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House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 31, 2014.

I hereby appoint the Honorable RANDY HULTGREN to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Reverend Roger Spradlin, Valley Baptist Church, Bakersfield, California, offered the following prayer:

Father, we thank You for Your sovereignty and providence in each person's life who stands before me and, more importantly, before You. Grant them today Your guidance in their deliberations.

We acknowledge that our country is facing serious challenges and that our world is in crisis. Give this body the courage that is necessary to lead. Rather than allowing our ideology to further divide us, may You, Father, unite us in our shared love for this great Nation.

Give the Members the wisdom to help the oppressed and the weakest among us, as well as the courage to lead by conviction, rather than by mere pragmatism.

Concerning our failures, rather than justice, we ask for Your mercy and grace. Give us the will to acknowledge and to repent of all wrongs.

We thank You for the values on which this country was founded and for Your continued blessing through the years. But we ask today, Father, for our country, that our best days would not be behind us, but before us.

We ask all these things in the strong name of Jesus.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 1, rule I, I demand a vote on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8, rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MARINO) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MARINO led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REVEREND ROGER SPRADLIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY) is recognized for 1 minute.

There was no objection.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I am both honored and humbled to welcome my good friend, Pastor Roger Spradlin, as our guest chaplain this morning.

Holding a doctorate in ministry and serving as a major leader within the Southern Baptist community, Roger has served the Valley Baptist Church in Bakersfield, California, since 1983. In that time, he has led a congregation that has grown into a family of over 8,000 followers, a family that my wife, Judy, my son, Connor, and Megan belong to.

I have watched Pastor Roger do many things for our community. I have watched him use his grace, his humility, his ability to bring people together. But the part that inspires me the most is I have watched him in time of need, in time of tragic situations in our community, to help us heal. I have watched him officiate and bring joy to a husband and wife being married. I have watched him lift up those in harm's way. But most importantly, I have watched him always bring the grace and inspire others.

So it is with a great deal of joy on a special day today that I am able to have my friend, an individual that helped change my life, be a part of all of our lives.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

MIDDLE CLASS JUMP-START

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, hard-working American families deserve a

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Congress that is working hard for them. Unfortunately, under Republican leadership, the 113th Congress is set to be the least productive Congress in history. Let me say that again. Speaker BOEHNER is presiding over what will be the least productive Congress in history.

Mr. Speaker, leadership comes with responsibility. Rather than working with Democrats to enact legislation that will strengthen the middle class and expand economic opportunity for all Americans, my friends on the other side of the aisle are obstructing progress and suing the President.

Democrats have a different plan. Instead of blocking legislation that will grow the economy, we have a plan that will jump-start the middle class. It has concrete proposals that will bring jobs back to America, provide women equal pay for equal work, raise the minimum wage, provide emergency unemployment benefits, and help millions of students afford college.

Mr. Speaker, we have serious challenges facing our Nation. Let's put aside partisan differences and get to work to jump-start the middle class and create jobs. Let's not adjourn. Let's cancel the recess and stay here and do the work the American people expect us to do.

THE UNITED STATES MUST CONTINUE TO STAND BY ISRAEL

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the world has watched violence in the Middle East escalate due to Hamas rocket attacks. The bottom line is that Israel, under the trusted leadership of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, has the absolute right to defend its citizens from murderous attacks.

Hamas is a terrorist organization attacking to achieve one goal: bring death and destruction to the people of Israel. The Hamas threat is: ''We love death more than you love life.''

Hamas continues to launch thousands of rockets into Israel and create a network of terror tunnels. Sadly, Palestinian civilians have died because Hamas uses the innocent as human shields.

The United States must stand by our greatest ally in the region. Anything but total support of Israel by the President signals weakness for future attacks on the American people.

Terrorist threats are increasing, despite the President's denial. The President's actions to defeat terrorism are more significant than words.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

Rest in peace, Earl Brown, a South Carolina patriot.

RECOGNIZING THE PASSING OF SHERIFF RALPH FROEHLICH

(Mr. SIRES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SIRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the recent loss of Sheriff Ralph Froehlich.

Sheriff Froehlich was born and raised in Elizabeth, New Jersey. After serving over 9 years in the U.S. Marine Corps as an Infantryman and a drill instructor, Mr. Froehlich joined the Elizabeth Police Department. Mr. Froehlich worked for almost 20 years, rising up to the rank of Lieutenant.

In 1977, he was elected the Sheriff of Union County and, at the time of his passing, was in the midst of serving his 13th term. This gave him the distinction of being the longest-serving Sheriff in the history of New Jersey.

While serving as the Sheriff of Union County, he implemented several programs designed to make our community safer. He worked hard to establish units regarding missing persons, domestic violence, and search and rescue.

I want to express my deepest condolences for all who knew and cared for Sheriff Froehlich, and my gratitude for the years he devoted to keeping our community safe.

RECENT BIPARTISAN ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(Mr. LANCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this morning to draw attention to the recent bipartisan accomplishments here in the House of Representatives. These efforts include passage of legislation to keep the Internet tax-free, a highway bill that will keep more than 700,000 construction workers on the job, a series of education bills that will give students and their families the tools they need to help make postsecondary education more accessible and affordable, and legislation that will reform the Veterans Administration.

The House has also acted on an energy bill that would make it easier to ship our natural gas overseas, and put much-needed pressure on Russia, as well as a tax measure that will allow U.S. companies, large and small, to innovate, create jobs, and increase wages.

These are just a few of the more than 300 House-passed bills, including more than 40 jobs bills, that wait for action in the Senate of the United States. These bipartisan measures would benefit American families and businesses. They all deserve an up-or-down vote in the United States Senate.

THIS IS A SAD DAY IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

(Mr. MCDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I come today to this floor on what I believe is a very sad day for this House. There is no place left safe for children. Yesterday and today, we have condoned and endorsed activities which put children at risk. Children are not safe in mosques, in churches, in U.N.-protected schools, in hospitals, in ambulances, or even playing on the beach.

167 years ago, my great-grandmother came from Ireland, 12 years old, by herself, on a boat, landed in the docks of New York. If this Congress had been sitting then, she would have been sent back to Roscommon County, to her people, to her family, where a third of the people were dying of famine, a third emigrated, and a third stayed. That is what we would have sent her back to, without a hearing, without anything. She had no rights. And, luckily, it wasn't that way.

There is no resonance for Jesus' command: Suffer the little children to come unto me.

Our country will rue this day.

VETERANS ACCESS, CHOICE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I am here to celebrate the most recent of many bills produced by this House, the Republican-led House. This one is H.R. 3230, the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act, with overwhelming bipartisan support. This legislation will begin the process of reforming the Veterans Health Administration and instituting great accountability across our veterans' health system.

Being the father of an Army soldier and having worked for 30 years as a health care practitioner, my heart broke when I first heard of the disturbing revelations of gross misconduct and dysfunction at the VA.

Fortunately, with the passage of H.R. 3230, we have moved one step closer to restoring the trust of our veterans. This legislation will afford greater and timelier access to cost-effective care services, while bringing necessary changes to the Department of Veterans Affairs. However, Mr. Speaker, this is just the first step, and more needs to be done to fulfill the commitments we have made to these brave men and women.

I want to thank the chairmen of the House and the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committees for their commitment to overcoming political differences and finding common ground.

□ 0915

KURDISTAN

(Mr. POLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, over the conflict in the area of Iraq, dating from the first gulf war to the second, we have had staunch allies in the Kurdish people.

And just as the American people had within them the desire for independence in 1776, so, too, rises the tide of self-determination among the Kurdish people. And should they choose to take that path in a referendum and seek to separate themselves from the failing Iraqi State, I strongly encourage America to promptly recognize a new, independent Kurdistan to take its place among other important American allies, like Israel, in the region.

SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

(Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, before we go home for the August work period, I think it is important for this House to reaffirm to the world our support for Israel. Under President Obama, it would seem that America has switched sides from its historical support for Israel, which dates back to 1948.

The President seems to want hostilities to end so bad that he and his supporting cast within the mainstream media fail to remember or point out that Hamas has been lobbing rockets into Israel from shortly after Israel's withdrawal from Gaza in 2005.

In Secretary Kerry's mind, it would seem, a stop to hostilities means Israel must stop defending its people. But there is never mention of Hamas ending the constant barrage of rockets—22 red alerts have gone off thus far in Israel today. That is not 22 rockets. That is 22 separate events where rockets have been launched into Israel.

This President seems more interested in appeasing Hamas, which is a terrorist organization, than he is in comprehending Israel's desire to end this threat to its people and its existence.

This position put forward by the President and his Secretary of State, John Kerry, is an injustice and a betrayal toward a longtime friend and ally in the region. Israel deserves better, and they deserve more, Mr. President.

As for me and my office and my house and my family, we will always stand with Israel.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5230, SECURE THE SOUTHWEST BORDER ACT OF 2014; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5272, PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO DEFERRED ACTION FOR ALIENS; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5021, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ACT OF 2014; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 696 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 696

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 5230) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. After passage of H.R. 5230, and on the legislative day of July 31, 2014, the House shall consider in the House the bill (H.R. 5272) to prohibit certain actions with respect to deferred action for aliens not lawfully present in the United States, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 5021) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure or his designee that the House disagree to the Senate amendment. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion except one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

SEC. 4. Any motion pursuant to clause 4 of rule XXII relating to H.R. 5021 may be offered only by the Majority Leader or his designee.

SEC. 5. It shall be in order at any time on the legislative day of July 31, 2014, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules as though under clause 1 of rule XV. The Speaker or his designee shall consult with the Minority Leader or her designee on the designation of any matter for consideration pursuant to this section.

SEC. 6. The requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII for a two-thirds vote to consider a report from the Committee on Rules on the same day it is presented to the House is waived with respect to any resolution reported through the legislative day of July 31, 2014.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Oklahoma is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my friend, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. POLIS), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule for consideration of three measures: H.R. 5230, the supplemental appropriations bill to deal with the influx of unaccompanied minors across the southern border; H.R. 5272, a bill that would prevent the administration from expanding the use of deferred action for individuals who are not legally present in the United States; and the Senate amendment to H.R. 5021, the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014.

The resolution provides a closed rule for consideration of H.R. 5230, the supplemental appropriations bill. This is consistent with the way all seven supplemental appropriations acts considered in the 110th and 111th Congresses were treated when my colleagues on the other side of the aisle were in the majority. The rule provides for 1 hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations, and provides for one motion to recommit.

In addition, the resolution also provides that after the passage of H.R. 5230, that it be in order to consider H.R. 5272, a bill that would prevent the administration from expanding the use of deferred action for individuals who are not legally present in the United States. The resolution provides a closed rule for consideration of H.R. 5272, provides for 60 minutes of debate, equally divided by the chairman and ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary, and provides for a motion to recommit.

In addition, the rule also provides for consideration of a motion to disagree to the Senate's amendment to H.R. 5021, so we can send the bill that easily passed the House on an overwhelming bipartisan vote back to the Senate.

Finally, the rule provides for same-day and suspension authority today to

resolve any outstanding issues before the August recess.

Mr. Speaker, this rule demonstrates this House's careful consideration of the President's supplemental request. Earlier this month, the President submitted to Congress a $3.7 billion request to deal with both the urgent crisis of unaccompanied juveniles crossing the border and with wildfires.

Since then, Chairman ROGERS, Chairman GRANGER, Speaker BOEHNER, and the Republican Conference have thoughtfully considered what resources the President needs to address this crisis through the end of the fiscal year.

The result, Mr. Speaker, is a significantly pared-down piece of legislation. It provides $659 million to meet the immediate border security and humanitarian needs. This supplemental sends the message that this administration has been unwilling to send, that if you come here illegally, you will be deported. And it provides the resources to effect just that.

It provides $334 million for Immigration and Customs Enforcement for boosted enforcement efforts, accelerates judicial proceedings by providing $22 million to hire temporary immigration judges and provide courts with video teleconferencing equipment, and makes smart policy reforms, like changing the 2008 sex trafficking law to require that all unaccompanied minors are treated the same, among others.

These important policy reforms, which the President initially asked for, are a reasonable, thoughtful response to the tenfold increase of unaccompanied alien children since 2011.

Mr. Speaker, the President's advisers warned him this crisis was coming back in 2012 and 2013, but he ignored that advice. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the administration has mismanaged this entire issue from the beginning.

If the President's FY 2015 budget had become law, we would have seen a reduction of nearly 3,500 detention beds, a 2 percent reduction in ICE's investigative capacity, and a 12 percent reduction to CBP air and marine operations, all vital tools to deal with this problem.

In addition, the President's budget request for the Central American Regional Security Initiative, which confronts narcotics and arms trafficking, gangs, and organized crime in that region and addresses border security deficiencies and disrupts criminal infrastructure, was actually proposed to be cut in the President's FY 2015 budget. The House FY15 foreign operations bill reverses those cuts and actually increases the resources to deal with these related problems.

Mr. Speaker, at every turn, the administration has failed to address the border crisis adequately, and now the President wants a blank check to proceed. His aim is not to stop and reverse the flow of unaccompanied minors into this country. He merely aims to manage that influx more efficiently. The House cannot accept that.

This legislation, H.R. 5230, adequately funds the shortfalls caused by this administration's policy by using existing resources. And Republicans are willing to provide additional resources should they be needed in FY 2015 appropriations, within the bipartisan budget cap set by the Ryan-Murray budget agreement. But we believe that this bill provides the appropriate resources at this time.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the bill provides for consideration of H.R. 5272, which would prevent the administration from expanding the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, the so-called DACA program. I, like many of my colleagues, believe that DACA has incentivized juveniles to attempt the long and dangerous journey from Central America, with the hope of staying in this country permanently. Executive orders, like DACA, only serve to keep that hope alive. I believe it is important to send a strong signal that this program should not be expanded. H.R. 5272 does just that.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the rule would send back the original House-passed highway bill to the Senate. While I appreciate what my friends in the other body have been able to do, I believe it is important to provide Members the maximum amount of flexibility to craft a long-term highway bill. By accepting the Senate amendment, which would only provide adequate funding of the highway trust fund through mid-December, we would be effectively creating a new crisis in the middle of a lame duck session of Congress. Given the limited number of session days before the election, this does not seem like a prudent course to take. Instead, the House should return to the Senate its bipartisan legislation, which passed this Chamber by a vote of 367–55.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I believe it is important to move forward on these three important pieces of legislation before the August district work period. I urge support for the rule and the underlying legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Maryland will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am looking over the rule that was passed late last night, and my reading of the rule indicates that that there was a change in the standing rules of the House. Mr. Speaker, I would like some parliamentary clarification on that provision.

If you look at the resolution in section 4, it says, ''Any motion pursuant to clause 4 of rule XXII relating to H.R. 5021''—that is the transportation-related bill—''may be offered only by the Majority Leader or his designee.''

Now, I am looking at the standing rules of the House, Mr. Speaker, and the standing rules of the House provide that ''when the stage of disagreement has been reached on a bill or resolution with House or Senate amendments, a motion to dispose of any amendment shall be privileged.''

My question is: Doesn't ''privileged'' mean available to any Member of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is asking the Chair to interpret the pending resolution, and that provision will not be interpreted by the Chair while it is under consideration.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Well, Mr. Speaker, my understanding of a parliamentary inquiry was where the Speaker was supposed to clarify questions of the rules and the parliamentary order.

I am simply asking whether or not, in previous rulings by this House and by the Parliamentarian, ''privileged'' has been interpreted to mean something that is available to any Member of the House, not just to the majority leader or the designee of the majority leader?

□ 0930

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will not interpret this resolution during its pendency.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. If the Chair does not want to interpret this parliamentary inquiry at this time, at what point would it be in order to ask the Parliamentarian and the Chair to interpret the rules of the House?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. A parliamentary inquiry should relate in some practical sense to pending proceedings.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Parliamentary inquiry, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Is it not the rule, passed out of the committee, that is pending? That is the parliamentary inquiry. Is that what is pending before the House, the rule?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman's inquiry is a matter for debate on the resolution.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. But, Mr. Speaker, isn't the matter pending before the House the rule that the designated chairman—acting chairman—of the Rules Committee just spoke about?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. House Resolution 696 is pending at this time.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. That is correct, Mr. Speaker. And I am reading one of the provisions of that resolution, specifically section 4 of that rule, which is before the House which changes the rules of the House to say that a motion may only be made by the majority leader or his designee, as opposed to the privileged motion required under the underlying rule. Is that correct?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As the Chair has stated, the Chair will not interpret the pending resolution. That is a matter for debate.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. If I could ask for 1 minute of time to discuss this matter.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado is recognized.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I will further yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Look, yesterday, we were on the floor of the House, Mr. Speaker, and our Republican colleagues passed a measure to sue the President of the United States, waste millions of dollars of taxpayers' money to sue the President of the United States, and the claim was the President has exceeded his authority.

That is a specious claim, but what is incredible is the very next day our Republican colleagues are here suspending democracy in the House, changing the standing rules of the House to take away from any Member of the House the opportunity to offer a motion with respect to the transportation bill, which is what the standing rules of the House provide, and they want to say no, we are going to take that right away from a Member, and we are going to give it exclusively to the Republican leader or the Republican leader's designee.

Do you know, Mr. Speaker, the last time we saw this happen? On the government shutdown. Our Republican colleagues used the same measure to refuse to take up the Senate bill, which would have ended the government shutdown. They didn't want to end it, so they kept it going. That cost the American taxpayer $24 billion in damage to the economy.

Let's not play games with the rule, that this rule allows every Member their rights. The Speaker is not the king, and we should make sure that every Member has an opportunity.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to address the underlying rule, and I appreciate the gentleman from Maryland's efforts to get clarity as to what is in this rule.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, we saw this rule for the first time late last night. We saw the bill for the first time late last night. I believe the underlying bill was dropped shortly after 8 p.m., and Rules Committee convened after 10 p.m.

We are still in the process of trying to understand what is in this rule and this bill. I know that there are legitimate questions with regard to how it changes the rules of our entire House of Representatives, as well as what this bill actually does.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to both the process of the rule and the underlying bill. The bill, of course, prohibits certain actions with respect to deferred actions for people who are already in our country.

This provision was added at the last minute in the midnight hour to restrict the deferred action for the childhood arrivals program, which is a form of prosecutorial discretion, which is used by all prosecutorial and administrative agencies.

When you have a situation where 10 or 11 or 12 million people have illegal presence in our country, clearly, with our limited enforcement resources, we need to have prosecutorial discretion and priorities. Whom should we be going after and in what form, given that it is not possible with the limited resources they have, to in any way address the entire issue?

Mr. Speaker, I would like to think that it makes perfect sense, with regards to the deferred action program, that we focus our limited enforcement resources on criminal aliens. Those are people who, in addition to having unlawful presence here, have committed some kind of crime. It might have been a DUI. It might have been an assault.

We need to focus on promptly bringing people who have committed crimes to justice and deporting them under our laws. So whom does it make sense to not focus on, given our prosecutorial discretion?

I think the deferred action program is a perfect example, and this bill, in our understanding, even recognizes that, that many of the people that grew up in our country, that know no other country, that came when they were 2 or 3, that were cheerleaders or high school football players and know no other country than the United States of America and owe their loyalty to us, of course, should not be the enforcement priority of laws that are broken until we can fix our immigration system.

It makes sense that the President work—any President, Democrat or Republican—to identify additional groups that we can use with our prosecutorial discretion and offer some kind of deferred action to, so that we can further focus our limited enforcement resources on those who would do us harm or represent a threat to our safety or our economy.

If there is a way, for instance, to include the parents of American children who are here unlawfully and are not violating any criminal laws of our country, it would make sense that their enforcement should come after those who have committed criminal violations in our country. That is a customary aspect of prosecutorial discretion ranging from any DA to the Attorney General to the President of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, under the language of this bill, it would further restrict the ability of the President to focus our limited enforcement resources on criminal aliens who would do us harm, reducing the security of the American people.

Now, we all know the real answer here is to replace our broken immigration system with one that works. The answer is not to have 10 million, 12 million, who knows how many million people here illegally and just focus on which group we can actually enforce the law on. We need to have a law that we can enforce universally.

There should not be people that are here illegally in our country. We need to secure our borders, we need to reunite American families, and we need to grow our economy. Later on today, if we defeat the previous question, Mr. GARCIA will offer a bipartisan bill that will do just that.

Instead of even allowing amendments on these controversial bills, including amendments that are extremely commonsense, we have a closed process that, as Mr. VAN HOLLEN pointed out, changes the very rules of the House, in the name of preventing the President from focusing on deporting criminal aliens.

Look, Republicans and Democrats alike acknowledge that there is a crisis on our southern border. Unaccompanied minors are fleeing from El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala, fleeing horrific situations. I had the opportunity to visit the border the weekend before last, along with many of my colleagues, and got to speak to some of the kids, as well as the Customs and Border Patrol and HHS officials, and hear some of those stories firsthand.

We had this discussion yesterday in Rules Committee. Action means a bill passing the House, a bill passing the Senate, and the President signing it. Instead of taking action to address the crisis on our southern border, the House is considering a House-only bill that the President has said he would veto, that the Senate won't likely even bring up, and then promptly going home for a 1-month vacation. We wonder why Congress has a 12 percent approval rating.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to disagree with my friend on a couple of points that he made. First, I would suggest the President actually hasn't taken action or suggested action. A month ago, he told us that the 2008 sex trafficking law was responsible for his inability to return people to their country of origin, unaccompanied minors.

We have been waiting for his corrective for 30 days; instead, Mr. Speaker, we get an open-ended supplemental that goes through from this fiscal year to the end of the next fiscal year with a lot of measures—some of which, by the way, we agree with—to manage the flow, but absolutely nothing to stop and reverse the flow.

So we think, in that absence of leadership from the executive branch, we have acted. We have actually done what a month ago at least he was suggesting ought to be done, giving some discretion and giving some ability to try to deal with the loophole in the law.

In the meantime, Mr. Speaker, we have looked at what he put in front of us, and we have decided, look, we can actually offset this money. We don't have to spend extra money. This is a higher priority. We will take money from lower priority areas.

We will get us through the end of this fiscal year and through the end of this calendar year, and in that interim time, we will have an opportunity to work with the administration to continue to address the problem within the limits of the Ryan-Murray budget agreement that we agreed to on a bipartisan, bicameral basis not that long ago.

Now, Mr. Speaker, this issue of the DACA controversy that we have here, I would like to make the following points: first, nothing in this legislation changes the current state of affairs at all. In other words, what the President has done up to this point is left undisturbed.

However, we do believe the abuse of prosecutorial discretion is actually one of the things that contributed to the current crisis that we have—not deliberately, but, frankly, I think the President unwittingly or unknowingly sent a signal that if you get here and you get across our border, you are going to be able to stay. So we want to be very careful that doesn't happen again.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, the President has said if Congress doesn't do certain things by such and such a date or by the August work period, then I intend during that time to use my pen and my phone to effect some changes that I want.

What is interesting to us, by the way, less than 2 years ago, he said these kinds of things were unconstitutional and couldn't be done by the executive branch. Now, he has changed his view on that.

So we are going to finally put in place something that will prevent him in our absence from once again abusing prosecutorial discretion to achieve other aims.

With that, I would like to reserve the balance of my time, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), my colleague on the Rules Committee.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, my House Republican friends never cease to amaze me. Once again, House Republicans have turned control of their agenda to Senator Speaker TED CRUZ. The last time they did this, they shut the government down, and look at how that worked out for them. Some people never learn.

Mr. Speaker, it is not enough that House Republicans, despite Speaker BOEHNER's promises of a more open House, continue to block consideration of comprehensive immigration reform. No, they need to go even further.

Last night, after a lengthy meeting with Senator Speaker CRUZ, House Republicans caved in a desperate and partisan way and produced an extreme bill that would prevent President Obama from building upon the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program. This bill was introduced last night. It has never had a hearing, but here it is.

Mr. Speaker, House Republicans are victims of their own shortsightedness. In their attempts to placate the fringe elements on the far right, especially as the November elections grow closer, House Republicans continue to refuse to bring up any kind of comprehensive immigration reform bill.

Of course, the Senate passed comprehensive immigration reform overwhelmingly, and we know that the bill would pass this House if it were brought up for a vote.

Mr. Speaker, this process is absurd. The bills we will consider today are cruel and cheap political stunts. They would do nothing to alleviate the crisis and merely serve as political cover, and what is worse, the Republicans are playing games with the lives of vulnerable children.

Further, the supplemental appropriations bill is a sham. It does not even come close to addressing the humanitarian crisis on our border. It provides nothing in terms of necessary resources for the Border Patrol, HHS, Homeland Security, and our immigration system to give these children and their families the attention that they need.

The policy is bad enough. The process absolutely stinks. The deal the Republican leadership cut with the hard right is this: if you want the opportunity to vote for a nasty bill to block expansion of DACA—which has absolutely nothing to do with the crisis on the border—then you have to vote for this terrible supplemental.

No wonder the approval rating of Congress is at 7 percent. With stunts like this, I am surprised it is that high. I know this is an election season, but I plead with Republicans: let's not lose our humanity in this process.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, my friend is always a terrific and impassioned speaker, and I love to hear him. I genuinely do, but what he is saying is, frankly, at odds with the facts.

Look at the record. It was the President in his budget who wanted to cut border security, cut detention beds, reduce aid to Central America, and reduce law enforcement. That was the President's proposal.

□ 1045

Before this crisis, we had already corrected some of those mistakes in the FY15 Foreign Operations budget. So in terms of who has been willing to put resources not only in a law enforcement sense but in a humanitarian sense, it has been the majority side of the aisle, not the minority.

Frankly, our plan will not increase suffering; it will decrease it. What will increase suffering is continuing to send the signal that coming here illegally will be rewarded. The challenge of that is, number one, when you encourage that behavior, we are destroying the societies from which those young people are coming. The officials of those governments have met with ours, and they say that we would like our children back. That is a terrible thing that we are doing to those countries.

Number two, the people who are financing it, well-meaning people in most cases, trying to bring children into the United States, are turning their money over to criminal enterprises and cartels. They are strengthening the very people who are destroying their society and committing crimes across the entire region, not just our country.

And finally, the children that are encouraged to come are young people, mostly juveniles from three countries and, frankly, are subject to a horrific and dangerous journey. Along the way, they can be pressed into sex trafficking. They can be turned into drug smugglers. They can be physically abused. We don't know how many of them never make it here at all.

Any policy left in place that encourages that, wittingly or unwittingly, ought to be changed. Until the signal is sent unmistakably to these societies, don't spend your money, don't put your kids at risk, the flow will continue.

Now the President of the United States, at least 2 weeks ago, said:

> The majority of these children are going to be returned.

That is his statement, not ours, not us doing something that he said isn't going to happen. He said the overwhelming majority of these children will be returned. Doing this quickly and humanely might keep other children from following the same route.

This is a tough, tough situation. It is a situation, quite frankly, that the President was warned would happen in 2012, was warned in 2013 by officials in his own administration, and ignored. You can see he ignored it in terms of the budget he actually proposed to present to Congress this year. Thank goodness we didn't actually do what he asked us to do.

I think if you look at this objectively, you can see the President was overtaken by a crisis. He fumbled it and mismanaged that crisis, in my opinion, and now my friends on the other side of the aisle are trying to turn this into something that it is not. It is a border crisis debate and discussion. It is not an overall immigration debate. It is not a political stunt. We certainly didn't plan for this to happen. My friends clearly did not plan for it to happen. The President didn't plan for it to happen or he would never have submitted the budget that he did. So we are trying to respond quickly and expeditiously to a crisis.

This is not, by the way, a once-and-for-all response. We are here in August. We will be back here in September. We will be back here after the election. We have an appropriations process, probably an omnibus bill waiting in the lame duck that will continue to address this, but something has to be done now.

What the President requests, again, doesn't address the problem. It is an open-ended check and, frankly, sort of

gets him off the hook until September 30, 2015, when we would have to come back here again.

The bill in front of us is a much more prudent, much more targeted, much more thoughtful, and much, frankly, more efficient use of resources in the interim while we continue to work to get a handle on the situation.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. O'ROURKE).

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, allow me to address some of the concerns raised in the underlying bill concerning unaccompanied alien children. If our concern is with a secure border, you can talk to someone such as myself who represents El Paso, Texas, the largest city in Texas on the Mexican border which, today, is also the safest city not just in Texas, but in the entire United States. You can talk to other elected leaders, to the folks who actually live on the border, and you can look at the facts.

Apprehensions at the U.S.-Mexico border are down nearly 70 percent over the last 15 years. In the year 2000, we had 1.6 million apprehensions. This last year, 420,000. And even with this spike of refugees from Central America, we are not expected to get to half a million this year. The border, by the numbers, is as secure as it has ever been.

If your concern is with the welfare of these children once they enter this country, then I say let's increase the amount that we are spending with Health and Human Services which, in this current bill, is a pittance against what is necessary and what should be required.

And if your concern is with the welfare of these children in Central America and along this journey, then I ask you to do what this country's proud history, what our conscience, and what the law already mandates, which is to accept their applications for asylum, to help them once they are in this country, and to work with our neighbors in Central America and this hemisphere to resolve the underlying problems.

I urge my colleagues to reject this rule, to reject the underlying bill, and to come back together in September and to work on something that is rational, that is humane, and that is in the best interests of all concerned.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let's talk for a minute about the additional money to HHS. That is exactly, by the way, what this does. The difference—and I think there is probably some confusion here—is we are doing it for a short period of time, and then we are going to probably continue to do it next year, but do it within the constraints of the Ryan-Murray budget deal. The President, frankly, hot-wires around the congressional agreement that was made to lower the budget by extending these expenditures to the end of the next fiscal year.

So just to reassure my friend, nobody is more interested, I think—actually, let me put it this way. I think we are both interested in making sure that, when anybody is in the custody of the United States, they are treated humanely and that there are sufficient resources there to do the job. So this does it in the short-term. I would expect in the appropriations process—again, within the overall spending caps that we have both agreed to—we would continue to do that by moving resources from less important areas to more important areas.

I am going to disagree with my friend on, I think, his point that most of these folks ought to remain inside the United States. Frankly, I agree with the President of the United States: most of them should not.

There is a process, by the way, if you want to apply for refugee status. You do that by going to an American Embassy which is actually in the countries there and they make that determination. You don't do it by breaking the laws of Mexico and breaking the laws of the United States by simply arriving here.

The President has said that most of these young people will be returned. The longer they are here, the more you are going to encourage other people to come, the more people will be subjected to that journey that we all know is dangerous and deadly, and the more often criminal enterprises will be enriched as people give them money to transport juveniles to what they think will be permanent residence in the United States when the President of the United States himself says it will not be permanent, that most of them will return. Better to act on this now.

Now, again, I will be the first to tell you that I don't expect this to be the final piece of legislation. This is an emergency measure. It is timely, it is focused, and it is funded at an appropriate level. We will be back here again in September. We will be back here working on the appropriations process, no doubt, in a lame duck. Frankly, at that time, the appropriate additional resources will undoubtedly be made available, but they will be made available within the budget caps of the Ryan-Murray deal.

I think sometimes when we compare this bill to the budget request the President made, the supplemental request, we really are comparing apples to oranges because the timeframes are much different. Remember, the President's bill also includes wildfire funding. That may be appropriate, but we just don't think it is appropriate in this vehicle, in what ought to be a focused approach.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER), the ranking member of the Rules Committee.

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

We spent a good time here yesterday debating and voting on a resolution to sue the President for doing his job, and we are up to about the same kind of tricks today. But if that show yesterday of the Republican obstinance wasn't enough, last night at 10:30, the majority changed the rules in the House to block efforts to achieve a long-term solution to our infrastructure problem. Can you believe that? I want my colleagues and everyone else to know what the majority is up to.

Mr. Speaker, we know and everybody knows that we need a long-term highway bill that would create more jobs and strengthen our infrastructure and provide more certainty for highway construction. And under the rules of the House—always—any Member of the House would have had the right to bring up real solutions to this problem, but not any more. In the middle of the night, the Republicans at the Rules Committee took that right away and gave it to one person, only one person out of 435: the Republican leader. It seems that Republicans are so fixated with my way or the highway that they are even willing to change the rules of the House to block a vote.

This parliamentary trick has only been used once before in the history of the House—only once—and it was during the government shutdown that we recently experienced. While they were obsessing over how to deny people health care, they changed the rules to ensure that no one could open the government back up. None of us could bring that up except one person, just one: the Republican leader. And the last time they pulled this stunt with the government shutdown, it cost the economy of the United States $24 billion. That is with a B.

Now, we don't know what will happen this time, but what we do know is that it is a dangerous ploy that will undermine economic recovery and job creation. The interest here today is not with the people of the United States; it is purely, absolutely a political stunt after the stunts yesterday. And the whole bill, what we are doing on the border issue, again, is simply a diversionary tactic that signifies not much.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Let me pull us back from arguing about rules and procedures to what the real essence of the conflict on the transportation bill is: 357 Members, an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote, voted to send the transportation bill to the United States Senate.

That bill, by the way, ran through, if I recall correctly, May of next year, giving us enough time to actually then come to what I know both sides want, and that is a longer-term highway bill.

What the Senate did was send us back something with fewer dollars and a shorter timeframe that actually reaches simply into December, meaning a lame duck Congress would have to deal with the transportation deal. Not likely to happen, particularly

when we will also be dealing with the omnibus spending bill since the Senate, in its infinite wisdom, has been unable to pass a single appropriations bill.

So I think cluttering the calendar with the transportation fund dispute and problem in a short timeframe simply isn't wise. We think it was a political game on the part of the United States Senate. But regardless, the position of this House as expressed by a bipartisan vote of 357, is overwhelmingly clear. We want to expedite that and get it back to the other side so hopefully they can see that type of gamesmanship doesn't work and they accede to the position that, frankly, both sides of this Chamber adopted in overwhelming numbers.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT).

Mr. DOGGETT. Sadly, Mr. Speaker, the do-nothingism of the 19th century, the anti-immigrant fervor of that time, is alive and well here today in the House. Republicans are overwhelmed with fear. They are fearful of immigrants. They are fearful of little children at our border. But I think most of all, they are fearful of their own shadows—fearful that if they try to deal with any of the major problems that our country faces, that they might suffer political losses. So it is not only know-nothingism, it is do-next-to-nothing that prevails today.

Even when the Republican chair of the Homeland Security Committee last May obtained unanimous committee approval for a bill that he said would secure our border, Republicans were afraid to have it debated on the floor of the House for fear that it might lead to real comprehensive immigration reform, reform that was approved by the United States Senate over a year ago for which they have offered us nothing but excuses, one excuse after another as to why we could not permit a majority of this House to consider the best way to reform our broken immigration system.

□ 1000

Affording full participation to our DREAMers, students who came here long ago as children through no fault of their own without a visa, will not only benefit them as individuals to achieve their all, but it will create jobs and grow our economy. I met with these DREAMers. They have tremendous potential to give back to our country. Some want to deny that opportunity.

What about these children at our border? Aren't they all God's children? Aren't they our children? Don't all children deserve a chance to survive without exploitation and violence and terror? We are not asking that every one of these children be permitted to stay in the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. POLIS. I yield an additional 25 seconds to the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. DOGGETT. We are not asking for amnesty, but how about just a little decency, a little civility, a little humanity, how about just following existing law, going after the smugglers, and providing the supplemental resources needed to see that their rights are protected?

I believe that children who came here seeking refuge in this country at least deserve a fair adjudication, not to be met with the barrel of a gun and a one-way ticket back without considering whether they are justly in this country.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This is a subject on which, obviously, there is considerable passion and considerable emotion. I respect that on all sides.

I will remind my friends who are insisting on immigration, they did actually control the Chamber for 4 years and didn't bring up an immigration bill ever, had two different Presidents who would have signed anything that they cared to pass, and never introduced one.

Mr. POLIS. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. COLE. I will not yield until I finish my point. You have got plenty of time. I think you can make your points on your own.

Mr. POLIS. Will the gentleman yield on just a quick correction on that point?

Mr. COLE. I certainly will yield to my friend on that.

Mr. POLIS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The House of Representatives did pass the DREAM Act during the lame duck session.

Mr. COLE. Reclaiming my time, I thought we were talking about comprehensive immigration reform—safely after an election I might add.

But the President of the United States, who ran in 2008, saying he would have a bill on the floor within 100 days, didn't do it.

My friends had basically complete control of this Chamber and the other Chamber. They demonstrated that by passing, again, ObamaCare without a single Republican vote, passing Dodd-Frank, and passing the stimulus bill, so they had the ability to do this and chose not to do it. That is their right. They were in the majority. But please don't lecture us on people stopping individual bills.

We have 350 bills, by the way, this Chamber has passed, sitting and waiting for the Senate to consider any of them, any of them. So I recognize, again, there is a great deal of passion here, but that is not what this debate is about.

This debate is about a border crisis that we both recognize exist. This debate is to give the President additional resources to deal with that, even though he in some measure contributed to creating it. And this debate is to make sure that we send the message unmistakably: if you subject children to this journey and pay criminals thousands of dollars to bring them across, they are not likely to get to stay—a point that the President of the United States has made. He has said a majority of these children are going to go home. If my friends have a quarrel with that, they should direct that to the President, not to us.

In this case, we do think if you don't discourage that, you are going to feed criminal behavior. You are going to put these children at risk, and you are going to destroy the society from which they came.

I don't think we can in a single bill have an overall solution to this problem of this level. I personally think it is going to take an effort somewhat similar to what we did in Colombia—in a bipartisan sense, I might add—on the drug trade, where we invested considerable resources in Colombia to help them deal with that problem. I am not going to tell you it is perfect there, but it is considerably better than it was in the 1980s and 1990s.

So that is where we worked together constructively and did something good for those societies and something good for our own country. That will probably be the model that has to emerge again in Central America.

But, again, that is a problem far ahead of us and legislative in scope. This is a response to a crisis. We think it is the appropriate response.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. O'ROURKE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Mr. O'ROURKE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of a 4-year-old Honduran girl whose body was found in a nylon bag showing signs of torture.

[From La Tribuna, July 20, 2014]

KIDNAP AND KILL A GIRL IN OLANCHO

(This is a Google Translation)

SAN FRANCISCO DE LA PAZ, Olancho. A heinous crime committed against a minor, has shaken an entire community that is not answered the savage and ruthless attitude of those involved in the sadistic action.

A little of just four years had disappeared last Thursday afternoon a little after 2:00 pm, according to the account of his father Anibal Cardona, about 30, who wept inconsolably so the tragedy.

Apparently a family would have caused neglect subjects mysterious little girl lifted backyard to lead to an unknown destination Quiscamotelugar the community, the origin of the parents of the unfortunate infant.

INSIDE SACK

The body of the girl was placed inside a nylon bag and left abandoned near the home where a day earlier had kidnapped.

Showed signs of torture and was handcuffed, and the conditions under which the body was giving signs of having been killed on the day she disappeared.

The crime involves a mystery, which generates various speculations in the whole population and in the same family, which not only repudiate what happened, they also believe that someone close may be linked to macabre done.

The house where he carried the creature is roughly an area of half acre of land, fenced with cyclone wire mesh and only one entry and when the body was found no one saw who placed it on the site though many neighbors accompanied the family at that time.

RESCUE

The other uncertainty that goes through the head of the citizens, is related to an alleged phone call asking for ransom, which the authorities are already investigating and could become the thread from the skein that leads to the true origin of what happened.

It was learned that the police is on the trail of four subjects, which might be collusion, or have enough information from individuals who committed the detestable fact.

Those who were arrested in a nearby village and that from the beginning of the alarm mentioned that they were responsible, but last night only two people were detained for investigation.

The girl's father, Anibal Cardona, and uncle, Luis Alonso Duarte.

In less than a year, this olanchano municipality has been involved in two violent incidents that result in death left two young children, who still has shaken society.

On 11 October last year, another toddler died a brutal hands of a mentally alienated, brutalized by the effect of alcohol and drugs, committed a heinous murder.

At that time, parishioners wanted to take justice into their own hands hours after police stopped the confessed responsible, a young 22 year old named Carlos Peralta.

Today, the San Franciscan people revive those feelings of grief, sorrow and helplessness, and calls to the appropriate speed in the latter investigations mourns another family event. (FS)

Mr. POLIS. I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GARCIA) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Mr. GARCIA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of a 17-year-old Guatemalan boy who received asylum because a gang killed his father and they were threatening him.

Cesar, a 17-year old boy from Guatemala, lost his father to gang violence at the age of 4. For 13 years, Cesar was harassed by the same gang who killed his father. When he refused to join the gang, he feared for his life and fled the country, swimming across the Rio Grande to cross the border. He was granted asylum, loves school and hopes to attend college.

Cesar—Asylum

Cesar, from Guatemala, was four years old when his father was killed by gangs in their community. The gang members were never arrested and continued to live in the town. They started harassing Cesar when he was very young and never stopped. He was very scared but there was no way he could get away from them.

By the time he turned 17, Cesar could not stand the gang harassment any more. The gangs were trying very hard to get him to join and he was very afraid he was going to be killed. He decided to make the journey to the United States. He said was very hard; sometimes he didn't think he would survive. He swam across the Rio Grande to cross the border. A pro bono attorney KIND matched him with from Kirkland & Ellis helped him gain asylum. He loves school and wants to attend college.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlelady from California (Ms. LOFGREN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Ms. LOFGREN asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of an 11-year-old Salvadoran boy who is applying for asylum because he was threatened by gang members who killed his cousin and who suffered severe domestic abuse.

Andres is an 11-year-old Salvadoran boy, abused by his caretakers and fleeing gang violence after his cousin was killed, he entered the U.S. to reunite with his mother, grandmother (USC), and extended family. He entered in July 2013 when he was 10 years old. He is applying for asylum.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As indicated by previous occupants of the Chair on June 26, 2003, on June 27, 2002, and on March 24, 1995, although a unanimous consent request to insert remarks in debate may comprise a simple declarative statement of the Member's attitude towards the pending measure, it is improper for a Member to embellish such a request with other oratory, and it can become an imposition on the time of the Member who has yielded for that purpose.

The Chair will entertain as many requests to insert as may be necessary to accommodate the Members, but the Chair must also ask that Members cooperate by confining such requests to the proper form.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a point of parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. When these requests are submitted, the Members are merely stating the title of the document that is being submitted, which clearly has to have a name. I want a clarification as to whether that is charged to our time, if they are simply submitting a document and telling you the name of that document?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. As most recently ruled by the Chair on July 11, 2013, a unanimous consent request that extends beyond a simple declarative statement of a Member's attitude about the underlying measure constitutes debate and may result in time being charged to the yielding Member upon execution of that order.

Mr. POLIS. Again, Mr. Speaker, I inquire—I would like your judgment, in fact—on when these motions are made and the document is submitted, clearly the document that is being referred to has to be referred to in the remarks. These Members are submitting a document, and they are, in fact, naming that document that they are submitting. I want to ensure that that complies with the Chair's interpretation of the House rules.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Also stated on July 11, 2013, the Chair will exercise discretion in determining whether an individual unanimous consent request results in a yielding Member being charged time in debate.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, what is the Chair's conclusion with regard to these unanimous consent requests?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Requests that include remarks in the nature of debate will be charged against the yielding Member.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, have the previous submissions of documents gone beyond the unanimous consent request compliance that the Chair stipulated?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has not yet charged any time to the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. POLIS. I thank the Chair.

I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. SLAUGHTER) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Ms. SLAUGHTER asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of a 12-year-old girl who was trafficked for sex and labor and escaped slavery with her baby and received a T visa in the United States.

LUTHERAN IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICE: VOICES OF CENTRAL AMERICAN YOUTH—WHY THEY ARE FLEEING THEIR COUNTRIES

BACKGROUND ON THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Since the Fall of 2011, prior to the President's announcement of DACA, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) started apprehending significantly more unaccompanied minors from Central America. ORR promptly started to open more shelters and detention sites for these children.

Updated data from the UNHCR, has shown a 712% increase in asylum requests in Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Belize by nationals from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

ORR has reported a significant increase in both younger children and girls coming.

Maria, a 12 year old girl from Central America, was trafficked for labor and sex, she fled with her baby to escape slavery. Maria was 12 years old, when she was kidnapped at gunpoint and taken to a home where she was held captive. She was beaten and raped on an almost daily basis and eventually forced into prostitution. Because of this she became pregnant and gave birth to a girl while captive. Maria fled with her child, riding on top of trains so that they might escape the sexual bondage. Maria ended up qualifying for a T-visa and is currently doing well She has now graduated high school.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. DOGGETT) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of a young Honduran girl the age of my granddaughter, who fled domestic violence and kidnapping. The document is from Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, and it is entitled: ''Voices of Central American Youth—Why They Are Fleeing Their Countries.''

Laura, an 8 year old girl from Honduras fled domestic violence and kidnapping. Laura was living in Honduras with her aunt while mother was in the U.S. working to provide for her family. One day a man she called ''step-father'' who was an ex-boyfriend of her mother's, kidnapped her from her aunt's care. Laura's mother in the U.S. said she could not report the kidnapping to authorities as they would do nothing. This step-father beat Laura daily with belts and pieces of wood, resulting in bruises, bleeding, and leaving visible scars on her body. On multiple occasions, he also threatened to kill her with a gun. The step father finally threatened Laura's mother that he would kill the Laura if her mother did not send him money. Laura's mother was finally able to save and send a large amount of money to the step-father and Laura was able to escape to come live with her in the U.S. A child like Laura might apply for asylum.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from Colorado will be charged.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of an 11-year-old Honduran boy who was kidnapped, tortured, and murdered.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRIES

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I believe that the only unanimous consent request that has been charged to our time is Mr. DOGGETT's. Is that correct?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. That is correct.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Again, Mr. DOGGETT stated the title of the document that he submitted, which seems to be a prerequisite for submitting a document. I would like to inquire as to why the Chair has ruled to charge the time to us.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the Chair's discretion, the gentleman engaged in debate.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, how can submitting a document and saying what the name of the document is constitute debate?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, the gentleman was engaging in debate.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman is recognized for a parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, can the Chair provide advice, so that my colleagues will understand what it was in reading the title and the source of the document that described the tragedy of this little Honduran girl seeking refuge in our country, constituted debate, rather than simply identifying the title?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is exercising his discretion.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, without any guidance to my colleagues as to how they can present documents within the rules of the House without reading the title and the source of the document, can the Speaker describe anything about my remarks that differed from any of the other remarks that were given by my colleagues, other than the reading of the title and the source from Lutheran Services of this young girl who sought refuge in our country?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. To clarify, the Chair has stated that a unanimous consent request to insert extraneous material may include a simple declarative statement of the Member's attitude towards the measure, but it is improper for the Member to embellish such a request with extended oratory.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of a 15-year-old Salvadoran boy who has requested asylum because local gang members threatened to kill him after he refused to sell drugs for them.

PANGEA LEGAL SERVICES CLIENT STORY

Jose is 15-years-old. He grew up in El Salvador with his grandparents. His parents immigrated to the United States when Jose was still a toddler, and he had not seen them since. Jose considered his grandparents as his parents and wished nothing but to continue living with them and his little brother. In April 2013, at age 14, Jose was forced to flee his country after gangs threatened to kill him if he didn't sell drugs for them. The family suspects that Jose was targeted by the gang because Jose's uncle is the mayor of the small Salvadoran town, and has attempted to establish rehabilitation and anti-gang programs for several years. Jose is in removal proceedings and his asylum application is currently pending with USCIS.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of seven very young Honduran children who were tortured and brutally murdered after refusing to join a gang.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of a young Honduran girl who resisted being robbed for $5, was clubbed over the head, dragged out by two men who cut a hole in her throat and left her in a ravine.

[From the New York Times, July 11, 2014]

THE CHILDREN OF THE DRUG WARS

(By Sonia Nazario)

Cristian Omar Reyes, an 11-year-old sixth grader in the neighborhood of Nueva Suyapa, on the outskirts of Tegucigalpa, tells me he has to get out of Honduras soon—''no matter what.''

In March, his father was robbed and murdered by gangs while working as a security guard protecting a pastry truck. His mother used the life insurance payout to hire a smuggler to take her to Florida. She promised to send for him quickly, but she has not.

Three people he knows were murdered this year. Four others were gunned down on a nearby corner in the span of two weeks at the beginning of this year. A girl his age resisted being robbed of $5. She was clubbed over the head and dragged off by two men who cut a hole in her throat, stuffed her panties in it, and left her body in a ravine across the street from Cristian's house.

''I'm going this year,'' he tells me.

I last went to Nueva Suyapa in 2003, to write about another boy, Luis Enrique Motiño Pineda, who had grown up there and left to find his mother in the United States. Children from Central America have been making that journey, often without their parents, for two decades. But lately something has changed, and the predictable flow has turned into an exodus. Three years ago, about 6,800 children were detained by United States immigration authorities and placed in federal custody; this year, as many as 90,000 children are expected to be picked up. Around a quarter come from Honduras—more than from anywhere else.

Children still leave Honduras to reunite with a parent, or for better educational and economic opportunities. But, as I learned when I returned to Nueva Suyapa last month, a vast majority of child migrants are fleeing not poverty, but violence. As a result, what the United States is seeing on its borders now is not an immigration crisis. It is a refugee crisis.

Gangs arrived in force in Honduras in the 1990s, as 18th Street and Mara Salvatrucha members were deported in large numbers from Los Angeles to Central America, joining homegrown groups like Los Puchos. But the dominance in the past few years of foreign drug cartels in Honduras, especially ones from Mexico, has increased the reach and viciousness of the violence. As the

United States and Colombia spent billions of dollars to disrupt the movement of drugs up the Caribbean corridor, traffickers rerouted inland through Honduras, and 79 percent of cocaine-smuggling flights bound for the United States now pass through there.

Narco groups and gangs are vying for control over this turf, neighborhood by neighborhood, to gain more foot soldiers for drug sales and distribution, expand their customer base, and make money through extortion in a country left with an especially weak, corrupt government following a 2009 coup.

Enrique's 33-year-old sister, Belky, who still lives in Nueva Suyapa, says children began leaving en masse for the United States three years ago. That was around the time that the narcos started putting serious pressure on kids to work for them. At Cristian's school, older students working with the cartels push drugs on the younger ones—some as young as 6. If they agree, children are recruited to serve as lookouts, make deliveries in backpacks, rob people and extort businesses. They are given food, shoes and money in return. Later, they might work as traffickers or hit men.

Teachers at Cristian's school described a 12-year-old who demanded that the school release three students one day to help him distribute crack cocaine; he brandished a pistol and threatened to kill a teacher when she tried to question him.

At Nueva Suyapa's only public high school, narcos ''recruit inside the school,'' says Yadira Sauceda, a counselor there. Until he was killed a few weeks ago, a 23-year-old ''student'' controlled the school. Each day, he was checked by security at the door, then had someone sneak his gun to him over the school wall. Five students, mostly 12- and 13-year-olds, tearfully told Ms. Sauceda that the man had ordered them to use and distribute drugs or he would kill their parents. By March, one month into the new school year, 67 of 450 students had left the school.

Teachers must pay a ''war tax'' to teach in certain neighborhoods, and students must pay to attend.

Carlos Baquedano Sánchez, a slender 14-year-old with hair sticking straight up, explained how hard it was to stay away from the cartels. He lives in a shack made of corrugated tin in a neighborhood in Nueva Suyapa called El Infiernito—Little Hell—and usually doesn't have anything to eat one out of every three days. He started working in a dump when he was 7, picking out iron or copper to recycle, for $1 or $2 a day. But bigger boys often beat him to steal his haul, and he quit a year ago when an older man nearly killed him for a coveted car-engine piston. Now he sells scrap wood.

But all of this was nothing, he says, compared to the relentless pressure to join narco gangs and the constant danger they have brought to his life. When he was 9, he barely escaped from two narcos who were trying to rape him, while terrified neighbors looked on. When he was 10, he was pressured to try marijuana and crack. ''You'll feel better. Like you are in the clouds,'' a teenager working with a gang told him. But he resisted.

He has known eight people who were murdered and seen three killed right in front of him. He saw a man shot three years ago and still remembers the plums the man was holding rolling down the street, coated in blood. Recently he witnessed two teenage hit men shooting a pair of brothers for refusing to hand over the keys and title to their motorcycle. Carlos hit the dirt and prayed. The killers calmly walked down the street. Carlos shrugs. ''Now seeing someone dead is nothing.''

He longs to be an engineer or mechanic, but he quit school after sixth grade, too poor and too afraid to attend. ''A lot of kids know what can happen in school. So they leave.''

He wants to go to the United States, even though he knows how dangerous the journey can be; a man in his neighborhood lost both legs after falling off the top of a Mexican freight train, and a family friend drowned in the Rio Grande. ''I want to avoid drugs and death. The government can't pull up its pants and help people,'' he says angrily. ''My country has lost its way.''

Girls face particular dangers—one reason around 40 percent of children who arrived in the United States this year were girls, compared with 27 percent in the past. Recently three girls were raped and killed in Nueva Suyapa, one only 8 years old. Two 15-year-olds were abducted and raped. The kidnappers told them that if they didn't get in the car they would kill their entire families. Some parents no longer let their girls go to school for fear of their being kidnapped, says Luis López, an educator with Asociación Compartir, a nonprofit in Nueva Suyapa.

Milagro Noemi Martínez, a petite 19-year-old with clear green eyes, has been told repeatedly by narcos that she would be theirs—or end up dead. Last summer, she made her first attempt to reach the United States. ''Here there is only evil,'' she says. ''It's better to leave than have them kill me here.'' She headed north with her 21-year-old sister, a friend who had also been threatened, and $170 among them. But she was stopped and deported from Mexico. Now back in Nueva Suyapa, she stays locked inside her mother's house. ''I hope God protects me. I am afraid to step outside.'' Last year, she says, six minors, as young as 15, were killed in her neighborhood. Some were hacked apart. She plans to try the journey again soon. Asking for help from the police or the government is not an option in what some consider a failed state. The drugs that pass through Honduras each year are worth more than the country's entire gross domestic product.

Narcos have bought off police officers, politicians and judges. In recent years, four out of five homicides were never investigated. No one is immune to the carnage. Several Honduran mayors have been killed. The sons of both the former head of the police department and the head of the national university were murdered, the latter, an investigation showed, by the police.

''You never call the cops. The cops themselves will retaliate and kill you,'' says Henry Carías Aguilar, a pastor in Nueva Suyapa. A majority of small businesses in Nueva Suyapa have shuttered because of extortion demands, while churches have doubled in number in the past decade, as people pray for salvation from what they see as the plague predicted in the Bible. Taxis and homes have signs on them asking God for mercy.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees recently interviewed 404 children who had arrived in the United States from Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico; 58 percent said their primary reason for leaving was violence. (A similar survey in 2006, of Central American children coming into Mexico, found that only 13 percent were fleeing violence.) They aren't just going to the United States: Less conflicted countries in Central America had a 712 percent increase in asylum claims between 2008 and 2013.

''If a house is burning, people will jump out the window,'' says Michelle Brané, director of the migrant rights and justice program at the Women's Refugee Commission.

To permanently stem this flow of children, we must address the complex root causes of violence in Honduras, as well as the demand for illegal drugs in the United States that is fueling that violence.

In the meantime, however, we must recognize this as a refugee crisis, as the United Nations just recommended. These children are facing threats similar to the forceful conscription of child soldiers by warlords in Sudan or during the civil war in Bosnia. Being forced to sell drugs by narcos is no different from being forced into military service.

Many Americans, myself included, believe in deporting unlawful immigrants, but see a different imperative with refugees.

The United States should immediately create emergency refugee centers inside our borders, tent cities—operated by the United Nations and other relief groups like the International Rescue Committee—where immigrant children could be held for 60 to 90 days instead of being released. The government would post immigration judges at these centers and adjudicate children's cases there.

To ensure this isn't a sham process, asylum officers and judges must be trained in child-sensitive interviewing techniques to help elicit information from fearful, traumatized youngsters. All children must also be represented by a volunteer or government-funded lawyer. Kids in Need of Defense, a nonprofit that recruits pro bono lawyers to represent immigrant children and whose board I serve on, estimates that 40 percent to 60 percent of these children potentially qualify to stay under current immigration laws—and do, if they have a lawyer by their side. The vast majority do not. The only way to ensure we are not hurtling children back to circumstances that could cost them their lives is by providing them with real due process.

Judges, who currently deny seven in 10 applications for asylum by people who are in deportation proceedings, must better understand the conditions these children are facing. They should be more open to considering relief for those fleeing gang recruitment or threats by criminal organizations when they come from countries like Honduras that are clearly unwilling or unable to protect them.

If many children don't meet strict asylum criteria but face significant dangers if they return, the United States should consider allowing them to stay using humanitarian parole procedures we have employed in the past, for Cambodians and Haitians. It may be possible to transfer children and resettle them in other safe countries willing to share the burden. We should also make it easier for children to apply as refugees when they are still in Central America, as we have done for people in Iraq, Cuba, countries in the former Soviet Union, Vietnam and Haiti. Those who showed a well-founded fear of persecution wouldn't have to make the perilous journey north alone.

Of course, many migrant children come for economic reasons, and not because they fear for their lives. In those cases, they should quickly be deported if they have at least one parent in their country of origin. By deporting them directly from the refugee centers, the United States would discourage future non-refugees by showing that immigrants cannot be caught and released, and then avoid deportation by ignoring court orders to attend immigration hearings.

Instead of advocating such a humane, practical approach, the Obama administration wants to intercept and return children en route. On Tuesday the president asked for $3.7 billion in emergency funding. Some money would be spent on new detention facilities and more immigration judges, but the main goal seems to be to strengthen border control and speed up deportations. He also asked Congress to grant powers that could eliminate legal protections for children from Central America in order to expedite removals, a change that Republicans in Congress have also advocated.

This would allow life-or-death decisions to be made within hours by Homeland Security officials, even though studies have shown that border patrol agents fail to adequately screen Mexican children to see if they are being sexually exploited by traffickers or fear persecution, as the agents are supposed to do. Why would they start asking Central American children key questions needed to prove refugee status?

The United States expects other countries to take in hundreds of thousands of refugees on humanitarian grounds. Countries neighboring Syria have absorbed nearly 3 million people. Jordan has accepted in two days what the United States has received in an entire month during the height of this immigration flow—more than 9,000 children in May. The United States should also increase to pre-9/11 levels the number of refugees we accept to 90,000 from the current 70,000 per year and, unlike in recent years, actually admit that many.

By sending these children away, ''you are handing them a death sentence,'' says José Arnulfo Ochoa Ochoa, an expert in Honduras with World Vision International, a Christian humanitarian aid group. This abrogates international conventions we have signed and undermines our credibility as a humane country. It would be a disgrace if this wealthy nation turned its back on the 52,000 children who have arrived since October, many of them legitimate refugees.

This is not how a great nation treats children.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from Colorado will be charged.

PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I have a parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, again, if there is discretion that can be shared, that was directly from the article that I asked to be entered into the RECORD. On many occasions I have been on this floor and been part of many debates in the 5 years I have been honored to serve with the Congress and have used the exact same approach and have never been charged. Is there any discretion that the Speaker can give us direction on?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair is exercising his discretion as the Chair has said previously. The Chair has discretion in this matter.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, with that being said to debate, even though the same practices are used by Members, rulings can change by the Chair on this particular issue?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair does have discretion. The guidance has been to confine the request to a simple declaratory statement of the Member's attitude toward the pending measure.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, for clarification, that is exactly what I did, which is I read a statement from the article.

I am confused, Mr. Speaker. I am just maybe a junior Member from a small farm in New Mexico, but it seems that if I am reading from the article directly, that I don't appear to be violating any rules to be charged time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Embellishments or statements on other matters are debate and will be charged to the manager.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I have a further parliamentary inquiry.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will state his parliamentary inquiry.

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, this was not an embellishment. This was a direct quote from the article. It appears to me that my understanding of an embellishment are my own words being added.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has advised that embellishments or statements on other matters are debate and will be charged.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New Mexico for submitting that powerful testimony.

I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Ms. SCHAKOWSKY asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of a 17-year-old girl who fled her country with her 2-year-old daughter to escape constant physical and sexual abuse from the baby's father.

[From the National Immigrant Justice Center]

Lauren, a 17-year old, fled the country with her 2-year old daughter due to constant physical, sexual and verbal abuse from the baby's father. While in DHS custody, Lauren and her baby were held in two ''hieleras'' for a total of six days without adequate food and warmth.

Lauren is a 17-year-old who came to the United States with her two-year-old daughter, Charise. Charise's father, Juan, was physically and verbally abusive. He has hit, choked, and raped Lauren and threatened to kill her and take their baby. Lauren fled to the United States with Charise to live with her parents and U.S.-citizen sister. While in DHS custody, both Lauren and her baby were held in two ''hieleras'' for about six days total. Lauren had to use her own clothing to keep Charise warm because DHS only gave her an emergency mylar blanket for Charise, despite the cold. Lauren slept on the floor of her cell with Charise in between her legs. DHS gave Charise two small burritos to eat each day, and gave Lauren a piece of bread with deli meat and an apple twice a day. When she asked for more food for her baby, who was hungry and cold, DHS told Lauren there wasn't any more food available.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. CHU) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of a 15-year-old Salvadoran boy whose body was found in a plastic bag with his hands and feet bound.

[From La Página, June 25, 2014]

BURN BUS ROUTE 177 IN TECOLUCA AFTER ASSAULTING PASSENGER

(By Maribel Montenegro and Carlos Hernandez)

A bus route 177 was intercepted by at least 8 heavily armed men, forcing passengers to surrender their belongings and then burned them down the unit, police said.

According to reports, the incident occurred in the village of Las Pampas, on the road that leads to San Vicente Zacatecoluca Tecoluca in the jurisdiction of the department of San Vicente.

Police said the fire was set and the place has became a unit of the Fire Department to extinguish the flames of the unit was completely destroyed.

Depending on the version of the automotive PNC was off course forcing it to penetrate into the community Las Pampas, where 20 passengers were assaulted. The authorities say they are on the trail of the perpetrators.

He also said that he reported no casualties, only material damage.

RESUME, RESUME

The body of an unknown man was found this morning in the subdivision Istepec, Canton El Cerrito, the, in the department of Sonsonate municipality Nahuizalco. Police said the incident occurred the night before and do not know the motives of the crime that was committed with knives.

RESUME, RESUME

A 16 year old girl was killed by multiple gunshot wounds that caused unknown subjects while walking on the 3rd km of the Pan American Highway, in the jurisdiction of the municipality of El Carmen, department of Cuscatlan.

The victim was identified as Adonis Hernandez, according to the PNC disappeared yesterday. So far the police said he was unaware if the victim had any connection with gang groups.

COLON, LA LIBERTAD

The body of a 15 year old boy was found is tied hand and foot in a plastic bag that was abandoned in Lourdes, Colón, La Libertad morning.

The victim was identified as Ivan N., who was kidnapped last week in La Libertad.

According to the PNC, the young man had at least 36 hours have passed.

RESUME

A young man was killed last night near the resort Spain, CV.

According to authorities, the victim, identified as Brandon Ch, was attacked and killed by unknown assailants who left him seriously injured so he had to be rushed to a hospital emergency where he died in surgery.

SAN SALVADOR

The woman, identified as Marlene Rivas, was wounded with a knife this morning in the vicinity of San José San Salvador park.

According to police, the woman resisted being assaulted by a homeless man, who reacted violently and caused a wound in the neck.

The victim had to take shelter in a supermarket in the area, where Rosales was taken to hospital.

MERCEDES UMANA, USULUTAN

A gang Mara Salvatrucha, was murdered in Canton The Caulote, Mercedes Umana, Usulutan.

The victim was identified as Fredy Mejia, 17, who authorities say was attacked by two gang Barrio 18 traveling on a motorcycle.

GARDENS SELTSUT RESUME

A trader was shot to death at night in the Garden Colony Selsut, Ilopango, San Salvador.

The victim was identified as Jorge Mario Arteaga, 53, who was killed by gang members for refusing to pay extortion, according to PNC.

NEW GUADALUPE, SAN MIGUEL

A man who was deported from the United States months ago was killed Tuesday evening in Freedom Colony, New Guadalupe in San Miguel.

The victim was identified as Adilio Quintanilla, 41, who had multiple gunshot wounds in the body. The authorities know the motive for the attack.

CANTON PLANS CONCEPCIÓN, LA PAZ

A man was killed in the canton Plans Concepcion, La Paz. The victim was identified as Carlos Palma, 47, who was shot at by unknown persons. Attack the causes are unknown.

SAN MARTÍN

A blind seniors tonight was killed by gang members in the neighborhood of Las Mercedes and Santa Teresa Street Project, San Martin.

The victim was identified only as Francisco and authorities said he was about 70 years. The old man died at the scene after being shot several times.

According to the PNC, the man was hit by bullets when the gang tried to assassinate some people who were inside a vehicle on the street entered Project, Las Mercedes neighborhood.

Subjects discharged a burst of lead impacted the blind who could not dodge bullets due to its limitation. After committing the fact, the gang fled in an unknown direction.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from Colorado will be charged.

□ 1015

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I further yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Mr. CÁRDENAS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I will enter into the RECORD the story of an 18-year-old Mexican boy who was trafficked into the United States and held by the U.S. Marshals Service so he could testify as a material witness to some deaths that he witnessed.

Juan Antonio is an 18-year-old Mexican UAC. He fled severe cartel and criminal gang violence in his home town. His uncle, cousin, and several family members were killed before he fled from Mexico. He was trafficked to the US and initially in the US Marshals custody to testify as a material witness before being turned over to ICE and released to ORR because he was a minor.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from Colorado will be charged.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I further yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE) for the purpose of a unanimous consent request.

(Ms. LEE of California asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I will enter into the RECORD the story of a 12-year-old girl who was trafficked for sex and labor, escaped slavery with her baby, and received a T visa in the United States.

LUTHERAN IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICE: VOICES OF CENTRAL AMERICAN YOUTH—WHY THEY ARE FLEEING THEIR COUNTRIES

BACKGROUND ON THE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN CENTRAL AMERICA

Since the Fall of 2011, prior to the President's announcement of DACA, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) started apprehending significantly more unaccompanied minors from Central America. ORR promptly started to open more shelters and detention sites for these children.

Updated data from the UNHCR, has shown a 712% increase in asylum requests in Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Belize by nationals from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.

ORR has reported a significant increase in both younger children and girls coming.

Maria a 12 year old girl from Central America was trafficked for labor and sex, she fled with her baby to escape slavery. Maria was 12 years old, when she was kidnapped at gunpoint and taken to a home where she was held captive. She was beaten and raped on an almost daily basis and eventually forced into prostitution. Because of this she became pregnant and gave birth to a girl while captive. Maria fled with her child, riding on top of trains so that they might escape the sexual bondage. Maria ended up qualifying for a T-visa and is currently doing well. She has now graduated high school.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from Colorado will be charged.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR), the ranking member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies.

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I stand today in the well to appeal to my Republican colleagues about this debate, which isn't about the underlying bill, it is about the rule. You ought to all be worried. We all ought to be worried. This rule is a sham to the institution of Congress.

I am an appropriator, and I am proud to do that. We respect the jurisdiction of all other committees. That is why we have standing committees. We don't do their business.

This rule ignores all the standing committees in Congress. This rule says you can write a bill in the darkness of night. Nobody has read it. No Republicans read it, no Democrats read it. You can pick it up in the hallway here. I read it this morning.

The rule waives all points of opposition, which we say in this rule, ''All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived.''

All points—that means all the ideas of all the committees that are supposed to be writing these bills. Nobody is going to be thanked if they vote for this. First of all, nobody is going to thank you for voting for the rule because it does so many things that misjudge the purpose of Congress, misappropriate the purposes of Congress, which is to have transparency and allow people to get into the debate.

Nobody who understands the problem in the embassies of the host country was able to testify. Nobody in the administration who deals with the border was able to testify. No Member of Congress who has some knowledge about this was able to testify. This bill says: So what? We wrote the bill, and you just have to accept it, and if you any objections, we waive all those points of orders.

So the rule does a disservice to Congress, and it ought to be rejected.

Secondly, on the bill, when you get to it, if it isn't rejected—first of all, if we reject the rule, nothing is broken. We can fix it. We can make it better because no own is going to thank you for voting for this.

Just to show you how outrageous it is, it says to the host countries that: we are going to give you money, but you have 15 days to convene your legislatures and enact legislation, secure your borders, and make sure everything is secure.

You couldn't do that in Washington in 15 days, much less essentially Third World countries. There are all kinds of provisions in here that don't make any sense and don't help fix anything that is broken, and for all the testimony you have just heard, there are a lot of other things that need to be addressed that aren't in this bill.

So my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, the best thing we can do to respect this institution is to reject this rule and vote ''no.''

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I have a great deal of respect for my friend from the Appropriations Committee. He is an excellent legislator and tremendous Member.

I am, though, going to point out the record of the Democratic majority the last time they were here and in control of what happened on the floor.

In the 111th Congress, the final 2 years of Representative PELOSI's time as Speaker, the House never considered a single bill under an open rule—not one bill. That is the definition of a closed process.

Under Republican control, the House has returned to consideration of appropriations bills under an open process, with 22 open rules. We had no open rules on appropriations when my friends were in the majority.

This year alone, the House has considered 404 amendments during the appropriations process, and 189 of them offered were by our friends on the other side.

When you actually compare the record overall, frankly, I think the comparison is much to the advantage of Republicans. So we are trying to deal with complex issues in a relatively short period of time.

I know the Congress will be back in session in September. We will be working on the appropriations process in the lameduck again, so there are going to be ample legislative opportunities, but we are in a crisis situation, which we are in this case.

We are trying to respond thoughtfully and expeditiously. We are trying to put resources toward the problem. We are trying to get at the core of the problem, which the administration itself a month ago identified as a 2008 law, but has now offered absolutely no suggestions how to fix.

So we have not tried to repeal it. We have tried to tweak it and address the problem. If my friends have a better solution, we would love to hear it, but we haven't heard it. Instead, we have been told the 2008 law caused the problem, but you can't change the law. That seems to me both politically and intellectually indefensible.

We are going to continue to try to solve the problem that has been identified by the administration. At some point, we hope they will join us in trying to actually correct the problem that they say exists.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of a unanimous consent request, I yield to the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. VELÁZQUEZ).

(Ms. VELÁZQUEZ asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD the story of two Honduran brothers who were tortured and murdered by gang members in San Pedro Sula, the murder capital of the world.

Mr. Speaker, how we treat our children speaks to the character of our Nation.

[From The New York Times, July 9, 2014]

FLEEING GANGS, CHILDREN HEAD TO U.S. BORDER

(By Frances Robles)

SAN PEDRO SULA, HONDURAS—Anthony O. Castellanos disappeared from his gang-ridden neighborhood on the eastern edge of Honduras's most dangerous city, so his younger brother, Kenneth, hopped on his green bicycle to search for him, starting his hunt at a notorious gang hangout known as the ''crazy house.''

They were found within days of each other, both dead. Anthony, 13, and a friend had been shot in the head; Kenneth, 7, had been tortured and beaten with sticks and rocks. They were among seven children murdered in the La Pradera neighborhood of San Pedro Sula in April alone, part of a surge in gang violence that is claiming younger and younger victims.

The killings are a major factor driving the recent wave of migration of Central American children to the United States, which has sent an unprecedented number of unaccompanied minors across the Texas border. Many children and parents say the rush of new migrants stems from a belief that United States immigration policy offers preferential treatment to minors, but in addition, studies of Border Patrol statistics show a strong correlation between cities like San Pedro Sula with high homicide rates and swarms of youngsters taking off for the United States.

''The first thing we can think of is to send our children to the United States,'' said a mother of two in La Pradera, who declined to give her name because she feared gang reprisals. ''That's the idea, to leave.''

Honduran children are increasingly on the front lines of gang violence. In June, 32 children were murdered in Honduras, bringing the number of youths under 18 killed since January of last year to 409, according to data compiled by Covenant House, a youth shelter in Tegucigalpa, the capital.

With two major youth gangs and more organized crime syndicates operating with impunity in Central America, analysts say immigration authorities will have a difficult time keeping children at home unless the root causes of violence are addressed.

In 2012, the number of murder victims ages 10 to 14 had doubled to 81 from 40 in 2008, according to the Violence Observatory at the National Autonomous University of Honduras. Last year, 1,013 people under 23 were murdered in a nation of eight million.

Although homicides dropped sharply in 2012 after a gang truce in neighboring El Salvador, so far this year murders of children 17 and under are up 77 percent from the same time period a year ago, the police said.

Nowhere is the flow of departures more acute than in San Pedro Sula, a city in northwestern Honduras that has the world's highest homicide rate, according to United Nations figures.

Between January and May of this year, more than 2,200 children from the city arrived in the United States, according to Department of Homeland Security statistics, far more than from any other city in Central America.

More than half of the top 50 Central American cities from which children are leaving for the United States are in Honduras. Virtually none of the children have come from Nicaragua, a bordering country that has staggering poverty, but not a pervasive gang culture or a record-breaking murder rate. ''Everyone has left,'' Alan Castellanos, 27, the uncle of Anthony and Kenneth, said in an interview in late May. ''How is it that an entire country is being brought to its knees?''

He said the gangs operated with total impunity. ''They killed all those kids and nobody did anything about it,'' Mr. Castellanos said. ''When prosecutors wanted to discuss the case, they asked us to meet at their office, because they were afraid to come here. If they were afraid, imagine us.''

The factors pushing children to migrate vary, according to an analysis of their home cities by the Department of Homeland Security.

The Guatemalan children who arrive in the United States are more often from rural areas, suggesting their motives are largely economic. The minors from El Salvador and Honduras tend to come from extremely violent regions ''where they probably perceive the risk of traveling alone to the U.S. preferable to remaining at home,'' the analysis said.

''Basically, the places these people are coming from are the places with the highest homicide rates,'' said Manuel Orozco, a senior fellow at the Inter-American Dialogue, a Washington-based research group. ''The parents see gang membership around the corner. Once your child is forced to join, the chances of being killed or going to prison is pretty high. Why wait until that happens?''

A confluence of factors, including discounted rates charged by smugglers for families, helped ignite the boom, he said. Children are killed for refusing to join gangs, over vendettas against their parents, or because they are caught up in gang disputes. Many activists here suggest they are also murdered by police officers willing to clean up the streets by any means possible.

In the case of the Castellanos family, the police said the older boy was a lookout for the gang and had decided to quit. The order to kill him, the police said, came from prison.

Several arrests have been made. Hector A. Medina, 47, who the police said lived at an abandoned house controlled by the 18th Street gang, where Kenneth was killed, was charged in the boys' deaths. ''It's a serious social problem: any children born in this neighborhood are going to get involved in a gang,'' said Elvin Flores, a police inspector in charge of La Pradera. ''Our idea is to lower crime every day. We need a state policy to involve kids from when they are little to go to school.''

But gangs, which rob, sell drugs locally, kidnap people and extort money from businesses, often recruit new members at schools.

In some cities, blocks are empty because gangs demanding extortion payments have forced out homeowners. Many people have had to move within the country in a displacement pattern that experts liken to the one seen in Colombia's civil war.

The office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said that from 2008 to 2013, the number of asylum claims filed in Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Belize increased sevenfold.

Most were from people of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, the three nations with large numbers of migrants now arriving at the United States border.

Refugee advocacy organizations have urged the State Department to treat the children arriving at the United States border as refugees, and proposed a processing system where asylum claims could be reviewed in Central America and those accepted could move safely to the United States or countries willing to accept them, as was done in countries such as Haiti and Iraq. They have not yet received a response, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops said.

President Obama urged Congress on Wednesday night to pass a $3.7 billion budget supplement that would, among other things, beef up border security, hasten deportations and help Central American nations address security problems. ''The best thing we can do is make sure the children can live in their own countries, safely,'' he said.

During a recent late-night visit to the San Pedro Sula morgue, more than 60 bodies, all victims of violence, were seen piled in a heap, each wrapped in a brown plastic bag. While picking bullets out of a 15-year-old boy shot 15 times, technicians discussed how they regularly received corpses of children under 10, and sometimes as young as 2.

Last week, in nearby Santa Barbara, an 11-year-old had his throat slit by other children, because he did not pay a 50-cent extortion fee.

''At first we saw a lot of kids who were being killed because when the gang came for their parents, they happened to be in the car or at the location with them,'' said Dr. Darwin Armas Cruz, a medical examiner who works the overnight shift. ''Now we see kids killing kids. They kill with guns, knives and even grenades.''

Dr. Armas said his family was thinking of migrating, too.

CORRECTION: JULY 11, 2014

Because of an editing error, an article on Thursday about the murderous gang violence in Honduras that is a factor in the recent wave of migration of Central American children to the United States misstated the amount of money that President Obama has requested from Congress to address the problem. It is $3.7 billion, not more than $4 billion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman from Colorado will be charged.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HINOJOSA), the chair of the Hispanic Caucus and the ranking member

on the Education and Workforce Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5230 and the underlying rule.

I represent McAllen, Texas, which has been the epicenter for this humanitarian crisis. For years, my Republican colleagues have been ignoring the problems caused by their inaction on immigration reform. They have cut funding for immigration judges, so that people wait years to have their cases heard.

They have cut funding to help the countries of Central America deal with the internal problems causing their children to flee. The Republican solution has always been more walls and fences and more soldiers to militarize the border.

I live on that border of Texas and Mexico, and I know that their enforcement-only approach is not working because it doesn't address the root cause of immigration. It has been economically devastating to border communities who vainly try to persuade companies to move their plants and factories to our region to create jobs and bring us out of poverty that is the highest in the Nation.

Our veterans suffer because the VA can't get doctors to move to the border. All these companies and doctors hear is that the border is a war zone flooded with dangerous immigrants. That is not the border I know. My border home is a vibrant, educated, fast-growing, culturally diverse, welcoming region. I am proud of how we have embraced these children and families.

We are now voting once again to militarize our border, deny children legal representation and due process, and providing little help to Central America. We are not fixing the problem, and I urge my colleagues to oppose the rule and this bill.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Just a few correctives, if I may. We are actually putting in additional resources. We haven't cut resources. It is the President's budget that cut resources. It cut detention beds, enforcement, and aid to the countries in Central America that are dealing with this problem. That is the President's budget.

Those things were all corrected in the Foreign Operations budget that has not yet reached the floor, but has been passed by the full Appropriations Committee.

I am going to disagree with my friends on the other side that this has anything to do with comprehensive immigration reform. Quite frankly, it does not. It is a border crisis. It has nothing to do with this legislation.

The root cause of the problem here are criminals who go back and tell people: if you pay money and subject yourself to a dangerous journey and we get you to the United States, you will be able to stay. That is who is at fault here. That is where the focus ought to be.

When my friends point to specific cases, I always point out, number one, we have an avenue called the United States Embassy. In the country, you can go and plead refugee status there. You don't have to travel 1,000 or 2,000 miles across very dangerous country. You simply afford yourself of the available opportunities.

Finally, in the President's judgment, most of these children will be returned. That is the President's judgment. Frankly, I think he made that judgment, trying to discourage what is happening now. That is precisely what we are trying to do in this piece of legislation.

So I think there is a lot of passion, and it is appropriate because there are some heartwrenching cases, but there is also a lot of political theater here. The reality is, again, most of these children, according to the President, will be returned.

The quicker that can happen, the less likely it is that other children will follow them and be subjected to a very dangerous journey. That is what we are trying to achieve. We are going to try to do that in this measure today, but we invite our friends to work with us as we go forward, as I suspect that we will.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN).

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, last week, we were part of a conversation and debate around strengthening antihuman trafficking laws. We all came to this floor, and Democrats and Republicans found a way to talk to one another and talk to the American public about what we should do to protect these children that are in harm's way, not just fleeing street violence, but being brutally murdered and raped, Mr. Speaker.

This week, what my Republican colleagues are doing is coming out of a conference and weakening antihuman trafficking laws.

Mr. Speaker, at this point, all I can say is God help this Congress if it is now our policy to weaken human trafficking laws. It is a sad, sad day, Mr. Speaker, and I certainly hope that my colleagues take a chance to look at this and look into their hearts and pray on that and come to the floor and do the right thing.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. THOMPSON), the distinguished ranking member on the Committee on Homeland Security.

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. I thank the gentleman from Colorado for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H. Res. 696. This rule would provide for consideration of a supplemental appropriations bill that clearly demonstrates its Republican authors either have no idea what is needed to address the current situation at the border, or they are more concerned with scoring political points than making public policy.

The resources provided under the bill are both inadequate to provide the necessary humanitarian relief and misdirected toward so-called border security efforts that are unlikely to have any real effect on the number of unlawful border crossings.

For example, deploying the National Guard to the border when children and families are already running to the Border Patrol agents is a waste of taxpayer money; instead, we should be providing the Border Patrol with the funding necessary to move additional experienced agents to the Rio Grande Valley, which is what their leadership has indicated they need.

This misguided bill has also included provisions to undermine due process for unaccompanied children, many of whom are refugees fleeing terrible violence in their home countries.

Mr. Speaker, we are better than this as a Congress and as a Nation. I urge my colleagues to oppose this rule and the underlying supplemental.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to my colleague, the distinguished Member from Texas (Mr. CULBERSON).

□ 1030

Mr. CULBERSON. Mr. Speaker, the heartbreaking stories my colleagues are telling about these young people coming across the border and being exploited and hurt and injured just confirm the wisdom of the approach the Republicans have taken to this problem based on common sense and long experience. It is called law enforcement. This is not complicated.

In order to protect these kids, protect the people of the United States, protect the communities along the border, we believe strongly in enforcing the existing law and in ensuring that the people of the United States are protected against the lawlessness: the drug dealers, the cartels, the smugglers, the gun runners who are coming across the border and exploiting these kids.

This is not a complicated problem. It has worked for years in Texas. We understand the border problem. It is simply a matter of law enforcement. No nation can survive that doesn't secure its borders and enforce its laws.

By enforcing the law and by bringing peace and quiet to the border, you will also ensure that free trade—that legal trade back and forth between Mexico, our biggest trading partner—can proceed as it should. Laredo is the largest inland port in the United States, and in order for businesses to do their jobs, they have got to have peace and quiet, and that means law enforcement.

That is the Republican approach to this problem. Enforce the law.

Mr. POLIS. I would like to inquire if the gentleman from Oklahoma has any remaining speakers.

Mr. COLE. I do not. I am prepared to close whenever my friend is.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire as to how much time remains on both sides.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Colorado has 6¾ minutes remaining. The gentleman from Oklahoma has 4½ minutes remaining.

Mr. POLIS. I would ask the gentleman from Oklahoma for the courtesy that, if somebody else shows up on my side, I might further yield, but, otherwise, I am prepared to close.

Mr. COLE. I would certainly do that for my friend.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The House Republican proposal includes a provision that would roll back our bipartisan antihuman trafficking protections that have been in place for 20 years and that were most recently reaffirmed unanimously by Congress in 2008. This is a debate to maintain our due process laws under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, which this bill strips, that help promote the safety of unaccompanied minors.

According to the United Nations High Commissioner of Refugees, 58 percent of children fleeing to the U.S. from Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Mexico may have valid claims to asylum or other legal protections. Our existing laws ensure that these children receive due process. Many of them are victims of human trafficking, of sexual violence, or of other persecution, and they need to have the meaningful opportunity under a law to present their protection claims before an immigration judge. The underlying bill would, according to the UNHCR, drastically weaken the due process protections by subjecting Central American children to an inadequate screening process.

We have had our additional speaker arrive to offer our PQ, Mr. Speaker; and if the House had taken up the Senate immigration reform bill, the current influx of migrant children from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala may never have even become the humanitarian crisis that is facing us today. That is why today, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to give the House a second chance.

If we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H.R. 15, the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act, so the House can finally vote on a broad, long-term solution to overhaul our country's immigration system and to address the border crisis. At the same time, it addresses the systemic causes rather than simply trying to apply Band-Aid, after Band-Aid, after Band-Aid. The House will soon find there are not enough Band-Aids made. We need to address the health of the patient.

To discuss our proposal, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GARCIA).

Mr. GARCIA. I thank the gentleman from Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, I wish I could say this bill were a joke. This is far worse than a joke. Not only does the underlying bill fail to provide adequate funding to deal with the situation at hand, it flat out ignores the root cause of the problem.

By tacking on a vote on the so-called ''No New DREAMERS Act,'' House leadership is not just refusing to take action on immigration reform, it is prohibiting the President from doing things to fix a broken system. This is akin to watching a train crash or knowing that it is going to crash and stoking the furnace more, making the damage greater. They have no interest in fixing this crisis. They have no interest in fixing the problem. They are playing politics with people's lives, and they are playing politics with our Nation's economy.

This isn't a game. These are human beings. This is doing damage to our country. If we are truly committed to tackling this crisis on the southwest border and to ensuring a fair and efficient process for dealing with these kids, we need to begin with comprehensive immigration reform.

If the previous question is defeated, we will offer H.R. 15, the House bipartisan comprehensive immigration bill. Only by fixing our broken immigration system can we begin to better allocate the resources where they are needed most.

My bill provides a path forward for people already here so that their cases are no longer clogging our immigration courts and so that immigration officials can spend their time going after those who wish to do our Nation harm. It will provide green cards for thousands of Hondurans and El Salvadorans who have languished for over a decade under temporary status, and it adds the necessary due process protection for children on the border.

A speaker on the side opposite brought up the issue of what caused this. What was the straw that broke the camel's back? I will tell you what the straw is. Some of these children have waited 5 years; some of them have waited 8 years; and some of them have waited over a decade on the promises of this Congress—and there is blame to go to both sides—to have comprehensive immigration reform. Then the Speaker who had promised earlier in the year to work with the President finally announced there would be no comprehensive immigration reform. That was the straw that broke the camel's back because 55 percent of these children are coming to be with their families.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. POLIS. I yield the gentleman an additional 30 seconds.

