



SENATOR FRANK R. LAUTENBERG

LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS Current Term (2003–present)

MAKING NEW JERSEY SAFER FROM TERRORISM AND HOLDING TERROR STATES ACCOUNTABLE

- **Port Security:** Congress passed into law Senator Lautenberg's amendment to the 2006 Homeland Security Appropriations bill to require that all federal port security grants be allocated entirely on the basis of risk. (*109th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 1197, adopted on July 14, 2005.*) All federal port security grants are now risk-based (*109th Congress, H.R. 4954*). Senator Lautenberg also wrote the law requiring 100% security screening of U.S.-bound cargo containers before they are shipped to our ports (*109th Congress, Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee amendment to S.2459/H.R. 4954, became Public Law 109-347*).
- **Chemical Plant Security:** Senator Lautenberg wrote the law to preserve New Jersey's strong chemical security laws and allow them to be stronger than federal regulations. The Lautenberg law prevents the Bush Administration from moving forward with its proposal to preempt and nullify New Jersey's strong chemical security laws. Senator Lautenberg's legislation was included in the FY2008 Omnibus Appropriations bill (*Public Law No 110-161*)
- **Aviation Security:** Won Senate votes to lift the nationwide cap on baggage screeners, which would allow the Transportation Security Administration to hire more screeners for Newark-Liberty Airport. (*109th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 4940, agreed to on September 12, 2006, by a vote of 85-12, Record Vote No. 241*) Senator Lautenberg then wrote into law provisions removing the arbitrary cap in the 9/11 bill that Congress passed in 2007 (*Public Law No 110-53*).
- **Rail Security:** Senator Lautenberg wrote provisions that are now law to authorize \$160 million to upgrade tunnels used by NJ Transit and Amtrak in New Jersey and New York (*Public Law No.110-53*)
- **Holding Libya Accountable:** Senator Lautenberg led the effort to prevent foreign aid for Libya until the Libyan government fully compensates the American victims of its terrorism it sponsored in the 1980s. This funding restriction became law in the FY2008 Omnibus Appropriations bill (*Public Law No 110-161*)

- **Terrorist Access to Guns:** After Senator Lautenberg exposed that the Bush Administration was blocking law enforcement from retrieving data about gun purchases by people on the terrorist watch list, the Department of Justice changed its policies, and now provides information to law enforcement when suspected terrorists purchase weapons. In 2007, at Senator Lautenberg's urging, the Administration endorsed Lautenberg's proposal to restrict gun sales to suspected terrorists. (*GAO Report 05-127, January 2005, S.1237*).
- **Justice for Victims of Terrorism:** Senator Lautenberg wrote a law to strengthen the right of terrorist victims to sue state sponsors of terrorism and go after their hidden commercial assets for compensation. The Lautenberg law was included in the FY2008 Department of Defense Authorization bill (*110th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 2251 accepted on 9/26/2007 to H.R. 1585, later H.R. 4986, now Public Law No. 110-181*). Because of pressure brought by this legislation, Senator Lautenberg later in 2008 sponsored a new law, the Libyan Claims Resolution Act, that implements a final settlement agreement and resolves all outstanding U.S. terrorism claims against the Libyan government, including the amount owed by Libya for the 1988 Pan Am 103 bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, which killed 270, including 38 from New Jersey, the 1986 Labelle discotheque bombing in Berlin, Germany which killed two and injured approximately 90 Americans and other U.S. deaths and injuries in pending cases. (*110th Congress, S. 3370, now Public Law 110-301*). On August 14, 2008, the new settlement agreement was signed by both countries, and now the funds must be provided by Libya.

