

Let's stop acting like the United States doesn't matter. Let's not say that because the U.N. isn't perfect, we should cut our dues.

We are the world's leading military and economic power, and there is much we can achieve on our own. But we cannot stop genocide in Darfur alone any more than we can stop the spread of HIV/AIDS without the cooperation of other nations.

We need to lead by example in the United Nations, in NATO, at the World Health Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prevention of Chemical Weapons, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Intellectual Property Organization. We can't do that without paying what we owe.

This body has already voted for the funds to support United Nations peacekeeping and these international organizations. Senator COBURN's amendment would cut those funds.

I also want to set the record straight on another misstatement of Senator COBURN's. He said his amendment to the fiscal year 2008 State and Foreign Operations appropriations bill was unanimously passed and then dropped in conference. It was not dropped in conference.

His amendment would have withheld all U.S. contributions to international organizations. The House and Senate conferees did not support that. What emerged from conference was a 10 percent withholding of funds, tied to audits, budget reports, and oversight. It also withheld 20 percent of the U.S. contribution to the U.N. Development Program.

Was it everything Senator COBURN wanted? No. Was it dropped in conference? No. The substance of his amendment was included in the conference agreement, and for the benefit of anyone who cares to read it, it is section 668 of Public Law 110-161.

I agree with Senator AKAKA and urge Senators to oppose the Coburn amendment.

Mr. President, I strongly join Senators LUGAR and BAYH in the support of Judge Hamilton.

I yield back any time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BEGICH). All time is expired.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of David F. Hamilton, of Indiana, to be U.S. circuit judge for the Seventh Circuit?

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 59, nays 39, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 350 Ex.]

YEAS—59

Akaka	Hagan	Murray
Bayh	Harkin	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Inouye	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Johnson	Pryor
Bingaman	Kaufman	Reed
Boxer	Kerry	Reid
Brown	Kirk	Rockefeller
Burris	Klobuchar	Sanders
Cantwell	Kohl	Schumer
Cardin	Landrieu	Shaheen
Carper	Lautenberg	Specter
Casey	Leahy	Stabenow
Conrad	Levin	Tester
Dodd	Lieberman	Udall (CO)
Dorgan	Lincoln	Udall (NM)
Durbin	Lugar	Warner
Feingold	McCaskill	Webb
Feinstein	Menendez	Whitehouse
Franken	Merkley	Wyden
Gillibrand	Mikulski	

NAYS—39

Alexander	Crapo	LeMieux
Barrasso	DeMint	McCain
Bennett	Ensign	McConnell
Bond	Enzi	Murkowski
Brownback	Graham	Risch
Bunning	Grassley	Roberts
Burr	Gregg	Sessions
Chambliss	Hatch	Shelby
Coburn	Hutchison	Snowe
Cochran	Inhofe	Thune
Collins	Isakson	Vitter
Corker	Johanns	Voinovich
Cornyn	Kyl	Wicker

NOT VOTING—2

Baucus

Byrd

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will resume legislative session.

CAREGIVERS AND VETERANS OMNIBUS HEALTH SERVICES ACT OF 2009—Continued

AMENDMENT NO. 2785

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided on the amendment offered by the Senator from Oklahoma, Mr. COBURN.

The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

Mr. COBURN. This is a straightforward amendment. You get to decide whether you want to continue to send money to an organization that is bankrupt, fraudulent; has peacekeeping troops that rape men, women, and children; has absolutely no transparency in spite of our law that demands it, or to pay for the courage and the support of people who do deserve it.

We always find a reason not to make the hard choice. I suspect we will find a good reason not to make the hard choice this time. But for \$3.7 billion to help the people who help us and quit sending money that goes down the tube—half of everything we send to the United Nations gets wasted or defrauded—it is time for us to make the hard choice. That is what the amendment is about. There are a lot of rea-

sons you can find to vote against it. It will take real courage to vote for it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii is recognized.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I urge our colleagues to reject the pending amendment. For one thing, it appears that the amendment could end up denying caregiver assistance to many OEF/OIF veterans by significantly narrowing the eligibility criteria for caregiver assistance. While the amendment seeks to "pay for" the costs associated with this bill, I understand from CBO, however, that this amendment does not even accomplish what I believe the amendment's author intends.

Every major veterans group supports the underlying bill because of what it means for all veterans—for women veterans, for homeless veterans, and for veterans of every era.

I urge a "no" vote on the amendment, followed by a vote to pass S. 1963.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired.

The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. LEMIEUX. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. KLOBUCHAR). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 32, nays 66, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 351 Leg.]

YEAS—32

Alexander	DeMint	McCain
Barrasso	Ensign	McConnell
Bayh	Enzi	Murkowski
Bennett	Graham	Risch
Brownback	Hatch	Roberts
Bunning	Hutchison	Sessions
Burr	Inhofe	Shelby
Chambliss	Isakson	Thune
Coburn	Johanns	Vitter
Cornyn	Kyl	Wicker
Crapo	LeMieux	

NAYS—66

Akaka	Gillibrand	Mikulski
Begich	Grassley	Murray
Bennet	Gregg	Nelson (NE)
Bingaman	Hagan	Nelson (FL)
Bond	Harkin	Pryor
Boxer	Inouye	Reed
Brown	Johnson	Reid
Burris	Kaufman	Rockefeller
Cantwell	Kerry	Sanders
Cardin	Kirk	Schumer
Carper	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Casey	Kohl	Snowe
Cochran	Landrieu	Specter
Collins	Lautenberg	Stabenow
Conrad	Leahy	Tester
Corker	Levin	Udall (CO)
Dodd	Lieberman	Udall (NM)
Dorgan	Lincoln	Voinovich
Durbin	Lugar	Warner
Feingold	McCaskill	Webb
Feinstein	Menendez	Whitehouse
Franken	Merkley	Wyden