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, our country needs comprehensive immigration reform, and the American people support comprehensive immigration reform. There are enough votes in this House to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

I ask my colleagues to vote against the previous question so that we can finally consider comprehensive immigration reform.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In our last week—on our last day—before this House adjourns for a 5-week recess, we have an opportunity with Mr. GARCIA's previous question in that, if we can defeat the previous question, we can actually address these issues with a bipartisan bill, H.R. 15, comprehensive immigration reform, nearly identical to the Senate bill. I am confident that, if this body passes that bill, Senate Majority Leader REID will promptly act on it and send it to the President's desk so that we not only can address this border crisis but can prevent future border crises from arising by securing our border and restoring the rule of law to our Nation. The American people expect this body to act in a way that is consistent with our values. We have that opportunity today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of the amendment in the RECORD, along with extraneous material, immediately prior to the vote on the previous question to bring up H.R. 15, the House's bipartisan immigration reform bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Colorado?

There was no objection.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''no'' and defeat the previous question so this body—this House and this Congress—can tackle immigration reform and restore the rule of law to our country. I further encourage my colleagues to vote ''no'' on the underlying bills.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I am going to differ with my friends, obviously, on a number of important issues.

First, I think they, probably, without thinking it through, accused us of wanting to roll back a human sex trafficking bill that passed this body unanimously. Absolutely untrue. Nobody has any intention of doing anything like that. It is the administration that said that legislation—a loophole in it—is what caused this crisis. I would dispute that, quite frankly.

I think what has caused it is, first and foremost, the President's sending an unmistakable signal, a signal that may have been misinterpreted that, if you manage to get to the United States, you are going to be able to stay. He did that by unilaterally changing and thwarting whole sections of our own immigration law, by doing things that he, himself, had said a year

before were unconstitutional. That signal, I think, has been picked up by criminals and turned into a message that has been directed at naive and vulnerable people, saying, if you give us thousands of dollars, we will take you on this journey, get you to the United States, and then you are going to be able to stay.

When the President first addressed this problem—again, he was warned in 2012 and 2013 by his own advisers that this might well happen—he did not prepare for it. He submitted a budget that actually cut border enforcement and that cut security aid to the Central American countries so they could secure their own territory. When he finally dealt with this, he said this 2008 law is part of the reason.

What this bill does is tweak it. It simply says we are going to treat children coming from the affected areas, from noncontiguous countries, in the same way we treat Mexican children. It has always been a question as to whether or not we should have that distinction. There is no particular reason why somebody from Central America should automatically be treated differently than somebody from Mexico.

In addition, I will point out to my friends there is an easier way. Just go to the American Embassy in the country, and if you have got status that would qualify as refugee status, you can make your case there. You don't have to pay thousands of dollars. You don't have to subject yourself to a dangerous journey in the company of criminals.

The President, frankly, has said that this is an immigration issue. I don't think it is. I think it is a border crisis, and I think it needs to be dealt with that way. I think the record is, again, pretty clear on this, and that is exactly what we are trying to do. We have acted on a problem the President has identified.

When my friends express concern that the majority of these children will be returned, number one, remember they are going to be returned to the custody of their governments. They are going to be returned to the people who are actually responsible for trying to take care of them within their societies. Second, that is exactly what the President said is going to happen. Those were his words. The overwhelming majority of these young people will be returned. The quicker and the more humanely and the more expeditiously we accomplish that, the fewer of them will undertake this journey, and the fewer of these families will be conned out of their money. You are not doing the next people a favor by not dealing with the problem in front of us.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, this legislation continues this House's commitment to govern and deal with crises before they become even worse—the shortfall in the highway trust fund, for instance, in the supplemental request. They are all things the American people expect us to deal with before the August district work period. I would urge my colleagues to support the rule and the underlying legislation.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker I rise to speak in strong opposition to the Rule for H.R. 5230, a bill to make supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014 to address the humanitarian crisis on our nation's southern border.

As a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security and the Ranking Member on the Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security, I have visited the border and seen the children that this bill intends to help.

This bill offers to little in funding to address the need that over 50 states are attempting to address by providing shelter and assistance to the tens of thousands of unaccompanied minors who are now living in our country.

This bill does too little to actually help the thousands of children who are awaiting immigration hearings. They are victims of human trafficking, sexual violence, and witnesses to murders as well as acts of violence against other children who took that dangerous trek to the United States.

We should be focused on learning what they know and what they experienced to be sure the guilty are found and punished.

I offered, along with several other members of the House amendments in attempts to improve the bill, but all were rejected by the Rules Committee, which chose to place H.R. 5230 before the House in the form of a closed rule.

The Jackson Lee Amendment would have authorized designated federal agencies to reimburse State and local governments and private nonprofit organizations for the costs incurred in providing psychological counseling, housing, education, medicine and medical care, food and water, clothes, personal hygiene and other in dispensable consumables, other human services in response to the humanitarian crisis on the Southwest Border.

This Congress has had the Senate's version of a Comprehensive Immigration reform bill for nearly a year, without accomplishing the task of taking up the issue and passing a House version.

Our nation's immigration system is broken and needs reform, but the only attempt at addressing immigration into the United States is this bill that is being presented as an appropriations bill.

H.R. 5230 is not an appropriations bill it is an immigration reform bill, which covers the jurisdictions of the two committees I serve on—the House Judiciary and Homeland Security Committees. Neither of these committees were given the opportunity to hold hearings or make the needed changes to the bill to make sure it conforms with long standing policies relating to unaccompanied minor or issues related to refugees.

The Jackson Lee amendment would have helped nonprofits, local and state governments in all of the 50 states who are now providing assistance to the tens of thousands of unaccompanied minors within the United States.

The message has gotten to families in El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. Parents are no longer sending their children to the United States once they learned of the dangers and the prospects for their children surviving the journey without becoming victims of human trafficking.

Over two-thirds of the language in H.R. 5230 will make significant changes in existing law or creates new law regarding immigration policy without going through the committees of jurisdiction such as the House Committees on Homeland Security, Judiciary, and Foreign Affairs.

H.R. 5230 contains too much language that is legislative such as:

The bill makes significant changes to 2008 trafficking victims protection act. This change will subject all children to the initial screening process that now applies only to children from Mexico and Canada; erects a new expedited immigration court screening for any children who pass the initial screening; prohibits administrative appeals from children ordered removed through the new expedited process; requires detention of certain children who demonstrate a credible fear of persecution throughout the pendency of their asylum proceedings; establishes new, high burdens of proof; and sets up a principle of "Last In, First Out" in the adjudication process.

The bill prohibits the secretaries of the interior and agriculture from impeding, denying, or restricting the activities of U.S. customs and border protection on federal land located within 100 miles of the U.S./Mexico border—This issue has already been addressed. Both Interior and Agriculture have existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and all these agencies, as well as the GAO, have testified that these agreements are working and that federal land management laws and activities do not impair border security.

The bill provides too few emergency immigration judges—the bill only requires the Department of Justice to designate up to 40 temporary immigration judges within 14 days of enactment of this legislation. Then the bill permits hiring of retired judges or magistrate judges, or the reassignment of current immigration judges, to conduct expedited hearings for unaccompanied alien children to try to meet the new requirement that their cases be heard within 7 days of being screened by DHS officials.

The bill undermines a long standing policy reparging asylum—H.R. 5230 Prohibits anyone believed to have been convicted outside the U.S. of any drug-related offense punishable by a prison term of more than a year from being granted asylum.

The bill makes the wrong decision on border security by sending the national guard support for border operations—H.R. 5230 would deploy National Guard under Title 32 Status. National Guard troops with this change may be assigned duties as deemed necessary to provide assistance in operations, with priority given to high traffic areas experiencing the highest number of crossing by unaccompanied children.

The bill denies safe shelter to children through its sense of congress—the states that the Secretary of Defense should not be allowed to shelter unaccompanied children or other migrants unless certain conditions are met.

These children have found the compassion and love of thousands of Americans founds in the states of Texas, Alabama, Alaska, California, Illinois, North Carolina, South Dakota, New York, Utah, Virginia and—yes—even the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The nature of America is that of the Good Samaritan.

On July 3, 2014, I went to McAllen, Texas and observed a Customs and Border Protection (CBP) facility where unaccompanied children were being processed by the Border Patrol.

As I walked through the facility, I saw frightened and needy children, some as young as five years old.

Mr. Speaker, some members of this body who have not taken the time to visit the border or visit the children who are now in their own states will stand before this body and accuse them of being dangerous—but they are not.

They are traumatized and frightened children driven from their homes by violence and inducements of these same gangs to get payments from desperate parents seeking to save the lives of their children to bring them to the United States.

These children had risked their lives to make their way to the U.S. by riding atop freight trains through dangerous territories in Mexico. One can only imagine the desperation and hopelessness that would prompt a parent to send their young child on such a treacherous journey.

It takes courage and desperation to escape senseless violence and I know that is what Cuban Americans faced, and Christians, Jews and all other groups facing violence have endured.

These are refugees and their status requires that the United States act appropriately.

Some may mention that the United States has a quota on refugees that we can take each year and that number has been reached. The program they refer to is for refugees that other nations around the world are providing shelter—but if the refugees are crossing our own border there is not limit.

This international law that the United State has backed for decades and pressured other nations to enforce. If the refugees are Christians escaping ISIS or Boko Haram or they are children escaping violent gangs in Central America they are not and should not be turned back.

Children do not leave their homes and families by the tens of thousands unless fear is driving them from their homes.

Upon my visit to South Texas borders, I witnessed hundreds of children whose young faces were pressed against glass jails with tears running down their faces. We are dealing with helpless children who have traveled a treacherous journey, and it should be within our American values to care for these children who fled their homes to escape violence.

These children are not perpetrators or criminals—they are in many cases victims fleeing deadly violence in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, and are seeking temporary safe haven in the United States, as so many people before them have done for centuries.

The surge of unaccompanied children on our southern border does not pose a threat to our national security. Contrary to the shrill rhetoric used by some commentators, the nation is not being invaded by army an of children dispatched to do us harm.

We are confronted instead with a humanitarian crisis resulting from the alarming scale of violence and economic desperation in three Central American countries that now lead the world in murder rates: El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala.

Politicizing the issue will not solve the problem. Taking actions that address the root causes in the short and long term will. We should be taking up Immigration Reform to deal with the wide range of immigration problems.

The current status on the border is the number of children coming across the border has abated. Those children remaining in detention shelters along the border number only a few hundred.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, these three Central American countries have among the highest per capita homicide rates in the world, with Honduras topping the list and the other two nations in the top five.

To address this issue of the humanitarian crisis, I introduced H.R. 4990, the ''Justice for Children Now Act of 2014,'' which authorizes the immediate hiring of an additional 7o immigration judges in the Executive Office of Immigration Review.

This bill will help but it is not sufficient to address the backlogs to help advance the flow of the children's immigration court hearings.

The amount allowed under this bill will leave states and aid agencies footing a significant portion of the cost for assisting these helpless children—when it is the role of the federal government to be present and actively engaged in leading the effort.

I support the President's request for $3.7 billion to respond to the humanitarian crisis on the border and urge my colleagues in leadership to reconsider the level of funding for this great need.

Congress should allocate the resources needed to deal with the increase in unaccompanied children seeking refuge in the United States. Some of these persons are attempting to enter the country unlawfully and without justification. Our laws do not permit this and they should not be allowed entry.

The Administration is following immigration law as it relates to these unaccompanied minors.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, signed by President George W. Bush establishes the legal status of the children who have entered the nation unaccompanied.

That law provides persons fleeing lethal violence or escape from human trafficking the opportunity to have their case heard by an immigration judge.

Over the time Congress has delayed acting and an additional 366,000 pending cases were added to the immigration courts that must have hearings before any action can be taken.

Because this situation is untenable for everyone—law enforcement, taxpayers, and individuals petitioning for relief, the first thing that we can and should do to reduce the backlog is provide the funding needed to appoint 70 new immigration judges, as provided under legislation.

Ensuring that there are available sufficient facilities to house detained children in a humane manner while they await their immigration hearing is another challenge.

I ask that the Rules Committee approve the Jackson Lee Amendment for inclusion in H.R. 5230.

The material previously referred to by Mr. POLIS is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 696 OFFERED BY MR. POLIS FROM COLORADO

At the end of the resolution, add the following new sections:

SEC. 7. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution the Speaker shall, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 15) to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided among and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. At the conclusion of consideration of the bill for amendment the Committee shall rise and report the bill to the House with such amendments as may have been adopted. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and amendments thereto to final passage without intervening motion except one motion to recommit with or without instructions. If the Committee of the Whole rises and reports that it has come to no resolution on the bill, then on the next legislative day the House shall, immediately after the third daily order of business under clause 1 of rule XIV, resolve into the Committee of the Whole for further consideration of the bill.

SEC. 8. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 15.

THE VOTE ON THE PREVIOUS QUESTION: WHAT IT REALLY MEANS

This vote, the vote on whether to order the previous question on a special rule, is not merely a procedural vote. A vote against ordering the previous question is a vote against the Republican majority agenda and a vote to allow the Democratic minority to offer an alternative plan. It is a vote about what the House should be debating.

Mr. Clarence Cannon's Precedents of the House of Representatives (VI, 308–311), describes the vote on the previous question on the rule as ''a motion to direct or control the consideration of the subject before the House being made by the Member in charge.'' To defeat the previous question is to give the opposition a chance to decide the subject before the House. Cannon cites the Speaker's ruling of January 13, 1920, to the effect that ''the refusal of the House to sustain the demand for the previous question passes the control of the resolution to the opposition'' in order to offer an amendment. On March 15, 1909, a member of the majority party offered a rule resolution. The House defeated the previous question and a member of the opposition rose to a parliamentary inquiry, asking who was entitled to recognition. Speaker Joseph G. Cannon (R–Illinois) said: ''The previous question having been refused, the gentleman from New York, Mr. Fitzgerald, who had asked the gentleman to yield to him for an amendment, is entitled to the first recognition.''

The Republican majority may say ''the vote on the previous question is simply a vote on whether to proceed to an immediate vote on adopting the resolution . . . [and] has no substantive legislative or policy implications whatsoever.'' But that is not what they have always said. Listen to the Republican Leadership Manual on the Legislative Process in the United States House of Representatives, (6th edition, page 135). Here's how the Republicans describe the previous question vote in their own manual: ''Although it is generally not possible to amend

the rule because the majority Member controlling the time will not yield for the purpose of offering an amendment, the same result may be achieved by voting down the previous question on the rule . . . When the motion for the previous question is defeated, control of the time passes to the Member who led the opposition to ordering the previous question. That Member, because he then controls the time, may offer an amendment to the rule, or yield for the purpose of amendment.''

In Deschler's Procedure in the U.S. House of Representatives, the subchapter titled ''Amending Special Rules'' states: ''a refusal to order the previous question on such a rule [a special rule reported from the Committee on Rules] opens the resolution to amendment and further debate.'' (Chapter 21, section 21.2) Section 21.3 continues: ''Upon rejection of the motion for the previous question on a resolution reported from the Committee on Rules, control shifts to the Member leading the opposition to the previous question, who may offer a proper amendment or motion and who controls the time for debate thereon.''

Clearly, the vote on the previous question on a rule does have substantive policy implications. It is one of the only available tools for those who oppose the Republican majority's agenda and allows those with alternative views the opportunity to offer an alternative plan.

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

REDUCING REGULATORY BURDENS ACT OF 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, proceedings will now resume on H.R. 935, which the Clerk will report by title.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

MOTION TO RECOMMIT

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion to recommit at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentlewoman opposed to the bill?

Mrs. CAPPS. I am opposed in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the motion to recommit.

The Clerk read as follows:

Mrs. Capps moves to recommit the bill H.R. 935 to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with the following amendment:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 4. PROTECTING INFANTS AND CHILDREN FROM KNOWN OR SUSPECTED CARCINOGENS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall not apply to a discharge of a pesticide—

(1) if the pesticide—

(A) is a known or suspected carcinogen for infants or children; or

(B) is known or suspected to harm the neurological or physiological development of infants or children; or

(2) if the discharge is located in a geographic area that contains a cancer cluster.

(b) CANCER CLUSTER DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''cancer cluster'' means a defined geographic area where there is the occurrence of a greater than expected number of cancer cases among infants or children over a specific time period.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California is recognized for 5 minutes in support of her motion.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer this final amendment to H.R. 935.

If this amendment is adopted, it will not kill the bill or send it back to committee.

□ 1045

The House will have an opportunity to vote on final passage immediately after consideration of this amendment. What the amendment will do is ensure that our children are protected from known chemical threats.

Mr. Speaker, it should come as no surprise that when it comes to pesticides, infants and children are among the most vulnerable to harmful health impacts. Pound for pound, children drink more water, eat more food, and breathe more air than adults, and, as a result, they absorb a higher concentration of pesticides.

Infants and children are also exposed to pesticides in unique ways because of how they interact with the world. As any parent can tell you, children and infants crawl on the floor and on the grass, and they put almost everything into their mouths, including their hands, again, putting themselves at greater risk of exposure to pesticides than adults.

And the exposure of infants and children to pesticides poses a greater risk than the same exposure would do to an adult for an additional reason, and that is because children's internal organs are still developing, and their bodies may provide less natural protection from these toxins than adults have.

Simply put, our children are at greater risk from pesticide exposure, so they need greater protection, and that is what my amendment would do. It would help reduce risk by preserving several commonsense tools to protect children and infants from increased exposure to toxic pesticides.

Mr. Speaker, I believe our farmers and mosquito control districts have raised legitimate concerns about these regulations that need to be addressed, and I have supported the underlying bill in the past because I believe the legislative process needs to move forward to find the right solution to these issues.

However, this bill is not perfect. It takes a very broad approach that could be more targeted to ensure that we are doing everything possible to protect our most vulnerable people. Unfortunately, this bill now has come to the floor with no opportunity to consider floor amendments to make these commonsense improvements, and so this is our last—really, our only—opportunity to strike the right balance between supporting our local farmers and protecting our children.

Mr. Speaker, we all know that pesticide exposure can lead to a variety of adverse health effects, especially for children. These harmful effects range from neurological disorders to birth defects to certain forms of cancer. In fact, recent news reports have highlighted more and more examples of potential cancer clusters associated with pesticide exposure.

For example, in Highland, New York, health officials are investigating the cases of six children who, one after another, were diagnosed with the same form of leukemia. Local residents believe that environmental pollution may be the cause and point to the routine pesticide sprayings in the area.

In Kern County, California, local officials are investigating over 20 cases of childhood malignancies, including the death of an 8-year-old boy, that may be linked to pesticides in that area.

In Washington State, local health officials are investigating why roughly 60 people in the Yakima area have fallen ill, reporting difficulty breathing, skin rashes, nausea, vomiting, and headaches, some of whom required emergency hospitalization. In this instance, State health officials suspect these health issues may be related to 15 different instances of spraying in commercial orchards.

These are just a few examples.

Mr. Speaker, I represent an area of California with a vibrant agricultural economy and culture that we all treasure. Our farmers and their families drink the same water as everyone else, so they have just as much at stake in this as anyone. Pesticides are an unfortunate but necessary part of food production, and our central coast farmers do the best they can to navigate the rules and use these pesticides safely, but there is clearly more that could and should be done to minimize pesticide exposure, especially when it comes to our children.

My amendment targets the most toxic of all pesticides, those that research indicates are known or suspected to cause serious health issues in infants and children. I want to be clear. This amendment does not block the use of these pesticides or block consideration of this bill. It simply says that if you are a pesticide applicator, you should minimize your use of these toxic chemicals, monitor any adverse impacts from their use, and report the location and quantities to local permitting agencies.

We may not agree on all the potential impacts of this bill, but surely we can agree that protecting our Nation's infants and children from toxic chemicals warrants our full support. Simply

put, that is what my amendment does. And as a public health nurse, I strongly urge its adoption.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the motion to recommit.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GIBBS. Mr. Speaker, this motion to recommit is unnecessary. There are already adequate protections put in the law, in the FIFRA law. FIFRA evaluates it. The EPA evaluates the process. It goes through the process, and if there is any risk to the environment or human health, they won't get their label. There won't be a label. It will be a restricted pesticide, and it won't be approved.

So I say this is unnecessary. It is duplicative. There are already enough protections in the current FIFRA law, and all this is redundant and just plain unnecessary. So we need to move ahead.

I strongly oppose the motion to recommit and urge my colleagues to vote ''no.''

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 and clause 9 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on the motion to recommit will be followed by 5-minute votes on passage of the bill, if ordered; ordering the previous question on House Resolution 696; and adopting House Resolution 696, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 195, nays 233, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 469]

YEAS—195

Barber
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NAYS—233

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clawson (FL)
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Costa
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peterson
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOT VOTING—4

DesJarlais
Hanabusa
McKeon
Nunnelee

□ 1120

Messrs. THORNBERRY, DUNCAN of Tennessee, GARDNER, CASSIDY, CRAMER, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, and Mrs. ROBY changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. FARR, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. HONDA, Mr. KIND, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. RICHMOND changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion to recommit was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

(By unanimous consent, Mr. CANTOR was allowed to speak out of order.)

THE HONOR AND PRIVILEGE OF SERVING MY FELLOW AMERICANS

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as majority leader of this distinguished body. I look around this remarkable Chamber, and I see so many friends and colleagues who have inspired me and who have inspired this Congress to do great things for the American people.

Walking into this building and walking on to this floor is something that excited me every day since I was first elected to Congress, as it should. Not one of us should ever take for granted the awesome honor and responsibility we have to serve our fellow Americans.

This is a privilege of a lifetime. I think of the sacrifices that helped me rise to serve the people of Virginia's Seventh District. My grandparents fled religious persecution in Europe in order to find a better life.

My grandmother, a young Jewish widow, was soon raising my dad above a grocery store in Richmond, just trying to make ends meet, and so it goes, two generations later, her grandson would represent part of what was James Madison's seat in the House and then go on to serve as its majority leader.

I have truly lived the American Dream. That is what this country is supposed to be about: dreaming big and believing that each generation can do better than the last. Now, unfortunately, we have seen that dream erode

in recent years, and our Nation faces many challenges. Too many are left wondering if we can be an America that works, an America that leads.

Too many children are condemned to a bad school because of the ZIP Code they live in. Being poor in America should not mean being deprived of a good education. We have all got to continue fighting for these kids. This is the civil rights issue of our time.

Even after kids graduate high school, too many can't afford college or access the skills they need to join a new and dynamic workforce. Government policies often increase these costs and restrict opportunities. During my time here, we have made some progress on some of these issues, but frankly, not enough.

One of my proudest moments was watching the President sign into law the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act sponsored by Congressmen GREGG HARPER and PETER WELCH. Prioritizing Federal dollars toward finding cures and treatments for disease can enrich and even save lives. The added benefit? Cures can help alleviate health care costs.

All the while, too many moms and dads who are healthy are stuck without a job or barely getting by in one that doesn't match their potential. This Congress, the House has passed many bills, some of which were bipartisan, to help create jobs and opportunities for those who desperately need them. I hope more of those bills will make it to the President's desk before year's end.

Our Nation and our economy cannot meet its full potential if we in America are not leading abroad. I look around at colleagues on both sides of the aisle, at chairmen, ranking members, and at my good friend, Democratic Whip STENY HOYER, all of whom have soberly and seriously helped ensure a fight for a strong foreign policy, so that our Nation can lead in order to help keep our people safe; yet never before have I been more worried about the prospects of that peace due to our diminished engagement on the world stage.

Instability and terror seem to be coming from every corner of the globe. The Middle East is in chaos, Iran is marching towards a nuclear weapon, and Russia has reverted to a cold war footing and invaded Ukraine.

America does lead in so many areas, including innovation, scientific discovery, and medicine, but we have also got to make leadership abroad a priority. I shudder to think what the world will look like in 5 years for us and our allies if we don't steel our resolve and stand tall with those who stand with us.

Mr. Speaker, we don't always see eye to eye, even within our own parties in this Chamber, but that is how it is supposed to be. Our Founders did not design a rubber stamp.

This Congress, we have found ways to agree on much more than was ever reported with many bills passing this House in a bipartisan way. For that, much of the credit goes to the hardworking staff that quietly works around the clock to help us do our job. I would especially like to thank my team, starting with Chief of Staff Steve Stombres and my deputy chief, Neil Bradley, as well as our whole team for being there every day to assist Members on both sides of the aisle to help them deliver on their legislative goals. Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to thank you for all you have done. Thank you for the example of firm leadership that you show and, at the same time, for not being afraid to show us all your kind heart and your soft spot from time to time.

Mr. Speaker, you reminded me yesterday that you and I have met with each other at least once a day every day that we have been in session for the past 5 years. For that, Mr. Speaker, I thank you for your patience.

I would like to thank our Conference chair, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS. She is as tough as she is compassionate, and her voice has so often helped our Conference and this House.

I would also like to recognize two of my colleagues and dear friends who I joined seven years ago to begin a fight for reform on behalf of the American people. To Chairman PAUL RYAN, thank you for your dedication to finding solutions to the problems that face our government. But more importantly, thank you for your commitment to identifying those conservative solutions that actually help people find their path to the American Dream. I know your efforts will continue to impact America in a positive way.

To my closest confidant and my good friend KEVIN MCCARTHY, our new majority leader, I know you will make this institution proud. I will miss the daily challenges that we faced together at the leadership table, but I know that your leadership will serve as an inspiration for all of us.

There are so many more Members and staff on both sides of the aisle who have made my time here so rewarding. Many of you have become as close to me as family, and that is what has always sustained me while being away from my own family in Richmond. I know that I speak for all of us when I extend a heartfelt thank-you to the Capitol Police and the Sergeant at Arms for all they do to protect us and our families every day.

Finally, I want to thank my family: my wife, Diana; her mother; my children, Evan, Jenna, and Mikey; my parents; my brothers, all of whom have made sacrifices so that I could serve in this Chamber and as a member of leadership. They are my inspiration, and they are the rocks on which I will always lean.

Mr. Speaker, I close by once again thanking my colleagues for their service. I thank them for their friendship and warmth.

(By unanimous consent, Mr. HOYER was allowed to speak out of order.)

THANKING THE HONORABLE ERIC CANTOR FOR HIS SERVICE

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank the majority leader for his service to this House and his service to this country.

When one of us leaves this body, it ought to remind us that all of us are here for a relatively short time, perhaps some longer than others, but all for a relatively short time.

Mr. CANTOR and I have had the opportunity to work together. As he pointed out, we have not always agreed, as we do not always agree across the aisle. But we have an extraordinary honor bestowed upon us, as he pointed out. There are less than 11,000 of us in the history of this country who have served in this body. There are 435 of us who have been asked by our fellow citizens to serve on their behalf, on behalf of their families, and on behalf of their country.

ERIC CANTOR has done that well, not because I always agreed with him, but because I always knew that he had the best interest of his country, his State, his community, his family, and our neighbors in mind when he acted. I want to congratulate him and I want to thank him for his service, and I want to thank him for working with me on those areas where we could find agreement. In those areas, we acted in a very productive manner and created a large bipartisan majority on most of those issues in this House. I thank him for doing that.

As one who has also had the honor, Mr. Speaker, of serving as the majority leader of this House, it is a special honor that our colleagues have bestowed upon us. I want to wish him well. I know that he will not be leaving the public community, the public square, and his voice will still be a voice of influence and he will make a difference in whatever area he pursues. He will remain always a Member of this body. He will visit us from time to time. We will welcome him back. We wish him well.

The SPEAKER. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER. This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 267, noes 161, not voting 4, as follows:

[Roll No. 470]

AYES—267

Aderholt	Barletta	Bilirakis
Amash	Barr	Bishop (GA)
Amodei	Barrow (GA)	Bishop (UT)
Bachmann	Barton	Black
Bachus	Benishek	Blackburn
Barber	Bentivolio	Boustany

Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Butterfield
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Carney
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clawson (FL)
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Costa
Cotton
Courtney
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Enyart
Farenthold
Farr
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garamendi
Garcia
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Lummis
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Massie
Matheson
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Olson
Owens
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perlmutter
Perry
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Rahall
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schrader
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Sewell (AL)
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Vela
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Welch
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—161

Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Crowley
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Eshoo
Esty
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kirkpatrick
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
O'Rourke
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Peters (CA)
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Serrano
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Velázquez
Visclosky
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—4

DesJarlais
Hanabusa
McKeon
Nunnelee

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HULTGREN) (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1142

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5230, SECURE THE SOUTHWEST BORDER ACT OF 2014; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 5272, PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO DEFERRED ACTION FOR ALIENS; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5021, HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ACT OF 2014; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 696) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5230) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5272) to prohibit certain actions with respect to deferred action for aliens not lawfully present in the United States, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5021) to provide an extension of federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes; and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 226, nays 198, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 471]

YEAS—226

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clawson (FL)
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
Matheson
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peterson
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Posey
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NAYS—198

Barber
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—8

Crawford
DesJarlais
Hanabusa
Hanna
McKeon
Nunnelee
Price (GA)
Smith (TX)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1149

So the previous question was ordered.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 220, noes 205, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 472]

AYES—220

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Barletta
Barr
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Cantor
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clawson (FL)
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Culberson
Daines
Davis, Rodney
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
Diaz-Balart
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kline
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Latham
Latta
LoBiondo
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lummis
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Pompeo
Price (GA)
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Runyan
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NOES—205

Barber
Barrow (GA)
Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bera (CA)
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Broun (GA)
Brown (FL)
Brownley (CA)
Bustos
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
DelBene
Deutch
Dingell
Doggett
Doyle
Duckworth
Edwards
Ellison
Engel
Enyart
Eshoo
Esty
Farr
Fattah
Foster
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia
Gohmert
Gosar
Grayson
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hastings (FL)
Heck (WA)
Higgins
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilmer
Kind
King (IA)
Kirkpatrick
Kuster
Langevin
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lipinski
Loebsack
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lynch
Maffei
Maloney, Carolyn
Maloney, Sean
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McIntyre
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Michaud
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (FL)
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
Nolan
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Posey
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Sinema
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Speier
Stockman
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Veasey
Vela
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walz
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Welch
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—7

Bachus
Byrne
DesJarlais
Hanabusa
Hartzler
McKeon
Nunnelee

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1156

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mrs. HARTZLER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, July 31, 2014, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on rollcall No. 472, "yea."

SECURE THE SOUTHWEST BORDER ACT OF 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 696, I call up the bill (H.R. 5230) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5230

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in

Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, namely:

DIVISION A—SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND RESCISSIONS

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'', $71,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, for necessary expenses to apprehend, transport, and provide temporary shelter associated with the significant rise in unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor at the Southwest Border of the United States, including related activities to secure the border, disrupt transnational crime, and the necessary acquisition, construction, improvement, repair, and management of facilities: *Provided*, That not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate an obligation and quarterly expenditure plan for these funds: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide to such Committees quarterly updates on the expenditure of these funds.

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'', $334,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, for necessary expenses to respond to the significant rise in unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor at the Southwest Border of the United States, including for enforcement of immigration and customs law, including detention and removal operations, of which $262,000,000 shall be for Custody Operations and $72,000,000 shall be for Transportation and Removal operations: *Provided*, That not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate an obligation and quarterly expenditure plan for these funds: *Provided further*, That the Secretary shall provide to such Committees quarterly updates on the expenditure of these funds.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

SEC. 101. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds provided by this title shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming or transfer of funds that proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by either of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives or the Senate for a different purpose than for which the appropriations were provided: *Provided*, That prior to the obligation of such funds, a request for approval shall be submitted to such Committees.

SEC. 102. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Congress quarterly reports that include: (1) the number of apprehensions at the border delineated by unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor; (2) the number of claims of a credible fear of persecution delineated by unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor, and the number of determinations of valid claims of a credible fear of persecution delineated by unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor; (3) the number of unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor granted asylum by an immigration judge, delineated by year of apprehension; (4) the number of alien adults accompanied by an alien minor in detention facilities, alternatives to detention, and other non-detention forms of supervision; and (5) the number of removals delineated by unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor.

SEC. 103. Of the unobligated balance available for ''Department of Homeland Security—Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund'', $405,000,000 is rescinded: *Provided,* That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on a budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from the amounts that were designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SEC. 104. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, grants awarded under sections 2003 or 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604 and 605) using funds provided under the heading ''Federal Emergency Management Agency—State and Local Programs'' in division F of Public Law 113–76, division D of Public Law 113–6, or division D of Public Law 112–74 may be used by State and local law enforcement and public safety agencies within local units of government along the Southwest Border of the United States for costs incurred during the award period of performance for personnel, overtime, travel, costs related to combating illegal immigration and drug smuggling, and costs related to providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor who have entered the United States.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—MILITARY

MILITARY PERSONNEL

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''National Guard Personnel, Army'', $12,419,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, for necessary expenses related to the Southwest Border of the United States.

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''National Guard Personnel, Air Force'', $2,258,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, for necessary expenses related to the Southwest Border of the United States.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard'', $15,807,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, for necessary expenses related to the Southwest Border of the United States.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard'', $4,516,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, for necessary expenses related to the Southwest Border of the United States.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 201. Of the unobligated balances of amounts appropriated in title II of division C of Public Law 113–76 for ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'', $35,000,000 is hereby rescinded to reflect excess cash balances in Department of Defense Working Capital Funds.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND APPEALS

For an additional amount for ''Administrative Review and Appeals'' for necessary expenses to respond to the significant rise in unaccompanied alien children and alien adults accompanied by an alien minor at the Southwest Border of the United States, $22,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, of which $12,900,000 shall be for additional temporary immigration judges and related expenses, and $9,100,000 shall be for technology for judges to expedite the adjudication of immigration cases.

GENERAL PROVISION—THIS TITLE

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 301. Of the unobligated balances available for ''Department of Justice—Legal Activities—Assets Forfeiture Fund'', $22,000,000 is hereby permanently rescinded.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

REPATRIATION AND REINTEGRATION

SEC. 401. (a) REPATRIATION AND REINTEGRATION.—Of the funds appropriated in titles III and IV of division K of Public Law 113–76, and in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, for assistance for the countries in Central America, up to $40,000,000 shall be made available for such countries for repatriation and reintegration activities: *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to this section may be obligated notwithstanding subsections (c) and (e) of section 7045 of division K of Public Law 113–76.

(b) REPORT.—Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available pursuant to this section, but not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2015, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the obligation of funds made available pursuant to this section by country and the steps taken by the government of each country to—

(1) improve border security;

(2) enforce laws and policies to stem the flow of illegal entries into the United States;

(3) enact laws and implement new policies to stem the flow of illegal entries into the United States, including increasing penalties for human smuggling;

(4) conduct public outreach campaigns to explain the dangers of the journey to the Southwest Border of the United States and to emphasize the lack of immigration benefits available; and

(5) cooperate with United States Federal agencies to facilitate and expedite the return, repatriation, and reintegration of illegal migrants arriving at the Southwest Border of the United States.

(c) SUSPENSION OF ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of State shall suspend assistance provided pursuant to this section to the government of a country if such government is not making significant progress on each item described in paragraphs (1) through (5) of subsection (b): *Provided*, That assistance may only be resumed if the Secretary reports to the appropriate congressional committees that subsequent to the suspension of assistance such government is making significant

progress on each of the items enumerated in such subsection.

(d) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—Funds made available pursuant to this section shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 402. Of the unexpended balances available to the President for bilateral economic assistance under the heading ''Economic Support Fund'' from prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, $197,000,000 is rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress for Overseas Contingency Operations/Global War on Terrorism pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 or as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

TITLE V

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

For an additional amount for ''Refugee and Entrant Assistance'', $197,000,000, to be merged with and available for the same time period and for the same purposes as the funds made available under this heading in division H of Public Law 113–76 ''for carrying out such sections 414, 501, 462, and 235'': *Provided*, That of this amount, $47,000,000 shall be for the Social Services and Targeted Assistance programs.

This division may be cited as the ''Secure the Southwest Border Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2014''.

DIVISION B—SECURE THE SOUTHWEST BORDER ACT OF 2014

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This division may be cited as the ''Secure the Southwest Border Act of 2014''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this division is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—PROTECTING CHILDREN

Sec. 101. Repatriation of unaccompanied alien children.
Sec. 102. Expedited due process and screening of unaccompanied alien children.
Sec. 103. Due process protections for unaccompanied alien children present in the United States.
Sec. 104. Emergency immigration judge resources.
Sec. 105. Protecting children from human traffickers, sex offenders, and other criminals.
Sec. 106. Inclusion of additional grounds for per se ineligibility for asylum.

TITLE II—USE OF NATIONAL GUARD TO IMPROVE BORDER SECURITY

Sec. 201. National Guard support for border operations.

TITLE III—NATIONAL SECURITY AND FEDERAL LANDS PROTECTION

Sec. 301. Prohibition on actions that impede border security on certain Federal land.
Sec. 302. Sense of Congress on placement of unauthorized aliens at military installations.

TITLE I—PROTECTING CHILDREN

SEC. 101. REPATRIATION OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

Section 235(a) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by amending the paragraph heading to read as follows: ''RULES FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN'';

(B) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''who is a national or habitual resident of a country that is contiguous with the United States''; and

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by amending the subparagraph heading to read as follows: ''AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES''; and

(ii) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''countries contiguous to the United States'' and inserting ''Canada, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and any other foreign country that the Secretary determines appropriate''; and

(2) in paragraph (5)(D)—

(A) in the subparagraph heading, by striking ''PLACEMENT IN REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS'' and inserting ''EXPEDITED DUE PROCESS AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN'';

(B) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking '', except for an unaccompanied alien child from a contiguous country subject to the exceptions under subsection (a)(2), shall be—'' and inserting ''who meets the criteria listed in paragraph (2)(A)—'';

(C) by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) shall be placed in a proceeding in accordance with section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which shall commence not later than 7 days after the screening of an unaccompanied alien child described in paragraph (4);'';

(D) by redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively;

(E) by inserting after clause (i) the following:

''(ii) may not be placed in the immediate custody of a nongovernmental sponsor or otherwise released from the custody of the United States Government until the child is repatriated unless the child is the subject of an order under section 235B(e)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act;'';

(F) in clause (iii), as redesignated, by inserting ''is'' before ''eligible''; and

(G) in clause (iv), as redesignated, by inserting ''shall be'' before ''provided''.

SEC. 102. EXPEDITED DUE PROCESS AND SCREENING OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by inserting after section 235A the following:

''SEC. 235B. HUMANE AND EXPEDITED INSPECTION AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

''(a) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term 'asylum officer' had the meaning given such term in section 235(b)(1)(E) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(1)(E)).

''(b) PROCEEDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 days after the screening of an unaccompanied alien child under section 235(a)(4) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)(4)), an immigration judge shall conduct a proceeding to inspect, screen, and determine the status of an unaccompanied alien child who is an applicant for admission to the United States.

''(2) TIME LIMIT.—Not later than 72 hours after the conclusion of a proceeding with respect to an unaccompanied alien child under this section, the immigration judge who conducted such proceeding shall issue an order pursuant to subsection (e).

''(c) CONDUCT OF PROCEEDING.—

''(1) AUTHORITY OF IMMIGRATION JUDGE.—The immigration judge conducting a proceeding under this section—

''(A) shall administer oaths, receive evidence, and interrogate, examine, and cross-examine the alien and any witnesses;

''(B) may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and presentation of evidence; and

''(C) is authorized to sanction by civil money penalty any action (or inaction) in contempt of the judge's proper exercise of authority under this Act.

''(2) FORM OF PROCEEDING.—A proceeding under this section may take place—

''(A) in person;

''(B) at a location agreed to by the parties, in the absence of the alien;

''(C) through video conference; or

''(D) through telephone conference.

''(3) PRESENCE OF ALIEN.—If it is impracticable by reason of an alien's mental incompetency for the alien to be present at the proceeding, the Attorney General shall prescribe safeguards to protect the rights and privileges of the alien.

''(4) RIGHTS OF THE ALIEN.—In a proceeding under this section—

''(A) the alien shall be given the privilege of being represented, at no expense to the Government, by counsel of the alien's choosing who is authorized to practice in such proceedings;

''(B) the alien shall be given a reasonable opportunity—

''(i) to examine the evidence against the alien;

''(ii) to present evidence on the alien's own behalf; and

''(iii) to cross-examine witnesses presented by the Government;

''(C) the rights set forth in subparagraph (B) shall not entitle the alien—

''(i) to examine such national security information as the Government may proffer in opposition to the alien's admission to the United States; or

''(ii) to an application by the alien for discretionary relief under this Act; and

''(D) a complete record shall be kept of all testimony and evidence produced at the proceeding.

''(5) WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.—In the discretion of the Attorney General, an alien applying for admission to the United States may, and at any time, be permitted to withdraw such application and immediately be returned to the alien's country of nationality or country of last habitual residence.

''(6) CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO APPEAR.—Any alien who fails to appear at a proceeding required under this section, shall be ordered removed in absentia if the Government establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that the alien was at fault for their absence from the proceedings.

''(d) DECISION AND BURDEN OF PROOF.—

''(1) DECISION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—At the conclusion of a proceeding under this section, the immigration judge shall determine whether an unaccompanied alien child is likely to be—

''(i) admissible to the United States; or

''(ii) eligible for any form of relief from removal under this Act.

''(B) EVIDENCE.—The determination of the immigration judge under subparagraph (A) shall be based only on the evidence produced at the hearing.

''(2) BURDEN OF PROOF.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In a proceeding under this section, an alien who is an applicant for admission has the burden of establishing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the alien—

''(i) is likely to be entitled to be lawfully admitted to the United States or eligible for any form of relief from removal under this Act; or

''(ii) is lawfully present in the United States pursuant to a prior admission.

''(B) ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS.—In meeting the burden of proof under subparagraph (A)(ii), the alien shall be given access to—

''(i) the alien's visa or other entry document, if any; and

''(ii) any other records and documents, not considered by the Attorney General to be confidential, pertaining to the alien's admission or presence in the United States.

''(e) ORDERS.—

''(1) PLACEMENT IN FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.—If an immigration judge determines that the unaccompanied alien child has met the burden of proof under subsection (d)(2), the judge shall order the alien to be placed in further proceedings in accordance with section 240.

''(2) ORDERS OF REMOVAL.—If an immigration judge determines that the unaccompanied alien child has not met the burden of proof required under subsection (d)(2), the judge shall order the alien removed from the United States without further hearing or review unless the alien claims—

''(A) an intention to apply for asylum under section 208; or

''(B) a fear of persecution.

''(3) CLAIMS FOR ASYLUM.—If an unaccompanied alien child described in paragraph (2) claims an intention to apply for asylum under section 208 or a fear of persecution, the judge shall order the alien referred for an interview by an asylum officer under subsection (f).

''(f) ASYLUM INTERVIEWS.—

''(1) DEFINED TERM.—In this subsection, the term 'credible fear of persecution' has the meaning given such term in section 235(b)(1)(B)(v) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(1)(B)(v)).

''(2) CONDUCT BY ASYLUM OFFICER.—An asylum officer shall conduct interviews of aliens referred under subsection (e)(3).

''(3) REFERRAL OF CERTAIN ALIENS.—If the officer determines at the time of the interview that an alien has a credible fear of persecution, the alien shall be held in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)) during further consideration of the application for asylum.

''(4) REMOVAL WITHOUT FURTHER REVIEW IF NO CREDIBLE FEAR OF PERSECUTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (C), if the asylum officer determines that an alien does not have a credible fear of persecution the officer shall order the alien removed from the United States without further hearing or review.

''(B) RECORD OF DETERMINATION.—The officer shall prepare a written record of a determination under subparagraph (A), which shall include—

''(i) a summary of the material facts as stated by the applicant;

''(ii) such additional facts (if any) relied upon by the officer;

''(iii) the officer's analysis of why, in light of such facts, the alien has not established a credible fear of persecution; and

''(iv) a copy of the officer's interview notes.

''(C) REVIEW OF DETERMINATION.—

''(i) RULEMAKING.—The Attorney General shall establish, by regulation, a process by which an immigration judge will conduct a prompt review, upon the alien's request, of a determination under subparagraph (A) that the alien does not have a credible fear of persecution.

''(ii) MANDATORY COMPONENTS.—The review described in clause (i)—

''(I) shall include an opportunity for the alien to be heard and questioned by the immigration judge, either in person or by telephonic or video connection; and

''(II) shall be conducted—

''(aa) as expeditiously as possible;

''(bb) within the 24-hour period beginning at the time the asylum officer makes a determination under subparagraph (A), to the maximum extent practicable; and

''(cc) in no case later than 7 days after such determination.

''(5) MANDATORY PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.—Any alien subject to the procedures under this subsection shall be held in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b))—

''(A) pending a final determination of an asylum application under section 208; or

''(B) after a determination that the alien does not have a credible fear of persecution, until the alien is removed.

''(g) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (f)(4)(C) and paragraph (2), a removal order entered in accordance with subsection (e)(2) or (f)(4)(A) is not subject to administrative appeal.

''(2) RULEMAKING.—The Attorney General shall establish, by regulation, a process for the prompt review of an order under subsection (e)(2) against an alien who claims under oath, or as permitted under penalty of perjury under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code, after having been warned of the penal ties for falsely making such claim under such conditions to have been—

''(A) lawfully admitted for permanent residence;

''(B) admitted as a refugee under section 207; or

''(C) granted asylum under section 208.

''(h) LAST IN, FIRST OUT.—In any proceedings, determinations, or removals under this section, priority shall be accorded to the alien who has most recently arrived in the United States.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 235A the following:

''Sec. 235B. Humane and expedited inspection and screening for unaccompanied alien children.''.

(b) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF ORDERS OF REMOVAL.—Section 242 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1252) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting '', or an order of removal issued to an unaccompanied alien child after proceedings under section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)(1)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting ''or section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)(1)'' each place it appears; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the subparagraph heading, by inserting ''OR 235B'' after ''SECTION 235(b)(1)''; and

(II) in clause (iii), by striking ''section 235(b)(1)(B),'' and inserting ''section 235(b)(1)(B) or 235B(f);''; and

(2) in subsection (e)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''OR 235B'' after ''SECTION 235(b)(1)'';

(B) by inserting ''or section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)(1)'' in each place it appears;

(C) in subparagraph (2)(C), by inserting ''or section 235B(g)'' after ''section 235(b)(1)(C)''; and

(D) in subparagraph (3)(A), by inserting ''or section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)''.

SEC. 103. DUE PROCESS PROTECTIONS FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN PRESENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) FILING AUTHORIZED.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, notwithstanding any other provision of law, shall, at an immigration court designated to conduct proceedings under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, permit an unaccompanied alien child who was issued a Notice to Appear under section 239 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229) during the period beginning on January 1, 2013, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act—

(1) to appear, in-person, before an immigration judge who has been authorized by the Attorney General to conduct proceedings under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 102;

(2) to attest to their desire to apply for admission to the United States; and

(3) to file a motion—

(A) to replace any Notice to Appear issued between January 1, 2013, and the date of the enactment of this Act under section 239 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229); and

(B) to apply for admission to the United States by being placed in proceedings under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

(b) MOTION GRANTED.—An immigration judge may, at the sole and unreviewable discretion of the judge, grant a motion filed under subsection (a)(3) upon a finding that—

(1) the petitioner was an unaccompanied alien child (as such term is defined in section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279)) on the date on which a Notice to Appear described in subsection (a) was issued to the alien;

(2) the Notice to Appear was issued during the period beginning on January 1, 2013, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act;

(3) the unaccompanied alien child is applying for admission to the United States; and

(4) the granting of such motion would not be manifestly unjust.

(c) EFFECT OF MOTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the granting of a motion to replace under subsection (b), the immigration judge who granted such motion shall—

(1) while the petitioner remains in-person, immediately inspect and screen the petitioner for admission to the United States by conducting a proceeding under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 102;

(2) immediately notify the petitioner of the petitioner's ability, under section 235B(c)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to withdraw the petitioner's application for admission to the United States and immediately be returned to the petitioner's country of nationality or country of last habitual residence; and

(3) replace the petitioner's notice to appear with an order under section 235B(e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

(d) PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.—An unaccompanied alien child who has been granted a motion under subsection (b) shall be held in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232).

SEC. 104. EMERGENCY IMMIGRATION JUDGE RESOURCES.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 14 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall designate up to 40 immigration judges, including through the hiring of retired immigration judges, administrative law judges, or magistrate judges, or

the reassignment of current immigration judges, that are dedicated to conducting humane and expedited inspection and screening for unaccompanied alien children under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 102. Such designations shall remain in effect solely for the duration of the humanitarian crisis at the southern border (as determined by the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Attorney General).

(b) REQUIREMENT.—The Attorney General shall ensure that sufficient immigration judge resources are dedicated to the purpose described in subsection (a) to comply with the requirement under section 235B(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

SEC. 105. PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM HUMAN TRAFFICKERS, SEX OFFENDERS, AND OTHER CRIMINALS.

Section 235(c)(3) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting '', including a mandatory biometric criminal history check'' before the period at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following—

''(D) PROHIBITION ON PLACEMENT WITH SEX OFFENDERS AND HUMAN TRAFFICKERS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may not place an unaccompanied alien child in the custody of an individual who has been convicted of—

''(I) a sex offense (as defined in section 111 of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (42 U.S.C. 16911)); or

''(II) a crime involving a severe form of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)).

''(ii) REQUIREMENTS OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK.—A biometric criminal history check under subparagraph (A) shall be based on a set of fingerprints or other biometric identifiers and conducted through—

''(I) the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and

''(II) criminal history repositories of all States that the individual lists as current or former residences.''.

SEC. 106. INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL GROUNDS FOR PER SE INELIGIBILITY FOR ASYLUM.

Section 208(b)(2)(A)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(b)(2)(A)(iii)) is amended by inserting after ''a serious nonpolitical crime'' the following: ''(including any drug-related offense punishable by a term of imprisonment greater than 1 year)''.

TITLE II—USE OF NATIONAL GUARD TO IMPROVE BORDER SECURITY

SEC. 201. NATIONAL GUARD SUPPORT FOR BORDER OPERATIONS.

(a) DEPLOYMENT AUTHORITY AND FUNDING.—Amounts appropriated for the Department of Defense in this Act shall be expended for any units or personnel of the National Guard deployed to perform operations and missions under section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, on the southern border of the United States.

(b) ASSIGNMENT OF OPERATIONS AND MISSIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—National Guard units and personnel deployed under subsection (a) may be assigned such operations as may be necessary to provide assistance for operations on the southern border, with priority given to high traffic areas experiencing the highest number of crossings by unaccompanied alien children.

(2) NATURE OF DUTY.—The duty of National Guard personnel performing operations and missions on the southern border shall be full-time duty under title 32, United States Code.

(c) MATERIEL AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT.—The Secretary of Defense shall deploy such materiel and equipment and logistical support as may be necessary to ensure success of the operations and missions conducted by the National Guard under this section.

(d) EXCLUSION FROM NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL STRENGTH LIMITATIONS.—National Guard personnel deployed under subsection (a) shall not be included in—

(1) the calculation to determine compliance with limits on end strength for National Guard personnel; or

(2) limits on the number of National Guard personnel that may be placed on active duty for operational support under section 115 of title 10, United States Code.

(e) HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS DEFINED.—In this section:

(1) The term ''high traffic areas'' means sectors along the northern and southern borders of the United States that are within the responsibility of the Border Patrol that have the most illicit cross-border activity, informed through situational awareness.

(2) The term ''unaccompanied alien child'' means a child who—

(A) has no lawful immigration status in the United States;

(B) has not attained 18 years of age; and

(C) with respect to whom—

(i) there is no parent or legal guardian in the United States; or

(ii) no parent or legal guardian in the United States is available to provide care and physical custody.

TITLE III—NATIONAL SECURITY AND FEDERAL LANDS PROTECTION

SEC. 301. PROHIBITION ON ACTIONS THAT IMPEDE BORDER SECURITY ON CERTAIN FEDERAL LAND.

(a) PROHIBITION ON SECRETARIES OF THE INTERIOR AND AGRICULTURE.—The Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture shall not impede, prohibit, or restrict activities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection on Federal land located within 100 miles of the United States border with Mexico that is under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture, to execute search and rescue operations, and to prevent all unlawful entries into the United States, including entries by terrorists, other unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other contraband through such international land border of the United States. These authorities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection on such Federal land apply whether or not a state of emergency exists.

(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES OF U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION.—U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall have immediate access to Federal land within 100 miles of the United States border with Mexico that is under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture for purposes of conducting the following activities on such land that prevent all unlawful entries into the United States, including entries by terrorists, other unlawful aliens, instruments of terrorism, narcotics, and other contraband through such international land border of the United States:

(1) Construction and maintenance of roads.

(2) Construction and maintenance of barriers.

(3) Use of vehicles to patrol, apprehend, or rescue.

(4) Installation, maintenance, and operation of communications and surveillance equipment and sensors.

(5) Deployment of temporary tactical infrastructure.

(c) CLARIFICATION RELATING TO WAIVER AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including any termination date relating to the waiver referred to in this subsection), the waiver by the Secretary of Homeland Security on April 1, 2008, under section 102(c)(1) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1103 note; Public Law 104–208) of the laws described in paragraph (2) with respect to certain sections of the international border between the United States and Mexico shall be considered to apply to all Federal land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture within 100 miles of such international land border of the United States for the activities of U.S. Customs and Border Protection described in subsection (b).

(2) DESCRIPTION OF LAWS WAIVED.—The laws referred to in paragraph (1) are limited to the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.), the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.), the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.), Public Law 86–523 (16 U.S.C. 469 et seq.), the Act of June 8, 1906 (commonly known as the ''Antiquities Act of 1906''; 16 U.S.C. 431 et seq.), the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.), the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.), the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 668dd et seq.), the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. 742a et seq.), the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), subchapter II of chapter 5, and chapter 7, of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Administrative Procedure Act''), the National Park Service Organic Act (16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), the General Authorities Act of 1970 (Public Law 91–383) (16 U.S.C. 1a–1 et seq.), sections 401(7), 403, and 404 of the National Parks and Recreation Act of 1978 (Public Law 95–625, 92 Stat. 3467), and the Arizona Desert Wilderness Act of 1990 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; Public Law 101–628).

(d) PROTECTION OF LEGAL USES.—This section shall not be construed to provide—

(1) authority to restrict legal uses, such as grazing, hunting, mining, or public-use recreational and backcountry airstrips on land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture; or

(2) any additional authority to restrict legal access to such land.

(e) EFFECT ON STATE AND PRIVATE LAND.—This Act shall—

(1) have no force or effect on State or private lands; and

(2) not provide authority on or access to State or private lands.

(f) TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY.—Nothing in this section supersedes, replaces, negates, or diminishes treaties or other agreements between the United States and Indian tribes.

SEC. 302. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON PLACEMENT OF UNAUTHORIZED ALIENS AT MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Secretary of Defense should not allow the placement of unauthorized aliens at a military installation unless—

(A) the Secretary submits written notice to the congressional defense committees and each Member of Congress representing any jurisdiction in which an affected military installation is situated; and

(B) the Secretary publishes notice in the Federal Register;

(2) the placement of unauthorized aliens at a military institution should not displace active members of the Armed Forces;

(3) the placement of unauthorized aliens at a military institution should not interfere

with any mission of the Department of Defense;

(4) the Secretary of Health and Human Services should not use a military installation for the placement of unauthorized aliens unless all other facilities of the Department of Health and Human Services are unavailable;

(5) the Secretary of Health and Human Services should not use a military installation for the placement of unauthorized aliens for more than 120 days;

(6) the Secretary of Health and Human Services should ensure that all unauthorized alien children are vaccinated upon arrival at a military installation as set forth in the guidelines of the Office of Refugee Resettlement;

(7) the Secretary of Health and Human Services should ensure that all individuals under the supervision of the Secretary with access to unauthorized alien children at a military installation are properly cleared according to the procedures set forth in the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13001 et seq.);

(8) the Secretary of Health and Human Services should fully comply with the provisions of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13001 et seq.) with respect to background checks and should retain full legal responsibility for such compliance; and

(9) in accordance with section 1535 of title 31, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ''Economy Act''), the Secretary of Health and Human Services should reimburse the Secretary of Defense for all expenses incurred by the Secretary of Defense in carrying out the placement of unauthorized aliens at a military installation.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''congressional defense committees'' has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(16) of title 10, United States Code.

(2) The term ''Member of Congress'' has the meaning given that term in section 1591(c)(1) of title 10, United States Code.

(3) The term ''military installation'' has the meaning given that term in section 2801(c)(4) of title 10, United States Code, but does not include an installation located outside of the United States.

(4) The term ''placement'' means the placement of an unauthorized alien in either a detention facility or an alternative to such a facility.

(5) The term ''unauthorized alien'' means an alien unlawfully present in the United States, but does not include a dependent of a member of the Armed Forces.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. FOXX). Pursuant to House Resolution 696, the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) and the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Kentucky.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 5230, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Kentucky?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield myself 6 minutes.

I rise today to present H.R. 5230, which provides immediate, short-term funding to address the southwest border crisis.

In total, this bill provides $659 million to meet urgent border security and humanitarian needs for this fiscal year ending on September 30.

Thousands of illegal immigrants, including unaccompanied children, have flooded our borders and overwhelmed our current facilities and personnel.

□ 1200

This includes a staggering number of children, arriving with no family, who are being smuggled across our borders by criminal organizations, subject to abuse and violence. We need to put safeguards in place to prevent them from taking this dangerous journey, as well as provide the resources needed to take care of them and process them appropriately.

The President must take the lead on this by mitigating this crisis, turning back the tide of illegal immigrants, and fully enforcing our laws. This problem has, without a doubt, been exacerbated by the administration's policies on immigration, and it is up to the administration to find a way to fix that problem.

In the meantime, however, Madam Speaker, it is plain that something must be done to ensure that our law enforcement personnel and Federal agencies have the resources needed to deal with this dire situation in the short term.

The $659 million in funding in this bill focuses on three areas—border security, humanitarian assistance, and prevention—to meet the most pressing needs. Of this total $659 million, $462 million is provided to increase security and enforce our laws, boosting personnel, and increasing detention space to the largest capacity in our history.

Part of this funding will help accelerate judicial proceedings by increasing the number of temporary judges and outfitting all immigration courtrooms in the Nation with teleconferencing equipment that would allow them to be able to join in the process of adjudicating those cases on the border. There are some 332 of those courtrooms around the country.

We have doubled existing funding for the National Guard to bolster their presence along our border, as they assist Customs and Border Protection with surveillance, investigations, and humanitarian efforts.

The bill also provides $197 million to take care of these unaccompanied children, ensuring they have proper housing, meals, and temporary care while they are in U.S. custody.

Madam Speaker, to stave off the continued influx of illegal immigration, the bill redirects existing State Department funding to ensure that countries like Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador must quickly accept and repatriate those returning from the U.S.

This bill draws a hard line on spending, scrubbing the President's request to focus on the most immediate needs. It does not including funding for longer-term needs or unnecessary programs, like cash subsidies for coffee farmers. Any additional funding for this crisis can and should be addressed under the regular appropriations process for fiscal year 2015.

In addition, to make sure that this bill doesn't add a penny to our deficit, Madam Speaker, every dollar spent here is fully offset from somewhere else by making noncontroversial rescissions of unused, excess prior-year funds.

Lastly, the bill includes several policy provisions recommended by the Speaker's Working Group on the Border Crisis, led by the chairwoman of the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, Representative KAY GRANGER from Texas. She will speak soon.

This includes a change in a 2008 law to ensure that all unaccompanied minors arriving in this country are treated the same as Mexicans and Canadians for the purpose of removal.

It also strengthens the law prohibiting immigration status to criminals convicted of serious drug crimes and prohibits the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture from restricting Customs and Border Protection apprehension activities on Federal land on the border, and it expresses congressional intent that detained aliens awaiting processing should not be housed on military installations.

Madam Speaker, this is a good bill. This is a fair, sensible, and reasonable address of the most immediate needs on the border. It also puts in place much-needed policy changes that should stop the flow of unaccompanied children who are being put at risk during their long, dangerous journey through Mexico.

It is our congressional duty to quickly pass this bill in short order. Therefore, I ask all Members to support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

SECURE THE SOUTHWEST BORDER SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014 (DIVISION A of H.R. 5230)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Request	Recommended in the Bill	Bill vs. Request
DIVISION A -- SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND RESCISSIONS			
TITLE I			
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY			
U.S. Customs and Border Protection			
Salaries and Expenses (emergency)	393,549	---	-393,549
Salaries and Expenses	---	71,000	+71,000
Air and Marine Interdiction, Operations, Maintenance, and Procurement (emergency)	39,411	---	-39,411
Total, U.S. Customs and Border Protection	432,960	71,000	-361,960
U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement			
Salaries and Expenses (emergency)	1,103,995	---	-1,103,995
Salaries and Expenses	---	334,000	+334,000
GENERAL PROVISIONS -- THIS TITLE			
FEMA Disaster Relief Fund (Sec. 103) (rescission)	---	-405,000	-405,000
Total, title I	1,536,955	---	-1,536,955
TITLE II			
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE -- MILITARY			
Military Personnel			
National Guard Personnel, Army	---	12,419	+12,419
National Guard Personnel, Air Force	---	2,258	+2,258
Total, Military Personnel	---	14,677	+14,677
Operation and Maintenance			
Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard	---	15,807	+15,807
Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard	---	4,516	+4,516
Total, Operation and Maintenance	---	20,323	+20,323
GENERAL PROVISION -- THIS TITLE			
Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide (Sec. 201) (rescission)	---	-35,000	-35,000
Total, title II	---	---	---
TITLE III			
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE			
General Administration			
Administrative Review and Appeals (emergency)	62,900	---	-62,900
Administrative Review and Appeals	---	22,000	+22,000

SECURE THE SOUTHWEST BORDER SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014 (DIVISION A of H.R. 5230)
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2014 Request	Recommended in the Bill	Bill vs. Request
Legal Activities			
Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities (emergency)	1,100	---	-1,100
GENERAL PROVISION -- THIS TITLE			
DOJ Assets Forfeiture Fund (Sec. 301) (rescission)	---	-22,000	-22,000
Total, title III	64,000	---	-64,000
TITLE IV			
DEPARTMENT OF STATE			
Administration of Foreign Affairs			
Diplomatic and Consular Programs (emergency)	5,000	---	-5,000
BILATERAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE			
Funds Appropriated to the President			
Economic Support Fund (emergency)	295,000	---	-295,000
GENERAL PROVISION -- THIS TITLE			
Repatriation and reintegration (Sec. 401) (non-add)	---	(40,000)	(+40,000)
Economic Support Fund (Sec. 402) (rescission)	---	-197,000	-197,000
Total, title IV	300,000	-197,000	-497,000
TITLE V			
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES			
Administration for Children and Families			
Refugee and Entrant Assistance (emergency)	1,830,000	---	-1,830,000
Refugee and Entrant Assistance	---	197,000	+197,000
Total, title V	1,830,000	197,000	-1,633,000
GENERAL PROVISION -- THIS ACT			
Transfer authority (emergency)	(250,000)	---	(-250,000)
GRAND TOTAL	3,730,955	---	-3,730,955
Appropriations	---	(659,000)	(+659,000)
Emergencies	(3,730,955)	---	(-3,730,955)
Rescissions	---	(-659,000)	(-659,000)

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise today to oppose this bill that, sadly, falls short in too many ways.

The key Federal agencies tasked with responding to the humanitarian crisis on our borders are dangerously close to running out of money. These unanticipated costs are affecting the core functions at the Department of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services. Although the bill includes funding to hire additional immigration judicial teams and help set up new repatriation centers in Central America, the amounts provided are insufficient.

The Justice Department and the State Department will not be able to handle their duties without significantly more resources. All four departments need more funding than this bill provides and fewer partisan immigration policy riders than this bill now contains.

Our majority unwisely included legislative language to make sweeping changes to current law related to due process and immigration proceedings. Controversial legislation hastily added to an emergency supplemental is not the way to address a complicated problem.

On July 8, the President requested $3.7 billion in emergency funding. The bill provides less than $700 million. The President requested funding through fiscal year 2015. This bill barely covers the remaining weeks in FY 2014, setting this House up to do this all over again in September.

The President's request also sought emergency funding to combat a dangerous wildfire season. As of Monday, the Forest Service reported 26 large uncontained wildfires burning in eight States. As a Member from New York, a region devastated by Hurricane Sandy, I am acutely aware how important it is for the Federal Government to provide a robust response. With the House adjourning today, Federal agencies will be left to fight August fires without more funds.

This bill also fails to provide funding to procure more Iron Dome interceptors for Israel as requested. Hamas has used the ongoing crisis in Israel and Gaza as an excuse to launch thousands of rockets at Israeli cities and towns. The Iron Dome missile defense system has proven highly effective at neutralizing the rockets.

In addition to not funding important priorities, the majority offsets the funding that is provided with cuts to other programs. We should provide emergency funds in a crisis situation.

Lastly, I strongly object to the majority's significant policy changes to existing law without any hearings or markups. Three-quarters of this appropriations bill is straight authorizing legislation. Clearly, many factors led these desperate parents to hand off their children to complete strangers, with the hope they make their way to safety here.

We ought to consider the complicated policy questions and provide a carefully considered solution, yet these policy changes reveal a knee-jerk response coupled with another bill to deport children who are already in the U.S.

In addition to emergency appropriations, we should consider bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform passed by the Senate over 1 year ago, which could have helped to prevent the current humanitarian crisis along our southwest border by increasing border security personnel and nearly doubling the number of immigration judges.

The two measures we will consider today are deeply disappointing. Madam Speaker, we should provide sufficient funding to cash-strapped agencies quickly and without the baggage of controversial immigration policy riders. I regret we will not do that with this bill, and I regret even more the consequences of our failure.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER), the chairman of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee on Appropriations, but more importantly, she has accepted the responsibility of the Speaker to put together a task force to investigate the problem on the border and to recommend solutions—and she has, with great success.

Ms. GRANGER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for yielding.

Madam Speaker, as we speak, unaccompanied minors continue to be sent from Central America through drug cartel smuggling networks across Mexico and through our southern border.

Families are being lied to and manipulated by the coyotes. The $6,000 their families spend to send their children to the United States goes into the bank account of the most powerful drug cartels in the world.

Since October, over 58,000 unaccompanied children have made the dangerous journey to the United States, and many more will continue to come unless we send a clear message that they will not be allowed to stay in the United States.

I have seen firsthand the crisis that has unfolded at the southern border in places like the Rio Grande Valley and south Texas. I have seen the women and children sleeping on the floor of a bus station in Laredo.

I have seen motherless infants being cared for by any stranger who is around. I have seen the children who are alone in detention facilities in McAllen, Texas, and I have seen the 1,200 children who are being sheltered at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, and—most disturbing of all—I have heard the stories about the most God-awful journey anyone should ever have to experience.

We are here today because we have a responsibility to stop this crisis. The President has failed to lead, so I firmly believe this Chamber must act. Doing nothing is not an option.

Since June, when the Speaker asked me to lead a working group to provide policy recommendations on what we can do to address the crisis, I have been to the Texas-Mexico border twice and led a codel to Guatemala and Honduras, to see where the children are coming from and why. I will be returning to the border tomorrow for a third time.

The members of the working group dove headfirst into this issue to understand this crisis and provide recommendations for a short-term, immediate response. The policies we recommended are not an attempt for immigration reform. They are serious solutions to address this crisis.

I want to take a moment to recognize the hard work of the members of the working group who have made policy recommendations to the conference and the expertise they brought to the table.

I want to thank the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, BOB GOODLATTE; chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, MICHAEL MCCAUL; chairman of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, JOHN CARTER; chairman of the Western Hemisphere Foreign Affairs Subcommittee, MATT SALMON; Congressman STEVE PEARCE from the Financial Services Committee; and MARIO DIAZ-BALART from the Appropriations Committee.

□ 1215

One of our conclusions from the last several weeks is that Congress should not provide more resources to the administration without changing the policies that have led us to the situation we are in today. Administration officials and officials in the Central American countries have all said that we have to make changes to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008. A month ago, it appeared there was a bipartisan consensus forming on this issue.

White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest said from the White House podium just 3 weeks ago, when discussing changes to the 2008 law, that it is ''a priority of this administration, and if you listen to the public comments of Democrats and Republicans, it sounds like it's a bipartisan priority.''

I agree, and it is disappointing that the White House has backed down from their original statements on how we can immediately address this issue.

We are not asking for a repeal of this law. We are saying we need to tweak the 2008 law so that all unaccompanied minors are treated the same as Mexican and Canadian children for removal purposes. The policy changes included in this bill ensure that children receive a prompt hearing within 7 days after they are detained and require that a judge rules no later than 72 hours after a hearing.

Accelerating the hearing times requires more judges. I thank the chairman for including the necessary funding to hire 40 temporary judges until this crisis is under control.

For repatriations, we are prioritizing last in-first out. That means the last child to go into United States Government custody will be the first one we send home. After families have spent between $6,000 and $9,000 to send their children here, this will send a strong message to the families in the countries of origin that their children will not be permitted to stay. This is a message of deterrence.

I also note that Chairman ROGERS has prioritized funding for Central American countries to safely and humanely return these children, working with these countries as we return their children, as they have asked us to do.

With the surge of children, there has been increased pressure on our Customs and Border Protection officials. This supplemental deploys the National Guard to assist high-traffic States. This will free up the Border Patrol to focus on their mission.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentlewoman an additional 1 minute.

Ms. GRANGER. To fully support the Customs and Border Protection's mission, we include a provision to allow unfettered access to Federal lands. Right now, through a memorandum of understanding, Border Patrol officials are only permitted to pursue suspects onto Federal lands. They cannot do regular patrols.

Finally, the supplemental includes a sense of Congress that children should not be detained at military bases. While this will not change the law, this provision addresses a serious and growing concern for Members of Congress, not the least of concerns is that children should not be stored on military bases.

The Congressional Budget Office has given its assessment of policy changes in this bill. They have said that, because the legislation allows for the children to self-deport, it will lead to immediate savings.

This is a smart, targeted bill that addresses the crisis immediately. I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on the supplemental and show the American people that we are going to end this crisis.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the distinguished ranking member of the Labor, Health and Human Services Subcommittee on Appropriations.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I must rise in opposition against this irresponsible and insufficient border supplemental.

For months, Democrats have urged this majority to pass comprehensive immigration reform—the bill that was passed on a bipartisan basis in the United States Senate—reform that reflects our values and the country that we want to be: one with strong enforcement at the border, the deportation of dangerous criminals, and a path to citizenship that protects workers, helps families reunite, and clears backlogs.

But this Republican majority has done nothing. They have refused to act. My colleague from Texas is right—doing nothing is not an option. Now we face a humanitarian crisis on our border that demands an immediate response, but the majority's answer is just to send home the children who enter our country alone regardless of the violence and the imminent danger that they face.

This bill only includes $197 million for providing shelter and care for these refugee children. While these kids are here, we have a moral and, yes, we have a legal responsibility to provide for their housing, care, and processing in the most cost-effective way possible. This insufficient amount will mean that HHS will have to make up the difference through high-priced, short-term contracts. That will cost us more in the long run, and it could result in cuts to other priorities, like education, health, medical research, and job training.

If Congress tries to make up these shortfalls elsewhere, this is not responsible leadership. Our policy, signed into law by President George W. Bush, provides for the appropriate screening of those who may be victims of trafficking, and that rightly includes unaccompanied children. This supplemental appropriation would change this policy and would almost certainly result in children being returned to the violence that they are desperately trying to escape.

America can do and should do better. We should help protect those kids who are in serious danger, and we should push the leaders of these nations to address the root causes of why so many of their citizens are fleeing. We should pass comprehensive immigration reform. It is time for leadership from this Republican majority.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER), the chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security.

Mr. CARTER. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Madam Speaker, it is a proven fact that lawlessness breeds lawlessness, and, sadly, I believe this assertion sums up the issue that is confronting us today.

Thanks in large part to the President's political decision not to enforce our immigration laws, a chaotic situation has erupted into a national security crisis and a law enforcement nightmare along the border.

We all know the facts:

An estimated 90,000 unaccompanied alien children will cross into south Texas' Rio Grande Valley by the end of this fiscal year. Another 145,000 children are estimated to flood the border in fiscal year 2015. And these staggering figures do not include the tens of thousands of families who will also surge across our border over the same period of time.

As a result of this influx, our brave Border Patrol agents, CBP officers, and ICE agents are spending countless hours in caring for children rather than focusing on their primary enforcement missions. This would be tragic if it weren't so preventable.

Madam Speaker, we do not have an open border policy in this country, and as we tragically learned on 9/11, border security and the integrity of our immigration system truly matter to our Nation's security and the rule of law. So, today, we offer a strong but initial step to provide both the right tools and the right authorities to address and deter this seemingly unending influx of illegal aliens.

Included in this package is $405 million, completely offset by recovered funds, for the Department of Homeland Security, funds that will enable the CBP and ICE to enforce our laws and apprehend, detain, and deport illegal aliens. Perhaps most importantly, this bill fully funds the administration's realization that detention is, in fact, a necessary deterrent to illegal immigration.

The President requested funds to fully support the long-mandated annual bed capacity—a complete reversal from his budget request in which he proposed, instead, to reduce detention beds by nearly 10 percent. The President has also retracted his policy on the detention of families who illegally cross the border. This bill provides funding through the end of the fiscal year to support 34,800 detention beds and an additional 6,320 family detention beds—a total of over 41,100 detention beds—to enable the necessary consequence management for breaking the law.

Lastly, this bill includes policy changes to bring reform and parity to the adjudication and reparation of these children and to prevent these children from being placed with criminals.

Madam Speaker, we must act and we must act now. Lawlessness has bred lawlessness, and we must act to stop it and to secure our borders. I urge my colleagues to support this strong bill.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE), the ranking member of the Homeland Security Subcommittee of Appropriations.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this misconceived and under-resourced legislation.

For a while, it looked like we might do better than this. As the ranking member of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, I was pleased to take part in a delegation to Guatemala and Honduras, ably led by Chairman KAY GRANGER. But as successive versions of the Republican bill have surfaced over the past 2 weeks, in an apparent quest for votes only among

Republicans, they have reflected less and less of what we learned on that trip.

The bill under consideration provides less than $1 billion for the Departments of Homeland Security, Health and Human Services, Justice, and State—far below the President's request, what is being considered by the Senate, or what is required to deal with the crisis on our borders and beyond.

The bill only provides funding for anticipated needs for the remainder of this fiscal year, a mere 2 months. I would object to that less if the majority had any plans for actually completing our appropriations bills before the end of September, but we all know that they do not. Indeed, it appears unlikely that our Homeland Security Appropriations bill will make it to the House floor.

The approach taken in this legislation shows a fundamental misunderstanding of the issue before us. This isn't a border security crisis. This is a humanitarian crisis. We don't need to deploy the National Guard or surge our border capacity, because we are not failing to catch individuals as they cross. In fact, these young people are turning themselves in!

Now, we do have some agreement on the need to expedite the consideration of the claims of these minors for asylum or other forms of relief. But at $12.9 million, the House bill falls far short of even the administration's modest request for more immigration judges.

Instead of focusing on this area of agreement, the majority relies upon a questionable and controversial rewriting of the Wilberforce law, enacted in 2008 to deal with child trafficking. My own view is that the Cuellar-Cornyn proposal incorporated in the bill both fails to address deficiencies in our present screening of Mexican youths for signs of torture or fear of persecution, and risks transferring these deficiencies to the treatment of Central American children. In any event, it is not wise to complicate or delay the consideration of this emergency supplemental request with an authorization bill that surely requires more deliberation.

Madam Speaker, there have been some recent signs of progress down at the border. Over the past few weeks, the average daily apprehensions of unaccompanied children have dropped from 400 to well under 200. That doesn't mean the crisis is over. We can easily see another spike in apprehensions in the coming weeks.

We need a bill that both provides resources and reflects our values. Faith leaders of all traditions across the country are calling on Congress to provide the social and health services these children desperately need.

Perhaps the greatest failing of this legislation is that it fails to move us toward any viable, long-term strategy to address the causes of the current crisis. Beyond any funding we appropriate to help manage the flow of unaccompanied children or families over the next several months, we are setting ourselves up for similar crises in the future if we aren't willing to invest in a long-term strategy to help Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador—the three countries that are the source of the vast majority of unaccompanied minors—to stabilize their economies, to modernize their institutions, to reduce the levels of violence and the grip of the drug cartels and street gangs.

□ 1230

Madam Speaker, I fear that the bill before us fails to address either short-term or long-term needs, and much of what it does contain is irrelevant to the current crisis.

Madam Speaker, I urge a ''no'' vote.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL), who chairs the Homeland Security Committee of the House.

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Speaker, let me thank the chairman of the Appropriations Committee for his hard work and Chairwoman KAY GRANGER for heading up this task force that I was honored to be a part of.

As the chairman of the Homeland Security Committee and a former Federal prosecutor who has dealt with the border for many years, I have never seen a crisis quite like this one. This crisis demands action. It demands leadership, and it demands a solution to the problem.

Since the President enacted DACA in 2012, we have seen 60,000 unaccompanied children cross into the border, in the Rio Grande Valley sector of Texas alone, 250 per day.

We went down there to see these children. These children are the victims caught between the administration's policies and the coyotes and the traffickers who exploit them and make money, between $5,000 to $10,000 apiece.

Madam Speaker, this bill fixes that crisis. First and foremost, this changes the 2008 trafficking law as a message of deterrence. This crisis will not stop until we start sending them back, and all this does is it treats Central Americans the same way we treat Mexicans. It will provide for swift removal in a humane way back to their countries of origin.

It is unfortunate that the administration, while initially supportive, has now flip-flopped on that issue.

It also provides for the detention, removal, and repatriation of these children.

For me and my home State of Texas, importantly, it calls for the deployment of the National Guard to the southwest border to secure our border. My Governor, Governor Perry, has already activated the National Guard. But it is the Federal Government's responsibility, under the Constitution, to pick up that price tag, and that is precisely what this bill does.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I think, importantly, it directs the Southern Command, our military, to help secure the border between Guatemala and Mexico, which I believe, and I know the chairman of Appropriations as well believes, is a key to stopping the flow out of Central America.

Madam Speaker, the time to act is now.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD), a member of both the Labor, Health and Human Services, and the Homeland Security Subcommittees.

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, 2 weeks ago, I visited the border and saw small children held in tiny cells and forced to sleep on cold concrete floors and benches. The treatment of these vulnerable kids, many of whom fled their homes to escape extreme violence, shocked me as a mother and as an American.

Unfortunately, this bill contains only 11 percent of the resources the President requested for the Department of Health and Human Services. This paltry amount will only make conditions worse for these vulnerable children by limiting the Department's bedspace capacity and exacerbating delays in transferring children away from the overcrowded Border Patrol stations into the more suitable conditions of HHS.

Unfortunately, insufficient funding isn't the only flaw in this bill. By treating all children the same, the majority means taking away protections and treating Central American children like Mexican and Canadian children who have limited protection under current law.

This legislation sadly undercuts the current critical humanitarian and due process protections for these desperate children seeking safe haven from the horrors of violence in their country.

Without due process, many of these children who would qualify for protection under our laws will be returned straight into the arms of the traffickers or their impoverished violent neighborhoods. That is why, national antitrafficking organizations like the Alliance to End Slavery and Trafficking strongly oppose this bill.

Madam Speaker, the Republican supplemental is an irresponsible and inadequate bill that does little to protect our borders or address the humanitarian crisis facing our Nation. The bill is a senseless and deeply flawed political ploy that my Republican colleagues know will be rejected by the Senate.

Instead of playing political games, let us act in the best interests of our country and these kids by passing a bill that upholds our American values, honors our heritage as a nation of immigrants, protects our borders, and fully addresses the causes and consequences of the humanitarian crisis on our border.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. DENT), a member of our committee.

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I rise in very strong support of this border security legislation presented to us today, for a number of reasons.

It does provide for humanitarian assistance. This legislation does deal with this issue in a compassionate, thoughtful way to deal with the unaccompanied children. It secures the border, provides for funding for the National Guard, and it does many other things, too, in terms of policy changes that would treat these children just as we would treat unaccompanied children who cross the border from Canada or Mexico. It is the right policy for a whole host of reasons.

Just last week, Congressmen GERLACH, MEEHAN, and I visited an Office of Refugee Resettlement program in Womelsdorf, Berks County in Pennsylvania, and those children are treated compassionately.

But let me tell you what will happen if we do nothing here today. The children who are coming into my district in Womelsdorf, and also in Allentown, where I will be visiting a center tomorrow, these children will, in fact, keep coming into our communities and they will be treated humanely. Then they will be resettled and reunited with parents or family members who are already in the United States and, in most cases, here unlawfully.

That is what doing nothing means. The children will keep coming. They will be resettled throughout the country, and they will basically reside somewhere within the interior of this country. That is what doing nothing means. It would be reckless and irresponsible for the House to walk out of here today without addressing this border and humanitarian crisis.

This bill is the right thing to do. It secures the border, provides humanitarian assistance, and it makes the necessary policy changes to stop this flow of children.

This is a tragedy that these children are leaving their countries in this way. I can't imagine the desperation these families must feel, that they would let their children travel with somebody unaccompanied, drug dealers and cartels and human smugglers, coyotes. It is unthinkable. We need to make sure this stops. Many children aren't making it along the way.

I met with a 5-year-old girl who told me her horrible story, and I shudder to think of the children who didn't make it.

That is why we need to act today. It is the right thing to do, it is the compassionate thing to do, and it is in keeping with our American tradition.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the minority whip of the House.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentlelady for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I was going to ask my friend from Pennsylvania whether he had talked to the Senate and thinks this has any chance of moving this week; and the answer I think I would give is no, it does not. So I agree with him. It would be tragic not to act.

It is tragic that we are acting in a partisan fashion, which almost ensures inaction on this, the last day that we are going to be here. We should be acting in a bipartisan fashion, as I have urged the majority leader to do.

What is a bipartisan fashion?

A, considering the emergency need today and funding the resources necessary to respond to that; B, taking under consideration the substantive legislative changes that can be affected that will help this issue, will send the messages that the gentleman wants to send.

He is my dear friend and a good Member of this body, but I will tell you, this bill has had no hearings, no committee consideration. Yes, there was a partisan task force, but this has had no consideration in this legislative process.

The majority leader, last week told me that there would be no bill that did not get 72 hours' notice. The gentleman knows you have a bill on the floor, which is contingent, of course, on the passage of this, which has had a few hours' notice, at best. Last night, I think at 10 o'clock the Rules Committee met on DACA.

So I will tell my friend that, had we acted in a bipartisan fashion, A, at whatever level of funding we could agree, pass a bill to meet the immediate crisis, B, have hearings on the ramifications of the law that passed with only two votes in opposition—over 405 Members voted for the 2008 legislation. We are changing that without a hearing either in subcommittee, committee, or full committee. That is not the way we ought to be working. That is not good for our country. It is not good for this institution. It is not fair.

I would urge my colleagues to defeat this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mrs. LOWEY. I yield the gentleman an additional minute.

Mr. HOYER. I believe, once again, we find the Republican Party divided. Because they are divided, they are trying to cobble together some of their hardest-line Members so that they can get them to vote for this supplemental.

And they put on a bill which has had no notice to the American people or to Members of Congress. It is ironic that people are supporting this who demanded that we read the bills. There was no bill to read until this morning.

How sad for the American people. We have a humanitarian crisis that must be addressed without delay, and the way to address it without delay is to give the resources necessary and then pursue the legislative process, not together. It will slow it down, and I predict it will not pass the Senate. I think the gentlemen and ladies on this side of the aisle know that the Senate is not going to pass this bill.

So if you really think we ought to act now, do so in a bipartisan fashion, and then let us debate the legislation before us.

Mr. MCCAUL just said this is a real crisis. He just said it just minutes ago, Mr. MCCAUL, the chairman of the committee. This is a real crisis which demands action. The recommendation that has been made to us will undermine action by this body in the face of crisis. We should not pass this legislation. We ought to pass a very simple resource to the crisis now and legislation later.

I urge my colleagues to vote ''no.''

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I don't know where the gentleman gets his information, but this bill was filed Tuesday.

You have had since Tuesday morning to study this bill, and that is the appropriate—under our rules, that is the appropriate time.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. As I understand it, the DACA legislation is dependent upon this legislation. That was not filed 72 hours ago.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. That is not this bill. Reclaiming my time, this bill has been available to you since Tuesday.

Madam Speaker, may I inquire of the time we have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Kentucky has 10½ minutes remaining, and the gentlewoman from New York has 14 minutes remaining.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FATTAH), the ranking member of the Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittee.

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, we are here because the President of the United States has requested an emergency supplemental appropriations of about $3.7 billion. The Senate has acted in the range of about $2.7 billion. The House now comes in at one-sixth of the request to deal with this crisis. It ignores the wildfires in the West, the challenges that relate to other parts of the bill that were presented by the administration, and it says we are acting responsibly.

I rise in opposition to the bill. I understand what the majority is offering, and I think it has been stated pretty clearly.

I believe, if we have children who are presented to us without adults—who have been the victims of trafficking, which is what the majority has said, they have been trafficked by cartels and paid criminal enterprises to bring

them to our border; the majority says some of them have been sexually abused and mistreated in other ways—I don't believe that our response should be to close the door.

□ 1245

So as we think about our responsibilities as the United States of America, a Nation that had 12 million people without documents when the President was sworn into office—50,000 children, just like the 5-year-old girl that my colleague said he met and talked to—the idea that our moral responsibility is to say to her, ''You go back to where you came from,'' I don't believe that that is what we should be doing.

So I reject this—not because of the numbers or the other things. I think this is morally deficient, that our great country would say, as we demand other countries around the world take in refugees who are facing dangerous circumstances, that what our answer is, No, not here. Not in our backyard.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE), the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

Mr. GOODLATTE. I thank the gentleman from Kentucky for his leadership on this issue.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 5230. There is a crisis at our border. It is a crisis, a disaster of the President's own making.

The Obama administration's lax immigration enforcement policies have given confidence to parents who are in the U.S. illegally that they can stay, and now they are finding ways to bring their children, who are still in Central America and beyond, to the United States unlawfully.

