarify the treatment of self-employment for purposes of the limitation on State taxation of retirement income.

H.R. 5865. An act to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to temporarily increase funding for the program of temporary assistance for United States citizens returned from foreign countries, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 86. An act approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills and joint resolution were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 11:38 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5682. An act to exempt from certain requirements of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 a proposed nuclear agreement for cooperation with India.

H.R. 5877. An act to amend the Iran and Libya Sanctions Act of 1996 to extend the authorities provided in such Act until September 29, 2006.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 400. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of Venezuela should actively support strategies for ensuring secure airport facilities that meet international certifications to prevent trafficking of controlled substances, narcotics, and laundered money.

At 12:47 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2730. An act to authorize funding for eligible joint ventures between United States and Israeli businesses an academic persons, to establish the International Energy Advisory Board, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5319. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require recipients of universal service support for schools and libraries to protect minors from commercial social networking websites and chat rooms.

H.R. 5337. An act to ensure national security while promoting foreign investment and the creation and maintenance of jobs, to reform the process by which such investments are examined for any effect they may have on national security, to establish the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5611. An act to authorize a partnership between the Secretary of Energy and appropriate industry groups for the creation of a transportation fuel conservation education campaign, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2730. An act to establish a grant program to fund eligible joint ventures between United States and Israeli businesses and academic persons, to establish the International Energy Advisory Board, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 5319. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require recipients of universal service support for schools and libraries to protect minors from commercial social networking websites and chat rooms; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.