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- **Preventing Oil Spills:** Following the 2004 incident in which the *Athos I*, a single-hulled oil tanker ship, spilled 265,000 gallons of crude oil into the Delaware River, Senator Lautenberg sought to change federal law to force oil shippers to switch to "double-hull" tankers. He successfully inserted new standards into the 2006 Coast Guard law, to nearly triple the federal oil spill liability limits for shippers who continue to use single-hulled vessels instead of much safer double-hulled vessels. (*Public Law No. 109-241*).
- **Turning Federal Buildings Green:** Senator Lautenberg's "High Performance Green Buildings Act" (*110th Congress, S.506*) became law on December 18, 2007, as part of broader energy legislation. (*Included in S.Amdt. 1502 to H.R. 6, which was approved on June 21, 2007; H.R. 6 enacted as Public Law No. 110-140 on Dec. 19, 2007*). Lautenberg's law will improve the energy efficiency, indoor air quality and environmental impact of our nation's federal buildings, including a reduction in greenhouse gas emission.

- **Brownfields:** Congress approved Senator Lautenberg's amendment to relieve tax-exempt entities such as foundations and university endowments from paying the "unrelated business income tax" when their investments are used to clean up Brownfield sites. (*108th Congress, Public Law No. 108-357*).
- **EPA Enforcement:** The Senate approved Senator Lautenberg's amendment to maintain a strong force of enforcement personnel at the EPA and reject proposed Administration cuts (*108th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 2171, adopted on November 12, 2003*).
- **Superfund:** Senator Lautenberg successfully pushed EPA to provide additional funds to continue cleaning up New Jersey sites on the "National Priorities List" (NPL), including Roebling Steel Inc. in Florence Township and the Chemical Insecticide Corporation in Edison. He also convinced EPA Administrator Stephen Johnson to re-list the Ringwood Superfund Site on the NPL. (<http://lautenberg.senate.gov/newsroom/record.cfm?id=253901>)
- **Ocean Testing:** After the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) unilaterally stopped its 30-year program to test NJ oceans for harmful pollutants in the spring of 2007, Senator Lautenberg got language into a Senate appropriations report directing EPA to resume taking samples. Before it became law, the EPA Administrator came to Lautenberg's office to announce it would immediately resume ocean testing with a new and better test program. (<http://lautenberg.senate.gov/newsroom/record.cfm?id=277919>)
- **Coastal Heritage Trail:** On May 08, 2008, Senator Lautenberg's legislation to reauthorize and protect the Coastal Heritage Trail in New Jersey (S. 1039) became law as part of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act (*Public Law No 110-229*).
- **Great Falls in Paterson:** The House of Representatives passed Senator Lautenberg's legislation (S. 148, H.R. 189) to make Great Falls in Paterson a national historic park on October 22, 2007. On May 07, 2008, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee passed this legislation, and it now awaits action by the full Senate.

- **Cleaning up Rail Waste Sites:** When unregulated rail waste sites began to proliferate in NJ, Senator Lautenberg pursued two pieces of legislation to allow states to regulate the health, safety, and environmental protection of solid waste handling at these sites. His one-year provision (allowing states to regulate during FY 2008) became law in December 2007 after it was added via amendment at committee markup to the FY08 Omnibus Appropriations bill (*Public Law No 110-161*). Also, in September 2007, the Senate Commerce Committee approved Senator Lautenberg's *Clean Railroads Act of 2007* (S.719, included via amendment to S.1889), which would permanently allow states to regulate these waste sites. The full Senate passed S. 1889 on August 1, 2008, and then again on October 1, 2008, as part of H.R. 2095. H.R. 2095, and Lautenberg's *Clean Railroads Act* became law on October 16, 2008 (*Public Law No 110-432*)
- **Right-to-Know:** On July 31, 2007, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed Senator Lautenberg's "Toxic Right-to-Know Protection Act" (S. 595). (*Committee Report Number 110-253*). The bill would overturn EPA's recently adopted rules that weaken the reporting requirements of the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), which Senator Lautenberg created in 1986. This legislation now awaits floor action.
- **Ocean Acidification:** On December 4, 2007, the Senate Commerce Committee passed Senator Lautenberg's "Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring Act" to establish a federal committee led by NOAA to develop a comprehensive ocean acidification program and coordinate activities across federal agencies. (<http://lautenberg.senate.gov/newsroom/record.cfm?id=288240>) In addition, the 2008 Omnibus Appropriations Act, which is now law (*Public Law No 110-161*), included a Lautenberg provision to require NOAA to enter an agreement with NAS to initiate a study on ocean acidification that NAS was previously mandated by law to conduct. Ocean acidification is a growing problem associated with global climate change. The oceans are absorbing an increasing amount of carbon dioxide emissions which increases ocean acidity and harms marine life, ecosystems, and coral reefs.