Although President Obama has many tools at his disposal to stop this surge at the border, he refuses to use them, and instead proposes to make the situation worse by taking more unilateral actions to stop the enforcement of our immigration laws.

It is ultimately up to President Obama to end this crisis by reversing his policies that created it. However, since he refuses to do so, we have to act to the extent we can to provide narrow and targeted funding to meet the immediate needs of our law enforcement agencies at the southern border. We have to enable them to do their job, to secure our border, and enforce our immigration laws. And we should act to provide narrow tweaks to the 2008 law regarding the removal of unaccompanied alien minors.

Because of the President's inaction, we are taking the responsible step today of passing these narrow fixes that will help the American people avoid billions of dollars in additional costs due to the President not trying to solve this problem but asking for more money to continue to resettle thousands and thousands, tens of thousands of people into the interior of our country.

While the bill is not perfect, it does give law enforcement many tools they have requested. For example, while I was in the Rio Grande area earlier this month, Border Patrol agents cited administration-created restrictions that bar them access to Federal land as a significant stumbling block to securing the border. One of the most important provisions of this bill gives Border Patrol agents access to Federal lands so they can stop drug traffickers, human smugglers, and unlawful immigrants from exploiting these gaps along the border.

Since the President isn't taking serious action to address the crisis at the border, the House is doing so today, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA), the chair of the House Democratic Caucus.

Mr. BECERRA. I thank the ranking member for yielding.

Madam Speaker, I agree with those who have said that doing nothing is not an option. But making matters worse should not be an option either. Stripping children of the chance to establish their credible fear of death or endangerment is a crude and cold way of dispensing justice in America. That is not the American way.

This bill is a patch, not a solution. It lasts 2 months. So we will be right back here, trying to solve this challenge again, in September. Governing and budgeting in pieces is what leads to government shutdowns. That is not the American way.

This bill robs Peter to give to Paul. How does this bill fund the money to pay for the border work that has to get done? First, it strips emergency funding to tackle devastating wildfires that the President has requested because the States have requested it. Second, it takes $407 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's disaster relief fund, money which would be used to help people who have been devastated by wildfires and other natural disasters.

Madam Speaker, if we had passed immigration reform a year ago with the bill that passed the Senate on a bipartisan basis—which on this floor, we have been denied a vote on for more than 380 days—we would not be looking at a crisis on the border the way we are today. But that is the difficulty we have.

When you don't fix the broken immigration system, this is what you encounter. And these piecemeal approaches aren't going to solve anything. We are going to be right back at it in September. That is not the American way. We provide justice to people. We make sure we dispense it the way we should, and we take care of our emergencies.

Let's get this done the right way. Let's do two things: let's give the emergency funding that the people need at the border to run this process right, and then let's finally on the floor of this House have a vote to fix a broken immigration system.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON), a member of the Speaker's task force that investigated the border problem.

Mr. SALMON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Secure the Southwest Border Act of 2014.

This kind of came to light a few months ago when The Arizona Republic published a story that these families were being dropped at bus stations in Tucson and Phoenix. Then it highlighted the current administration's catch-and-release policies that are encouraging literally swarms of people to come across the 1,500-mile desert of Mexico into the United States, risking life, risking their happiness.

And the fact is, we can't keep doing nothing. This bill will stop these waves and waves of people from coming across our border.

As we went over to Guatemala and we went to Honduras and we talked with our State Department folks, that is exactly what they said: You have got to make it clear that we move from a catch-and-release policy to a detain-and-deport policy. And that is what this bill does. If we want to send a strong message to people that that $5,000 to $8,000 that they are paying to these thugs that are transporting across the border and hurting these young boys and girls along the way and then holding them for extra money, extorting their parents, that if we want to stop this from happening and stop the pain that is going on with these children, then the best thing that we can do is to send a clear message that in America, there are no permisos—permits, permissions; if you make that journey, you are going to be sent back to your country. That is the only thing that is going to make it happen.

Now, our liberal friends, they want to just throw more money at the problem and perpetuate the problem. They want it to keep happening. I say that is not compassionate. I say continuing that pain and that harm to these children is not a good thing to do, and the way to stop it is to send a clear message.

We have got folks on my side of the aisle that have problems with the bill. What do they have a problem with? Nothing inside the bill. Not putting the National Guard on the border, not stopping the catch-and-release programs, and not giving unfettered access to our Border Patrol. They can't come up with a good reason to vote against it. They are playing right into HARRY REID's hands.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Will the gentleman from Arizona yield?

Mr. SALMON. I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Do you understand that the experts have told

us that if we do nothing, if we don't change the law, that another 145,000 people will be with us next year alone? Is that not correct?

Mr. SALMON. That is what I understand.

I also understand that conservative estimates indicate it is going to cost $2.6 billion a year to care for just half of the nearly 60,000 that are already here. We are talking about billions and billions of dollars, not to mention the fact that these children are being sexually molested along the way, that they are being killed along the way, that they are being sold into slavery, and we can stop it.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Just focusing on the money part of this, the gentleman from Arizona is saying, if we don't change the law, we can expect to pay another few billion dollars a year——

Mr. SALMON. Just to care for those kids.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. To care for that continuing stream of people coming across?

Mr. SALMON. Right.

And, Mr. Chairman, I can't understand how any conservative in good conscience would not want to stop that hemorrhage and make sure that we are not spending those billions of dollars that should be going to pay down our Federal debt.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Well, I would think that not only conservatives would like it, but that everybody would like that kind of savings.

Mr. SALMON. I think so too.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I would just like to say to the distinguished chairman, I would have liked to have heard from these experts in hearings. Unfortunately, the majority has not had hearings, and we are bringing this bill to the floor without any hearings, without any witnesses, and without any information.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Will the gentlewoman briefly yield on that point?

Mrs. LOWEY. I would be delighted to yield to the gentleman from Kentucky, if I have the time.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. The 145,000 additional people coming across the border, that number came from the Department of Homeland Security. So those are governmental estimates, if we do nothing on the law change.

I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I would also like to say to our distinguished chairman that it would have been helpful in having an analysis of the current statistics and the future prospects at hearings. But we are bringing this bill to the floor. The majority is bringing this bill to the floor without any hearings, without any discussion. This is really not the way to pass important legislation.

And, again, we had a bill. We could have had comprehensive immigration reform that passed the Senate in a bipartisan way.

I am now pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding, the ranking member on the Appropriations Committee, who, from day one of knowing about this challenge that we have with the children at the border, has reacted in a very wise, humanitarian—yes—and practical way as to what the best way is to address the challenge, honor the values of our country, and save the children.

I was interested in the back and forth between the distinguished chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. ROGERS, and our ranking member on the subject of the change in the law that is in the legislative language that is in this supplemental, because I agree with our distinguished whip, Mr. HOYER, and other who have said: There are two things happening here. We need to address the humanitarian challenge. We need resources to do that for particular purposes. And we should do that in the supplemental.

Another is to change the law, which we shouldn't do in a supplemental. It is legislating on an appropriations bill in a manner in which all kinds of statements can be made which may be anecdotally significant but not significant in terms of the difference that they make, a difference enough to change the law.

So when people talk about witnesses in one context or another, just saying something on the floor of the House, it is interesting. But there should be hearings. If we are going to change the law, there should be hearings where testimony can come forth, be challenged, confirmed, whatever it may be. But a serious discussion worthy of the country that we are, worthy of the Congress that passed the Wilberforce law, which was a very bipartisan initiative. And I salute my Republican colleagues who played such an important role in passing the bill. And that bill directed agencies of government to incorporate antitrafficking and protection measures for vulnerable populations, particularly women and children, into either post-conflict or humanitarian emergency assistance and program activities, according to the law.

There was a purpose for the law. But with a phrase in an appropriations bill, we want to undermine that purpose. That is not necessary to do here. Why does this belong in a bill where we are allocating resources to meet a humanitarian challenge that we have?

Now let's get to what is in the actual supplemental.

□ 1300

I had hoped that we could work in a bipartisan way, and I thought that is the path we were on. The Republican majority wanted to decrease the amount of resources and the amount of time—well, that is commensurate, if it is a lower amount of money and a shorter period of time, that is okay, but when you change what that money is for, then you are doing a disservice to the entire issue.

Instead of providing adequate resources to meet the humanitarian needs—the immediate humanitarian needs—largely of these children, that is just totally inadequate in this legislation, in terms of its proportionality in the bill, whether it fails to provide any resources for legal assistance to these children to plead their case.

They may have a legitimate cause for asylum—refugee status to come into the United States or not, but they should be represented, and they should be represented in a way that repatriates them back to their home country, if they do not qualify in a way that is safe. This legislation does not do that.

The American people are fair-minded, they are wise, they are practical, and they want to help, but they want to do so in a way that is fair to everyone involved. They want to feed the children. There are not enough resources here to do that with the humanitarian side. They want us to honor who we are with due process for these children. This legislation does not do that.

They want to have judges to quickly facilitate giving these people a hearing, in addition to the representation that they should have due process. The bill does not. It tramples due process to rush terrified children back to the violence of their home countries.

That is not who we are as a country, and it also poses a particular danger to children victims of gang violence and human trafficking, which takes us right back to the Wilberforce bill—human trafficking. It is a global crisis. It is happening at our border.

We have a bill to stop it. This legislation on the floor today weakens that and then, in a manner of distribution of funds and paucity of funds, does not address the challenge. It takes us backward. It is hard to understand.

Now, what we should be talking about, what Mr. TIERNEY suggested, how do we help communities that are receiving these children into their communities and our country? Again, how do we help? This bill hurts.

Madam Speaker, in addition to this—I guess the way you were able to get the votes for this bill—which is even opposed by people who are anti-immigration because it is not bad enough—was that you had to sweeten the pie by having a followup bill that would only be taken up if enough of your Members agreed to vote for this bad bill, and that again does not address who we are as a country.

We are a great country because we are a good country. Others have said that as long ago as 200 years ago or longer, so let us be good and let us be great, and let us do something that really was closer to what the Republicans were talking about earlier in this discussion. It seems that in order to get more votes, you had to make the

bill worse; the worse the bill, the more votes on the Republican side.

No, let's find common ground in the middle, where we can get the most votes to do the best possible job that we can do. It may not be every good thing we would ideally like to do, but it is a reasonable place to go forward to honor what the national Catholic Conference of Bishops have talked about, where all the people of faith are urging us to do here in the Congress and the United States, and that is to honestly respect the dignity and worth of all of these children, all of them children of God.

I get mocked for quoting what the bishops have said because it is so generous to the children, but let's give the children a fair shot. Let's do better than this, and you know that this bill isn't going anywhere, so once again, it is a waste of time. It is not a statement of values. It is a statement of meanness.

The Republican bills responding to the humanitarian crisis at the southern border are the latest evidence of their breathtaking extremism.

The Republican proposal is unjust, inhumane and abhorrent to our values as a nation. Their supplemental:

Fails to provide any resources for legal aid to children with legitimate asylum claims;

Does not authorize enough judges to adjudicate extensive case backlog;

Tramples due process to rush terrified children back to the violence of their home countries; and

Poses a particular danger to child victims of gang violence and human trafficking.

To coax their party into voting for even that much, Republicans are also teeing-up a vote to bar any adjustment or expansion of DACA.

No additional relief for children and students;

No relief for parents of DREAMers;

No relief for parents of young U.S. citizens; and

Certainty that we will continue to tear apart immigrant families.

It is appalling that Republicans' price for doing next-to-nothing for vulnerable children is the opportunity to vote against the young immigrants who want nothing more than a future in the only country they have ever known.

We should be acting on comprehensive immigration reform, but this Republican Congress is allergic to meaningful solutions.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, may I inquire of the time remaining?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Kentucky has 5½ minutes remaining. The gentlewoman from New York has 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR), the ranking member of the Agriculture Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. FARR. Thank you, Madam Ranking Chair, for yielding.

I rise, Madam Speaker, on this bill with great concern. I am bringing a lot of passion to this debate because I lived in the barrios like the ones the children are coming from when I was a Peace Corps volunteer in Latin America, very violent barrios.

Look, this is not a border crisis. It is not a border security issue. This is a humanitarian crisis, and it is caused by problems on both sides of the border. Our country has a lot at fault here because we have not addressed comprehensive immigration reform, which means we have 11 million people living in the United States undocumented.

They are essentially incarcerated in this country. They are not allowed to go home because the minute they go home and try to get back to the United States, they get arrested, and they are not allowed to ever return, or they are barred for 10 years from returning.

So what happens, Madam Speaker? They have been living here for years and years. They have children that they left because there were job opportunities here, and those children are now living in places that are really dangerous, and all of a sudden, yeah, things have changed. They have got to get out.

These countries are ranked number one, four, and five of the highest murder rates in the world. They leave them because there are real, serious humanitarian crises. They are showing up on our border. They are not sneaking across the border.

There is nobody having to go out there for these kids trying to sneak in. They are throwing themselves—help me, help me find my relative, my dad, my parent, my mom—in this country.

What does this bill do? It doesn't address the humanitarian problems at either end. It hires more cops and puts military in there, National Guardsmen.

Now, if that is such a great idea, why is California—with probably the busiest border in the world with Mexico—not putting its National Guard down there? Our Governors and our mayors don't think it is necessary.

Madam Speaker, why are we putting more money in for National Guard? We don't need the National Guard. We need Red Cross—it is a humanitarian crisis—Red Cross. No, we are putting more and more money for arms and more money for military and cops. I don't think that is the right answer.

We are also doing something really dumb. We are stripping a law now that says when we give money to these countries—by the way, before you spend this money on your cops and on your military, you have got to vet them. We have a human rights standard. This bill throws that out.

You don't have to do that now. We are going to give you $40 million of American taxpayer money, and you don't have to do anything to abide by human rights. Now, that is really dumb, and I don't think American taxpayers want their money spent that way.

Madam Speaker, I am going to call upon my colleagues here not to come down here and think of themselves in a partisan way or an election year way, but come to this floor when you have to vote on this bill and think of yourself as a parent, as a neighbor.

A kid has knocked on your door, and you go to the door and say: Oh, my God he is crying, or she is crying. You say: What happened? They say: In my house, they are raping people and killing people, and I am running away. This bill says: Oh, what is your address? I will take you home.

Don't vote for it.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR).

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I support full comprehensive immigration reform, but today's vote on this supplemental appropriation bill is to provide funding to ICE, Border Patrol, and other agencies to deal with the humanitarian crisis on the border, an area that I represent, an area where I live, an area where 42,000 out of the 58,000 unaccompanied kids have crossed.

The policy change in this bill is to get rid of a loophole in the 2008 law that the smugglers in Central America and Mexico have taken advantage of. All due process and legal protections are left intact under this proposed bill.

You will see under a CRS report that compares the current law to today's bill, you will see that the same due process and the same legal protections are left intact. In fact, I respectfully ask my colleagues in opposition to show me specifically where there is due process and legal protection that is taken away out of the bill. I yet have heard where it does this.

Madam Speaker, I have also asked my colleagues in opposition respectfully to sit down with me and offer their alternative solution or their legislative proposal to this border crisis and have yet to hear those solutions.

In this appropriation bill, we have to provide the funding to the Federal agencies to provide an early border, but we can no longer afford to play defense on the 1-yard line called the U.S.-Mexico border. We need to play defense on the 20-yard line, and this is why working with the Central American countries and working with Mexico to address the core issues and to fix and to fight these smugglers is vital.

I want to thank the men and women on the border that have defended our homeland, and I want to thank the border communities, the churches, and the nonprofits that have done so much to help these folks at the border. In fact, I want to thank the chairman for allowing a provision for the border communities to seek reimbursement for the allowable expenses under this bill.

We cannot leave Washington today without putting the resources and the policy change to address the border crisis. We are sent here to address not the easy problems, but to address the hard problems.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. CUELLAR. I thank the Chairman.

Madam Speaker, we are sent here to Washington not to address the easy problems, but to address the difficult problems that this Nation is facing. When President John F. Kennedy was faced with a very difficult crisis, he said:

> I am not looking for a Republican answer or for a Democratic answer. I am looking for the right answer.

I think today, in a bipartisan way, we need to look for that right answer. I urge ''yes'' on this supplemental appropriation bill.

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), a member of the Labor, Health, and Human Services; and Foreign Operations Subcommittees.

Ms. LEE of California. Let me thank our ranking member on Appropriations, Mrs. LOWEY, for yielding and for her steadfast leadership.

Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to this woefully inadequate Republican response to the humanitarian crisis along our border. Let me start by saying that as an appropriator, I am very troubled by the shamefully inadequate funding levels and misguided offsets in this bill.

I am also deeply concerned by the dangerous policy riders that strip protections for vulnerable children—protections signed into law by a Republican President, mind you.

Let's be clear. This crisis has nothing to do with the lack of funding for immigration enforcement. We don't do anything to help these children by pouring tax dollars into the further militarization of our border, and that is exactly what this bill does.

Madam Speaker, our response needs to put children first. In a hearing by the Congressional Progressive Caucus this week, we heard firsthand from Central American children who had fled violence in their home countries and who had passed through our broken detention system.

These children and thousands like them risk their lives on their way to this country. Some had witnessed murders and gang violence in their home countries and suffered freezing conditions and inadequate nutrition while in detention in the United States.

These stories were chilling and made clear where we need to direct our resources: humane care, access to due process, and support to end the violence and poverty plaguing Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala.

Now, no one disagrees with protecting our borders, but come on, we also have a duty to protect these children who, according to the United Nations High Commission on Refugees, 60 percent of whom were interviewed, these children need international protection.

My home district makes up Alameda County, where over 200 of these children have been reunited with their families locally. Their stories are real, and their stories are very, very powerful, so I urge a ''no'' vote.

Let's guarantee due process for these children who are fleeing violence. Let's have a heart.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. May I inquire of the gentlewoman from New York if she has further speakers? I am prepared to close. If the gentlewoman has one additional speaker, then I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1315

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume because before I turn to my colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), the ranking member, an expert on immigration on the Judiciary Committee, I just want to make one statement again.

The Senate, after months of hearings, passed a bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform bill. It is really very sad that today we can't get together, Democrats and Republicans, and review the work that had been done by the Senate and pass a comprehensive immigration reform bill that would have prevented the emergency that we are trying to address today. The majority of the bill that is included in the supplemental should have been done through a thoughtful committee process.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to yield the balance of my time to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), a member of the Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Immigration.

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops tells us this bill would result in the U.S. sending children who have relief available to them back to the conditions they fled, and will result in many children being harmed and some being killed on their return.

I join the bishops in opposing this bill.

With this bill, children who have been trafficked, who have fled persecution, violence, and abuse, will be stripped of protections that have existed for years.

Our laws provide that victims of persecution and torture must have a meaningful opportunity to request safe haven. We need not prejudge the outcome of these cases. We need only adhere to our laws that ensure that each child is treated in a fair manner, that their case be individually considered, and if they deserve protection under the law, so be it; if not, they go home.

This is not new. Refugees have received protection in America for decades. In 1980, the asylum system that we have today was established. Most of the special protections for unaccompanied children were created in 1997. Many were codified in 2002. Critics of the antislavery law of 2008 claim it has caused the influx of kids to America, but the protections began in 1997, 17 years ago.

No, kids are fleeing because of the extreme violence in three countries. Children from other countries in the region are not fleeing here. And people from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala are fleeing to every other country in the region—a 712 percent increase in asylum cases in Belize, Nicaragua, and the other Central American countries.

What the 2008 law actually did was give less protection to kids from Mexico and Canada, and that was a mistake because the U.N. review now makes clear that, as a consequence, we are sending kids who have been sex-trafficked back to their abusers. Rather than fix this loophole, this bill would subject all kids to that flawed process. I can't help but note that this will be the only immigration bill with an up-or-down vote, a bill to strip victims of their protections.

Mrs. LOWEY. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Madam Speaker, we have a crisis on our border with Mexico right now. It can't wait. It is a humanitarian crisis. It is also a failure of our border. It is an open border now unless you fix it. If we don't change the law to treat Central American children the same as we treat Mexican children at the border, you are going to be flooded. The amount now on the border will pale into insignificance because Homeland Security tells us they anticipate another 145,000 children next year, on top of the tens of thousands of adults and families flooding across that open border.

So we have an immediate crisis today. This bill is an urgently needed bill. It provides immediate funding for critical border security and these humanitarian needs. The money will be there immediately. If we do not pass this bill today, you are going to risk these resources running out. Then your hands will be tied. More and more immigrants will continue to flood across that border if you fail to act.

This bill will allow the DHS, the Department of Homeland Security, and the National Guard to tighten security and restore the border. It will allow the Department of Justice to process the cases that may be needed more efficiently. It encourages repatriation in the countries from which these immigrants came, and it provides much-needed shelter and care for the thousands of unaccompanied children who have recently crossed that border.

We must act today before we leave town, not only to protect our borders, but to help these unaccompanied children who are being brought here by criminals, no less, on a long, dangerous, arduous journey, subject to abuse, injury, and death along the way. How can you turn away from these faces?

This bill directs responsible levels of resources toward the front line, toward the highest priority needs. The bill

puts policy measures into place that keep criminals out of the country and helps encourage children not to make that very dangerous, life-threatening journey. The President's request would do nothing to enforce our laws and make this Nation a safer place.

Help the problem. Stop the crisis. This bill does it. Vote for it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, how is it that we can find it within our capabilities to fund billions of dollars of deficit spending on unpaid-for tax extenders one week, but we can't muster the humanity to fund adequate legal representation for refugee children the next? The President's request included a modest $24.5 million to fund the Department of Justice's programs to provide legal assistance to these children, their guardians, and law enforcement advisors in Central America, yet none of this was included in the legislation. Instead, Republicans focus only on punitive measures that will hasten the misery of these children.

Madam Speaker, I am interested to know why Republicans are comfortable spending untold amounts of American taxpayer's money on a frivolous lawsuit, but will provide absolutely no money on legal assistance for a child who, after traversing some of the most dangerous terrain our world has to offer, must now navigate our immigration system without the benefit of counsel. Make no mistake, these children are refugees.

If Republicans are so concerned about the plight of these children and making sure that we find a humanitarian solution, why have they stripped away all of the human rights conditions and certification requirements on the Guatemalan and Honduran militaries allowing them to use the $40 million allocated to help with repatriation efforts? We're going to throw these children who have fled for their lives from horrific conditions right back to the same wolves who caused them to flee in the first place, and then pay to ensure they are stuck there.

Madam Speaker, rather than focus on sending these children back as quickly as we can, maybe we should take a page from the history books, and find it in our hearts to help them find safety and a new life here in the United States. In 70 years, we should be able to look back proudly on that accomplishment, and not have to shamefully admit that the United States could have done more.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 5230, the woefully inadequate supplemental appropriations bill that will only exacerbate the growing humanitarian crisis impacting my home state of Texas.

Since the beginning of this year, nearly 60,000 unaccompanied children have crossed the Rio Grande into south Texas. The vast majority of these children are coming from three countries—El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras—where whole communities are being terrorized by drug cartels and street gangs. Honduras, the U.N. reports, has the highest homicide in the world. El Salvador and Guatemala rank fourth and fifth.

Even before these children reach Texas, many of whom no more than seven or eight years old, they must make the long and dangerous journey through the remainder of Central America and Mexico. On the journey, these children are easy targets for robbers, drug smugglers, and sex traffickers, further traumatizing them before they reach our country.

Once reaching Brownsville, McAllen, or one of our other communities on the border, these children are not trying to evade detection from Border Patrol. In fact, there are countless stories of these children running into the arms of our border protection officials, knowing that they will be safe from the violence and trauma once in American custody.

Madam Speaker, I can speak first hand, having visited our border facilities in McAllen earlier this month, on the hard work our nation's Border Patrol Officers are doing, along with their counterparts throughout DHS and HHS during this humanitarian crisis.

Congress needs to respond to this crisis in the best traditions of our great nation—with open eyes and compassion and balance the needs of the American people with our nation's historic role as the place of last refuge for those who are persecuted and in need.

The legislation before this chamber today, shamefully, does not reflect our nation's best traditions. It is a misguided, knee-jerk reaction that will do little to improve, or worst, exacerbate, the growing crisis on the Rio Grande.

H.R. 5230 would provide only one-seventh of the funds the President requested and would only authorize those funds through the end of September. And of these funds, Madam Speaker, the vast majority are directed towards greater border security and not—as is necessary—the humanitarian aspect of this crisis.

I have always been supportive of greater border security and providing our nation's Border Patrol Agents with the resources they need to protect us. However, our country is already deporting record numbers of people—over 1.2 million in the past three years—and there is growing concern among our border communities that their towns and cities are already being negatively affected by our border surge.

What these children need—and our DHS and HHS officials on the border have requested—are not more boots on the ground, but more judges, health officials, asylum officers, and facilities to temporarily house these children while we determine if they need to return to their home country or are eligible for asylum.

This legislation would further militarize our border, without regard to the wishes of our border communities, by authorizing the deployment of the National Guard and make null and void existing Memorandums of Understanding between CBP and the Interior and Agriculture Departments on protecting federal lands under these departments oversight, like Big Bend National Park.

I urge my colleagues to demand a vote on a clean supplemental and to vote against this shameful legislation.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 5230 "the Supplemental Appropriations to Address the Southwest Border Crisis."

This partisan bill does nothing to address the humanitarian crisis at the border. Instead this bill undermines due process protections for children who have been victims of trafficking, torture, and persecution.

It is shameful Republicans are using this crisis to advance their own agenda. In doing so, Republicans are jeopardizing children's lives, and hypocritically reversing their position on a law they once supported. With this bill, Republican Hypocrisy has been taken to another level.

Yesterday, I met President and Vice-President of the National Association of immigration Judges, who said no current protections and due process for these children should be changed. Republicans should listen to them.

I urge my colleagues to oppose the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 696, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration on H.R. 5230 is postponed.

HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ACT OF 2014

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 696, I call up the bill (H.R. 5021) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes, with a Senate amendment thereto.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the Senate amendment.

The text of the Senate amendment is as follows:

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM EXTENSION

Subtitle A—Federal-aid Highways

Sec. 1001. Extension of Federal-aid highway programs.

Subtitle B—Extension of Highway Safety Programs

Sec. 1101. Extension of National Highway Traffic Safety Administration highway safety programs.
Sec. 1102. Extension of Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration programs.
Sec. 1103. Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act.

Subtitle C—Public Transportation Programs

Sec. 1201. Public transportation programs continuation.

Subtitle D—Hazardous Materials

Sec. 1301. Extension of hazardous materials programs.

TITLE II—REVENUE PROVISIONS

Sec. 2001. Extension of Highway Trust Fund expenditure authority.
Sec. 2002. Funding of Highway Trust Fund.
Sec. 2003. Additional information on returns relating to mortgage interest.
Sec. 2004. Penalty for failure to meet due diligence requirements for the child tax credit.
Sec. 2005. Clarification of 6-year statute of limitations in case of overstatement of basis.

Sec. 2006. 100 percent continuous levy on payment to medicare providers and suppliers.
Sec. 2007. Modification of tax exemption requirements for mutual ditch or irrigation companies.
Sec. 2008. Equalization of excise tax on liquefied natural gas and liquefied petroleum gas.
Sec. 2009. Extension of customs user fees.
TITLE III—BUDGETARY PROVISIONS
Sec. 301. Treatment for PAYGO purposes.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act and the amendments made by this Act:

(1) MAP–21.—The term ''MAP–21'' means the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (Public Law 112–141; 126 Stat. 405).

(2) PART-YEAR EXTENSION PERIOD.—The term ''Part-Year Extension Period'' means the period beginning on October 1, 2014, and ending on the Part-Year Funding Date.

(3) PART-YEAR FUNDING DATE.—The term ''Part-Year Funding Date'' means December 19, 2014.

(4) PART-YEAR RATIO.—The term ''Part-Year Ratio'' means the ratio calculated by dividing—

(A) the number of days included in the period beginning on October 1, 2014, and ending on the Part-Year Funding Date; by

(B) 365.

(5) SAFETEA–LU.—The term ''SAFETEA–LU'' means the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (Public Law 109–59; 119 Stat. 1144).

TITLE I—SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM EXTENSION

Subtitle A—Federal-aid Highways

SEC. 1001. EXTENSION OF FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAY PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, requirements, authorities, conditions, eligibilities, limitations, and other provisions authorized under divisions A and E of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141), the SAFETEA–LU Technical Corrections Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–244), titles I, V, and VI of SAFETEA–LU (Public Law 109–59), titles I and V of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (Public Law 105–178), the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–59), titles I and VI of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–240), and title 23, United States Code (excluding chapter 4 of that title), that would otherwise expire on or cease to apply after September 30, 2014, are incorporated by reference and shall continue in effect through the Part-Year Extension Period.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for the Part-Year Extension Period a sum equal to—

(1) the total amount authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for programs, projects, and activities for fiscal year 2014 under divisions A and E of MAP–21 and title 23, United States Code (excluding chapter 4 of that title); multiplied by

(2) the Part-Year Ratio.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise expressly provided in this title, funds authorized to be appropriated under subsection (b) for the Part-Year Extension Period shall be distributed, administered, limited, and made available for obligation in the same manner and in the same amounts (as calculated using the Part-Year Ratio) as the funds authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for fiscal year 2014 to carry out programs, projects, activities, eligibilities, and requirements under—

(A) MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141);

(B) the SAFETEA–LU Technical Corrections Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–244);

(C) SAFETEA–LU (Public Law 109–59);

(D) the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (Public Law 105–178);

(E) the National Highway System Designation Act of 1995 (Public Law 104–59);

(F) the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (Public Law 102–240); and

(G) title 23, United States Code (excluding chapter 4 of that title).

(2) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Funds authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) under this section shall be—

(A) available for obligation and shall be administered in the same manner as if the funds were apportioned under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code; and

(B) for the Part-Year Extension Period, except as provided in paragraph (3)(B), subject to the limitation on obligations for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs for fiscal year 2015 in paragraph (3)(A) or an Act making appropriations for fiscal year 2015 or a portion of that fiscal year.

(3) OBLIGATION CEILING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In the absence of an Act making appropriations for fiscal year 2015 or a portion of that fiscal year—

(i) the annual limitation on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for fiscal year 2015 shall be equal to that of fiscal year 2014; and

(ii) the limitation on obligations shall be distributed and funding shall be exempt from the limitation on obligations in the same manner as for fiscal year 2014

(B) APPLICATION DURING PART-YEAR EXTENSION PERIOD.—

(i) LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS.—During the Part-Year Extension Period, obligations subject to the limitation described in paragraph (2)(B) shall not exceed—

(I) the annual limitation on obligations imposed under that paragraph; multiplied by

(II) the Part-Year Ratio.

(ii) EXEMPT NHPP FUNDS.—During the Part-Year Extension Period, the amount of funds under section 119 of title 23, United States Code, that is exempt from the limitation on obligations imposed under paragraph (2)(B) shall be—

(I) $639,000,000; multiplied by

(II) the Part-Year Ratio.

(C) CALCULATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF OBLIGATION LIMITATION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall, as necessary for purposes of making the calculations for the distribution of any obligation limitation during the Part-Year Extension Period—

(i) annualize the amount of contract authority provided under this Act for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs; and

(ii) multiply the resulting distribution of obligation limitation by either the Part-Year Ratio or the pro rata for the period of an Act making appropriations for a portion of fiscal year 2015, whichever is applicable.

Subtitle B—Extension of Highway Safety Programs

SEC. 1101. EXTENSION OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, requirements, authorities, conditions, and other provisions authorized under subtitle A of title I of division C of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141), section 2009 of SAFETEA–LU (23 U.S.C. 402 note; Public Law 109–59), and chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code, that would otherwise expire on or cease to apply after September 30, 2014, are incorporated by reference and shall continue in effect through the Part-Year Extension Period.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for the Part-Year Extension Period a sum equal to—

(1) the total amount authorized to be appropriated out of the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for programs, projects, and activities for fiscal year 2014 under subtitle A of title I of division C of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141), section 2009 of SAFETEA–LU (23 U.S.C. 402 note; Public Law 109–59), and chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code; multiplied by

(2) the Part-Year Ratio.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds authorized to appropriated or made available for obligation under the authority of this section shall be distributed, administered, and made available for obligation in the same manner and at the same rate as funds authorized to be appropriated or made available for fiscal year 2014 to carry out programs, projects and activities under—

(1) subtitle A of title I of division C of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141);

(2) section 2009 of SAFETEA–LU (23 U.S.C. 402 note; Public Law 109–59); and

(3) chapter 4 of title 23, United States Code.

(d) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Section 31101(c) of MAP–21 (126 Stat. 733) is amended by striking ''fiscal years 2013 and 2014'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2013, 2014, and 2015''.

(e) LAW ENFORCEMENT CAMPAIGNS.—Section 2009(a) of SAFETEA–LU (23 U.S.C. 402 note; Public Law 109–59) is amended by striking ''fiscal years 2013 and 2014'' each place it appears and inserting ''fiscal years 2013, 2014, and 2015''.

SEC. 1102. EXTENSION OF FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS.

(a) EXTENSION OF PROGRAMS.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, requirements, authorities, conditions, eligibilities, limitations, and other provisions authorized under title II of division C of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141), title IV of SAFETEA–LU (Public Law 109–59), and part B of subtitle VI of title 49, United States Code, that would otherwise expire on or cease to apply after September 30, 2014, are incorporated by reference and shall continue in effect through the Part-Year Extension Period.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for the period beginning October 1, 2014, and ending on the Part-Year Funding Date, a sum equal to—

(1) the total amount authorized to be appropriated from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for programs, projects, and activities for fiscal year 2014 under title II of division C of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141), title IV of SAFETEA–LU (Public Law 109–59), and part B of subtitle VI of title 49, United States Code; multiplied by

(2) the Part-Year Ratio.

(c) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Funds authorized to be appropriated under this section shall be available for obligation and shall be administered in the same manner as if the funds were authorized by section 4101 of SAFETEA–LU (Public Law 109–59) and amendments made by that section, as amended by section 32603 of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141), or authorized by section 31104 of title 49, United States Code.

(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds authorized to be appropriated or made available for obligation and expended under the authority of this section shall be distributed, administered, limited, and made available for obligation in the same manner and at the same rate as funds authorized to be appropriated or made available for fiscal year 2014 to carry out programs, projects, activities, eligibilities, and requirements under—

(1) title II of division C of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141);

(2) title IV of SAFETEA–LU (Public Law 109–59); and

(3) part B of subtitle VI of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 1103. DINGELL-JOHNSON SPORT FISH RESTORATION ACT.

Section 4 of the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 777c) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking ''2014'' and inserting ''2015''; and

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(A) in the first sentence by striking ''2014'' and inserting ''2015''.

Subtitle C—Public Transportation Programs

SEC. 1201. PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS CONTINUATION.

(a) EXTENSION FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, requirements, authorities, conditions, eligibilities, limitations, and other provisions authorized under division B of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141) and chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, that would otherwise expire on or cease to apply after September 30, 2014, are incorporated by reference and shall continue in effect through the Part-Year Extension Period.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) MASS TRANSIT ACCOUNT.—There shall be available from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund for the Part-Year Extension Period, a sum equal to—

(A) the total amount authorized to be appropriated out of the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund for programs, projects, and activities for fiscal year 2014 authorized under division B of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141) and under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; multiplied by

(B) the Part-Year Ratio.

(2) GENERAL FUND.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the general fund of the Treasury for the period beginning October 1, 2014, and ending on the Part-Year Funding Date, a sum equal to—

(A) the total amount authorized to be appropriated from the general fund of the Treasury for programs, projects, and activities for fiscal year 2014 under division B of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141) and under chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code; multiplied by

(B) the Part-Year Ratio.

(c) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—Funds made available under this section from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund shall be available for obligation in the same manner as set forth in section 5338(j)(1) of title 49, United States Code.

(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds authorized to appropriated or made available for obligation and expended under the authority of this section shall be distributed, administered, limited, and made available for obligation in the same manner and at the same rate as funds authorized to be appropriated or made available for fiscal year 2014 to carry out programs, projects, activities, eligibilities, and requirements under division B of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141) and chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code.

(e) DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS UNDER DIVISION B OF MAP–21.—Funds authorized to be appropriated or made available for programs continued under this section shall be distributed to those programs in the same proportion as funds were allocated for those programs for fiscal year 2014.

Subtitle D—Hazardous Materials

SEC. 1301. EXTENSION OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROGRAMS.

(a) EXTENSION OF PROGRAMS.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, requirements, authorities, conditions, eligibilities, limitations, and other provisions authorized under title III of division C of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141) and chapter 51 of title 49, United States Code, that would otherwise expire on or cease to apply after September 30, 2014, are incorporated by reference and shall continue in effect through the Part-Year Extension Period.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated from the general fund of the Treasury and the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Fund established under section 5116(i) of title 49, United States Code, for the period beginning October 1, 2014, and ending on the Part-Year Funding Date, an amount equal to—

(1) the total amount authorized to be appropriated from the general fund of the Treasury and the Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness Fund for programs, projects, and activities for fiscal year 2014 under title III of division C of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141) and chapter 51 of title 49, United States Code; multiplied by

(2) the Part-Year Ratio.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds authorized to be appropriated or made available for obligation and expended under the authority of this section shall be distributed, administered, limited, and made available for obligation in the same manner and at the same rate as funds authorized to be appropriated or made available for fiscal year 2014 to carry out programs, projects, activities, eligibilities, and requirements under title III of division C of MAP–21 (Public Law 112–141) and chapter 51 of title 49, United States Code.

TITLE II—REVENUE PROVISIONS

SEC. 2001. EXTENSION OF HIGHWAY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY.

(a) HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.—Section 9503 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking ''October 1, 2014'' in subsections (b)(6)(B), (c)(1), and (e)(3) and inserting ''December 20, 2014'', and

(2) by striking ''MAP–21'' in subsections (c)(1) and (e)(3) and inserting ''Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014''.

(b) SPORT FISH RESTORATION AND BOATING TRUST FUND.—Section 9504 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking ''MAP–21'' each place it appears in subsection (b)(2) and inserting ''Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014'', and

(2) by striking ''October 1, 2014'' in subsection (d)(2) and inserting ''December 20, 2014''.

(c) LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND.—Paragraph (2) of section 9508(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''October 1, 2014'' and inserting ''December 20, 2014''.

SEC. 2002. FUNDING OF HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 9503 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (7) and by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraphs:

''(A) $5,633,000,000 to the Highway Account (as defined in subsection (e)(5)(B)) in the Highway Trust Fund; and

''(B) $1,500,000,000 to the Mass Transit Account in the Highway Trust Fund.

''(6) ADDITIONAL INCREASE IN FUND BALANCE.—There is hereby transferred to the Highway Account (as defined in subsection (e)(5)(B)) in the Highway Trust Fund amounts appropriated from the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund under section 9508(c)(3).''.

(b) APPROPRIATION FROM LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK TRUST FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 9508 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) ADDITIONAL TRANSFER TO HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.—Out of amounts in the Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund there is hereby appropriated $1,000,000,000 to be transferred under section 9503(f)(6) to the Highway Account (as defined in section 9503(e)(5)(B)) in the Highway Trust Fund.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 9508(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''paragraph (2)'' and inserting ''paragraphs (2) and (3)''.

SEC. 2003. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON RETURNS RELATING TO MORTGAGE INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 6050H(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (C), by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (I), and by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraphs:

''(D) the unpaid balance with respect to such mortgage at the close of the calendar year,

''(E) the address of the property securing such mortgage,

''(F) information with respect to whether the mortgage is a refinancing that occurred in such calendar year,

''(G) the amount of real estate taxes paid from an escrow account with respect to the property securing such mortgage,

''(H) the date of the origination of such mortgage, and''.

(b) PAYEE STATEMENTS.—Subsection (d) of section 6050H of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of paragraph (1), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (2) and inserting '', and'', and by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

''(3) the information required to be included on the return under subparagraphs (D), (E), (F), (G) and (H) of subsection (b)(2).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to returns and statements the due date for which (determined without regard to extensions) is after December 31, 2015.

SEC. 2004. PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO MEET DUE DILIGENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CHILD TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6695 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(h) FAILURE TO BE DILIGENT IN DETERMINING ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILD TAX CREDIT.—Any person who is a tax return preparer with respect to any return or claim for refund who fails to comply with due diligence requirements imposed by the Secretary by regulations with respect to determining eligibility for, or the amount of, the credit allowable by section 24 shall pay a penalty of $500 for each such failure.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2014.

SEC. 2005. CLARIFICATION OF 6-YEAR STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS IN CASE OF OVERSTATEMENT OF BASIS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 6501(e)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (i), by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii), and by inserting after clause (i) the following new clause:

''(ii) An understatement of gross income by reason of an overstatement of unrecovered cost or other basis is an omission from gross income; and'',

(2) by inserting ''(other than in the case of an overstatement of unrecovered cost or other basis)'' in clause (iii) (as so redesignated) after ''In determining the amount omitted from gross income'', and

(3) by inserting ''AMOUNT OMITTED FROM'' after ''DETERMINATION OF'' in the heading thereof.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to—

(1) returns filed after the date of the enactment of this Act, and

(2) returns filed on or before such date if the period specified in section 6501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (determined without regard to such amendments) for assessment of the taxes with respect to which such return relates has not expired as of such date.

SEC. 2006. 100 PERCENT CONTINUOUS LEVY ON PAYMENT TO MEDICARE PROVIDERS AND SUPPLIERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 6331(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking the period at the end and inserting '', or to a Medicare provider or supplier under title XVIII of the Social Security Act.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to payments made on or after the date which is 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2007. MODIFICATION OF TAX EXEMPTION REQUIREMENTS FOR MUTUAL DITCH OR IRRIGATION COMPANIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (12) of section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(I) TREATMENT OF MUTUAL DITCH IRRIGATION COMPANIES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a mutual ditch or irrigation company or of a like organization to a mutual ditch or irrigation company, subparagraph (A) shall be applied without taking into account any income received or accrued—

''(I) from the sale, lease, or exchange of fee or other interests in real property, including interests in water,

''(II) from the sale or exchange of stock in a mutual ditch or irrigation company (or in a like organization to a mutual ditch or irrigation company) or contract rights for the delivery or use of water, or

''(III) from the investment of proceeds from sales, leases, or exchanges under subclauses (I) and (II),

except that any income received under subclause (I), (II), or (III) which is distributed or expended for expenses (other than for operations, maintenance, and capital improvements) of the mutual ditch or irrigation company or of the like organization to a mutual ditch or irrigation company (as the case may be) shall be treated as nonmember income in the year in which it is distributed or expended. For purposes of the preceding sentence, expenses (other than for operations, maintenance, and capital improvements) include expenses for the construction of conveyances designed to deliver water outside of the system of the mutual ditch or irrigation company or of the like organization.

''(ii) TREATMENT OF ORGANIZATIONAL GOVERNANCE.—In the case of a mutual ditch or irrigation company or of a like organization to a mutual ditch or irrigation company, where State law provides that such a company or organization may be organized in a manner that permits voting on a basis which is pro rata to share ownership on corporate governance matters, subparagraph (A) shall be applied without taking into account whether its member shareholders have one vote on corporate governance matters per share held in the corporation. Nothing in this clause shall be construed to create any inference about the requirements of this subsection for companies or organizations not included in this clause.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2008. EQUALIZATION OF EXCISE TAX ON LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS AND LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS.

(a) LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GAS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4041(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (i), by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii), and by inserting after clause (i) the following new clause:

''(ii) in the case of liquefied petroleum gas, 18.3 cents per energy equivalent of a gallon of gasoline, and''.

(2) ENERGY EQUIVALENT OF A GALLON OF GASOLINE.—Paragraph (2) of section 4041(a) of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(C) ENERGY EQUIVALENT OF A GALLON OF GASOLINE.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'energy equivalent of a gallon of gasoline' means, with respect to a liquefied petroleum gas fuel, the amount of such fuel having a Btu content of 115,400 (lower heating value).''.

(b) LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 4041(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by subsection (a)(1), is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (ii), by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting '', and'' and by inserting after clause (iii) the following new clause:

''(iv) in the case of liquefied natural gas, 24.3 cents per energy equivalent of a gallon of diesel.''.

(2) ENERGY EQUIVALENT OF A GALLON OF DIESEL.—Paragraph (2) of section 4041(a) of such Code, as amended by subsection (a)(2), is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(D) ENERGY EQUIVALENT OF A GALLON OF DIESEL.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'energy equivalent of a gallon of diesel' means, with respect to a liquefied natural gas fuel, the amount of such fuel having a Btu content of 128,700 (lower heating value).''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 4041(a)(2)(B)(iv) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as redesignated by subsection (a)(1) and paragraph (1), is amended—

(A) by striking ''liquefied natural gas,'', and

(B) by striking ''peat), and'' and inserting ''peat) and''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to any sale or use of fuel after September 30, 2014.

SEC. 2009. EXTENSION OF CUSTOMS USER FEES.

Section 13031(j)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(j)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''September 30, 2023'' and inserting ''January 7, 2024'', and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking ''September 30, 2023'' and inserting ''January 7, 2024''.

TITLE III—BUDGETARY PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. TREATMENT FOR PAYGO PURPOSES.

(a) PAYGO SCORECARD.—The budgetary effects of this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not be entered on either PAYGO scorecard maintained pursuant to section 4(d) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(d)).

(b) SENATE PAYGO SCORECARD.—The budgetary effects of this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall not be entered on any PAYGO scorecard maintained for purposes of section 201 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress).

MOTION OFFERED BY MR. SHUSTER

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the motion.

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mr. Shuster moves that the House disagree to the Senate amendment to H.R. 5021.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 696, the motion shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

The gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) and the gentleman from West Virginia (Mr. RAHALL) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on this motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We have an immediate, critical need to address the solvency of the trust fund and extend the current surface transportation law. If Congress fails to act, thousands of transportation projects and hundreds of thousands of jobs across the country will be at risk.

Two weeks ago, the House acted and passed H.R. 5021, the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014. This important legislation extends Federal surface transportation programs and ensures the solvency of the highway trust fund through May of 2015. It provides certainty.

The House overwhelmingly passed H.R. 5021 with a bipartisan vote of 367–55. Then we waited for the Senate to act. We continue to wait and wait. Then on Tuesday, the Senate finally acted. The Senate amended our bill to reduce funding for the highway trust fund and only extend surface transportation programs through December 19, 2014.

The Senate approach is deeply flawed. First, the Senate proposal is not fully offset. It underfunds the highway trust fund by more than $2 billion. Second, the Senate's shorter extension would guarantee a manufactured crisis in a lameduck session, when some might be inclined to play politics with these issues or use them as vehicles for unrelated policies that should be subject to the full and open debate they deserve.

Today, the House is considering a motion to disagree with the Senate amendment to H.R. 5021 and send our original bill back to the Senate. I strongly support this motion. This course of action in no way precludes Congress from continuing to work on addressing a long-term funding solution and a long-term reauthorization bill, which remains a top priority for the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings or other audible conversation is in violation of the rules of the House.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate on our shared goal of enacting a long-term surface transportation reauthorization bill. However, this approach is the responsible solution at this time. It ensures that we don't play politics with these programs and enables us to continue

making improvements to our surface transportation system.

I strongly urge all Members to support this motion. A vote against this motion is a vote to shut down these projects and programs and would put more than 6,000 projects and more than 700,000 jobs at risk.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, 2 weeks ago, I stood in this exact spot and urged passage of a highway trust fund patch as soon as possible to keep our surface transportation programs up and running.

Now we stand at the edge of an enormous cliff with days—not weeks—to go before the trust fund goes belly up and the Transportation Department starts rationing payments to States. We do not have the luxury of time to deliberate or trade further ideas. Congress needs to act now to enact a bill and avert an unnecessary crisis. That is why I support the motion before us today, but not because I think the House bill is a better approach.

The Senate extended programs through December to keep the pressure on Congress to enact a long-term highway bill as soon as possible. I fully support this approach. Unfortunately, the Senate amendment contains a technical error. It does not fully offset the transfer to the highway trust fund, and the House Republican leadership has made clear that the House will not consider a highway bill that is not fully offset.

With a single legislative day left to address this looming crisis, we need to ensure continued funding of roads, bridges, transit systems, and the safety of our travelers and passengers.

Two weeks ago, House Democrats supported a shorter extension as an alternative to H.R. 5021.

□ 1330

This approach was rejected by House Republicans. Today, the House Republican leadership will not even allow us to vote on a fix to the technical error in the Senate amendment.

The House bill and the Senate amendment both help States get through the remainder of this construction season, and they both provide the opportunity for Congress to come together on a bipartisan basis, which the chairman and I have done so well under his tenure and for which I commend him, and pass a long-term surface transportation law in a lameduck session.

There is absolutely no reason that Congress cannot come together and complete a long-term highway bill this fall. I repeat the point I just made, that this legislation that we are acting on today does not preclude us from coming together in a lameduck session of Congress and doing what is necessary for the American people, and that is passing a long-term, robustly funded transportation bill that puts our people to work and repairs our decaying infrastructure.

While I will vote for this motion today, it is not because the House approach is a better solution, but because it does provide the only path forward available to us to avert an immediate crisis and still allow the opportunity for Congress to do the right thing.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I am now pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. BUCSHON).

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of this important motion.

Last year, I was honored to be a conferee on MAP–21, and I am proud of the bill our conference committee produced. Our Nation's transportation projects are being completed faster, and States like my home State of Indiana received more Federal funding than they had in the past.

With construction season under way, we need to ensure that every State can continue with their important summer construction projects. This legislation—this motion—is vital to keep thousands of Americans working to rebuild our aging infrastructure.

Funding our Nation's infrastructure should not be a political issue. We all agree that we need a long-term solution to fund our Nation's crumbling infrastructure, but today we need to approve this motion.

The proposal from our Senate colleagues contained an error in financing for their bill that only paid for funding through October, not December. The error came in over $2 billion short. Nobody plans even the smallest transportation project on a month-to-month basis, and we should not be providing funding on a month-to-month basis. The Senate bill is not a viable solution for our States.

I met with Indiana Governor Mike Pence this morning, who reiterated to me how important it is to continue to provide long-term funding for every State. The House bill is the only proposal that gives every State the opportunity to adequately plan through this construction season and into the spring. The House bill is the only solution that is going to keep people working to rebuild our Nation's infrastructure.

I thank Chairman SHUSTER for his strong leadership on this issue, and I urge all of my colleagues to support this motion.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I am honored to yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, the distinguished ranking member on our Highways and Transit Subcommittee.

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I thank my good friend, the ranking member of the full committee, for his work to try to get us a fully funded bill, that I am sure the chairman desired as well.

But I must say, Madam Speaker, we have shored up the highway trust fund four times since 2008—four patches, this would be the fifth—until May. Everyone knows what we are doing. We are setting ourselves up for another series of short-term extensions. We don't dare leave the trust fund insolvent—not us. But we don't have the guts to help our own States get on with urgently needed projects.

Short-term funding is like no funding. Where is the dissent on this traditionally bipartisan bill, the highway bill. It is certainly not in the States. It is in the Republican Conference, where they have a crisis among some of their members who believe that spending money on anything is an original sin, even at the demand of their own constituents.

Madam Speaker, I don't have the figures from my own district, so I give you some figures from the State of Arkansas, which I chose at random, to indicate what this bill means for the States. Arkansas relies for about 70 percent of its transportation funding on this bill. However, it has put off 15 projects, even with this bill coming. I am quoting from its Highway and Transportation Department:

> We don't feel comfortable going forward with these projects because we are not sure if the highway trust fund will be resolved in time to fully see these projects to completion.

That is the position you are leaving the States in.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I yield an additional minute to the gentlewoman.

Ms. NORTON. An official from the American Road and Transportation Builders Association spoke about what this funding does. He said:

> If you have your money coming in on an almost annual or every other year basis, subject to being shut down by Congress, you cannot make long-term investments and hire people.

The tragedy of these patches is they have a human face: millions of construction workers now working on a piecework basis. The differences between the House and the Senate are easily reconcilable. The Senate passed their bill 79–18. What is wrong with this House? In the past, we would have gotten these differences resolved. There has been plenty of time since MAP–21. If 2 years has not been enough, what in the world do we think the next 8 or 9 months will mean? Time is not the problem; will is. Let's spend this time in the recess getting a long-term bill, as our States are demanding.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN).

Mr. MULLIN. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand in front of you today in support of H.R. 5021, the Highway Transportation and Funding Act.

We, as a body, stand here all the time and we talk about creating jobs. What

we need to do is create an atmosphere where jobs can thrive.

If this bill for some reason doesn't pass, we are talking about putting over 700,000 jobs at risk. In Oklahoma alone, that is 200 construction jobs at risk.

We need time. Yes, this Congress, this body, every now and then we push things down the road, but we are truly trying to find a real solution. The Senate bill just didn't give us enough time. This will push it through May and allow us to look at a long-term funding solution.

Now, either we are going to stand up as a whole and say, yes, this is our responsibility, yes, we are going to provide the industry confidence that this body is going to stay with them, or what we say when we are talking about creating jobs really doesn't mean anything.

Look, we have an opportunity here to build confidence in construction workers and contractors that we depend on every day. We rely on them to get to and from work. When we go to our local stores, we depend on them to make sure the goods are delivered there. And are we going to continue bickering about it a little bit or are we going to stand up and say, let's make sure you are funded? Let's stand up and say, we support you, we are going to make sure that industry and the 700,000 jobs that are there, we are going to make sure that you go to work tomorrow.

Let's make sure that we stand together as a body and invest in our infrastructure.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER), a former member of our powerful House Transportation Committee, who decided to go to the esteemed Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the gentleman's courtesy and his leadership.

I listened to my friend from Oklahoma. I wish his leadership would listen to him to create an atmosphere of certainty and move forward.

There is a reason why the stakeholders uniformly supported the Senate approach. The Senate approach said: Wait a minute, on a bipartisan basis—79 votes, 25 Republicans—we said we are not going to kick this into the next Congress, because that is where the crisis is going to be. You will be in the middle of a new Congress, who knows what the lineup is going to be in the House and the Senate, and Presidential elections, and you won't be giving the certainty to the industry that they are asking for.

That is why construction trades, contractors, the AFL–CIO, Chamber of Commerce, the people who pave the roads, were uniformly supporting the Senate approach. They don't want to slide it into the next year.

I serve on the Ways and Means Committee. I have been trying for now 3½ years to get the Republicans who control the Ways and Means Committee to have a hearing on transportation finance. We have not had one in 3½ years. Now, that is the responsibility of the Ways and Means Committee. I left the T&I Committee hoping that I could help you in the pursuit of resources—3½ years, not a single hearing. My goodness. That is why we have had ever shorter reauthorizations. I don't count a 27-month bill as a reauthorization. And we had 21 short-term extensions.

Now, the House here, the Democrats uniformly said, let's get enough money to get us through the year and let's work together on the long-term issues, maybe we can even have a hearing on finance. When our notion didn't pass—although it was supported by all but three of our colleagues on the Democratic side—when it didn't pass, we didn't pick up our marbles and go home. We provided enough votes, because the Republicans didn't have enough votes to pass it, we provided enough votes hoping that we could get something better coming back from the Senate, and we did get something better coming back from the Senate.

There was a drafting error that we could pass a fix for in 14½ seconds on the floor of the House if we had the spirit of accommodation and follow-through, which my friend, the ranking member, has seen in his long years and has participated in. To try and advance it.

But, no, what we have seen is people are going to turn their back, they are going to slide into the next Congress, and we are going to duck all the tough issues. We haven't heard anything that deals with how we are going to move forward. The T&I Committee doesn't have a bill.

I would respectfully suggest that we ought to reject this motion, that, in fact, we ought not to reject what the Senate did. Let's work together. We can solve this in a matter of minutes if people are committed to doing so. We would be keeping faith with the people who build, who operate, and who rely upon the transportation systems in this country.

We have a unique moment in history to be on the side of that vast nonpartisan coalition that wants us to do our job. I would respectfully request that we do it, and that we commit as a body that we are not going on vacation in August, we are not going to recess to campaign, and we won't recess for the year until we do our job for the American public.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, we have no further speakers, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I am happy to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO), a valued member of our Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and the ranking member of the House Natural Resources Committee.

Mr. DEFAZIO. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Many years ago, I worked as a bicycle mechanic, so I know how to patch a tube. But if you get to the point where you can't see the tube anymore for the patches, then it is time for a new tube.

Well, that is where we are at here today. We have had study after study that we are not even investing enough money in our infrastructure to bring it up to a state of good repair, let alone build a modern 21st century infrastructure.

□ 1345

We were the envy of the world with the Eisenhower program. We were the number one in infrastructure in the world. Where are we now? We are number 26. We are down there slugging it out with Third World countries, in terms of our infrastructure.

140,000 bridges on the national highway system need repair or replacement. Forty percent of the national highway system is so deteriorated that it has to be totally replaced. You can't just patch it anymore. You just can't resurface anymore.

Our transit agencies have a $70 billion backlog to bring their existing systems up to a state of good repair—not to build new transit options for Americans, no—just to bring what we have up to a state of good repair.

Why are we here today? Because there are people on that side of the aisle who actually don't believe it is either the duty, obligation, or right of the Federal Government to invest in a national highway system, a national transportation system. They believe in devolution. Make the States do it.

We tried that. In the 1950s, Kansas built a brand-new turnpike. It ended at the Oklahoma border because Oklahoma ran out of money, and they didn't build it until the Eisenhower bill went through.

They want to go back to those good old days of the 1950s, when you couldn't even have roads that connected between States. That is nuts. It was bad in the middle of the last century, and it is nuts for the 21st century.

Are we just going to kick the can down the road again? If we pass this Republican proposal to continue the current anemic levels of funding until next May, that is not going to bring the States the certainty they need. It is not going to bring the industry the robust investment they need. It is not going to get us the jobs we need.

Yes, we will limp along until next May, and then there will be incredible uncertainty about the next construction season. There won't be major new projects planned. Nothing will happen. We need to resolve that this year.

We should stay here, as the gentleman from Oregon said, and resolve it this August. Five weeks, guys, and we can't get to this issue? Then you are going to kick it into next year? Better, at least, that we are confronted with it before the end of this year; then maybe we can get a robust funding source.

Maybe we can make the investments we need. Maybe we could give the

States the tools they need next construction season and the certainty they need next construction season to go forward.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I yield the gentleman an additional 1 minute.

Mr. DEFAZIO. We just had a Standard & Poor's study. 29,000 jobs are created, and these are not just construction jobs. They are engineering jobs, technical jobs, and manufacturing jobs for the equipment that goes into this or the steel that goes into this. These are small business jobs with a small business set-aside.

We are foregoing an incredible stimulus to our economy, putting hundreds of thousands of Americans back to work or at work, building us yet again toward a world-class infrastructure.

It is just shameful this has been bipartisan forever. Washington, canals and highways; Lincoln, the transcontinental railroad; Eisenhower, the national highway system; and Ronald Reagan put transit into the national highway program—now, we are here limping along with yet another patch that isn't adequate, won't give us the recovery we need, and won't give us the transportation infrastructure we need to be competitive in the 21st century.

It is a very sad day. We should reject this proposal and get to work.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, it is now my pleasure to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP), chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. CAMP. I thank the distinguished chairman for yielding.

Madam Speaker, the House passed their version of highway funding more than 2 weeks ago. The Senate acted last night. Because of their rush, there was actually a drafting error in the Senate version of the highway bill that either creates a $2 billion hole in the deficit or only funds the program through early October.

The House is not scheduled to be in session in October, so I would suggest to my friends that I think the best thing to do at this stage of the game is to accept this proposal and send the House bill back to the Senate, which does a couple of things: it certainly does not increase the deficit, as the Senate bill does, because of their mistake; but also, it gets us through May 31.

I have committed to the distinguished gentleman on the other side that the Ways and Means Committee will have a hearing on transportation funding in September when we return, but this gives us the time to look at the competing proposals to finance our infrastructure.

Those disagreements don't necessarily follow along partisan lines, as the previous speaker might have suggested. Not everybody agrees with the gas tax. Not everybody agrees with miles driven. Not everybody agrees with tolls. We are going to have to work through those alternatives and see what other proposals might be there to see where we can move forward.

I believe we can move forward in a bipartisan way on this issue because our infrastructure needs—I would agree with the previous speaker—are dire. They are important. We do need to move forward on a long-term funding bill, but if we don't get past October and if we don't do this today, August 1 is the day the contracts start ending. I think that would be completely irresponsible to allow that to begin to occur.

So let's have continuity in transportation projects and funding. Support the House bill. Send it back to the Senate. I am certain, given the mistake in their legislation, that will be accepted when it gets to the other side.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER).

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I deeply appreciate the comments of my good friend, the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, with whom I have enjoyed working for 8 years now on the committee. I appreciate his commitment that we will have a hearing on transportation finance in September. I welcome that.

I absolutely agree that people are all over the map. Some people want to get us out of the transportation system on a Federal level—devolution—some want more resources, some want just to limp along. I look forward to having that conversation, but I would just make three brief observations.

One is that it is true we are not scheduled to be in business in October. I think that, frankly, is wrong. I don't think we should recess to campaign when there are all these questions about transportation, and we could roll up our sleeves and actually be doing something. I, for one, would be happy to be here in October, working to avoid a cliff next May.

Second, there is a $2 billion drafting mistake on the part of the Senate. These things are not unforeseen or unexpected. We have had experience with them in the past. I am quite confident, in a matter of minutes, we could work with the Senate and put the right language in, and we would be able to avoid that problem.

Finally, we were committed to solving the problem for stakeholders in business, labor, local governments, State, transits, environmentalists, equipment manufacturers, a whole range of people would be happy if we would sit down and be able to fix the modest little technical problem and embrace what all but three Democrats voted for 2 weeks ago and what 79 Republicans and Democrats voted for in the Senate.

I appreciate what I have heard, and I look forward to working with the gentleman to see what progress we can make. I volunteer to be here in October with him.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I will conclude and yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, I would like to reiterate my strong support of this motion. It strips the Senate amendments to H.R. 5021 and sends our original bill back to the Senate, which we passed 367–55.

Our bill is the responsible solution that ensures that we don't play politics with these programs and enables us to continue making improvement to our surface transportation system.

This course of action in no way precludes Congress from continuing to work on addressing a long-term funding solution and a long-term reauthorization bill, which remains a top priority for the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

I strongly urge all Members to support this motion. Let me be perfectly clear: a vote against this motion is a vote to shut down surface transportation projects and programs. The American people deserve better than that, and we can do better than that.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in support of this motion, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, Surface Transportation Programs are too critical to our economy to become a political issue. The short-term Highway Trust Fund extension that the House is voting on today will keep workers on the job this summer and fall fixing our bridges, operating our transit systems and making our highways safer.

Unfortunately, we're already behind the 8 Ball in preparing for surface reauthorization and have some serious work to do in deciding how we are going to fund the future of transportation in this country.

Developing a bill based on strong policy is always the best way to write legislation, but the most critical part of developing this next reauthorization bill is clearly finding a way to pay for it. Without that everything else is just talk.

As we prepare for reauthorization of MAP–21 we need to get serious about funding our nation's transportation system. We can't continue to provide grossly inadequate funding for our nation's infrastructure. We're failing to keep pace with our international competitors who are investing heavily in infrastructure, particularly rail infrastructure to move people, goods, and services in their countries. I agree we need to squeeze out every bit of efficiency we can through improved technology and innovation, but we are kidding ourselves if we don't think it will take a significant investment in our nation's infrastructure to truly solve the congestion problems we are facing.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee needs to take the bull by the horns and decide how we are going to fund all forms of transportation for the future. Our committee needs to have all possible options on the table to address our current shortfalls. The American Society of Civil Engineers has given our

nation infrastructure a D grade. That is unacceptable for the greatest country in the world.

Transportation and Infrastructure funding is absolutely critical to the nation, and, if properly funded, serves as a tremendous economic and job creator. In fact, Department of Transportation (DOT) statistics show that for every $1 billion invested in transportation infrastructure, 44,000 jobs are created, as is $6.2 billion in economic activity.

So, as the Transportation & Infrastructure committee prepares the next transportation reauthorization bill, I hope we can develop a long term bill with dedicated funding source for all modes of transportation so we can improve our nation's infrastructure, create jobs and improve the economy, and provide new and innovative transportation options for the traveling public.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 696, the previous question is ordered.

The question is on the motion by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER).

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, this 15-minute vote on adoption of the motion to disagree to the Senate amendment will be followed by a 5-minute vote on the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, if ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 272, nays 150, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 473]

YEAS—272

Aderholt
Amash
Amodei
Bachmann
Bachus
Barber
Barletta
Barr
Barrow (GA)
Barton
Benishek
Bentivolio
Bera (CA)
Bilirakis
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Boustany
Brady (TX)
Bridenstine
Brooks (AL)
Brooks (IN)
Broun (GA)
Brownley (CA)
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burgess
Bustos
Byrne
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Capito
Carter
Cassidy
Chabot
Chaffetz
Clawson (FL)
Coble
Coffman
Cole
Collins (GA)
Collins (NY)
Conaway
Cook
Cotton
Cramer
Crawford
Crenshaw
Cuellar
Culberson
Daines
Davis (CA)
Davis, Rodney
DelBene
Denham
Dent
DeSantis
Diaz-Balart
Duckworth
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Ellmers
Enyart
Esty
Farenthold
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foster
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Garcia
Gardner
Gerlach
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gosar
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grimm
Guthrie
Hall
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (WA)
Heck (NV)
Heck (WA)
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Holding
Hudson
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, Sam
Jolly
Jones
Jordan
Joyce
Kelly (PA)
Kilmer
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kinzinger (IL)
Kirkpatrick
Kline
Kuster
Labrador
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Lance
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Latham
Latta
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Long
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lujan Grisham (NM)
Luján, Ben Ray (NM)
Lummis
Maffei
Maloney, Sean
Marchant
Marino
Massie
McAllister
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
Meadows
Meehan
Messer
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Mullin
Mulvaney
Murphy (FL)
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Noem
Nolan
Nugent
Nunes
Olson
Palazzo
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Perry
Peters (MI)
Peterson
Petri
Pittenger
Pitts
Poe (TX)
Posey
Price (GA)
Rahall
Reed
Reichert
Renacci
Ribble
Rice (SC)
Rigell
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothfus
Royce
Ruiz
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Ryan (WI)
Salmon
Sanford
Scalise
Schneider
Schock
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Sensenbrenner
Sessions
Shea-Porter
Shimkus
Shuster
Simpson
Sinema
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Stewart
Stivers
Stockman
Stutzman
Terry
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tipton
Turner
Upton
Valadao
Veasey
Vela
Visclosky
Wagner
Walberg
Walden
Walorski
Walz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westmoreland
Williams
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Yoder
Yoho
Young (AK)
Young (IN)

NAYS—150

Bass
Beatty
Becerra
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Brady (PA)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Butterfield
Capps
Capuano
Cárdenas
Carney
Carson (IN)
Cartwright
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chu
Cicilline
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Courtney
Crowley
Cummings
Davis, Danny
DeFazio
DeGette
Delaney
DeLauro
Deutch
Doggett
Doyle
Edwards
Engel
Eshoo
Farr
Fattah
Frankel (FL)
Fudge
Gabbard
Gallego
Garamendi
Garrett
Grayson
Green, Al
Grijalva
Gutiérrez
Hahn
Hastings (FL)
Himes
Hinojosa
Holt
Honda
Horsford
Hoyer
Huffman
Israel
Jackson Lee
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Kaptur
Keating
Kennedy
Kildee
Kind
Langevin
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis
Lofgren
Lowenthal
Lowey
Lynch
Maloney, Carolyn
Matheson
Matsui
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McNerney
Meeks
Meng
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Negrete McLeod
O'Rourke
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perlmutter
Peters (CA)
Pingree (ME)
Pocan
Polis
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rangel
Richmond
Roybal-Allard
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schrader
Schwartz
Scott, David
Serrano
Sewell (AL)
Sherman
Sires
Slaughter
Speier
Swalwell (CA)
Takano
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tierney
Titus
Tonko
Tsongas
Van Hollen
Vargas
Velázquez
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Waxman
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Yarmuth

NOT VOTING—10

Cantor
DesJarlais
Dingell
Ellison
Hanabusa
Jeffries
Kelly (IL)
Nunnelee
Pompeo
Scott (VA)

□ 1424

Messrs. ISRAEL, SERRANO, and OWENS changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Messrs. HURT, SCHNEIDER, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, and Mr. POSEY changed their vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So the motion was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated against:

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on roll-call No. 473, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. MCCARTHY of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Madam Speaker, I want to advise all Members that additional votes are possible today. We will send out information as soon as it is possible.

Mr. HOYER. Will the gentleman yield?

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. I yield to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman.

We are going to have to call some Members back. They already left on the representation that this was the last vote of the day. I would imagine you have some Members that are in that category themselves.

Can the gentleman give me any idea of when we will have notice as to whether or not there will be further votes today?

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Knowing that some Members, with this vote just now closed, and earlier they announced that we would not walk off the floor until 3:45, I think it is possible to advise all Members that it is possible to have votes later today.

I am hopeful that by late this afternoon we will be able to notify the time of it.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, 5-minute voting will continue.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1819

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. FOXX) at 6 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF MOTIONS TO SUSPEND THE RULES

Mr. COLE, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 113–570) on the resolution (H. Res. 700) waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

MAJORITY LEADER

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, as chair of the Republican Conference, I am directed by that Conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as majority leader the gentleman from California, the Honorable KEVIN MCCARTHY, effective August 1, 2014.

MINORITY WHIP

Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, as chair of the Republican Conference, I am directed by that Conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as majority whip the gentleman from Louisiana, the Honorable STEVE SCALISE, effective August 1, 2014.

RECALL DESIGNEE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER, Speaker of the House of Representatives:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 31, 2014.

Hon. KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM CLERK: Pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution 1, and also for purposes of such concurrent resolutions of the current Congress as may contemplate my designation of Members to act in similar circumstances, I hereby designate Representative Kevin McCarthy of California to act jointly with the Majority Leader of the Senate or his designee, in the event of my death or inability, to notify the Members of the House and the Senate, respectively, of any reassembly under any such concurrent resolution. In the event of the death or inability of that designee, the alternate Members of the House listed in the letter bearing this date that I have placed with the Clerk are designated, in turn, for the same purposes.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair announces that the Speaker has delivered to the Clerk a letter dated July 31, 2014, listing Members in the order in which each shall act as Speaker pro tempore under clause 8(b)(3) of rule I.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, July 31, 2014.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Under Clause 2(g) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I herewith designate Robert Reeves, Deputy Clerk, and Kirk Boyle, Legal Counsel, to sign any and all papers and do all other acts for me under the name of the Clerk of the House which they would be authorized to do by virtue of this designation, except such as are provided by statute, in case of my temporary absence or disability.

This designation shall remain in effect for the 113th Congress or until modified by me.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

(Mr. MARINO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of Little League Baseball.

Little League was founded by Carl Stotz in my hometown of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, in 1938. Little League's success is because of the dedication of the volunteers, coaches, organizers, and especially youth that participate in this organization around the world.

For the past 75 years, Little League timelessly worked to grow the support of baseball and participation of youth in physical activity. Since its inception, over 35 million kids have participated in Little League baseball, with currently 2.4 million children playing in more than 80 countries around the world in over 7,000 programs.

This year, some of these 11- and 12-year-old boys and girls will join in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania, to celebrate their accomplishments as they play in the 68th Little League World Series.

I am honored to offer my congratulations to Little League Baseball.

I commend the League for continuing to promote the ideals of fair play, sportsmanship, and teamwork; providing a solid foundation of skills and ethics that will assist these children for the rest of their lives.

I am honored to offer my congratulations to all the participants, coaches, volunteers, sponsors, and organizers of Little League and Honor their dedication to the sport of baseball and the improvement of youth around the world.

HOUSE BILLS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills of the following titles:

June 30, 2014:

H.R. 316. An Act to reinstate and transfer certain hydroelectric licenses and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects.

July 16, 2014:

H.R. 2388. An Act to take certain Federal lands located in El Dorado County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, and for other purposes.

July 22, 2014:

H.R. 803. An Act to amend the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 to strengthen the United States workforce development system through innovation in, and alignment and improvement of, employment, training, and education programs in the United States, and to promote individual and national economic growth, and for other purposes.

July 25, 2014:

H.R. 255. An Act to amend certain definitions contained in the Provo River Project Transfer Act for purposes of clarifying certain property descriptions, and for other purposes.

H.R. 272. An Act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense joint outpatient clinic to be constructed in Marina, California, as the ''Major General William H. Gourley VA-DOD Outpatient Clinic''.

H.R. 291. An Act to provide for the conveyance of certain cemeteries that are located on National Forest System land in Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota.

H.R. 330. An Act to designate a Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California.

H.R. 356. An Act to clarify authority granted under the Act entitled ''An Act to define the exterior boundary of the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation in the State of Utah, and for other purposes''.

H.R. 507. An Act to provide for the conveyance of certain land in holdings owned by the United States to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, and for other purposes.

H.R. 697. An Act to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in Clark County, Nevada, for the environmental remediation and reclamation of the Three Kids Mine Project Site, and for other purposes.

H.R. 876. An Act to authorize the continued use of certain water diversions located on National Forest System land in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in the State of Idaho, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1158. An Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to continue stocking fish in certain lakes in the North Cascades National Park, Ross Lake National Recreation Area, and Lake Chelan National Recreation Area.

H.R. 1216. An Act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Vet Center in Prescott, Arizona, as the ''Dr. Cameron McKinley Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Center''.

H.R. 1376. An Act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 369 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the ''Judge Shirley A. Tolentino Post Office Building''.

H.R. 1813. An Act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 162 Northeast Avenue in Tallmadge, Ohio, as the ''Lance Corporal Daniel Nathan Deyarmin, Jr., Post Office Building''.

H.R. 2337. An Act to provide for the conveyance of the Forest Service Lake Hill Administrative Site in Summit County, Colorado.

H.R. 3110. An Act to allow for the harvest of gull eggs by the Huna Tlingit people within Glacier Bay National Park in the State of Alaska.

SENATE BILLS APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT

The President notified the Clerk of the House that on the following dates he had approved and signed bills of the Senate of the following titles:

June 30, 2014:

S. 1044. An Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to install in the area of the World War II Memorial in the District of Columbia a suitable plaque or an inscription with the words that President Franklin D. Roosevelt prayed with the United States on D-Day, June 6, 1944.

S. 1254. An Act to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

S. 2086. An Act to address current emergency shortages of propane and other home heating fuels and to provide greater flexibility and information for Governors to address such emergencies in the future.

July 7, 2014:

S. 1681. An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2014 for intelligence and Intelligence-related activities of the United States Government and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 23 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, August 1, 2014, at 10 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6707. A letter from the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Office, OPS, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP): Implementation of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (RIN: 0584-AE31) July 23, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6708. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Domestic Dates Produced or Packed in Riverside County, California; Revision of Assessment Requirements [Docket No.: AMS-FV-13-0090; FV14-987-2 FR] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6709. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Dried Prunes Produced in California; Increased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-13-0065; FV13-993-1 FR] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6710. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Irish Potatoes Grown in Washington and Imported Potatoes; Modification of the Handling Regulations, Reporting Requirements, and Import Regulations for Red Types of Potatoes [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-13-0068; FV13-946-3 FIR] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6711. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Olives Grown in California; Decreased Assessment Rate [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-14-0002; FV14-932-1 FR] received June 26, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6712. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Dusky Rocketfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 130925836-4174-02] (RIN: 0648-XD360) received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6713. A letter from the Associate Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule - Oranges and Grapefruit Grown in Lower Rio Grande Valley in Texas and Imported Oranges; Change in Size Requirements For Oranges [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-14-0009; FV14-906-1 FIR] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6714. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Application of Certain Clauses to Acquisitions of Commercial Items (DFARS Case 2013-D035) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6715. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Domestically Nonavailable Articles-Elimination of DoD-Unique List (DFARS Case 2013-D020) (RIN: 0750-AI11) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6716. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Use of Military Construction Funds in Countries Bordering the Arabian Sea (DFARS Case 2014-D016) (RIN: 0750-AI33) July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6717. A letter from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting the Department's final rule — Removal of HOPE for Homeowners Program Regulations [Docket No.: FR-5790-F-01] (RIN: 2501-AD68) received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

6718. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final priority. National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research —-Research Fellowships Program (also known as the Mary E. Switzer Research Fellowships) [Docket ID: ED-2014-OSERS-0041] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6719. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final priority. National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research--Rehabilitation Research and Training Centers [Docket ID: ED-2014-OSERS-0028] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6720. A letter from the Acting Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Department of Education, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final priority. National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research--Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers Program [Docket ID: ED-2014-OSERS-0023] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6721. A letter from the General Counsel, National Endowment for the Humanities, transmitting the Endowment's final rule — Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Age in Federally Assisted Programs or Activities (RIN: 3136-AA33) received June 26, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6722. A letter from the General Counsel, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting the Corporation's final rule — Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Paying Benefits received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

6723. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Mexico; Grant County Sulfur Dioxide Limited Maintenance Plan [EPA-R06-OAR-2013-0764; FRL-9913-94-Region 6] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6724. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New York State; Transportation Conformity Regulations [EPA-R02-OAR-2014-0238; FRL-9913-73-Region 2] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6725. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Idaho Franklin County Portion of the Logan Nonattainment Area; Fine Particulate Matter Emissions Inventory [EPA-R10-OAR-2014-0228; FRL-9913-97-OAR] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6726. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri, Auto Exhaust Emission Controls [EPA-R07-OAR-2014-0400; FRL-9913-81-Region 7] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6727. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Missouri; Control of Nitrogen Oxide Emissions from Large Stationary Internal Combustion Engines [EPA-R07-OAR-2013-0674; FRL-9913-79-Region 7] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6728. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Conformity of General Federal Actions [EPA-R06-OAR-2011-0919; FRL-9913-92-Region 6] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6729. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Washington: Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 Lead National Ambient Air Quality Standards [EPA-R10-OAR-2014-0333; FRL-9914-11-OAR] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6730. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Idaho: Portneuf Valley PM10 Maintenance Plan Amendment to the Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets [EPA-R10-OAR-2014-0388; FRL-9913-84-Region 10] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6731. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Polyoxyalkylated Trimethylopropanes; Tolerance Exemption [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0023; FRL-9912-10] received June 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6732. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Regulation of Fuels and Fuel Additives: RFS Pathways II, and Technical Amendments to the RFS Standards and E15 Misfueling Mitigation Requirements [EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0401; FRL-9910-40-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR21) received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6733. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — RFS Renewable Identification Number (RIN) Quality Assurance Program [EPA-HQ-OAR-2012-0621; FRL-9906-55-OAR] (RIN: 2060-AR72) received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6734. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Zoxamide; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2013-0644; FRL-9913-35] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6735. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware; Redesignation Requests, Associated Maintenance Plans, and Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the Delaware Portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington, PA-NJ-DE Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual and 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Standards, and the 2007 Comprehensive Emissions Inventory for the 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Standard [EPA-R03-OAR-2014-0022; FRL-9914-53-Region 3] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6736. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Alaska: Interstate Transport of Pollution [EPA-R10-OAR-2011-0609; FRL-9914-48-Region 10] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6737. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Nebraska; Fine Particulate Matter New Source Review [EPA-R07-OAR-2014-0468; FRL-9914-52-Region 7] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6738. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Reasonably Available Control Technology for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard [EPA-R06-OAR-2010-0332; FRL-9914-45-Region 6] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6739. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Navajo Nation; Regional Haze Requirements for Navajo Generation Station [EPA-R09-OAR-2013-0009; FRL-9914-62-Region 9] received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6740. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Bifenazate; Pesticide Tolerances [EPA-HQ-OPP-2010-0904; FRL-9912-92] received June 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6741. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Export Controls and Physical Security Standards [NRC-2014-0007] (RIN: 3150-AJ33) received July 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6742. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year 2014 [NRC-2013-0276] (RIN: 3150-AJ32) received July 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

6743. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addition of Certain Persons to the Entity List [Docket No.: 140429382-4382-01] (RIN: 0694-AG16) received July 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6744. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Transmittal No. DDTC 14-066, pursuant to the reporting requirements of Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6745. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting pursuant to section 3(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended, certification regarding the proposed transfer of major defense equipment (Transmittal No. RSAT-14-3942); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

6746. A letter from the Acting General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting two reports pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6747. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-76; Small Entity Compliance Guide [Docket No.: FAR 2014-0052, Sequence No. 4] received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6748. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments [FAC 2005-76; Item IV; Docket No. 2014-0053; Sequence No. 2] received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6749. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Allowability of Legal Costs for Whistleblower Proceedings [FAC 2005-76; FAR Case 2013-017; Items III; Docket 2013-0017, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AM64) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6750. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Small Business Protests and Appeals [FAC 2005-76; FAR Case 2012-014; Item II; Docket 2012-0014, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AM46) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6751. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation: Equal Employment and Affirmative Action for Veterans and Individuals with Disabilities [FAC

2005-76; FAR Case 2014-013; Item I; Docket 2014-0003, Sequence] (RIN: 9000-AM76) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6752. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Federal Acquisition Circular 2005-76; Introduction [Docket No.: FAR 2014-0051, Sequence No. 4] received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6753. A letter from the General Counsel, Peace Corps, transmitting a report pursuant to the Federal Vacancies Reform Act of 1998; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

6754. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Reapportionment of Halibut Prohibited Species Catch Limit in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands [Docket No. 131021878-4158-02] (RIN: 0648-XD347) received July 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6755. A letter from the Chief, FWS Endangered Species Listing Branch, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Revision of Critical Habitat for Salt Creek Tiger Beetle [Docket No.: FWS-R6-ES-2013-0068] (RIN: 1018-AY56) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6756. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Northwest Atlantic Ocean Distinct Population Segment of the Loggerhead Sea Turtle [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2012-0103; 4500030114] (RIN: 1018-AY71) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6757. A letter from the Chief, Branch of Endangered Species Listing, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status of the Zuni Bluehead Sucker [Docket No.: FWS-R2-ES-2012-0101] (RIN: 1018-AY25) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6758. A letter from the Chief, Division of Policy and Directives Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting the Department's final rule — Addresses of Headquarters Offices [Docket No.: FWS-HQ-BPHR-2014-0028; FXGO16600954000-134-FF09B30000] (RIN: 1018-BA52) received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6759. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Snapper-Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic; 2014 Commercial Accountability Measure and Closure for the South Atlantic Lesser Amberjack, Almaco Jack, and Banded Rudderfish Complex [Docket No.: 120815345-3525-02] (RIN: 0648-XD350) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6760. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Northern Rockfish in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 130925836-4174-02] (RIN: 0648-XD359) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6761. A letter from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Ocean Perch in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska [Docket No.: 130925836-4174-02] (RIN: 0648-XD358) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6762. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Program, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Endangered and Threatened Species: Designation of a Nonessential Experimental Population of Upper Columbia River Spring-run Chinook Salmon in the Okanogan River Subbasin, Washington and Protective Regulations [Docket No.: 13071662-4522-02] (RIN: 0648-BD51) received July 29, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6763. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, NMFS, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; 2014 Atlantic Bluefish Specifications [Docket No.: 140214138-4482-02] (RIN: 0648-XD139) received July 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6764. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Administrative Wage Garnishment [EPA-HQ-OA-2014-0012; FRL-9913-63-OCFO] received July 17, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

6765. A letter from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting the Department's final rule — Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance — Veterans' Group Life Insurance Regulation Update — ABO, VGLI Application, SGLI 2-Year Disability Extension (RIN: 2900-AO74) received July 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

6766. A letter from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Malibu Coast Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2013-007; T.D. TTB-121; Ref: Notice No. 138] (RIN: 1513-AC01) received July 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6767. A letter from the Federal Liaison Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Establishment of the Upper Hiawassee Highlands Viticultural Area [Docket No.: TTB-2013-0008; T.D. TTB-120; Ref: Notice No. 139] (RIN: 1513-AC02) received July 30, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6768. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Branded Prescription Drug Fee; Procedural and Administrative Guidance [Notice 2014-42] received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6769. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Revenue Procedure Guidance on Indexing Under Section 36B and Section 5000A (Rev. Proc. 2014-37) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6770. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Revenue Procedure Providing Guidance To Compute the Section 162(I) Deduction with Section 36B Credit (Rev. Proc. 2014-41) received July 28, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6771. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Branded Prescription Drug Fee [TD 9684] (RIN: 1545-BJ39) received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6772. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Section 5000A National Average Premium for a Bronze level of Coverage [Rev. Proc. 2014-46] received July 28, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6773. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Further Guidance on the Implementation of FATCA and Related Withholding Provisions [Notice 2014-33] received June 26, 2014, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6774. A letter from the General Counsel, Office of Compliance, transmitting the Office's biennial report entitled ''Americans With Disabilities Act Inspections Relating to Public Services and Accommodations'' for the 112th Congress; jointly to the Committees on House Administration and Education and the Workforce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. SHUSTER: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 5078. A bill to preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 113–568). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. McKEON: Committee on Armed Services. House Resolution 644. Resolution condemning and disapproving of the Obama administration's failure to comply with the lawful statutory requirement to notify Congress before releasing individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and expressing national security concerns over the release of five Taliban leaders and the repercussions of negotiating with terrorists; with amendments (Rept. 113–569). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. COLE: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 700. Resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (Rept. 113–570). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following

titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 5303. A bill to promote the use of blended learning in classrooms across America; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Ms. JENKINS (for herself and Mr. CARTWRIGHT):

H.R. 5304. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for treatment of audiologists as physicians for purposes of furnishing audiology services under the Medicare program, to improve access to the audiology services available for coverage under the Medicare program and to enable beneficiaries to have their choice of a qualified audiologist to provide such services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PIERLUISI:

H.R. 5305. A bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code to treat Puerto Rico as a State for purposes of chapter 9 of such title relating to the adjustment of debts of municipalities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut:

H.R. 5306. A bill to protect our Social Security system and improve benefits for current and future generations; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut:

H.R. 5307. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce carbon pollution in the United States, invest in the Nation's infrastructure, and cut taxes for working Americans; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FARENTHOLD:

H.R. 5308. A bill to prohibit foreign assistance to countries that do not prohibit shark finning in the territorial waters of the country or the importation, sale, possession, or consumption of shark fins obtained as a result of shark finning; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. BONAMICI (for herself, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. SCHRADER, and Mr. DEFAZIO):

H.R. 5309. A bill to authorize and strengthen the tsunami detection, forecast, warning, research, and mitigation program of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology.

By Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California (for himself and Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York):

H.R. 5310. A bill to amend the S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008 to specify that courses offered by lenders for their own employees may not satisfy the pre-licensing education or continuing education requirement; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. POLIS:

H.R. 5311. A bill to designate certain lands in the State of Colorado as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, to designate the Tenmile Recreation Management Area and Porcupine Gulch Protection Area, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina (for himself and Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee):

H.R. 5312. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to issue regulations to improve the tracking of aircraft in flight, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 5313. A bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to allow sole proprietors and the spouses and domestic partners of sole proprietors to purchase insurance on the small business exchange, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. COLE, Mr. DENT, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. GRIMM, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HOLT, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PETERS of California, and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H.R. 5314. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to enhance the Federal Government's planning and preparation for extreme weather, and the Federal Government's dissemination of best practices to respond to extreme weather, thereby increasing resiliency, improving regional coordination, and mitigating the financial risk to the Federal Government from such extreme weather; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 5315. A bill to authorize the President to transfer certain military equipment to the Government of Ukraine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5316. A bill to secure the border between the United States and Mexico; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Homeland Security, Ways and Means, Armed Services, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. JEFFRIES (for himself and Mr. CAPUANO):

H.R. 5317. A bill to make the acquisition, installation, and maintenance of security cameras, safety lighting, and building locking mechanisms in public housing an eligible activity under community development block grant program; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. GOSAR (for himself and Mr. FRANKS of Arizona):

H.R. 5318. A bill to ensure certain safety measures are utilized in the interest of public health security with respect to labeling and transporting human tissue specimen or collection of specimens into interstate commerce; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. HULTGREN (for himself and Mr. NEAL):

H.R. 5319. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify certain rules applicable to qualified small issue manufacturing bonds; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. BACHUS (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, and Ms. MOORE):

H.R. 5320. A bill to direct the Attorney General to provide State officials with access to criminal history information with respect to certain financial service providers required to undergo State criminal background checks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BENISHEK:

H.R. 5321. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to limit rescissions of coverage under health plans in the individual and group market, contingent on the enactment of legislation repealing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. ROE of Tennessee):

H.R. 5322. A bill to establish the Department of Energy and the Environment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Rules, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BUTTERFIELD (for himself, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. JONES, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina):

H.R. 5323. A bill to provide leave to certain new employees who are veterans with a service-connected disability rated at 30 percent or more for purposes of undergoing medical treatment for such disability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. CAPPS (for herself and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 5324. A bill to promote youth athletic safety and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CÁRDENAS (for himself, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. ENYART, and Mr. BUTTERFIELD):

H.R. 5325. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives to meet the needs of the American manufacturing workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

H.R. 5326. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for dependent care savings accounts; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CICILLINE (for himself, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. GRIJALVA):

H.R. 5327. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit work by children in tobacco-related agriculture as particularly hazardous oppressive child labor; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. COFFMAN (for himself, Mr. PEARCE, and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 5328. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit application of preexisting condition exclusions and to guarantee availability of health insurance coverage in the individual and group market, contingent on the enactment of legislation repealing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CONAWAY (for himself, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. PEARCE, and Mr. CRAWFORD):

H.R. 5329. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require establishment of objective numerical recovery goals for removal of species from lists of endangered species and threatened species under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. CONYERS (for himself, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. NORTON, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 5330. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the tax treatment for certain build America bonds permanent and to provide for recovery zone economic development bonds for certain cities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. COOK (for himself, Ms. BASS, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. BERA of California, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. CHU, Mr. COSTA, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DENHAM, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. HAHN, Mr. HONDA, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. LAMALFA, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. MCKEON, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NUNES, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. PETERS of California, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. VALADAO, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. WAXMAN):

H.R. 5331. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73839 Gorgonio Drive in Twentynine Palms, California, as the ''Colonel M.J. 'Mac' Dube, USMC Post Office Building''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CROWLEY:

H.R. 5332. A bill to promote identification of veterans and their health needs in furnishing of items and services under the Medicare, Medicaid, and other programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DAINES:

H.R. 5333. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that a service animal of a patient receiving inpatient medical care at a medical facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs is able to access the room of the patient; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DELANEY:

H.R. 5334. A bill to require all candidates for election for the office of Member of the House of Representatives to run in a single open primary regardless of political party preference, to limit the ensuing general election for such office to the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes in such single open primary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. DEUTCH:

H.R. 5335. A bill to promote marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy research and development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. CUELLAR, and Ms. HAHN):

H.R. 5336. A bill to establish or integrate an online significant event tracker (SET) system for tracking, reporting, and summarizing exposures of members of the Armed Forces, including members of the reserve components thereof, to traumatic events, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 5337. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to issue regulations to improve flight recorder and aircraft crash location requirements on certain commercial passenger aircraft in accordance with new International Civil Aviation Organization flight recorder standards; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Ms. EDWARDS (for herself, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CUMMINGS, Ms. NORTON, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. ELLISON, and Mr. RANGEL):

H.R. 5338. A bill to repeal the revised annuity employee and further revised annuity employee categories within the Federal Employees Retirement System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. FOSTER (for himself, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. ESTY, and Ms. SHEA-PORTER):

H.R. 5339. A bill to authorize the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, acting through the Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, to award grants to States to expand access to clinically appropriate services for opioid abuse, dependence, or addiction; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. FRANKEL of Florida (for herself and Mr. KEATING):

H.R. 5340. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to expand the permissive exclusion from Federal health programs to include certain individuals with prior interest in sanctioned entities and entities affiliated with sanctioned entities and to provide a criminal penalty for the illegal distribution of Medicare, Medicaid, or CHIP beneficiary identification or provider numbers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GALLEGO:

H.R. 5341. A bill to delay for 1 year the application of Revenue Ruling 2012-18 with respect to the characterization of payments as tips or service charges; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. HECK of Nevada (for himself, Mr. COLE, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. RIBBLE, Mr. KING of New York, and Mr. TIPTON):

H.R. 5342. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to expeditiously grant privileges to members of the Armed Forces who are health care providers to provide hospital care and medical services in medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. HONDA (for himself, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. MENG, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. CHU, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. TAKANO):

H.R. 5343. A bill to amend section 1111(h)(1)(C)(i) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require that annual State report cards reflect the same race groups as the decennial census of population; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. HONDA (for himself, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. PASCRELL):

H.R. 5344. A bill to prohibit the purchase, ownership, or possession of enhanced body armor by civilians, with exceptions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KIND (for himself, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. MICHAUD, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. WALZ, and Mr. LIPINSKI):

H.R. 5345. A bill to establish the Railroad Emergency Services Preparedness, Operational Needs, and Safety Evaluation (RESPONSE) Subcommittee under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Advisory Council to provide recommendations on emergency responder training and resources relating to hazardous materials incidents involving railroads, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. KIND (for himself and Mr. REED):

H.R. 5346. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a business credit for investments in rural microbusinesses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KIND (for himself and Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 5347. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend qualified zone academy bonds for 2 years and to reduce the private business contribution requirement with respect to such bonds, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KING of New York (for himself and Mr. MCCAUL):

H.R. 5348. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to collaborate on foreign terrorist organization designations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 5349. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a deadline for the certification of certain forms by regional offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 5350. A bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to allow the marketing, distribution, or sale of solid antimicrobial copper alloys with certain claims, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to exclude certain solid antimicrobial copper alloys from regulation as drugs or devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LATTA (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio):

H.R. 5351. A bill to waive the application fee for veterans with a service-connected disability rated at 50 percent or more who apply to participate in the Transportation Security Administration's Pre program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. RUSH, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. HONDA, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. HAHN, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. CHU, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Ms. JACKSON LEE):

H.R. 5352. A bill to strengthen and expand proven anti-poverty programs and initiatives; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, Education and the Workforce, Financial Services, Agriculture, Transportation and Infrastructure, Rules, the Budget, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEWIS:

H.R. 5353. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend for 5 years payment parity with Medicare for primary care services furnished under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Mr. MEEHAN, Mr. POE of Texas, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. MOORE, Ms. BONAMICI, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, Mrs. ELLMERS, Ms. JENKINS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. NOEM, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. REED, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. JOYCE, Ms. KUSTER, and Mr. PETERS of Michigan):

H.R. 5354. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to combat campus sexual violence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MCALLISTER:

H.R. 5355. A bill to prohibit the Department of Defense from retaining any interest in real property disposed of pursuant to a base closure law when that property was originally acquired by the United States by donation for the purpose of establishing or expanding a military installation; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MCALLISTER:

H.R. 5356. A bill to amend section 3720D of title 31, United States Code, to prohibit wage garnishment by the Environmental Protection Agency; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MCKEON:

H.R. 5357. A bill to authorize a national memorial to commemorate those killed by the collapse of the Saint Francis Dam on March 12, 1928, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 5358. A bill to amend the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 to clarify that no Federal agency shall be required to consider the social cost of carbon as a condition of compliance with such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCNERNEY (for himself and Mr. COSTA):

H.R. 5359. A bill to provide for the designation of, and the award of grant with respect to, air and health quality empowerment zones; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. MULVANEY (for himself, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. ROE of Tennessee, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. SCHWEIKERT, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. BROOKS of Alabama, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, and Mr. CRAWFORD):

H.R. 5360. A bill to enhance the competitiveness of American manufacturers and exports in the global marketplace by providing tax relief, regulatory relief, liability relief, and ensuring access to abundant and affordable supplies of energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, the Budget, the Judiciary, Rules, Natural Resources, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MURPHY of Florida (for himself and Mr. JOYCE):

H.R. 5361. A bill to encourage, enhance, and integrate Silver Alert plans throughout the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURPHY of Florida (for himself, Mr. PITTENGER, Ms. KUSTER, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. JOYCE, Mr. GARCIA, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. RUIZ, Ms. MOORE, Ms. EDWARDS, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. BARROW of Georgia, Mrs. BUSTOS, and Ms. SINEMA):

H.R. 5362. A bill to provide that the Social Security Administration pay fees associated with obtaining birth certificate or State identification card for purposes of obtaining a replacement social security card for certain victims of domestic violence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO (for herself, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. CHU, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Ms. ESHOO, Ms. HAHN, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 5363. A bill to establish a WaterSense program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PALLONE (for himself, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mrs. CAPPS, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. MATHESON):

H.R. 5364. A bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to extend and improve the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PASCRELL (for himself, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, and Mr. PETERS of California):

H.R. 5365. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an above-the-line deduction for child care expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PETERS of Michigan (for himself and Mr. CAMPBELL):

H.R. 5366. A bill to establish a program to accurately document vehicles that were significant in the history of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. POSEY (for himself, Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan, Mr. MULVANEY, and Mr. WESTMORELAND):

H.R. 5367. A bill to amend the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 to allow for the use of certain assets of foreign entities to satisfy certain judgments against terrorist parties, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD (for herself, Mr. POLIS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. FARR, Ms. CHU, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Mr. SIRES, and Mr. LOWENTHAL):

H.R. 5368. A bill to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to address the factors driving large numbers of unaccompanied alien children from El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala to seek admission to the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ROYCE (for himself and Ms. HAHN):

H.R. 5369. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs is informed of the interment of deceased veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. RUIZ:

H.R. 5370. A bill to provide student loan forgiveness for American Indian educators teaching in local educational agencies with a high percentage of American Indian students; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. SALMON:

H.R. 5371. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds and the provision of technical assistance for the Heritage Partnership Program and National Heritage Areas; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 5372. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit to Patriot employers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY (for herself, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PAYNE, and Mr. RANGEL):

H.R. 5373. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a minimum direct care registered nurse staffing requirement at nursing facilities and skilled nursing facilities under Medicare and Medicaid and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 5374. A bill to establish a maximum limitation on the amount of the payment standard that may be used with respect to housing choice vouchers provided under the Moving to Work program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. SCHWARTZ (for herself, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. COURTNEY, and Ms. BONAMICI):

H.R. 5375. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the enforcement of employment and reemployment rights of members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, and Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia:

H.R. 5376. A bill to prohibit universal service support of commercial mobile service and commercial mobile data service through the Lifeline program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. SERRANO (for himself and Ms. LEE of California):

H.R. 5377. A bill to provide for certain safeguards with respect to the sale of historic postal facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself and Mr. VALADAO):

H.R. 5378. A bill to establish an employment-based immigrant visa for alien entrepreneurs who have received significant capital from investors to establish a business in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 5379. A bill to impose sanctions on individuals that are responsible for the commission of serious and ongoing violations of human rights or gross violations of human rights against nationals of the People's Republic of China or their family members, to protect universal freedoms in the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Financial Services, the Judiciary, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself, Mr. HARPER, and Mr. WELCH):

H.R. 5380. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a phased-in expansion of telehealth coverage under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. TIBERI (for himself and Mr. NEAL):

H.R. 5381. A bill to amend the nondiscrimination provisions of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect older, longer service participants; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. TIBERI:

H.R. 5382. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt aircraft management services from the ticket tax; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 5383. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt sports betting from the tax on authorized wagers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. VALADAO (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. PEARCE, and Mr. COFFMAN):

H.R. 5384. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend health plan coverage to dependent children in the individual and group market, contingent on the enactment of legislation repealing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mrs. WAGNER (for herself, Mr. CLAY, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. LONG, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri):

H.R. 5385. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 55 Grasso Plaza in St. Louis, Missouri, as the ''Sgt. Amanda N. Pinson Post Office''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. WAGNER (for herself, Mr. CLAY, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. LONG, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri):

H.R. 5386. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 11662 Gravois Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the ''Lt. Daniel P. Riordan Post Office''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mrs. WAGNER (for herself, Mr. CLAY, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, Mr. LONG, and Mr. SMITH of Missouri):

H.R. 5387. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14373 Manchester Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the ''Sgt. Zachary M. Fisher Post Office''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 5388. A bill to clarify the definition of nonadmitted insurer under the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 5389. A bill to amend the National Marine Sanctuaries Act to prescribe an additional requirement for the designation of marine sanctuaries off the coast of Alaska; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARINO:

H.J. Res. 122. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to end the practice of including more than one subject in a single law by requiring that each law enacted by Congress be limited to only one subject and that the subject be clearly and descriptively expressed in the title of the law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MEEKS (for himself, Mr. CAMP, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. NUNES, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. BASS, Mrs. BEATTY, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CLAY, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. FATTAH, Ms. FUDGE, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. JEFFRIES, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEWIS, Ms. MOORE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. RUSH, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. WATERS, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. MCDERMOTT):

H. Res. 699. A resolution welcoming African leaders to the first United States-Africa Leaders' Summit and African trade ministers to the 13th Forum of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BASS (for herself, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HONDA, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. RUSH, Mr. WOLF, Mr. LEWIS, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. ELLISON, Ms. NORTON, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. MOORE, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. RICHMOND, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. SIRES, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. DEUTCH, Mr. ENGEL, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. SCHNEIDER, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. MARINO, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. SALMON, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. KUSTER, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, and Mr. MCDERMOTT):

H. Res. 701. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the current outbreak of Ebola in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia is an international health crisis and is the largest and most widespread outbreak of the disease ever recorded; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. CONAWAY (for himself, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. BARTON, Mr. HALL, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. STOCKMAN, Mr. MARCHANT,

Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. HURT, Mr. CARTER, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. GARRETT, Mr. FINCHER, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. CRAWFORD, Mr. ROONEY, Mr. OLSON, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. FLORES, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. BARROW of Georgia, Mr. ROKITA, and Mr. STUTZMAN):

H. Res. 702. A resolution affirming that private equity plays an important role in growing and strengthening United States businesses throughout all sectors of the economy and in every State and congressional district and that it has fostered significant investment in the United States economy; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH:

H. Res. 703. A resolution establishing an academic competition in the field of robotics among students in Congressional districts; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. FORBES (for himself and Ms. HANABUSA):

H. Res. 704. A resolution reaffirming the strong support of the United States Government for freedom of navigation and other internationally lawful uses of sea and airspace in the Asia-Pacific region, and for the peaceful diplomatic resolution of outstanding territorial and maritime claims and disputes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. HAHN:

H. Res. 705. A resolution recommending the designation of a Presidential Special Envoy to the Balkans to evaluate the successes and shortcomings of the implementation of the Dayton Peace Accords in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to provide policy recommendations, and to report back to Congress within one year; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. JONES (for himself and Mr. MASSIE):

H. Res. 706. A resolution raising a question of the privileges of the House; to the Committee on Rules.

By Mr. NADLER (for himself, Mr. ROSKAM, and Mrs. LOWEY):

H. Res. 707. A resolution condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and rejecting attempts to justify anti-Jewish hatred or violent attacks as an acceptable expression of disapproval or frustration over political events in the Middle East or elsewhere; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H. Res. 708. A resolution expressing support for designation of September 6, 2014, as ''Everett McKinley Dirksen and Marigold Day'', and designating and adopting the flower commonly known as the Marigold as the floral emblem of Congress for September 10, 2014; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. VARGAS (for himself, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. HONDA, Mr. RUSH, and Ms. MATSUI):

H. Res. 709. A resolution recognizing the importance of transformative breakthroughs in biomedicine, biotechnology, and life sciences in the diagnosis, management, curing, and treatment of illness and the existence of a ''Valley of Death'' in biotechnology and life sciences funding that stifles innovation and impedes translational medical research; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

297. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana, relative to House Concurrent Resolution No. 138 memorializing the Congress to take such actions as are necessary to raise awareness of human trafficking and sex trafficking to abolish this modern-day slavery; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

298. Also, a memorial of the Senate of the State of Michigan, relative to Senate Resolution No. 151 urging the President, the Secretary of State, and the Congress to invoke the participation of the International Joint Commission under Article IX, Article X, or both, of the Boundary Waters Treaty; jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Foreign Affairs.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS:

H.R. 5303.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to Congress' legislative powers under Article I, Section 8.

By Ms. JENKINS:

H.R. 5304.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8:

The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States.

By Mr. PIERLUISI:

H.R. 5305.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of the Congress to establish uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 4 of the United States Constitution; to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution such power, as enumerated in Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution; and to make rules and regulations respecting the U.S. territories, as enumerated in Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2 of the Constitution.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut:

Hit. 5306.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. LARSON of Connecticut:

H.R. 5307.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article 1 of the United States Constitution

By Mr. FARENTHOLD:

H.R. 5308.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution

By Ms. BONAMICI:

H.R. 5309.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the Constitution of the United States.

By Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California:

H.R. 5310.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress in the United States Constitution under Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 (relating to the general welfare of the United States) and Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 (relating to the power to regulate interstate commerce).

By Mr. POLIS:

H.R. 5311.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 1 relating to the power of Congress to provide for the general welfare of the United States) and clause 18 (relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress), and Article IV, section 3, clause 2 (relating to the power of Congress to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States).

By Mr. PRICE of North Carolina:

H.R. 5312.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution provides Congress with the authority to ''regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.''

By Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 5313.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

By Mr. CARTWRIGHT:

H.R. 5314.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I; Section 8; Clause 1 of the Constitution states The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; and

Article I; Section 8; Clause 18 of the Constitution states The Congress shall have Power To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. BURGESS:

H.R. 5315.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section VIII, Clause 1: ''The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.'' Also, Article I, Section VIII, Clause 12 ''To raise and support armies, but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years;

By Mr. STOCKMAN:

H.R. 5316.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8. To establish an uniform Rule of Naturalization, and uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States.

By Mr. JEFFRIES:

H.R. 5317.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. GOSAR:
H.R. 5318.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The sale, transport, delivery, harvesting and storing of cadavers, body parts, human tissues and samples typically involves interstate commerce in that the original cadaver and harvested organs there from start in one state but are shipped to suppliers in other states. The nature of the tissue harvesting and transplant business is typically national in scope as donors and donees are matched through national databases and then the tissue and parts are shipped among the states.
The power to regulate inter-state commerce is set forth Article I, Section 8 power to ''regulate commerce among the several states.'' If the matter in question is not a purely local matter (intra-state) or if it has an impact on inter-state commerce, it falls within the Congressional power to regulate interstate commerce. National Federation of Independent Business v. Sebelius (2012).
By Mr. HULTGREN:
H.R. 5319.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, as this legislation regulates commerce between the states.
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18, providing Congress with the authority to enact legislation necessary to execute one of its enumerated powers, such as Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.
By Mr. BACHUS:
H.R. 5320.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clauses 3 (''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes'')
By Mr. BENISHEK:
H.R. 5321.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.
By Mrs. BLACKBURN:
H.R. 5322.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section
By Mr. BUTTERFIELD:
H.R. 5323.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Under Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution, Congress has the power to collect taxes and expend funds to provide for the general welfare of the United States. Congress may also make laws that are necessary and proper for carrying into execution their powers enumerated under Article I.
By Mrs. CAPPS:
H.R. 5324.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. CÁRDENAS:
H.R. 5325.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I. Section I. All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.
By Mr. CASSIDY:
H.R. 5326.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The constitutional authority on which this bill rests is the power of Congress as stated in Article I, Section 8 of the United States Constitution.
By Mr. CICILLINE:
H.R. 5327.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8.
By Mr. COFFMAN:
H.R. 5328.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Sec. 8, Clause 1, of the United States Constitution
This states that ''Congress shall have power to . . . lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.''
By Mr. CONAWAY:
H.R. 5329.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the powers granted to Congress under Article I, section 8, clause 3, that grants Congress the power to regulate commerce among the several states.
By Mr. CONYERS:
H.R. 5330.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1
The Congress shall have Power to lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.
By Mr. COOK:
H.R. 5331.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3.
By Mr. CROWLEY:
H.R. 5332.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Mr. DAINES:
H.R. 5333.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, of the United States Constitution reserves to Congress the power to raise and support Armies and provide and maintain a Navy, as well as make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.
By Mr. DELANEY:
H.R. 5334.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 4, Clause 1;
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. DEUTCH:
H.R. 5335.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the U.S. Constitution.
By Ms. DUCKWORTH:
H.R. 5336.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
''The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution (clauses 12, 13, 14, 16, and 18), which grants Congress the power to raise and support an Army; to provide and maintain a Navy; to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces; to provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia; and to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the foregoing powers.''
By Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee:
H.R. 5337.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 3:
3: To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;
By Ms. EDWARDS:
H.R. 5338.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Congress is authorized to enact this legislation under the Commerce Clause, Article I, Section 8, Clause 3, ''to regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.'' Additionally, Congress has the authority to enact this legislation pursuant to the Preamble of the Constitution, ''to promote the general welfare''
By Mr. FOSTER:
H.R. 5339.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 1 of the United States Constitution.
By Ms. FRANKEL of Florida:
H.R. 5340.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
By Mr. GALLEGO:
H.R. 5341.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8, which allows Congress to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare.
By Mr. HECK of Nevada:
H.R. 5342.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
The power granted to Congress under Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the United States Constitution, to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing Powers, and all other powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or officer thereof.
By Mr. HONDA:
H.R. 5343.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
By Mr. HONDA:
H.R. 5344.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.
By Mr. KIND:
H.R. 5345.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8.
By Mr. KIND:
H.R. 5346.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8.
By Mr. KIND:
H.R. 5347.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I Section 8.
By Mr. KING of New York:
H.R. 5348.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
This legislation is authorized by the United States Constitution under Article I, Section 8, ''Congress shall have the power . . . To define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offenses against the law of nations;''
By Mr. LATTA:
H.R. 5349.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

And

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 5350.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3

To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes;

By Mr. LATTA:

H.R. 5351.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14

To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces;

And

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Ms. LEE of California:

H.R. 5352.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mr. LEWIS:

H.R. 5353.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

This bill is enacted pursuant to the power granted to Congress under Article I of the United States Constitution and its subsequent amendments, and further clarified and interpreted by the Supreme Court of the United States.

By Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York:

H.R. 5354.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18, which reads: The Congress shall have Power * * * To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Excution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by the Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. MCALLISTER:

H.R. 5355.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. MCALLISTER:

H.R. 5356.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution

By Mr. MCKEON:

H.R. 5357.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The constitutional authority of Congress to enact this legislation is provided by Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution, specifically clause 18, relating to the power to make all laws necessary and proper for carrying out the powers vested in Congress.

By Mr. MCKINLEY:

H.R. 5358.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

According to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution: The Congress shall have power to enact this legislation to enact this legislation to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. MCNERNEY:

H.R. 5359.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. MULVANEY:

H.R. 5360.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1. ''The Congress shall have Power To lay and collect Taxes, Duties, Imposts and Excises, to pay the Debts and provide for the common Defence and general Welfare of the United States; but all Duties, Imposts and Excises shall be uniform throughout the United States.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3. ''To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.''

Article I Section 8, Clause 4. ''To establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies throughout the United States.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 8. ''To Promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 9. ''To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14. ''To make Rules for the Government and Regulation of the land and naval Forces.''

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18. ''To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof''

Article III, Section 1, Clause 1. ''The judicial power of the United States, shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish.''

Article III, Section 2. ''The judicial power shall extend to all cases, in law and equity, arising under this Constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority;—to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls;—to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction;—to controversies to which the United States shall be a party;—to controversies between two or more states;—between a state and citizens of another state;—between citizens of different states;—between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different states, and between a state, or the citizens thereof, and foreign states, citizens or subjects.

In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers and consuls, and those in which a state shall be party, the Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned, the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the Congress shall make.''

Article IV, Section 3. ''The Congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States; and nothing in this Constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or of any particular state.''

By Mr. MURPHY of Florida:

H.R. 5361.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8 Constitution of the United States, which states the Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.

By Mr. MURPHY of Florida:

H.R. 5362.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 section 8 Constitution of the United States, which states, the Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States.

By Mrs. NAPOLITANO:

H.R. 5363.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, clause 1 and clause 18 of the Constitution.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H.R. 5364.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8

By Mr. PASCRELL:

H.R. 5365.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. PETERS of Michigan:

H.R. 5366.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution of the United States

By Mr. POSEY:

H.R. 5367.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the Constitution of the United States:

To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes;

Article I, Section 8, Clause 9 of the Constitution of the United States:

To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court;

Article I, Section 8, Clause 10 of the Constitution of the United States:

To define and punish Piracies and Felonies committed on the high Seas, and Offenses against the Law of Nations;

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution of the United States:

To make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the forgoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States or in any Department or Officer thereof;

Amendment V

No person shall be . . . deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.

By Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD:

H.R. 5368.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18

By Mr. ROYCE:

H.R. 5369.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

The principal constitutional authority for legislation is Article 1, Section 8: to provide for the common Defense and general Welfare of the United States.

By Mr. RUIZ:

H.R. 5370.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, section 8, Clauses 1 and 18 of the United States Constitution, to provide for the general welfare and make all laws necessary and proper to carry out the powers of Congress.

By Mr. SALMON:

H.R. 5371.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 9, Clause 7—''No Money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in Consequence of Appropriations made by Law; and a regular Statement and Account of Receipts and Expenditures of all public Money shall be published from time to time.''

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 5372.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Ms. SCHAKOWSKY:

H.R. 5373.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8

By Mr. SCHOCK:

H.R. 5374.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 1: ''The Congress shall have Power to . . . provide for the . . . general Welfare of the United States . . .''

By Ms. SCHWARTZ:

H.R. 5375.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia:

H.R. 5376.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution.

By Mr. SERRANO:

H.R. 5377.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 7 of the Constitution, which states that that ''The Congress shall have Power . . . . . To establish Post Offices and post roads.'' In addition, this legislation is introduced pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 18 of the Constitution, which states that Congress shall have the power ''to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this Constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof''.

By Ms. SINEMA:

H.R. 5378.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.R. 5379.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, section 8, clauses 3 and 18 of the Constitution

By Mr. THOMPSON of California:

H.R. 5380.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 6

The Congress shall have Power . . . to make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof.

By Mr. TIBERI:

H.R. 5381.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution.

By Mr. TIBERI:

H.R. 5382.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the U.S. Constitution.

By Ms. TITUS:

H.R. 5383.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Clause 1 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution.

By Mr. VALADAO:

H.R. 5384.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, §8, clause 3.

By Mrs. WAGNER:

H.R. 5385.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7

The Congress shall have Power * * * To establish Post Offices and post roads.

By Mrs. WAGNER:

H.R. 5386.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7

The Congress shall have Power * * * To establish Post Offices and post roads.

By Mrs. WAGNER:

H.R. 5387.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 7

The Congress shall have Power * * * To establish Post Offices and post roads.

By Mr. WELCH:

H.R. 5388.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 18: The Congress shall have Power To . . . make all Laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into Execution the foregoing Powers, and all other Powers vested by this Constitution in the Government of the United States, or in any Department or Officer thereof..

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 5389.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article IV, Section 3, Clause 2

By Mr. MARINO:

H.J. Res. 122.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V: ''The Congress, whenever two thirds of both Houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose Amendments to the Constitution, or, on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States, or by Conventions in three fourths thereof'

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 20: Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 32: Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. GARCIA, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. FOSTER, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. LYNCH, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, and Mr. DENT.

H.R. 148: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.

H.R. 164: Mr. GALLEGO.

H.R. 279: Mr. MULVANEY.

H.R. 292: Ms. DELAURO, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. PALLONE, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, Mr. DEFAZIO, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. HOLT, Mrs. LOWEY, and Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 303: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. DESANTIS, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GARCIA, and Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 333: Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mrs. CAPITO, and Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts.

H.R. 467: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.

H.R. 494: Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 498: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. MATHESON, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. JONES, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Mr. WAXMAN, and Mr. ISRAEL.

H.R. 515: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.

H.R. 532: Mr. WELCH.

H.R. 535: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 609: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.

H.R. 628: Mr. KILMER.

H.R. 690: Ms. ESTY, Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. VARGAS, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. HIMES, Mr. GARCIA, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. PEARCE, Mrs. BUSTOS, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. ROTHFUS, and Mr. COLE.

H.R. 713: Mr. GARCIA.

H.R. 715: Mr. VEASEY.

H.R. 860: Mr. OWENS.

H.R. 920: Mr. REED.

H.R. 921: Mr. SCHOCK.

H.R. 942: Mr. MCKINLEY and Mr. BARBER.

H.R. 956: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 975: Ms. KELLY of Illinois.

H.R. 986: Mrs. BLACK.

H.R. 997: Mr. HUNTER.

H.R. 1015: Mr. SWALWELL of California.

H.R. 1020: Mr. POE of Texas.

H.R. 1024: Mr. REED.

H.R. 1074: Mr. TIBERI and Ms. ESHOO.

H.R. 1125: Mr. BISHOP of New York.

H.R. 1150: Ms. EDWARDS.

H.R. 1180: Ms. BROWNLEY of California.

H.R. 1276: Ms. KUSTER and Mr. NOLAN.

H.R. 1284: Mr. WALZ.

H.R. 1317: Mr. TIERNEY.

H.R. 1318: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. WHITFIELD.

H.R. 1387: Mr. LAMALFA, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. LUCAS, and Mr. YOHO.

H.R. 1428: Mr. GARCIA.

H.R. 1462: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.

H.R. 1507: Mr. COTTON.

H.R. 1563: Ms. SINEMA.

H.R. 1594: Mrs. BUSTOS.

H.R. 1620: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. ESTY, Ms. JENKINS, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. LYNCH, and Ms. CLARK OF MASSACHUSETTS.

H.R. 1625: Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 1627: Mr. SCHNEIDER and Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 1638: Mr. GOODLATTE.

H.R. 1663: Mr. SENSENBRENNER.

H.R. 1666: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 1705: Mr. MEEHAN.

H.R. 1738: Mr. CARTWRIGHT and Mr. HORSFORD.

H.R. 1767: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 1774: Mr. CICILLINE, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 1787: Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York.
H.R. 1795: Mr. CALVERT and Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 1812: Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 1827: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 1830: Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 1838: Mr. GIBSON.
H.R. 1852: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. COLLINS of New York, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. NUNES, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. RENACCI, and Mr. POSEY.
H.R. 1878: Mr. VARGAS.
H.R. 1884: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 1893: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 1913: Mr. ENYART.
H.R. 1923: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 1953: Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 1975: Mr. VEASEY and Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 1998: Mr. SCHOCK.
H.R. 2012: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 2028: Ms. ESTY, Mr. ENGEL, and Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 2084: Mr. BISHOP of Georgia.
H.R. 2116: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
H.R. 2146: Mr. LANGEVIN and Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 2159: Ms. EDWARDS.
H.R. 2185: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 2224: Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 2235: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 2241: Mr. SIRES.
H.R. 2384: Mr. QUIGLEY and Mr. CAPUANO.
H.R. 2386: Ms. ESTY.
H.R. 2415: Mr. HULTGREN, Mr. BARBER, and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 2426: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 2457: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 2468: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 2506: Mr. MEADOWS.
H.R. 2529: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 2536: Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. GARCIA, Mr. PIERLUISI, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. HAHN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. SCHRADER, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Ms. CHU, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD, and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 2607: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 2663: Mr. MEEHAN and Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 2664: Mr. MEEHAN.
H.R. 2673: Mr. TIPTON and Mr. ROTHFUS.
H.R. 2686: Mr. WOMACK.
H.R. 2692: Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 2694: Mr. MEADOWS.
H.R. 2707: Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 2725: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN.
H.R. 2734: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 2757: Ms. ESTY.
H.R. 2827: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 2852: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 2856: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. GIBSON, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mrs. CAPPS, Ms. MENG, and Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 2870: Mr. DELANEY, Mr. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY of New York, and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 2901: Mrs. BUSTOS, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. DENT, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 2917: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
H.R. 2959: Mr. TERRY and Mr. CALVERT.
H.R. 2994: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. MEADOWS, Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio, Mr. LATHAM, Mr. GRIJALVA, and Ms. WILSON of Florida.
H.R. 2996: Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. MAFFEI, and Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 3043: Mr. WALDEN.
H.R. 3116: Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. PETERS of California.
H.R. 3152: Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 3172: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 3382: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 3383: Mr. KIND and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 3391: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 3397: Ms. GABBARD.
H.R. 3398: Mr. BERA of California, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, and Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 3463: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 3465: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 3471: Mr. BARBER and Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 3481: Mr. LIPINSKI.
H.R. 3482: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 3489: Mr. PAULSEN.
H.R. 3494: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 3499: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 3505: Ms. EDWARDS.
H.R. 3513: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 3544: Mr. MESSER, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. PETERSON, and Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 3566: Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 3580: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 3630: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 3662: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 3690: Mr. VEASEY and Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 3708: Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, and Mr. BYRNE.
H.R. 3712: Mr. VEASEY and Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 3717: Ms. BROWNLEY of California and Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 3723: Mr. PIERLUISI.
H.R. 3743: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 3750: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico and Mr. POLIS.
H.R. 3776: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 3867: Mr. HARPER.
H.R. 3902: Mr. KEATING and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 3978: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 4051: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa.
H.R. 4060: Mr. WOMACK, Mr. AMODEI, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. WENSTRUP, and Mr. GARDNER.
H.R. 4129: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 4148: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 4158: Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. VALADAO, and Mr. STEWART.
H.R. 4172: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 4188: Mr. SIRES and Mr. TIPTON.
H.R. 4190: Mr. TERRY and Mr. REED.
H.R. 4216: Mrs. CHRISTENSEN.
H.R. 4217: Mr. KEATING and Mrs. BUSTOS.
H.R. 4227: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 4234: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 4308: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 4319: Mr. MULLIN, Mrs. BLACK, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.
H.R. 4325: Ms. SLAUGHTER.
H.R. 4333: Mr. ROTHFUS.
H.R. 4347: Ms. CHU and Ms. HAHN.
H.R. 4351: Mr. PASCRELL.
H.R. 4385: Ms. DELBENE.
H.R. 4407: Mr. LONG.
H.R. 4426: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD and Mr. ELLISON.
H.R. 4433: Mr. MCCAUL.
H.R. 4440: Mr. NADLER and Mr. CARSON of Indiana.
H.R. 4510: Mr. MESSER, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. GERLACH, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee, Mr. CLAY, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. GRAVES of Georgia, Mr. PETERS of California, and Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 4521: Mr. NUNNELEE.
H.R. 4525: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H.R. 4551: Mr. GOODLATTE.
H.R. 4574: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 4577: Mrs. BEATTY.
H.R. 4592: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 4612: Mr. PRICE of Georgia.
H.R. 4634: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 4644: Ms. ESHOO, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 4645: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 4647: Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 4664: Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 4675: Mr. VEASEY.
H.R. 4682: Mr. LAMBORN, Ms. ESTY, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. COLE, Mr. ROTHFUS, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, and Mr. COBLE.
H.R. 4717: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mr. ENYART.
H.R. 4732: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 4748: Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania, Mr. YOUNG of Indiana, and Mrs. NOEM.
H.R. 4763: Mr. GARDNER, Mr. MCCAUL, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. POLIS, and Ms. ESHOO.
H.R. 4772: Mr. ROONEY.
H.R. 4783: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 4793: Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 4815: Mr. ENYART.
H.R. 4816: Mr. CONNOLLY.
H.R. 4818: Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. VEASEY, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 4833: Ms. MCCOLLUM.
H.R. 4837: Mr. SCHOCK.
H.R. 4843: Mr. SIMPSON.
H.R. 4856: Mr. ENGEL and Mr. MCKINLEY.
H.R. 4857: Mr. CROWLEY and Mrs. BLACKBURN.
H.R. 4863: Mr. NOLAN.
H.R. 4885: Mr. KILMER.
H.R. 4886: Mr. DAINES.
H.R. 4888: Mr. RAHALL, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. WELCH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, and Mr. LOWENTHAL.
H.R. 4897: Mr. CUELLAR.
H.R. 4902: Mr. DELANEY, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. MCNERNEY, and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 4904: Ms. ESTY.
H.R. 4906: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 4913: Mr. HINOJOSA.
H.R. 4916: Mr. RUNYAN, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.
H.R. 4920: Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Mr. LOEBSACK.
H.R. 4930: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.
H.R. 4947: Mr. PEARCE.
H.R. 4960: Mr. LATHAM, Ms. SEWELL of Alabama, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. NADLER, Ms. HANABUSA, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. CONNOLLY, Ms. FRANKEL of Florida, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, and Mr. RUSH.
H.R. 4969: Mr. TERRY, Mrs. KIRKPATRICK, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. HANNA, and Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia.
H.R. 4978: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.
H.R. 4981: Ms. MCCOLLUM and Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio.
H.R. 4985: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 4990: Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4998: Ms. ESTY and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 5000: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. MURPHY of Florida.
H.R. 5005: Ms. PINGREE of Maine.
H.R. 5023: Mr. RAHALL.
H.R. 5024: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. OWENS, Mr. HORSFORD, Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. LOWENTHAL, and Ms. SINEMA.
H.R. 5025: Mr. WOLF.
H.R. 5033: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 5041: Mr. FRANKS of Arizona.
H.R. 5052: Mr. ROONEY, Mr. HUDSON, Mr. BYRNE, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. GALLEGO, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. SESSIONS.
H.R. 5054: Mr. GALLEGO.
H.R. 5059: Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. KEATING, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, Mr. HIGGINS, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. BISHOP of New York, and Mr. ROTHFUS.

H.R. 5063: Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. BERA of California, and Mr. SWALWELL of California.
H.R. 5071: Mr. WOMACK, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. STIVERS, Mrs. LUMMIS, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.
H.R. 5077: Mr. ROTHFUS.
H.R. 5078: Mr. JOYCE, Mr. WENSTRUP, Mr. AMASH, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. GIBSON, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. GUTHRIE, and Mr. HARRIS.
H.R. 5083: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.R. 5088: Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 5095: Mr. POCAN, Mr. JOYCE, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.
H.R. 5101: Ms. LEE of California and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 5109: Mr. LOWENTHAL, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. FARR, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. DAVIS of California, and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.
H.R. 5136: Mrs. NEGRETE MCLEOD.
H.R. 5137: Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania and Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 5143: Mr. BURGESS.
H.R. 5156: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 5159: Mr. PAYNE and Mr. PETERS of Michigan.
H.R. 5160: Mr. SOUTHERLAND, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. BARTON, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. PITTENGER, and Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 5168: Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. HUFFMAN, and Mr. CUMMINGS.
H.R. 5179: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. TAKANO.
H.R. 5182: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 5183: Mr. RENACCI.
H.R. 5186: Mr. HOLT, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. TIERNEY, and Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 5213: Mrs. BLACK, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. JOYCE, and Mr. VALADAO.
H.R. 5219: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, and Mr. MORAN.
H.R. 5228: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. DEGETTE, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Ms. LEE of California, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. RUSH, Mr. CÁRDENAS, Ms. NORTON, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. TITUS.
H.R. 5229: Mr. JONES.
H.R. 5232: Mrs. WALORSKI.
H.R. 5233: Mr. COLLINS of Georgia, Mr. REED, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. SMITH of Texas, and Mr. HANNA.
H.R. 5241: Mr. MORAN and Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.
H.R. 5243: Mr. CRENSHAW.
H.R. 5248: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 5249: Mr. KEATING, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. COLE, and Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 5253: Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas and Mr. CULBERSON.
H.R. 5256: Mr. SOUTHERLAND.
H.R. 5257: Mr. SOUTHERLAND.
H.R. 5258: Mr. SOUTHERLAND.
H.R. 5269: Ms. CASTOR of Florida and Ms. FRANKEL of Florida.
H.R. 5270: Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 5278: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 5285: Mr. GERLACH, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. RENACCI, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. FORBES, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. FLEMING, and Mr. NEUGEBAUER.
H.R. 5287: Mr. CARTWRIGHT.
H.R. 5288: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 5294: Mr. GRAYSON, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. BECERRA, and Ms. MOORE.
H.R. 5300: Mrs. HARTZLER and Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky.
H. Con. Res. 16: Mr. SHUSTER.
H. Con. Res. 109: Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio and Mr. LANCE.
H. Con. Res. 110: Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. VARGAS, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. CHU, Mr. YODER, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. WENSTRUP, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mr. LATTA, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. MORAN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HONDA, Mr. POSEY, and Mr. POLIS.
H. Res. 72: Ms. HANABUSA and Mr. HECK of Nevada.
H. Res. 208: Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H. Res. 410: Mr. GARCIA.
H. Res. 428: Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee.
H. Res. 456: Mr. WOLF.
H. Res. 525: Mr. PETERS of Michigan.
H. Res. 601: Ms. NORTON and Mr. KING of Iowa.
H. Res. 607: Ms. MENG.
H. Res. 620: Mrs. NOEM, Ms. JENKINS, Mr. YODER, Mr. LIPINSKI, and Mr. GARCIA.
H. Res. 640: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H. Res. 668: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mrs. BEATTY, Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. VELA, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. KIND, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H. Res. 679: Mr. QUIGLEY.
H. Res. 688: Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. DELBENE, and Mr. RANGEL.
H. Res. 689: Mr. DOYLE.
H. Res. 691: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. VELA.
H. Res. 697: Mr. KEATING, Mr. PETERS of Michigan, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Mr. PITTENGER, Mr. HIGGINS, Ms. BROWNLEY of California, and Ms. BONAMICI.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. GOODLATTE

The provisions that warranted a referral to the Committee on Judiciary in H.R. 5272 do not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9 of rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII,

94. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Morris County Board of Chosen Freeholders, New Jersey, relative to Resolution No. 47 urging the President to secure the release of Untied States Marine Sgt. Andrew Tahmooressi from Mexican custody; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

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Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHN E. WALSH, a Senator from the State of Montana.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Eternal Lord God, as we make the August exit, may we hear the words of the poet Longfellow when he said:

Art is long, time is fleeting and our hearts though stout and brave still like muffled drums are beating funeral marches to the grave.

May our lawmakers remember that history will not judge them so much on what they say as on what they accomplish. They will be known by their fruits. Teach them to number their days, that they may have hearts of wisdom. As the seasons come and go, may this wisdom keep them from majoring in minors and minoring in majors. Working together may they avoid the frivolous and reap a harvest worthy of their high calling.

Lord, we thank You for the service of our faithful pages.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 31, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN E. WALSH, a Senator from the State of Montana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WALSH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

MAKING EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 488, S. 2648.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 488, S. 2648, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to S. 2648, the emergency supplemental appropriations bill, postcloture. The time until 10 a.m. will be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees. The ranking member of the Budget Committee, Senator SESSIONS, will control the time from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and the majority will control the time from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

We will notify all Senators when votes are scheduled.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2709

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand that S. 2709 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2709) to extend and reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I would object to any further proceedings with respect to this bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bill will be placed on the calendar.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I respect, admire, and applaud Senators CANTWELL and MANCHIN for the work they have done on this most important bill. We need to find a way forward on it.

There are some in the House of Representatives and a few over here who have made this very difficult to do, and it is so important to the economic stability of our country.

I met yesterday with the head of Boeing aircraft, and they have 800,000 jobs directly and indirectly connected to this—I shouldn't say ''to this.'' But it is a significant part of what they do and need to do to get their finances in order. It would be a shame if we weren't able to renew this. It expires at the end of September.

SEPTEMBER WORK SCHEDULE

Before we finish our business and Senators return for the work period at home, I want everyone to know about what is going to happen when we come back.

Following the August recess, when we convene on September 8, we will be here for 1 week, 2 weeks, and 2 days. That is it. September 23 is our target date to adjourn until after the election. I hope we can do that. This leaves us little more than 2 weeks and 2 days. That is not a lot of time for the workload we have to do.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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We need to pass appropriations measures to keep the government from shutting down. We need to pass a temporary extension to the Internet Tax Freedom Act. We need to do something about the items I just mentioned about the Ex-Im Bank. We have to do the Defense authorization bill, which is extremely important for the fighting men and women of this country. We are going to address the Udall constitutional amendment on capping finance reform. And we are going to reconsider a number of issues: college affordability, minimum wage, Hobby Lobby, student debt.

We have a lot of work to do. So everyone needs to know that when we come back on September 8, there will be no weekends off. There are only 2 weeks until we go home, and everyone should not plan things on these weekends. So no one can say: You need to give us notice.

You have been given notice.

I had a chairmen's lunch yesterday. Every chairman there said we should work those two weekends. So everybody, this isn't me trying to dictate a schedule. At lunch yesterday, the chairmen of this institution said we should work those two weekends.

I just mentioned a few things we have to do. So again, Saturday, September 13; Sunday, September 14; Saturday, September 20; Sunday, September 21, we need to be here, including the Fridays that precede those dates that I gave. Every day between September 8 and September 30 is fair game. Friday, Saturday, Sunday, we need to be here.

I repeat for the third time here this morning: There is so much to do and so little time to do it. We have not had a productive Congress. We can't push everything back to the so-called lame-duck. Much of what we are able to accomplish in September depends on the Republicans in the House. Will they get their business done and pass legislation that is important for our country and including the economy?

Here we have lamented the fact that they refuse to take up and pass our comprehensive immigration reform. What a good piece of legislation, a bipartisan bill passed out of this body by an overwhelming margin, and Republicans refuse to take it up. Among other things, it will reduce the debt by $1 trillion.

We have no extension of long-term unemployment benefits. I have talked about minimum wage and I have talked about student debt. I have talked about Hobby Lobby. I have talked about equal pay for women, getting paid equally for the work they do that is the same as men. But they have no interest in these issues. They certainly have no interest in getting corporate bosses out of health care for women.

No, they are busy turning the House floor into a theater. And it is a double feature like we used to go to when they had double features—at least I don't think they do anymore. It is a double feature.

House Republicans are, first of all, going to sue the President. And, above all, the Republicans in the House and the Senate—the most anti-trial-lawyer group of legislators in the history of the country—who are they going to? Trial lawyers. Who is going to pay those trial lawyers? The American taxpayers. And if that isn't enough, once their lawsuit gets going, they are going to try to impeach the President.

So that is what it is all about. We have a lot to do. A lot depends on the political theater in the House. If the House Republicans are serious and focus their time on legislation to help American families, then it could be a very productive month in September. If they keep up the sue-and-impeach show, we will stay right here working until they finally get serious about giving the American people a fair shot.

RESERVATION OF LEADERSHIP TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

Under the previous order, the time until 10 a.m. will be equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

BORDER CRISIS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the ongoing humanitarian crisis at our Nation's southern border demands a solution. It really just boggles the mind that the President of the United States would rather fund raise in Hollywood than work with members of his own party to forge a legislative response to this tragic situation and to do something to prevent more young people from making the perilous and potentially life-threatening journey across the desert.

The President initially laid out reforms that, while modest, represented a step in the right direction. But evidently the politicos who increasingly have the President's ear these days couldn't go along with that, so the President stopped defending his own policy reforms. Instead, he demanded a blank check that would literally preserve the status quo, a blank check he knew wouldn't fix the problem, a blank check he knew couldn't pass Congress, and a blank check he knew members of his own party in Congress didn't even support.

Faced with a national crisis, he listened once again to his most partisan instincts instead of uniting Congress around a common solution so he could lay blame for that crisis on somebody else. Apparently no crisis is too big to be trumped by politics in the Obama White House. It is exasperating for those of us who want to work toward bipartisan solutions; it is confusing, I am sure, to the Democrats who share our desire to get something accomplished; and it is emboldening to Democrats who don't, including the Senate Democratic leadership.

When faced with a crisis, a President's job is to show Presidential leadership and to get his party on board with the reforms necessary to address it. Scuttling reform and prolonging the crisis is not part of the job description.

So what I am suggesting, Mr. President, is that you spend a little more time actually doing the job you were elected to do. Press ''pause'' on the nonstop photo-ops and start demonstrating some real leadership instead. The barbecue joints and the pool halls will still be there after we solve this problem.

Mr. President, it is a dangerous journey to the border. Children are suffering at the hands of some seriously bad actors down there. News reports suggest you even knew about this long before it started making national news. You could have intervened before this turned into a full-blown humanitarian crisis, but you didn't. You could have worked with us to get a bipartisan solution. You didn't.

Mr. President, you have a special responsibility to help us end this crisis in a humane and appropriate way. Congress cannot do it without your leadership or your engagement. It is literally impossible to do this without you. So pick up the phone you keep telling us about and call us. Call your fellow Democrats and lobby them to get on board. Work with us, and let's address this crisis.

FOREIGN POLICY

Recently I expressed deep concern that the President pursued a foreign policy based on withdrawing from America's forward presence and alliance commitments, hollowing out our Nation's conventional military forces, placing an overreliance upon personal diplomacy and international organizations, and literally abandoning the war on terror. I believe this will leave his successor to deal with a more dangerous world and with fewer tools to meet the threats.

Later this morning several Members of Congress charged with leading national security committees and policymaking will meet with the President to discuss national security. I don't expect the President to brief us on his plan for rebuilding the military, especially in a way that would allow us to meet our commitments in Europe and the Middle East or that would allow for an effective strategic pivot to Asia, nor do I expect the President to lay out for us his plans to provide the intelligence community with all the tools it will need to deal with the threat of international terrorism from Al Qaeda and its affiliated groups over the next decade. Those are strategic threats best addressed by integrating all the tools of our Nation's power, and, candidly, it would require the President to revisit the policy stances he took as a candidate back in 2008.

I do hope that at a minimum the President will discuss two near-term issues:

First, I hope he will explain his plan or efforts to assist the Israelis in demilitarizing Gaza and ensuring that Hamas is not left with the ability to launch indirect fire attacks against the civilian populace or to infiltrate Israel through tunnels. In coordination with Israel, we can assist the Palestinian Authority with any programs to assume responsibility for monitoring those access points into Gaza.

Absent any active efforts by the administration, I would at least like assurances that the President is not working to impose a cease-fire upon Israel that is harmful to the objectives of the current military campaign.

Second, earlier this month a group of Republican Senators wrote to the President imploring him to craft a plan for containing the threat posed to Iraq and Jordan by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant. Specifically, we asked the President to deploy an assessment team to Jordan to develop a plan to prevent the spread of ISIL in a way that threatened our ally Jordan.

Although Ambassador Susan Rice responded to our letter, her letter did not address how the administration intends to combat ISIL. Instead, Ambassador Rice renewed the administration's request for a new counterterrorism partnership fund. To this point, the administration has failed to provide the Congress with any plan for how this new counterterrorism fund would assist our ally, further our own interests, or train and equip a moderate opposition within Syria. That would be a good starting point for today's discussion with the President.

OPIATE ADDICTION IMPACTS

Prescription drug and heroin abuse have risen to epidemic levels in my home State of Kentucky. More Kentuckians now lose their lives to drug overdose—largely driven by painkillers—than to car crashes. It is a huge problem.

Earlier this year I convened a listening session in the Commonwealth to hear from those closest to the problem, from professionals across the medical, public health, and law enforcement spheres, as well as a brave young man who managed to break his heroin addiction after watching his own friends overdose. We discussed the extent of the problem, and one issue in particular that grabbed my attention was the increasing number of infants being born in Kentucky dependent on opiates. Researchers estimate that more than one baby every hour—one baby every hour—is now born dependent on drugs and suffering from withdrawal—a number that has increased in my home State by more than 3,000 percent since the year 2000. We have gone from 29 infants identified as suffering from drug withdrawal annually to more than 950. Experts believe there are even more cases that go unreported. This is heartbreaking. I say this especially as a father of three daughters. These children are the most innocent members of our society. We have to protect them.

Thankfully, the Commonwealth is taking this problem seriously. Both the Kentucky Perinatal Association and the Kentucky Perinatal Quality Initiative Collaborative have made as their primary focus reducing the number of infants born dependent on opiates and other drugs. I certainly commend their efforts, but there is more we can do at the Federal level.

Maternal addiction and infant opiate dependency are epidemics that can best be overcome by effective coordination between stakeholders at the State and Federal levels.

One bill that was recently introduced in the House, the CRIB Act, would help address the need for greater coordination between doctors, nurses, hospitals, and governments at the State and Federal level. I commend the sponsors of that legislation for their leadership.

Today in the Senate I will introduce the Protecting Our Infants Act, which seeks to address not only infants suffering from opiate withdrawal but maternal opiate addiction as well. It would help identify and disseminate recommendations for preventing and treating maternal addiction so that we can reduce the number of infants born dependent on opiates and other drugs.

My bill would also promote recommendations as to how to pinpoint those babies suffering from withdrawal and how best to treat them. Because I have heard from so many experts in Kentucky on the need for more research into infant withdrawal and its long-term effects, my bill would shine a light on those areas as well.

The Protecting Our Infants Act would also encourage the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to work with States to improve the availability and quality of data so that they can respond more effectively to this public health crisis.

My legislation is certainly no silver bullet, but it is a step in the right direction, and it would help ensure that our public health system is better equipped to treat opiate addiction in mothers and in their newborn children. Together we can overcome this tragic problem. I am going to remain focused on it until we do.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nebraska.

FAMILY MEDICAL LEAVE

Mrs. FISCHER. I thank the Chair.

Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the need to strengthen American families and enhance workplace flexibility, and I am very pleased to be joined here on the floor of the Senate this morning by my good friend the junior Senator from Maine.

In Nebraska and all throughout the country, too many families continue to struggle in this weak economy. Even with moms and dads working two or three jobs, some families find it hard to get ahead. Household income has plummeted by more than $3,300, and 3.7 million more women are in poverty. The average price for a gallon of gas has nearly doubled, and the labor force participation rate has declined by 2.9 percentage points since 2009.

Many economists agree that the surest way to generate sustained economic growth and empower struggling families is to pass comprehensive tax reform. Addressing overregulation should also be a top priority. Moreover, it is a simple truth that less government spending means families will keep more of their own money. Agreement on how exactly to achieve these needed fiscal reforms remains elusive and, unfortunately, unlikely in a Capitol paralyzed with election fever. Nonetheless, there are reasonable policy changes we can all agree on, and those changes will make life easier for families.

I have been working on a number of commonsense measures—my Strong Families, Strong Communities plan—to empower working families, increase take-home pay, and ensure flexibility in the workplace. Today I would like to discuss part of that plan.

The Strong Families Act is a bipartisan proposal I introduced with Senator KING to address the challenge of paid leave. It is no secret that balancing responsibilities at home with duties at work is a common struggle for working parents. For an increasing number of Americans these pressures include raising young children while also caring for aging parents.

While I believe we must do more to help these working families, the usual Washington answers of one-size-fits-all Federal mandates and higher taxes are not a part of the solution we are proposing. Instead, I believe we should focus on a more balanced approach that respects both family obligations and the employer's costs of doing business. There are ways to increase the options for working adults without hurting existing employment arrangements or threatening job security.

The Family and Medical Leave Act—FMLA—of 1993 requires employers of 50 or more employees to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave, which can be used for events such as the birth or adoption of children, serious medical issues, or providing care to close family members.

The problem for many families is that current law does not require paid time off. Unpaid leave is practically impossible for countless Americans, especially hourly workers who live paycheck to paycheck. Many employers voluntarily offer generous compensation packages that include paid parental or medical leave. A survey of more than 1,100 employers found that 68 percent of large employers provide paid parental leave. At the same time not all workers enjoy these options despite increasingly complex family demands. Again, this is especially true for low-wage workers. With more than half of women working as the primary breadwinners, workplace flexibility has become a necessity for our 21st-century families.

It is not just children who require personal care and attention; it is also

our aging parents. Nearly half of middle-aged adults have elderly parents, and they are still supporting their own children. Over 43 million Americans provide direct care to older family members, with women serving as 66 percent of all primary caregivers. As the baby boomer generation ages, the number of senior citizens requiring care will likely spike. Less take-home pay for these caregivers means tighter finances, more stress, and lost opportunities—all at a time when families are confronting health crises or dealing with unique challenges of starting a new family. With such events often coinciding with high medical bills, the last thing a stressed family needs is a smaller working budget.

Senator KING and I have offered a proposal that would enable working families to have continued access to pay while they are meeting necessary family obligations. Our plan would create a tax credit to encourage employers to voluntarily offer paid leave for workers. To be eligible for that tax credit, the employer must at a minimum offer 4 weeks of paid leave, but they could offer more. Paid leave would be available on an hourly basis and would be separate from the other vacation or sick leave. For each hour of paid leave provided, the employer would receive a 25-percent nonrefundable tax credit. The more pay the employer offers, the greater the tax credit. This tax credit will be available to any employer with qualified employees regardless of size. Importantly, our bill is reasonable. It is a balanced solution that can make a real difference in the lives of working families.

When we do this without new mandates or new taxes, it creates an incentive structure to encourage employers to offer that paid leave, specifically targeting those who hire lower income hourly paid workers. This should not be just another election-year issue. This is a middle-class issue and our bill takes the partisan politics out of it and offers a meaningful solution we can pass.

I wish to thank my friend from Maine, Senator KING, who joined me in offering this bill.

Once again, this now famous surf-and-turf caucus is working together on a commonsense proposal, and it is a proposal that can help American families. I am grateful for the Senator's input, his hard work and friendship, and I look forward to closely working with him in the future so we can advance this measure in the Senate.

I thank the Presiding Officer and yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Maine.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I am delighted to join my colleague from Nebraska to introduce what I think is an important and commonsense and workable bill that could be passed in the next several weeks, and I think there will be broad agreement across the political spectrum.

The question we are answering is: What does Suriname, Papua-New Guinea, and the United States have in common? The answer is: They are the only three countries in the world that we have been able to turn up that don't have any provision for paid maternity leave. Every member of the industrialized world, except the United States, has some kind of coverage for paid maternity leave.

This chart gives the various levels. You will see in red is the United States, Suriname, Papua New Guinea, and that is it in the whole world. This is something we can do that will not affect our competitiveness, will not be a problem in our economic growth, and in fact I believe it will contribute to it.

Today a family who has a health crisis with an elderly parent, a child or has the joyful issue of a new child in their family has a terrible dilemma. The dilemma is: Do I stay home to take care of the child or the elderly parent in a health crisis or do I have to put food on the table by going to work because for every hour of work I miss I lose an hour of pay. That is a dilemma we should not put our people through.

As I have said, I believe this is a productivity issue. All of the discussions we have had in recent months about pay and gender inequity often come down to the issue of workplace flexibility, particularly in the case of women who are often the ones who are put in the dilemma I mentioned of having to choose between their earnings and family obligations. Women are the ones who are often trapped in this dilemma, and they are the ones who are asking for and seeking—quite reasonably—the same kind of flexibility that virtually every other working person in the world already enjoys.

I like this bill and agreed with my colleague from Nebraska to join in it because it is voluntary. It is not a mandate from Washington, it is not something that says every employer in the country has to do this, and there will be rules and bureaucracy and adjudications and all those kinds of things. No, this is a voluntary, incentive-based program that says every employer—not just those 50 and above or 100 and above or 500 and above—in the country will have this tax credit available to them that will allow them to offer paid leave to their employees.

I think this is the way we should approach this and not, as my colleague has said, with a one-size-fits-all mandate emanating from Washington. I think incentives are always better than mandates.

The other element that is important about this bill is it focuses on the people who are currently least likely to have some kind of paid leave available to them, and usually those are people who work on an hourly basis. That is whom this bill is focused on. The interesting aspect of the data is that as it goes up the income scale into salaried employees, more than two-thirds of American workers in this category already have a paid leave policy. It is when you get down into the working people—the hourly workers—that we have discovered the real problem lies. That is why I think this bill has an important focus on hourly workers, people who are covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act and people who otherwise are not going to have this kind of protection.

This is about flexibility. As I have talked to and listened to women's groups and advocacy groups, flexibility is always first on the agenda, and that is exactly what we are talking about, so people—men or women—don't have to make that agonizing decision, people who are living paycheck to paycheck don't have to make the agonizing decision between being able to put food on the table and pay the rent or staying home to take care of an ill child or an elderly parent or to stay home a reasonable period after the joyous occasion of the arrival of a new child.

It is also about productivity. I believe we will see an increase in productivity because people will not be preoccupied when they are at work. They know they are going to be there and they know they are going to have this protection and it takes away that agonizing worry and anxiety. It also—by giving people paid leave—will enable them to continue to contribute to the economy, and I believe it will actually be a positive stimulus to our economy.

Of course everybody says we are in competition with the rest of the world. Not on this. Every place else in the world provides this level of benefits so we are in a catchup situation, and I believe, as I said, I think we will see an increase in productivity and in economic activity.

Finally, it is about fairness. Frankly, to some extent it is about gender fairness. It is about fairness to working women who are expected in our culture to be the ones to take care of a sick child. That may not be fair, that may not be the wave of the future, but that is a fact today. It is about fairness to those working women who have to make a choice between putting food on the table or taking care of a sick child or taking the necessary time off after the birth of a child in order to have that event be a happy one and not an economic strain on the family.

I am delighted to join my colleague from Nebraska—the leader of the surf-and-turf caucus—on her brilliant bill that I believe is something we can come together on, on a bipartisan basis, and actually do something about and not just talk about the problem of income equality and not just talk about the problem of fairness and not just talk about the problem of flexibility in the workplace but actually do something about it in a practical and commonsense way that I think will have tremendous ramifications across the country.

I am delighted to be able to join her. I compliment the Senator from Nebraska for her work in bringing this

forward, and I look forward to what I hope will be an expeditious consideration of her bill in the Senate and in the Congress. This is a change we can make that will make a real difference in people's lives across America.

I thank the Presiding Officer and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

IMMIGRATION REFORM

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, the people of the United States have truly begged and pleaded with their lawmakers for years to create a lawful system of immigration—one that works, one that is fair, one that serves the national interest, one that we can believe in. They have been justly and rightly convinced of that fact, and they have demanded it of their elected officeholders to secure their communities and protect the integrity of our national borders. Some say there is something wrong with that. I say there is absolutely nothing wrong with that. That is the right thing. That is the moral thing. That is the responsible thing. That is the decent thing. That is what any great nation should have—an immigration policy that serves its national interest and is fairly and lawfully conducted.

But these pleas have fallen on deaf ears. Our border is absolutely not secure. It is in a state of crisis. Our communities are not safe. Preventable crimes occur every day because our laws are not being enforced and our sovereignty, at its base level, is not being protected. And, we have a President planning to issue sweeping executive amnesty in violation of law, in ways in which he has no power, and threatens the constitutional separation of powers. Congress passes laws; the President must execute the laws. The President is not entitled to make laws, to conduct actions contrary to plain laws. The President simply cannot say Congress didn't act, so I have to act.

Well, Congress decided not to act in a way he wanted. They considered legislation, rejected it, and now he is going to—it appears from article after article—go forward and carry out an action anyway. It would be fundamentally wrong. This cannot stand. It will not stand.

My position has been and remains that Congress should not pass border legislation that does not foreclose the possibility of these unlawful Executive orders. As an institution, this Congress has a duty to protect this institution and our constituents.

Currently, the President has issued approximately half a million grants of administrative amnesty and work permits to individuals unlawfully present in the country up to 30 years of age. Now the President wants to issue another 5 to 6 million work permits to illegal immigrants of any age, despite a clear prohibition in the Immigration and Nationality Act. He is not entitled to do that. Plain law says you cannot employ someone in the country unlawfully.

People think: Well, it is one thing to say you will not deport somebody. But, colleagues, what was done previously was to provide, under the DACA legislation, an ID card with the words ''Work Permit'' across the top, ''Work Authorization'' across the top.

So the President is providing, in violation of plain law, the ability of people in the country to work who are not entitled to work, who will be able to take jobs from any American today. We have a lot of Americans today struggling for work. At a time when millions of Americans are out of work, the President's plan is a direct affront to them—to every single unemployed American, to people around the world who have applied to come to the United States and have not been admitted, so they did not come unlawfully. What do we say to them when this happens?

It is particularly damaging to those in the poorest and most vulnerable communities in America. So who is speaking for them? Who will give them a voice in Congress? Will Members hear? Will we hear their pleas? I have been shocked that we have not seen a willingness in the Congress to resist more effectively than what we are seeing today.

So let's consider a bit more deeply for a moment what the President's Executive action would do to immigration enforcement in America. Let me say clearly, colleagues, we are not making this up. We are not having some idea that he might do something for 5 or 6 million more people. It has been repeatedly leaked from the White House—not leaked; they have discussed it. The President has promised it to activist groups like La Raza and the ACLU that he has been meeting with. He has told them he intends to do this. It is only a question of how and the time. The latest article yesterday in the Wall Street Journal—a big article—said it would happen shortly after Labor Day. Well, this is not something we are making up. It is a direct threat, a direct promise, a statement, it appears, from the White House.

I hope they will not go forward with it. Surely cooler heads in the White House will push back. Surely his Attorney General will say: Mr. President, you cannot do this. His legal counsel in the White House will say: Mr. President, do not do this. This is not lawful. The Department of Homeland Security needs to be saying: This would be devastating, Mr. President. How can we enforce any laws? Please do not do this.

I do not think it is absolutely certain to happen. But it seems to me that by every indication it is an absolute intention right now of the President to go forward with this or they would not have had at least a half a dozen articles on it—the National Journal, Time magazine, and others.

I have spoken many times with a great American by the name of Chris Crane, a former marine. He is also an ICE officer and president of the officers' ICE Council—the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Council. He has explained how his officers are ordered not to do their job. They have even sued the Secretary of Homeland Security for blocking them from fulfilling their oath to enforce the laws of the United States of America. Can you imagine that? I was in Federal law enforcement for 15 years. I have never heard of a situation in which a group of law officers sue their supervisor saying, in Federal court: Mr. Judge, my supervisor is ordering me not to do what my duty and my oath requires on a daily basis.

That is a stunning development. Their morale for years has been one of the lowest in the Federal Government. Now I think it is the lowest because they have been demeaned and rejected in a duty they believe is worthwhile for them to carry out.

One of the things Mr. Crane explained is that the President's previous Executive amnesty for the so-called DREAMers basically halted enforcement for anyone who asserted protections under that new administration policy. Mr. Crane would report that ICE officers would come into contact with individuals unlawfully present in the country—individuals they would encounter in prisons and jails. They would be called by a local police department that they have arrested someone for a serious crime. They would tell the ICE officers. Routinely they are supposed to go and pick them up and deport them. They would encounter people in jail—that is one of the big jobs they have—and they would be forced to release them simply because they assert: I came here as a youth. Nobody is going to do any investigation on this. How do you investigate it? The effect is to demoralize and make it difficult, and almost impossible, to enforce the law.

Now imagine, then, what would happen if the President expands this administrative amnesty and work authorization program to cover millions of unlawful immigrants of all ages. Everyone ICE comes in contact with will assert these protections: I am qualified under the President's amnesty. And any who fail the application will say they are eligible for this amnesty.

So what then? Will the FBI open investigations, check when they entered the country or whom they entered the country with, and where they came from? They are not going to do that—of course not. The officers are going to be totally unable to resist false claims from applicants, who happen to be the people they have arrested. It is going to demoralize immigration enforcement officers. ICE officers will again be

issued orders basically to stand down. No enforcement is going to occur. It will be the effective end of immigration enforcement in America, in my opinion.

You cannot maintain an effective, lawful, consistent, fair immigration enforcement policy with these kinds of regulations occurring and these kinds of orders from the White House, who is the Chief Executive Officer of America, who is empowered and directed to ensure that the laws of the United States are carried out—not empowered to violate the laws of the United States.

We have also heard from officers who have processed immigration applications. These are people who receive applications to come to the United States in a lawful way. These dedicated folks at the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services are people who have to process all of these millions of applicants if the President issues his order.

So let me read at length from a statement from the President of the USCIS Council, who represents these CIS officers who have an awesome duty. He wrote last year—this is what he said:

> USCIS adjudications officers are pressured to rubber stamp applications instead of conducting diligent case review and investigation.

This is the officers saying that their bosses are pressuring them to just rubber stamp applications right now—not to investigate, not to ask questions—just approve them. He goes on:

> The culture at USCIS encourages all applications to be approved, discouraging proper investigation into red flags and discouraging the denial of any applications. USCIS has been turned into an ''approval machine.''

That is what the top CIS officer said in a statement last fall. They have been turned into an approval machine. No wonder the American people are unhappy with what goes on here. Does anyone really know how serious this is? It is amazing that we would undermine the very integrity, really, of the entire process, and that is why they have protested. That is why they have come forward. It hurts them. They feel bad to see the great laws of the United States being routinely eviscerated.

He went on to say this:

> USCIS has created an almost insurmountable bureaucracy which often prevents USCIS adjudications officers from contacting and coordinating with ICE agents—

Who know something about these people, perhaps—

> and officers in cases that should have their involvement. USCIS officers are pressured to approve visa applications for many individuals ICE agents have determined should be placed into deportation proceedings.

That is a very serious charge, and that is happening. He is not making that up. It goes on:

> The USCIS officers who identify illegal aliens that, in accordance with law should be placed into immigration removal proceedings before a federal judge, are prevented from exercising their authority and responsibility to issue Notices To Appear.

This is a notice to appear in court. They are being obstructed and told not to do it. He goes on to say:

> The attitude of USCIS management is not that the Agency serves the American public or the laws of the United States, or public safety and national security, but instead that the agency serves illegal aliens and the attorneys which represent them. While we believe in treating all people with respect, we are concerned that this agency tasked with such a vital security mission is too greatly influenced by special interest groups—to the point that it no longer properly performs its mission.

What a devastating critique. Does anyone care? Has the President done one thing to respond to these allegations? Is the Senate bill that is offered by Senator REID and our Democratic colleagues, with the blessings of the President—does it do one thing to fix one of these problems? No. They have no intention of fixing these problems. They do not want to fix these problems. This is their policy: to foment more lawlessness and to see that the laws are undermined in such a way they cannot be effectively enforced.

It is just wrong, colleagues. Republicans and Democrats need to stand up to this. Don't we need to respond to the desires of the American people for a lawful system of immigration? Isn't that right and just and decent that they ask of us? Yet we go along in total ignorance and ignore these kinds of statements from our own enforcement officers, which anybody who looks at the border and sees what is happening could believe every bit of. And indeed it is true.

It goes on to say:

> This agency is tasked with such a vital security mission is too greatly influenced by special interest groups—to the point that it no longer properly performs its mission.

In virtually every article we see the President is meeting with some group, such as La Raza, which has very extreme policies on immigration—basically an open borders policy. They have opposed every policy of lawfulness. Another similar group, the ACLU, was commenting recently on what they thought the President had told them he was going to do about not enforcing the law.

These are the kinds of groups he is meeting with. He is not meeting with the law officers. He never sat down with them to ask: Tell me what it is like on the border. Let's see if we fix this thing. Let's make this system work. He has never done that. That is very indicative. This legislation that would spend $2.7 billion, proposed by the Democratic leadership in the Senate, and totally blessed by the President. This is the President's bill and it does nothing to fix any of the problems. It just asks for more money.

The President of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services wrote last year:

> DHS and USCIS leadership have intentionally established an application process for DACA—

That is his first amnesty for DREAMers that the President issued.

> —that bypasses traditional in-person investigatory interviews with trained USCIS adjudications officers. These practices were put in place to stop proper screening and enforcement,—

He is saying that these practices were put in place to stop proper screening and enforcement.

> —and guarantee that applications will be rubber-stamped for approval, a practice that virtually guarantees widespread fraud and places public safety at risk.

This is the head of the USCIS Officers Association. He is laying out event after event, action after action, that demonstrates we are dealing with an administration that does not want the law enforced. Can you believe these words?

The president of USCIS goes on to say:

> U.S. taxpayers are currently tasked with absorbing the cost of over $200 million worth of fee waivers bestowed on applicants for naturalization during the last fiscal year. This is in addition to the strain put on our Social Security system that has been depleted by an onslaught of refugees receiving SSI benefits as soon as their feet touch U.S. soil.

So the story that there are no Social Security benefits is not correct. The refugees who enter our asylum system through the refugee program are entitled to these benefits when they hit the soil.

He goes on to say:

> Large swaths of the Immigration and Nationality Act are not effectively enforced for legal immigrants and visa holders, including laws regarding public charges as well as many other provisions as the USCIS lacks the resources to adequately screen and scrutinize legal immigrants and non-immigrants seeking status adjustment. There is also insufficient screening and monitoring of student visas.

These are breathtaking reports from our top officers, from the front lines of law enforcement, from people who screen and review applications every day for the United States of America.

Now think—just imagine what will happen to our system if the President goes forward with his executive action. It would overwhelm a system that is already buckling under the weight of massive illegality on our southern border.

We must end this lawlessness. We can end this. We can do so. Let me repeat. I know it can be done. But to do so, we must first stop doing more damage. We must prevent the President's massive executive amnesty from going forward. The public, once riled to these issues, will not be ignored this time, in my opinion. They will not let the representatives of either party acquiesce to lawlessness. That is why I have said that Congress as an institution must not support any border bill that come forward that does not expressly prohibit the President's executive amnesty ideas that he has been talking about, and would block him from spending any money to execute an unlawful plan of this kind.

How can we not take this position, colleagues? What basis do we have to

say we will not take any action when we were being told on a daily basis what the President plans to do? Are we ready to go to recess for August having done nothing, said nothing, offered nothing to oppose the stated intentions of the President in this way?

There is currently no legislation pending for a vote in either Chamber, House or Senate, which passes this test. Senator CRUZ has offered language, but they are not willing to allow it to come up for a vote. As a result, both the House and Senate packages should not be supported. Congress should not adjourn until it has firmly stood against the President's unconstitutional and dangerous action.

The American people are asking for us to help. They are pleading with us to help. We must answer their call. We must fight for the lawful and just system of immigration that we can be proud of. Let's put this into a bigger picture. Wages are down. Labor force participation is declining. The percentage of people in the working ages who are actually working has been declining steadily. Indeed, it has not reached a level this low since the 1970s.

Since 2000, the Federal Government has lawfully issued nearly 30 million immigrant and foreign work visas—for people to come to this country to work—almost 30 million visas to legally work in the United States or permanently reside in the United States. During this time, the number of Americans with jobs—Americans with jobs—declined on net. On net, fewer U.S.-born workers ages 16 to 65 had jobs in 2014 than in 2000. Amazing.

There are fewer people working today—even though the population has increased—than in 2000. The President's planned work permits for illegal immigrants is in addition then to the already huge flow of low-wage labor into the United States.

We have a problem, colleagues, with Americans needing jobs. We do not have too few workers. We have too few jobs. I would contend that that is pretty clear because wages are down.

If we had a shortage of workers, wages would be up. When you have a surplus of labor and surplus of workers, wages decline. According to the Wall Street Journal, in 2007, a family income of 4 would amount to about $55,000, on average. It has now dropped to $50,000. That represents a huge diminishment of the wealth of America. Is it not time we did something for American workers? Who do we represent? Do we not represent the people of this country? Do we not know we cannot—while we believe in immigration, we respect and admire and love immigrants, we ought to have a lawful system. The number of people who come ought not to be so large that it destabilizes our labor market. Is that not the right policy for a great country to pursue? The American people have begged and pleaded for this system. I believe we ought to give it to them.

Let me sum up one more time here. What we are seeing in the bill presented by the majority, and demanding that it pass the Senate today, is a bill that just provides money. It does not deal with any of the policy problems in any real way that would end the lawlessness and end the belief by people around the world that if they can just come to the United States, particularly if they come as a young person, they will be allowed to stay. We have not acted to end this belief in any effective way.

It could easily be done. We do not need a law to fix that. We have looked at it. Some legal changes could help. But, first of all, the President needs to act.

The House is putting up some money. They are saying it has got to be used for some of the things that would be beneficial to ending this flow. But even then, we have seen the President does not have to use it and does not have to comply with their vision to end immigration into America.

So the President has set this up. He issued his amnesty documents, his policies, and encouraged more people to come to America. If he does this new Executive order amnesty, it would encourage more adults to come to America. It just will. It will weaken the moral authority of all our immigration laws. You cannot take these kinds of actions—as somebody who has been in law enforcement for a long time, you cannot take these actions and think there are not ramifications on them, that there are not impacts throughout the entire world and throughout the entire law enforcement community, for our ICE officers and our USCIS officers working every day dealing with hundreds of these cases.

You have to have clarity. You have to have integrity. You have to have consistency. You have to mean what you say. You cannot say: I am for strong borders, and I am for legal immigration, and then present a bill that is going to do nothing to change the path we are on. It is something I hope our people will look at and pay attention to it.

This bill is going to go down. It is not going to pass. It should not pass. It will be blocked. It will have no chance to pass in the House if it were to get out of the Senate. What I want to say to colleagues is: It is indicative of the lack of seriousness from the majority party when they produce such a poor piece of legislation.

I wish to remind my colleagues of one more thing. The only way the administration can run out of money is if it refuses to spend the money that is currently available to it for the border disaster. There is no law, no regulation preventing the administration from spending money in the current fiscal year. Even the bill they submitted to us, when it was examined, showed it only asked for $25 million for this fiscal year, through September 30. So it is not the kind of crisis we have to rush out and pass a bill today, tonight, or the country is going to shut down. They can reallocate funds. But what we need is, and what Congress needs to do as a representative of the American people, is to say: We are prepared to provide some money, but we need to know, Mr. President, that you are serious. We need to know, Mr. President, you are going to let your officers do their duty and not block them from doing their duty. We need to know, Mr. President, you are not, in a few weeks, going to issue a massive administrative amnesty to millions of people who will be given work permits to compete in America for any job that is out there—any job.

We need to know where you stand on this. We represent our people. We cannot just throw money at this problem, which is what this legislation does.

Let me take a moment to go back and discuss how we got here. We have had the current law basically in effect for a number of years: 5, 6, 7 years. We did not see a spike in entries of young people until the President issued an Executive order basically legalizing people of youth—up to 30 years of age—who came to America. That was seen around the world as an invitation for young people to come. They have come in extraordinary numbers, overwhelming our system.

In 2011, it was 6,000. This year it is going to be 90,000. What a huge surge that is. It should never have happened. Now we are reduced to being here in the Congress and having the President come to us demanding billions of dollars to fund this program and deal with the crisis his policies created. Because it is true, and has been true, the young people who come to America turn themselves in to the immigration officers, who then take them to the Health and Human Services officers and turn them over to them. They go out and find housing. That is why we have seen this all over the country. Find housing for them. Months go by, or, if anyone comes to pick them up, they are turned over to them. They do not inquire if they are legally here, those who come to pick them up. They expect no proof that they are related to the child.

Maybe it is a 17-year-old. Most of them are older teenagers who pick them up, and they are released on a permiso or bail and they never show up. Nobody has the time or the numbers or the capacity to begin to go look and see why they didn't show up in court. But if we get a traffic ticket and don't show up in court in Alabama, California, Texas, somebody is coming after us.

This is the way the system is being collapsed in America today. It is just a tragedy. It breaks my heart. The American people have never approved of this.

So word got out and we had this surge, and now the President, without any real plan to fix it, comes forward and says: Give me $4 billion—the bill here I think is $2.7 billion—without any clear commitment or proof that we have any plan or any commitment

from his leadership to alter the dynamics of the situation we are in.

This is not acceptable. The bill before us now is not acceptable. It will not pass. It will not become law. We need to insist—the American people will continue to insist—that this Congress and this White House do their duty to make sure we have good, sound immigration laws and then ensure they are faithfully and fairly executed to serve the national interests of the United States.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am glad that people have decided to speak about immigration reform.

This body passed overwhelmingly—Republicans and Democrats joined together—a comprehensive immigration bill last year.

We did it after six hearings during which we received testimony from 42 witnesses. We had five markups and 37 hours of debate, often late into the night, over three weeks. There were 212 amendments, of which 136 were adopted, all but three of them on a bipartisan bases. Staff and Senators, Republicans and Democrats, worked together throughout that time, and the Senate, by a better than 2-to-1 margin, passed a comprehensive immigration bill. It was supported by people from the right to the left.

It went over to the other body. In the other body there were enough votes to pass it. And what happened? The Republican leadership said: No, we will not bring it up. And so it died there.

Today, faced with a surge of migrants from Central America, they are giving great speeches: Oh, my God. We have to do something about immigration. Why don't we do something about immigration? And then they blame Democratic President Obama.

My response is: What are you doing? They could have brought up the bill. We would be a lot better off had they brought it up and voted on it. Vote yes or vote no. That is what we are supposed to do. The Senate did that, and we passed it.

The Republican leadership is so afraid they might actually have to take a stand on immigration. They might actually have to vote yes or no. It is so much easier to do nothing, just to let it sit there and say: Oh, it must be President Obama's fault. Oh, it must be the Senate's fault. Oh, it must be somebody else's fault. Or maybe it is the fault of these 6- and 7-year-old children who are trying to escape being killed or molested, the 12-year-old girls who are afraid they are going to be raped by gangs, the 12-year-old boys who are going to be forced into gangs or be shot in front of their families.

It is so much easier to say: This is terrible. It has to be President Obama's fault. Let's sue him.

What I say is: Why don't you have the courage to vote yes or no on the immigration bill we sent you?

I defy any one of them to go home during August and say: Oh, we have to do something about immigration. I hope people ask: How did you vote? Well, they didn't vote yes and they didn't vote no. They didn't vote at all.

I spoke in this Chamber earlier this month about the importance of living up to our own principles and traditions by addressing the influx of unaccompanied Central American children because it is a humanitarian crisis.

While there is no easy solution, the Border Supplemental Appropriations Bill offers a chance to make a downpayment on a strategy to address this crisis comprehensively, in accordance with our legal obligations and moral values.

The supplemental was described by the Appropriations Committee chairwoman Senator MIKULSKI yesterday. We know it is significantly different than the bill put forward by the House Republican leadership this week. The House bill provides $1 billion less than the Senate to help unaccompanied children currently in the United States and $700 million less to support the Departments of Homeland Security and Justice so they can effectively address this issue and adjudicate these children's cases appropriately.

There is nobody in this body or the other body, if they have children or grandchildren, who has to worry about them going hungry or has to worry about them living in fear every day. Let's get out of our ivory tower and pay attention to what is happening.

As I said earlier, the House ignored our bipartisan comprehensive immigration reform bill. Thirty pages of policy reforms included in the House supplemental and all it does is support their enforcement-only agenda to get rid of these children. Just throw them out. Let's pretend we have no responsibility. Send them back to face whatever horrors back home.

While many of these children and families don't qualify for international protection and would be better off not risking the dangerous journey, which the Senate bill seeks to address, many others have legitimate claims to protection because of the violence and persecution they have suffered in their home countries.

That is why this is a humanitarian issue. That is why we can't expect other countries with far fewer resources—such as Jordan or Turkey or Ethiopia—to accept far larger numbers of refugees from outside their borders if we are not willing to do our part.

The little country of Jordan is being overwhelmed by hundreds of thousands of refugees from Syria. We say: Oh, thank you for doing that. Here we are talking about a tiny percentage compared to the size of our country. We say we want other countries to do this—but, gosh, the wealthiest, most powerful nation in the world can't. That's not who we are as Americans.

That is why it is unconscionable that the House on the one hand recognizes these Central American countries are among the most dangerous in the world, where gangs and other violent crime is taking a horrific toll on children and families. They will give speeches on that, but on the other hand they will say: However, that is their problem. Send these children back. Eight-year-old, you can fend for yourself against the gangs with machine guns. Go back, and do it as quickly as possible because we have to go on recess. We don't want to be bothered about you.

That is why it is also unacceptable that the House would pay for their misguided approach in part by cutting nearly $200 million from other programs in the foreign aid budget, the very funding needed to help reduce poverty, corruption, and violence in Central America so children won't flee in the first place.

Critics of the administration want to point fingers, but blame games aren't going to solve this problem. There is no single cause. It didn't occur overnight. It has been building for years as drug cartels, responding to the insatiable demand for illegal drugs in the United States, have migrated to Guatemala and Honduras and El Salvador.

It is caused by members of Central American gangs, arrested and imprisoned in the United States and then deported, who have resumed their threats and extortion and killing sprees with a vengeance.

It is caused by abusive and corrupt police forces and judges and the failure of the Central American governments to address the lawlessness and impunity in their own countries.

It is caused by the lack of educational and employment opportunities that are among the reasons Central American youth join the gangs.

