

Leahy discusses Virginia Tech killings

by UPI

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee chair said families must be able to mourn and the campus return to calm before probing the Virginia Tech massacre.

Speaking on CBS' "Face the Nation," Senate Judiciary chair Patrick Leahy said, "I think Governor (Tim) Kaine's doing exactly the right thing -- letting the families mourn the dead, let the school settle back down and then go on and find out exactly what happened."

Once a state investigation is complete, the Vermont Democrat said he and the committee will study the subsequent report. What concerned, him, however, was "why is it that somebody who's had psychological problems -- at least according to the press reports ... (was) able to buy a gun?"

It has been reported that the man who killed 32 people before turning the gun on himself had a history of psychological issues and was able to buy guns.

"We need to ask for a great uniformity among the states," Leahy said, "because I think everybody would agree that somebody with a psychological problem should not be allowed to purchase a weapon."

On another topic, Leahy said he did not think U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales could be effective.

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