- **Combating Global Warming:** In December 2007, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee passed the Lieberman-Warner global warming legislation. This legislation included numerous provisions put forth by Senator Lautenberg:
 - Permitting states to go beyond the federal government (no preemption)
 - Expanding coverage to the natural gas sector and increasing the greenhouse gas reductions to be achieved by 2020 from 10% to 15% of current levels.
 - Ending free permits for companies to emit greenhouse gases in the year 2030 (originally these would have been given out in perpetuity)
 - Calling for two National Academies of Sciences studies – one to be conducted every 3 years to decide if new legislation is needed to combat global warming long-term; and another to examine how aviation emissions contribute to global warming and make recommendations to combat that contribution
 - Providing greater incentives for states to pass laws encouraging electric utilities to improve energy efficiency of houses and buildings

KEEPING AMERICA AND NEW JERSEY MOVING

- **Amtrak:** Senator Lautenberg and former Senator Trent Lott (R-MS) are the principal authors of the Amtrak revitalization bill, which will provide \$13 billion for Amtrak and passenger rail over the next five years. The Senate passed Senator Lautenberg's legislation 70-22 on October 30, 2007 (*110th Congress, Record Vote No. 400*) and then again on October 1, 2008 as part of a larger bill, H.R. 2095. H.R. 2095, and Lautenberg's Amtrak revitalization bill, became law on October 16, 2008 (*Public Law No 110-432*) In addition, in the 2008 Omnibus Appropriations Act, which is now law (*Public Law No 110-161*) Senator Lautenberg worked to secure \$1.325 billion in funding for Amtrak, which was \$425 million over President Bush's request and included, for the first time, new grants to states for passenger rail projects (\$30 million).
- **Transportation Funding for New Jersey:** As a Senate conferee on the SAFE-TEA bill, Senator Lautenberg helped increase federal transit spending in New Jersey by 50 percent and highway spending by 30 percent. (*Public Law 109-59*)

- **Reducing Air Noise In Our Communities:** The Senate Commerce Committee approved Senator Lautenberg's amendment to the FAA bill to phase out the use of noisier, less fuel-efficient "Stage 2" jet aircraft, which is especially a problem at Teterboro and Morristown Airports and their surrounding communities. Another Lautenberg amendment to the bill would also ban FAA from allowing large passenger aircraft, like Boeing 737 business jets, from landing at Teterboro. *(110th Congress, S.1300 as reported, Sections 711 and 712)*
- **Preventing Air Traffic Control Privatization:** In 2003, the Senate voted in favor of Senator Lautenberg's amendment to prevent the Bush Administration's reckless plan to privatize the nation's air traffic control system. *(108th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 893, agreed to on June 12, 2003, by a vote of 56-41, Record Vote No. 222).* When Republican leaders stripped his amendment from the final bill, he filibustered the bill until the Bush administration pledged not to pursue privatization. *(Filibuster upheld on November 17, 2003, by a vote of 45-43, Record Vote No. 453).*
<http://www.lautenberg.senate.gov/newsroom/record.cfm?id=254138&>
- **Airport Runway Safety:** Following incidents at Teterboro and other airports nationwide, the Senate approved Senator Lautenberg's amendment to require the FAA to bring airport runways up to safety standards. Currently, over half of the nation's runways do not meet standards. *(109th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 2188, adopted on October 20, 2005, Public Law No. 109-115).*
- **Stopping Airline Passenger Tax Increases:** In 2006, Senator Lautenberg defeated the Bush administration's attempts to increase an airline passenger tax, disguised as "aviation security fees." *(109th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 3137 to S. Con. Res. 83, adopted on March 16, 2006).*
- **Getting Giant Trucks Off Our Roads:** On June 26, 2003, the Senate Commerce Committee approved a Lautenberg truck safety amendment, which prompted the trucking industry to agree not to pursue using heavier, longer trucks on the Nation's roads for the next six years. *(108th Congress, Senate Report No. 108-215, page 16; ordered to be printed on November 25, 2003, to accompany S. 1978).*
- **Trans-Hudson Express Tunnel:** Senator Lautenberg has led the effort to obtain Federal resources for the construction of a third rail tunnel under the Hudson River, for use by PATH trains. As a conferee on the SAFE-TEA bill, he secured \$80 million, and he has helped to secure an additional \$31.4 million for the project in Transportation Appropriations bills since 2003. *(Public Law No.109-59; Public Law Nos. 108-199; 108-447; 109-115 (Public Law No 110-161)*