So let's not play politics over something as complex and deadly as this. Let's vote for the Senate supplemental. It includes the funding needed to begin addressing some of the contributing causes of the migration and leaves intact the important legal protections in the Trafficking Victims Protections Act.

The $300 million in the State and foreign operations chapter of this bill requires a multiyear strategy to support the efforts of Central American governments to dismantle their criminal gangs and combat extortion, human smuggling and trafficking and domestic and sexual abuse, strengthen their social services, law enforcement, and judicial systems, develop child welfare services, and expand programs in education and get rid of the barriers to economic growth and opportunity.

It also provides funds for public information campaigns to discourage potential migrants from making the perilous journey in the first place, and it includes provisions that will ensure vigorous oversight of the aid we provide.

The emergency spending in this supplemental is needed to respond urgently and responsibly to this crisis. It

is about what we stand for as Americans. Let's uphold our Nation's longstanding tradition of providing a safe haven for refugees that is engraved in the Statue of Liberty, for the well-being of thousands who have fled violence and risked everything to arrive at our borders, and for the millions in Central America who live every day in fear. Let's give them some hope for a better life. Let's pass this bill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I thank Senator LEAHY for his extraordinary leadership on this issue. He serves on the Appropriations Committee that has brought us this supplemental appropriation. He is also the chair of the Judiciary Committee.

I had the great privilege for a short period of time to serve on the Judiciary Committee—too short a period of time—and saw his extraordinary leadership. I know it was his committee that brought together an immigration reform bill that would have dealt with some of the major problems we have in our immigration system. Through great work we got that bill passed in the Senate over 1 year ago.

I find it somewhat ironic that in the House they are now talking about how they can change the immigration law while we have a bill that is over there. Pass our bill and it would go a long way toward helping this issue.

I thank Senator LEAHY for his leadership on immigration issues and his passion on the humanitarian issues we have before us.

I join Senator LEAHY, and I hope the majority of this membership will, in support of the emergency supplemental. I hope we can pass it today, and I hope our colleagues in the House will also pass it.

I thank Senator MIKULSKI, my colleague from Maryland, for her leadership as chair of the Appropriations Committee and bringing forward a supplemental appropriation that deals with the humanitarian crisis on our border.

We all know about the unaccompanied children on our border. In fiscal year 2014 it will equal 60,000. That is an extraordinary number. But let me make it clear. It is not because of border security issues that we have this problem. When these children approach our border they say: We are here. They are not trying to sneak into the United States. They are trying to get to our country and then they turn themselves in. We know most are coming from Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala, and we know the circumstances in those three Central American countries.

First and foremost, the information they have about the transit and welcome in America is different than reality. The reality is that if children are transited to our border, they are very likely to be at great risk, great risk because of the traffickers who could very well abuse them—certainly very costly transit—and give them information that is not accurate about the laws of our country.

If they make it to our border, what happens is they are put in deportation. There is no right to enter America. We have to evaluate their circumstance. Those are our immigration laws.

First and foremost, we want to make sure the people of Honduras and El Salvador and Guatemala understand the risk factors and that their children should remain in their country.

But the root cause, as Senator LEAHY pointed out, is also the current circumstances in these three Central American countries. It is not safe. Too many young people have the choice to either join a gang of violence or themselves be victimized by violence. The economic circumstances in these three countries give little hope for an economic future for these children. It is in our interests to partner with all three of these countries to deal with the root causes of why parents would put their children in transit to our borders at great risk or why families would try to come to America and leave their native country.

So it is in our interests to deal with that, and the supplemental appropriations bill that is now on the floor provides $300 million of help that we can use to deal with root causes in the Central American countries. We can make a difference.

I will give the dollars for one second. Three hundred million dollars might seem like a lot of money, but it is not the billions we need to take care of the problems on our border as a result of families sending their children to our border.

We can make a difference. Our development assistance programs work. They work. It is part of our national security. We understand that if we have stable countries, it provides a more stable relationship and strategic partnership with us and other countries, helping our national security interests, and we can make a difference.

Let me remind my colleagues that under President George W. Bush, in a bipartisan manner in 2003, we passed the PEPFAR law which dealt with HIV/AIDS because we recognized the security of the world was being jeopardized by the spread of HIV/AIDS. And guess what. Our PEPFAR initiative made a huge consequential difference. Today the landscape is totally different than it was just a decade ago. That is because we, the United States, showed leadership.

We can show the same kind of leadership in dealing with the root problems in Central America that can make our hemisphere safer—and, by the way, help children and help children of the future who could help their country and help the global economy. We have programs in these countries. We have the Partnership for Growth as one example in El Salvador.

But we have to make it consequential. We have to make it consequential to get rid of these gangs, to give economic hope, to deal with good governance. The first step is in this supplemental appropriation that provides $300 million of help to these countries. These children at the border require a humanitarian response from the United States.

I have the honor of chairing the U.S. Helsinki Commission. It is known for many things. It is known for standing up for human rights globally.

We have talked about America asking the international community to have open borders when there is instability in their community—most recently the problems in Syria. We thank the people of Turkey and the people of Jordan for having open borders so people can find safe havens. We had better take care of our issues at home first.

We have humanitarian responsibilities, and this supplemental appropriation takes care of that, with $1.2 billion to help human services to deal with adequate shelter for these children so they are properly cared for. That is our responsibility; they have certain rights.

The majority will be returned to the host country in a safe manner, but there are many who are entitled to asylum. There are many who have been victimized by the traffickers and are in fear of their life and there is no safe option and have a right to expect our country to reach out in a humanitarian way to take care of their needs.

This supplemental takes care of that—with moneys for HHS, moneys for the Department of Justice—$124 million to deal with the judges so we can handle these issues in a prompt manner—to deal with adequate legal representation.

As I mentioned at the beginning of my comments, yes, we have to improve our immigration laws. We have already done it. The bill from the Senate is at the House. All they have to do is take up our bill, pass it, and in a balanced way, representing I think not only the philosophical views of the Congress—which can be a challenge at times—but representing the views of most Americans.

I hope we will support the supplemental bill. I might also add it provides $615 million for wildfires in the West. We know that is an emergency, an urgent situation that needs to be dealt with. It provides help to our ally and friend Israel, $225 million to replenish the missiles that have been used in Iron Dome to shoot down the missiles coming into Israel. It is a well-balanced supplemental. It represents the best interests of this country, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I know the Senate is now considering whether we should vote on the motion to proceed to the emergency supplemental bill. That means under our rules of another century we actually don't get to the bill. We have a debate or even have a filibuster on whether we should even move to the bill. It was designed to cool the passions of the time so the Senate could be the greatest deliberative body in the world. However, these procedures now have been distorted. We are no longer the greatest deliberative body in the world; we are the greatest delaying body in the world. Delay has become not only a tactic to come up with better ideas, delay has become an outcome unto itself.

We are facing a serious problem in our country, and I hope we would vote on the motion to proceed so we could actually get on the legislation for the urgent supplemental funding to deal with three crises facing our country, one of which is wildfires burning in the West, in which property, communities, and livelihoods are being destroyed and first responders are being exhausted. While they are being exhausted, local and State funds are being exhausted, along with the Forest Service of our own government.

We need to stand with our neighbors in these Western States because this is a calamity. The Presiding Officer was the mayor of a great city in New Jersey—Newark. He knows what happens when a hurricane hits the city and hits a State. He could tell me and I know he has spoken frequently about how New Jersey is still trying to recover from Sandy.

Well, the fires raging in the Western States are their hurricane. It is their tornado. It is their Sandy. I hope we would pass the $615 million to help our own fellow citizens in the 8 Western States.

Then we have a treasured ally that is under attack by a terrorist organization and needs to defend itself using technology called the Iron Dome. They defend themselves by shooting interceptor rockets. It is not an offensive rocket, shoot to kill, it is shoot to defend. They are using up these rockets at an unprecedented rate, and the Secretary of Defense sent a letter to the Congress asking for $225 million to be able to replenish their arsenal.

We also have a crisis in Central America and the violence by the narcotraffickers—or the narcoterrorists—that is causing a surge of children to come into our country. I hope we will pass the legislation which will allow us to get the money that is needed to address that situation, and I will elaborate on that in a moment.

After all is said and done, I hope this will not be another day where more gets said than gets done. We need to respond to the needs that are presented to us.

I wish to talk about the children at this time. Much has been said on the floor about the current situation, and much has been said about President Obama's failed immigration policy; we need to give the National Guard police powers.

I am proud many Senators went down to the border. I myself went to the border. I went to see the situation, as chair of the Appropriations Committee. No. 1, I wanted to see if there was an urgent need; No. 2, what would it take to meet that need; and No. 3, how we can work together on a bipartisan basis to protect the children and protect our own country. Well, I got an eyeful, and I have to tell you about it.

I traveled with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of HHS, Secretary Burwell, down to the border. We went to the McAllen Border Patrol station. We also went to Lackland Air Force Base, where children are temporarily housed. I had the opportunity to meet with great Border Patrol agents, a wonderful faith-based organization that is caring for the children, and fantastic young lawyers from the University of Texas at Austin campus and St. Mary's Law School. The law students and professors are there to make sure the kids have legal services on a pro bono basis. They are doing it on their own time. We saw a lot. I also had a chance to talk to the children.

First, I will talk about the number of children. There was talk on the floor that made it sound as if we were under siege rather than facing a surge. I think there is a big difference between feeling as if we are under siege and facing a surge. As of this minute, we are talking about 60,000 children. That is a lot of children, but if you went to Baltimore to the Ravens stadium, the Ravens stadium holds 60,000 people. We are not talking 600,000 or 6 million children; we are talking about 60,000 children. Maybe it will swell to 90,000 children. All 90,000 children could still fit in the new Dallas stadium.

We are talking about a number so small that it could fit into an American stadium.

We are a country with 300 million people. We can certainly deal with 60,000 children who are fleeing traffickers, drugs, and sexual slavery. Are we not big enough, tough enough, and strong enough to be able to deal with that? I think we are. If you could see what has been going on, you would know what I mean.

Let's talk about these 60,000 children. It is literally a children's March across Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador, through Mexico, and coming up the Rio Grande. They are not coming across all 1,900 miles of the border. They are going to a specific area, and they are crossing the river on rafts, swimming, and doing whatever they can to get to the border.

It starts like this: The children either come on their own or they come because a smuggler or coyote brings them here. That means some mother, father, or aunt in the United States of America, making minimum wage, is scraping together the $3,000 to $5,000 the smuggler is charging to deliver—kind of like a FedEx or UPS for human beings—these children to the Rio Grande border. The violence is so bad that they are willing to trust a crook to bring the children to this country.

These children trek through a jungle, through filth and dirt and danger. They stop at what they call safe houses. That is an oxymoron; there is nothing safe about a safe house. There are children with all kinds of different people on that road. These people take advantage of the children. I won't describe it.

From this safe house, they finally make it to the border by a train called The Beast. The Beast is a cargo train. This is not a lovely train that goes up and down our coast from Boston to Savannah. This is a train called The Beast. The children ride on the top of these trains, holding and clutching to each other. I talked to a 9-year-old girl who said that she rode for 2 days and had to stay awake for 48 hours because she was worried about falling off and losing an arm or leg or death itself.

Why would children risk this? Why would parents risk this? It is because of the danger, danger, danger in Central America. We are talking about arming the border more. We need to go after these criminals and arm our law enforcement officers so they can fight the narcotraffickers in Central America. We need to deal with our insatiable appetite for drugs that fuels and is driving this movement.

When they send the children back, what are they going to send them back to? We are sending them back to countries that are recruiting boys to engage in criminal activity, and girls are recruited into human trafficking. It is not as though we are going to send them back on a plane and Juan Diaz will be there with yellow roses saying: Welcome back, children of Honduras and El Salvador. They will go back to the very danger from which they ran.

When I went to the McAllen Border Patrol station, which is really a detention facility—it was designed to detain adults—underline that word. It was designed to hold up to 300 people, usually illegal immigrants trying to cross the Rio Grande. These really look like cells. They are cement cinder block facilities that were designed to hold 10 or 12 adults, and they hold as many as 20 or 30 children who are sleeping on the floor.

The Border Patrol is doing the best they can. The Border Patrol is taking care of children because we can't move them to humanitarian facilities as the law requires. The children are taking turns sitting on a cement block to even be able to rest. There are 20 or 30 in a room sleeping on the floor and using empty water bottles for pillows. They

have blankets that look like aluminum foil. These are the lucky ones. They are able to come in from the overfilled outdoor area, where the boys are often put in a covered area where they sleep outside. The girls can be ''inside,'' but they are in these holding cells. They have very limited showers and very limited hygiene.

The Border Patrol is doing everything they can. It is not something we are used to seeing in the United States.

I know there is another codel going to the border. Go, go, go, go. Go and see this.

I talked to a 12-year-old girl. She was in charge of bringing her 6-year-old sister to the border. Their parents sent them here to escape the gang violence. The mother told the older girl to watch out for her younger sister. They said to her: Don't let her out of your sight until you get to America, and then try to get to your aunt.

I talked to a 15-year-old girl from Honduras. Both of her parents had been killed by gang violence. She worked in a restaurant to save enough money to pay the coyote. It took her 2 months to get to the United States. She escaped violence along the route to get here.

Are you going to send her back? Are you going to send the 6-year-old back? Wow.

I then had the opportunity to see what the conditions were like for these children. If you talk to the border law enforcement agents, they want to be law enforcement guys. Gee, are they terrific. They know the surge at the border has been caused by the criminal activity here. They talked openly about it. There are seven organized crime syndicates that are sparking a lot of this. They know about the false recruitment of young people who are promised a new way and new day to get to the United States of America. They know about that, and they want to be able to do what they were hired to do—law enforcement. But in order for them to be able to do what they need to do, we have to have the facilities for the children to be housed, clothed, and fed while their legal status is being determined under the law.

I went up to Lackland Air Force Base. The children are being cared for in unused dormitories that once housed our Air Force. We have new facilities for our enlisted personnel. Did you know we pay for that? The Department of Health and Human Services has to pay the Department of Defense to house those children. It is on a military base with all the rules and regulations associated with that. It is the most expensive housing we have, but it is the best housing we have right now because of this rejectionist fear that is being promulgated through our country that somehow or other these children pose a danger to us. It is the best we can do.

I will say that it is a very nice facility. It is operated by a faith-based organization, the Baptist Conference. My hat is off to them. I speak now as a professionally trained social worker. It is one of the most outstanding child welfare service organizations I have seen, from the nurses to the social workers.

They are doing a fabulous job, but they are under a contract. Although they are a voluntary, faith-based organization, they are being compensated for their time and services because that is what we should do. We want to be able to use such groups all over America. What was so heartwarming to me was that Catholic Charities, based in Oklahoma, came to Texas to see what the Baptists were doing because they were getting ready to take care of the kids. That is the American way—Catholic Charities learning from the Baptists.

They were all concentrating on the welfare of the children. They know these are all children in God's eyes and should be treated with dignity.

I then talked to the legal services people—the lawyers, law professors, law students from the University of Texas at Austin and St. Mary's College. The services they were providing were on their own time and their own dime. They are using their money and their summer vacation to help these children. There was no compensation, even for expenses, so they could begin the interview process to determine if any of these children had the opportunity to voluntarily return home. It is clear the coyotes misled them.

Well, we can't keep doing this on this emergency patchwork basis. We need the urgent supplemental, No. 1, to help Homeland Security's law enforcement and help Health and Human Services. They need to crack this backlog, and they need to be able to place these children in a proper facility. They need to determine if they have a right to refugee status.

Even when you have volunteer legal services such as the outstanding work I saw in Texas—outstanding. I know the Presiding Officer is a lawyer and would have been proud of these volunteers and the way they were responding to these children. They also offered bilingual services. They need more help, for example, from paralegals.

They need help to pay for the backlog of cases. We need to make sure we have enough immigration judges.

There is so much myth, so much misinformation, and so much distortion out there that I am afraid we will end this day and still not have had a vote to proceed to the urgent supplemental. Debate it, discuss it, and then let's vote on it or else it will languish.

As a social worker, I want to say that what I have seen these children go through is unimaginable. They have come here to escape violence and death. They deserve to be treated with compassion and integrity, and they deserve for us to do our job. Anyone who thinks we should just deport these children without giving them every right afforded them under our law should go down to McClellan and look into their eyes and listen to their stories.

The time to act is now. Let's put together a comprehensive program, and I believe we can meet this surge, deal with the root cause, and be able to function in a way in which we are all proud.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, the Internet has been possibly the most significant force driving our economy over the past 16 years. It is clearly this century's shipping lane and history's most powerful communications tool. Part of the reason the Internet has revolutionized American life is that it has been protected from discriminatory taxation, thanks to the Internet Tax Freedom Act, first enacted 16 years ago.

This law, as we might expect, is extraordinarily popular among the American people, and it has obviously been of enormous importance to the millions of families and businesses that use the Internet each day.

However, in a few short months the Internet Tax Freedom Act is set to expire. If it does, millions of American Internet users could face multiple and discriminatory taxes from thousands of state and local tax collectors around the country. That cannot be allowed to happen. Congress needs to come together on a bipartisan basis and say clearly: Don't hit the Internet with discriminatory taxation.

Sixteen years ago I was the author of the Internet Tax Freedom Act, along with our former Republican colleague, Congressman Chris Cox. Along with our colleague from South Dakota, Senator THUNE, and 52 bipartisan cosponsors, I am the author of the pending bill that would make that protection permanent. I believe if we were able to hold a vote on our bill today, it would pass with overwhelming support. Unfortunately, that is not a political reality. Yet the clock keeps ticking toward expiration.

Protecting the Internet and every Internet user in our country ought to be a matter that takes precedence over politics and partisanship. The Senate can move this short-term extension today while the Senate works on a bipartisan basis to deal with the issues raised by those who believe that allowing localities to collect taxes across the country is more important than a ban on discriminatory taxation.

I hope the Senate will join me in supporting the temporary extension of the Internet Tax Freedom Act as a bridge to permanent legislation.

To reflect very briefly for a minute, we thought this law would work well 16 years ago. To describe what triggered my interest, 16 years ago, when I was a young Member of this body and I had a full head of hair and rugged good looks, we would hear for example about how if someone bought the newspaper—the online edition of the paper—they would face a stiff tax in some jurisdictions,

but if they bought the snail mail edition they wouldn't face the tax. Democrats and Republicans coming together said that is discriminatory. That is discriminating against technology, against the future, against the promise of the Internet.

We thought this proposal would work well. It is quite clear. We just have to make sure what we do online is not more burdensome and an endeavor that involves more taxes than what we do offline. That is what the bill has been all about. So we thought it would be promising, but it has far exceeded our expectations in terms of what it has done to promote innovation and for small businesses and others who don't have political action committees and don't have big lobbies advocating for them. Ensuring they are not hammered by multiple and discriminatory taxes by thousands of localities has been a lifeline in terms of their being successful.

I could take more time this morning. We have colleagues and of course many matters still to deal with before we leave. I hope that given this history, which has been a bipartisan history—I so enjoyed working with our former colleague Chris Cox on this legislation 16 years ago. My take is that the overwhelming number of Senators would like to permanently reauthorize this ban on multiple and discriminatory taxes on the Internet today, and that is what Senator THUNE and I have sought to do in our legislation, which has more than half of the Senate cosponsoring it. That is not possible today. But what is possible is that we act now so we don't bump up against that deadline that if reached our small businesses are subject—we have more than 5,000 taxing jurisdictions, and if even a small number of them were to inflict discriminatory taxes on Internet commerce, that would be a big blow in a fragile economy.

So for purposes of the temporary extension of the Internet Tax Freedom Act as a bridge to permanent legislation, let us say loudly and clearly that we as a body—we as the U.S. Senate—are not going to hammer the Internet with multiple and discriminatory taxes.

I yield the floor. I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

VETERANS HEALTH CARE

Mr. BOOKER. Madam President, I rise today to urge support for a successful veterans health care program that will be extended if we pass this bipartisan package of Veterans Affairs reforms.

My colleague across the aisle Senator HELLER and I have joined to introduce legislation to extend the Assisted Living Program for Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury, or AL-TBI, and give it the kind of support veterans with these severe brain injuries deserve.

I am grateful for the leadership of Senator HELLER and his partnership on this very important critical issue. I am proud to work with him, and I am hopeful all of our colleagues will join to pass the bipartisan package of VA reforms which now includes our legislation.

I thank Senator SANDERS, Ranking Member BURR, along with Senators MCCAIN, PRYOR, MURKOWSKI, LANDRIEU, JOHANNS, and BALDWIN for joining with us in this important effort.

This program places veterans suffering from moderate to severe traumatic brain injury, or TBI, in privately run facilities where they receive 24-hour team-based attention.

These are our veterans who stood for us, who answered the call to service, who went into harm's way, and have suffered traumatic brain injury, who now need to get the kind of care and attention they deserve.

They are immersed in this therapy that helps them with their movement, their memory, their speech, their gradual community integration. That last point is actually the key. This program does not just prepare veterans for transition from one health care setting to another health care setting; it is about giving them the practical skills they need to return to their communities and live independently.

That is what is so special about this program.

This is the kind of innovative work that Senator HELLER stands for in his community and I in New Jersey and that all of our veterans across the country should have. Congress should support this kind of work more often.

This past week I had the opportunity to visit a facility in Plainsboro, NJ—one of several facilities using this program. While I was there, I spoke with an incredible veteran named Gary.

Gary first enlisted in the military and completed his tour in the Navy after graduating from high school. Then 9/11 happened, and Gary stood up, reenlisted, this time with the National Guard, and served in Iraq.

During his time there he suffered a traumatic brain injury. Upon return home, Gary was confined to a wheelchair and the doctors told him he would never ever walk again. But then he began treatments through this program that Senator HELLER, myself, and others are trying to extend.

Now, because of this program, Gary can walk again. He, himself, and his family called it a miracle. He is now using a cane. When he is indoors he can walk without assistance.

Gary's sister told me that before receiving this unique care through the program, Gary was very negative, often depressed, often angry. But now that he has made progress, Gary's whole attitude has changed. He is more than upbeat. He is social and enjoys cooking. In fact, he offered to cook me a meal, which, I say to Senator HELLER, as a bachelor, I take all the meals I can get.

Another veteran named Duane sustained a traumatic brain injury in 2003 while serving our country in the Navy. Unable to live independently or get around without the aid of a wheelchair, this gentleman, this honorable veteran, who was not even 25 years old, found himself living in a nursing home alongside a population many decades his senior.

In 2011, through this program in our legislation, his life was changed. He moved into a specialized facility in New Jersey, where he still lives today and receives a range of treatments, including physical, occupational, speech therapies, as well as psychological counseling and residential assistance.

He is making incredible progress. I saw it with my own eyes, heard it from his family and his care workers. He has actually also traded his wheelchair for a cane and manages a regime of his own chores, adding more dignity to his already exemplary life of courage. He has an active social life. He has friends and comrades, and he believes he has a country that has been there for him when he is in need.

These are the heroes who stepped up to serve our country when we needed them most, and now it is our responsibility to serve them with the extension of this incredible program.

This program means independence for these veterans with severe brain injuries. We cannot cut their or any other veterans' care short. This is a cost of war. We should not just be there to spend resources when we are sending them off; we should be there with open arms and support when we are welcoming them home.

The VA now offers no alternative program to the one I have described—no alternative program—that provides the same kind of comprehensive, rehabilitative, long-term care in a residential setting. These brave men and women who are benefiting from this specialized care were willing to put their lives on the line for our country. It should not be an option; it should be our obligation to take care of them when they return home.

I strongly urge my colleagues in the Senate to do their duty, to pass this reform package, and extend this life-changing program.

I want to again thank Senator HELLER.

If I may yield to him, he has been a stalwart partner, a leader on this issue. I have been encouraged by this opportunity to work together with him. I am only disappointed that he would not shave his head, as I have. That would have shown true bipartisan camaraderie. But despite that, I look forward to his continued leadership on issues for our veterans, and now I look forward to his remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. HELLER. Madam President, let me begin, if I may, by thanking my friend and colleague, Senator BOOKER, for partnering with me on this critical piece of legislation that helps our Nation's veterans, especially those suffering from traumatic brain injuries. I would urge him to participate in that meal from that veteran. I assure the Senator that in this city where the food is so rich, he will probably find the meal much healthier—much healthier. I know that is important to the Senator. Having said that, I know that Senator BOOKER and I have always viewed veterans issues to be truly a bipartisan issue. I am pleased we were able to work together and we were able to accomplish this work as partners.

I would also like to applaud my other colleagues, Senators SANDERS, MCCAIN, and BURR, for their work on the conference report, and also House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman MILLER and the rest of the conference members for reaching an agreement to ensure that Congress keeps its promise to our Nation's veterans.

The conference committee's bill is a good start to address problems with appointment wait times, VA scheduling practices, accountability, and overall quality of care provided at VA's medical facilities.

As my colleague Senator BOOKER discussed, there is a very critical provision in the conference report legislation that he and I took a lead on addressing; and that is the extension of the Assisted Living Program for Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury. I applaud my friend. I applaud my colleague for the ability and the opportunity to work together. So I thank him for that.

As a member of the Senate Veterans Affairs' Committee, I was eager to resolve this issue because of its impact on Nevada's and our Nation's veterans, and together we were proud partners.

This program operates in two locations in Nevada and serves wounded warriors who are trying to restore their quality of life.

As the battlefield has changed over the years, so have the injuries that servicemembers and veterans sustain, including traumatic brain injuries. TBI is a complicated injury to treat because the effects can be both mental and physical—from headaches, dizziness, and irritation, all the way to speech difficulties, visual impairment, loss of memory, and severe depression.

Every traumatic brain injury is different, which is why some veterans need more advanced care to rehabilitate and regain their full independence.

That is why Congress created the assisted living TBI pilot program in 2008. Under that program, veterans can access a full range of rehabilitation services in a residential setting, including physical therapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, and other activities to prepare veterans to return home and live a productive life.

When I found out the program would be expiring and the VA was prepared to start kicking veterans out, I teamed up with Senator BOOKER to introduce legislation to extend authorization of this program for another 3 years.

At a time when the VA is facing a health care crisis and access to timely care, it would have been unacceptable to let this critical program expire, leaving veterans in Nevada without a comparable alternative to treating this serious injury.

I wish to thank the conference committee for listening to us when we expressed the urgency of extending this program so veterans could continue receiving residential rehabilitation. I am also pleased the conference committee provided a 3-year extension so veterans can have the certainty that this program will remain in place for the next few years.

I also wish to thank Representative CASSIDY from Louisiana for his work in pushing this issue in the House of Representatives, as well as the veterans service organizations that fought alongside of us for this extension. It is our responsibility in Congress to ensure veterans across this Nation receive timely and quality care from the Veterans' Administration. Senator BOOKER and I share this commitment.

I am pleased we were able to work together to get our legislation into the final compromise. As the Senate prepares to vote on final passage of this critical VA reform bill, I hope my colleagues recognize the importance of this compromise bill at a time when veterans are losing faith in the VA system and need certainty that Congress will be there to provide oversight, accountability, and legislative action to approve the care they receive from the Nation they sacrificed for and served.

I yield the floor and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REED. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS

Mr. REED. Madam President, I come to the floor today to once again press for action on my bipartisan legislation to restore emergency unemployment benefits. Over 3.5 million Americans have lost benefits since the program expired last December. The need to help these individuals, their families, and the economy remains compelling to all of us.

In April, Senator HELLER and I were able to draft a bipartisan bill, and with the help of many of our colleagues, the Senate acted to restore these benefits. Unfortunately, the House Republican leadership has refused to take up the Senate-passed bill or consider their own proposal. While the President has occasionally talked a good game about the need to extend this aid to job seekers, it has never been made a ''must have'' by the administration. Indeed, it is hard to understand why an extension of these benefits was not included in the President's supplemental appropriations request.

So as we consider this supplemental appropriations bill this week, which includes critically important emergency funding measures, it is somewhat disheartening that extending unemployment insurance, another emergency need, has once again been ignored.

In the past 6 months, the national unemployment rate has dropped from 6.7 to 6.1 percent. The long-term unemployment rate has dropped just below 2 percent. It is great to see these positive strides in our economy. But I strongly disagree with those who would argue that these signs of improvement suggest that emergency benefits are no longer needed. Let me underscore a few reasons why emergency unemployment benefits are still necessary.

First, while the long-term unemployment rate has dropped from 2.3 percent in January to just under 2 percent in June, the current level is still significantly higher than at any other point when emergency benefits were allowed to expire. In June 2008, under President George W. Bush, when the long-term unemployment rate was just 1 percent, a supermajority of Members in both Chambers voted to create emergency unemployment insurance benefits for the long-term unemployed. That was at 1 percent.

Now we are about twice that. Today our long-term unemployment rate of about 2 percent means over 3 million Americans are out of work through no fault of their own, and have been searching for work for more than 6 months. These individuals are struggling. With each passing month, their financial situation becomes increasingly dire. They should not be held to a different standard than those who were searching for work in 2008.

Second, the long-term unemployed are still struggling mightily to find work. According to a recent report by economists at the Federal Reserve, when you look at the likelihood that someone will find a job in a given month, the rate for the long-term unemployed is roughly the same as it was at the height of the great recession several years ago. In fact, someone who is long-term unemployed is almost twice as likely to stop looking for work altogether and fall out of the labor force as they are to get a job.

These difficulties in finding work are persistent across educational levels and age groups, although they are much more pronounced among the African-American and Latino communities. So we are seeing people who are trying very hard to find work but they are facing the same obstacles they were facing at the height of the great recession.

Again, I think this underscores the need to help these people. Some have

argued that the improvement in the labor market is driven by Congress's failure to extend emergency benefits. According to this argument, taking away unemployment insurance benefits pushes people to step up their job search. I find this argument very difficult to accept when you face people back in my home State of Rhode Island who have been looking desperately, in a situation where there are usually three, four, five, six applicants, in some cases, for every job. They are looking and looking and looking. In Rhode Island, our unemployment rate is tied for the highest in the Nation. It is not the position we want to be in.

To suggest that these people are not desperately searching for work really sort of, I think, demeans them unnecessarily. We all know, because we go home. There are people who have been looking. They are skilled. They are talented. They have worked for 20 years. They want to work. Getting the $300 a week, perhaps, in benefits is nothing like the salary they commanded. It will not, in the long term, pay for their mortgage, pay for their children's education, pay for the necessities of life. They know that. They are in a desperate situation. This assistance helps a little bit.

Not only the contact we have with our constituents but recent research also demonstrates that this argument is flawed, that ''just cut off the benefits and everybody goes right back to work.''

We can use North Carolina to test the impact of cutting benefits, because that State took steps in July 2013 to terminate unemployment benefits for anyone who has been out of work for 20 weeks or more. If opponents of extending unemployment insurance are correct, North Carolina's policy change should have led to significantly sharp declines in its unemployment rate.

A recent article in the New York Times by Justin Wolfers, an economist with the University of Michigan and the Brookings Institution, explores evidence from North Carolina to assess this claim. According to his research, when North Carolina is compared with other Southern States that did not cut their programs, North Carolina's economic growth ''looks quite similar to its peers, and certainly not better.'' The levels of job growth in North Carolina are similar to neighboring States such as South Carolina that did not change their programs. Dr. Wolfers concludes that, ''There's simply no evidence . . . that cutting benefits cuts unemployment.''

Others have argued that cutting UI at the State level will save money and help the economy of the States. In response, eight States decreased the number of weeks an individual could receive State-level unemployment insurance benefits. However, a recent report from the Economic Policy Institute suggests these States did not save significant amounts of money or boost employment. This is further evidence that cutting UI benefits is simply not a good idea.

The refusal by House Republicans to renew unemployment insurance benefits does not just hurt individuals and families for each week they do not get this modest support. The effects are more far reaching, with research suggesting that the long-term unemployed will be hurt for decades to come.

According to research by a senior economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, ''workers unemployed for more than 26 weeks experience a much larger negative income effect and have lower earnings even after 10 or 15 years than those workers that experienced shorter-duration unemployment spells.''

Many are forced to rack up debt on their credit cards just to meet basic level needs.

A recent Gallup poll also shows that nearly 20 percent of individuals who were unemployed for 12 months have been treated for depression. This is a serious blow not just to your economic well-being but to your identity, to your sense of worth, to your sense of being able to help your family and provide for your family. These effects are long term and very serious

This rate of depression is twice as high as for those who have been unemployed for just a few weeks. So there is, apparently, a correlation.

The impact is far-reaching for individuals, their families, and the economy as a whole. It undercuts, again, the notion that there is no cost or that there is some benefit to cutting these benefits. There is a long-term cost.

One of the aspects too, is in order to qualify for these benefits, you have to be actively searching for work. Without these benefits, the incentive to look for work is, in some respects, diminished. Indeed, other phenomena take place: the lack of resources, the increasing desperation and depression.

Again, it is encouraging to see that there are signs of economic improvement. It is encouraging to see that some of the long-term unemployed have found jobs. We dipped below that 2-percent level.

But that does not mean we should turn our backs on those who are still looking. That does not mean we should treat them differently than we did people in 2008 in the same position in a difficult economy looking for work. Those of us who continue to fight for the long-term employed—I must also say that Senator HELLER in this effort has been a stalwart. We have heard lots of excuses and a lot of discussion, in my view, of flawed arguments about how we should abandon the program, and, more pointedly, abandon these people. I don't think we should.

What is certain in terms of analysis is the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office estimates that our failing to renew this program last December will cost over the course of this year 200,000 jobs. And this emergency aid helps families make ends meet until they find work.

One of the great ironies here is that in refusing to extend these benefits, we basically shut down 200,000 jobs in this country. It is almost absurd. It is a catch-22: We are shutting the doors on the unemployed so we can get them to work, but yet the analysts will tell us that if we had extended benefits, we would have gained 200,000 jobs.

Why? Because these payments go right back into the economy. Someone who is unemployed is going to take that modest check, about $300, $350, and pay the phone bill so they can call about work, they are going to get the car repaired so they can get to the job interview, and they are going to do the things they have to do to help their children get through the day. They are not going to save it or buy French impressionist paintings. They are going to go right into the local economy and spend the money.

For many reasons this is why I think we have to do it. That is why Senator HELLER and I have filed an amendment to this emergency appropriations bill, on a bipartisan basis. The amendment will be the same as we have proposed previously, except for offsets, because for the second time offsets we have identified to pay for an extension of benefits have been used for another measure. I guess we must take some satisfaction that we have developed offsets for restoring emergency unemployment insurance and then another program grabs them and it gets passed here. But I would rather have the extension of benefits too.

So we are moving forward. I hope we can. I am committed to fighting for these American workers so they won't be left behind now and in the years to come.

Madam President, I encourage my colleagues to join us.

I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. VITTER. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). Without objection, it is so ordered.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. VITTER. Madam President, I rise to talk about the crisis at our southern border and the need for unified action to deal with it and the need to come together on a commonsense enforcement approach that undoubtedly will need some additional resources, but also clearly demand some changes to the current law so we may quickly deal with the need to quickly deport folks illegally coming over our Mexican border back to their home country.

In the case of alien children, we need to get them out of the hands of criminal gangs and reunite them with their families in their home country. That is an obvious need in the eyes of the American people. I think a vast majority of Americans realize we need that

sort of approach which starts with much better enforcement of our southern border, and, yes, if people do get across, they need to quickly deal with their situation and quickly and effectively deport them. That is the approach we need. Sadly, that is not what the President has proposed, and that is not what HARRY REID is even allowing us to vote on on the Senate floor.

For a couple of weeks, at least, after this crisis hit the first page of the newspaper, President Obama constantly pointed to those parts of the law that he said tie his hands in terms of quickly and effectively deporting some of these individuals. He pointed to the 2008 changes of the law over and over and over again. The problem is that a couple of weeks after that—when he actually sent a proposal to Congress to deal with the crisis—any mention of that was gone. There was no suggestion of any change in the law in that regard or any other regard. The only request he made was for $3.7 billion—a huge amount of additional money. The great majority of that money is to feed, house, and relocate these illegal aliens, including unaccompanied alien children, within our own country.

The problem with that is it will encourage this flow of illegal immigrants into our country and this problem will continue to grow. It will not discourage it and it will not end it. We need that comprehensive approach—including necessary changes to the law and enforcement—to quickly deport these folks to their home countries and reunite them with their families.

In the absence of the President leading us in that regard, I came up with my own legislation. I introduced it in the Senate, and I have now introduced it as a floor amendment to the spending bill which Senator REID is bringing to the Senate floor. It would change the aspects of the law that we need to change in order to streamline the process and allow us to quickly deport individuals within 72 hours so they can be safely reunited with their families in their home country. That is the only thing that will stem this increased tide, this increasing flow, and this increasing problem.

There has also been a lot of debate about the resources that are necessary and the increased spending that is clearly necessary. But before we pass the President's proposal, we need to marry it with these enforcement measures and these changes to the law. We need to pay for that enforcement and deportation and not simply pay to feed and house these illegal aliens within our country. We need to actually relocate them to other places within our country with no foreseeable end in sight. We can't do that unless we get the right enforcement measures.

I also have suggestions on how we can help pay for whatever increased enforcement, border security, and quick deportation we need. I have two suggestions in particular. I have two specific bills which I introduced some time ago in the Senate. I introduced each of these bills this week as amendments to the spending bill that HARRY REID is bringing to the Senate floor.

One is S. 1176, which is a freestanding bill, but I also introduced it as a floor amendment. It is called the Remittance Status Verification Act of 2013. What is this about? This is about remittances by illegal aliens in this country and how they are sending money back to families and others in their home country.

The GAO—which is a respected nonpartisan organization—previously noted that the United States is the largest remittance-sending country in the world, with the majority of funds being sent to Latin America and the Caribbean and substantial amounts of money also being sent to Asia and Africa.

In the past 10 years the total number of international remittances has increased by 8 percent in 2013, and is expected to grow 10.1 percent in 2014 and 10.7 percent in 2015. It is reaching an astronomical number. In 2015, it will be over half a trillion dollars.

If folks are working in this country legally, that is fine. We don't want to hassle them or make any problems for them. But, clearly, a significant portion of the folks we are talking about are here illegally and working illegally. That is wrong, and we need the legislation I am proposing to fix that, with four important goals in mind.

First of all, we need to see if the folks who are sending these remittances are here illegally; second, we need to ensure U.S. taxpayer fairness; third, we need to address inaccurate U.S. data on remittances and collect all the facts; and, fourth, we need to make sure that illegal aliens who are receiving U.S. benefits are—we need to see if they are remitting higher amounts abroad.

My legislation would address all of these goals and would fundamentally get a handle on the situation and make sure that those who are not in this country legally pay a substantial fee, and that fee would be used on border security and other immigration enforcement. That could grow a significant amount of revenue specifically dedicated to border and other enforcement.

The second proposal I have is in the form of other freestanding legislation, which I also introduced this week as a Senate floor amendment for the supplemental appropriations bill. It is about child tax credits. This amendment addresses a clear loophole in the IRS code that allows illegal aliens to access income-tax-based benefits, such as the child tax credit and the additional child tax credit.

According to the Treasury Department's inspector general—again, this is not some partisan Republican source, it is the Obama administration's inspector general for Treasury. They issued a report recently that said $4.2 billion—with a B—is sent each year to folks who are probably here illegally and do not qualify under these programs. We send them a check, a refundable tax credit, and it costs the taxpayers $4.2 billion.

As the inspector general has said, there is a pretty simple way to fix this by requiring a valid Social Security number or other appropriate identification number. This approach is straightforward, it is simple, and it will fix the problem. It would cut down the $4.2 billion—with a B—worth of spending that we are sending improperly and illegally to largely illegal aliens and illegal alien families. We can use those resources, instead, on enforcement.

Those are simply two specific suggestions that I filed this week in the form of Senate floor amendments that could help raise the additional resources we need to address this issue.

Again, I want to emphasize that we need to do a number of things, and it is not all about throwing money at the situation, particularly when most of that money under President Obama's proposal is simply to house and feed these folks who are here illegally and then distribute them throughout the country for an indefinite period of time. Fundamentally, we need to marry that with real enforcement measures, including those addressed and listed in my bill. I hope we take that approach. I hope Senator REID allows that debate and allows those votes. Right now he is lying across the tracks. The only thing he is allowing a vote on is this spending measure which just gives the President a blank check. That will not solve the problem. That is not the correct response. We need to do all of the things, broadly speaking, I have laid out. I hope we do that and come together—as, in fact, the American people have—around my commonsense approach with a clear consensus.

I thank the Presiding Officer, relinquish the floor, and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

HEALTH CARE

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I wish to speak about health insurance. We notice that nationally and back in our States, the angst over the Affordable Care Act—often derisively referred to as ObamaCare—has subsided. In part, that has occurred because more people are being covered. As a matter of fact, in the first tranche of signups of people who did not have insurance, over 8 million people—which exceeded the goal of 7 million—by the time the cutoff came for signing earlier this year, over 8 million people had signed up. And that was just a narrow population of those who wanted insurance

but could not afford it. Then they had it available through the State exchanges or the Federal exchange in the States.

Another part of the population that did not have health care was people who were actually in a low-income situation; therefore, there was no chance they could afford it. That is why we expanded Medicaid in the Affordable Care Act to up to 138 percent of poverty, which is a very low level of income. I believe, if I remember correctly, for a family of four, it is somewhere around $32,499 of annual income. Well, we can imagine that with a family of four, people can't even think about having the money to provide health insurance with that kind of limited income, and that brings them up to 138 percent of poverty.

The only part of the Affordable Care Act, since it was declared by the Supreme Court as constitutional—the only part that was struck down as unconstitutional was the part of the law that was mandating upon the States to expand Medicaid, which is funded by a State and Federal joint program, up to 138 percent. So it made it voluntary. Well, half of the States have expanded it and about half of the States have refused, such as my State of Florida. The Republican Governor and the Republican legislature, not wanting to have anything to do with what they were condemning as ObamaCare, refused to expand Medicaid in Florida and thereby refused to give health care to a population, if my colleagues can believe this, of 1.2 million people in Florida—people who would have had health care but do not get it because the State legislature and the Governor refused to raise the level.

By the way, that was taking Floridians' Federal taxpayer dollars of 51 billion over the next several years that were allocated for that purpose and refusing to accept them for the health care of poor Floridians, over 1 million people. That seems unconscionable.

This stuff is so complicated. People don't realize that in large part that is, in fact, what happened over the course of the last two legislative sessions—that they could have expanded health care in Florida, and it is Floridians' tax dollars they are giving away instead of letting that apply to health care for Floridians.

Nationwide, if I recall correctly, it was somewhere around another 6.7 million people were brought on with the expansion of Medicaid even though States such as Florida were refusing to expand it, and that is in addition to getting health care to those who could afford it with subsidies or because of better rates could afford it in the first place. That was a group of another 8 million.

We can see we are starting to chip away at that group of people in the country who had no health care because they had no health insurance. Yet, when they got sick, where did they end up? They ended up in the emergency room. They couldn't pay. Of course, now it was an emergency because they had no preventive health care. And since they couldn't pay, who do my colleagues think pays? All the rest of us pay in our insurance premiums. It is estimated that in a State such as Florida, for the average family health insurance policy, people are paying upwards of $800 to $1,000 of their premiums per year just to take care of the group who ended up in the emergency room because they didn't have any health care. That is part of what the Affordable Care Act was intended to do.

Another part of the Affordable Care Act was to save Medicare from going into bankruptcy. Back in the early part of the last decade, we passed a nice-sounding law called the prescription drug bill. As its name suggests, it was to provide prescription drugs for senior citizens. Omitted in the explanation of it was that not only were people paying premium prices that the government had always gotten as a discount, but now the government was paying a premium price with no discount for all the drugs under Medicare. But a part of that was setting up Medicare being delivered by an insurance company with a fancy name called Medicare Advantage.

Always before, if we were going to deliver Medicare through a health maintenance organization—an HMO, which is an insurance company—one would expect it would bring the costs down per person. That is how it started out—about 95 percent of the per-person cost in Medicare, regular Medicare fee-for-service. But, no, in the prescription drug bill, this was turned upside down. Now they were going to offer Medicare through an HMO, but the reimbursement from Medicare was going to be 14 percent above Medicare fee-for-service per person, reimbursed to the insurance company at 114 percent of Medicare fee-for-service. As a result of that, Medicare was going broke.

That was another reason for the ACA—to stop Medicare from going broke by winnowing down that 14 percent and giving incentives to the insurance companies to do what ought to be the goal, which was quality of care instead of just paying a dollar percentage value per patient. Thus, we have the re-created Medicare Advantage, and it is being rated on its quality so that seniors can vote with their feet by going to the better rated insurance plans in Medicare Advantage.

Why am I retracing all of this? To get to this point: For this next round of Medicare Advantage, we are just getting to the point of having the insurance companies announce their rates. Some of them are going to go up. Some of them are going to go down.

But I want the people of Florida to know that 2 years ago in their State legislature they took away the legal power of the insurance commissioner of Florida to approve the rate hikes. They took that away. I happen to understand something about this. Before I came to the Senate, I was the elected insurance commissioner of Florida, and I jealously guarded the ability to approve rate increases and decreases in order to protect the insurance consumer. The Florida Legislature stripped that ability of the insurance commissioner—now appointed, not elected—in Florida. Therefore, if they see rate hikes for Medicare Advantage in this next round just about to be announced—they took the ability of the State regulator to limit the rate hikes. That sounds unconscionable. It certainly does. Every year insurance companies are going to try to raise their rates. It is the job of a State regulator to regulate what happens to those rates. So the Florida Legislature last year passed senate bill 1842, and one of the things it did is it stripped the Office of Insurance Regulation of one of its chief responsibilities—regulating health insurance rates. That is after Florida had had some of the strongest laws governing insurance, and that was the case when I was insurance commissioner 15 years ago, where I could not only approve rates but I could reject rate increases.

Well, we saw this at the time a year ago. I contacted the Governor and urged him to veto the bill, but, sadly, it is the law of Florida. Therefore, that is why I come to the floor today, because I am disappointed in the news reports that are starting to say that these rate increases in Florida are being blamed on the Affordable Care Act. They are being blamed on ObamaCare.

Well, the insurance commissioner used to have an opportunity to look at those rates and say they were not right and to stop those rate increases or to give a rate increase that was actuarially sound. Not any more. There were a lot of other things that had been done in our State of Florida to stop the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. First of all, our State refused to accept a planning grant in order to get ready for the Affordable Care Act before it was ever starting to be implemented.

I have already told you about refusing to expand Medicaid to cover more than an additional million people in Florida who otherwise would not get health care.

What was the purpose of the ACA other than trying to save Medicare—which it has done—financially from disaster? It was to help make insurance coverage available and affordable. There were provisions in there, technical terms like ''medical loss ratio,'' that said that an insurance company had to give 80 percent of the premium dollar back in health care instead of giving it off to CEOs' salaries and executive perks; and if they did not, what the insurance company had to do—if they did not get 80 percent of the premium dollar back in health care to the patient—they had to return that part in refunds.

I can tell you that, happily, that law is working. One million Floridians last

year received over $41 million in refunds. It was an average of $65 per family. Why? Because some insurance companies did not spend enough on medical care for their policyholders.

Another part that we had talked about was making private insurance—remember how they said this was going to be government health care—private insurance companies selling insurance. People could afford it because there were subsidies for families with income up to the level of 400 percent of poverty. Well, of the 1 million Floridians who enrolled—and remember, I gave you the figure that 8 million nationally enrolled. Of that 8 million, 1 million people needed and wanted insurance so much in our State alone that they enrolled, and 91 percent of them were able to receive a subsidy under the graduated subsidy level in order that they could purchase that private insurance. The folks who bought a plan using subsidies reduced their premiums through the subsidies by an average of 80 percent.

So what we had in health insurance before the Affordable Care Act was not—it was like the Wild West. Plans could deny you coverage. An insurance plan, if you had coverage and you were suddenly getting treatment, could cancel your coverage. They could also deny you coverage by saying you had a previous existing condition, and it could have been something as simple as a rash. You could not get health insurance. Now all of those things they cannot use as an excuse.

So what I see is the last throes of this resistance to the Affordable Care Act, and you are going to hear it again as insurance plans come out on Medicare Advantage and show that they are hiking their rates. Yet I want the people of Florida to know it was the State legislature that took away the ability of the Insurance Commissioner of Florida to regulate those rates.

Madam President, I would like to clarify my previous remarks. I was referring to the removal of the authority to regulate private insurance rates by the state insurance commissioner in SB 1842, not Medicare Advantage.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

DEBT

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, this is my 10th year in the Senate. Every time we come to a close of the session for a summer break or for a holiday break all of a sudden we start hearing all these unanimous consent requests—they come to the Senate. For those of you who are listening to this and to my colleagues, these are requests that bills be passed without a vote. I am fine with that, as long as they meet certain characteristics and considerations.

But what the American public does not know is that about 70 percent of the work the Senate does happens by unanimous consent, with no recorded vote on the back of any one Senator. Today is no different. I have heard of five or six requests for unanimous consent. They are fine with a couple of provisions. The first provision is they ought to be within the powers of Congress as enumerated by the Constitution in the enumerated powers. The tendency is: Oh, we have to do this; it has to happen now. For some of the things that is true, but the reason it has to happen now is because we had not done it before now because we failed to do it. We utilize the end of the session to force people to give on positions they would never give on otherwise because they do not want to take the heat for being responsible for stopping something from happening, even though it might not fit within the enumerated powers, it might not be under our constitutional authority.

But the most egregious of all of this is the fact that we are going to be asked today, probably 7 or 10 times, to pass pieces of legislation the very cost of which will fall on the backs of our children and our grandchildren—not us. With over $400 billion in waste per year in the Federal Government—waste, fraud, duplication—to ask us to spend $200 million here or $2 billion here or in the case of the veterans bill, $17 billion, of which $5 billion of it is actually paid for, without doing the hard work of not transferring more debt to our children is not acceptable to me.

So my rights as an individual Senator are going to be utilized today—until we go home—to make sure we do not transfer another penny, if I can stop it, onto the backs of our children. It would be different if we were efficient, if we did not have any waste, if we did not have any fraud, if we did not have any duplication. But you see, it is an excuse to not do the hard work we were sent to do.

So I am putting my colleagues on notice that if they want to pass any bill that is going to go by unanimous consent, they better find some waste somewhere to offset it with or I will object. I do not mind taking the heat, no matter what the issue. I have done it before, I will do it again. Our children and our grandchildren are worth any amount of heat that creates a future opportunity for them that is at least as equal to what we have had.

I wanted to say that before I start talking about the veterans bill. I voted for the veterans bill that went out of the Senate. My background as a physician and businessman—businessman first, a physician second, regrettably a politician third—but I voted for that because I thought in conference we would actually fix it. What is wrong with the VA? Leadership, a culture of corruption, a culture of not caring. That does not apply to all of the VA employees, it does not apply to all of the VA hospitals, but it certainly does apply to a number of them.

How did we get there? I would note for the record that VA spending is up 60 percent since 2009. Let's start in 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014. It is up 60 percent. Patient demand is up only 17 percent in that same period of time. The number of providers has increased by 40 percent. So it surely cannot be a problem of money.

If we look at the increased utilization of those services over the next progressive 10 years, it will be less than 20 percent. We did some good things in the bill in the Senate, most of which are capped, but we did not do enough. If we are going to manage the VA, we have to give the head of that organization the ability to be able to manage it. Senior Executive Service, the Secretary of the VA is going to have that capability to hire and fire. For a very limited number of title 38 employees—those are hospital managers, physicians—for a very limited number, he will have that as well. But for where we have seen a lot of the problems, he will not be able to fire people who have directly harmed our veterans.

So we have not given him the tools to create the environment and the change that has to happen and a cultural change that has to happen in the veterans organization.

The other thing I would note is that if we look at the requirement for primary care physicians and physician extenders—nurse practitioners and PAs—their load is about one-fourth of the load of private practitioners in this country. That is not true clinic to clinic, but on average that is true. In Oklahoma we have some great physicians who work every night until 10:00 taking care of veterans. We have great caregivers in lots of instances. But we have a lot of stinkers, and on average we are not demanding of them what the private sector routinely does.

One of the good things in the bill is we are going to finally have VA hospitals and clinics reporting outcomes, just as every other hospital in this country has to report. If they take Medicare or Medicaid dollars, they have to report to CMS their outcomes—their readmissions, their death rates, their infection rates, their quality of care. They have to be reported.

Also, physicians have to be credentialed. Not true in the VA. So if they are not credentialed, the VA patient is going to know what their credentials are—if they have lost their medical license.

Those are positive aspects of this bill. What is not positive is the fact that we won't fix the real problem, and we are going to say we did and we are going to spend our grandkids' money

saying we did over a very short period of time, and we are still not going to hold the organization accountable.

It is unconscionable to me, after a 60-percent increase in funding over the last 4 years, that we would borrow against our children's future an additional $12 billion when we have all this waste throughout the Federal Government and in the VA and say that is the best Congress could do. I think that is an incrimination upon Congress, and it is a dereliction of our duty—to our Republic but also our future.

So I will be doing a couple things:

No. 1, I will be raising a point of order against this bill; and No. 2, I will be voting against it.

Let me say a little bit about why I am voting against it. Yesterday I talked to a Vietnam veteran who is 100 percent disabled and presented to the emergency room of a major VA hospital in this country with chest pain. This patient was observed for 2 hours. She had no acute changes on her EKG, but she had—as any doctor would know—unstable angina. Her pain never went away. She was sent home. In less than 48 hours she presented to an emergency room in her local community and an hour after that had three stents placed in her left coronary artery. She was ignored medically. That is happening today as we have had this discussion.

Another wonderful retired veteran in Oklahoma had to have a knee replaced. She was service-connected. She went to the VA and had her knee replaced. It was a failure. She had to have it done again. A couple years later her other knee needed to be replaced. They replaced her knee. It failed. As they replaced the second knee, as can happen, they fractured her femur. Today she has a replaced knee, and she walks with a terrible limp because her left leg is 1½ inches shorter than her right one. The likelihood of that happening to one individual is about 1 in 10 billion, but the outcomes never get reported. A femur can break while doing a knee prosthesis, there is no question about it. But five major surgeries? That means outcomes don't compare.

When this VA episode started soaking in, as a physician I went to the medical literature and looked at all the studies that have been published on VA care. I did a LexisNexis. I looked at them all. What did they show? VA care is better than anyplace in America. That is what the studies show. Except when we drill down on it, what we find is the way they were cheating on appointments is the way they were cheating on outcomes. In other words, the outcomes weren't accurate. So the culture is one of looking good, protecting those within the VA, and not protecting our veterans. Again, I would say that does not apply to all VA employees. The vast majority of them are great. But the leadership has stunk. We have to have a bill that fixes that. I don't believe this is going to do it.

I also wish to talk about whistleblowers because I have had a multitude of whistleblowers whose complaints I have investigated and found to be truthful. The culture at the VA against whistleblowers has been a channel in the past from whistleblowers back to management. And what happens to them? They get fired. They get demoted. They get harassed. They end up ultimately leaving. These are the people who care, who want to make it better.

There is a big job ahead of Secretary McDonald. He has the capability and he has the experience to fix this but only if we give him the tools. My fear is that we will not give him the tools with this bill.

The final point I would make, and I think we all ought to think about it—every American ought to think about it. Remember, we are an All-Volunteer Army right now. If somebody has served this country in combat, putting their life on the line to protect us, to protect our way of life, to protect the very freedoms we cherish, should that same individual ever be at the back of the line on anything related to health care that is associated with their service? They should be in the front. They should be ahead of every Senator, every President, every doctor. They should get the first care, not the last. They should get the best care, not the worst. That is how it ought to be. It is the veterans VA system, not ours. It is for them. And when they no longer are the object of service by this country, for them, for their sacrifice, then we are in a whole lot more trouble than any of us realize. We have turned things upside down. Union representation at the VA is more important than the VA patient. Benefits for VA managers are more important than the VA patient.

The one critical thing that really needs to happen to clean up the VA is to give veterans the absolute choice to go wherever they want, their freedom to choose whatever care they want based on what they have done for us. By doing that, the VA will either have to become competitive and just as good or they should die. We have not done that in this bill. We need to do that in this bill.

We have centers of excellence in the VA that beat all the private industry, all the private health care. When it comes to prosthetics, when it comes to closed-head injuries, when it comes to traumatic brain injury, when it comes to post-traumatic stress disorder and depression, we are great. The VA is great, but in too many areas it is not. Tell me this bill will change all that, and I will vote for it even if it does sacrifice our children. But it won't.

I won't be here when the results are assessed, but I can predict what they will be—more of the same, too much money and not enough leadership.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HEITKAMP). The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as if in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, before I speak on the topic of Affordable Care Act, reports are emerging that the House of Representatives is going to adjourn without taking any votes on a border supplemental that would allow this country to humanely deal with a crisis of epidemic proportions on our border as over 50,000 children right now are being warehoused, shoulder to shoulder, without any sign from the Congress of help coming.

There are legitimate differences in what manner we provide this emergency funding to try to deal with this humanitarian crisis, but shame on the House of Representatives as they leave town today without even having attempted to take a vote on a supplemental appropriations bill for the border.

I was in the chair yesterday as I listened to about three or four of our Republican colleagues come down to the floor, as they often do, and register their ongoing complaints about the Affordable Care Act. As has been the trendline over the past 4 months, those complaints have moved from those rooted in data to those rooted in anecdote.

There is no doubt that there are people in every single State in this country who continue to have poor interactions with the American health care system. It is one-sixth of our economy, and as was the case before the Affordable Care Act, it will be the case after the Affordable Care Act. There are many people who will still pay too much, and there are still plenty of people who will not get enough in return.

But I wanted to spend a little bit of time on the floor today talking about what the actual data shows us, what the empirical evidence shows us. It is overwhelming in its conclusion that the Affordable Care Act is working—in many respects working better than anybody thought it would. So I want to take my colleague's arguments one at a time.

The first is a pretty simple one. Every bad interaction that happens in the American health care system is not the fault of the Affordable Care Act. I woke up a couple of days ago with a sore throat, but that wasn't President Obama's fault. That wasn't the fault of the Affordable Care Act. I had kind of a rough day. But I understand there are bad things that are going to continue to happen to me—especially when it comes to health care—that cannot necessarily be fixed by the Affordable Care Act. So one of the ongoing statistics that is used is the number of people who had their plans canceled. Well, most of the nonpartisan medical journals that have surveyed the number of cancellations before the Affordable

Care Act and the number of cancellations after the Affordable Care Act suggest this has been a problem that has been ongoing for years, that there is substantial churn every single year in terms of the number of plans that were offered that then are stopped being offered. The Affordable Care Act is not solely responsible for the fact that plans are being cancelled. People will still pay a lot in premiums. The Affordable Care Act makes it better. There are a lot fewer premium increases of over 10 percent since the Affordable Care Act was passed than before it was passed. But every time somebody is paying more than they would like for the health care they receive, that is not the fault of the Affordable Care Act.

The second argument is the difference between data and anecdote. So let me just spend a few minutes talking about what the ongoing avalanche of information, of data, of statistics tells us. So many of my colleagues come down and talk about the huge rates that people are paying for health care and blame it on the Affordable Care Act. The average premium that individuals paid for a plan on one of the Affordable Care Act exchanges over the course of the first year of its implementation was $82 per month—$82 per month. Now, there are some people who are paying more, but the average is $82 a month. That is a pretty sweet deal to get health care coverage in this country.

And they needed it. A study showed that 60 percent of adults with new coverage used it and 60 percent of those individuals say they could never have afforded to get the care had they not had insurance in the first place.

And people like it. Consumer survey after consumer survey shows that the majority of people who are on these new plans want to keep them and have said their experience has been good, excellent or satisfactory. So that is the real story about what is happening on the exchanges.

What about cost? My colleagues say it really hasn't done anything to control costs. That is not the case. Health care inflation in this country is at a 50-year low. Medicare spending—that is the money that we all pay as federal taxpayers—is $1,000 per beneficiary lower than it was projected to be in 2014. So $1,000 in spending per individual has disappeared from the system, and a large part of the reason for that is the Affordable Care Act.

We had a bipartisan briefing sponsored by the Commonwealth Fund this week, and both the Republican economists and the Democratic economists believe the Affordable Care Act, though not solely responsible for that reduction in price, is a big, big part of that cost-reduction story.

People will say it is not coming through on premiums; we are still seeing premium increases that are bigger than we would like. Well, they are smaller than they were before the Affordable Care Act, but the Affordable Care Act also has this provision in it that requires insurance companies to spend a certain percentage of all the money they collect on care, and if they pad their profits with too much of your premiums, then they have to return that money to you. We just found out that consumers have already saved $330 million in money that was directly returned to them, and over all have saved $9 billion in savings on premiums because of this provision, which essentially says if you get charged too much, the insurance company now cannot keep that money for themselves. They have to return it to you. That is the best protection you can have from premiums that are too high. It is not theoretical; it is practical—the $330 million in checks written by insurance companies and given to individuals.

The data continues to show us the Affordable Care Act is working, and I haven't even gotten into the data I have brought down here week after week, which is stunning in terms of the number of people who now have insurance: 8 million people insured on the exchanges—a 25-percent reduction in the number of uninsured in this country. Even the most optimistic of ACA supporters could never have thought we would have a 25-percent reduction in the number of uninsured in this country in the first 6 months of implementation. The numbers don't lie.

But here is my last point: Senators and Members of Congress who come down and complain about the performance of the Affordable Care Act in their State, when their State has done everything in its power to undermine the Affordable Care Act, have some explaining to do. The reality is there are States such as Connecticut that are working hard to implement the Affordable Care Act, and there are other States that are working to undermine the Affordable Care Act. The Affordable Care Act works really well in States that want it to work, and it has a little bit more trouble in States that are trying to undermine it. Let me give you an example that comes from a speech given earlier on the floor by Senator NELSON. Senator NELSON talked about how Florida, through its Republican Governor and Republican legislature, has taken away from the insurance commissioner the ability to approve increases in insurance rates. And so, guess what. They are seeing premium increases that are rather unappetizing to Florida residents because the legislature has taken away from the government the ability to monitor, review, and approve those rates.

Compare that with the State of Connecticut, which is working hard to implement the Affordable Care Act and act on behalf of rate payers and consumers. Our biggest insurer a couple of months ago proposed a 12-percent increase in rates under the Affordable Care Act in Connecticut's exchange. We have the ability to review those rates in Connecticut. We did that, and the insurance commission in our State just 2 days ago came back and reduced that rate increase from 12 percent to 1 percent. Blue Cross Blue Shield is not going to stop offering insurance on the Connecticut exchange. They are just going to do it with a rate increase that is commensurate with the actual increase in costs of care to Anthem rather than a number that is not based on actual data.

So in a State such as Connecticut, where we have seen twice as many people enroll as we originally estimated, where we have seen Medicaid expansion provide access to insurance for thousands upon thousands of Connecticut residents who have insurance in a way that people in Florida do not because of their lack of Medicaid expansion, we also have taken steps to protect consumers from premium increases.

So for colleagues who are going to complain about high premium increases, you have to acknowledge there are steps that your State could have taken to make it better. For colleagues who are going to talk about the fact that there aren't enough people enrolled, well, then your State could have taken steps to enroll more people.

Not everything is the fault of the Affordable Care Act when things go wrong for families. The data does not back up the anecdotes that are brought to this floor. In States that are working to implement the law, it works a lot better than in States that are working to undermine it.

The story is clear. Whether it is a decrease in people that don't have insurance, the decreasing rate of medical inflation all across the country or the improving quality of health care in every corner of this Nation, the Affordable Care Act is working.

I yield back the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I see two of my colleagues who are here, and I want to ask unanimous consent that Senator BARRASSO be given 10 minutes, then Senator SESSIONS be given 3 minutes, and then the remainder of the time be turned over to me.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. HATCH. Did the Chair rule?

Mr. MURPHY. Reserving the right to object——

Mr. HATCH. Madam President——

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, I would ask that the Senator modify his request to allow Senator BENNET to alternate with one of the Republican speakers in this series of remarks.

Mr. HATCH. I was supposed to speak here at 2:15 p.m.

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, I will withdraw my request for modification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Wyoming.

HEALTH CARE

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I have come to the floor to discuss some

of the issues related to the health care law and the side effects of the health care law. I see my friend and colleague from the State of Connecticut—a place where I spent 5 years as part of my residency program training—has just spoken on this issue. So I followed the developments in that State quite a bit and talked to many of the physicians who practice there on a regular basis, some of whom I have studied with for up to 5 years. So they have routinely sent me articles about the failure of the President's health care law in Connecticut—because remember, the President said, actually, that the costs would go down, not go up under the President's health care law. I think he said $2,500 per family per year. NANCY PELOSI on ''Meet The Press'' said costs would go down for everyone—down for everyone. She didn't say they would go up a little. She didn't say they would go up at all. She said they would go down for everyone, and this was in the last 2 years.

I come to the floor noting that just the other day in Hartford, CT, the headline story said that one of the insurance companies was seeking a 12½-percent rate increase. The Norwich Bulletin says: ''Anthem seeks 12.5 percent rate increase.''

I heard my colleague from Connecticut say the insurance commissioner wouldn't allow it to go up that much but did allow it to go up and said it was going up; is that what my colleague just said on the floor? Perhaps not as much as this, but certainly the President said they were going to go down by $2,500 a family. NANCY PELOSI, the Speaker of the House, said they were going to go down for everyone. And in Connecticut people who believed the President, people who believed the Speaker of the House, NANCY PELOSI, realized they weren't told the truth. Rates even after this 12.5-percent request was reviewed and lessened—the rates still went up.

So I look at these headlines.

Another story out in the Daily Caller: ''Obamacare Update: Now EVEN MORE States Report Double-Digit Premium Hikes.'' They talk about Vermont and they talk about Arizona, States where premiums are going up over 10 percent.

I looked at the story in Politico last month: Connecticut exchange reports breach—breach of security of individual people, hundreds of names left on the sidewalk, with Social Security numbers, with addresses, with information about them.

A story coming out of the Connecticut Mirror: ''CT's Latinos face hurdles in enrolling in ObamaCare.'' It says: ''No group of people in Connecticut is more likely to be uninsured than the state's Latinos, and ObamaCare won't change that.''

I just heard from my colleague that it is working. Not according to the press in his home State.

July 1, 2014, the Connecticut Mirror:

Federal auditors question Access Health CT's internal controls.

Federal auditors reported Tuesday—

These are not individual stories of one person or another, because we know all across Connecticut there have been families who have been dropped, people who have had problems, individuals who are being hurt.

''Access Health CT says it will start calling thousands of customers Friday''—this was earlier this month—''. . . 5,784 customers were identified as having incorrect tax credits'' under this program that my colleague says is working in his home State.

It says: ''About 3,900 customers,'' in the State of Connecticut ''were told that they qualified for government-funded Medicaid coverage when, in fact, they did not.''

It says: ''An unknown number of customers got a bill from their insurance company that was more than they expected . . . ''

'' . . . 903 customers were dropped by their insurer.''

These are the facts.

So I hear that the Federal auditors are questioning Connecticut's internal controls, and then look at the many stories about doctors who are saying no to ObamaCare: ''Report: Connecticut is Less Competitive After Federal Health Care Reform'' in the Hartford Courant.

It just reminds me there are so many side effects of this health care law all across the country—stories from every State. Premiums are going up, people are having to pay more in copays, people are having to pay more in terms of their deductibles, and people continue to be offended that they were not told the truth.

The rates continue to go up. The President said they would go down. NANCY PELOSI said they would go down for everyone. That is not the case. And I think what I am hearing also is——

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President——

Mr. BARRASSO. People believe that Washington is in control.

Mr. MURPHY. Would the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. BARRASSO. The Senator will yield for a question.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Would the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. BARRASSO. Yes.

Mr. MURPHY. I thank the Senator.

I appreciate the amount of time the Senator has taken to educate my colleagues on Connecticut's success in adding 200,000 people to the rolls of the insured. But the chart the Senator just had up next to him for the majority of his remarks about Anthem's request to increase rates in Connecticut by 12 percent is, frankly, the best advertisement you can make for the Affordable Care Act because under the Affordable Care Act, States are given the ability to review these rate increases and modify them. Connecticut has taken advantage of that, and had you read the papers from 2 days ago, rather than taking the headline from several months ago, you would have seen that the Connecticut insurance commission rejected the 12-percent increase and actually approved a 1-percent increase.

Regardless of someone's claim that insurance premiums were going to go down, my constituents in Connecticut will be very welcome to take a 1-percent increase in premiums. Should you repeal the Affordable Care Act—parts or all of it—you would remove from many State the ability to offer these plans in the first place or to be able to monitor them. So I appreciate the Senator putting a month's old headline on the floor of the Senate, but yesterday's headline actually tells us that because of the Affordable Care Act rates under the exchange for the people in Connecticut will be at historic lows in terms of premium increases. Given the fact the Senator is putting up news about the State of Connecticut, I want to make sure that he is putting up the latest and most accurate news about our State.

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I didn't hear a question posed in that, but I concur. And I mentioned in my remarks, as the Senator from Connecticut has said, that the rates were not allowed to go up to the double-digit request, although I also mentioned they are going up by double-digits in many other States. Yet the President of the United States said the rates would go down by $2,500 per family per year. Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI—who was Speaker when the Member from Connecticut was a Member of the House and voted for the health care law—said on ''Meet the Press'' that they would go down for everyone, and that is not the case. The case is, as I have continued to say on the floor of this body, rates are going up across the country even though the President promised something else. What people are seeing is higher premium rates, higher deductibles, higher copays, and loss of doctors. They feel Washington is taking control over their lives. We are also seeing lower paychecks in Connecticut as people try to comply with the 30-hour workweek requirements, which are causing school districts to have to choose whether to hire reading teachers as a result of the mandates of the health care law.

I thank the Presiding Officer.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, I understand there will be 3 minutes for the Senator from Alabama and then I will be able to deliver my full remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is correct.

The Senator from Alabama.

VETERANS HEALTH CARE

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, I just want to say how much I appreciate the work by all the Members who worked on the veterans bill. We had some difficulties of a very serious nature, and all of us wanted to fix that. I was not able to support the bill that came out of the Senate.

We learned minutes before the vote that the average cost in the out years would be $50 billion a year if the program was funded, and there was no money to pay for that. It would really just be adding to the debt. It was sort of avoided by saying it would be a 3-year bill, but once you start these kinds of motions rolling, they never seem to end, and in the end we would be faced with a difficult situation financially.

The conference committee went to work, and I salute all the people who worked on this legislation. It has some good policy issues in it. Senator TOM COBURN, who spoke earlier, was engaged in that conference. He is a doctor. He understands these matters, he cares about them, and he was actively engaged, as we all know. In TOM COBURN we have one of the Senate's finest, most committed Senators. He loves this country. Every day he tries to save us money and make us more productive. There is nobody here who works harder or is more effective in addressing that issue than he is, and he says we need to do better. He is not able to support the conference report because it will add at least $10 billion to the debt in 3 years. I will acknowledge that it is better than before. As a result, he will raise a point of order against it, and I have to say I will support that.

Our doctors there do not carry the kinds of patient caseloads private doctors do.

While we have some policy changes that are good, more are needed. We are going to have a new Administrator, and I am very impressed with him. He is a military academy graduate from West Point, spent 5 years in the military, and was a Procter & Gamble CEO. He has bipartisan support in the Senate. A lot of confidence and a lot of hope is being placed in him.

I think the better action for us today is to not try to establish big policy changes that continue indefinitely at great expense. The better choice for us today is to wait a bit, see how effective this new leader is, and see how much he can save without reducing benefits. Maybe we can get some ideas from this top-flight, world-class businessman, who can help us develop policies that serve our veterans. We have an absolute commitment to serve our veterans and fulfill our responsibilities.

I will support the budget point of order, but if it were to be sustained—and it probably will not be sustained because people want to go forward and do this—I am confident we would be able to work with the new Administrator and develop an even better plan for securing the benefits which our veterans have earned and to which they are entitled.

I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

STANDING STRONG

Mr. HATCH. Madam President, in recent days I have twice spoken here on the floor—not about a particular issue, bill, or nomination pending before the Senate, but about the Senate itself.

While issues, bills, nominations, and even partisan majorities come and go, the Senate as an institution must remain—and remain not only in some tattered form, some distorted shadow of its former self, but, rather, the Senate must remain as it was designed to be. The political winds may blow, but the institution must stand strong.

Unfortunately, in my 38 years of service in this body I have never seen it weaker than it is today. There once was a consensus here not only about the need to keep this institution strong but also about how to do it. That consensus evolved from how the Framers designed this body so that it could play its unique role in the system of government they inspirationally crafted.

James Madison, for example, remarked at the 1787 Constitutional Convention that the Senate's proceedings could have more coolness, more system, and more wisdom than the House of Representatives. He was not talking about coolness in the way our teenagers talk about it today. The House is designed for more or less direct expression of the popular will and operates by simple majority. By contrast, the Senate is designed for deliberation. For more than two centuries it has operated by a supermajority and even unanimous consent. This fundamental difference between the House and the Senate is by express design and not historical accident. It is the conjunction of the two that makes the legislative branch work in the manner the Framers intended. This basic principle of bicameralism is above politics and above party.

This longstanding consensus about the importance of the Senate's unique design and how it must operate to fulfill its constitutional role has all but fallen apart over the last few years. I began addressing this problem in earnest last week and will continue to do so in the weeks ahead and, I might add, in the months to come, urging my colleagues to heed history's wisdom and change course.

I am not alone in this endeavor. My friend the senior Senator from Tennessee has also spoken with great passion on this issue and developed a thoughtful assessment of the Senate's institutional decay. Two longtime colleagues in this body—one Democrat and one Republican—offered similar critiques when leaving the Senate in the last few years.

For 30 years I served in this body with my friend from Connecticut, Senator Christopher Dodd. In his final speech on the Senate floor on November 30, 2010, he observed that the Senate was established as a place where every Member's voice could be heard and where a deliberation and even dissent would be valued and respected. Senator Dodd explained that ''our Founders were concerned not only with what was legislated, but, just as importantly, with how we legislated.'' He urged Senators to resist the temptation to abandon the Senate's longstanding traditions to make it ''more like the House of Representatives, where the majority can essentially bend the minority to its will.''

Two years later Senator Olympia Snowe concluded her three terms in the Senate representing the State of Maine in this body with a reflection on the state of the Senate. She observed that a commitment to the rights of the minority helped ensure that the Senate would be a body where all voices are heard. Senator Snowe concluded, however, that ''the Senate is not living up to what the Founding Fathers envisioned,'' in large part by ignoring the minority's rights.

Senator Dodd concluded his Senate service in the majority while Senator Snowe concluded hers in the minority, but their assessment was the same—a leading Democrat and a leading Republican. That is what a consensus looks like. They shared an understanding of the unique role the Senate was designed to play in our system of government, and they knew from experience that the Senate is not operating by that design today.

Diagnosing our current institutional ills and prescribing a path back to health must begin by recognizing the primacy of the Senate's purpose, design, and place in our system of government. Without the anchor of these principles, which have throughout the Senate's history been shared throughout this body, across all partisan and ideological lines, the gamesmanship of politics and the quest for power will decimate our deliberate contribution to the legislative process. Unfortunately, that is exactly what is happening today.

In my previous remarks, I noted that many of the sage students of the Senate—from Vice President Adlai Stevenson in the 19th century to Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia in our time—all identified the same two features as critical to the Senate's proper functioning: the right of amendment and the right to debate. It is not difficult to see how they serve the critical function of setting the Senate apart from the House. These rights temper majority rule. They emphasize individuals over parties and factions. They ensure that all voices can be heard. They encourage deliberation and, yes, even beneficial compromise. These rights secure a substantive role for all Senators—even those in the minority—in how the Senate legislates, a feature that does not exist in how the House operates.

During my service throughout the past four decades, the Senate has often lived up to these ideals. For example, I worked with the junior Senator from Iowa on the Americans with Disabilities Act, which the Senate in 1989 passed by a vote of 76 to 8. At that time Democrats held 55 Senate seats, just as they do today. This body addressed

amendments on the floor offered by both Democrats and Republicans on issues ranging from tax credits for small businesses to accessibility of buses. On a single day in September of 1989, the Senate adopted nearly twice as many minority amendments to this single bill than the Senate today has adopted in more than a year.

Today the majority leader uses his right to priority recognition to eliminate virtually all opportunities for amendments unless he agrees to them, and even then he generally stops amendments. He has used this procedural maneuver—called filling the amendment tree—more than twice as often as the previous six majority leaders combined.

There is a time when you can fill the amendment tree, and that is after there has been a full and fair debate on all the reasonable amendments Members have brought to the floor and it is when a reasonable time has been given to a bill and there have been a number of votes.

Yet, when he was in the minority, even he condemned this tactic as ''a very bad practice.'' He explained that ''it runs against the basic nature of the Senate.'' He was right then, but he is wrong now. Perhaps the majority leader has reconsidered what he believes to be the basic nature of the Senate. Perhaps he now believes that denying the minority's right to offer amendments is a very good rather than a very bad practice. If he does, then I think he, of all people, owes the Senate an explanation. I don't think he believes that; otherwise, such an about-face is nothing more than a desire to rig the rules so he can win all the games, and in the process he is destroying the Senate itself. When I say games, I don't really mean games. It is so he can win all the votes. He can put the Senate on any motion he wants to without any real rights for the minority, and in the process he is destroying the Senate itself, destroying the institutional characteristics the Founders thought critical to our government's design, and destroying precisely those practices and traditions that have enabled the Senate to serve the common good throughout our Nation's history.

The other defining feature of this body—the right to unlimited debate—is also under attack. By empowering the minority, that right has always annoyed the majority whether we have been in the minority or whether we have been in the majority and vice versa. But a little history can provide a lot of perspective for us today.

For more than a century, ending debate on anything required unanimous consent. A single Senator could prevent a final vote on a matter by preventing an end to debate. The Senate adopted a rule in 1917 that lowered the threshold to two-thirds. Not until 1975 was the threshold lowered to three-fifths, where it stands today.

It is easier to end debate today than ever before in the Senate's history, but that is not enough for the current majority. Urged on by many of the 34 Senators who have not yet ever served in the minority, the majority apparently does not want any obstacle whatsoever to stand in its way—not even full and fair debate.

Last November the majority leader used a parliamentary maneuver to lower the threshold for any debate on most nominations from a supermajority to a simple majority. It took him only a few short minutes to end more than 200 years of Senate practice and effectively eliminate the minority's role in the confirmation process.

As I have detailed here on the Senate floor and in print, the minority leader's reasons for this revolution amounted to filibuster fraud. At the time he invoked the so-called nuclear option, the Senate had confirmed 98 percent of President Obama's nominations, and filibusters, of course, were on the decline. But 98 percent was not good enough for the majority.

I noted the current majority leader's about-face regarding the right to offer amendments. He defended that right when in the minority and actively suppressed it when in the majority. Similarly, when he was in the minority, he voted more than two dozen times for filibusters of Republican judicial nominees. The Democrats were the ones who started that. Then, last November, once in the majority, he abolished the right to debate nominations.

While the majority leader effectively neutralized the Senate cloture rule to stop the minority from debating nominations, he has also used that rule to stop the minority from debating legislation. He again uses his right of priority recognition to bring up a bill and, at the very same time, file a motion to end debate. But it makes no sense to speak of ending debate—ending what he wrongly characterizes as a Republican filibuster—when such debate had no chance to begin with. The majority leader uses this cloture rule not to end debate but to prevent it altogether.

Just like the practice of filling the amendment tree, the majority leader is using his position to prevent debate far more often than any of his predecessors. Unlike the current majority leader, most Senators on the other side of the aisle have never served in the minority. Most Senators in both parties—56, to be exact—have served here only under the current leadership. Unfortunately, this means that most Senators serving today have only witnessed leadership that prefers power to principle and is rapidly dismantling the longstanding practices and traditions of an institution that took centuries to build. The only leadership that most Senators serving today have experienced uses parliamentary maneuvers to deny senatorial rights so that the partisan ends justify the procedural means.

The current Senate leadership is wrong. The road we are on today leads only to one destination. Just as maintaining the integrity and foundation of the Senate's design and operation is essential to its proper role in our system of government, attacking that integrity and dismantling that foundation can only destroy that proper role. Since the Senate's proper role is essential for protecting the liberties of the American people, destroying those longstanding practices and traditions puts our liberties at risk.

The minority leader spoke here in January about the state of the Senate and noted that what many call partisanship today is nothing new. But what I have been addressing in recent days is not the result of that ideological competition but how that competition is conducted.

At the beginning of my first term, there were only 38 Republican Senators—not even enough to end debate under Senate rules. Democrats have not been in such a small minority in nearly 60 years.

According to the Brookings Institution and American Enterprise Institute, 42 percent of all rollcall votes during my first 2 years here were so-called party unity votes, in which a majority of each party sticks together and votes in opposite ways. That means a majority of votes involve Senators reaching across the aisle.

In the last several years under the current leadership, however, even though the margin between the parties is narrower, the percentage of such party unity votes has risen to 62 percent. This trend of retreating to partisan corners is yet another indication that this body is becoming like the House and, therefore, abandoning the tradition of unlimited debate and amendment at the core of the Senate's identity.

The way Senator Snowe described it, the great challenge is to create and maintain a system ''that gives our elected officials reasons to look past their differences and find common ground if their initial party positions fail to garner sufficient support.'' The Senate's design provided those reasons and those incentives, and undermining that design destroys them.

Building is much harder and takes much longer than destroying. The current leadership's recklessness in choosing power over principle is dismantling what took centuries to establish.

That does not, however, mean it cannot be changed. Senator Dodd suggested a formula for a better course when he distinguished what we legislate from how we legislate. Restoring the Senate as the world's greatest deliberative body requires recommitting ourselves to the principles of how we legislate so that we can properly discuss and debate what we should legislate.

We must first restore the longstanding consensus about the rules, procedures, and traditions governing how the Senate is run. Only on that firm footing can we discuss, deliberate, and legislate in a constructive manner.

In addition to restoring many of this body's fundamental rights for amendment and debate, the minority leader spoke in January about restoring a vigorous and meaningful committee process. These elements of our legislative process are related and they are complementary.

Increasingly, bills are drafted in the leader's office and taken directly to the full Senate for consideration where the majority leader will immediately fill the amendment tree and file a motion to end debate. In my 38 years in this body, I have never seen a consolidation of so much power in so few hands.

America's Founders were right in the principles of government they laid out and in the institutional design they built on those principles. But they did so at the beginning of this journey, creating the blueprint before anything had been built. I fear that returning to the right path may be even harder than embarking on it.

The majority today has engaged in a hostile takeover of the Senate for one simple reason: aggrandizing power. But remember the axiom that power tends to corrupt. It makes principle harder to see, fainter to hear, and tougher to grasp, and it makes principle very difficult to restore. Restoration will require believing in something greater than power, something more important than the bill or nomination on the calendar, something more significant than the latest polling numbers. It will require holding fast to a system that can provide power today but take that power away tomorrow.

Winston Churchill famously said, ''Democracy is the worst form of government except for those other forms that have been tried from time to time.'' There is certainly wisdom in that, but consider when Churchill said it. He was speaking on the floor of the British House of Commons on November 11, 1947, 2 years after his party lost half its seats in Parliament and the Labor Party led its first majority government. Churchill expressed his faith in the very form of government that had turned his party into a small minority.

We continue on the path the current Senate leadership has charted at our peril, not just the peril of this institution but the peril of our system of government and the liberties it makes possible for the American people. This may sound like a grand statement, but remember what Senator Byrd repeatedly told us—remember what he said: ''So long as the Senate's defining features such as the rights of amendments and debate remain intact, the liberties of the people are secure.''

There is perhaps no greater statement of principle regarding this Nation than our Declaration of Independence, which asserts that the government exists to secure the inalienable rights of the people. That is why we are here, and that should be our reason to change course—not simply partisan advantage or ideological superiority but liberty. The liberty we enjoy in America did not occur by chance. It will not survive by neglect, and it cannot thrive by preferring power over principle.

My staff and I recently visited the National Archives and saw the words engraved beneath in one of the statues at the entrance: ''Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty.''

I hope we can turn this around. I hope the leadership of the majority will wake up and realize that some day they may be in the minority. I don't know when, but some day they will be. If they were treated as we are being treated, I can just hear the fulminations up and down in the Senate. All I can say is that these principles are more important than either party. They are more important than either party, and whether Democrats or Republicans like them or not, the fact is, this is the greatest deliberative body in the world that is no longer the greatest deliberative body in the world, and that is because of what is going on. I hope we can end that and begin anew.

I think everybody enjoyed the debate over the highway bill. For once, we were able to have at least four amendments—on both sides, by the way. And I have to say it was kind of a thrill to vote again on amendments. It was kind of a thrill to pass a piece of legislation the right way. Whether a person likes or doesn't like the legislation, it was thrilling to be here. I would like to see more of that happening so that everybody here will feel that not only are they a part of the Senate but they are helping to keep the Senate the vibrant place it always has been up until now.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

Ms. HIRONO. Madam President, I rise today to support S. 2648, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act.

I recently led a congressional delegation to McAllen, TX, and to Lackland Air Force Base to see firsthand what the administration was doing to handle this border crisis. It was clear to me that the hard-working men and women on the front lines of this crisis are doing the best they can under very difficult circumstances.

We should pass this important bill to provide the necessary resources to fairly address this humanitarian crisis. We should provide Customs and Border Protection the resources they need to pay their agents overtime when needed, and to provide the necessary food, water, and medical supplies to these children.

My colleagues and I saw children in these CBP facilities as young as 7. We learned that many of these children arrive severely malnourished and dehydrated. They are clearly desperate. They are not traveling here simply because they want to. They are fleeing mortal danger at the hands of violent drug gangs. These gangs have rendered their home countries some of the most dangerous places in the world to live. We should be working together to make sure these children are given proper care in our facilities and that our CBP agents have the support they need.

It was also clear to me that these CBP facilities, meant to safely hold dangerous criminals, are no place for children to be held, even for just a few days. This is a view also shared by CBP officers on the ground who said this is no place for children.

