

the children of Darfur. The world was promised "never again". The children and people of Darfur are waiting.

CREDITS

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IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise to express concern about the consideration of comprehensive immigration reform legislation. As a member of the Judiciary Committee, I have been involved in the democratic process of reviewing, amending, and voting on this year's immigration bill. I was one of six Republicans who opposed the legislation in the committee on March 27.

When the bill was brought to the floor of the U.S. Senate, a select group of Members forged a "compromise" that drastically changed title VI of the bill that deals with the 11 million illegal aliens currently in the United States.

The Senate had very little time to review the bill. Moreover, some Members opposed any amendment that would change the Hagel-Martinez compromise. I had numerous amendments that would have improved the bill. However, the other side of the aisle refused to let our deliberative body do its job.

As a representative of the people of Iowa, I believe amendments should be debated. Therefore, I have asked the majority leader to make me aware of any unanimous consent agreements that both sides aim to enter into before unanimous consent is agreed to. I ask unanimous consent that my letter be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

UNITED STATES SENATE,
CHARLES E. GRASSLEY,
Washington, DC, April 25, 2005.

Hon. WILLIAM FRIST,
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC

DEAR LEADER FRIST: I respectfully request that I be consulted prior to the entering into of any and all Unanimous Consent Agreements with regard to the Senate's ongoing consideration of any and all immigration reform or border security related legislation. This would include, but not be limited to, S. 2611 and S. 2612. Thank you.

Sincerely,

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY,
United States Senator

91ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, this month people around the world are joining together to remember and honor the men, women, and children who perished in the Armenian genocide. One and a half million Armenians were systematically massacred at the hands of the Ottoman Empire, and over 500,000 more were forced to flee their homeland of 3,000 years. It is important that we note this terrible tragedy.

When the Armenian genocide occurred, from 1915 to 1923, the international community lacked a name for such atrocities. In January 1951, the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide entered into force to affirm the international commitment to prevent genocide and protect basic human decency. Today, we have the words to describe this evil, and we have an obligation to prevent it. But we must also have the will to act.

The Armenian genocide may have been the first instance of what Winston Churchill referred to as "the crime without a name," but it was certainly not the last. During the Holocaust, and later in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, the world has seen the crimes of ethnic cleansing and genocide recur again and again. Too often, the international will to stop atrocities has been lacking, or far too late in coming. Today, as the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, continues to unfold, we have to muster the will and the sense of urgency required to save innocent lives.

The international community has made the first steps, but it has a long way to go in punishing and, particularly, preventing genocide. As we move forward, we must learn the lessons of Armenia's genocide. We cannot be misled by the rhetoric of scapegoating, denial, and obfuscation used by murderous leaders to disguise their agenda. And we cannot respond to evidence of methodical, brutal violence by wringing our hands and waiting for some definitive proof that these events qualify as genocide. Enforcing a collective, international commitment to prevent and stop genocides from occurring is imperative. We owe the victims of the Armenian genocide this commitment.

This is why we must remember the Armenian genocide. To forget it is to enable more genocides and ethnic cleansing to occur. We must honor its victims by reaffirming our resolve to not let it happen again.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER MONTH

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, 7 months ago, the world watched in horror and disbelief as Hurricane Katrina tore through the gulf coast and left massive devastation in its wake. We have seen the pictures of toppled buildings, collapsed houses, and communities covered in an endless blanket of debris. We have wondered—how will they ever recover?

With the help of volunteers, slowly they are making progress. Hundreds of selfless do-gooders have been putting on hard hats, wading through homes knee-deep in mud, clearing debris and literally doing the dirty work.

April is National Volunteers Month. I wish to recognize it by saying thank you to all the volunteers and service workers everywhere. And this year I especially want to honor those helping out with Hurricane Katrina recovery. They are taking time out of their lives to help their fellow Americans in their time of need—and they are doing it out of the goodness of their hearts.

AmeriCorps is the embodiment of this spirit of volunteerism and service to the country. Since 1989, I have been a leader in the creation of AmeriCorps. I introduced the National and Community Service Act to establish the Corporation for National and Community Service to oversee and coordinate our national volunteer efforts and to create a demonstration program that has evolved into what we know today as AmeriCorps. As one of the founders, I have been its chief advocate in the Senate. I fought to create AmeriCorps, I fought to strengthen AmeriCorps, and I will continue to fight to save key AmeriCorps programs.

Hundreds of members of the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps, NCCC, have set up camp in the gulf region. They have provided more than 250,000 service hours valued at \$3.8 million to Hurricane Katrina recovery projects. They are helping thousands get their homes, their communities, and their lives back.

Their help is needed now more than ever. But President Bush's fiscal year 2007 budget would completely eliminate the NCCC program and close its five campuses nationwide—including one in my own home State at Perry Point, MD. The Government let the people of the gulf coast down when Hurricane Katrina hit, we can't let them down in her aftermath.

That is why I fought back against President Bush's budget cuts and worked to make sure the emergency supplemental spending bill, which will be considered on the Senate floor this week, contained \$20 million for the NCCC to support volunteer hurricane recovery activities on the gulf coast and other affected areas.

AmeriCorps volunteers tackle the toughest problems in our communities. Not only are NCCC teams a vital resource in hurricane recovery on the gulf coast, they are deployed nationwide to build homes, clear thousands of acres of forests burnt by wildfires, and tutor children. They are unflagging, unflinching, and determined to make a difference. And we need their help. Now is not the time to take our volunteers for granted and turn our backs on the NCCC. It is time to thank them not just with words but with deeds.