- **Improving Airline Accountability to Customers:** The Senate Commerce Committee approved Senator Lautenberg's legislation to require the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to investigate more airline customer service complaints, including overbooked flights, lengthy air delays, cancellations, and the arbitrary elimination of frequent flier miles. Currently, DOT records complaints but investigates few of them. In addition, Senator Lautenberg got \$2.5 million for the DOT office that investigates these complaints in the FY08 Omnibus Appropriations bill, which is now law (*Public Law No 110-161*)
- **Rail Safety:** The Senate Commerce Committee on 09/27/07 unanimously approved Senator Lautenberg's rail safety legislation (S. 1889) to reauthorize the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), require railroads to make changes to improve railroad safety (hours of service, grade crossing safety, new safety technology), authorize appropriations for FRA programs, research and development, and grants for 6 years, and allow states to regulate the health, safety, and environmental protection of unregulated rail waste sites (*Senate Report 110-270*). The full Senate passed this bill on August 1, 2008 and then again on October 1, 2008 as part of H.R. 2095. H.R. 2095, and Lautenberg's full rail safety bill, became law on October 16, 2008 (*Public Law No 110-432*)
- **Improving Transit Security:** On June 19, 2008, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed Senator Lautenberg's amendment to the FY2009 Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill to stop the Bush Administration from cutting security assistance to public transit agencies. A proposed cut in federal security funding would have forced transit agencies to pay for more of their homeland security needs, which the federal government currently pays for, threatening service cutbacks on trains, subways and buses for commuters, or even fare increases. Lautenberg's amendment will help transit agencies save as much as \$80 million next year, including \$5 million for Amtrak.

STANDING UP FOR AMERICA'S SOLDIERS & VETERANS

- **Military/Veterans Health Care:** The Senate passed Senator Lautenberg's amendment in 2006 to prohibit the Bush Administration from moving ahead with its plan to increase co-payments by 67 percent on prescriptions filled at retail pharmacies for military families and veterans covered under the TRICARE program. (*109th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 4205, adopted on June 14, 2006, Public Law No. 109-364*). Senator Lautenberg wrote a similar law for FY2008 preventing increases in enrollment fees, premiums, and pharmacy co-payments for TRICARE (*110th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 2912 adopted on September 27, 2007 to H.R. 1585, later H.R. 4986, now Public Law No. 110-181*).
- **Body Armor Reimbursement:** Senators Lautenberg and Christopher Dodd (D-CT) were the principal sponsors of an amendment directing the Bush Administration to reimburse the families of military personnel who purchased body armor, weapons, and global positioning devices for their parents, spouses, sons or daughters serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. (*108th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 3312, adopted on June 14, 2004, by a vote of 91-0, Record Vote No. 112, Public Law No. 108-375*).
- **New GI Bill:** On May 22, 2008, the Senate passed the new Webb/Hagel/Lautenberg/Warner GI bill as part of the FY08 Supplemental. This bill became law on June 30, 2008 (*Public Law No. 110-252*). This law updates and improves the current GI bill, which has not kept pace with the rising cost of college, so that veterans who served since 9/11 can become the next "Greatest Generation" by receiving benefits equal to the full cost of college.
- **Compensating Service Members affected by "Stop-Loss":** Based on legislation introduced by Senator Lautenberg (S. 3060), a provision became law on September 30, 2008 (*Public Law No. 110-329*) to provide a monthly bonus of up to \$500 to troops affected by "stop loss," a policy that involuntarily extends military service beyond an enlistment contract. The provision was included in the Fiscal Year 2009 Defense Appropriations Act and requires the Pentagon to pay affected troops a bonus in the 2009 fiscal year.
- **Honoring the Fallen:** The Senate passed a resolution Senator Lautenberg introduced to honor by name in the *Congressional Record* the memory of the servicemen and women who have given their lives in service to the United States in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom (*109th Congress, S. Res. 338, adopted on December 16, 2005*).