That is why I believe it is so important to provide necessary funding to the Department of Health and Human Services so they can continue to maintain shelter capacity at places such as Lackland Air Force Base where we visited. At Lackland, I was given hope. I saw children being educated, being taught English, praying if they chose to, and learning the Pledge of Allegiance. I saw a place that reflected our values as a country.

This is why I strongly oppose altering the protections of the 2008 Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act. The answer is not expediting screenings and deporting these children as soon as possible at the border. All this will accomplish is to send these children back into harm's way—indeed, into the murder capitals of the world—even more quickly.

I have actually seen what these expedited screenings look like. During our trip we saw small children sitting on concrete blocks in a noisy and overwhelming CBP facility. In this environment, these children struggle to answer questions from uniformed Customs and Border Protection officers. Let me be clear. That officer was doing the best he could, but children arriving here after a dangerous journey are in no condition to quickly explain their reasons for coming to the United States, much less understand the legal basis for their claim to relief under U.S. law. When children are asked to provide that explanation in the kind of harsh environment we saw in McAllen, they have little chance of making a compelling case for asylum or other protection. At this facility children cannot access legal help to make their case. Many of these children have legitimate legal claims that they have been physically abused, raped, or victimized by gangs or human traffickers. We must give them a fair chance to tell their stories.

This bill, which I support, does not repeal these protections. Instead, it takes the important steps of funding our immigration courts to levels necessary to timely hear these children's claims.

This bill also helps with legal representation and orientation services—something the faith communities and other advocates we met with told us were necessary. This will help to speed up the legal process, while ensuring that the rights of these children are protected.

Just as importantly, this bill funds our efforts to address the root causes of

why these children are arriving in our country in the first place. It will help us stop drug trafficking from this region and will help stabilize these economies that have been ravaged by the narcotrafficking violence.

This past weekend, columnist and commentator George Will eloquently spoke on this issue. He said:

> My view is that we have to say to these children welcome to America. You're going to go to school and get a job and become Americans.
>
> We have 3,141 counties in this country. That would be 20 per county. The idea that we can't assimilate these 8-year-old criminals with their teddy bears is preposterous.
>
> We can handle the problem is what I'm saying. We've handled what Emma Lazarus famously called: ''the wretched refuse of your teeming shores,'' a long time ago, and a lot more people than this.

George Will is right. We are a country that welcomes refugees—as many of these children are—from all around the world.

I urge my colleagues to support this important supplemental appropriations measure.

I yield back my time.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. WARREN). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 3086

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I rise today to speak in favor of a principle that should unite us all—the principle of Internet tax freedom. One of the great blessings of our modern economy is the productivity, the entrepreneurial spirit the Internet has created, the ability of anyone with an idea to jump online, to communicate, to create a business, to reach the world.

One of the reasons the Internet has been such an entrepreneurial haven is that Congress has wisely decided to keep it free from taxation, not to subject the Internet to taxation. Well, unfortunately, we are at the precipice of that long tradition changing. If the Senate refuses to take action, the Internet will be taxed this November.

For a decade and a half, Americans have been able to use the Internet all across the country free of taxes, and Republicans and Democrats have agreed on this basic principle. There is not a lot of agreement in this town on much of anything, including what time of day it is. Yet on Internet taxes—in 1998 President Bill Clinton signed the law banning Internet taxes. Congress has extended it three times—in 2001, 2004, and 2007.

Today there is a bipartisan coalition on the record to keep the Internet tax free. The senior Democratic Senator from New York and the senior Democratic Senator from Wisconsin both publicly support keeping the Internet free from taxation. Conservatives in the Senate, such as the junior Republican Senator from Utah, the junior Republican Senator from Florida, and the senior Republican Senator from Louisiana, agree as well. There are 52 cosponsors in the Senate on the bill by the senior Democratic Senator from Oregon, who is here with us, to keep the ban on Internet taxes.

This should be easy. This should be a matter of easy agreement because rarely is there an issue that has united parties so broadly as keeping the Internet tax free. Yet, unfortunately, this session of the Senate is also seeing politicians who want to extend sales taxes to the Internet, who want to subject small businesses, mom-and-pops, businesses started by people just wanting to build a business, to crushing sales taxes from 9,600 jurisdictions nationwide.

I am passionate in saying we should fight against taxing the Internet, and we should not open the door to Internet taxes. The average tax rate right now on telephone services and other voice services is 17 percent. The average tax rate on cable and video services is 12 percent. If this Senate does not act, you are going to see consumers in States such as Montana and South Dakota and Massachusetts, on November 1, begin paying taxes for having basic Internet service. Those State laws are already in effect and will go into effect on Internet services.

I would note for the Senators who represent Montana and South Dakota and Massachusetts that come November 2—which, I might note, is right before an election day—anyone in those States should be prepared to answer questions from their citizens on why the Senate stood by and let taxes be raised on their citizens just for having an Internet connection.

Americans are struggling to pay their bills in the Obama economy. Life has gotten harder and harder for working men and women in this country. Life has gotten harder and harder for the most vulnerable among us—for young people, for Hispanics, for African Americans, for single moms. The last thing we should be doing is playing politics and jacking up taxes on people accessing the Internet.

I would note that the U.S. House of Representatives has already acted. On July 15 the House voice voted H.R. 3086, the Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act. It had 228 cosponsors. My friend Senator WYDEN has introduced the Senate version of it, S. 1431. It has 52 cosponsors, including 18 Democrats. This ought to be something where we stop playing games and say let's all come together and agree: Do not tax the Internet. Yet, unfortunately, we are not in that situation. Unfortunately, we are seeing an objection to the House-passed bill, to a bill that has the support of a majority of Senators. Why? The only reason is because there is hope that by holding the Internet Tax Freedom Act hostage, it can become a vehicle to impose sales taxes on transactions over the Internet, to impose sales taxes on every small business.

I would note one of many wonderful things. It used to be that if you were a single mom and you wanted to start a small business, you wanted to make something, you wanted to sit down and make something, whether it was a computer program or sweaters for dogs or anything else, it used to be that to create a small business took time, it took money, it took infrastructure. You had to have in place warehouses and distributors. You had to have a mechanism to sell your products.

Do you know the great thing about the Internet? If you are a single mom and you have an idea to start a business, you can put up a Web site, and with FedEx you can deliver anywhere in the country.

Anyone all over the country can do it, if you have an idea. Let me tell you, my cousin had an idea to sell scarves. She thought she had some good design ideas. My cousin Beatriz worked with her best friend to design scarves.

If you put up a Web site, suddenly you can sell all over the country. Well, what would the Internet sales tax do? It would say that when you start your business, if you start getting customers, you have to collect taxes in 9,600 jurisdictions all over the country. If the school district across the country changes its tax rate from 4.5 percent to 4.75 percent, you have to know that and collect that differential tax. This does not make any sense.

We should stand together united in protecting the entrepreneurial haven that is the Internet. We should stand united against taxing the Internet.

I would note that my friend the Senator from New Hampshire has a long and passionate record on this issue as well, and I am happy to yield to her for a question on this important topic.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, I thank the Senator from Texas for coming to the floor to talk about this incredibly important issue to the American people.

I ask the Senator, isn't it true that for 16 years the Internet Tax Freedom Act has prevented politicians nationwide from using the Web as a piggy bank and has helped commerce thrive by keeping it free from burdensome tax restrictions? And isn't it true that by making this permanent—the way the House bill does and the way the bill does that my colleague from Oregon has offered that has 52 cosponsors in the Senate—we never have to allow the people of this country again to feel uncertainty that suddenly this great freedom we have on the Internet is going to be gone, where they are going to be taxed when they access the Internet or that somehow we are going to use the Internet as a way to raise money and a way to hurt e-commerce?

I would ask that of my colleague from the State of Texas. Is this all

true, that if we can pass the House bill right now—which is similar to the bill offered by my colleague from Oregon—we can give the American people certainty that we are not going to tax what they are doing on the Internet?

Mr. CRUZ. I thank my friend from New Hampshire. I would note that she is exactly right. We have the ability to do something productive, something that does not happen in Washington an awful lot. We have the ability right now to come together in a bipartisan way for the Senate to demonstrate that it can function productively to address the economic challenges in this country the way the House has.

The House is doing its job. The House has passed this bill. It is the Senate that has refused to take it up for a vote. It is the Senate that is refusing to do its job. We have an ability not just to protect the Internet from taxes but also to honor our word. How many Members of this body, on both sides of the aisle, go to the tech community and say: We want to stand with tech. We want to stand for the entrepreneurial vibrancy of tech?

Yet I would note anyone objecting to this right now is setting the stage for a massive Internet tax. How many of us make the case to young people that we are standing for the future for young people, we are standing for greater opportunity, we are standing for the chance to help young people achieve the American dream? You know, young Americans, 18 to 29 years old, oppose an Internet sales tax by 73 percent to 27 percent.

Yet if this body refuses to stand together in a bipartisan manner, we are telling young people: What we say on the campaign trial is not backed by action on the floor.

We ought to come together on what should be an uncontroversial bill, a bill that has passed three times before, a bill that was signed by President Bill Clinton, a bill that in this body is introduced by a senior Democrat. We ought to come together in a bipartisan way to say: We stand in unison protecting Internet tax freedom.

Accordingly, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 3086, which was received from the House. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from North Dakota.

Ms. HEITKAMP. Reserving the right to object, I want to first make a couple of points, which as we talk about this, I think it is clear to identify who is the taxing authority. The distinguished and very learned constitutional scholar from the State of Texas knows well that the imposition does not come from this body. The imposition comes from States and local governments which have 10th Amendment sovereign rights. They have the ability to finance their own government. They have the ability to make those decisions. Congress has the right to make decisions on their ability, based on a concept that Congress ultimately has the obligation to control and to deal with interstate commerce. Only in the rarest of circumstances when interstate commerce is critically involved has Congress stepped up. It is very rare that this body, or that any previous Congress, has actually dictated the constraints of that sovereign right of States and local governments under the 10th Amendment to impose their own taxes.

I can tell you the RRRR Act is probably one of the most glaring examples. During a time in the 1970s when the railroads were struggling and different kinds of transportation organizations were struggling, we saw this body step up with a unified approach to improving the railroads. Guess what. The railroads got better. The States know now what the constraints are, established by this body, very limited on their ability to do centralized assessments on the railroads.

We saw it in something called Public Law 86–272, regarding income taxes—a very narrow exemption to those sovereign rights. Yes, the Internet Tax Freedom Act is an exercise of this body's commerce clause responsibility to take a look at what is in the best interests of moving forward. But let's not forget, what we are doing is a very interesting balance responsibility to improve interstate commerce.

So when my distinguished colleague suggests that this body is imposing any tax, that clearly is a misstatement of the facts today. There is no locality, there is no organization, State organization or State body that is required to impose any tax on the Internet or required to impose any tax on sales tax. So, yes, I believe we too need to address the Internet tax moratorium which expires on November 1. But we also need to have a discussion in this context of commerce clause responsibility, to give the States the right to decide whether they are, in fact, going to collect State and local taxes and use taxes.

I would remind the Senator, the collection responsibility is on the use tax for remote sales. Congress's responsibility and failure to meet that responsibility, of creating an opportunity to level the playing field for Main Street businesses—what do I say? I tell you if you are selling a widget in North Dakota and you have bricks and mortar and you participate in the society, you provide dollars for the schools, you provide scholarship dollars, you collect a sales tax. But if you are a remote seller, taking advantage of the same marketplace and competing directly against that Main Street business, you no longer have that responsibility.

So to suggest that this body, by doing any of this, would be imposing any taxes on mom and pop ignores the fact that the imposition of this tax comes from State and local governments, which all too often my friends on the other side of the aisle say: Closer to the people, the more responsive those State governments are. I would suggest that in the great State of Texas, the current Governor, who is a Republican, certainly has the ability to decide tax policy. The legislatures are Republican and certainly can decide if they want to do any imposition of taxes.

So with all of that in mind, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Oregon.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2735

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, I am going to be brief, having spoken on this already once today. I simply want to highlight my sense of where all of this is. Back in 1998, along with Congressman Chris Cox, a Republican Congressman from California, one of the most market-oriented individuals I have ever seen in public service, he and I came together to write the original Internet Tax Freedom Act. The reason we did is we were concerned about discrimination, which looked as though it could do enormous damage to innovation and the future of the Internet. For example, we saw early on that if someone bought the newspaper in some jurisdiction online, they would pay a hefty tax. But if they bought the snail-mail edition, they would pay no tax.

So Congressman Cox and I, on a bipartisan basis, came together and said: ''We do not want to see that kind of discrimination against the future. We do not want to see that kind of discrimination against innovation and technology.'' So that is what the Internet Tax Freedom Act was all about in 1998. The subsequent reauthorizations were all about trying to build on that enormous success.

Congressman Cox and I thought the Internet tax freedom bill would be a success back in 1998. It has far exceeded expectations in terms of promoting innovation and small business and many of the concerns that all three colleagues have touched on.

So then to fast forward to today, I am the author of the legislation, with our colleague from South Dakota, Senator THUNE, of the permanent Internet tax freedom extension. I will just say to colleagues: I would like nothing more—nothing more—than to be able to stand here today to see this enormously valuable piece of legislation made permanent now.

The reality, however, is—and we have seen it and heard about it—there are objections on both sides at this point to seeing the bill I wrote with Senator THUNE—and Senator CRUZ correctly notes that more than half of the Senate has co-sponsored—we have objections to seeing that bill move today. So the best thing that can be done now, for the hundreds of millions of American Internet users and the economy for which the Internet is a lifeline, is to extend the current ban until it is

possible to lock in a path to pass a permanent extension.

This is not a political issue. That point has been made. There are a number of Democrats and Republicans who join myself and Senator THUNE in supporting the permanent moratorium. There are a number of Republicans and Democrats opposing the extension of that moratorium, reluctantly. We will have that debate. They seem to think it is okay to impose discriminatory taxes on the Internet.

So it seems to me that no one who supports keeping the moratorium in place ought to object to a short-term extension now. Doing so only makes it more likely that Internet access and services would be subject to discriminatory taxation.

Let me now, in the interest of time, simply ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. 2735, a 2-month extension of the Internet Tax Freedom Act, to December 31, 2014, the text of which is at the desk; that the bill be read three times and passed, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, reserving the right to object. First of all, let me say to my colleague from Oregon, I share what you have described and the work that you did in bringing forth the Internet Tax Freedom Act. The success we have seen from keeping the Internet free from discriminatory taxes has been astounding. So I commend the Senator for that.

I am a proud cosponsor of your permanent act that you have with the Senator from South Dakota. I appreciate that you recognize how important it is that we keep this freedom for our Internet that has been so productive for the American people and, frankly, giving people from all walks of life access to this great tool on the Internet. So I thank my colleague from Oregon for that.

Unfortunately, I object. I want to note today that I am reserving my right to object because to extend this only to December 31 is to invite uncertainty to the American people.

I think the American people have had enough of these dramatic New Year's Eve moments in this body where they are wondering: Are we going to act upon important things, like will we ensure that the Internet remains free from discriminatory taxes? I know my colleague from Oregon shares the same goals.

But to put this to December 31, the lameduck of this body, at a moment where we can all be sitting here on New Year's Eve and the American people again can be looking at us saying: Why do you all leave this to the very last minute on something that has 52 cosponsors and is the right thing to do for the American people? We should give them certainty now by extending this law permanently.

I also note that if this is going to be extended into the lameduck session, I am very worried about the shenanigans that are going to happen. The shenanigans are on an issue that the Senator from Oregon and I are quite passionate about, and that is the so-called Marketplace Fairness Act my colleague from North Dakota just referenced, which, instead of the Marketplace Fairness Act, I like to call the Internet Sales Tax Selection Act.

My colleague from North Dakota mentioned that this is about the State and local selecting taxes. I respect that State and localities should be able to collect taxes. But for States such as Oregon and New Hampshire which don't have a sales tax, why should our businesses or why should any Internet business in this country take on the responsibility which has traditionally been the responsibility of State and local governments to collect taxes?

Under the so-called Market Fairness Act, what would happen is Internet businesses across this country—including in States such as Oregon and New Hampshire—would become the sales tax collectors for almost 10,000 tax jurisdictions in this country, which is a bureaucratic nightmare for so many thriving Internet businesses. It is an anathema to States such as ours—Oregon and New Hampshire—which have chosen not to have a sales tax.

Most importantly, to subject our great online businesses to the potential that they could be subject to an audit in almost 10,000 taxing jurisdictions to me is the opposite of what I know my colleague from Oregon is trying to accomplish with all the work he has done in this body, not only on the Wyden-Thune Internet Tax Freedom Forever Act—which I fully support—but all the other work he has done to make sure the Internet remains free and prosperous in this country for the benefit of all the American people.

So I object to what my colleague from Oregon has offered. I think a short-term fix is no fix at all. In fact, it leaves the American people again uncertain that we will protect their rights against discriminatory taxes that can be imposed on them over the Internet, and it also invites shenanigans with the so-called Marketplace Fairness Act that can get attached.

I know some of my colleagues have talked about the potential of attaching this unfair act, which I would like to call the Internet Sales Tax Collection Act, which makes our online businesses across this country the sales tax collectors for almost 10,000 tax jurisdictions in this Nation.

So, for those reasons, I object. I would like to see what my colleague from Oregon has put forth—which is excellent legislation, and I thank him for that—which is permanent tax freedom for the Internet.

With that, I believe the Senator from Texas would also like to be heard on this issue.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Madam President, I wish to briefly explain to people watching the back-and-forth that just occurred what is going on here, because it is easy to not understand everything that is happening. There are three things going on here:

No. 1, what we are unfortunately seeing is the Senate holding one bill hostage in order to try to force through another unpopular bill.

There are two bills concerning the Internet. The first is the Internet Tax Freedom Act. That has been in place for over a decade. It has had bipartisan support. It has been championed by the Senator from Oregon who has been an outspoken and passionate advocate of making sure that when you and I go and sign up for the Internet, we don't face taxes for getting Internet service, and it has worked very well. That law has always been an area of bipartisan agreement.

But there is a second law that has been proposed in this body but not passed. The second law is the Internet sales tax, what its proponents call the Marketplace Fairness Act. The Internet sales tax is not focused on taxing someone just for signing up to the Internet. Rather, the people being punished by the Internet sales tax are all the small businesses trying to sell their wares online, and there are a number of Senators who very much want to impose taxes on those small businesses in 9,600 jurisdictions nationwide.

What is happening here, right now, is even though no one has serious objection to the Internet Tax Freedom Act, we are, unfortunately, seeing our colleagues from the Democratic side of the aisle hold that bill hostage in an effort to try to force through the Internet sales tax.

I would note the reason my friend from New Hampshire had no choice but to object to the 2-month proposal is the 2-month time period was not picked out of a hat. Two months means the Internet Tax Freedom Act would expire during a lameduck session. And why is that? Because in a lameduck session there are a bunch of Members who have been defeated, who aren't going to face voters ever again. A lameduck session is the session most likely to raise taxes.

So why is it there is an effort to extend this just 2 months? So when the Internet Tax Freedom Act expires in the lameduck, the Members of this body who lost their election and are immune from democratic accountability will all come together and say: OK, now let's pass the Internet sales tax. We shouldn't be holding the Internet hostage to the rapacious desire of tax collectors.

A second point I want to make about what is going on here—this is about discriminatory taxes, not about federalism. My friend, the Senator from North Dakota, was a learned attorney general who talked about the 10th

Amendment and federalism. I welcome seeing friends of mine on the Democratic side of the aisle embrace the 10th Amendment. I look forward and hope aspirationally that friends on the Democratic side of the aisle will embrace the 10th Amendment on other issues.

I would note, however, that the constitutional history we were told was a little bit off, because if we look at the history of our country, originally we had the Articles of Confederation. The Articles of Confederation allowed States to enact discriminatory taxes against each other, and it led to chaos. It didn't work. One of the reasons our Constitution was adopted was to prevent discriminatory taxes, one State picking on another State.

So when Congress was given the authority to regulate interstate commerce, it is precisely to prevent a little mom and pop selling online from being forced by 9,600 jurisdictions nationwide to collect all of those taxes. If someone is living and working in the State of Texas, they shouldn't have to collect taxes for New York or California—for politicians they don't get to vote for. For politicians they don't get any input on, they shouldn't be forced to collect their taxes.

Indeed, for the approach of Members of this body who want to pass the Internet sales tax, recall President Reagan's famous admonition:

> Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.

Why don't we stop it at the outset? The Internet is moving. It is generating entrepreneurial steam throughout this country. We haven't been taxing it. Let's not start now.

The third and final point I will make about what this exchange is about is, more than anything, this exchange is about crony capitalism.

I would note the Presiding Officer today has been quite passionate discussing the corruption in Washington that favors big business. What we just saw on this Senate floor illustrates that as powerfully as anything that has happened this year. Because what is the Internet sales tax all about? It is about a coalition of big businesses coming together, both big bricks-and-mortar retailers and big online retailers coming to their elected officials, saying: You know what. We don't like competition. These little guys, these little upstarts, these single moms who start businesses and compete with us, we don't like that. So let's go to our friends in Washington—our friends, mind you, whom we hold campaign fundraisers for, whose campaigns we contribute to—and let's get the Congress to come together and hammer every small online business we can.

That is what we are seeing. This is crony capitalism. This is a law designed to benefit big companies and hurt small startups.

The beauty of our country is that anybody can come to this country with nothing but a hope and a dream and a vision and achieve anything. It is because the entrepreneurial vibrancy of this country gives the little guy a chance. Yet I am sorry to say Washington more and more behaves as though it is for sale to the highest bidder.

Right now, today, the top 1 percent in our country earns a higher share of our income than any year since 1928. We ought to come together in a bipartisan way and say: Stop being the handmaidens of big business. Stop using government to make it harder for the little guy, for young people, for single moms, for Hispanic and African-American entrepreneurs. Stop making it harder for them to achieve the American dream. Stop pulling up the ladder so the big companies can say: We have got ours; nobody else gets theirs.

When big business comes to Washington and says: We want government's help stifling small business, both parties should stand together and say: Sorry. That is not what the Congress is for. We work for the American people. But, I am sorry to say, what we just saw was a powerful demonstration that this Senate right now is more interested in preserving crony capitalism than it is in protecting mom-and-pops, in protecting opportunity, in protecting Internet tax freedom.

But the great thing about our system is at the end of the day, the American people don't work for the 100 Members of this body. It is the other way around: All 100 of us work for the American people. And I will tell you, the American people are getting fed up. They are getting fed up with Members of both parties who spend more time giving in to the corruption of Washington and entrenching power than they do removing barriers to people achieving the American dream.

I am hopeful and confident that the voters are waking up, are standing up, and will hold every one of us accountable. Democrats and Republicans, every one of us, will be held accountable: Have you fought to make it easier to achieve the American dream or have you simply preserved the corrupt crony capitalism of Washington?

I hope we can together aspire to our better angels. I hope we can come together and keep and preserve in a bipartisan manner Internet tax freedom.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, to briefly respond to the Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. If the Senator would yield for a unanimous consent request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. I ask unanimous consent that following the remarks of the Senator from Oregon, the Senator from Kansas be recognized, following that I then be recognized, and then Senator SANDERS from Vermont would be following me.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, reserving the right to object, just to be clear: Senator CORNYN would speak next, and then Senator SANDERS would speak after him?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, the unanimous consent would be the Senator from Oregon, the Senator from Kansas, the Senator from Texas, and the Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WYDEN. I withdraw my reservation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, very briefly to describe where I think the Internet tax debate is, we have Republicans and Democrats objecting to what I happen to think is in the country's national interest, and that is a permanent ban on Internet tax discrimination. So we have Republicans and Democrats objecting to that.

Now my colleague from Texas comes forward and says: OK, let's not do a 2-month extension because we don't want to consider this in the lame duck session. But, colleagues, if you don't do the 2-month extension, the Internet Tax Freedom Act will have expired and you are still in the lame duck session. And by the time you get to the lame duck, millions of Americans will be vulnerable to discriminatory Internet taxes.

I am going to close this discussion by saying that in my view neither of the options is exactly ideal, because I think I made it very clear after 16 years that I would like to make permanent the ban against discriminatory taxes. Neither situation is ideal from my standpoint because Republicans and Democrats both object to doing that today. But what we know is that one option we have in front of us today is worse than the other, and the really bad option is to not do a short-term extension and leave millions of Americans vulnerable to discriminatory taxes.

With that, Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MORAN. Thank you, Madam President.

I wish to speak for a few moments this afternoon on the topic of veterans and veterans affairs, knowing, or at least expecting a vote later today on a piece of legislation that has now been compromised between the House and Senate versions of the bill, and something that I look forward to supporting.

HONORING HERB SCHWARTZKOPF

First of all, though, I wish to take a moment to honor a Kansas veteran, a veteran who dedicated much of his life to serving our country, whether that was on active duty in the Navy or advocating on behalf of other veterans,

Mr. Herb Schwartzkopf from Ransom, KS.

Mr. Schwartzkopf's many selfless acts began when he served in the Navy in Vietnam. After separating from the service, he returned to Kansas and joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the VFW, which he has been a member of now for more than 35 years. He is considered a life member of the VFW.

Last year the Hutchinson News asked Herb about his life and dedication to serving his fellow veterans. His response was, ''I will talk about the 'V,' but I am not going to talk about me.'' The V is Herb's beloved VFW Post, because he is a humble man who has accomplished much and his priorities in life have been taking care of his country and taking care of the veterans who have served his country.

The countless contributions Herb Schwartzkopf has made over 35 years of advocacy for veterans has earned him the highest honor bestowed by the VFW, the All-American Commander of Post 7972 in Ransom, KS. Herb's VFW post serves as a meeting place and a community service hub for the Lions Club meetings and Thanksgiving feasts for the 296 residents of his hometown. It is also a place for raising funds for local cancer patients and victims, helping fund annual Honor Flights to come see the World War II Memorial by Kansas veterans. The 160 members of Post 7972 complete more than 250 service projects and volunteer more than 4,000 hours a year.

His leadership at the VFW post has deservedly won the National Community Service Post of the Year award five times, including 3 years in a row for 2009, 2010, and 2011.

The Ransom VFW's success is a result of true selflessness. As Herb put it: ''If something comes up and somebody needs help, we just try to rise to the occasion.'' It seems only fitting that he has earned this prestigious award as All-American Post Commander.

I pay tribute to him, to his post, his service to our country, and his service to other Kansans, and thank him for that care and concern for other veterans across the country. So I say thank you for your selfless dedication. On behalf of all Kansans, we wish you well and we are fortunate to have you as a citizen of our State and a citizen of our Nation.

TOXIC EXPOSURE RESEARCH

I also want to speak about legislation today that has been introduced by Senator BLUMENTHAL and me. It is an issue that Senator BLUMENTHAL brought to my attention and today we have introduced the Toxic Exposure Research Act of 2014.

We unfortunately live in a nation where men and women volunteer their services to sacrifice and support us to have the strongest, freest, greatest Nation in the world. When servicemembers raise their right hand and take the oath of enlistment or commissioning, they commit their lives to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and to protect the freedoms we hold dear.

Standing by their side through combat tours and multiple duty stations around the world is their family. We should and we must acknowledge that their family members are being called to sacrifice for our Nation as well.

The Toxic Exposure Research Act is about addressing the wounds of war that might impact a servicemember's family—wounds that may not be evident for decades later when it is passed on to the next person of their family or the next generation. This legislation would provide for the research on health conditions of dependents of veterans who were exposed to toxins during their service to our Nation such as Agent Orange in Vietnam, gulf war neurotoxins, burn pits in Iraq, or other chemicals from recent conflicts overseas.

I am not a veteran, but my life has been shaped by the fact that the Vietnam war took place during my high school years. Many of my conversations in high school were spent talking to those who were a few years older than I who were volunteering or being drafted, and for those who returned home to my hometown after their service in Vietnam.

During Vietnam, many of our veterans were exposed to Agent Orange and years later many veterans and their families are still struggling with the side effects of that exposure. Agent Orange specifically has been shown to cause birth defects in children of military members who came in contact with the toxin during the Vietnam war. There are other poisons from wars since Vietnam that have led to life-altering health problems and painful tragedies among veterans and their families.

A story of Herb Worthington and his daughter Karen is compelling. Mr. Worthington was drafted to serve in Vietnam and was exposed to Agent Orange. Years after his service came to an end he suffered from many conditions as a proven result of his exposure to Agent Orange. His daughter has battled MS for more than 19 years and has been treated for other conditions such as melanoma and an extremely painful nerve condition. Her life has been handicapped by health problems and various kinds of illnesses which must be studied in connection with the exposure of her father and what he experienced with Agent Orange.

Stories like Mr. Worthington's and his daughter Karen's have been shared all across the country in townhall meetings. I have heard them in stories at home in Kansas and they have been collected by the Vietnam Veterans of America. This is an issue that is important to all veterans. It is important to all Americans that we live up to our commitment to those who serve, and it is time we take necessary steps to help and protect their families now and for generations to come. Many people we will never know may be affected by the consequences of their mother, father, grandmother, or grandfather's service to their country. Clear evidence of unsettling conditions and those personal stories warrant the need to collect data to research and study the consequences of these toxins.

I invite my colleagues to learn more about these conditions and the impact they are having on family members of veterans by checking out a social media page, Faces of Agent Orange, through the Vietnam Veterans Association, VVA. The fact is many symptoms from toxic exposure are misdiagnosed in descendants of veterans because of lack of understanding and lack of scientific proof.

I would ask my colleagues to join us in giving the authority to the Secretary—the new Secretary we confirmed earlier this week—a tool he needs so he can designate a VA medical center as a national center for research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of descendants of individuals or soldiers exposed to toxic substances during their service to our country, during their time as military members.

This legislation would establish an advisory board of experts to advise the national center and the VA Secretary with determining the health conditions studied and those that are a result of toxic exposure.

The Department of Defense has a role to play here in this research, sharing incidents of military members who were exposed to substances, to enhance the studies and outcomes conducted by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Ultimately our hope is this medical research would determine those conditions that are the result of debilitating toxins and lead to appropriate support and benefits, cures and treatments for family members.

Military families support our Nation in their love and commitment to those who served in the Armed Forces, and they should not inherit the painful residual wounds of war that put their lives at risk long after the military operation is over. Toxic exposure research is a necessary step toward making certain our military men and women and their descendants will be properly cared for. It is also a step toward making certain that those toxins are not used in a way that causes this to be repeated again in any future war.

We must keep our promises to our veterans and to their families who have made the greatest sacrifice for the sake of our country, our security, our freedom, and our country's future.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

BORDER CRISIS

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, later on today I expect we would be voting on the emergency supplemental appropriation that the President had requested to deal with the humanitarian crisis on the Texas border. Over the past few weeks I have spoken about

this and made several trips down to the valley. I will be leaving tonight along with colleagues. There is a bipartisan congressional delegation going down again to the valley and to Lackland Air Force Base where about 1200 children are currently being housed by the Department of Health and Human Services pending their placement with their relatives in the country.

As part of this discussion we have been having in the search for solutions to this unexpected flood of humanity in the form of unaccompanied children coming across the southwestern border, many of us are trying to figure out exactly what the cause of this flood is. In fact, I think it is probably more than one cause. I think perhaps it is the President's statements that he is going to defer action or refuse to enforce our current immigration laws against a certain class of immigrants that is known as the President's deferred executive action order of 2012.

But there is also another cause that has been recognized on a bipartisan basis, and this is a 2008 human trafficking law that passed essentially unanimously in 2008, because we were focused on one problem; that is, human trafficking, but the unexpected consequences or unintended consequences of that created a business model that is being exploited by the transnational criminal organizations, or cartels, as they traffic in human beings coming from Central America through Mexico up to the Texas border.

Together with my colleague in the House, HENRY CUELLAR, a Democrat, we have introduced a bipartisan, bicameral reform, something we call the HUMANE Act, and it has been cosponsored by people who have supported the so-called Gang of 8 bill in the Senate and people who opposed the Gang of 8 bill.

I raise that point to note that this isn't about comprehensive immigration reform. We have a lot of work to be done. But this is actually intended to solve this immediate problem right in front of our eyes and to stop this hemorrhaging on our southwestern border. My hope is once we address that problem, we can come together in a bipartisan way and address the larger defects in our immigration system, of which there are many. This is, simply put, an attempt to tackle a national emergency.

Let me briefly recapitulate what I am talking about. Since October of last year 57,000 unaccompanied children have been detained on the southwestern border. Under current law—this 2008 law I mentioned—these children are processed by the Border Patrol and they are placed with the Department of Health and Human Services, as it turns out an average of 35 days, and then placed with a family member in the United States or, if not a family member, some sponsor.

Part of the problem is that they are given a notice to appear at a future court hearing and very few of them appear. Thus, they are successful in making their way from Honduras, El Salvador, or Guatemala up through Mexico into the United States, and end up successfully immigrating to the United States illegally, outside of our broken immigration system.

What we need to do in order to fix that gap in the law, that loophole which was unintended by those of us who voted to pass the 2008 law, is to require that these children be held in protective custody and given a speedy hearing in front of an immigration judge for those who want to make the claim for asylum or some other relief. But the truth is the vast majority of these children, like the adults, will not have a claim to stay under existing law and our bill doesn't change that existing law. But for those who do, they have a speedy opportunity to appear in front of a judge and make that claim. Those who do not have a valid claim will simply be returned to their home country, to their family.

This morning I was invited, along with Members of the House and the Senate, to visit with the President about national security matters. He talked about Ukraine, he talked about Syria, he talked about Gaza, and all of the hot spots around the world. I used the opportunity to ask the President what he proposed that we do when this emergency supplemental bill goes down this afternoon.

The reason this bill will fail is because the majority leader simply is asking us to appropriate money and do nothing to fix the problem we have attempted to address in the HUMANE Act with Congressman CUELLAR that I mentioned a moment ago.

In essence, the President asked for a blank check, when he himself acknowledged this morning in my presence and the presence of a bipartisan group of Senators and Congressmen that he knows we need to address this problem or it will just get worse if we don't address it.

It is quite remarkable to me that the President of the United States acknowledges we have a problem we need to address. When the Secretary of Homeland Security, who is trying to use the tools available to him to solve this crisis but knows he needs more tools and more authority, at the same time the President makes that acknowledgment, and at the same time his Secretary of Homeland Security identifies the need for additional authority in order to address the problem, the President has reported he wants to actually expand this deferred action Executive order he issued in 2012 and say to the people who are coming to our country outside of our immigration laws: It is OK. You can stay here. There are no consequences associated with that.

The problem with that is the message that is being sent to the cartels who traffic in human beings and make a lot of money off of it—like I said a moment ago, this is part of their business model—by exploiting this loophole in the law.

What sort of message does this send to the families who would send their children on this horrific journey from Central America through Mexico on the back of a train called The Beast? They are willing to send their children on this journey even though they could be injured, sexually assaulted, kidnapped or held for ransom. We don't know how many of them start the journey but don't make it because of the horrific conditions by the criminal organizations, not to mention the exposure to the hot weather and difficult environmental circumstances.

By failing to address the root cause of the problem, what we are saying is: That is OK. Keep coming. Indeed, that is why it is projected that of the 57,000 unaccompanied children who have made it here so far and have been detained—by the way, they are not trying to evade detection by Border Patrol. They are turning themselves in because they realize they will be processed and placed with Health and Human Services, and essentially, by and large, they will be able to stay. That is what we need to address.

Unfortunately, the House tried to work together today to pass a bill that would, I believe, have provided more money, as the President requested—not as much as he requested, but an emergency appropriation, together with the reforms to that 2008 law which would have addressed this problem.

Unfortunately, because the House of Representatives could not get any Democratic support, that bill failed and so the Speaker of the House pulled the bill from the floor. As a result, they will not be able to pass any legislation to send over to the Senate. That should not cause any of our colleagues here in the Senate much joy because the fact of the matter is the House has its independent duty to act and we have our own duty to act, and we can and should do that this afternoon.

We should do what the House attempted to do, which is to pass a slimmed-down appropriations bill on an emergency basis to help surge resources to the border but at the same time find a way to come together and plug the hole in this 2008 law, which is necessary to stop the problem—at least on this surgical basis.

What is so confusing is to listen to the President talk in his conference room at the White House about this and acknowledge the nature of the problem, and then to see that the White House threatened to veto the legislation that the House was considering. There are a lot of mixed messages, to say the least, with regard to the President's commitment to actually enforce the law. We know that in too many instances he has simply refused to enforce the law, and our immigration law is just one of those. But to hear such mixed messages out of the White House and the administration that yes, we need to act—we should not

just write a blank check. We ought to do the policy reforms with it that would solve the problem.

I will just add that in talking to Secretary Johnson—I don't think I am disclosing any confidence he himself wouldn't repeat—there is actually an earlier experience we had in 2005 and 2006 which I think is very instructive and which we have discussed.

Secretary Chertoff was Secretary of Homeland Security when President Bush was in the White House and we had a surge of people coming from countries other than Mexico, so-called OTMs—in this case Brazilians. In 2005, we saw a surge of 30,000 Brazilian immigrants at the southwestern border. Upon investigation, they realized the reason we saw a surge in these numbers was because of a policy known as catch and release—colloquially.

In other words, people came to the country, were caught, given notice to appear at a future court hearing, and they simply disappeared and melted into the great American landscape, knowing they would successfully immigrate illegally into the United States.

It is the same policy of catch and release that is causing this surge of unaccompanied minors, not to mention single adults with young children. We don't have adequate detention facilities for them, so they are released, given a bus ticket, and told to come back for their court hearing a year or more later. And they simply never show up.

We have all been noticing with great concern this humanitarian crisis at the border and the conflicting and contradictory messages and actions coming out of Washington, DC. So it was not really all that surprising to me to see a new poll that was reported this morning where 68 percent of the respondents disapproved of the President's handling of the immigration issue—68 percent. According to the Washington Post this morning, no other single issue trumps immigration in terms of Presidential disapproval. That is a shocking number.

Unfortunately, when I asked the President today: What happens, Mr. President, when we leave for the August recess and nothing happens to address this problem? He said: Well, one thing we are going to have to do is reprogram money from other programs and use that money to address this hole and this surge needed at the southwestern border.

I was disappointed the President didn't say what I was hoping he would say, and that is: I am going to call majority leader HARRY REID, and I am going to tell him he needs to allow a vote on some of the amendments we are going to offer, such as the Humane Act, on this emergency supplemental, and give the Senate an opportunity to vote for a solution and not just another blank check. Unfortunately, I didn't hear that commitment from the President.

As a result, this afternoon we are going to leave this city and go back home without doing anything to address what the President himself has called a humanitarian crisis. The problem is just going to get worse. As long as the magnet exists, as long as this business model that the cartels have figured out continues to be lucrative and they continue to make money exploiting it and we don't do anything to fix it, the numbers will get worse and worse. And as we see children being placed in literally warehouse-type settings around the country, we are going to continue to see more and more backlash from the American people as they realize the Federal Government is failing in its most basic function, which is to secure our border and enforce our laws.

Unfortunately, this is what Presidential abdication of duty looks like. The President identified a national emergency, but has done virtually nothing to address it. Indeed, he said: We have a problem, and we need to fix it. He then threatened to veto the very legislation the House proposed would fix it.

This is what happens when a President openly and proudly is contemptuous of his obligation to faithfully enforce the law of the land by not only issuing an Executive order in 2012 that is beyond his legal authority to do but also by saying that because Congress has not done what I want them to do as far as reforming our immigration laws, I am going to further expand my Executive order and refuse to enforce the law with regard to more and more people. That is not a secret. It is well reported in the newspapers and on television, and it is not lost on the people who make money exploiting this system nor the people who want to come to the United States outside of our immigration laws.

Sadly, I can only conclude that although the President plainly knows what we need to do, as do his cabinet members, and although prominent Democrats have plainly identified what we need to do to fix the problem, when he doesn't demand that the majority leader allow a vote and a solution to that problem, I can only conclude that he is listening to his political advisers and not making the best judgment that is in the best interest of the American people. I can't explain it any other way.

So on in one last attempt this afternoon to address this crisis, I, along with several of my colleagues, am introducing an alternative to this blank check that the President has requested and Majority Leader REID will set for a vote. It will include many of the reforms I mentioned earlier in the Humane Act, but specifically our legislation would treat all unaccompanied minors the same under the law. It would correct that loophole in the 2008 law that treats unaccompanied minors from Mexico differently from unaccompanied children from noncontiguous countries. It would give Federal, State, and local authorities the resources they need in order to manage the crisis. It would improve our detention capacity so we would end this catch and release which is being exploited, and it would ensure safe repatriation by filing for protective custody for all those children who don't qualify for an immigration benefit under current law.

Our bill would prevent the Obama administration also from unilaterally creating yet another deferred action program that would further add gasoline to this fire and cause these numbers to continue to grow and the humanitarian crisis to expand. In other words, our bill would help resolve the current crisis and would help prevent a similar crisis from occurring in the future.

Under the Senate procedures, the only person who can make the decision whether the Senate will have an opportunity to vote on such a reform is the majority leader, and he has already announced that he intends not to allow us to offer that reform. So I expect we will end up leaving here today having done nothing, in spite of the fact there is bipartisan and bicameral recognition that we are experiencing a crisis and the President and his own cabinet have identified the causes but refuse to do anything about them. To me that is the very definition of dysfunction and the very reason that the American people are absolutely disgusted with the refusal of Congress and the executive branch to do what we know needs to be done—and it is a tragedy.

I hope the majority leader will reconsider and give us a chance to vote on this reform to help solve the problem, and then we can move on and address other important problems that face our country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Vermont.

VA CONFERENCE REPORT

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I rise today in strong support of the VA conference committee report, which I expect and hope will be on the floor here in a couple of hours. That conference committee report was passed yesterday by the House with an overwhelming vote of 420 to 5, and I hope very much our vote here in the Senate will be as strong as the vote in the House.

The conference committee legislation that we will be voting on, frankly, is certainly not the legislation I would have written. I think it is fair to say it is not the legislation that the chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, JEFF MILLER, would have written; it is, in fact, a compromise, but it is a compromise I can strongly support, and I hope all of my Senate colleagues will support it as well.

This bill does a number of very important things to address the problems facing the veterans of our country. Right now veterans in many parts of this country are on very long waiting lists before they get VA health care. I think in the last month or so the VA has made a concerted effort to reach out to those veterans and to get them

care when necessary in the private sector, and I think Acting Secretary Sloan Gibson did a good job in jump-starting that process and saying to veterans we are going to do everything we can to get them quality care in a timely manner. Obviously, this is an expensive proposition, but it is one we have to address.

This legislation we will be voting on in a few hours provides $10 billion to make sure every eligible veteran in this country will get timely health care, quality health care, and they will do that through the private sector, through community health centers, through Department of Defense facilities, and Indian Health Service Clinics when those facilities work for veterans. If there is a community health center in a community, the veteran can go in there and the VA will pay that bill. That is the effort we are making to significantly reduce these long waiting lines.

This bill also provides a remedy for a condition many of us consider to be terribly important, and that is it gets to the root of why it is that we have long waiting periods in many VA facilities around the country. The reality is that in the last 4 or 5 years we have seen, as a result of the wars in Iraq and in Afghanistan, some 2 million more veterans coming into the VA, a net increase of about 1.5 million patients. That is a lot of people. There is not the slightest doubt in my mind or in the mind of the VA that if we are going to do justice to our veterans, we are going to need more doctors, more mental health counselors, more nurses, more medical personnel in general, so that when a veteran walks into a VA facility, that veteran will get quality care in a timely manner.

I have heard testimony in the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, which was very clear, and what virtually every major veterans organization has said is that when veterans get into the system, the quality of care they receive is good. It is good. That is not just what veterans are saying and what veterans organizations are saying; that is what a number of independent surveys and studies show us. The problem is access, and if we are going to on a long-term basis address that access problem, it is important to make sure we have the doctors, the nurses, and the medical personnel we should have. This bill provides $5 billion to make sure we get that personnel.

In addition to that, there are many facilities all over the country where there are very serious space problems. There are not the examination rooms doctors need in order to work efficiently, and this legislation addresses that with a $5 billion appropriation.

In addition, there has been legislation passed in the House overwhelmingly that says, quite correctly, we need to fund 27 major medical facilities all over this country in 18 States and in Puerto Rico, and this legislation does that as well.

In addition, what this legislation says—and this is mostly applicable to our rural States—is that if someone is a veteran living hundreds of miles away from a VA facility, when they are sick in the middle of winter or in the middle of summer, they are not going to have to travel hundreds of miles to get their physical therapy or to get the health care they need. If a veteran is living 40 miles away from a VA facility, they will be able to get their care in their community, again through a private doctor, through a community health center, through an Indian Health Service facility, through a Department of Defense facility.

This is a big step forward for many veterans in rural communities who will now be able to get care in the area they live rather than having to travel long distances to get health care.

This legislation also addresses some other very important issues that have not gotten a whole lot of attention but they are important, and I will mention what they are. All of us know that one of the outrages we have seen in recent years within the military is the very high level of sexual assault against women and against men as well. This legislation provides funding for the VA to increase their capability so women and men who are sexually assaulted will be able to come into the VA and get the care they need to address the problems associated with that assault, and I think that is a very important step forward.

This legislation also takes action we should have taken some years ago. The post-9/11 GI bill has been enormously successful in providing educational opportunities for the men and women who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan and people who have served since 9/11. There was a gap in that legislation, and that gap was that a spouse of someone who died in Iraq or in Afghanistan was not eligible for all of the educational benefits of that post-9/11 GI bill. This legislation remedies that omission. It expands the John David Fry Scholarship Program to include surviving spouses of members of the Armed Forces who died in the line of duty. That means many young women out there will now have the opportunity to get a college education who otherwise would not have, and I think we owe that to all of those people who have already suffered so much.

This legislation also allows for veterans—all veterans eligible for the post-9/11 GI bill—to qualify for instate tuition under that legislation. This was part of a bill previously passed in the House, and we are going to pass it in the Senate.

There is another provision in here which is very important. A program which provides housing for veterans with traumatic brain injury was about to expire. This legislation extends that program for a number of years, which will be a real relief for people who were worried they would be out on the street and not have adequate housing.

It has been from day one—from my first day as chairman of the veterans committee—my belief that the cost of war in terms of what it does to the men and women who fight our battles is a lot greater than most Americans fully understand. We all mourn the 6,700-plus men and women who died in Iraq and in Afghanistan, but we should understand the cost of war is much greater than that tragedy. The cost of war is the men and women who came home without legs, came home without arms, without eyesight, loss of hearing; the cost of war is the 500,000 men and women who came home from Iraq and Afghanistan with the signature illnesses of this war, which are post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. Those are the signature injuries of this war, and we are talking about 500,000 men and women coming home with those very serious problems. In fact, today—just today—and every day close to 50,000 veterans are going to get outpatient mental health care in VA facilities all over this country—close to 50,000.

It has also been my view that when we fully understand the costs of war and the needs of the veterans and their families, it is absolutely imperative that we do not make veterans into political pawns. We do not say, yes, we are going to fund veterans' needs, but we are going to cut Head Start, we are going to cut the National Institutes of Health or we are going to cut education. That is absolutely unfair to our veterans. A cost of war is the cost of planes and guns and tanks and aircraft carriers—those are a cost of war. An equally significant cost of war is the needs of men and women who fought our battles and who used those weapons. What this legislation says and what the House just passed by a 420-to-5 vote is that taking care of veterans is in fact a cost of war.

The CBO has come up with some recent estimates which lower the costs a little bit. But this bill will put close to—a little bit less than $17 billion into VA health care over the next several years. There is $5 billion in offsets from within the VA that I was comfortable with that will bring the total cost of this package down to somewhere around perhaps $11 billion. Is that a lot of money? It is a lot of money. But that is the cost of war, and that is what happens when millions of veterans come home and need the care they are entitled to receive.

As I mentioned a moment ago, the House passed this legislation by an overwhelming vote of 420 to 5. I wish to thank Chairman MILLER in the House for the work he has done in getting that result. My understanding is that in a few hours we will be voting on that bill, and I hope we can pass this legislation with a very strong bipartisan vote.

I thank the Chair, and I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

ISRAEL

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, early this week I joined with Senator BOXER to introduce the United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014. This is an updated version of bipartisan legislation we introduced in March of last year. It is designed to help the economic strength, the security cooperation between our two countries.

As of right now, Senator BOXER and I and 79 of our colleagues, including the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Senator MENENDEZ, are cosponsors, so 81 Members have cosponsored this legislation at a very important time. I think it sends a message to the world and it sends a message to Israel that our partnership is strong. It sends the message that the Congress, starting with the Senate, is committed to that partnership. It says that not only do we want to have the kind of defensive understanding we have had so we have joint defense agreements, so we have the kind of equipment and supplies stationed in Israel that we need and use in a time of crisis or they could borrow from us in times of crisis, but also the economic partnerships in water, energy, in cybersecurity and other information. Certainly looking at what is happening in Gaza, looking at the unique relationship between our two countries, where at least two of the members of the Israeli Defense Forces who have been killed in the last few weeks have also been American citizens. Those two individuals, along with a number of others serving in the defense forces for Israel, backed up and supported by other Americans who go to Israel to support the defense of their country—this is a particularly important time to send this message. It is a message that there is broad agreement on in a bipartisan way, with virtually 81 Senators agreeing.

I will turn to my friend with whom I have worked on this for 2 years now, Senator BOXER, to make a unanimous consent request so our bill can be done and this message sent to Israel and the world before we leave this week.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2673

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, Israel faces 100 rocket attacks a day from a terrorist organization called Hamas. Israel is trying to cope with getting rid of tunnels that have been built by this terrorist organization, with one purpose: to send terrorists through those tunnels so they can kidnap, torture, and kill Israeli citizens.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 492, S. 2673; that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I just want to say the partnership Senator BLUNT and Senator BOXER have on this issue is one that I think is spectacular. I have talked to both of them ad nauseam about this issue. Senator BLUNT and I have had multiple conversations this week. He is one of our great leaders in this body and is always trying to find a way to come to a solution. Senator BOXER and I have worked on another issue this week, and I cannot tell you how much I have enjoyed working with her office.

This is an actual bill. This is not a resolution. In order to try to expedite this being able to come to the floor before we go to the August recess, we had scheduled a committee meeting here today, one impromptu, but to go through the normal committee process. I thank Chairman MENENDEZ for his cooperation and willingness to do that.

As it was scheduled, it is my understanding that a number of Members had amendments to this bill. I know for that reason—and I understand this fully—the business meeting to actually have a markup in committee was then canceled. I know the chairman of EPW has committee protocol, and when committee members want to amend things they try to go through that protocol. I know Senator BLUNT, being the leader he has been in the House and here, understands that process.

I am going to, over the next hour or so—I have a little time here—check with committee members and see, relative to the normal protocols, how they might feel about this coming directly to the floor. I just tried to do that a minute ago, but knowing this is not the typical way of doing things and knowing that people actually had some amendments—I know there were some reservations about the visa waiver process and other things—I am going to have to object. I do so with total respect for these two Senators but also for respect for the committee process we all try to work through together. So with that, I object.

I do not know how long we are going to be in this evening but——

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. CORKER. I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, if you sense some emotion and anger in my voice, I have it. I am shocked and deeply saddened that my friend would come here and object, when for days and days and days he told me—he told me—he would not do this. My friend told me he would not object.

This bill has the support of 81 Senators. To come here and object that his committee, which I am so proud to be—as a matter of fact, I am a senior person on that committee. My chairman is one of the great chairmen of the U.S. Senate. We bent over backward. I wanted to offer this on Monday with Senator BLUNT. He was disappointed. I said: I am talking to Senator CORKER. We are trying to work together. Eighty one Senators support this, and 1 Senator comes and says: Oh, it is a little bit—we need to go to the committee. There is a war going on. Hamas has put on its channel proudly showing terrorists going through tunnels.

This bill is absolutely critical. It is an updated version of the bipartisan legislation we introduced last March. We worked for 16 months. We had issues with the visa waiver. We tried to take it through the committee in May. They tried to attach amendments on Iran. We need to work hard with the administration on the Iran issue. It is critical. But there is a war going on. This bill is critical, and I am so grateful to Senator BLUNT and all of my cosponsors.

In passing this bill today, the Senate would send a clear and unequivocal message. Let's be clear. We are leaving town. I do not want to leave town, but we are leaving town, and we are not going to have a chance, with all due respect to my friend, to take a look at this for a long time. This is the time, on the way out the door, to send an unequivocal message to our ally.

Hamas continues to escalate through those tunnels. We all mourn every civilian life lost—every life lost on either side. Think about it. If in our country we had rockets coming over here from Canada or from Mexico or from the sea into our Nation, what would we do? What would we do?

Concrete that was meant to build up Gaza—and I stood at that line when Israel gave up Gaza, gave it up. I was proud they did it, and I thought: What a chance for the Palestinians. I feel for them because Hamas has taken over and they use that concrete that was meant to rebuild for tunnels. I watched the video. I saw the terrorists go through, proudly bearing their weapons, sneaking up on a post and killing five Israelis. They tried to kidnap their bodies but they were unable to do it.

So if not now, when is the time to pass this legislation? To say it is bipartisan is an understatement. Almost the entire Senate is on it. We all know there are a lot of important issues. My goodness. I am going to be standing here and talking about a lot of them.

This is an emergency. That is why this United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act is so critical, including our assistance for the Iron Dome missile defense system.

What is important in our bill is we increase by $200 million the value of U.S. weapons we hold, we stockpile in Israel to a total of $1.8 billion. At the rate these rockets are coming over, at the rate these tunnels need to be destroyed, we need to act. We need to act. We need to send a clear message to our friend Israel, and it sends a message to Hamas.

I have to say, yes, we have a visa waiver program in here. Guess what it does. It treats Israel the same way we treat other countries. I will read the names of those countries: Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary, Slovakia, Estonia,

and the Czech Republic. Why shouldn't Israel have that same opportunity? We worked on this provision. I know my friend has problems, but we fixed those provisions. We have given maximum flexibility on those provisions.

So I am sad—that is an understatement—I am distressed, I am shocked and stunned that this afternoon, before we go out the door, with 81 Senators on a bill—a bill we actually passed a couple years ago, a similar bill, and the House passed a similar bill—that I have a friend, who is my friend—he is my friend—treating this Senator and the chairman in a way that I think is so unfair and to me betrays all the days that we talked about this, the weeks we talked about this, the way we have fixed this legislation.

Most of all, I think it is a dark moment—a dark moment—when we would walk away from this opportunity to take a stand against terrorism.

I thank the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I would just like to say that, look, I do not know what happened. We had a committee meeting scheduled today. The Senator is right that I agreed not to object to this and also not to offer any amendments in committee, and if it came through committee I was perfectly fine with it being unanimously consented to.

For some reason, the Senator caused the committee hearing to be called off. So she is exactly right, I would not be down here objecting to something being discharged from committee had the committee meeting not been called off.

I say to the chairman—I talked to him late last night. I thank him for trying to make this process work in the right way, and I thank his staff for being willing to set up a committee meeting today. But for some reason, the Senator from California decided she did not want to have the committee meeting.

I am sorry she is sad. I am a little emotional now that she would suggest that I would agree to UC something, when I—yes, I will if it comes through committee. I do not understand why the committee was called off. But apparently the committee—the person sponsoring this bill apparently does not want to vote on amendments other members want to offer. Not me. I had no idea any members wanted to offer amendments, by the way, but they did, and I am sorry this has not worked out either. But that is the way it is. I have no idea why the committee meeting was called off. I would love for the Senator to tell me that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I think my colleague knows absolutely the reason why. All this is just disingenuous. My friend knows—we discussed it—that if we load down this bill with extraneous amendments on other subjects it would never pass. We know that. I have been around here a long time. I know how a bill becomes a law, and thank God I learned it.

One thing I know. When you start loading down a very important piece of legislation that is emergency legislation with unrelated amendments, it is not going to be able to be done on the way out the door, and my friend knows it. We have——

Mr. CORKER. Well——

Mrs. BOXER. Excuse me. I have the time.

My friend can get emotional about process. Be my guest. I am not emotional about process. I am emotional about results. How would the Senator feel if he had a terrorist group digging tunnels under his cities? That is an issue separate and apart from our agreement we have to have a good agreement on Iran. But you know when you start amending these bills like that, they are not going to go through on unanimous consent.

So I am disheartened, disappointed, saddened, and I think everybody knows what has happened here.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, let me say one more time, I have no amendments to offer to this bill. I was in no way going to load down this bill with any amendments. I just asked that it go through a committee process. By the way, if amendments should not be added to a bill, typically what happens is people vote them down. I would assume that had we had a committee meeting today—I know we had one scheduled earlier today—extraneous amendments would have been voted down. But with that, I am certainly, I can tell you at this point, ready to dismiss this issue. I have no desire to try to call members of the committee at this moment to try to resolve this. I am very disappointed that the Senator from California would take liberties to say such things that this Senator would come down and agree to a unanimous consent without it going through committee.

I thank the chairman again for agreeing to do that. But it was called off because there were amendments. I understand that. I really do. But that is the prerogative. I think the Senator from Wyoming—standing in the well—had an amendment he wanted to have heard. I have not even seen the amendment. But that is what people do in a committee process. Again, if they do not want it attached to a bill, what they typically do is vote down the amendment.

But I am very disappointed in the comments by the Senator from California. It looks as if this will not be heard. I am sorry.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I came to the floor in the first instance to support Senator BOXER's unanimous consent request on the U.S.-Israel strategic partnership, which, as she has pointed out, has—in this institution we do not very often get 81 Members to agree that there is a course of action we want to take. She and Senator BLUNT have acquired 81 cosponsors—including me and a majority of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee—to do exactly that.

Given the current situation in the region, I think the legislation sends the right message at the right time. Israel clearly has a right to self-defense. No country should stand by while thousands of rockets are being launched at it and a terrorist organization next door digs tunnels to funnel fighters into its country to kill its citizens. That is what is happening.

Part of the effort of this legislation, the U.S.-Israel cooperation—well, one example is an antimissile system called Iron Dome, which is an example of what our two countries can do together—save lives through technological advancement and defense cooperation. I think these are incredibly important opportunities.

Beyond that, given the advances in shared achievement that have resulted from this U.S.-Israel partnership, this bill authorizes the President to further enhance cooperation in the fields of water, energy, homeland security, agriculture, and alternative-fuel technology.

But the U.S.-Israel partnership extends far beyond our excellent security partnership. Senator BOXER's legislation does just that. It authorizes increased, enhanced, and enriched cooperation that reflects the critical importance of our bilateral relationship. It goes into Israel's energy security.

Not long ago Israel was completely dependent on energy imports, but given recent discoveries they may soon be energy independent. But they need help. Thanks in part to work by Senator LANDRIEU, this bill would help provide the technical know-how on how to regulate a responsible natural gas extraction industry, how to charge and collect royalties, and how to plan for distribution and export networks. In other words, this bill can help make Israel an energy provider for the region and for Europe, greatly enhancing Israel's energy security and forming important economic ties with its neighbors.

There are a lot of reasons for the Senate to pass this legislation and particularly to do so now.

Let me address the process question. The ranking member did ask me late yesterday to have a markup. When we talk about process, we called for a markup in short order, without the regular timeframe, but also with what was, for me, an understanding that there were going to be no amendments. It was going to be an up-or-down vote on the legislation. If I had understood there were going to be amendments offered, then we would have had to have

a timeframe to know what amendments they were going to be so Members could consider what those amendments are and could judge them—not at the spur of the moment when we sat down and convened a meeting but so they could make an informed judgment.

Because it was a truncated process, which I was trying to accommodate the ranking member on, and because I felt we were going to go through basically an up-or-down vote, I called for the meeting. But then, unbeknownst to us, all of a sudden we were told there were going to be a series of amendments—amendments which were not even filed and for which there was no timeframe and therefore would come at a moment's notice when the meeting was convened and with no one having had the opportunity to understand the nature, substance, or consequences of those amendments. In my mind, that is not regular order.

So maybe there was a misunderstanding, but because there was a clear understanding, from my perspective, to do it in an irregular fashion—very short notice, with no amendment filing deadlines—but in order to accommodate the concern that legislation should not come but through the committee and onto the floor, I agreed to a special session, a special business meeting. Unfortunately, I do not know whether there is a misunderstanding of agreements here, but that is the nature under which I agreed.

When I found out there were going to be all types of amendments, including amendments that are extraneous to the subject matter, I decided we could not do that in good order and in reasonable conscience, so we pulled down the business meeting.

Let me say that I understand we have two concurrent resolutions pending before the Senate on the use of human shields by Hamas and supporting Israel's security. I support the substance of both of those Republican resolutions. However, I am not willing to allow them to move and provide lip-service to Israel's security when Members of the same party are preventing us from taking real action to support Israel's security by objecting to this bill, even though I do not question my distinguished colleague, who has worked incredibly well with me over the last year and a half, about what his concerns are about process. But we can't have Members want to offer all types of amendments, including extraneous amendments to this bill, and then say ''But we are asking the chairman to release the resolutions on human shields''—which I in substance support—''from the committee,'' but when we can really do something for Israel, which is to pass this legislation, to say ''No, we cannot go through this process because it is not regular order.'' It is also not regular order to allow resolutions not to come through the committee as well. I hope that maybe in the timeframe there might be a way to consult with Members on both sides of the aisle to see if there can be a resolution.

I do not judge anybody's purposes. But let me make it clear for the record that, yes, we did have a special business meeting. It was out of the regular order as to how we would call such a meeting and the procedures we would have for such a meeting. But it was done in good faith in order to accommodate the ultimate goal, which is passing an incredible piece of legislation at an incredibly important period of time.

I see my colleague wants to say something. I have something else to say that is not related.

I will yield.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I want to say that everything the chairman has said is absolutely correct. Of course, the committee can meet with the consent of everyone willing to do so. I appreciate him and his willingness to do that.

I will say one of the members—I am actually speaking through the Chair to the chairman, if I could. I just had one of the members on the floor walk by and share with me that he really was not going to ask for a vote on amendments; he just wanted to share some thoughts but was going to pull them.

I understand how the chairman would want to pull down a committee meeting if there were going to be lots of amendments, and I assure you I had no idea there would be any amendments. But I know some people brought some forward. My sense is that there may not have been a desire to have a vote on those, especially based on one of the Senators on our committee just walking by and sharing that with me. So what I might do in the interim is get on the phone and see if the committee members who had amendments actually wanted a vote on those or just wanted to express concerns. Maybe it is possible, within the time left, to handle this in a way that works for all.

But I very much appreciate the chairman's willingness. I want to say to him again that I had no idea people had amendments to offer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. If I may through the Chair—I appreciate that.

Let me just say we were told there were amendments for the purposes of votes. Maybe that did not end up being the ultimate intention of some; others may have wanted votes. But I will say to the distinguished ranking member that if there are colleagues who want to express a reservation but are not seeking a vote, they would have the opportunity to come to the floor. I am sure we could carve out some time under which we could talk about what those reservations are. They would be fully on the record, and we might find a pathway forward to being able to cast a vote on this bill. But I will leave that for my colleague and his conversations with his colleagues on the Republican side of the aisle.

Mr. CORKER. I will close by saying that I think it is perfectly fair for the chairman to say that if we can't have a bill like this discharged on the floor, then other resolutions which sometimes do come to the floor without going through committee because they do not have a binding effect—I can understand why he would take that position.

But I really do appreciate the way the chairman has worked with me on so many occasions. Again, I am disappointed in the comments that were made earlier. But this is the understanding we have had. I think had the committee process gone forward, we probably would not have had votes. But we will just see.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, before Senator CORKER leaves the floor, I want to make sure I understand because maybe there is a window of opportunity to revisit this. I want to make sure I heard what he said.

It was my clear understanding—and the Senator said he does not know why I thought this—that my friend would not object to this if it came to the floor. I had staff conversations. I know the Senator is saying after it came out of committee, but there were other conversations I am privy to staff to staff. So let me say that.

Is it my friend's interest to go and talk to Senator BARRASSO in particular—a friend of mine—and see whether he was just going to use these amendments as talking points? If, in fact, he was not going to do that, call for a vote, and he stands down, would my friend allow us to get this done tonight just given the moment in time in which we find ourselves at this late hour?

Mr. CORKER. Well, I would say that every time I get a sense I want to do that, the Senator from California says something that challenges the integrity of another Senator, so it makes me not wish to do that. So I don't know.

I will say that I am going to leave here and take into account—I have always understood that if it went through the committee, even though there are some issues I have with this legislation, because of the fact that we have so many cosponsorss, I do not want to be one Senator who holds up a piece of legislation. I want the will of the body to work. I always have. But I did want it to go through the committee process, and it was called off.

I wish the Senator from California would quit saying things that I do not believe to be the case. We tried to make it go through the right way today. I really did. I appreciate so much the chairman and the way he works with me in that regard. But we

will see. I get disappointed every time another word is said about this, and sort of characterizing not the way I understand we were going to do this. But we will see. I appreciate everybody's time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I would say to my dear friend and distinguished ranking member that I know how he feels about his integrity and the process. I respect that. Only because the stakes are so high are the passions so strong with what is going on with Israel right now. So I would urge my distinguished ranking member to maybe have that informal survey with members and see if there is a way in which reservations could be expressed, and we might be able to move this legislation on the floor.

I have worked with the Senator other times and on other issues and we have worked with each other, and I hope this might be a moment in which we could actually achieve that as well. I have nothing but the greatest admiration for the Senator's work and cooperation.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

I wish to move to another equally important topic and in part respond to my colleague from Texas. That is the question of the supplemental and the comments made that we are unwilling to do what the House has been incapable of doing so far—at least the last time I checked. I do not know if something has happened since I came to the floor, but the House has been incapable of even sending what they viewed as their supplemental.

I do not know exactly why we would be blamed for not voting on something the House has not even passed, No. 1.

Yes, there are many of us who will oppose what the House is sending because, No. 1, it doesn't even provide the resources necessary for an emergency—an emergency of unforeseen dimension: a refugee crisis and a humanitarian crisis that needs to be dealt with.

When we look at the proposals that are contemplated in the House, not only do they not fund appropriately to meet the challenge, they misappropriate how they are going to do funding to meet this crisis.

I don't know that we need to militarize the border, because no one is threatening the border so far as the consequences of any violence. I don't know that a National Guardsman with a rifle is necessary against an 8-year-old. I really don't. We heard our colleague from Texas say: Well, these children are actually submitting themselves to the Border Patrol, not trying to flee them.

So part of what the House of Representatives wants is to spend millions of dollars for the National Guard. I would rather spend it on the Border Patrol, not the National Guard. We don't need to militarize our border.

I would like to make sure that when a child does come over, having fled 2,000 miles because they were raped or a child was told by the gang to join us or die or a child who saw their father or mother killed before them and thought they would be the next one—that if that happens to be the case for that child, that they would have the opportunity to make their case, and they can't do that in 72 hours.

I was at the same meeting earlier today with the President, which was really about national security. But the Senator from Texas raised this question—and it is a legitimate question to raise—and I didn't hear the same response in the context that the Senator from Texas characterized that response.

The President said there has to be due process; but yet we need to find a way to try to accelerate that process but within the context of due process, and not to strip away the law that was passed in a bipartisan process and signed by a Republican President because he understood, as did the Congress at the time, that if you flee 2,000 miles and actually get here, it must be a lot more than an economic refugee. It must be because you have a credible fear of the loss of your life or your safety. That is what is at stake here.

Now, it boggles my mind that we cannot get a successful vote. I don't know if we will or we won't, but I get a sense from what I hear from my Republican colleagues that they won't cast a positive vote for the type of supplemental that would give the resources to meet the challenge. To do what? To put more people on the border in terms of Border Patrol. To do what? To create more immigration judges, to create more prosecutors.

What are they going to all do, coddle the child? No. They are going to be enforcing the border—the border in States where some of my colleagues seem to be the biggest opponents of the supplemental. I don't get it.

Now, I have never voted for a supplemental that is enforcement only, but I am ready to do it because this is an emergency. I understand the gravity of the situation, both on the human side as well as the national security question. But I can't fathom, for the life of me, the views that say: No, let's vote against the money and create a crisis which basically is going to leave us in a situation in which, if we do not pass the supplemental prior to leaving on this recess, monies for the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Health and Human Services for these purposes will run out. The crisis won't have been abated, but the situation will continue to exist and the monies will have run out, which means what the President said: Well, I am going to have to reallocate resources from within those Departments for other purposes; which means that other national security, homeland security, and other health issues are not going to have the resources to meet the challenges they are presently meeting. That is not in the collective interests of the country.

So I am strongly going to support a supplemental that I would have never voted for because of the emergent nature of what we have. But at the same time we can't be about putting the National Guard at the border. It can't be about militarizing the border when there is no military threat, and it cannot be about stripping a law that was passed in a strong bipartisan vote and signed by a Republican President because they understood the nature of the potential challenge and they understood the very essence of a child fleeing 2,000 miles and having a shot—only a shot, no guarantee—that they in fact make their case.

That would send a message across the globe, as we are telling other countries in the world—in Africa; in Jordan, where we tell them to handle the Syrian refugees; in Turkey, where we tell them to handle the Syrian refugees; in the Dominican Republic, when there was the hurricane and we said let the Haitians come on over—we can't handle the humanitarian needs of children who have a credible sense and a credible case about fear for their life. Not every child will have that case, and those will be deported. But not every child should be automatically denied either.

Mrs. BOXER. I wish to engage with my friend in a bit of a colloquy here.

I listened to the Senator from Texas, Senator CORNYN—who is working to try to solve these problems—lament the fact that Democrats in the House would not go along with the Republican version of this emergency appropriation. So I went back and I asked my staff to detail—and my friend did that.

I want to make sure that he agrees with what I think basically was in there: First of all, a change in the 2008 law that President George W. Bush signed, written by Senator FEINSTEIN and others—quite bipartisan—to treat these children with human dignity and ascertain that in fact they had a real problem. If they didn't have a real problem, send them back home; and if they did have a real problem, make sure they were safe here. So that was in there. Then, as my friend said, the National Guard piece was in there.

Now, what is really interesting is these children are coming over, and they are saying to the Border Patrol: Take me.

So I don't mind having the National Guard at the border if we really have to defend, et cetera. I have come after that in the past.

But it just seems to me—and my friend made the point—it is one thing to put Border Patrol on and it is another thing to send down the military to face off with these children.

The other thing is, of course, they strip down the money dramatically so that these kids may well have to remain in some of the worst conditions in these customs facilities.

Now, the question I really want to talk to my friend about is this. I researched this today and asked to find

out, every year, how many foreign nationals become legal residents under current law even without changing our law. We know the immigration bill didn't pass over there. It is 1 million a year. Every year, we take 1 million foreign nationals, and they become legal residents in America.

Doesn't my friend believe that since we take 1 million people a year in legally, we can deal with 56,000 children, that we can do that, that we have the capacity to do that? We know, if it follows trends, that most of them will be placed with relatives or caring friends, a few may not be, and some will be sent back.

But doesn't my friend believe, in this great Nation of immigrants—I am a first-generation American on my mother's side. My mother was born in Europe and her whole family escaped before the Holocaust. I don't think there is anyone in this Chamber, unless they are Native American, who can say truly at one time their relatives weren't immigrants.

My friend is so eloquent on the point. We handle 1 million foreign nationals becoming permanent legal residents every year. Don't we think America has the capacity to handle 56,000 children?

Mr. MENENDEZ. I appreciate my colleague's point. I would say America certainly has the capacity to give the legal opportunity for those children to make the case that they have asylum. And when we fail to do so, I think we undermine our own principles. We undermine our own history, we undermine our own legal obligation under existing law, and we also undermine our standing in the world when we ask others to take in refugees but we say in our case that we cannot.

Mrs. BOXER. I thank the Senator.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. HIRONO). The Senator from Utah.

Mr. LEE. Madam President, before I get on to my remarks regarding immigration, I wish to echo briefly the sentiments expressed by my friends, Senators AYOTTE and CRUZ, who spoke on the floor earlier this afternoon.

I believe the Senate should immediately take up and pass the Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act—a bill that cleared the House with a bipartisan voice vote and 228 House cosponsors—instead of manufacturing a crisis with a short-term extension that will let this very popular, very bipartisan policy be taken hostage.

The situation at the border is indeed heartbreaking. Tens of thousands of single adults, families, and children have made an incredibly dangerous journey north from countries such as Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. They are leaving these countries because they offer too little opportunity and are mired in poverty and violence. No one begrudges them for wanting to find a better place to live.

Americans are compassionate and they are generous. The American people have always extended and always will extend a helping hand to every other corner of the world. And even as the number of illegal border crossings has exploded over the past year, we have treated these individuals with dignity and respect.

Today we have on our southern border a multifaceted crisis that faces the entire country. But President Obama is not interested in solving the humanitarian problem or the security problem or the legal problem or the fiscal problem. He is interested only in solving a personal political problem—avoiding blame for this crisis which he himself has created.

For years the President's clear message to the world has been that he is not interested in enforcing or fixing America's immigration laws. He is unconcerned about strengthening our border, improving our entry-exit system or bolstering the workplace verification. He has made no effort to fix our visa system so that we have an efficient process to serve immigrants trying in good faith to obey the law. He has ignored serious immigration reforms that would solve these problems.

So what has the President been doing on immigration? Systematically undermining the rule of law by ignoring the laws that are already on the books, taking action he has no authority to take, and blaming others for the consequent failures.

That is what has led us here today, considering what hypothetical actions Congress can take to address the real crisis the President has created.

But the solutions to this immediate crisis and our longer term immigration needs as well begin with the President finally enforcing the law. There is no amount of money that Congress can spend. There is no new law that can solve this crisis if the President and the leadership of his party continue down their current path.

There are several steps the President can take immediately that do not require any action by Congress or another dime from the American people.

He can stop abusing what he refers to as ''prosecutorial discretion.'' He can end the DACA program, which provides administrative amnesty and work permits to those who enter the United States illegally as minors. He can close the door to any further expansion of DACA to millions of additional adults. And he can signal his commitment to this solution by quickly returning those who entered the United States illegally to their home countries.

But by announcing to the world—the entire world—that he will not enforce laws requiring DHS to process and return those who come here unlawfully, the President is encouraging hundreds of thousands of children and adults to make this very dangerous journey to come to the United States illegally. He is encouraging families to pay coyotes controlled by drug cartels thousands of dollars to smuggle their children into the United States. That is truly the humanitarian crisis.

The President's threats to widen the scope of DACA are only going to make this crisis worse. That is why I agree with my friends TED CRUZ, JEFF SESSIONS, DAVID VITTER, JIM INHOFE, and MIKE JOHANNS that at the very least we must take steps to prevent the President from providing any more Executive amnesty.

I understand the desire for Members of Congress to want to pass some kind of legislation. Members want to be able to go home to their constituents over the August recess armed with talking points that suggest they have done something about the border crisis. But I would argue that the bill before the Senate today is just a distraction from the true cause of and true solution to the crisis.

Congress could send the President a bill with billions of dollars in aid and multiple policy changes, but none of these will work unless the President makes a commitment to enforce our laws and secure our southern border. Congress could do that, but none of it will work unless Congress does what needs to be done.

As with so many bills Congress takes up these days, this legislation does not solve the American people's problems; it only solves Washington's problems.

President Obama already has the authority to correct the failed policy, to restore the rule of law to our immigration system and solve the crisis on the border. He just doesn't want to, and the American people are paying the price.

One of the reasons we have a constitution of separated powers is that when Presidents try to be legislators too, they tend to be bad at both jobs. The crisis on the border is of the President's own making, and its solution is already in his own power.

I stand ready to work with the President and members of his party to craft solutions to these problems—we all do—but until President Obama enforces the laws he is sworn to administer, those solutions will remain out of reach.

For all the good intentions, all the good will, with all the compromises in the world, Congress cannot do its job until the President finally does his.

Thank you, Madam President.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that once I finish speaking—I will talk for less than 10 minutes, and I ask that the senior Senator from Utah, Mr. HATCH, be recognized next.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I would like to say to the Senator from Utah, who is a dear friend and the ranking Republican on the Finance Committee, that something magical happened here about 48 hours ago right here in this Chamber. What happened is we saw the Senate evolve in a very good way. We saw Senators bringing amendments to the floor, Democratic

and Republican. We saw them having a chance to offer amendments, debate the amendments, and get votes on the amendments. And it was on an important issue. The issue was how we were going to provide and fund the transportation system for our country, which includes roads, highways, bridges, tunnels, transit systems, and more.

At the end of the day, 79 Senators, Democratic and Republican, a majority of Republicans and Democrats, voted to say we would like to make sure we don't run out of money in the Federal transportation trust fund this year. We are going to replenish that trust fund but not for a year or a year and a half but for a relatively short period of time—until the end of the year, really until the end of December. Why would we stop there? It is because we believe that if we keep on going—for example, one of the proposals coming over from the House was to fund the transportation program until maybe next May or next June. Our fear and the fear of 79 Senators who voted—I think with their conscience—our fear was that we will get to next May 31 and say: Well, we can't make these votes. It is too tough to pass a 6-year transportation program for our country. Let's just cobble together enough revenues from disparate sources that have nothing to do with transportation, do what my friend Senator BOB CORKER calls generational theft and steal 10 years' of revenues and use it to fix highways and bridge problems for 3 or 4 or 5 months. That is what we have been doing for the last 5 years. We have done it 11 times.

What we have done is we said to Governors and State departments of transportation and others who are trying to build highways, roads, and transportation highway systems: We are going to give you a little bit of money, and you can count on it for a couple of months. If it runs out, we will try to do it some more.

Stop and go. It is hugely inefficient. It is hugely inefficient. I speak as on old Governor—not that old—as a recovering Governor, a former Governor, and have some idea of all the work put into these projects. Take, for example, when you plan your highway, bridge, or transit system. You have to plan the project, you have to fund the project, you have to contract the project, and you have to get permits for the project. It takes years. And providing that we have the revenues—or won't we—will the Federal Government be there as a partner? The kind of system we have is wasteful—or at least the kind of system we have shown in recent years.

A bunch of us say: Why don't we Senators—Democratic and Republican—do our job and fund a 6-year transportation program for our country?

For the most part, I think for myself and for many, why don't we stop using sources of revenue that have absolutely nothing to do with transportation? Why don't we just stop taking money from the general fund, which borrows money from China and all kinds of other places around the world? Why don't we fund it ourselves? For projects that are worth having, we ought to pay for them.

Last Tuesday night, 2 nights ago, this Senate worked, and it was a joy to behold. At the end of the day we passed and sent over to the House of Representatives legislation that said we are going to not let the transportation trust fund run out of money this year. We are not going to kick the can down the road. We will keep this on a short leash and make sure that when we come back after the election, we will be likely to actually fund a 6-year transportation program.

It is a smart approach and a principled approach.

I want to say a big thank-you to a couple of people. I want to say to Senator BOB CORKER, the Republican from Tennessee, and Senator BARBARA BOXER, Democrat from California, who chairs the Environment and Public Works Committee on which I serve as the chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee, I thank you for your leadership. Thank you for standing up for doing the right thing.

Andrew Jackson used to say, ''One man with courage makes a majority.'' Mr. Jackson, I would like to say said one woman with courage makes a majority. But in this case we had a courageous Republican from Tennessee and a courageous Democrat from California, and they let me draft it. The three of us put together this proposal. We worked with Senator RON WYDEN, who chairs the Finance Committee. We appreciate very much his support for our proposal as well.

At the end of the day, 79 Senators said it was the right thing to do. It went over to the House. The House, to my disappointment—not to my surprise but to my disappointment—said: No, we are going to strip off what the Senate has done in a bipartisan way, and we are just going to go back to what we sent to you some time ago—which, I must say, is not likely to get a 6-year transportation program funded anytime soon—not this year and probably not anytime soon. They said that to us.

But there is good news. There is good news. Seventy-nine Senators—again, over half of the Republicans and almost all the Democrats—said: We want to do our job and we want to do it this year. We want to fully fund the transportation plan for the next 6 years.

That is what the people want us to do. That is what State and local governments want us to do, what mayors and Governors want us to do. People who work and build roads, highways, bridges, transit systems—that is what they want us to do. Contractors, the business community, labor unions—that is what they want us to do. Do our job. And we are prepared to do it.

The good news out of all of this is 79 of us are prepared to do that, and I suspect some others who may have voted the other way Tuesday night are prepared as well.

I thank BOB CORKER and BARBARA BOXER and RON WYDEN and others who are part of this vote of 79 for the leadership they provided.

I want to say to my friend Senator ORRIN HATCH, whom I love and love working with and with whom I am pleased to serve on the Finance Committee—I have admired him forever—that when we come back into session after the election, the lameduck session, my hope and prayer is that we will all be able to work together and get this job done. I know Senator HATCH, and I think he is the kind of person who will help get it done.

Let me close with this thought, if I could, and then I will yield to the Senator from Utah. To my pleasure, one of the things that happened during the last several weeks and months was the establishment of a broad-based coalition of business, labor, State and local governments, all kinds of organizations and people who came together and said: Do the right thing. They told us to do the right thing. They have been terrific supporters and have encouraged our colleagues, Democratic and Republican, to join with Senators CORKER, BOXER, WYDEN, and me to do what we did Tuesday night.

That coalition is not going away. They worked the House of Representatives very hard in the last 2 days,—the last 48 hours—and they are not going away. When we come back here after the election, they will come back strong, and we will too. We are not going to go away on this issue.

One of the most important things we do as Senators and Representatives is to provide a transportation system that is worthy of this country. It helps with the movement of people and goods that we need to be a strong and efficient economy and nation.

I will close with the words of Mark Twain. I used them the other night, and Senator HATCH has heard these words before. The words of Mark Twain all those years ago: When in doubt, do what is right. You will confound your enemies and astound your friends.

Seventy-nine of us the other night did what we thought was right and what I am sure was right, and we are going to come back in a couple of months and we will have a chance to have our colleagues join us and really, as a whole body—hopefully with the House of Representatives and the President too—do our job, make sure we have the roads, highways, bridges, and transportation systems we need in this country.

Again, my thanks to the Senator from Utah for letting me ramble on a bit, and I want to express once again my admiration for him. I look forward to working with him not just on this issue but on many others in the years to come.

With that, Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. I thank my dear friend for his kind remarks, and I understand how much zeal he has for the things he does here on the floor. He is a fine man, and I really appreciate it.

Madam President, earlier today—just a little while ago, in fact—the House of Representatives once again passed legislation extending funding for the Federal highway trust fund. This is the latest step in the process for which the final outcome has been known for some time. The bill the House passed today is virtually identical to the one they passed last week. It is basically the very same bill.

Earlier this week the Senate passed its own version of the highway bill and sent it to the House. Of course, we did so knowing full well the House would not accept the Senate bill. I don't think there was ever any real doubt in this Chamber as to what was going to happen, but in my view it is good that the Senate acted.

I was particularly pleased to see that the version of the highway bill reported by the Senate Finance Committee received such strong bipartisan support when it came up for a vote. Senator WYDEN and I worked hard on that bill. The effort was bipartisan from the outset, and in the end we produced a product that both parties could support. Of course, I was a little less pleased that the Senate on the very next vote opted to strike the Finance Committee's language and replace it with what is, in my view, a less viable vehicle for funding the highway trust fund, but in the end that is the direction a majority of the Senators decided to go, and I accepted it and am proud of everybody who participated.

As I said, it is good that the Senate acted. But now the House has acted again. It is good that the Senate had some amendments for a change, and I think we all felt good about that. I felt a renewed spirit in the Senate because of this since it had been a year without having real amendments in a real process. Of course there were only four of them, but compared to what we have had over the last year, that still was an amazing occurrence. But now the House has acted again, and although there are likely to be a number of Senators who do not like the House bill, there doesn't appear to be enough time for the Senate to try once again to go in a different direction.

As we all know, we are on the verge of a crisis with regard to funding for the highway trust fund. Congress needs to act immediately to prevent a shortfall in the trust fund and to ensure that the States can continue to plan and implement their highway projects. Thousands of jobs are at stake. If Congress doesn't pass a bill and get it to the President before we leave for recess, we will be doing a great disservice to a lot of people. We all know this. It is not a secret. It is not a surprise.

As far as I can see, the only viable solution before the Senate today is to take up the House bill and pass it as is. Once again, we have all known this was the most likely outcome for some time now. It is time we accept it and move on. That is not to say that I am disappointed that we have to pass the House bill. As I said a number of times, if you compare the House bill with the one reported by the Senate Finance Committee—which, once again, received broad bipartisan support when it was voted on in the Senate earlier this week—you will see that the bills are not all that far apart in terms of policy. The core funding mechanisms are the same.

The principal difference is that the Senate bill raises some revenue through some tax compliance provisions that are not in the House bill. The House bill goes a little further on pension smoothing than the Finance Committee bill does, and this has brought heartburn to a number of us in both bodies.

These are not fundamental differences. Any Senator who supported the Finance Committee's bill should be able to support the House bill, which is a good thing, because as I said we don't have many other options if we want to get this done before the recess.

I plan to support the House-passed highway bill. I urge all of my colleagues in the Senate to do the same.

Finally, I wish to take a moment to address a major setback we encountered with regard to the temporary highway extension that passed in the Senate earlier this week. As we learned yesterday, the Senate-passed bill has a shortfall of about $2.4 billion due to a drafting error. Some have suggested that this error originated in the Finance Committee's version of the legislation. However, anyone who takes the time to compare our language with that of the subsequently passed substitute amendment will find this is not the case.

I am not here to point fingers or try to embarrass anyone, but I will say these are the types of mistakes that happen when tax policy is written outside of the tax-writing committee, and we should all be careful of that.

The Finance Committee has an open and transparent process that allows for all of our numbers to be scrutinized well in advance. The committee has all the necessary expertise at its disposal to prevent these types of mishaps.

I am well aware that mistakes happen. I would just like to suggest that fewer of these types of mistakes will happen in the future if the Finance Committee is allowed to do its work when it comes to writing tax policy. That is all I have to say on that matter.