- **Protecting NJ Residents near Warren Grove Gunnery Range:** In response to fires and errant bombs from this range, Senator Lautenberg wrote a law to increase safety and accountability at the Warren Grove Gunnery Range in NJ. This law requires a report on safety measures and a master plan for the range that includes input and consideration of the neighboring community, environment, and economy of the region (*110th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 3029 adopted on September 25, 2007 to H.R. 1585, later H.R. 4986, now Public Law No. 110-181*).

PROMOTING HEALTH AND SAFETY

- **Reimbursing New Jersey for Medicare Costs:** In early 2006, Senator Lautenberg led the fight to compel the Federal Government to reimburse the States for the cost of prescription drugs for low-income seniors and people with disabilities who were improperly denied federal coverage when the Medicare drug benefit first went online. New Jersey was eventually spending \$1.3 million per day to fix the problem. Only after Senator Lautenberg introduced the bipartisan “Medicare State Reimbursement Act” with 24 co-sponsors to require reimbursement, did the Bush Administration agree to pay back the States. (*109th Congress, S. 2181*).
- **Preserving PAAD and Senior Gold:** The Medicare Prescription Drug bill was originally drafted to get rid of the PAAD and Senior Gold prescription programs in New Jersey. Only after pressure from Senator Lautenberg and then-Senator Jon Corzine did Republicans relent and agree to let New Jersey keep its more-generous drug plans along with the new Federal plan. (*Public Law No. 108-173*).
- **Saving Health Insurance for New Jersey Children:** Senator Lautenberg led the fight to defeat the Bunning amendment, which would have stripped health coverage for 3,200 children in New Jersey. (*110th Congress, HR 976, Motion to Table Bunning agreed to 53-46, Roll Call 290 (2007)*) On June 26, 2008, the Senate Appropriations Committee approved Senator Lautenberg’s amendment to the FY2009 Labor, Health and Health Services, and Education Appropriations bill to overturn a dangerous Bush Administration policy set to take effect in August 2008 that could take away health insurance for 10,000 children in New Jersey and over 200,000 nationwide. In the face of this amendment and widespread criticism, the Bush Administration announced on August 14, 2008 that it would not enforce its new policy.

- **Improving Safety at College Campuses:** In response to the tragic fires at Seton Hall University, Senator Lautenberg introduced the “Campus Fire Safety Act” (*110th Congress, S.354*) to provide families with crucial fire safety records of colleges and universities by requiring schools to maintain these records and make them publicly available. This bill was approved by the Senate in July 2007 and the House of Representatives in February 2008 as part of the Higher Education Reauthorization Act (*110th Congress, S.1642, section 477*), and became law on August 14, 2008 (*Public Law No. 110-315*).
- **Workers Compensation:** On October 23, 2007, the Senate passed Senator Lautenberg’s amendment to the FY2008 Labor, HHS, and Education (LHHS) Appropriations bill to require Medicare to report to Congress on delays in approving workers’ compensation settlements. (*Senate Amendment No. 3397 to H.R. 3043, adopted 10/23/2007*). These delays have prevented thousands of injured workers in NJ and across the country from receiving compensation for their workplace injuries. The conference report for the FY2008 Omnibus Appropriations Act, which is now law (*Public Law No 110-161*) and includes the LHHS bill, directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services to report to Congress on the workers’ compensation settlements. The Secretary reported to Congress on the delays in March 2008.
- **Combating Hunger and Increasing Employment Opportunities:** Senator Lautenberg’s “Food Employment, Empowerment, and Development (FEED) Act” was included as part of the farm bill that was signed into law this year (*Senate Amendment #3652 to H.R. 2419 the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007 adopted December 14, 2007, Public Law No: 110-246*). The FEED Act helps combat hunger in America by funding food rescue programs and creating job training opportunities in the food service industry for those in need.
- **Smoking in the U.S. Senate:** At Senator Lautenberg’s suggestion and request, the U.S. Senate complex stopped selling tobacco products on January 1, 2008, and closed all of its “smoking rooms” on May 01, 2008.
- **Truth in Cigarette Labeling:** In 2007, Senator Lautenberg chaired a hearing on his “Truth in Cigarette Labeling Act” (S. 2685) requesting that the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) take action to stop the deceptive and misleading advertising of so-called “light” and “low-tar” cigarettes. After pressure from Lautenberg, the FTC recently proposed a new rule to end the ability of cigarette companies to use deceptive tar and nicotine claims.

- **Reducing Drunk Driving:** On June 6, 2008, Senator Lautenberg's provision to reduce drunk-driving crashes and make our nation's roads safer became law. The measure requires states to change laws so repeat drunk drivers will have ignition interlocks (which prevent a vehicle from starting if a sensor detects alcohol on a driver's breath) installed on their cars and trucks. Lautenberg's measure was included in technical corrections to the 2005 "SAFETEA-LU" highway bill (*Public Law No. 110-244*).

KEEPING THE LINES OF COMMUNICATIONS OPEN

- **Preserving New Jersey Media:** After pressure from Senator Lautenberg, a member of the Senate Commerce Committee, which has jurisdiction over the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), WWOR, Channel 9, reversed its plan to move the majority of its staff from Secaucus to New York. WWOR is New Jersey's only VHF commercial television station. Senator Lautenberg also got the FCC to hold an unprecedented license renewal hearing on WWOR in Newark, New Jersey, in November 2007 and is working to include stronger requirements to cover NJ issues in WWOR's license.
- **Municipal Broadband:** Senator Lautenberg wrote municipal broadband legislation which the Senate Commerce Committee approved and ordered to be favorably reported out on October 30, 2007 (S. 1853). This bill protects the rights of local governments to create their own "WiFi" or other Internet broadband networks for use by their residents.
- **Stopping Government Propaganda:** The Senate Commerce Committee approved Senator Lautenberg's anti-propaganda bill, which prohibits the Bush administration from continuing its practice of distributing fake television news stories, which ran on many local stations with no indication they were produced by the government with taxpayer funds. (*109th Congress, S. 967, reported on December 20, 2005*).

EXPOSING WASTE, FRAUD & ABUSE

- **Spending Medicare Money for Propaganda:** Senator Lautenberg spearheaded a Government Accountability Office (GAO) inquiry into the use of federal taxpayer funds to pay for fake news stories distributed to television stations by the Bush administration hyping the Medicare Part D prescription drug law. The GAO ruled that the Bush administration spent money for these fake news stories from the Medicare Trust Fund in violation of two federal laws. (GAO Legal Decision B-302710, May 19, 2004).

- **Misconduct by Medicare Chief:** At Senator Lautenberg’s request, the GAO launched an inquiry into the actions of former Medicare head Thomas Scully after reports that he threatened the chief actuary of Medicare, Richard Foster, with termination of employment if he disclosed to Congress the true cost estimates for the then-pending Medicare prescription drug bill. The GAO ruled that Scully illegally ordered his staff to withhold information from Congress. (GAO Legal Decision B-302504, March 10, 2004).
- **Exposing Pundit Payola:** Responding to Senator Lautenberg’s inquiries, the GAO ruled that the Department of Education engaged in illegal “covert propaganda” when it made payments to journalist Armstrong Williams in exchange for positive press about President Bush’s education programs. The GAO also found that the Department violated propaganda laws when it hired a public relations firm to produce fake television news stories. (GAO Legal Decision B-305368, September 30, 2005).
- **Iraq Contracts:** In May 2003, in response to the quickly growing no-bid contract awarded by the Bush administration to Halliburton, Senators Lautenberg, Barbara Boxer (D-CA), and John Warner (R-VA) coauthored a provision in Fiscal Year 2004 DOD Authorization bill to force all future Iraqi reconstruction contracts to be competitively bid. (108th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 826, adopted on May 22, 2003, by a vote of 99-0, Record Vote No. 193, Public Law No. 108-136).
- **Special Inspector General for Afghanistan:** Senator Lautenberg wrote the law creating a Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR), modeled after the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction. After U.S. investments of nearly \$20 billion for the reconstruction and security of Afghanistan, reports continue to surface raising questions about lack of progress there. The Lautenberg law was included in the FY2008 Department of Defense Authorization Act (110th Congress, Senate Amendment No. 3081 adopted on September 27, 2007 to H.R. 1585, later H.R. 4986, now Public Law No. 110-181). The President nominated a Special Inspector General on May 29, 2008. In addition, Senator Lautenberg secured \$7 million for this office in the FY 2008 Supplemental Appropriations Act (Public Law No. 110-252).