Once again, we are at a critical juncture. We need to get a temporary highway bill over the finish line. As far as I can see, the only way to do that is for us to take up and pass the House bill. As I stated earlier, this should not be a difficult lift. I think we can get this done in short order.

It was a lot of fun to be on the floor—for the first time in about a year—where anybody who wanted to at least had a shot at being able to bring up an amendment for a vote. Four of our colleagues did get amendments up, and they were thrilled. Isn't it amazing we were thrilled about something the Senate ought to be doing every time we bring up a bill? We can get both sides together on a limited number of amendments, but we should not have either side demanding to approve or disapprove the amendments in advance, and that has been happening all too often in the Senate with the way it is being run.

I love all of my colleagues. I love my friends on the other side. There is no use trying to kid about it, I care for everybody in this body, and I cared for everybody I have served with. I admit that occasionally there have been Members whom I cared a little less for than most of the others, but the fact is this is a great body. We have had some great people on both sides of the aisle over the 38 years I have been in the Senate.

We need to allow our committees to work. Let's allow our individual Senators to work too. Let's understand that we don't all come from the same State or the same jurisdiction. Each of us has a desire to represent his or her jurisdiction in the best possible manner. Frankly, we need to get this Senate back to where it is the greatest deliberative body in the world rather than just something that is run for the benefit of the majority. I don't want it to run for the benefit of the minority either.

We can get together—just as we did on this bill—and do much better around here than we have been doing. I hope that as we go into the future, everybody in this body will want to work better together and quit playing politics with everything.

We understand this is a political body, and we understand there will be politics played from time to time. It is kind of fun sometimes but not on everything, and especially not when it prevents what the Senate is truly all about, which is wide-open debates and wide-open amendments, and we certainly need to find a bipartisan way of working together.

I particularly enjoyed working with Senator WYDEN. He has made a distinguished effort to try to make things as bipartisan as he can, and that is hard to do around here anymore in both the House and Senate. The House is supposed to be a body that fights over everything, I guess, because it is a majoritarian body. But even then the House has had many Democratic amendments they could have stopped. While they have had many amendments, we have basically been stopped from being able to act as the Senate should act, which is to allow people the right to bring up their amendments and try to make points that maybe all of us would do well to consider from time to time.

I am grateful I am a Member of this body, and I am grateful for the people I have served with all these years on both sides of the aisle. In all the time I have been here, there were only two people whom I thought had no redeeming value. I should not have said that, I guess, but there were two people whom I thought truly didn't have the Senate at heart and truly didn't do what I thought they should do. I have loved all the rest and appreciated them very much.

I appreciate the leadership on both sides, but I just hope we can get past all of this bickering and start running the Senate as it has always been run. A lot of it started when you break the rules to change the rules, and this is what happens. It was a real mistake on the part of the majority to do that. They might not think so because they are packing the Federal courts with judges—most of whom would have gotten through. About 98 percent of the President's nominees were getting through and very few were even contested. The fact is that some have gotten through and others should never have gotten through to the Federal bench, and it is because of breaking the rules to change the rules. It is not right for either side to do that, but it has been done. Let's overcome it, and let's be the most deliberative body in the world today, and I think we can do it.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KAINE). The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

All postcloture time having expired, the question is on agreeing to the motion to proceed.

The motion was agreed to.

MAKING EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2648) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3750

Mr. REID. I have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 3750.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 1 day after enactment.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays on that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 3751 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3750

Mr. REID. I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 3751 to amendment No. 3750.

In the amendment, strike ''1 day'' and insert ''2 days''.

MOTION TO COMMIT WITH AMENDMENT NO. 3752

Mr. REID. I have a motion to commit S. 2648, with instructions, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to commit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with Instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 3752.

The amendment (No. 3752) is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

Mr. REID. On that motion I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 3753

Mr. REID. I have an amendment to the instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 3753 to the instructions of the motion to commit.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''3 days'' and insert ''4 days''.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays on that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 3754 TO AMENDMENT NO. 3753

Mr. REID. I have a second amendment now at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] proposes an amendment numbered 3754 to amendment No. 3753.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''4'' and insert ''5''.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on S. 2648, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2104, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Barbara Mikulski, Patty Murray, Debbie Stabenow, Richard J. Durbin, Bernard Sanders, Barbara Boxer, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Elizabeth Warren, Tim Kaine, Christopher A. Coons, Mark L. Pryor, Ron Wyden, Michael F. Bennet, Benjamin L. Cardin, Charles E. Schumer, Christopher Murphy, Patrick J. Leahy.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 471, S.J. Res. 19.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 471, S.J. Res. 19, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

MAKING EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2014—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume consideration of S. 2648.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the time until 6:45 be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees, and that at 6:45 this evening, it be in order for Senator MCCONNELL or his designee to be recognized for the purpose of moving to table amendment No. 3751; that if the motion to table is not agreed to, Senator SESSIONS or his designee be recognized for the purpose of raising a budget point of order against the bill; that if a point of order is raised, then Senator MIKULSKI or her designee be recognized for a motion to waive; that if the motion to waive is made, the Senate immediately proceed to vote on the motion to waive; that if that motion to waive is agreed to, then, notwithstanding rule XXII, the Senate immediately proceed to the

vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the bill; that if cloture is not invoked, the bill be returned to the calendar; if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time be yielded back and the pending amendments be withdrawn and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of S. 2648.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by me, after consultation with Senator MCCONNELL, the Senate proceed to the consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3230, the Veterans Access to Care Act; that Senator COBURN or his designee be recognized for the purpose of raising a budget point of order against the conference report; that if the point of order is raised, then Senator SANDERS or his designee be recognized for a motion to waive; that if the motion to waive is made, there be up to 10 minutes equally divided between Senators COBURN and SANDERS or their designees; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to waive; that if the motion to waive is agreed to, the Senate immediately proceed to vote on adoption of the conference report; that the vote on adoption be subject to a 60-affirmative-vote threshold; that if the conference report is adopted, the Senate then proceed to the consideration of H. Con. Res. 111; that the concurrent resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that upon disposition of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3230, the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House with respect to H.R. 5021; that following the reporting of the message, I be recognized to make a motion to recede from the Senate amendment; that following the leader's motion, Senator SESSIONS or his designee be recognized for the purpose of raising a point of order against the bill; that if the point of order is raised, Senator WYDEN or his designee be recognized to move to waive the point of order; that no other motions be in order to the bill; that if the motion to waive is made, there be up to 20 minutes equally divided between the two leaders or their designees and the Senate immediately proceed to vote on the motion to waive; that if the motion to waive is agreed to, the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to recede from its amendment to H.R. 5021.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the time until 6:45 p.m. will be equally divided between the two leaders.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we expect the votes to begin about 6:45 tonight, but they could come earlier, so everyone should be aware of that.

Seeing no one here to speak, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, we are now in the closing hours of this session of the Congress. We are getting ready to take our break. I am rising to exhort our Members to vote for the urgent supplemental. I appreciate the fact that we have adopted the motion to proceed.

I remind our colleagues what is in the urgent supplemental. First, it is to fight wildfires in our own country: $615 million to fight 27 large fires that are sending homes and communities up in smoke in eight Western States.

Second, it fortifies Israel's anti-missile defense system, Iron Dome, by providing $225 million to enable Israel to purchase interceptor rockets that they have utilized in their own self-defense. It is lifesaving technology. It is defensive technology.

Third, and not at all least, it is to deal with issues on the border, providing $2.7 billion to deal with the surge of children coming through Central America, through a treacherous route through Mexico, presenting themselves to our border, asking that we consider their petition for refugee or asylum status. This bill is a reduction by $1 billion of what the President asked for. The President originally asked for $3.7 billion for the surge of the children all by itself and then additional funds for Iron Dome and the wildfires.

When we looked at the request for the surge at the border, we felt we could reduce that by $1 billion, and to ensure the taxpayers that we are doing rigorous and vigorous oversight, we have money in there for the inspector general.

This is an emergency spending bill, which means no offsets are required.

Also, it is meant to deal with humanitarian crises, both in our own country with firefighting and then a crisis a treasured ally is dealing with and then a crisis in Central America, where the violence is so severe that children are on the march to be able to escape it. These funds will pay for additional law enforcement for our Border Patrol, humanitarian assistance for HHS to house, clothe, and feed the children on a temporary basis while we find a relative and their legal status is determined; that is, do they qualify for asylum or refugee status.

Much has been said about the backlog and even a mockery—some States mocked the current system because they said there were so many awaiting these types of hearings. Maybe if we passed regular appropriations, which we haven't done in 3 years, we wouldn't be in this crisis. But this supplemental includes money for additional immigration judges to be able to expedite the determination of these children's legal status.

Also, it goes after the drug smugglers, the human smugglers, the drug traffickers, the human traffickers, and the coyotes who are exploiting, creating the misery and violence in Central America, and also, while they are doing that, exploiting these children who are on the move and on the march.

I understand there is a great deal of reluctance to either vote for the money or to weaken our asylum laws. I would caution us in weakening our asylum refugee laws, particularly as it affects children. I hope we can pass this bill and begin to move forward with it.

I want everyone to be aware we are talking about a surge of children—approximately 60,000 children, not 600,000 children—just barely enough to fill Ravens stadium. We are a country of 300 million; we are talking only about this.

I hope we can move on this bill, meet our responsibilities to our neighbors in the West facing wildfires and an ally who is running out of interceptor rockets to protect itself and not only deal with the children and their request to determine asylum status, but at the same time we put the money in the Federal checkbook to go where the crime and the criminals are, which is the narcotraffickers in Central America.

I will have more to say before we wrap up, but I now yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HAGAN). The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, the distinguished Senator from Maryland has described the President's request and what she has proposed, the Appropriations Committee has proposed in response. The problem with the response is it does not solve the underlying problem, which is a loophole in a 2008 law, which is now being exploited as part of the business model of the cartels that smuggle children and other immigrants illegally from Central America through Mexico into South Texas.

It makes no sense to me just to write a check for this surge, which I agree that there is money needed for additional judges, additional detention facilities, and the like in some dollar figure. But if you do not solve the underlying problem, we are going to be back here months later and doing this all over again. This, of course, is an emergency supplemental. We will be doing this emergency every 2 or 3 months because what we have seen over the last couple years is that the numbers of children coming into the country because of this loophole in the 2008 law I described a moment ago—the numbers have nearly doubled over the last couple of years, and there are projections that there will be not just the 57,000

unaccompanied children who have been detained so far this year but that the number could grow as high as 90,000 by the end of this year and 145,000 next year. We are going to be in deep trouble, not to mention the crisis for these children. Our capacity to deal with them at the border and in local communities there is overtaxed, and there is the fact that the Border Patrol is diverted from interdicting illegal drug traffic and other necessary activities because they are taking care of these children, who deserve to be taken care of, at least while they are in our protective custody. So this is not a solution to the problem.

I know from meeting with the President—I see the distinguished majority leader and the majority whip here. We all were invited over to the White House this morning to talk to the President about national security matters. My distinct impression was the President understands the nature of the problem, and he conceded that we cannot endlessly accept people who want to come to the United States from troubled regions of the world because it would simply overtax and overwhelm our capacity to deal with it. That is why it is so important to have legal immigration. I agree that we need immigration reform. I do not agree that we need the Gang of 8 bill. But I am committed to trying to fix our broken immigration system on a step-by-step basis when we next have an opportunity to do so.

But right now we have an emergency that is disproportionately affecting my State, the State of Texas, and our local communities and our State are being overwhelmed. It is the Federal Government's responsibility and the Federal Government needs to step up. That is why I agree some amount of money—I do not agree it is $2.7 billion, as an emergency, but at some level we do need to come up with the money to deal with this emergency. But we cannot just write a check because, as I said, we will continue to come back. This crisis will be unabated and, in fact, it will get worse.

I mentioned earlier today the polling that I saw that miraculously said 68 percent of the American people disapprove of the way the President is handling this immigration crisis, which is a rather dramatic development. I think all that the American people expect and deserve from us is that we try to work together to solve this problem. Congressman HENRY CUELLAR, my friend from Laredo, TX, a Democrat, a self-described blue dog Democrat, and I have come up with one suggestion: The HUMANE Act. It is our proposal, and if anybody has a better idea, we are all ears and all willing to consider it. But so far we have heard no alternative proposals and only a request to write a check for $2.7 billion. I think it would be irresponsible for us to only appropriate money and not deal with the underlying cause.

So, Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to temporarily set aside the pending amendment so I may call up my amendment No. 3747, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Ms. MIKULSKI. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President——

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, if I may, I hold the floor, if I am not mistaken. I just have a couple concluding comments and then I will turn it back over.

What we need to do is learn the lesson that we learned in 2005 and 2006. In talking with Secretary Johnson, he understands this problem very well. I know the Senator from Arizona remembers this. In 2005, we saw a surge of what were at the time called OTMs, immigrants from countries other than Mexico. Strangely enough, we saw a surge of 30,000 Brazilians who were detained at our southwestern border.

What Secretary Chertoff came to learn is that a loophole they were exporting was the so-called catch and release at the time. They did not have detention facilities. What would be done is they would be released, essentially based on their own recognizance, and we would never hear from them again. They would escape into the great American landscape.

Well, the same phenomenon is happening now with these unaccompanied children because of that 2008 law that needs to be addressed so that they will remain in protective custody pending any court hearing, which we would give on an expedited basis. If they have a legal claim to stay, an asylum claim, a victim of human trafficking and the like, then the judge would determine that. And those who do not would have to be returned to their home country. I think I heard the President say as much today. I certainly have heard Secretary Johnson and others say the same thing.

That is what my amendment would do. I am sorry the distinguished Senator from Maryland has seen fit to object to it. I think this virtually guarantees that we will leave here today without having solved the problem, and that is a tragic circumstance.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, if I could respond to the Senator from Texas, first of all, I do not want my objection to be interpreted by him or by the Senate or those watching as a pugnacious dismissal of the Senator's request. The distinguished Senator from Texas has always stood for Texas and he has also stood for the protection of the border. He comes with an incredible background where he was a judge, a former judge of the highest court in Texas. So I understand. And I have also heard him speak repeatedly about the plight of these children, and he has spoken with great compassion. He and I both agree that we should not have open borders and open wallets, that we have to deal with this.

But I say to my colleague, this bill is a money bill. It is an appropriations bill. We do not legislate on appropriations. There is no legislative language in this bill. What the Senator is proposing, working with the administration, with the Judiciary Committee, on a bipartisan basis—because I think there is a sentiment perhaps we could arrive at some other language, but on this bill I objected because this would be legislating on appropriations. The type of pragmatic approach the Senator from Texas is proposing—and we have perhaps some ideas—cannot be done on this bill tonight with the urgent nature of it.

So I want the Senator from Texas to know my great respect for him and his advocacy on this issue, and I know of his heartfelt compassion for the children and his desire to have a broader immigration policy. I look forward to working with him on legislative matters in a different forum.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, will the Senator yield for a question?

Ms. MIKULSKI. The Senator will yield for a question.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The minority whip.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, here is the conundrum I think we find ourselves in. The President has made a request for the money. The Secretary of Homeland Security has said he needs more authority in order to deal with the problem, and what my proposal would do is to give him that authority necessary to solve the problem.

The Senator from Maryland has always been very kind and gracious, and I appreciate her response, and I know of her compassion, given her background, particularly in social work, that she has great compassion for these children, as we all do. But we have a problem and we need to solve the problem.

What is so confusing to me is, when the House was considering a proposal which would combine both policy changes together with some money to deal with them, the White House issued a notice the President would veto it if it were passed. So it seems to me that—well, it is confusing, to say the least. I am not sure how we get out of this place we are in.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Is that the Senator's question?

Mr. CORNYN. The fact is, we are dysfunctional. But if the Senator has a suggestion for how we get out of this dysfunction, I would love to hear it.

Ms. MIKULSKI. First I would like to respond——

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Thank you very much. We are eager to engage in conversation with each other.

It is the belief of the members of the Judiciary Committee—at least the Democrats on the Judiciary Committee—that the President has enough

current authority to provide what Secretary Johnson is asking. I too have heard what Secretary Johnson has. So there is a dispute about whether he needs more authority or whether the President can exercise the authority he has. We believe he already has enough authority.

Then there are two large issues. The two large issues are: immigration reform, commonsense, sensible, along the lines that passed the Senate—Senator MCCAIN of Arizona and others have worked on this, Senator DURBIN—and then the other is what is going on in Central America with these drug traffickers.

Quite frankly, the fact is we need to start to pay attention to our own hemisphere. I note that when everybody talks about how much money this is, it is less money than we are going to spend to give to the Afghan security force. OK. We give $4 billion to the Afghan security force. Let's hope they are going to use it and shoot in the right direction.

I am looking at making sure our country goes in the right direction, and I am going to work on a bipartisan basis. I say pass this bill. Let's put together a bipartisan task force and see if we can deal with these two problems of both immigration reform—to move it through both bodies—and also bring our focus back to our own hemisphere and deal with the issues in Central America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, as I was watching the back and forth here on the floor of the Senate, I could not help but notice that my three colleagues on the other side of the aisle there and I have roughly the same amount of time here in the Senate. In fact, the distinguished majority leader and my friend from Illinois and I came to the House together way back more than 30 years ago.

When I came to this body, and when they came to this body, we had leaders. We had leaders. Do you know what those leaders used to do? They would say at the beginning of the week: We are going to take up a certain piece of legislation, and we are going to work through it. We are going to do what the Senate does. We are going to have amendments proposed, and we are going to have votes on those amendments, and we are going to have the Senate be a deliberative and debating organization, praised as the greatest debating institution in the world, although that probably is not true—and Senator Byrd, a distinguished majority leader, Senator Mitchell, a distinguished majority leader—do you know what they would say—Senator Lott, Senator Dole—do you know what they would say They would say: We are going to take up a bill and we are going to have amendments and we are going to have debate and we are going to have votes, and then we are going to vote on final passage. For 30 years that is how I have watched the Senate function.

Now we have a humanitarian crisis on our border, a humanitarian crisis of incredible proportion, where thousands of young people—while they are being transported by these coyotes, young women are being raped, they are falling off trains, terrible things are happening—and what are we presented here in the Senate? I say shame on you. I say shame on you for not allowing those of us who represent the States that are most affected by this to have an amendment, an amendment voted on. That is unbelievable to me. We put together—and I say with great respect to the Senator from Maryland, saying that we do not legislate on appropriations—excuse me. Excuse me.

We have legislated a lot on appropriations, mostly to my dismay. Year after year I have watched legislating on appropriations. On the Defense authorization bill, it has caused me heartburn time after time. So please don't—please. I have been around here too long for you to tell me we do not legislate on appropriations.

I want to have some amendments debated. I want to be able to tell the people of my State that are being flooded by immigrants—I want to be able to tell them that I had a proposal representing them here in the Senate and I wanted it debated and I wanted it voted on. Is that a hell of a lot to ask? I do not think so. I do not think so.

This is a crisis of proportions that we have seldom seen the likes of. I am sure the majority leader will come over and talk about Republican obstructionism and how we cannot get anything done around here. We have now compiled a record, according to the experts, as the least productive Congress in history—in history. So I am supposed to go back to my home State of Arizona, which is experiencing terrific problems, horrific problems—my constituents are really angry. They expect me to come here and represent them in the Senate and debate and have their views and their desires and their ambitions and their reputation here in the Senate.

What have we done? The parliamentary situation is that there will be no amendments that will be allowed to be debated or voted on no matter what.

The Senator from Maryland said: Well, we do not legislate on appropriations.

We have some amendments on money that would either reduce or increase the amount of funding. Are we going to be able to have that amendment voted on? Hell no. We are not going to be able to have a single thing voted on. Everyone wants to get out of town. So sometime tonight or maybe tomorrow we are going to close up shop and we are going to go home. The humanitarian crisis goes on. It goes on.

What about these children? Are they going to be enticed by coyotes for their families to give a year's salary to transport them from one of these countries to the United States of America? Are an untold number of young women going to be raped along the way? Are there going to be kids who fall off these trains? Is that what is going to happen? We are going to go for 5 weeks without debate on a single amendment, not a single one. What kind of an institution is this? What has happened since the days when the Senator from Nevada and the Senator from Illinois and the Senator from Maryland and I came to this body proud—proud to be a Member of this institution?

I can remember time after time the junior Senator being able to come down here, propose an amendment, have it disposed of—usually losing but at least I was representing the people of my State. Now I cannot represent them. I cannot give them what they believe they deserve here in the Senate.

In a second I will stop and I will ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment so that the amendment Senator FLAKE, my colleague from Arizona, and I have put together after visiting our border, after talking to all of our constituents, after discussing the issue with our Governor—we came here to represent them. How can I represent them if I am not allowed to express their beliefs and their ambitions and their desires to help solve this problem?

How do I go down to the ranchers in the southern part of my State and say: I am sorry there are people crossing your property every night. What do I say to the families of those people who are being separated? What am I supposed to tell my citizens whom I represent—that I came here to ask for something that I know is going to be objected to? What has happened to this body? What has happened to the Senate, I ask my colleagues?

The approval rating of Congress, the last time I checked, was either a single digit or low double digits. Everybody kind of thinks, well, that is normal. It is not normal. I hearken back again to the days when we first came here. Our approval rating with the people of our country was 70 percent, 80 percent, maybe even a little lower. Is all the fault on that side of the aisle? No. But I would say that the people in charge here have an obligation to allow all of us to represent the people who sent us here. That is not happening today. It has not happened all year. It may not happen until next January, where I am committed and I believe the majority of my conference is committed to bringing up legislation and having debate and having votes. That is the way the Senate was supposed to function.

I know what is going to happen here in about 30 seconds. I say to my colleagues, this is not right. This is not right. This is not the way we are supposed to represent the people we asked to send us here and let us represent them.

Senator FLAKE and I have pretty simple legislation. It has to do with the

fact that, as the President said, it would modify the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act. It would do some other things. It would provide for funds—and I will not go through all of the details of it except to say that I know what is going to happen, but it is not right. It is not the right way for this institution to function. We all should be a bit embarrassed.

I ask unanimous consent to temporarily set aside the pending amendment so that I may call up amendment No. 3742, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, reserving the right to object, let me say at the outset that I have the highest respect for my colleague from Arizona. We are friends. We came to Congress at the same time, as has mentioned on the floor, and spent month after month together on the comprehensive immigration bill. I believe there were 130 amendments that were considered to that bill. I thought that was an orderly, thoughtful process. I hope we can return to it.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, this is what we are facing: The President has come to us facing a crisis at the border. He has asked us for the resources for the Border Patrol that has to process these children coming in and for Health and Human Services so that once these children—some of whom are toddlers and infants—are in our country, they can be treated humanely. He has asked us for the resources for that purpose.

He has also asked us initially for some resources to get to the heart of the problem, which Senator CORNYN of Texas has acknowledged. The heart of the problem is not in the United States; the problem is in Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala. There is clearly a crisis situation there.

What Senator MIKULSKI, the chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee, has done is reduced the President's budget request by $1 billion, if I am not mistaken, and said: We will respond to this emergency request with these resources and realize that more is going to be done.

On the other side of the aisle, the senior Senator from Texas has come in and talked about changing immigration law. He was kind enough to acknowledge that we made an effort to change the immigration law right here on the floor of the Senate over a year ago with 68 votes. Fourteen Republicans joined the Democrats in a comprehensive immigration bill. The Senator from Texas acknowledged he did not vote for it. Had he voted for it, he would have voted for the most dramatic increase in border security in American history. But he voted against it. That is his choice. I respect his judgment. But to come to us today and say: Now we have to vote again on border security—we had a chance. The Senate passed it. What happened to the comprehensive immigration reform bill? It made it over to the House of Representatives and disappeared into vapor. It was never called for consideration.

So it is not as if we have ignored the problems of immigration. We addressed them forthrightly in a bipartisan fashion, in a comprehensive fashion, and the House of Representatives refused to even call the bill.

Let's go to this particular issue. The heart of the problem is clearly in three Central American countries that are so lawless that people are desperately sending their children to the United States of America. We have to deal with that issue. We are. The President has dealt with it. The Vice President has visited those countries. Last week the Presidents of all three countries came here. So to say the President is doing nothing about the cause of the crisis is not accurate. The President is addressing it directly to discourage any more children from making this dangerous, deadly journey, No. 1.

No. 2, I hope we all agree: No mercy for these smugglers. No mercy for those coyotes who are exploiting these families and sadly abusing many of these children.

No. 3—and the President has made this point—we have an obligation. When a child is entrusted to you, people stand in judgment of how you treat that child. We have many children now entrusted to us on a temporary basis. The President has asked for money so that they can be treated humanely on a temporary basis. Not an unreasonable request.

Time and again America has responded to crises around the world—families and children who are victims of war, earthquakes, tsunamis. For virtually every natural disaster, we have been there. America has a reputation for being there. Now that children are at our border, will we do anything less?

What we are doing with the bill before us, the supplemental bill, is providing enough money for humanitarian care and still working on the root causes of the problem. I think that is responsible.

I hope we do not leave here this week having failed to come up with this money. I hope we provide the resources to this administration. I hope my colleagues on a bipartisan basis will do two things: Vote for this emergency appropriation and, secondly, let's join in a thoughtful discussion about how to pass a comprehensive immigration bill which includes this aspect—asylees and refugees.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I think I have said enough with enough emotion. But I will say to my friend from Illinois that the way you have a thoughtful discussion is to have debate and amendments and votes. That is generally the accepted way. You want a thoughtful discussion; I want a thoughtful discussion. Why can't we just accept the fact that we should go forward with our amendments and have debate? That way we can best serve the American people.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, how much time is remaining?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Republicans have 8 minutes remaining.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, the problem we have at the border today is a direct result of the actions of the President of the United States. In 2011 we had 6,000 young people coming to America unlawfully. They were apprehended. Now we have 60,000. It was because of his DACA program and his open statement that was heard throughout the world as: If you come to America as a young person, you will be able to stay.

That was exactly and I think to some degree remains the situation.

If you come to America as a young person from Central America, not Mexico, and you turn yourself in, you will be released on a permiso or bond or promise to reappear.

People come and pick up the children and they stay.

This is no way to run a lawful system of immigration. You know, it was said: Well, we offered a comprehensive bill to fix it.

That bill was flawed. I opposed that bill. It was rejected by the House of Representatives.

I would say with great confidence that because the House of Representatives rejected the bill that Members of this Senate supported and that the President of the United States supported does not thereby mean the President of the United States can do what the bill says when it was rejected and did not become law. It takes both Houses to pass a piece of legislation.

The bill would not have worked. It would not have been effective. The people of the United States, through their elected representatives, did not allow it to become law.

I would point out that this administration amazingly has announced its intention to bypass Congress and to implement an executive amnesty by fiat. This would include, as has been widely reported, 5 million to 6 million work permits and legal status for illegal immigrants into America.

This is contrary to Congress's decision. Congress has not approved that. But Congress has approved a law that says it is unlawful for somebody in the country, for example, to work if they are not here lawfully. They can't work in the United States. They are not approved for work.

The President is saying he is going to give them legal status and permission to work contrary to plain law. This is

very serious. This action would be in violation of the Immigration and Nationality Act. It would be an executive nullification of our laws and the protections that American workers are entitled to. Congress must not surrender to such lawlessness.

It has been in half a dozen papers. The Wall Street Journal 2 days ago: Millions of people by executive action of the President—it is unbelievable to be so open and bold about this, as if he thinks maybe this would intimidate Congress to force us to adopt legislation Congress has rejected.

We have the power—the power of the purse—to stop it. That is the appropriate response of Congress. When the President proposes something that is improper and outside of law, when we have powers as coequal branches of government, we can respond, and we should use the power of the purse.

Senator CRUZ has filed an amendment to this bill that would prohibit the executive expenditures by the President of any funds for administrative amnesty or work authorization for unlawful immigrants. However, the majority leader, with the support of his conference, has blocked all amendments to this border supplemental. If we do not stop this Presidential action, we will ensure that the border crisis continues a catastrophe.

The President's planned action would also represent a total breach of our constitutional system, and it would be a hammer blow to millions of unemployed American citizens. We do have the power to stop this. We ought to stop it. We have a duty to Congress, we have a duty to the rule of law, and we have a duty to the Constitution.

What we can do today by voting yes on my motion to clear the amendment tree and to consider and pass Senator CRUZ's amendment would fix this problem. It would say: Mr. President, you are not authorized to utilize any money of the U.S. Government to spend on a program to grant amnesty and work permits to millions.

The vote we are about to have will be a vote on whether to support the President's illegal amnesty or to block it. It will be a vote to allow us to vote on it, because right now the tree is filled and we can't vote.

I am going to be asking to table what is on the tree and clear that amendment out so we can vote on this amendment, and we will have a vote on it. Everyone in this Chamber will cast a vote before this whole Nation and reveal whether they stand for our laws, for our border sovereignty or whether they stand in support of the President's illegal activities, in truth.

A number of cosponsors support this amendment. I think it is the right thing to do, and we will be asking for that later today.

Colleagues, in addition, the administration has announced its intention to bypass Congress, according to the Associated Press, the Wall Street Journal, Time Magazine, and others, with as many as 5 million to 6 million of these work permits.

Unfortunately, the bill before us is merely a blank check to perpetuate the failure of this administration to fix the problems at the border. This can be done, colleagues. It is not impossible. It is not hopeless. We simply need a President who wants it to happen.

He has been sued by his own ICE officers, saying that they are being blocked from doing their duty. They asked a court to give them relief and tell their supervisors to quit telling them to violate the law and not enforce the law. That is amazing. Their morale is in the tank.

The current crisis on the border can be attributed to specific actions taken unilaterally by the President. After his 2012 Executive order, the number of unaccompanied minors apprehended at the border jumped from 7,100 in 2011 to nearly 15,000 in 2012, and now we have already hit more than 57,000 heading to 90,000. Estimates suggest approximately 32,000 unaccompanied minors are projected to cross the border in the remaining months of this fiscal year.

We have this egregious funding supplemental before us that would equal more than $110,000 per child who is coming into the country.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired.

Mr. SESSIONS. I ask unanimous consent for 1 additional minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SESSIONS. I thank my colleagues. We do have good colleagues here, and we have great robust debate, and I appreciate the chairman of the committee, Senator MIKULSKI.

Moreover, this border supplemental provides the Department with unlimited transfer authority of $1.1 billion—an unlimited ability of up to $1 billion. It becomes, really, a slush fund in that sense. They can use it for anything. Finally, the border supplemental would provide an additional $1.2 billion to the Department of Homeland Security.

So I am raising a point of order. And I am sure a motion to waive will be heard. But make no mistake. A vote to suspend the budget rules and to block our point of order is a vote for the President's amnesty; it is a vote for continued chaos. I urge my colleagues to sustain it.

The bill before us today is in clear violation of the budget. All the money is borrowed money, it violates the budget, and I raise that point of order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, a parliamentary question: Did the Senator from Alabama raise a budget point of order? Did the Senator from Alabama raise a budget point of order?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, I have not raised it at this point, but I do intend to. I thought we had an understanding so we could make the votes occur at the agreed-upon time.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I say to the Senator from Alabama, do you want to raise it now or do you want to raise it later?

Mr. SESSIONS. I would raise it later.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I note that the Senator from Maryland wishes to respond.

How much time do the Democrats have in this debate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democrats have 9 minutes remaining.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Illinois have 4 minutes to offer a rebuttal and I have 5 minutes for the wrapup debate before we move to vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, the Senator from Alabama now joins the Senator from Texas, coming to the floor of the Senate complaining about the state of immigration laws in America. They have in common the fact that they both voted against comprehensive immigration reform.

When we had a chance in committee—which the Senator from Alabama and the Senator from Texas serve on—and on the floor to offer amendments and change the bill accordingly, both of them at the end of the day voted against comprehensive immigration reform. Now, over a year later, they come and complain about the state of law when it comes to immigration in America. They can't have it both ways.

They could have participated with us in changing the law in a positive fashion. They chose not to. They wanted to wait until a year later and complain about President Obama not meeting his obligation.

When it comes to comprehensive immigration reform, the Senate met its obligation, and those who voted for it did as well. It was the House of Representatives that failed to call the bill.

Now the Senator from Alabama says, well, the reason these children are coming to our border is because President Obama signed an Executive order which said that if you were a child brought to the United States by August 15, 2007, you could qualify to be benefited by this order and not deported, under DACA on a temporary basis.

Now, that has nothing to do with any child that comes after that date. They are not covered by that order. They are not protected by that order. To blame President Obama for the children coming to the border is to ignore the obvious. The law that brings these children to the border was a law signed by President George W. Bush in 2008. That is the law that governs the treatment of these children. Everything has to be blamed on President Obama from that side of the aisle. In this case, the law was signed by President George W. Bush.

I happen to believe that this DACA Executive order by the President was thoughtful and humane. Here is what it said: If you were brought to the United States before the age of 16, as a child, you lived in the United States and finished high school, with no criminal record of any magnitude, you would be allowed to stay in the United States on a temporary basis and not deported.

I have met these children. There are many of them who are growing into magnificent contributors to America—doctors, engineers, teachers. They beg to join our military. They are not what they are characterized to be. These are young people who believe this is their homeland, this is their country, and all they are asking for is a chance.

President Obama gave them that chance, and the Republicans time and again—Senator SESSIONS now, later Senator CRUZ—can't wait to deport all these children who have gone through high school, gone through college, and only aspire to be contributors to the future of America. That is the Republican party position for some: Deport these children; we don't want them in our country any longer. That is their position. That is not the position of a majority of Americans. They deserve a chance to prove themselves and earn their way to legal status. And to blame them for this border crisis is unfair.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, the majority leader has brought a $3.5 billion emergency supplemental spending bill to the floor at the request of President Obama. This bill, while it shaves off $1 billion from the President's original request, is still a blank check that does not solve the crisis along our southern border.

This Democratic spending bill isn't a solution, and it is not a reasonable or responsible request. The majority in the Senate want taxpayers to fund a bandaid that is needed because of the President's own policies and practices.

Not only does the President want a blank check, but he wants unfettered authority to keep people unlawfully in the country from being returned to their home country. While we are facing a crisis, President Obama is looking at ways to weaken our immigration laws.

I understand that there are a variety of reasons that people come here—to be with family, to find work, and to have a better life. We are a compassionate country, and we provide a safe haven for people who need it. But we are also a country based on the rule of law.

That rule of law has been a principle of our country since its founding. This principle means that the government will enforce the laws it writes. People need to be able to trust their government and trust that it will be fair.

Today, people don't trust the government to enforce the laws. They see lawlessness at the border. Individuals—including both children and adults—are crossing the border without repercussions, and instead of taking responsibility for it, the President wants to fuel the fire and provide them with more benefits.

Instead of providing a blank check, Republicans have come forward with solutions. Today, Senators CORNYN, MCCONNELL, FLAKE and I are introducing a humanitarian solution to the problem. We provide funding while changing the law to ensure speedy repatriation of unaccompanied minors to their home country.

We provide equal treatment to young children of noncontiguous countries to voluntarily return to their home country when apprehended by a border agent. Today, these young people can't voluntarily return. They wait 6 or 12 months until they go before an immigration judge. They are released, and we can only hope that they will show up for their court date.

Our bill provides a new and special process for unaccompanied children to have an immediate court proceeding. This new process would be conducted within 7 days, and children would remain in protective custody.

We also require expedited removal—meaning, no opportunity for formal removal proceedings—of criminals, gang members, those who have previously violated our immigration laws, and those who have fraudulently claimed to be an unaccompanied alien child. Expedited removal is a tool that will help border agents return people who don't have a right to be here, and it will avoid an influx of individuals going through our lengthy court system.

Our efforts, unfortunately, are only worthwhile if the home countries cooperate. We would require the President to certify that the Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras are cooperating in taking back their nationals. Moreover, we tie taxpayer dollars to their cooperation.

In addition to fixing the immigration court system for children, our alternative approach requires information sharing between Federal partners, including the Departments of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services.

It requires information sharing between the Federal Government and States, providing transparency and notice to States about individuals released. This administration has an abysmal record with transparency, and many States are left wondering how they are going to deal with the influx of undocumented children in their schools and health systems.

By the end of this fiscal year, up to 90,000 children will have entered the country. People are rightly concerned that they are being released into our communities. They are also being released to nonrelatives and people without lawful immigration status. Our bill fixes that. It requires children to be in the government's protective custody unless their parent is in legal status and undergoes a criminal background check.

Our bill prohibits the government from placing children with sex offenders or traffickers. Doesn't that just make sense. We are talking about vulnerable young people, and we need to be careful about who is taking custody of them.

Why are these young people coming? Aside from President Obama's weak policies, there is reason to believe that they are being trafficked and used as a commodity by drug traffickers. There are serious gang issues in some of these countries. And these issues are seeping into our country.

Our bill ensures that alien gang members are not provided a safe haven in the United States by rendering them inadmissible and deportable, requiring the government to detain them, and it prohibits alien gang members from gaining U.S. immigration benefits such as asylum or temporary protected status.

Border Patrol agents are being strained during this crisis. They are being taken off the line to care for children and adults. States along the border are stepping up and paying the price. Our bill supports State and local governments by reimbursing the costs they have had to bear.

Our bill ensures that Customs and Border Protection agents are provided access to Federal lands along the border. It also increases the penalties for smuggling offenses.

Finally, our bill deals with the lawless policies of this President and his administration. Over the last few years, the President has shown an astonishing disregard for the Constitution, the rule of law, and the rights of American citizens and legal residents. He has made promises and threats to go around Congress by using his phone and pen.

Well, today we are exercising our constitutional right in cutting off funding for the President to expand his administrative amnesties. Our bill would stop him from expanding the deferred action for childhood arrivals. It would stop other legalization programs that President Obama is contemplating. Congress has a role to play in reforming our immigration system. He should not circumvent the process and go against the will of the American people.

Again, our bill is a reasonable alternative to a blank check. We have a solution that provides due process for minors who illegally enter our country. We are being responsible and showing leadership on this issue, and I encourage my fellow colleagues to seriously consider our proposal so that we can humanely deal with this crisis.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, as we begin to close out this part of the debate, I would just say that the issues I am advocating are deeply personal to me and, I believe, deeply personal to all Senators.

When I talk about the fact that we have to fund help for wildfires in several States and help them be able to help themselves by replenishing the money for the Forest Service, I am reminded of the fact that a great writer by the name of de Tocqueville came to the United States to hear: What is this thing called democracy? He wrote that famous book, ''Democracy in America.'' In it he called for something that he observed. He said what sets America apart is its habits of the heart, that it helps neighbor helping neighbor.

Now, we used to do that through barn raising and pancake suppers. But, my gosh, these issues have gotten too big, too horrific. We now have thousands of acres burning, homes being destroyed, businesses being destroyed. We need to be able to help our neighbors in the West.

And I say to my colleagues from the West: I appreciate all the support you have given us on the East Coast who faced hurricanes. We didn't say we practice ZIP Code politics, that we only help one part of the country when they are facing a disaster.

Habits of the heart, de Tocqueville said that is what defines us. We now need to help that.

This issue now in terms of the Israelis and Iron Dome began for me right after I was elected to the Congress. When I traveled to Poland I went to Auschwitz and saw forever and a day—6 million Jews exterminated—why they needed a homeland, forever—a homeland safe and secure. Now they are asking for help to replenish their interceptor rockets on the eve of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, where people fought with sticks and stones and children crawled through sewers to defend themselves.

We are not going to fool around here. We are not going to delay until we come back from the 5-week break. Israel is the homeland for the Jews. We need to help them defend themselves.

My journey in Central America began as a brand new Member of Congress, with four Maryknoll nuns and a woman named Jean Donovan, who were raped and killed by the death squads in El Salvador. I watched a gallant, brilliant, charismatic bishop named Oscar Romero killed, gunned down in his own cathedral. Then we finally got around to looking at Central America and what was going on. We were worried more about communism than the rise of violence. For 30 years we have been up and down in Central America. We have inherited the winds. Our way of ignoring these three countries is by turning a blind eye, by always looking elsewhere in the world. If we have $4 billion to arm the Afghan security forces, I think we ought to back our Border Patrol, back our FBI, back our law enforcement to go after organized crime in Central America, because if we don't, it will be an additional threat and it will not only be the children—and now we have 60,000 children crossing the border.

I understand Texas and Arizona, the border States, are facing these problems. We do want to work together. But could we in the final minutes of this Congress get ourselves together enough to meet the urgent supplemental request to do this? This is what America is. This is who we are, helping our neighbors in the West, helping the country fighting for its survival, and also helping our own country dealing with the crisis in Central America facing our border.

I think it is time we pass this legislation, move forward, and come back and deal with the crisis there and also at the same time take a good look at immigration reform and do it in the way I think we can do it.

How much time do I have?

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KAINE). The Senator has 10 seconds remaining.

Ms. MIKULSKI. With that I urge the adoption of this bill and hope we could move forward as a united bipartisan Congress.

I yield the floor. I yield what time I would have.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, this is a $2 billion bill, all the money borrowed as a result of a crisis the President has created at the border, money this country does not have, and there are zero policy changes in it.

Republicans on the floor today have filed and argued for a number of amendments and attempted to offer those that are focused on critical policy changes to strengthen this legislation and make it more effective.

Unfortunately, the parliamentary maneuvering has been executed, the amendment tree is filled, and we have been prevented from offering any amendments at all that are necessary to establish a lawful system of immigration that works and that we can be proud of.

So I move to table the Reid amendment on the tree, 3751, for the purpose of offering the Cruz amendment. That amendment would prohibit the President of the United States from expending any funds to unilaterally provide amnesty and work authorizations for millions of people as has been reported in the press. The Cruz amendment is No. 3720.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''yea.''

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

The result was announced—yeas 43, nays 52, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 251 Leg.]

YEAS—43

Ayotte	Flake	Moran
Barrasso	Graham	Murkowski
Blunt	Grassley	Paul
Boozman	Hatch	Portman
Burr	Heller	Risch
Chambliss	Hoeven	Rubio
Coats	Inhofe	Scott
Coburn	Isakson	Sessions
Collins	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Thune
Cornyn	Kirk	Toomey
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Cruz	Manchin	Wicker
Enzi	McCain	
Fischer	McConnell	

NAYS—52

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Landrieu	Stabenow
Cardin	Leahy	Tester
Carper	Levin	Udall (CO)
Casey	Markey	Udall (NM)
Coons	McCaskill	Walsh
Donnelly	Menendez	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Feinstein	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Franken	Murphy	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murray	
Hagan	Nelson	

NOT VOTING—5

Alexander	Harkin	Schatz
Cochran	Roberts	

The motion was rejected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that all remaining votes be 10 minutes in duration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, the pending measure, S. 2648—a bill providing emergency supplemental appropriations for fiscal year 2014—contains a number of provisions in violation of the Budget Act and spends in violation of the Budget Act. Specifically, it contains matter within the jurisdiction of the Budget Committee that was not reported or discharged from the Budget Committee. Therefore, I raise a point of order against the measure pursuant to section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, I move to waive all applicable sections of that act for purposes of the pending bill, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The Senator from Maryland.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, first of all, the Senate is not in order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will come to order.

The Senator from Maryland is recognized.

Ms. MIKULSKI. I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 3 minutes in support of my motion to waive.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. MIKULSKI. The bill that is before the Senate contains $3.57 billion of emergency spending, a reduction of $1 billion, to help fund and care for the children who seek refuge and to fight the criminal traffickers at the border. We fund fighting wildfires for our States and we also help Israel replenish its interceptor rockets.

What happens if the motion to waive fails? If the Senate fails to waive the point of order, the bill will go back to the Appropriations Committee, but the urgent need will remain. If the Senate fails to waive the point of order, agencies will take from other programs to fund this compelling need. What does that mean?

It means that HHS, which has already cut $138 million from the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control, and others—we could have an ebola crisis in the world, and maybe even come to our border, and we are fooling around cutting HHS and CDC and other agencies. Please, let's look at what we are doing.

Homeland Security is also spending resources that would otherwise be used to secure the border, such as FEMA disaster relief money has to be there if we have a hurricane.

Simply put, failing to act is irresponsible. Let's waive the Budget Act, let's get on with the bill, and let's do our job.

I yield back my time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. I ask unanimous consent for 2 additional minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SESSIONS. I respect the remarks of the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, but I would note that every penny of this bill is borrowed. None of it is funded through any offsets or other sources of income. This country has to be more careful. The bill needs to go through the Budget Committee. It did not get approved properly there. I would note, again, it is all borrowed. It does not make any policy changes. I think we all should stand firm to reject this bill, and to sustain the point of order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to waive.

The yeas and nays were previously ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''nay.''

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 44, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 252 Leg.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Heinrich	Pryor
Begich	Heitkamp	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Reid
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Boxer	King	Schumer
Brown	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cantwell	Leahy	Stabenow
Cardin	Levin	Tester
Carper	Markey	Udall (CO)
Casey	McCaskill	Udall (NM)
Coons	Menendez	Walsh
Donnelly	Merkley	Warner
Durbin	Mikulski	Warren
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Franken	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Nelson	

NAYS—44

Ayotte	Flake	McConnell
Barrasso	Graham	Moran
Blunt	Grassley	Murkowski
Boozman	Hatch	Paul
Burr	Heller	Portman
Chambliss	Hoeven	Risch
Coats	Inhofe	Rubio
Coburn	Isakson	Scott
Collins	Johanns	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Crapo	Landrieu	Toomey
Cruz	Lee	Vitter
Enzi	Manchin	Wicker
Fischer	McCain	

NOT VOTING—6

Alexander	Hagan	Roberts
Cochran	Harkin	Schatz

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 50, the nays are 44. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is rejected and the point of order is sustained.

The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it is regretful that the Republicans have blocked the Senate from addressing urgent needs.

Senator MIKULSKI has worked very hard on this urgent supplemental. It is very regrettable that we are not able to move forward on it. I would like to address at least two of what I believe are urgent needs. I understand that Republican Senators are unwilling to fund a proposed response to the crisis we have at the border. But certainly could we not agree that we have situation in the western part of the United States that is very difficult.

We responded when we had problems in the South with the hurricanes, in the East with the hurricanes. We have a problem in the West. We have fires that are raging all over the West. We have a fire in Washington that has been burning for weeks. Hundreds of homes have been burned. In Oregon, we have 400,000 acres that are burning. California has a couple of big fires. Nevada has a fire. A fire started, I understand, in Idaho a day or two ago. Thousands and thousands of firefighters are there. With temperatures rising, we have a drought all over the western part of the United States. Fires have gotten more and more difficult to fight and more expensive. They have been easier and easier to start.

We are in dire need of additional funds. That is why this is part of the emergency supplemental. This is an emergency. The West is burning. The funds we seek would ensure that we protect life and property in the West without draining funds from other programs that help us stop this destructive wildfire cycle.

Another urgent need. We have all watched as the tiny state of Israel, our friend who is with us on everything, they have had in the last 3 weeks 3,000 rockets fired into their country—3,000. Iron Dome, as I have spoken here on the floor, has done a good job, but it does not cover Israel. They are mobile units. They move them around as well as they can. They depend on Iron Dome. The system works 90 percent of the time, not all of the time.

Last week Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel asked for $225 million in emergency funding so that Israel's arsenal as it relates to the Iron Dome could be replenished. It is clear this is an emergency. We should be able to agree on that. That is why I make the following unanimous consent request.

First of all, so everyone understands, I am going to make a request that we have emergency funding for the wildfires in the West and the money I have talked about for Israel and Iron Dome.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS—H.J. RES. 76

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 220, H.J. Res. 76; that a Mikulski substitute amendment at the desk providing emergency appropriations for the Iron Dome defense system in Israel and combating wildfires in the Western States be agreed to; that the joint resolution, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, the President has called the crisis at the border a humanitarian crisis. If that is not an emergency, I do not know what is. But as a result of the majority leader's refusal to allow us to offer any constructive suggestions to reform the law to

stop this flow of humanity across our borders and actually solve the problem, the supplemental has now fallen to a budget point of order.

Likewise, this unanimous consent request to fund Iron Dome and wildfires exceeds the budget caps and the Budget Control Act. It is subject to a budget point of offer. Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am frankly not surprised that this objection has been made. It is too bad. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 220, H.J. Res. 76; that a Mikulski substitute amendment at the desk providing emergency appropriations for combating wildfires in the Western States be agreed to; that the joint resolution, as amended, be read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table with no intervening action or debate.

This relates just to the wildfires.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the request?

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I agree, like the crisis at the border, the wildfires in the Western States represent a genuine emergency and something we should address. But inasmuch as this consent asks for money that would break the budget caps and the Budget Control Act, it is subject to a budget point of order. I must object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, this is an emergency. There are no budget caps involved with an emergency. Everyone knows that. I am shocked that anyone in this Chamber would stop us from getting these critical funds to fight these fires that I have outlined on a very preliminary basis, and, of course, to help defend Israel.

By requesting this amendment, I am disappointed that it has been rejected. I have one more and then we can go on to something else.

I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 220, that a Reid-McConnell-Mikulski substitute amendment at the desk providing emergency funding for the Iron Dome defense system in Israel be agreed to; that the joint resolution, as amended, be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, would the Senator from Nevada, the majority leader, consider an amendment that would modify his request that would provide an offset for this bill?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Does the majority leader agree to modify his request?

Mr. REID. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, this is an emergency. Our No. 1 ally, at least in my mind, is under attack. If this is not an emergency, I do not know anything that is. So I refuse to modify my request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Is there objection to the original request?

Mr. COBURN. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the Senator's amendment would cut the United States assessed contribution to NATO and the World Health Organization. Now as we speak, they are fighting to control an Ebola outbreak in Central Africa. Peace Corps volunteers have been called home from three different countries.

The amendment of the Senator, my friend from Oklahoma, would cut the International Civil Aviation Organization, which is now investigating what took place in Ukraine, killing 298 people. So even if you do not like the U.N., the Senator's amendment would cut UNICEF funds to help the world's poorest children. The Senator's amendment would cut the U.N. Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture.

Now, that says it all. I have no more to say.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I would note—everybody should know that the U.N. gets well over $7 billion of money every year from this Congress, the American people, with absolutely no accountability. There is no transparency on how it is spent. There is no accountability. They are not held accountable for how it is spent. The oversight that we have done over the past 6 or 7 years shows that the waste associated with the money that is sent to the U.N. is at least 30 percent—at least 30 percent when you do the actual oversight of it.

So we can talk about specifics. We can take a small portion from everywhere. I do not care. Or I will offer another pay-for. But the fact is, we do not get any accountability of the money this country sends to the U.N. today. Go see if you can find it. You cannot. You will not be able to find it. I want to fund Israel. I want to supply them. I also want to make sure our children have a future. It is not hard to find $225 million out of $4 trillion.

I yield the floor.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, under the previous order, I call for the Senate to proceed to the veterans conference report.

VETERANS ACCESS, CHOICE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2014—CONFERENCE REPORT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate the conference report to accompany H.R. 3230, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill H.R. 3230, making continuing appropriations during a Government shutdown to provide pay and allowances to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who perform inactive-duty training during such period, having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the Senate recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the House and agree to the same with an amendment and the House agree to the same, signed by a majority of the conferees on the part of both Houses.

(The conference report is printed in the House proceedings of the RECORD of July 28, 2014.)

Mr. McCAIN. What is the parliamentary situation?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma is to be recognized to raise a budget point of order.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, let me say, first of all, I voted for the bill when it left here with the hope that we could accomplish something. We did accomplish some things. But it came back with $12 billion unpaid for. Because of that, I raise a point of order against the emergency designation provision contained in section 8803(b) of the conference report for H.R. 3230, the Veterans' Access to Care Through Choice, Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 pursuant to section 403(e)(1) of the fiscal year 2010 budget resolution, S. Con. Res. 13.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the waiver provisions of applicable budget resolutions, and section 4(g)(3) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, I move to waive all applicable sections of those acts and applicable budget resolutions for purposes of the pending conference report.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I will speak very briefly. Mainly, I come here on the floor to thank the Senator from Vermont and my good friend from North Carolina on the hard work they and members of the Veterans Affairs' Committee have done on this issue. I greatly respect my dear friend from Oklahoma and his concern. But I would have to say to my colleagues: If there was ever a definition of an emergency, that emergency faces us today because our veterans are not receiving the care we owe them as a nation.

There are veterans who are dying as we speak for lack of care. There is gross mismanagement. There are problems that will take our new Secretary of Veterans Affairs literally years to

fix. I am proud that in this legislation there is choice, and there is the ability of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to fire people who are not doing their job.

Those are the important aspects, most important to me, because I think we can change the Veterans Administration. But the present situation cries out for immediate action. Obviously there were parts of this legislation that I did not agree with. Obviously there were parts that the Senator from Vermont did not agree with. But the hard work put together by the Senator from North Carolina and the Senator from Vermont—I am very proud to say we bring before you a way to put a final stamp on beginning to end. This is not the beginning of the end. This is the beginning of the beginning of our effort to help those men and women who have defended our Nation with honor and dignity. We owe them that.

I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the waiver of the Budget Act and to vote in favor of this legislation.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, yesterday the House voted 420 to 5 for this conference report. They understood that taking care of veterans, as Senator MCCAIN just indicated—the men and women who have put their lives on the line to defend us, who have sacrificed so much—is a cost of war, and in fact what we are talking about is an emergency. That is what the House said overwhelmingly yesterday.

On June 11, 2014, 6 or so weeks ago, by a vote of 93 to 3, the Senate supported the Sanders-McCain bill and it was emergency funded as a cost of war.

This bill, as Senator COBURN indicated, is about one-third of the cost of what we voted on in the original Sanders-McCain bill.

Let us defeat this point of order. Let us stand with the veterans of this country, let us reform the VA, and let us go forward.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I will be very quick.

What our colleagues should know is, since 2009, the VA budget has increased 58.7 percent, a 40-percent increase in the number of providers, with a 17-percent increase in the number of veterans using those providers. The problem is not money at the VA. The problem is management, accountability, and culture. So we are going to borrow $12 billion from our children and reward the poor behavior and charge it to our children.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. I would say in response to my dear friend from Oklahoma, I agree with every single thing that he has said. But we must embark on fixing this problem. The choice and the ability to give the Secretary of Veterans Affairs the authority to hire and fire people is important to me that I believe they deserve our support.

I would also ask my friend from Oklahoma, can we leave here for 5 weeks and not address this issue? There are 50 veterans in my State that have probably died—at least allegations are such. Can we leave here and not act?

If I had written this bill with only you and me, I would say to my friend from Oklahoma, it would probably be $10 billion less and all of it paid for. But we had to negotiate, not only with the other side of the aisle but with the other side of the Capitol.

So this is not perfect legislation. But for us not to pass it at this time would send a message to the men and women who have served this country that we have abandoned them. We can't do that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I first thank everybody who worked on this. I know there are a lot of political conundrums that people find themselves in. We have an August recess. This issue has come up. But I wonder if I could ask a question of the Senator from Oklahoma, who knows so much about these issues.

Our staff has looked at the CBO report, and people keep talking about $10 billion on the floor, but the Choice Program is only funded for 3 years. It looks to me as if this bill is really creating an unfunded liability. It is a $250 billion cost over the next decade. I can't verify that based on the CBO numbers that have come out. But as we look at them, it looks as if the Choice Program continues and grows, and the number we are talking about is massive.

So I do wish we had more detailed information from CBO, the kind of information we got on the first bill after the fact. For some reason, we are not getting it on this.

But it appears to me that if this choice concept continues and we don't do those things to actually wind down and backfill—wind down VA for not providing services to these people because they are seeking it elsewhere—the cost of this could well be $250 billion over the next 10 years unpaid for.

I would like for somebody to answer that. I don't know if Senator COBURN or someone else could. But we are not talking about $10 billion is all I am saying.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. What we are talking about is an errant CBO score that doesn't fit with reality or the information given to them by the VA.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, what we are talking about, really, is rather than get in a car or van and drive for 40 miles and hours and have that all reimbursed and paid for, a person will go to the local care provider. Common sense shows that costs one heck of a lot less, I would say to my colleague.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, Senator COBURN forgot to mention one point when talking about the increase in VA funding. He forgot to mention that we were in two wars.

He forgot to mention that 500,000 men and women came back from Iraq and Afghanistan with posttraumatic stress disorder and TBI, not to mention the loss of legs, the loss of arms, eyesight and hearing.

He forgot to mention that many of the veterans from World War II, Korea, and Vietnam are getting older and need more detailed care.

So I think it is important that we put $5 billion into the VA to provide the doctors, the nurses, the personnel they need, so that the veterans can get into the VA and have quality and timely care. That is what this legislation is about.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to waive.

The yeas and nays have been previously ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''yes.''

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 86, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 253 Leg.]

YEAS—86

Ayotte	Grassley	Murray
Baldwin	Hatch	Nelson
Begich	Heinrich	Paul
Bennet	Heitkamp	Portman
Blumenthal	Heller	Pryor
Blunt	Hirono	Reed
Booker	Hoeven	Reid
Boozman	Inhofe	Risch
Boxer	Isakson	Rockefeller
Brown	Johanns	Rubio
Burr	Johnson (SD)	Sanders
Cantwell	Kaine	Schumer
Cardin	King	Scott
Carper	Kirk	Shaheen
Casey	Klobuchar	Shelby
Chambliss	Landrieu	Stabenow
Coats	Leahy	Tester
Collins	Levin	Thune
Coons	Manchin	Toomey
Cornyn	Markey	Udall (CO)
Crapo	McCain	Udall (NM)
Cruz	McCaskill	Vitter
Donnelly	McConnell	Walsh
Durbin	Menendez	Warner
Feinstein	Merkley	Warren
Fischer	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Franken	Moran	Wicker
Gillibrand	Murkowski	Wyden
Graham	Murphy	

NAYS—8

Barrasso	Enzi	Lee
Coburn	Flake	Sessions
Corker	Johnson (WI)	

NOT VOTING—6

Alexander	Hagan	Roberts
Cochran	Harkin	Schatz

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On the motion to waive, the yeas are 86, the nays are 8. The motion to waive is agreed to.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this week, the Senate confirmed Bob McDonald as the new Secretary of the VA and today we passed a compromise veterans bill that will help repair the overwhelmed Veterans Health Administration. These are two steps in the right direction to help the men and women who serve in our military receive the care they need when they come home.

Bob McDonald is an excellent choice to head the VA. I met with McDonald soon after he was nominated for this position and there is no doubt he is eager to take on the task of seeing that the VA honors its promise to the men and women of our armed services. McDonald ran Proctor and Gamble for several years and knows what it means to put the customer first. At the VA, veterans are the customers and we have to provide them with the best service possible. McDonald is a veteran, a West Point grad, and best of all, he is from Arlington Heights, IL. I am confident he is the right person for this difficult job.

After an internal audit, the VA confirmed whistleblower assertions that many VA employees manipulated waitlists to make wait times look better than they really were. The agency found that in some cases, staff intimidated schedulers into falsifying data. This is unacceptable.

I visited the Hines VA Hospital near Chicago last Friday where I met with Joan Ricard, director of the facility, and Rob Nabors, President Obama's Deputy Chief of Staff, who is overseeing the investigation into problems at the VA. We discussed some problems identified by whistleblowers at Hines pertaining to waitlists and other issues.

I am pleased that the Senate adopted the Veterans bill conference report. The House passed the bill 420-to-5 yesterday. VA Committee Chairman SANDERS worked very hard both with Members across the aisle and in the House to put this bill together. It will begin to fix some of the problems identified by the various investigations into misconduct at VA medical facilities.

This bill will allow the Secretary to fire senior staff who are not doing their job or who lied about secret waitlists. It will create 27 new VA health facilities to expand capacity, including a new research lab at Hines in Chicago. That research lab is 100-years-old and in dire need of repair. The new lease will help make it usable again.

This legislation will make it easier for veterans to get the care they need outside the VA system if necessary. Now, any enrolled veteran who lives more than 40-miles from the nearest VA facility or who would have to wait too long for an appointment will be able to go to a private doctor. We need to get those waitlists down, and this is one way to make sure veterans are seen.

The IG investigation has cited a shortage of doctors, nurses, and other staff as being partly to blame for the waitlist problem. There simply is not enough staff to see all the veterans who need treatment. The bill also provides $5 billion to hire new staff.

These are improvements we can all agree on.

Some have expressed concern about the cost of this bill but caring for veterans is part of the cost of going to war. We spent $1.7 trillion in the Iraq War alone. We can spend $12 billion to honor the promise we made to our servicemembers.

When we talk about war, we are not just talking about the thousands of people who died in Iraq and Afghanistan. We're talking about 200,000 men and women who came home with major injuries, both those we can see and some we cannot. We are talking about people with post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury, people missing limbs and those who lost hearing or eyesight. Veterans who are entitled to healthcare services should get the best healthcare they can, and they should get it in a timely manner.

There is no question that we need to fix this health care system. Where misconduct has been identified, those responsible should face the consequences, criminal or otherwise. The Sanders-Miller compromise is a good step in that direction. Secret waitlists and failures to provide care do not reflect the promise we made to the men and women who serve this country. Wars create veterans and veterans need medical care. Caring for servicemembers is part of the cost of going to war.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question occurs on adoption of the conference report.

The Senator from Vermont is recognized.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, before we vote, I wish to take this opportunity to thank Senator MCCAIN for his intervention and making sure that we had serious negotiations.

I thank the staff of the Veterans' Affairs Committee: Steve Robertson, Dahlia Melendrez, Travis Murphy, Jason Dean, Carlos Fuentes, Becky Thowman, Ann Vallandingham, Janet Gehring, Elizabeth Austin-Mackenzie, Kathryn Monet, Katie Van Haste, Shanna Lawrie, Raphael Anderson, and Shannon Jackson. These guys worked really hard for months, and I very much appreciate what they did.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the adoption of the conference report.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, 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 North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''yea'' and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) would have voted ''yea.''

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

The result was announced—yeas 91, nays 3, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 254 Leg.]

YEAS—91

Ayotte	Graham	Murphy
Baldwin	Grassley	Murray
Barrasso	Hatch	Nelson
Begich	Heinrich	Paul
Bennet	Heitkamp	Portman
Blumenthal	Heller	Pryor
Blunt	Hirono	Reed
Booker	Hoeven	Reid
Boozman	Inhofe	Risch
Boxer	Isakson	Rockefeller
Brown	Johanns	Rubio
Burr	Johnson (SD)	Sanders
Cantwell	Johnson (WI)	Schumer
Cardin	Kaine	Scott
Carper	King	Shaheen
Casey	Kirk	Shelby
Chambliss	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Coats	Landrieu	Tester
Collins	Leahy	Thune
Coons	Lee	Toomey
Cornyn	Levin	Udall (CO)
Crapo	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Cruz	Markey	Vitter
Donnelly	McCain	Walsh
Durbin	McCaskill	Warner
Enzi	McConnell	Warren
Feinstein	Menendez	Whitehouse
Fischer	Merkley	Wicker
Flake	Mikulski	Wyden
Franken	Moran	
Gillibrand	Murkowski	

NAYS—3

Coburn	Corker	Sessions

NOT VOTING—6

Alexander	Hagan	Roberts
Cochran	Harkin	Schatz

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for adoption of the conference report, the conference report is agreed to.

MAKING CERTAIN CORRECTIONS IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3230

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to consideration of H. Con. Res. 111 which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 111) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make certain corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3230.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 111) is agreed to

and the motion to reconsider will be considered made and laid upon the table.

The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, following disposition of the House message related to H.R. 5021, the highway bill, the Senate vote on cloture on Calendar No. 848, the Pryor nomination; further, that if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time be expired at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 8, 2014, the Senate resume executive session and the Senate proceed to vote on confirmation of the nomination; further, that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we will have two more votes.

We will be in session tomorrow. There will be no votes tomorrow, but there will be some activity here that we have to complete. So the next vote will be Monday, September 8.

HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION FUNDING ACT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask that the Chair lay before the Senate the House message to H.R. 5021.

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the House disagree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5021) entitled ''An Act to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the highway trust fund and for other purposes.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. I move to recede in the Senate amendment to H.R. 5021.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we request 2 minutes of debate on this side, 1 minute for the chairman of the Finance Committee and 1 minute for the chairman of the public works committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Following that, I ask that 18 minutes be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, it is no secret that this Transportation bill is not the Senate's first choice. However, the alternative to acting tonight on transportation is to put at risk America's economy, our communities, and our quality of life. As Senator HATCH noted earlier tonight, the Senate had a real transportation debate this week with amendments, alternatives, and bipartisan initiatives. This will serve us well as we begin to work as soon as the Senate returns to develop a long-term, bipartisan transportation plan that ensures that our big-league economy is not plagued by little-league infrastructure.

I urge the Senate to support the legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Senators, I will be brief. It is so unfortunate that the House walked away from the work we did, the bipartisan work we did together—79 votes. My goodness. We can't get that these days for Mother's Day. So it was fantastic what we did: the work of Senator WYDEN and Senator HATCH, the work of Senator CARPER and Senator CORKER, the work of Senator VITTER in our committee that I as chair. It is very sad because what we wanted to do was to take care of this problem this year, in this Congress, on our watch, not kick the can down the road. That is what they chose to do in the House. It is most unfortunate, and their pay-fors were just a lot of smoke and mirrors.

Having said all of that, we all know—and colleagues have asked me how am I going to vote—that we can't walk away from the highway trust fund. We can't let it stagger and fall. Millions of jobs and thousands of businesses depend on it.

So I will be voting aye, and I will be working with Senator WYDEN and the rest of my friends and colleagues to make sure we get a multiyear bill as soon as possible.

Thank you. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The yeas and nays have been ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''nay.''

The result was announced—yeas 81, nays 13, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 255 Leg.]

YEAS—81

Ayotte	Gillibrand	Moran
Baldwin	Graham	Murkowski
Barrasso	Grassley	Murphy
Begich	Hatch	Murray
Bennet	Heinrich	Nelson
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Pryor
Blunt	Heller	Reed
Booker	Hirono	Reid
Boozman	Hoeven	Risch
Boxer	Inhofe	Rockefeller
Brown	Isakson	Sanders
Burr	Johanns	Schumer
Cantwell	Johnson (SD)	Shaheen
Cardin	Kaine	Shelby
Casey	King	Stabenow
Chambliss	Kirk	Tester
Coats	Klobuchar	Thune
Collins	Landrieu	Toomey
Coons	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Cornyn	Levin	Udall (NM)
Crapo	Manchin	Vitter
Donnelly	Markey	Walsh
Durbin	McCaskill	Warner
Enzi	McConnell	Warren
Feinstein	Menendez	Whitehouse
Fischer	Merkley	Wicker
Franken	Mikulski	Wyden

NAYS—13

Carper	Johnson (WI)	Rubio
Coburn	Lee	Scott
Corker	McCain	Sessions
Cruz	Paul	
Flake	Portman	

NOT VOTING—6

Alexander	Hagan	Roberts
Cochran	Harkin	Schatz

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to recede from the Senate amendment to H.R. 5021 is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session and, pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Jill A. Pryor, of Georgia, to be United State Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Sheldon Whitehouse, Patty Murray, Amy Klobuchar, Maria Cantwell, Jack Reed, Bill Nelson, Elizabeth Warren, Tom Udall, Mazie K. Hirono, Richard Blumenthal, Barbara Boxer, Tom Harkin, Benjamin L. Cardin, Charles E. Schumer.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, for the fifth year in a row, more than a dozen qualified, consensus judicial nominees pending before the full Senate will remain on the Executive Calendar during the August recess. Each year, I have come before the Senate to remind my fellow Senators that their refusal to take action on these nominations prior to the August recess is an unfortunate departure from Senate tradition and to urge them to stop their obstructive practices and delay tactics. Again, I am disappointed to see partisanship and senseless obstruction

continue to keep the Senate from fulfilling its constitutional duty of advice and consent.

We could be voting today to confirm 13 nominees to serve on our Federal courts, 12 of whom were reported favorably by the Senate Judiciary Committee by unanimous voice vote. Instead, we are voting to invoke cloture on only one nomination, that of Jill Pryor, to fill a judicial emergency vacancy on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. She has received the American Bar Association's highest rating of unanimously ''well qualified'' and has the support of both of her Republican home State Senators. She will no doubt be confirmed unanimously, or near unanimously, when we return in September. As the senior Senator from Georgia, Mr. CHAMBLISS, noted at her confirmation hearing, ''Jill Pryor has been in private practice in Atlanta for nearly 25 years. During that time she has played a pivotal role in some of the largest and most complex cases in Georgia history.'' We have before us an outstanding candidate to serve on the Federal bench. Yet her nomination is being filibustered by Senate Republicans who are delaying her vote for the sake of obstruction.

Despite this unyielding and irrational partisan strategy, the Senate has made great strides to fill vacancies on courts around the Nation by confirming 61 circuit and district court nominees this year. I have heard some Republican Senators point to these confirmations to claim that today's Senate is treating judicial nominees fairly. These Senators overlook an important truth: This progress was made because of the persistent dedication of the majority leader and Democratic Senators to confront vacancies on the Federal bench and despite the unprecedented levels of opposition and obstruction from Republican Senators.

Because of our Democratic leadership in the Senate, there are now fewer vacancies on the Federal courts than at any time since January 2009. Since the beginning of this year, we have reduced the vacancies on our Federal courts by over a third, from 92 to 57, and reduced the number of judicial emergency vacancies by nearly half, from 37 to 19. There are now only eight vacancies on the U.S. courts of appeals. Not since December 1990—over 23 years ago—have there been so few. This is real progress for the millions of Americans who depend on our courts for justice.

Many of these confirmations were of nominees to courts that began the year with record-high numbers of vacancies. In Arizona, I worked with Senator MCCAIN and Senator FLAKE to confirm six nominees to fill judicial emergency vacancies on their district court. In Florida, I worked with Senator NELSON and Senator RUBIO to confirm seven nominees to fill judicial emergency vacancies in the Southern and Middle Districts of Florida as well as on the Eleventh Circuit. These States are success stories, and the people of Arizona and Florida are better served for having trial and appellate judges ready to hear their cases.

No Senator should believe, however, that our work is done. There are 13 judicial nominees pending on the Senate floor who should be confirmed without delay. Yet, even if the Senate were to confirm these nominees today, the Federal judiciary would remain understaffed. In addition to the 57 current vacancies, the Judicial Conference has identified the need for 91 new judgeships in some of America's judicial districts and circuits with the most burdensome caseloads. Last year, Senator COONS and I introduced the Federal Judgeship Act of 2013 to enact these recommendations into law. The timely administration of justice should not be a partisan issue. It is an issue that affects all Americans and the Senate should take it seriously by passing this bill.

The recommendations of the Judicial Conference only underscore how, despite the 61 judicial confirmations so far in 2014, the Senate continues to fall short of its obligations to the Federal judiciary and the American people. I have heard some Republican Senators claim the opposite by citing the total judicial confirmation figures of current and former Presidents. It is true that the Senate has now confirmed 277 of President Obama's circuit, district, and U.S. Court of International Trade nominees, compared to 253 confirmations at the same point in the last administration. Yet these numbers are meaningless without providing their proper context. These confirmations were sorely needed. There remain 57 vacancies on the Federal bench—far more than the 42 vacancies at this point during the Bush administration. There are an additional 24 announced future vacancies on our Federal courts that will also need to be filled in the coming months.

Vacancies remain high not because of a failure of Senate Democrats or President Obama to make judicial confirmations a priority; Americans seeking justice around the country face delays because of the endless obstruction of partisan Republicans who take every opportunity they can to shut down the important work of the Senate. Last year, no longer content to block individual judges, Senate Republicans attempted a wholesale filibuster of three nominees to the DC Circuit, without even considering their qualifications. Then, instead of confirming the consensus judicial nominees pending on the Executive Calendar prior to the end of the congressional session, Republicans forced the President to renominate each nominee and the Senate Judiciary Committee to report them again this year.

This year, Senate Republicans have proceeded to filibuster each and every judicial nominee. After today, the Senate will have taken 62 cloture votes on judicial nominations so far this year, amounting to well over 400 wasted hours the Senate should have spent considering legislation to help the American people. Never before has the Senate seen the systematic filibuster of every judicial nominee, or such unfair treatment of qualified, consensus nominees.

The result of these tactics has been high vacancy levels on the Federal courts. The implications of these vacancies were made clear by a recent Brennan Center for Justice paper titled ''The Impact of Judicial Vacancies on Federal Trial Courts.'' In it, judges and attorneys in districts with high levels of vacancies describe the way empty court rooms slow the administration of justice, ''raise the cost of litigation, cause evidence to go stale, make it harder to settle civil cases, and even put pressure on criminal defendants to plead guilty.'' Chief Judge Leonard Davis in the Eastern District of Texas said the impact of vacancies comes down to ''simple math.'' Vacancies lead to heavier caseloads and judges ''have less time to give to [an individual] case . . . It affects the quality of justice that's being dispensed and the quantity of work you can complete.''

The incredible burden facing Federal courts in Texas is understandable with its nine current district court vacancies—more than any other State. Therefore, I hope that Republicans on the Judiciary Committee, including both Senators from Texas, will be ready to proceed with a hearing on the three pending Texas district court nominees as soon as the Senate returns to session in September. I also hope that the Texas Senators will continue to work with the administration on nominees to fill the six other current district vacancies in their State as well as the four known future district court vacancies.

The continued high number of vacancies across our Federal courts is unacceptable to me and should be unacceptable to every Member of this body. The Senate should act quickly to confirm the consensus nominees pending on the Senate floor. The Senate should also pass the Federal Judgeship Act of 2013 to ensure that our coequal branch of government has the resources it needs to serve its constitutionally mandated function.

I am glad that we are voting to overcome the Republican filibuster of the nomination of Jill Pryor, and I thank the majority leader for taking action on her nomination. If the Senate were operating as it once did, without this partisan treatment of judicial nominations, she would have been confirmed weeks ago.

I hope that in the weeks following the August recess Senators will start working together to continue the progress we have made so far in 2014. The American people deserve courts capable of providing access to swift justice, not empty courtrooms and delays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Jill A. Pryor, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN, I announce that the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted ''nay'' and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) would have voted ''nay.''

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 58, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 256 Ex.]

YEAS—58

Ayotte	Gillibrand	Murray
Baldwin	Heinrich	Nelson
Begich	Heitkamp	Pryor
Bennet	Hirono	Reed
Blumenthal	Isakson	Reid
Booker	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Boxer	Kaine	Sanders
Brown	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Landrieu	Stabenow
Carper	Leahy	Tester
Casey	Levin	Udall (CO)
Chambliss	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Collins	Markey	Walsh
Coons	McCaskill	Warner
Donnelly	Menendez	Warren
Durbin	Merkley	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Mikulski	Wyden
Fischer	Murkowski	
Franken	Murphy	

NAYS—33

Barrasso	Graham	McConnell
Blunt	Grassley	Moran
Boozman	Hatch	Paul
Burr	Heller	Portman
Coats	Hoeven	Risch
Coburn	Inhofe	Rubio
Corker	Johanns	Sessions
Crapo	Johnson (WI)	Shelby
Cruz	Kirk	Thune
Enzi	Lee	Vitter
Flake	McCain	Wicker

NOT VOTING—9

Alexander	Hagan	Schatz
Cochran	Harkin	Scott
Cornyn	Roberts	Toomey

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 58, the nays are 33. The motion is agreed to.

NOMINATION OF JILL A. PRYOR TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.J. RES. 76

Mr. REID. Madam President, I renew the request I made earlier this evening.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to Calendar No. 220; that a Reid-McConnell-Mikulski substitute amendment at the desk providing emergency appropriations for the Iron Dome defense system in Israel be agreed to; that the joint resolution, as amended, be read a third time and passed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. COBURN. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from New Jersey.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I rise in support of all of the career Foreign Service officers whose nominations have been held up in the Chamber until there is a crisis somewhere in the world, until there is a Presidential or Vice Presidential trip to some part of the world that suddenly demands our attention, and then miraculously holds are lifted and nominees are approved.

On a Thursday, Malaysian Airlines Flight 17 crashed in eastern Ukraine. On the following Monday, the Senate confirmed Michael Lawson as the U.S. Ambassador to the International Civil Aviation Organization. He had been pending before the Senate. His first day on the job, his first time meeting his colleagues, he was forced to grapple with this crisis.

In the last week or 10 days, two more plane crashes have occurred in Taiwan and in Mali, an Algerian plane. Random events around the world cannot determine when the Senate acts on nominees. We cannot continue to follow a policy of confirmation by crisis. It took the President to travel to Saudi Arabia—an important ally—and the Vice President to travel to Chile for the Senate to confirm the nominees to those countries. In the case of Chile, Ambassador Hammer was taken to his new office in Santiago for his first day on the job on Air Force Two because the Senate approved his nomination just before the Vice President was to visit Chile. It should not require flying on Air Force Two to get to your posting for your first day of work as a U.S. Ambassador. Take the case of our Ambassador to Qatar. She waited for months, and then Bergdahl was exchanged for five Guantanamo detainees released to Qatar, and suddenly she was approved. It almost required the President to be ''wheels up'' on Air Force One on his way to Riyadh before we confirmed an Ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

I repeat, the criteria for confirming nominees should not be determined by a sudden just-breaking crisis, with the urgent need to fill a vacant post. Confirmation-by-crisis is not a strategy. It is not in the national security interests of the United States.

Now the Foreign Relations Committee has moved judiciously—in some cases with record-setting speed—to confirm nominees. In the face of obstructionism on the floor of the Senate, the committee has proven that bipartisanship is not only possible but it can thrive when American national security interests are put first.

It is my view that we must lift up our Ambassadors and their families, not put them down. These individuals are serving our Nation. Their families are sacrificing for our Nation. They deserve better. Our career Foreign Service officers serve Democratic and Republican Presidents. They should not, must not be treated as political pawns.

We cannot continue to allow the pulpits where we preach American values to remain vacant. No Nation can listen to us if we are not present to speak for ourselves. American leadership can only occur if American leaders are present on the international stage.

The Senate standoff that has left so many career Foreign Service nominees in political and personal limbo is damaging our credibility, undermining our national security, and it has to end now.

I rise today for the career ambassadors who have not gotten the decency of a vote in the Senate, career ambassadors who are waiting, along with their families, for months, some more than a year, to take their posts. They are trapped on the Executive Calendar, unable to assume their appointed posts because the leadership on the Republican side has chosen to hold them hostage as a political tool. They have consciously chosen a strategy to do nothing, pass nothing, approve nothing, and leave key diplomatic posts unfilled for months, threatening national security and our ability to conduct foreign policy.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominees: Calendar No. 524, Adam M. Scheinman to be Special Representative of the President for Nuclear Nonproliferation, with the rank of Ambassador; Calendar No. 533, Karen Stanton to be the Ambassador to the Republic of Timor-Leste; Calendar No. 536, Eric Schultz to be Ambassador to the Republic of Zambia; Calendar No. 540, Donald Lu to be the Ambassador to the Republic of Albania; Calendar No. 542, Amy Hyatt to be Ambassador to the Republic of Palau; Calendar No. 544, John Hoover to be the Ambassador to the Republic of Sierra Leone; Calendar No. 546, Matthew Harrington to be the Ambassador to the Kingdom of Lesotho; Calendar No. 548, Thomas Daughton to be the Ambassador to Namibia; Calendar No. 637, Arnold Chacon to be Director General of the Foreign Service; Calendar No. 696, Luis Moreno to be Ambassador to Jamaica; Calendar No. 699, Maureen

Cormack to be the Ambassador to Bosnia and Herzegovina; Calendar No. 707, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, an Assistant Secretary of State of African Affairs, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the African Development Foundation; Calendar No. 898, Ted Osius to be Ambassador to the Republic of Vietnam; Calendar No. 902, Gentry O. Smith to be Director of the Office of Foreign Missions and have the rank of Ambassador during his tenure; Calendar No. 927, Leslie Bassett to be Ambassador to Paraguay; Calendar No. 953, George Albert Krol to be Ambassador to the Republic of Kazakhstan; Calendar No. 954, Marcia Stephens Bloom Bernicat to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of Bangladesh; Calendar No. 955, James D. Pettit to be Ambassador to the Republic of Moldova; Calendar No. 956, John R. Bass to be Ambassador to the Republic of Turkey; Calendar No. 957, Allan P. Mustard to be Ambassador to Turkmenistan; Calendar No. 958, Todd Robinson to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala; Calendar No. 961, Erica J. Barks Ruggles to be Ambassador to the Republic of Rwanda; Calendar No. 962, Brent Robert Hartley to be Ambassador to the Republic of Slovenia; Calendar No. 966, Michele Jeanne Sison to be the Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the Security Council of the United Nations; finally, Calendar No. 967, Michele Jeanne Sison to be Representative of the United States of America to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, during her tenure of service as the Deputy Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, I don't think he is finished with his unanimous consent request.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I appreciate that.

Further, that their nominations be confirmed en bloc, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, reserving the right to object, we used to pass ambassadors and all kinds of people en bloc like that. But we have this nuclear option that the majority chose, so it takes a little longer to do the whole process.

On that basis, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I don't know about nuclear options, but I do know about national security.

When we have objections to some career ambassadors—I am not even talking about other nominees who are equally as important to places in the world where we face a challenge. But when I extract those out of the list that are also pending before the Senate in critical places in the world and just say, my God, if a career ambassador—someone who serves under Democratic and Republican administrations and has committed their life to the service of our country in the foreign service—cannot get to their places, I don't understand.

I don't understand how we can actually object to places like Guatemala where we are having the crisis that we just debated right now. Wouldn't it be great to have a U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala to direct the Guatemalan Government as to our concerns about how children are coming here? Wouldn't it be great to have the Ambassador to Turkey at a time when we have all of these challenges in the region, where Turkey has a huge number of Syrian refugees. And we say we object to those? Or Vietnam, where we are looking at a 123 nuclear agreement and where we are concerned about what China is doing in the South China Sea as it ultimately challenges Vietnam in international waters for drilling purposes? And the list goes on and on.

So let me at least try some. If I can't do them as a bloc, let's see if we can get somebody confirmed here at the end of the day to critical positions.

So let me ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider this following nomination: Calendar No. 968, John Tefft to be Ambassador to Russia, a career ambassador.

Now, imagine if we cannot send a United States Ambassador to Russia in the midst of the enormous challenges.

So I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider nomination Calendar No. 968, John Tefft, Ambassador to Russia; that the nomination be confirmed; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table; that there be no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to that nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, this is the procedure the majority set up. And the majority is going to be stuck with their decision to delay people, thinking they could speed them up and take away some of the minority rights.

So I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, this is not a procedure the majority set up. The procedure that is being set up is one where career nominees and critical nominees are being held on the floor as a procedure that the Republicans have decided to do.

Let me try once again. Let's see whether there is a more important place than Russia.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Mark Lippert to be Ambassador to South Korea, Calendar No. 893; that the nomination be confirmed; that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be made in order to that nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, this is a political appointment, not a career appointment. If I objected to a career appointment, I certainly object to a political appointment.

So I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. MENENDEZ. It is true it is a political appointment, but to the Republic of South Korea. At a time when we are facing challenges in the South China Sea, where there is a dispute between China and Korea, where we have critical interests, where we are dealing with North Korea, we can't have an Ambassador to South Korea?

Let me just say that I could go through a list of critical countries. And it is pretty amazing to me. I have some of my colleagues who have come to the floor to talk about national security. Well, national security isn't only about having a trigger and a gun. National security is also about having an ambassador in a country to ultimately press our case and our concerns as it relates to our bilateral relationship with that country.

So places like Russia, which was objected to, places like South Korea, places like Guatemala, where we are having the crisis, and a whole bunch of African countries that were in the career list—we are going to have the African leader come here next Monday and Tuesday, but we are not going to have ambassadors to a whole bunch of their countries—career ambassadors to a whole bunch of their countries. That is not in the national interests and security of the United States.

I hope that after having waited quite some time in order to finally get to this point where I felt the necessity to come to the floor and ask for unanimous consent, that instead of the trickle that we occasionally get because there is a crisis and therefore there is a response to the crisis, that

we can avoid responding by crisis and having people in places that maybe would help us to ensure that the crisis doesn't take place.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

Mr. CARPER. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. MENENDEZ. I would be happy to yield.

Mr. CARPER. Would the chairman tell us again the name of the ambassador nominated by the President to be Ambassador to Guatemala?

Mr. MENENDEZ. The gentleman who is nominated, a career nominee to be the Ambassador to Guatemala is Todd D. Robinson.

Mr. CARPER. I would say to my colleagues, as chairman of the homeland security committee, I have been down to a number of Central American countries—Mexico, Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador. If there is anybody that needs a U.S. ambassador down there, it is Guatemala. We see all these young people, not so young people, coming to this country, trying to get in this country. The reason they are coming up here is there is no hope—no economic hope, crime, lack of opportunity—and we have no ambassador there. We haven't had an ambassador there for months.

I would just make a plea for the chairman to make a unanimous consent if only for the Ambassador to Guatemala. And I would just plead with my colleague, my friend from Wyoming, not to object.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I say to my distinguished colleague from Delaware that I already included the Ambassador to Guatemala in my list and there was objection. If the Senator from Wyoming, who I believe is not doing this in his own course but on behalf of his leadership, has an indication that he would accept that, I would be happy to do it; otherwise, I think we would further not be able to achieve it.

Mr. CARPER. I would ask, would the Senator one more time make the unanimous consent request for Todd Robinson.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 958, Todd D. Robinson to be the Ambassador to Guatemala; that the nomination be confirmed; that the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table; that no intervening action or debate or further motions be in order to that nomination; that any related statements be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. ENZI. We have been through this nomination and the others before. There is a procedure that was set up that is recognized now by both sides but that our side feels forced into because of the nuclear option where the other side broke the rules in order to change the rules. And the way that works, the majority leader is still the one that has every power within this body—except the Congressional Review Act—and he hasn't chosen to bring these up in the normal order, instead asking to bring them up en bloc.

My college roommate was a career ambassador, and I helped him get assignments and brought a lot of people through en bloc at the same time. But that was before we had the nuclear option.