- **Global Warming Cover-Up:** Senator Lautenberg presented evidence to the Inspectors General of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the Department of Commerce, which houses the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), that the Bush administration is censoring and suppressing the work of government scientists on Global Warming. Scientists working at NOAA's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL) in Plainsboro have been among those targeted by the Administration. In October 2006, the IGs of the two agencies informed Senator Lautenberg that, in response to his letter, they have begun an official investigation. After that investigation was completed, the Senate Commerce Committee on June 24, 2008, passed Senator Lautenberg's amendment to a NASA Authorization bill (H.R. 6063) making it clear that Congress disapproves of the censoring of scientific reports by political appointees at National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and requiring a report on progress at the agency to prevent this activity in the future.
- **Audit of No-Bid Trucking Security Grant Program:** Senator Lautenberg's amendment became law to require an audit of a DHS trucking security grant program. Since 9/11, all federal trucking security grant money (\$60 million) has been handed (no-bid) to a trucking company lobbying group. (*110th Congress, S.Amdt.275 to S.4, adopted March 13, 2007; became Public Law No.110-53*).

EMERGENCY FUNDING FOR DISASTER RECOVERY

- **Flood Money:** After a devastating storm in April 2007 that caused millions of dollars in damage and displaced hundreds of people, Senator Lautenberg secured \$10.7 million in emergency funds in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2007 Supplemental to repair and advance flood control projects in Bound Brook, Long Beach Island, and Avalon. (*Public Law No. 110-28*).

PROTECTING AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- **HUD Policy Reversal:** Senator Lautenberg forced the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to reverse its policy and extend a deadline for New Jersey housing authorities to convert to a new accounting system. HUD changed course after Lautenberg wrote to the HUD Secretary and added language to legislation to extend the deadline. Public housing authorities in New Jersey could have lost nearly \$750,000.

ANIMAL PROTECTION

- **Ensuring the Safety of Pets during Emergencies:** On October 6, 2006, Senator Lautenberg's Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards (PETS) Act (S. 2548) became law (*Public Law No. 109-308*). This law, which Lautenberg wrote with Senator Ted Stevens (R-AK), requires state and local emergency preparedness authorities, with assistance and grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to account for the needs of people with pets or service animals in planning for major disasters.

SENATE RESOLUTIONS

- **Rutgers Resolution:** On April 18, 2007, the Senate passed Senator Lautenberg's resolution (*S. Res. 156*) commending the achievements of the Rutgers University women's basketball team and applauding the character and integrity of the players as student-athletes.
- **Homeless Youth Resolution:** On June 7, 2007, the Senate passed Senator Lautenberg's resolution (*S. Res. 226*) recognizing the month of November 2007 as "National Homeless Youth Awareness Month."
- **Clean Beaches Resolution:** On June 20, 2007, the Senate passed Senator Lautenberg's resolution (*S. Res. 243*) supporting the goals and ideals of National Clean Beaches Week and the considerable value of beaches and their role in American culture.
- **Clean Water Resolution:** On October 19, 2007, the Senate passed Senator Lautenberg's resolution (*S. Res. 354*) expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the Clean Water Act.