So on that basis, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I will close on this. Look, the reality is that if each of these ambassadors was going to be brought up and had to go through cloture and go through the whole process of time or the debate time that would be attributed to each one of them, we would spend the rest of this congressional session doing exactly that. That would not help our national security interests in terms of getting these people in place.

I want to get these people in place. I have limited the requests to countries that have career individuals and to countries that also are critical for our national security. I just hope that, in the national interest of the United States, we can come to a better position at some other time.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

NOMINATION OF JILL A. PRYOR TO BE UNITED STATES CIRCUIT JUDGE FOR THE ELEVENTH CIRCUIT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Cloture having been invoked on the Pryor nomination, the Chair directs the clerk to report the nomination.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Jill A. Pryor, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. MERKLEY. Madam President, reserving the right to object, would the Senator from Wyoming consider modifying that request to include me to follow on, following his remarks?

Mr. ENZI. Certainly.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. COBURN. Reserving the right to object——

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Senator RUBIO has been waiting all day to offer a unanimous consent request on a bill he has. I ask unanimous consent that the 2 minutes that Senator RUBIO would like to have be available between Senator ENZI and Senator MERKLEY.

Mr. MERKLEY. I have absolutely no objection to that.

Mr. ENZI. I revise my unanimous consent request for my speech, then Senator RUBIO for 2 minutes, then Senator MERKLEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Reserving the right to object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. MENENDEZ. I will be very brief. I want to join Senator RUBIO, if I can have 2 minutes as well, before going to Senator MERKLEY.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the modified request is agreed to.

The Senator from Wyoming.

RETIREMENT OF ROBIN BAILEY

Mr. ENZI. Madam President, the speech I need to give now is not one of my favorite speeches. It is a very important speech.

There is an old saying we have all heard before: Good help is hard to find. Here is my experience: Good help is not only hard to find, it is almost impossible to replace. Those words have come to my mind quite often in the days since my State director Robin Bailey told us she had decided to retire.

As we began our search for a new State director, it soon became apparent that you can't replace Robin Bailey.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:35 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5195. An act to provide additional visas for the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Program, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY) reported that he had signed the following enrolled bill, which was previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

S. 1799. An act to reauthorize subtitle A of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990.

At 4:10 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5021) to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2709. A bill to extend and reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 4450. An act to extend the Travel Promotion Act of 2009, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

S. 2772. A bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

S. 2773. A bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, for border security, law enforcement, humanitarian assistance, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, July 31, 2014, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 1799. An act to reauthorize subtitle A of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–6686. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Bifenazate; Pesticide Tolerances'' (FRL No. 9912–92) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2014; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC–6687. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of one (1) officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general, as indicated, in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–6688. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, (9) reports relative to vacancy announcements within the Department, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–6689. A communication from the Assistant Director, Senior Executive Management Office, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, (25) reports relative to vacancy announcements within the Department, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–6690. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing—Federal Housing Commissioner, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Federal Housing Administration (FHA): Refinancing an Existing Cooperative Under Section 207 Pursuant to Section 223(f) of the National Housing Act'' (RIN2502–AI92) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–6691. A communication from the Acting Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Suspension of Community Eligibility'' ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA–2014–0002)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–6692. A communication from the Acting Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revision of Fee Schedules; Fee Recovery for Fiscal Year 2014'' ((RIN3150–AJ32) (NRC–2013–0276)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–6693. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Delaware; Redesignation Requests, Associated Maintenance Plans, and Motor Vehicle Emissions Budgets for the Delaware Portion of the Philadelphia-Wilmington, PA–NJ-DE Nonattainment Area for the 1997 Annual and 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Standards, and the 2007 Comprehensive Emissions Inventory for the 2006 24-Hour Fine Particulate Matter Standard'' (FRL No. 9914–53–Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–6694. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; State of Nebraska; Fine Particulate Matter New Source Review Requirements'' (FRL No. 9914–52–Region 7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–6695. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Alaska; Interstate Transport of Pollution'' (FRL No. 9914–48–Region 10) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–6696. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Texas; Reasonably Available Control Technology for the 1997 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard'' (FRL No. 9914–45–Region 6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–6697. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Navajo Nation; Regional Haze Requirements for Navajo Generating Station'' (FRL No. 9914–62–Region 9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 29, 2014; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–6698. A communication from the Acting Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Export Controls and Physical Security Standards'' ((RIN3150–AJ33) (NRC–2014–0007)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–6699. A communication from the Acting Chief Financial Officer, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''U.S. Department of Homeland Security Annual Performance Report for Fiscal Years 2013–2015''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6700. A communication from the General Counsel, Office of Compliance, United States Congress, transmitting, pursuant to law, a biennial report to Congress entitled ''Americans with Disabilities Act Inspections Relating to Public Services and Accommodations''; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–6701. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zones; Annual Events in the Captain of the Port Zone Buffalo'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0081)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6702. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Fireworks Display, Lake Michigan; Winnetka, IL'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0259)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6703. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone, Patapsco River; Baltimore, MD'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0201)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6704. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Columbus Road Bridge Installation, Cuyahoga River, Cleveland, OH''

((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0556)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6705. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; 2014 Fireworks Displays in Northern New England'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0491)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6706. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone; Belt Parkway Bridge Construction, Gerritsen Inlet; Brooklyn, NY—Correction'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2013–0471)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6707. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Safety Zone, Marine Week Seattle Seahawks Demonstration, Lake Washington; Seattle, WA'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0574)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6708. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of the Upper Hiwassee Highlands Viticultural Area'' (RIN1513–AC02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–6709. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Department's activities under the Civil Rights of Institutionalized Persons Act during fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–6710. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to applications for delayed-notice search warrants and extensions during fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–6711. A communication from the Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) Quarterly Report to Congress; Third Quarter of Fiscal Year 2014''; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC–6712. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''NASA Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (NFS): Contractor Whistleblower Protections'' (RIN2700–AE08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6713. A communication from the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Atlantic Highly Migratory Species; 2014 Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Quota Specifications'' (RIN0648–XD092) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6714. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation; Suncoast Offshore Grand Prix; Gulf of Mexico, Sarasota, FL'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2013–0789)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6715. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Special Local Regulation and Safety Zones; Recurring Marine Events and Fireworks Displays within the Fifth Coast Guard District'' ((RIN1625–AA08) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0095)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6716. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, Venice, FL'' ((RIN1625–AA09) (Docket No. USCG–2013–0848)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6717. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Navigation and Navigable Waters; Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments'' ((RIN1625–AC13) (Docket No. USCG–2014–0410)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6718. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulated Navigation Area and Safety Zone: Tappan Zee Bridge Construction Project, Hudson River; South Nyack and Tarrytown, NY'' ((RIN1625–AA00; 1625–AA11) (Docket No. USCG–2013–0705)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6719. A communication from the Attorney-Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Lifesaving Equipment: Production Testing and Harmonization with International Standards'' ((RIN1625–AA00) (Docket No. USCG–2010–0048)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6720. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Quarterly Listings; Safety Zones, Security Zones, Special Local Regulations, Drawbridge Operation Regulations and Regulated Navigation Areas'' (Docket No. USCG–2014–0567) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 30, 2014; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–6721. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Establishment of the Malibu Coast Viticultural Area'' (RIN1513–AC01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 31, 2014; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1771. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–225).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1800. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets (Rept. No. 113–226).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 1946. A bill to amend the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 to modify the authorization of appropriations (Rept. No. 113–227).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1965. A bill to amend the East Bench Irrigation District Water Contract Extension Act to permit the Secretary of the Interior to extend the contract for certain water services (Rept. No. 113–228).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2010. A bill to amend the Water Conservation and Utilization Act to authorize the development of non-Federal hydropower and issuance of leases of power privileges at projects constructed pursuant to the authority of the Water Conservation and Utilization Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–229).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 2019. A bill to reauthorize and update certain provisions of the Secure Water Act (Rept. No. 113–230).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 1963. A bill to amend the Water Conservation and Utilization Act to authorize the development of non-Federal hydropower and issuance of leases of power privileges at projects constructed pursuant to the authority of the Water Conservation and Utilization Act, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–231).

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. 2741. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–233).

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2250. A bill to extend the Travel Promotion Act of 2009, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–234).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 231. A bill to reauthorize the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp (Rept. No. 113–235).

S. 1214. A bill to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government (Rept. No. 113–236).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1486. A bill to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service (Rept. No. 113–237).

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1961. A bill to protect surface water from contamination by chemical storage facilities, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–238).

S. 2042. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 113–239).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 2519. A bill to codify an existing operations center for cybersecurity (Rept. No. 113–240).

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 606. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, as the ''Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building''.

H.R. 1671. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the ''James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office''.

H.R. 2291. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the ''Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office''.

H.R. 3472. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13127 Broadway Street in Alden, New York, as the ''Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office''.

H.R. 3765. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, as the ''Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building''.

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 4194. A bill to provide for the elimination or modification of Federal reporting requirements.

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 4197. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers, and for other purposes.

S. 2117. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WYDEN for the Committee on Finance.

*Maria Cancian, of Wisconsin, to be Assistant Secretary for Family Support, Department of Health and Human Services.

*D. Nathan Sheets, of Maryland, to be an Under Secretary of the Treasury.

*Robert W. Holleyman II, of Louisiana, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

*Ramin Toloui, of Iowa, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of the Treasury.

*Cary Douglas Pugh, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 2714. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of World War I; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 2715. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase and make permanent the alternative simplified research credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BEGICH:

S. 2716. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of adding the sites associated with the forced relocation and confinement of the Aleut people during World War II in the State of Alaska as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 2717. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to provide a refundable credit for costs associated with Information Sharing and Analysis Organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 2718. A bill to promote youth athletic safety and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2719. A bill to emphasize manufacturing in engineering programs by directing the National Institute of Standards and Technology, in coordination with other appropriate Federal agencies including the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, and National Science Foundation, to designate United States manufacturing universities; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. HAGAN (for herself and Mr. BURR):

S. 2720. A bill to amend the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 with respect to high priority corridors on the National Highway System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. DONNELLY):

S. 2721. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to weight limitations for natural gas vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 2722. A bill to facilitate identification and dissemination of evidence-informed recommendations for addressing maternal addiction and neonatal abstinence syndrome and to provide for studies with respect to neonatal abstinence syndrome; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 2723. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to qualify homeless youth and veterans who are full-time students for purposes of the low income housing tax credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico:

S. 2724. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of small business start-up savings accounts; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2725. A bill to address noncompliance by the Russian Federation of its obligations under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2726. A bill to clarify the definition of nonadmitted insurer under the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 2727. A bill to approve and implement the Klamath Basin agreements, to improve natural resource management, support economic development, and sustain agricultural production in the Klamath River Basin in the public interest and the interest of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 2728. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide community-based medical education payments to primary care teaching centers, to provide for a Medicare indirect medical education performance adjustment, and to increase Medicare graduate medical education transparency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 2729. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require the Secretary of the Interior to publish and make available for public comment a draft economic analysis at the time a proposed rule to designate critical habitat is published; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 2730. A bill to establish or integrate an online significant event tracker (SET) system for tracking, reporting, and summarizing exposures of members of the Armed Forces, including members of the reserve components thereof, to traumatic events, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. NELSON (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 2731. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the application of Medicare secondary payer rules to certain workers' compensation settlement agreements and qualified Medicare set-aside provisions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. DONNELLY):

S. 2732. A bill to increase from $10,000,000,000 to $50,000,000,000 the threshold figure at which regulated depository institutions are subject to direct examination and reporting requirements of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 2733. A bill to establish a certification process for opting out of the individual health insurance mandate; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 2734. A bill to improve timber management of Oregon and California Railroad and Coos Bay Wagon Road grant land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2735. A bill to provide for an extension of the Internet Tax Freedom Act; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2736. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent identity theft related tax refund fraud, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 2737. A bill to ensure that transportation and infrastructure projects carried out using Federal financial assistance are constructed with steel, iron, and manufactured goods that are produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 2738. A bill to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a national center for research on the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic substances during service in the Armed Forces, to establish an advisory board on exposure to toxic substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 2739. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make qualified biogas property eligible for the energy credit and to permit new clean renewable energy bonds to finance qualified biogas property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HEITKAMP:

S. 2740. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a voluntary national directory of veterans to support outreach to veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 2741. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 2742. A bill to provide for public notice and input prior to the closure, consolidation, or public access limitation of field or hearing offices of the Social Security Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. COATS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 2743. A bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, for border security, law enforcement, humanitarian assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mrs. HAGAN:

S. 2744. A bill to authorize a settlement in accordance with the agreement entered into by the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Department of the Interior, and counties within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHANNS (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 2745. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Chief Standing Bear National Historic Trail, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE):

S. 2746. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health of children and help better understand and enhance awareness about unexpected sudden death in early life; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KIRK:

S. 2747. A bill to require Federal agencies to review certain rules and regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 2748. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to conform citizen suits under that Act with other existing law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 2749. A bill to establish a board of directors and CEO to oversee the Federal Exchange and State Exchanges, and to provide health insurance oversight; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KIRK:

S. 2750. A bill to encourage investments in airports through public-private partnerships, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. WALSH:

S. 2751. A bill to provide payments to States for activities to expand early voting access, provide for an equitable distribution of early voting polling locations, including early voting polling locations on Indian tribal land, and to implement voter registration reforms for elections for Federal office, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 2752. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to improve the disclosure of certain expenditures under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 2753. A bill to increase the recruitment and retention of school counselors, school social workers, and school psychologists by low-income local educational agencies; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 2754. A bill to provide limits on bundling, to reform the lobbyist registration process, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2755. A bill to prevent deaths occurring from drug overdoses; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. LEE):

S. 2756. A bill to promote competition and help consumers save money by giving them the freedom to choose where they buy prescription pet medications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. COONS, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2757. A bill to invest in innovation through research and development, to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. WALSH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 2758. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to modernize C–130 aircraft using alternative communication, navigation, surveillance, and air traffic management program kits and to ensure that such aircraft meet applicable regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL (for herself and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 2759. A bill to release the City of St. Clair, Missouri, from all restrictions, conditions, and limitations on the use, encumbrance, conveyance, and closure of the St. Clair Regional Airport; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL:

S. 2760. A bill to extend National Highway Traffic Safety Administration authorizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 2761. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to permit the consolidation of metropolitan planning organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 2762. A bill to prevent future propane shortages, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 2763. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to create a collaborative network with a single point of entry for services and supports, to improve programs to prevent elder financial exploitation, to create a community care wrap-around support demonstration program, and to create a national campaign to raise awareness of the aging network and promote advance integrated long-term care planning, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WALSH:

S. 2764. A bill to support country-of-origin labeling, ban imports of fresh meat and meat food products from countries with foot-and-mouth disease, reform certain livestock programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2765. A bill to amend the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 to prevent duplicative regulation of advisers of small business investment companies; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 2766. A bill to combat terrorism and promote reform in the Palestinian Authority and the United Nations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KIRK:

S. 2767. A bill to prohibit the fraudulent transfer of custody of unaccompanied alien children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 2768. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to expand the use of categorical exclusions for hazardous fuel reduction projects; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2769. A bill to ensure appropriate judicial review of Federal Government actions by amending the prohibition on the exercise of jurisdiction by the United States Court of Federal Claims of certain claims pending in other courts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WALSH:

S. 2770. A bill to amend titles 5 and 28, United States Code, to require annual reports to Congress on, and the maintenance of databases on, awards of fees and other expenses to prevailing parties in certain administrative proceedings and court cases to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2771. A bill to establish a WaterSense program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. FLAKE:

S. 2772. A bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. 2773. A bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, for border security, law enforcement, humanitarian assistance, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S.J. Res. 41. A joint resolution approving the location of a memorial to commemorate the more than 5,000 slaves and free Black persons who fought for independence in the American Revolution; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. Res. 531. A resolution honoring the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Louis Zamperini and expressing condolences on his passing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Ms. WARREN):

S. Res. 532. A resolution designating the week beginning September 7, 2014, as ''National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. NELSON):

S. Res. 533. A resolution designating September 2014 as ''National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 534. A resolution designating September 6, 2014, as ''Everett McKinley Dirksen and Marigold Day''; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 535. A resolution to authorize the printing of a revised edition of the Senate Rules and Manual; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. JOHANNS (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE):

S. Con. Res. 42. A concurrent resolution recognizing caregiving as a profession and the extraordinary contributions of paid and family caregivers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 234

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 234, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 240

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 240, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the per-fiscal year calculation of days of certain active duty or active service used to reduce the minimum age at which a member of a reserve component of the uniformed services may retire for non-regular service.

S. 338

At the request of Mr. KAINE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 338, a bill to amend the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 to provide consistent and reliable authority for, and for the funding of, the land and water conservation fund to maximize the effectiveness of the fund for future generations, and for other purposes.

S. 567

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 567, a bill to improve the retirement of American families by strengthening Social Security.

S. 635

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual written privacy notice requirement.

S. 641

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 641, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, and other programs, to promote education in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

S. 709

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 709, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, leading to better care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

S. 734

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 734, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation.

S. 754

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 754, a bill to amend the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 to include farmed shellfish as specialty crops.

S. 759

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 759, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for amounts paid by a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces for a new State license or certification required by reason of a permanent change in the duty station of such member to another State.

S. 809

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 809, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require that genetically engineered food and foods that contain genetically engineered ingredients be labeled accordingly.

S. 948

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 948, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage and payment for complex rehabilitation technology items under the Medicare program.

S. 987

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 987, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

S. 1012

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1012, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve operations of recovery auditors under the Medicare integrity program, to increase transparency and accuracy in audits conducted by contractors, and for other purposes.

S. 1030

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1030, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an energy investment credit for energy storage property connected to the grid, and for other purposes.

S. 1158

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1158, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins commemorating the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 1249

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1249, a bill to rename the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking of the Department of State the Bureau to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons and to provide for an Assistant Secretary to head such Bureau, and for other purposes.

S. 1323

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1323, a bill to address the continued threat posed by dangerous synthetic drugs by amending the Controlled Substances Act relating to controlled substance analogues.

S. 1406

At the request of Mr. NELSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1406, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1410

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1410, a bill to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders.

S. 1463

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1463, a bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to prohibit importation, exportation, transportation, sale, receipt, acquisition, and purchase in interstate or foreign commerce, or in a manner substantially affecting interstate or foreign commerce, of any live animal of any prohibited wildlife species.

S. 1477

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1477, a bill to clarify the rights of Indians and Indian tribes on Indian lands the National Labor Relations Act.

S. 1555

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1555, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide for a delay in the implementation schedule of the reductions in disproportionate share hospital payments, and for other purposes.

S. 1645

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1645, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 1842

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1842, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

S. 1875

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1875, a bill to provide for wildfire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

S. 1904

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1904, a bill to amend the eligibility requirements for funding under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

S. 1974

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1974, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to prohibit Federal education mandates, and for other purposes.

S. 2082

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2082, a bill to provide for the development of criteria under the Medicare program for medically necessary short inpatient hospital stays, and for other purposes.

S. 2141

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2141, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide an alternative process for review of safety and effectiveness of nonprescription sunscreen active ingredients and for other purposes.

S. 2143

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2143, a bill to increase access to capital for veteran entrepreneurs to help create jobs.

S. 2182

At the request of Mr. WALSH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2182, a bill to expand and improve care provided to veterans and members of the Armed Forces with mental health disorders or at risk of suicide, to review the terms or characterization of the discharge or separation of certain individuals from the Armed Forces, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 2192

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of S. 2192, a bill to amend the National Alzheimer's Project Act to require the Director of the National Institutes of Health to prepare and submit, directly to the President for review and transmittal to Congress, an annual budget estimate (including an estimate of the number and type of personnel needs for the Institutes) for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to such an Act.

S. 2250

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2250, a bill to extend the Travel Promotion Act of 2009, and for other purposes.

S. 2309

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2309, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to authorize the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to issue oleoresin capsicum spray to officers and employees of the Bureau of Prisons.

S. 2329

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2329, a bill to prevent Hezbollah from gaining access to international financial and other institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 2333

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2333, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for certain behavioral health treatment under TRICARE for children and adults with developmental disabilities.

S. 2340

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2340, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary to provide for the use of data from the second preceding tax year to carry out the simplification of applications for the estimation and determination of financial aid eligibility, to increase the income threshold to qualify for zero expected family contribution, and for other purposes.

S. 2359

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2359, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect and preserve access of Medicare beneficiaries in rural areas to health care providers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2396

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2396, a bill to establish the veterans' business outreach center program, to improve the programs for veterans of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 2501

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2501, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make improvements to the Medicare hospital readmissions reduction program.

S. 2508

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2508, a bill to establish a comprehensive United States Government policy to assist countries in sub-Saharan Africa to improve access to and the affordability, reliability, and sustainability of power, and for other purposes.

S. 2513

At the request of Mr. ENZI, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 2513, a bill to establish a demonstration project for competency-based education.

S. 2520

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2520, a bill to improve the Freedom of Information Act.

S. 2527

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2527, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals.

S. 2543

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2543, a bill to support afterschool and out-of-school-time science, technology, engineering, and mathematics programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2545

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2545, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to revoke bonuses paid to employees involved in electronic wait list manipulations, and for other purposes.

S. 2547

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2547, a bill to establish the Railroad Emergency Services Preparedness, Operational Needs, and Safety Evaluation (RESPONSE) Subcommittee under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Advisory Council to provide recommendations on emergency responder training and resources relating to hazardous materials incidents involving railroads, and for other purposes.

S. 2552

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2552, a bill to enhance beneficiary and provider protections and improve transparency in the Medicare Advantage market, and for other purposes.

S. 2567

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2567, a bill to provide for the sealing or expungement of records relating to Federal nonviolent criminal offenses, and for other purposes.

S. 2591

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2591, a bill to authorize the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to provide assistance to support the rights of women and girls in developing countries, and for other purposes.

S. 2609

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2609, a bill to restore States' sovereign rights to enforce State and local sales and use tax laws, and for other purposes.

S. 2631

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2631, a bill to prevent the expansion of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program unlawfully created by Executive memorandum on August 15, 2012.

S. 2650

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2650, a bill to provide for congressional review of agreements relating to Iran's nuclear program, and for other purposes.

S. 2659

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2659, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration) to establish a process for providing expedited and dignified passenger screening services for veterans traveling to visit war memorials built and dedicated to honor their services, and for other purposes.

S. 2660

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2660, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the special rules for accident and health plans of certain governmental entities, and for other purposes.

S. 2664

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2664, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to modernize the integrated public alert and warning system of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2667

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2667, a bill to prohibit the exercise of any waiver of the imposition of certain sanctions with respect to Iran unless the President certifies to Congress that the waiver will not result in the provision of funds to the Government of Iran for activities in support of international terrorism, to develop nuclear weapons, or to violate the human rights of the people of Iran.

S. 2685

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2685, a bill to reform the authorities of the Federal Government to require the production of certain business records, conduct electronic surveillance, use pen registers and trap and trace devices, and use other forms of information gathering for foreign intelligence, counterterrorism, and criminal purposes, and for other purposes.

S. 2687

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 2687, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that women members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2693

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2693, a bill to reauthorize the women's business center program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 2703

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2703, a bill to establish eligibility, assignment, training, and certification requirements for sexual assault forensic examiners for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2709

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2709, a bill to extend and reauthorize the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2709, supra.

S. 2710

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2710, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt private foundations from the tax on excess business holdings in the case of certain philanthropic enterprises which are independently supervised, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 513

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 513, a resolution honoring the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising.

S. RES. 522

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 522, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate supporting the U.S.—Africa Leaders Summit to be held in Washington, DC from August 4 through 6, 2014.

S. RES. 530

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 530, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the current situation in Iraq and the urgent need to protect religious minorities from persecution from the Sunni Islamist insurgent and terrorist group the Islamic State, formerly known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), as it expands its control over areas in northwestern Iraq.

AMENDMENT NO. 3588

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3588 intended to be proposed to S. 2410, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3719

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3719 intended to be proposed to S. 2648, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3720

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3720 intended to be proposed to S. 2648, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 2722. A bill to facilitate identification and dissemination of evidence-informed recommendations for addressing maternal addiction and neonatal abstinence syndrome and to provide for studies with respect to neonatal abstinence syndrome; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2722

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Protecting Our Infants Act of 2014''.

SEC. 2. EVIDENCE-INFORMED RECOMMENDATIONS WITH RESPECT TO MATERNAL ADDICTION AND NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall coordinate and facilitate the—

(1) identification and compilation of evidence-informed recommendations for physicians, nurses, and hospital facilities with respect to neonatal abstinence syndrome; and

(2) identification of any gaps, as appropriate, in such evidence-informed recommendations that may require additional research or analysis with respect to—

(A) screening and intervention for maternal substance abuse, including the misuse or abuse of prescription drugs in women of childbearing age and pregnant women;

(B) treatment for pregnant and postpartum women with a substance use disorder, including the misuse or abuse of prescription drugs;

(C) screening of infants for neonatal abstinence syndrome and for the risk of developing neonatal abstinence syndrome;

(D) treatment for infants with neonatal abstinence syndrome, including evidence-informed recommendations surrounding evaluation and treatment with pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions; and

(E) ongoing treatment, services, and supports for postpartum women with a substance use disorder, including misuse or abuse of prescription drugs, and infants and children with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

(b) INPUT.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall consider input from stakeholders, such as health professionals, public health officials, and law enforcement.

(c) DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall disseminate to appropriate stakeholders in States and local communities the evidence-informed recommendations identified under subsection (a).

(d) ADDRESSING RESEARCH NEEDS FOR MATERNAL ADDICTION AND NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME.—The Secretary shall conduct a study to evaluate—

(1) factors related to the increased prevalence of maternal opiate misuse and abuse;

(2) factors related to maternal misuse and abuse of opiates, including—

(A) barriers to identifying and treating maternal misuse and abuse of opiates; and

(B) the most effective prevention and treatment strategies for pregnant women and other women of childbearing age who are at risk for or dependent on opiates; and

(3) factors related to neonatal abstinence syndrome, including—

(A) epidemiological studies concerning neonatal abstinence syndrome;

(B) the most effective methods to diagnose and treat neonatal abstinence syndrome; and

(C) the long-term effects of neonatal abstinence syndrome and the need for a longer-term study on infants and children at risk for developing neonatal abstinence syndrome or diagnosed with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives the findings from the study under subsection (d) and a report that identifies the gaps in evidence-informed recommendations that require additional research or analysis, and priority areas for additional research.

SEC. 3. IMPROVING DATA ON NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, shall provide technical assistance to States to improve the availability and quality of data collection and surveillance activities regarding neonatal abstinence syndrome, including—

(1) incidence and prevalence of neonatal abstinence syndrome;

(2) the identification of causes for neonatal abstinence syndrome, including new and emerging trends; and

(3) the identification of demographics and other relevant information associated with neonatal abstinence syndrome.

SEC. 4. PAIN MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES.

It is the sense of Congress that the Director of the National Institutes of Health should continue research with respect to pain management, including for women of childbearing age.

SEC. 5. GAO STUDY.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study evaluating—

(1) the availability and effectiveness of federally-facilitated substance abuse treatment programs for pregnant women and their children;

(2) the availability and effectiveness of Federal programs that encourage State adoption and implementation of programs to ensure—

(A) the safety and health of mothers who have a substance use disorder; and

(B) the safety and health of children with neonatal abstinence syndrome;

(3) the effectiveness of Federal data systems and surveillance programs used to monitor or track drug utilization and resulting trends, including whether information on neonatal abstinence syndrome is incorporated into such data systems; and

(4) the identification of the use of all discretionary funds to address maternal substance abuse, including the misuse and abuse of prescription drugs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2726. A bill to clarify the definition of nonadmitted insurer under the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act of 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today, I introduce the Captive Insurers Clarification Act. This simple, commonsense legislation will clarify terms included in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act that stand to threaten the viability of the captive insurance industry in Vermont, South Carolina, and across the country. I am glad to have Senator Graham's support in this effort.

Vermont is one of the leading onshore captive insurance domiciles in the country, with over 1000 licensed captive insurance companies. I have heard from the captive industry in Vermont, understandably concerned that language included in the Dodd-Frank Act may result in the double taxation of captives that operate in states where their headquarters are not domiciled. The Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act, NRRA, as included in Dodd-Frank, intended to facilitate the proper collection and allocation of self-procurement taxes. Captives are taxed and regulated in the state in which they are domiciled, not necessarily where their corporate headquarters are located. However, due to the ambiguity of the NRRA, captive insurers are concerned that both the state in which a captive is headquartered, and the state in which the captive is domiciled, may claim the premium tax.

The Captive Insurers Clarification Act would simply clarify that such companies were never intended to be included under the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act. Applying the NRRA to captives would eliminate the specialized regulation of the captive industry that states like Vermont have worked to cultivate.

This is commonsense legislation to clarify the intention of Congress in passing the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act, and I hope Members of Congress will support its enactment.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 2736. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent identity theft related tax refund fraud, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2736

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; ETC.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''Tax Refund Theft Prevention Act of 2014''.

(b) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; etc.
Sec. 2. Safe harbor for de minimis errors on information returns and payee statements.
Sec. 3. Internet platform for Form 1099 filings.
Sec. 4. Requirement that electronically prepared paper returns include scannable code.
Sec. 5. Single point of contact for identity theft victims.
Sec. 6. Criminal penalty for misappropriating taxpayer identity in connection with tax fraud.
Sec. 7. Extend Internal Revenue Service authority to require truncated social security numbers on Form W-2.
Sec. 8. Improvement in access to information in the National Directory of New Hires for tax administration purposes.
Sec. 9. Password system for prevention of identity theft tax fraud.
Sec. 10. Increased penalty for improper disclosure or use of information by preparers of returns.
Sec. 11. Increase electronic filing of returns.
Sec. 12. Increased real-time filing.
Sec. 13. Limitation on multiple individual income tax refunds to the same account.
Sec. 14. Identity verification required under due diligence rules.
Sec. 15. Report on refund fraud.

SEC. 2. SAFE HARBOR FOR DE MINIMIS ERRORS ON INFORMATION RETURNS AND PAYEE STATEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 6721 is amended—

(1) by striking ''EXCEPTION FOR DE MINIMIS FAILURE TO INCLUDE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION'' in the heading and inserting ''EXCEPTIONS FOR CERTAIN DE MINIMIS FAILURES'',

(2) by striking ''IN GENERAL'' in the heading of paragraph (1) and inserting ''EXCEPTION FOR DE MINIMIS FAILURE TO INCLUDE ALL REQUIRED INFORMATION'', and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) SAFE HARBOR FOR CERTAIN DE MINIMIS ERRORS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If, with respect to an information return filed with the Secretary—

''(i) there are 1 or more failures described in subsection (a)(2)(B) relating to an incorrect dollar amount, and

''(ii) no single amount in error differs from the correct amount by more than $25,

then no correction shall be required and, for purposes of this section, such return shall be treated as having been filed with all of the correct required information.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to returns required under section 6049.

''(C) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may issue regulations to prevent the abuse of the safe harbor under this paragraph, including regulations providing that this subparagraph shall not apply to the extent necessary to prevent any such abuse.''.

(b) FAILURE TO FURNISH CORRECT PAYEE STATEMENTS.—Subsection (c) of section 6722 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) SAFE HARBOR FOR CERTAIN DE MINIMIS ERRORS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If, with respect to any payee statement—

''(i) there are 1 or more failures described in subsection (a)(2)(B) relating to an incorrect dollar amount, and

''(ii) no single amount in error differs from the correct amount by more than $25,

then no correction shall be required and, for purposes of this section, such statement shall be treated as having been filed with all of the correct required information.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to payee statements required under section 6049.

''(C) REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may issue regulations to prevent the abuse of the safe harbor under this paragraph, including regulations providing that this subparagraph shall not apply to the extent necessary to prevent any such abuse.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (i) of section 408 is amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(2) Paragraph (5) of section 3406(b) is amended—

(A) by striking ''$10'' both places it appears and inserting ''$25'', and

(B) by adding at the end the following flush text:

''The preceding sentence shall not apply to payments of interest to which section 6049 applies.''.

(3) Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 6042(a)(1) are each amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(4) Paragraph (2) of section 6042(a) is amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(5) Paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 6044(a) are each amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(6) Paragraph (1) of section 6047(d) is amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(7) Subsection (a) of section 6050B is amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(8) Subsection (a) of section 6050E is amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(9) Paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 6050N(a) are each amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(10) Paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 6652(a) are each amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(11) The heading of subsection (a) of section 6652 is amended by striking ''$10'' and inserting ''$25''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to information returns required to be filed, and payee statements required to be provided, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. INTERNET PLATFORM FOR FORM 1099 FILINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury (or such Secretary's delegate) shall make available an Internet website or other electronic media, similar to the Business Services Online Suite of Services provided by the Social Security Administration, that will provide taxpayers access to resources and guidance provided by the Internal Revenue Service and will allow taxpayers to—

(1) prepare and file (in batches of not more than 50) Forms 1099,

(2) prepare Forms 1099 for distribution to recipients other than the Internal Revenue Service, and

(3) create and maintain necessary taxpayer records.

(b) EARLY IMPLEMENTATION FOR FORMS 1099-MISC.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Internet website under subsection (a) shall be available in a partial form that will allow taxpayers to take the actions described in such subsection with respect to Forms 1099-MISC required to be filed or distributed by such taxpayers.

SEC. 4. REQUIREMENT THAT ELECTRONICALLY PREPARED PAPER RETURNS INCLUDE SCANNABLE CODE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 6011 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) SPECIAL RULE FOR RETURNS PREPARED ELECTRONICALLY AND SUBMITTED ON PAPER.—The Secretary shall require that any return of tax which is prepared electronically, but is printed and filed on paper, bear a code which can, when scanned, convert such return to electronic format.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (1) of section 6011(e) is amended by striking ''paragraph (3)'' and inserting ''paragraphs (3) and (5)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to returns of tax the due date for which (determined without regard to extensions) is after December 31, 2014.

SEC. 5. SINGLE POINT OF CONTACT FOR IDENTITY THEFT VICTIMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury (or such Secretary's delegate) shall establish new procedures to ensure that any taxpayer whose return has been delayed or otherwise adversely affected due to misappropriation of the taxpayer's taxpayer identity (as defined in section 6103(b)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) has a single point of contact who—

(1) is an individual employee of the Internal Revenue Service, and

(2) tracks the case of the taxpayer from start to finish and coordinates with other specialized units to resolve case issues as quickly as possible.

(b) CHANGE OF CONTACT.—The procedures under subsection (a) shall provide that the single point of contact may be changed—

(1) upon request of the taxpayer, or

(2) in any case where the individual employee ceases employment or is otherwise unavailable for any period, or a change is required to meet agency staffing needs, but only if the taxpayer is notified of any such change within 5 business days.

SEC. 6. CRIMINAL PENALTY FOR MISAPPROPRIATING TAXPAYER IDENTITY IN CONNECTION WITH TAX FRAUD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7206 is amended—

(1) by striking ''Any person'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Any person'', and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(b) MISAPPROPRIATION OF IDENTITY.—Any person who willfully misappropriates another person's taxpayer identity (as defined in section 6103(b)(6)) for the purpose of making any list, return, account, statement, or other document submitted to the Secretary under the provisions of this title shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than $250,000 ($500,000 in the case of a corporation) or imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both, together with the costs of prosecution.''.

(b) AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT.—Section 1028A(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of paragraph (10), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (11) and inserting ''; or'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(12) section 7206(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to misappropriation of identity in connection with tax fraud).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to offenses committed on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 7. EXTEND INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE TRUNCATED SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS ON FORM W-2.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 6051(a) is amended by striking ''his social security number'' and inserting ''an identifying number for the employee''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8. IMPROVEMENT IN ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN THE NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF NEW HIRES FOR TAX ADMINISTRATION PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 453(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653(i)) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) ADMINISTRATION OF FEDERAL TAX LAWS RELATING TO FRAUD.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall have access to the information in the National Directory of New Hires for the sole purpose of identifying and preventing fraudulent tax return filings and claims for refund under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 9. PASSWORD SYSTEM FOR PREVENTION OF IDENTITY THEFT TAX FRAUD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall implement an identity theft tax fraud prevention program under which any individual taxpayer may elect to be provided with a unique password which, as a result of such election, will be required to be included on any Federal tax return filed by such individual before the return will be processed. Such program shall be available not later than January 1 of the first calendar year beginning on or after the date that is 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) STUDY AND REPORT.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall conduct a study of the program under subsection (a) and, not later than 3 years after the January 1 date under such subsection, shall report to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives on the efficacy of such program in reducing tax refund fraud. Such report shall include a recommendation as to whether the program under subsection (a) should be made mandatory, rather than elective, for all taxpayers.

SEC. 10. INCREASED PENALTY FOR IMPROPER DISCLOSURE OR USE OF INFORMATION BY PREPARERS OF RETURNS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6713 is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively, and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

''(b) ENHANCED PENALTY FOR IMPROPER USE OR DISCLOSURE RELATING TO IDENTITY THEFT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a disclosure or use described in subsection (a) that is made in connection with a crime relating to the misappropriation of another person's taxpayer identity (as defined in section 6103(b)(6)), whether or not such crime involves any tax filing, subsection (a) shall be applied—

''(A) by substituting '$1,000' for '$250', and

''(B) by substituting '$50,000' for '$10,000'.

''(2) SEPARATE APPLICATION OF TOTAL PENALTY LIMITATION.—The limitation on the total amount of the penalty under subsection (a) shall be applied separately with respect to disclosures or uses to which this paragraph applies and to which it does not apply.''.

(b) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—Section 7216(a) is amended by striking ''$1,000'' and inserting ''$1,000 ($100,000 in the case of a disclosure or use to which section 6713(b) applies)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to disclosures or uses after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11. INCREASE ELECTRONIC FILING OF RETURNS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 6011(e)(2) is amended by striking ''250'' and inserting ''the applicable number of''.

(b) APPLICABLE NUMBER.—Subsection (e) of section 6011, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) APPLICABLE NUMBER.—For purposes of paragraph (2)(A), the applicable number is—

''(A) in the case of returns and statements relating to calendar years before 2015, 250,

''(B) in the case of returns and statements relating to calendar year 2015, 100,

''(C) in the case of returns and statements relating to calendar year 2016, 50, and

''(D) in the case of returns and statements relating to calendar years after 2016, 20.''.

(c) RETURNS FILED BY A TAX RETURN PREPARER.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 6011(e)(3) is amended to read as follows:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require that—

''(i) any individual income tax return, and

''(ii) any return or statement under subpart B, C, or E of part III of this subchapter,

which is prepared by a tax return preparer be filed on magnetic media. The Secretary may waive the requirement of the preceding sentence if the Secretary determines, on the basis of an application by the tax return preparer, that the preparer cannot meet such requirement based on technological constraints (including lack of access to the Internet).''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (3) of section 6011(e) is amended by striking subparagraph (B), and by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (B).

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to returns the due date for which (determined without regard to extensions) is after December 31, 2014.

SEC. 12. INCREASED REAL-TIME FILING.

(a) ACCELERATED FILING OF FORMS W-2 AND W-3.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 6071 is amended by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d), and by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

''(c) RETURNS RELATING TO EMPLOYEE WAGE INFORMATION.—Returns and statements made under sections 6051 and 6052 shall be filed on or before February 15 of the year following the calendar year to which such returns relate.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of section 6071 is amended by striking ''subparts B and C'' and inserting ''section 6053 and subpart B''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to returns and statements relating to calendar years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) ACCELERATED FILING FOR CERTAIN FORMS 1099.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 6071, as amended by subsection (a), is amended—

(A) by striking ''WAGE INFORMATION'' in the heading and inserting ''WAGE INFORMATION AND FORMS 1099-MISC'', and

(B) by inserting '', and any return which is filed on Form 1099-MISC,'' after ''6052''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (b) of section 6071, as amended by this Act, is amended by striking ''section 6053 and subpart B of part III of this subchapter'' and inserting ''subpart B of part III of this subchapter (other than returns filed on Form 1099-MISC)''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to returns relating to calendar years beginning after December 31, 2014.

(c) STUDY REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than January 1, 2017, the Secretary of the Treasury shall report to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives including—

(1) a recommendation of whether the due dates for filing Forms W-2 and W-3 with the Internal Revenue Service and the Social Security Administration should be accelerated to January 31 to match the due date for furnishing copies of such forms to the recipient of the reported income,

(2) recommendations for processes—

(A) to match the information reported on Forms W-2 and Forms 1099-MISC for the effective processing of returns and accurate determination of refunds, and

(B) to correct errors on such documents, and

(3) any other recommendations such Secretary may have for accelerating information reporting, including the identification of any other forms that should be due on an accelerated schedule in order to prevent tax refund fraud.

SEC. 13. LIMITATION ON MULTIPLE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX REFUNDS TO THE SAME ACCOUNT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall issue regulations that restrict the delivery or deposit of multiple individual income tax refunds from the same tax year to the same individual account or mailing address.

(b) EXCEPTION.—The regulation promulgated under subsection (a) shall provide that the restrictions shall not apply in cases and situations where the Secretary of the Treasury determines there is not a likelihood of tax fraud.

SEC. 14. IDENTITY VERIFICATION REQUIRED UNDER DUE DILIGENCE RULES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (g) of section 6695 is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Such due diligence requirements shall include a requirement that such preparer verify (in such manner and with such documentation as the Secretary shall provide) the identity of the taxpayer with respect to such return or claim for refund.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to returns or claims for refund filed after December 31, 2014.

SEC. 15. REPORT ON REFUND FRAUD.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of the Treasury (or the Secretary's delegate) shall report to the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives on the extent and nature of fraud involving the use of a misappropriated taxpayer identity with respect to claims for refund under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 during the preceding completed income tax filing season, and the detection, prevention, and enforcement activities undertaken by the Internal Revenue Service with respect to such fraud, including—

(1) the development of fraud detection filters and how they are or may be updated and improved;

(2) the effectiveness of fraud detection activities, and the ways in which such effectiveness is measured; and

(3) the methods by which such Service categorizes of refund fraud, and the amounts of fraud that are associated with each category.

By Ms. HEITKAMP:

S. 2740. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a voluntary national directory of veterans to support outreach to veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Ms. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to help new veterans get information about the programs, benefits and services available to them as they transition back to civilian life. The Connect with Veterans Act will make it easier for cities, counties and tribes, as well as the State Departments of Veterans Affairs, to interact directly with new veterans.

Since I joined the Senate in January 2013, I have traveled all across North Dakota, listening to our veterans. One thing I heard, time and time again, was the need for more information about programs and services. Recently, I hosted my first Native American Veterans Summit in Bismarck, ND. One of the things which struck me at the Summit was how the Department of Veterans Affairs and other agencies simply weren't connecting with the veterans who wanted information about health care options and other benefits. It is clear that we, as a society, must do better.

In June 2013, I was proud to form the Senate Defense Communities Caucus along with my co-chair, Senator JOHNNY ISAKSON. We found that people and communities all across the nation are passionate about helping our military perform its mission. Through my work with the Caucus, I found these communities are equally passionate about helping our veterans as well. I heard, through a close partnership with the Association of Defense Communities, that folks wanted to do more, at the local level, to help veterans.

From those ideas, the Connect with Veterans Act was created. It is a simple bill, and one that is entirely voluntary. Separating servicemembers can choose to share their contact information with the communities they are moving to after their military service. Interested cities, counties and tribes can request the contact information for the new veterans moving to their area and then provide them with information about services and benefits. Throughout this process, the veterans contact information will be kept secure.

It is critical that we provide veterans with access to the benefits and services they have earned once they leave the military and—knowing what services and benefits are available to them is the first step. This bill will expand the sources of information available to veterans. It is not just the VA that has the responsibility to help veterans. We all share that responsibility.

I have heard from North Dakotans, in particular, about how this bill would be incredibly beneficial as many communities in my state have unmet employment needs. Veterans have proven to be great employees. And, with good-paying jobs in North Dakota, this program can provide a way to bring veterans into these open positions. But this bill gives local control of what information is provided to veterans. Communities throughout the nation will be able to make this program fit their needs.

Our Nation must do a better job of taking care of our veterans. A great first step is figuring out how best to welcome new veterans into our communities. I know my bill will help that critical process.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. COATS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 2743. A bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, for border security, law enforcement, humanitarian assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 2743

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums

are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, namely:

DIVISION A—SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

TITLE I

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND APPEALS

For an additional amount for ''Administrative Review and Appeals'', $63,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, as follows:

(1) $54,000,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review to hire 54 Immigration Judge Teams, which shall be trained and assigned to adjudicate juvenile cases.

(2) $6,700,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review for the purchase of video teleconferencing equipment, digital audio recording devices, and other technology that will enable expanded immigration courtroom capacity and capability.

(3) $2,500,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review's Legal Orientation Program, of which not less than $1,000,000 shall be for the Legal Orientation Program for Custodians:

Provided, That not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Executive Office for Immigration Review shall submit a reorganization plan to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives that includes detailed plans for prioritizing the adjudication of non-detained, unaccompanied alien children and specific plans to reassign Immigration Judge Teams to expedite the adjudication of juveniles on the non-detained docket:

Provided further, That the submitted plan shall ensure that juveniles will appear before an immigration judge for an initial hearing not later than 10 days after the juvenile is apprehended.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities'', $1,100,000, for necessary expenses to respond to the significant rise in unaccompanied children and adults with children at the southwest border and related activities, to remain available until September 30, 2014.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U. S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' to cover necessary expenses to respond to the significant rise in unaccompanied alien children and adults with children at the Southwest border and related activities, including the acquisition, construction, improvement, repair, and management of facilities, and for necessary expenses related to border security, $71,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015.

U. S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' to cover necessary expenses to respond to the significant rise in unaccompanied alien children and adults with children at the Southwest border and related activities, and for the necessary expenses for enforcement of immigration and customs law, detention and removals of adults with children crossing the border unlawfully, and investigations, $398,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, of which, $50,000,000 shall be expended for 50 additional fugitive operations teams and not less than $14,000,000 shall be expended for vetted units operations in Central America and human smuggling and trafficking investigations: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall support no fewer than an additional 3,000 family and 800 other beds and substantially increase the availability and utilization of detention space for adults with children.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. (a) For an additional amount for meeting the data collection and reporting requirements of this Act, $5,000,000.

(b) Notwithstanding section 503 of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113–76), funds made available under subsection (a) for data collection and reporting requirements may be transferred by the Secretary of Homeland Security between appropriations for the same purpose.

(c) The Secretary may not make a transfer described in subsection (b) until 15 days after notifying the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives of such transfer.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Refugee and Entrant Assistance'', $150,000,000, to be merged with and available for the same period and purposes as funds appropriated in Public Law 113–76 ''for carrying out such sections 414, 501, 462, and 235'': *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may also be used for other medical response expenses of the Department of Health and Human Services in assisting individuals identified under subsection (b) of such section 235: *Provided further*, That, the Secretary may, in this fiscal year and hereafter, accept and use money, funds, property, and services of any kind made available by gift, devise, bequest, grant, or other donation for carrying out such sections: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading for medical response expenses may be transferred to and merged with the ''Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'': *Provided further*, That transfer authority under this heading is subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 301. Of the funds made available for performance bonus payments under section 2105(a)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397ee(a)(3)(E)), $1,700,000,000 is rescinded.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

REPATRIATION AND REINTEGRATION

SEC. 401. (a) Of the funds appropriated in titles III and IV of division K of Public Law 113–76, and in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, for assistance for the countries in Central America, up to $40,000,000 shall be made available for such countries for repatriation and reintegration activities: *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to this section may be obligated notwithstanding subsections (c) and (e) of section 7045 of division K of Public Law 113–76.

(b) Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available pursuant to this section, but not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2015, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the obligation of funds made available pursuant to this section by country and the steps taken by the government of each country to—

(1) improve border security;

(2) enforce laws and policies to stem the flow of illegal entries into the United States;

(3) enact laws and implement new policies to stem the flow of illegal entries into the United States, including increasing penalties for human smuggling;

(4) conduct public outreach campaigns to explain the dangers of the journey to the Southwest Border of the United States and to emphasize the lack of immigration benefits available; and

(5) cooperate with United States Federal agencies to facilitate and expedite the return, repatriation, and reintegration of illegal migrants arriving at the Southwest Border of the United States.

(c) The Secretary of State shall suspend assistance provided pursuant to this section to the government of a country if such government is not making significant progress on each item described in paragraphs (1) through (5) of subsection (b): *Provided*, That assistance may only be resumed if the Secretary reports to the appropriate congressional committees that subsequent to the suspension of assistance such government is making significant progress on each of the items enumerated in such subsection.

(d) Funds made available pursuant to this section shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of House of Representatives and the Senate.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS — THIS ACT

SEC. 501. Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, working in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall institute a process for collecting, exchanging, and sharing specific data pertaining to individuals whose cases will be adjudicated by the Executive Office for Immigration Review that ensures that—

(1) the Department of Justice is capable of electronically receiving information from the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Health and Human Services related to the apprehension, processing, detention, placement, and adjudication of such individuals, including unaccompanied alien children;

(2) case files prepared by the Department of Homeland Security after an individual has been issued a notice to appear are electronically integrated with information collected by the Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review during the adjudication process;

(3) cases are coded to reflect immigration status and appropriate categories at apprehension, such as unaccompanied alien children and family units;

(4) information pertaining to cases and dockets are collected and maintained by the

Department of Justice in an electronic, searchable database that includes—

(A) the status of the individual appearing before the court upon apprehension;

(B) the docket upon which the case is placed;

(C) the individual's presence for court proceedings;

(D) the final disposition of each case;

(E) the number of days each case remained on the docket before final disposition; and

(F) any other information the Attorney General determines to be necessary and appropriate; and

(5) the final disposition of an adjudication or an order of removal is electronically submitted to—

(A) the Department of Homeland Security; and

(B) the Department of Health and Human Services, if appropriate.

SEC. 502. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, working in coordination with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall institute a process for collecting, exchanging, and sharing specific data pertaining to individuals who are apprehended or encountered for immigration enforcement purposes by the Department of Homeland Security that ensures that—

(1) case files prepared by the Department of Homeland Security after an individual has been issued a notice to appear are electronically transmitted to—

(A) the Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review for integration with case files prepared during the adjudication process; and

(B) to the Department of Health and Human Services, as appropriate, if the files relate to unaccompanied alien children;

(2) the Department of Homeland Security is capable of electronically receiving information pertaining to the disposition of an adjudication, including removal orders and the individual's failure to appear for proceedings, from the Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review; and

(3) information is collected and shared with the Department of Justice regarding the immigration status and appropriate categories of such individuals at the time of apprehension, such as—

(A) unaccompanied alien children or family units;

(B) the location of their apprehension;

(C) the number of days they remain in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security;

(D) the reason for releasing the individual from custody;

(E) the geographic location of their residence, if released from custody;

(F) any action taken by the Department of Homeland Security after receiving information from the Department of Justice regarding an individual's failure to appear before the court;

(G) any action taken by the Department of Homeland Security after receiving information from the Department of Justice regarding the disposition of an adjudication; and

(H) any other information that the Secretary of Homeland Security determines to be necessary and appropriate.

SEC. 503. Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, working in coordination with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall institute a process for collecting, exchanging, and sharing specific data pertaining to unaccompanied alien children that ensures that—

(1) the Department of Health and Human Services is capable of electronically receiving information from the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice related to the apprehension, processing, placement, and adjudication of unaccompanied alien children;

(2) the Department of Health and Human Services shares information with the Department of Homeland Security regarding its capacity and capability to meet the 72-hour mandate required under section 235(b)(3) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)(3)); and

(3) information is collected and shared with the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security regarding—

(A) the number of days a child remained in the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services;

(B) whether the child was placed in a facility operated by the Department of Defense;

(C) for children placed with a sponsor—

(i) the number of children placed with the sponsor;

(ii) the relationship of the sponsor taking custody of the child;

(iii) the type of background check conducted on the potential sponsor; and

(iv) the geographic location of the sponsor; and

(D) any other information the Attorney General or the Secretary of Homeland Security determines to be necessary and appropriate.

SEC. 504. The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

SEC. 505. This Act may be cited as the ''Protecting Children and America's Homeland Act of 2014''.

DIVISION B—UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN AND BORDER SECURITY

TITLE X—UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN

Subtitle A—Protection and Due Process for Unaccompanied Alien Children

SEC. 1001. REPATRIATION OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

Section 235(a) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by amending the paragraph heading to read as follows: ''RULES FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—'';

(B) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''who is a national or habitual resident of a country that is contiguous with the United States''; and

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by amending the subparagraph heading to read as follows: ''AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES.—''; and

(ii) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''countries contiguous to the United States'' and inserting ''Canada, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and any other foreign country that the Secretary determines appropriate'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (4), (5), and (6), respectively;

(3) inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) MANDATORY EXPEDITED REMOVAL OF CRIMINALS AND GANG MEMBERS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall place an unaccompanied alien child in a proceeding in accordance with section 235 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225a) if, the Secretary determines or has reason to believe the alien—

''(A) has been convicted of any offense carrying a maximum term of imprisonment of more than 180 days;

''(B) has been convicted of an offense which involved—

''(i) domestic violence (as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a));

''(ii) child abuse and neglect (as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a));

''(iii) assault resulting in bodily injury (as defined in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code);

''(iv) the violation of a protection order (as defined in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code);

''(v) driving while intoxicated (as defined in section 164 of title 23, United States Code); or

''(vi) any offense under foreign law, except for a purely political offense, which, if the offense had been committed in the United States, would render the alien inadmissible under section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a));

''(C) has been convicted of more than 1 criminal offense (other than minor traffic offenses);

''(D) has engaged in, is engaged in, or is likely to engage after entry in any terrorist activity (as defined in section 212(a)(3)(B)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(iii)), or intends to participate or has participated in the activities of a foreign terrorist organization (as designated under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189));

''(E) is or was a member of a criminal gang (as defined in paragraph (53) of section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a));

''(F) provided materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent information regarding age or identity to the United States Government with the intent to wrongfully be classified as an unaccompanied alien child; or

''(G) has entered the United States more than 1 time in violation of section 275(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1325(a)), knowing that the entry was unlawful.''; and

(4) in subparagraph (D) of paragraph (6), as redesignated by paragraph (2)—

(A) by amending the subparagraph heading to read as follows: ''EXPEDITED DUE PROCESS AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—'';

(B) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking '', except for an unaccompanied alien child from a contiguous country subject to the exceptions under subsection (a)(2), shall be—'' and inserting ''who meets the criteria listed in paragraph (2)(A)—'';

(C) by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) shall be placed in a proceeding in accordance with section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which shall commence not later than 7 days after the screening of an unaccompanied alien child described in paragraph (4);'';

(D) by redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively;

(E) by inserting after clause (i) the following:

''(ii) may not be placed in the custody of a nongovernmental sponsor or otherwise released from the immediate custody of the United States Government until the child is repatriated unless the child—

''(I) is the subject of an order under section 235B(e)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act; and

''(II) is placed or released in accordance with subsection (c)(2)(C) of this section.'';

(F) in clause (iii), as redesignated, by inserting ''is'' before ''eligible''; and

(G) in clause (iv), as redesignated, by inserting ''shall be'' before ''provided''.

SEC. 1002. EXPEDITED DUE PROCESS AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) HUMANE AND EXPEDITED INSPECTION AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 235A the following:

''SEC. 235B. HUMANE AND EXPEDITED INSPECTION AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

''(a) ASYLUM OFFICER DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'asylum officer' means an immigration officer who—

''(1) has had professional training in country conditions, asylum law, and interview techniques comparable to that provided to full-time adjudicators of applications under section 208; and

''(2) is supervised by an officer who—

''(A) meets the condition described in paragraph (1); and

''(B) has had substantial experience adjudicating asylum applications.

''(b) PROCEEDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 days after the screening of an unaccompanied alien child under section 235(a)(5) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)(5)), an immigration judge shall conduct and conclude a proceeding to inspect, screen, and determine the status of the unaccompanied alien child who is an applicant for admission to the United States.

''(2) TIME LIMIT.—Not later than 72 hours after the conclusion of a proceeding with respect to an unaccompanied alien child under this section, the immigration judge who conducted such proceeding shall issue an order pursuant to subsection (e).

''(c) CONDUCT OF PROCEEDING.—

''(1) AUTHORITY OF IMMIGRATION JUDGE.—The immigration judge conducting a proceeding under this section—

''(A) shall administer oaths, receive evidence, and interrogate, examine, and cross-examine the unaccompanied alien child and any witnesses;

''(B) may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and presentation of evidence;

''(C) is authorized to sanction by civil money penalty any action (or inaction) in contempt of the judge's proper exercise of authority under this Act; and

''(D) shall determine whether the unaccompanied alien child meets any of the criteria set out in subparagraphs (A) through (G) of paragraph (3) of section 235(a) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)), and if so, order the alien removed under subsection (e)(2) of this section.

''(2) FORM OF PROCEEDING.—A proceeding under this section may take place—

''(A) in person;

''(B) at a location agreed to by the parties, in the absence of the unaccompanied alien child;

''(C) through video conference; or

''(D) through telephone conference.

''(3) PRESENCE OF ALIEN.—If it is impracticable by reason of the mental incompetency of the unaccompanied alien child for the alien to be present at the proceeding, the Attorney General shall prescribe safeguards to protect the rights and privileges of the alien.

''(4) RIGHTS OF THE ALIEN.—In a proceeding under this section—

''(A) the unaccompanied alien child shall be given the privilege of being represented, at no expense to the Government, by counsel of the alien's choosing who is authorized to practice in the proceedings;

''(B) the alien shall be given a reasonable opportunity—

''(i) to examine the evidence against the alien;

''(ii) to present evidence on the alien's own behalf; and

''(iii) to cross-examine witnesses presented by the Government;

''(C) the rights set forth in subparagraph (B) shall not entitle the alien—

''(i) to examine such national security information as the Government may proffer in opposition to the alien's admission to the United States; or

''(ii) to an application by the alien for discretionary relief under this Act; and

''(D) a complete record shall be kept of all testimony and evidence produced at the proceeding.

''(5) WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.—An unaccompanied alien child applying for admission to the United States may, and at any time prior to the issuance of a final order of removal, be permitted to withdraw the application and immediately be returned to the alien's country of nationality or country of last habitual residence.

''(6) CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO APPEAR.—An unaccompanied alien child who does not attend a proceeding under this section, shall be ordered removed, except under exceptional circumstances where the alien's absence is the fault of the Government, a medical emergency, or an act of nature.

''(d) DECISION AND BURDEN OF PROOF.—

''(1) DECISION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—At the conclusion of a proceeding under this section, the immigration judge shall determine whether an unaccompanied alien child is likely to be—

''(i) admissible to the United States; or

''(ii) eligible for any form of relief from removal under this Act.

''(B) EVIDENCE.—The determination of the immigration judge under subparagraph (A) shall be based only on the evidence produced at the hearing.

''(2) BURDEN OF PROOF.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In a proceeding under this section, an unaccompanied alien child who is an applicant for admission has the burden of establishing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the alien—

''(i) is likely to be entitled to be lawfully admitted to the United States or eligible for any form of relief from removal under this Act; or

''(ii) is lawfully present in the United States pursuant to a prior admission.

''(B) ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS.—In meeting the burden of proof under subparagraph (A)(ii), the alien shall be given access to—

''(i) the alien's visa or other entry document, if any; and

''(ii) any other records and documents, not considered by the Attorney General to be confidential, pertaining to the alien's admission or presence in the United States.

''(e) ORDERS.—

''(1) PLACEMENT IN FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.—If an immigration judge determines that the unaccompanied alien child has met the burden of proof under subsection (d)(2), the immigration judge shall—

''(A) order the alien to be placed in further proceedings in accordance with section 240; and

''(B) order the Secretary of Homeland Security to place the alien on the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detained docket for purposes of carrying out such proceedings.

''(2) ORDERS OF REMOVAL.—If an immigration judge determines that the unaccompanied alien child has not met the burden of proof required under subsection (d)(2), the judge shall order the alien removed from the United States without further hearing or review unless the alien claims—

''(A) an intention to apply for asylum under section 208; or

''(B) a fear of persecution.

''(3) CLAIMS FOR ASYLUM.—If an unaccompanied alien child described in paragraph (2) claims an intention to apply for asylum under section 208 or a fear of persecution, the immigration judge shall order the alien referred for an interview by an asylum officer under subsection (f).

''(f) ASYLUM INTERVIEWS.—

''(1) CREDIBLE FEAR OF PERSECUTION DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'credible fear of persecution' means, after taking into account the credibility of the statements made by an unaccompanied alien child in support of the alien's claim and such other facts as are known to the asylum officer, there is a significant possibility that the alien could establish eligibility for asylum under section 208.

''(2) CONDUCT BY ASYLUM OFFICER.—An asylum officer shall conduct the interviews of an unaccompanied alien child referred under subsection (e)(3).

''(3) REFERRAL OF CERTAIN ALIENS.—If the asylum officer determines at the time of the interview that an unaccompanied alien child has a credible fear of persecution, the alien shall be held in the custody of the Secretary for Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)) during further consideration of the application for asylum.

''(4) REMOVAL WITHOUT FURTHER REVIEW IF NO CREDIBLE FEAR OF PERSECUTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (C), if the asylum officer determines that an unaccompanied alien child does not have a credible fear of persecution, the asylum officer shall order the alien removed from the United States without further hearing or review.

''(B) RECORD OF DETERMINATION.—The asylum officer shall prepare a written record of a determination under subparagraph (A), which shall include—

''(i) a summary of the material facts as stated by the alien;

''(ii) such additional facts (if any) relied upon by the asylum officer;

''(iii) the asylum officer's analysis of why, in light of such facts, the alien has not established a credible fear of persecution; and

''(iv) a copy of the asylum officer's interview notes.

''(C) REVIEW OF DETERMINATION.—

''(i) RULEMAKING.—The Attorney General shall establish, by regulation, a process by which an immigration judge will conduct a prompt review, upon the alien's request, of a determination under subparagraph (A) that the alien does not have a credible fear of persecution.

''(ii) MANDATORY COMPONENTS.—The review described in clause (i)—

''(I) shall include an opportunity for the alien to be heard and questioned by the immigration judge, either in person or by telephonic or video connection; and

''(II) shall be concluded as expeditiously as possible, to the maximum extent practicable within 24 hours, but in no case later than 7 days after the date of the determination under subparagraph (A).

''(D) MANDATORY PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.—Any alien subject to the procedures under this paragraph shall be held in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b))—

''(i) pending a final determination of an application for asylum under this subsection; and

''(ii) after a determination under this subsection that the alien does not have a credible fear of persecution, until the alien is removed.

''(g) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (f)(4)(C) and paragraph (2), a removal order entered in accordance with subsection (e)(2) or (f)(4)(A) is not subject to administrative appeal.

''(2) RULEMAKING.—The Attorney General shall establish, by regulation, a process for the prompt review of an order under subsection (e)(2) against an alien who claims under oath, or as permitted under penalty of perjury under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code, after having been warned of the penal ties for falsely making such claim under such conditions to have been—

''(A) lawfully admitted for permanent residence;

''(B) admitted as a refugee under section 207; or

''(C) granted asylum under section 208.

''(h) LAST IN, FIRST OUT.—In any proceedings, determinations, or removals under this section, priority shall be accorded to the alien who has most recently arrived in the United States.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the first section of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 235A the following:

''Sec. 235B. Humane and expedited inspection and screening for unaccompanied alien children.''.

(b) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF ORDERS OF REMOVAL.—Section 242 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1252) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''section 235(b)(1))'' and inserting ''section 235(b)(1) or an order of removal issued to an unaccompanied alien child after proceedings under section 235B''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting ''or section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)(1)'' each place it appears; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the subparagraph heading, by inserting ''OR 235B'' after ''SECTION 235(B)(1)''; and

(II) in clause (iii), by striking ''section 235(b)(1)(B),'' and inserting ''section 235(b)(1)(B) or 235B(f);''; and

(2) in subsection (e)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''OR 235B'' after ''SECTION 235(B)(1)'';

(B) by inserting ''or section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)(1)'' each place it appears;

(C) in subparagraph (2)(C), by inserting ''or section 235B(g)'' after ''section 235(b)(1)(C)''; and

(D) in subparagraph (3)(A), by inserting ''or section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)''.

SEC. 1003. EXPEDITED DUE PROCESS FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN PRESENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) SPECIAL MOTIONS FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—

(1) FILING AUTHORIZED.—During the 60-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, notwithstanding any other provision of law, permit an unaccompanied alien child who was issued a notice to appear under section 239 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229) during the period beginning on January 1, 2013, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act—

(A) to appear, in-person, before an immigration judge who has been authorized by the Attorney General to conduct proceedings under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002;

(B) to attest that the unaccompanied alien child desires to apply for admission to the United States; and

(C) to file a motion—

(i) to replace any notice to appear issued between January 1, 2013, and the date of the enactment of this Act under such section 239 that has not resulted in a final order of removal; and

(ii) to apply for admission to the United States by being placed in proceedings under such section 235B.

(2) ADJUDICATION OF MOTION.—An immigration judge may, at the sole and unreviewable discretion of the judge, grant a motion filed under paragraph (1)(C) upon a finding that—

(A) the petitioner was an unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232)) on the date on which a notice to appear was issued to the alien under section 239 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229);

(B) the notice to appear was issued during the period beginning on January 1, 2013, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act;

(C) the unaccompanied alien child is applying for admission to the United States; and

(D) the granting of such motion would not be manifestly unjust.

(3) EFFECT OF MOTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the granting of a motion to replace a notice to appear under paragraph (2), the immigration judge who granted such motion shall—

(A) while the petitioner remains in-person, immediately inspect and screen the petitioner for admission to the United States by conducting a proceeding under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002;

(B) immediately notify the petitioner of the petitioner's ability, under section 235B(c)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to withdraw the petitioner's application for admission to the United States and immediately be returned to the petitioner's country of nationality or country of last habitual residence; and

(C) replace the petitioner's notice to appear with an order under section 235B(e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

(4) PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.—An unaccompanied alien child who has been granted a motion under paragraph (2) shall be held in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232).

SEC. 1004. CHILD WELFARE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION SHARING.

Section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) INFORMATION SHARING.—

''(A) IMMIGRATION STATUS.—If the Secretary of Health and Human Services considers placement of an unaccompanied alien child with a potential sponsor, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Secretary of Health and Human Services the immigration status of such potential sponsor prior to the placement of the unaccompanied alien child.

''(B) OTHER INFORMATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall provide to the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General any relevant information related to an unaccompanied alien child who is or has been in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, including the location of the child and any person to whom custody of the child has been transferred, for any legitimate law enforcement objective, including enforcement of the immigration laws.''.

SEC. 1005. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR CHILDREN AND TAXPAYERS.

Section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)), as amended by section 1004, is further amended by inserting at the end the following:

''(6) INSPECTION OF FACILITIES.—The Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services shall conduct regular inspections of facilities utilized by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide care and custody of an unaccompanied alien children who are in the immediate custody of the Secretary to ensure that such facilities are operated in the most efficient manner practicable.

''(7) FACILITY OPERATIONS COSTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall ensure that facilities utilized to provide care and custody of unaccompanied alien children are operated efficiently and at a rate of cost that is not greater than $500 per day for each child housed or detained at such facility, unless the Secretary certifies that compliance with this requirement is temporarily impossible due to emergency circumstances.''.

SEC. 1006. CUSTODY OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN IN FORMAL REMOVAL PROCEEDING.

Section 235(c) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2) by inserting at the end the following:

''(C) CHILDREN IN FORMAL REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS.—

''(i) LIMITATION ON PLACEMENT.—An unaccompanied alien child who has been placed in a proceeding under section 240 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229a) may not be placed in the custody of a nongovernmental sponsor or otherwise released from the immediate custody of the United States Government unless—

''(I) the nongovernmental sponsor is a biological or adoptive parent of the unaccompanied alien child;

''(II) the parent is legally present in the United States at the time of the placement;

''(III) the parent has undergone a mandatory biometric criminal history check; and

''(IV) the Secretary of Health and Human Services has determined that the unaccompanied alien child is not a danger to self, danger to the community, or risk of flight.

''(ii) EXCEPTIONS.—If the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines that an unaccompanied alien child is a victim of severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)), a special needs child with a disability (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)), a child who has been a victim of physical or sexual abuse under circumstances that indicate that the child's health or welfare has been significantly harmed or threatened, or a child with mental health needs that require ongoing assistance from a social welfare agency, the unaccompanied alien child may be placed with a grandparent or adult sibling if the grandparent or adult sibling meets the

requirements set out in subclauses (II), (III), and (IV) of clause (i).

''(iii) MONITORING.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—An unaccompanied alien child who is 15, 16, or 17 years of age placed with a nongovernmental sponsor or, in the case of an unaccompanied alien child younger than 15 years of age placed with a nongovernmental sponsor, such nongovernmental sponsor shall—

''(aa) enroll in the alternative to detention program of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and

''(bb) continuously wear an electronic ankle monitor while the unaccompanied alien child is in removal proceedings.

''(II) PENALTY FOR MONITOR TAMPERING.—If an electronic ankle monitor required by subclause (I) is tampered with, the sponsor of the unaccompanied alien child shall be subject to a civil penalty of $150 for each day the monitor is not functioning due to the tampering, up to a maximum of $3,000.

''(iv) EFFECT OF VIOLATION OF CONDITIONS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall remove an unaccompanied alien child from a sponsor if the sponsor violates the terms of the agreement specifying the conditions under which the alien was placed with the sponsor.

''(v) FAILURE TO APPEAR.—

''(I) CIVIL PENALTY.—If an unaccompanied alien child is placed with a sponsor and fails to appear in a mandatory court appearance, the sponsor shall be subject to a civil penalty of $250 for each day until the alien appears in court, up to a maximum of $5,000.

''(II) BURDEN OF PROOF.—The sponsor is not subject to the penalty imposed under subclause (I) if the sponsor—

''(aa) appears in person and proves to the immigration court that the failure to appear by the unaccompanied alien child was not the fault of the sponsor; and

''(bb) supplies the immigration court with documentary evidence that supports the assertion described in item (aa).

''(vi) PROHIBITION ON PLACEMENT WITH SEX OFFENDERS AND HUMAN TRAFFICKERS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may not place an unaccompanied alien child under this subparagraph in the custody of an individual who has been convicted of, or the Secretary has reason to believe was otherwise involved in the commission of—

''(I) a sex offense (as defined in section 111 of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (42 U.S. 16911)); or

''(II) a crime involving severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)).

''(vii) REQUIREMENTS OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK.—A biometric criminal history check required by clause (i)(IV) shall be conducted using a set of fingerprints or other biometric identifier through—

''(I) the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

''(II) criminal history repositories of all States that the individual lists as current or former residences; and

''(III) any other State or Federal database or repository that the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines is appropriate.''.

SEC. 1007. FRAUD IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRANSFER OF CUSTODY OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 1041. Fraud in connection with the transfer of custody of unaccompanied alien children

''(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for a person to obtain custody of an unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section 462(g) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)) by—

''(1) making any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation; or

''(2) making or using any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry.

''(b) PENALTIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any person who violates, or attempts or conspires to violate, this section shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not less than 1 year.

''(2) ENHANCED PENALTY FOR TRAFFICKING.—If the primary purpose of the violation, attempted violation, or conspiracy to violate this section was to subject the child to sexually explicit activity or any other form of exploitation, the offender shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not less than 15 years.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1040 the following:

''1041. Fraud in connection with the transfer of custody of unaccompanied alien children.''.

SEC. 1008. NOTIFICATION OF STATES, REPORTING, AND MONITORING.

(a) NOTIFICATION.—Section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(j) NOTIFICATION TO STATES.—

''(1) PRIOR TO PLACEMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security or the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall notify the Governor of a State not later than 48 hours prior to the placement of an unaccompanied alien child from in custody of such Secretary in the care of a facility or sponsor in such State.

''(2) INITIAL REPORTS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit a report to the Governor of each State in which an unaccompanied alien child was discharged to a sponsor or placed in a facility while remaining in the legal custody of the Secretary during the period beginning October 1, 2013 and ending on the date of the enactment of the Protecting Children and America's Homeland Act of 2014.

''(3) MONTHLY REPORTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit a monthly report to the Governor of each State in which, during the reporting period, unaccompanied alien children were discharged to a sponsor or placed in a facility while remaining in the legal custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

''(4) CONTENTS.—Each report required to be submitted to the Governor of a State by paragraph (2) or (3) shall identify the number of unaccompanied alien children placed in the State during the reporting period, disaggregated by—

''(A) the locality in which the aliens were placed; and

''(B) the age of the aliens.''.

(b) MONITORING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

(1) require all sponsors to agree—

(A) to receive approval from the Secretary of Health and Human Services prior to changing the location in which the sponsor is housing an unaccompanied alien child placed in the sponsor's custody; and

(B) to provide a current address for the child and the reason for the change of address;

(2) provide regular and frequent monitoring of the physical and emotional well-being of each unaccompanied alien child who has been discharged to a sponsor or remained in the legal custody of the Secretary until the child's immigration case is resolved; and

(3) not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, provide to Congress a plan for implementing the requirement of paragraph (2).

SEC. 1009. EMERGENCY IMMIGRATION JUDGE RESOURCES.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 14 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall designate up to 100 immigration judges, including through the temporary or permanent hiring of retired immigration judges, magistrate judges, or administrative law judges, or the reassignment of current immigration judges, that are dedicated to—

(1) conducting humane and expedited inspection and screening for unaccompanied alien children under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002; or

(2) reducing existing backlogs in immigration court proceedings initiated under section 239 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229).

(b) REQUIREMENT.—The Attorney General shall ensure that sufficient immigration judge resources are dedicated to the purpose described in subsection (a)(1) to comply with the requirement under section 235B(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002.

SEC. 1010. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

(a) REPORTS ON CARE OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILD.—Not later than December 31, 2014 and September 30, 2015, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to Congress and make publically available a report that includes—

(1) a detailed summary of the contracts in effect to care for and house unaccompanied alien children, including the names and locations of contractors and the facilities being used;

(2) the cost per day to care for and house an unaccompanied alien child, including an explanation of such cost;

(3) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have been released to a sponsor, if any;

(4) a list of the States to which unaccompanied alien children have been released from the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the care of a sponsor or placement in a facility;

(5) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have been released to a sponsor who is not lawfully present in the United States, including the country of nationality or last habitual residence and age of such children;

(6) a determination of whether more than 1 unaccompanied alien child has been released to the same sponsor, including the number of children who were released to such sponsor;

(7) an assessment of the extent to which the Secretary of Health and Human Services is monitoring the release of unaccompanied alien children, including home studies done and ankle bracelets or other devices used;

(8) an assessment of the extent to which the Secretary of Health and Human Services is making efforts—

(A) to educate unaccompanied alien children about their legal rights; and

(B) to provide unaccompanied alien children with access to pro bono counsel; and

(9) the extent of the public health issues of unaccompanied alien children, including contagious diseases, the benefits or medical services provided, and the outreach to States and localities about public health issues, that could affect the public.

(b) REPORTS ON REPATRIATION AGREEMENTS.—Not later than February 31, 2015 and

August 31, 2015, the Secretary of State shall submit to Congress and make publically available a report that—

(1) describes—

(A) any repatriation agreement for unaccompanied alien children in effect and a copy of such agreement; and

(B) any such repatriation agreement that is being considered or negotiated; and

(2) describes the funding provided to the 20 countries that have the highest number of nationals entering the United States as unaccompanied alien children, including amounts provided—

(A) to deter the nationals of each country from illegally entering the United States; and

(B) to care for or reintegrate repatriated unaccompanied alien children in the country of nationality or last habitual residence.

(c) REPORTS ON RETURNS TO COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY.—Not later than December 31, 2014 and September 30, 2015, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to Congress and make publically available a report that describes—

(1) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have voluntarily returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence, disaggregated by—

(A) country of nationality or habitual residence; and

(B) age of the unaccompanied alien children;

(2) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have been returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence, including assessment of the length of time such children were present in the United States;

(3) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have not been returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence pending travel documents or other requirements from such country, including how long they have been waiting to return; and

(4) the number of unaccompanied alien children who were granted relief in the United States, whether through asylum or any other immigration benefit.

(d) REPORTS ON IMMIGRATION PROCEEDINGS.—Not later than September 30, 2015, and once every 3 months thereafter, the Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review shall submit to Congress and make publically available a report that describes—

(1) the number of unaccompanied alien children who, after proceedings under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002, were returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence, disaggregated by—

(A) country of nationality or residence; and

(B) age and gender of such aliens;

(2) the number of unaccompanied alien children who, after proceedings under such section 235B, prove a claim of admissibility and are place in proceedings under section 240 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229a);

(3) the number of unaccompanied alien children who fail to appear at a removal hearing that such alien was required to attend;

(4) the number of sponsors who were levied a penalty, including the amount and whether the penalty was collected, for the failure of an unaccompanied alien child to appear at a removal hearing; and

(5) the number of aliens that are classified as unaccompanied alien children, the ages and countries of nationality of such children, and the orders issued by the immigration judge at the conclusion of proceedings under such section 235B for such children.

Subtitle B—Cooperation With Countries of Nationality of Unaccompanied Alien Children

SEC. 1021. IN-COUNTRY REFUGEE PROCESSING.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Consistent with section 101(a)(42)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42)(B)) and section 207(e) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1157(e)), special circumstances currently exist due to grave humanitarian concerns throughout the travel, and attempts to travel, to the United States by unaccompanied children sufficient to justify and require, for fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the allowance of processing of in-country refugee applications in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras in order to prevent such children from undertaking the long and dangerous journey across Central America and Mexico.

(2) Grave humanitarian concerns exist due to—

(A) at least 60,000 unaccompanied children having undertaken the long and dangerous journey to the United States from Central America in fiscal year 2014 alone;

(B) substantial reports of unaccompanied children becoming, during the course of their journey intended for the United States, victims of—

(i) significant injury, including loss of limbs;

(ii) severe forms of violence;

(iii) death due to accident and intentional killing;

(iv) severe forms of human trafficking;

(v) kidnap for ransom; and

(vi) sexual assault and rape; and

(C) the likelihood that the vast majority of the unaccompanied children seeking admission or immigration relief, including through application as a refugee or claims of asylum, do not qualify for such admission or relief, and therefore will be repatriated.

(3) While special circumstances currently exist to justify in-country refugee application processing for El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, it is appropriate to determine the admissibility of individuals applying for refugee status from those countries according to current law and granting administrative relief in instances in which refugee or asylum applications are denied, or are expected to be denied, would exacerbate the grave humanitarian concerns described in paragraph (2) by further encouraging attempts at migration.

(b) AUTHORITY FOR IN-COUNTRY REFUGEE PROCESSING.—Notwithstanding section 101(a)(42)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42)(B)), for fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the Department of Health and Human Services, shall process an application for refugee status—

(1) for an alien who is a national of El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras and is located in such country; or

(2) in the case of an alien having no nationality, for an alien who is habitually residing in such country and is located in such country.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed as a grant of immigration benefit or relief, nor as a change to existing law regarding the eligibility for any individual for such benefit or relief, other than to the extent refugee applications shall be permitted in-country in accordance with this section.

SEC. 1022. REFUGEE ADMISSIONS FROM CERTAIN COUNTRIES.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President, in determining the number of refugees who may be admitted under section 207(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157(a))—

(1) for fiscal year 2014, may —

(A) allocate the unallocated reserve refugee number set out in the Presidential Memorandum on Refugee Admissions for Fiscal Year 2014 issued on October 2, 2013 to admit refugees from Central America; and

(B) allocate any unused admissions allocated to a particular region for Central American refugee admissions; and

(2) for fiscal year 2015, shall include Central America among the regional allocations included in the Presidential determination for refugee admissions that fiscal year.

SEC. 1023. FOREIGN GOVERNMENT COOPERATION IN REPATRIATION OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) CERTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), on the date that is 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the President shall make a certification of whether the Government of El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras—

(A) is actively working to reduce the number of unaccompanied alien children from that country who are attempting to migrate northward in order to illegally enter the United States;

(B) is cooperating with the Government of the United States to facilitate the repatriation of unaccompanied alien children who are removed from the United States and returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence; and

(C) has negotiated or is actively negotiating an agreement under section 235(a)(2)(C) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)(2)(C)), as amended by section 1001.

(2) INTERIM CERTIFICATION.—If prior to the date an annual certification is required by paragraph (1) the President determines the most recent such certification for the Government of El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras is no longer accurate, the President may make an accurate certification for that country prior to such date.

(b) LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE.—The Federal Government may not provide any assistance (other than security assistance) to El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras unless in the most recent certification for that country under subsection (a) is that the Government of El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras, respectively, meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of subsection (a)(1).

TITLE XI—CRIMINAL ALIENS

SEC. 1101. ALIEN GANG MEMBERS.

(a) DEFINITION.—Section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(53)(A) The term 'criminal gang' means an ongoing group, club, organization, or association of 5 or more persons—

''(i)(I) that has as 1 of its primary purposes the commission of 1 or more of the criminal offenses described in subparagraph (B); and

''(II) the members of which engage, or have engaged within the past 5 years, in a continuing series of offenses described in subparagraph (B); or

''(ii) that has been designated as a criminal gang under section 220 by the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Attorney General, or the Secretary of State.

''(B) The offenses described in this subparagraph, whether in violation of Federal or State law or foreign law and regardless of whether the offenses occurred before, on, or after the date of the enactment of the Protecting Children and America's Homeland Act of 2014, are the following:

''(i) A 'felony drug offense' (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)).

''(ii) An offense under section 274 (relating to bringing in and harboring certain aliens), section 277 (relating to aiding or assisting certain aliens to enter the United States), or section 278 (relating to importation of alien for immoral purpose).

''(iii) A crime of violence (as defined in section 16 of title 18, United States Code).

''(iv) A crime involving obstruction of justice, tampering with or retaliating against a witness, victim, or informant, or burglary.

''(v) Any conduct punishable under sections 1028 and 1029 of title 18, United States Code (relating to fraud and related activity in connection with identification documents or access devices), sections 1581 through 1594 of such title (relating to peonage, slavery and trafficking in persons), section 1952 of such title (relating to interstate and foreign travel or transportation in aid of racketeering enterprises), section 1956 of such title (relating to the laundering of monetary instruments), section 1957 of such title (relating to engaging in monetary transactions in property derived from specified unlawful activity), or sections 2312 through 2315 of such title (relating to interstate transportation of stolen motor vehicles or stolen property).

''(vi) A conspiracy to commit an offense described in clauses (i) through (v).

''(C) Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including any effective date), the term 'criminal gang' applies regardless of whether the conduct occurred before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this paragraph.''.

(b) INADMISSIBILITY.—Section 212(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(J) ALIENS ASSOCIATED WITH CRIMINAL GANGS.—Any alien is inadmissible who a consular officer, the Secretary of Homeland Security, or the Attorney General knows or has reason to believe—

''(i) is or has been a member of a criminal gang; or

''(ii) has participated in the activities of a criminal gang knowing or having reason to know that such activities will promote, further, aid, or support the illegal activity of the criminal gang.''.

(c) DEPORTABILITY.—Section 237(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(G) ALIENS ASSOCIATED WITH CRIMINAL GANGS.—Any alien is deportable who the Secretary of Homeland Security or the Attorney General knows or has reason to believe—

''(i) is or has been a member of a criminal gang; or

''(ii) has participated in the activities of a criminal gang knowing or having reason to know that such activities will promote, further, aid, or support the illegal activity of the criminal gang.''.

(d) DESIGNATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1181 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 219 the following:

''SEC. 220. DESIGNATION OF CRIMINAL GANGS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Attorney General, or the Secretary of State may designate a group or association as a criminal gang if their conduct is described in section 101(a)(53) or if the group or association conduct poses a significant risk that threatens the security and the public safety of nationals of the United States or the national security, homeland security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States.

''(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—A designation made under subsection (a) shall remain in effect until the designation is revoked after consultation between the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of State or is terminated in accordance with Federal law.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the first section of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 219 the following:

''220. Designation of criminal gangs.''.

(e) MANDATORY DETENTION OF CRIMINAL GANG MEMBERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 236(c)(1)(D) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226(c)(1)(D)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''section 212(a)(3)(B)'' and inserting ''paragraph (2)(J) or (3)(B) of section 212(a)''; and

(B) by striking ''237(a)(4)(B),'' and inserting ''paragraph (2)(G) or (4)(B) of section 237(a),''.

(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than March 1 of each year (beginning 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act), the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with the appropriate Federal agencies, shall submit a report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on the number of aliens detained under the amendments made by paragraph (1).

(f) ASYLUM CLAIMS BASED ON GANG AFFILIATION.—

(1) INAPPLICABILITY OF RESTRICTION ON REMOVAL TO CERTAIN COUNTRIES.—Section 241(b)(3)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(b)(3)(B)) is amended, in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting ''who is described in section 212(a)(2)(J)(i) or section 237(a)(2)(G)(i) or who is'' after ''to an alien''.

(2) INELIGIBILITY FOR ASYLUM.—Section 208(b)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(b)(2)(A)) is amended—

(A) in clause (v), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) by redesignating clause (vi) as clause (vii); and

(C) by inserting after clause (v) the following:

''(vi) the alien is described in section 212(a)(2)(J)(i) or section 237(a)(2)(G)(i) (relating to participation in criminal gangs); or''.

(g) TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS.—Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Attorney General'' each place that term appears and inserting ''Secretary of Homeland Security'';

(2) in subparagraph (c)(2)(B)—

(A) in clause (i), by striking ''States, or'' and inserting ''States;'';

(B) in clause (ii), by striking the period and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) the alien is, or at any time after admission has been, a member of a criminal gang.''; and

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking paragraph (3); and

(B) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end the following: ''The Secretary of Homeland Security may detain an alien provided temporary protected status under this section whenever appropriate under any other provision of law.''.

(h) SPECIAL IMMIGRANT JUVENILE VISAS.—Section 101(a)(27)(J)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(J)(iii)) is amended—

(1) in subclause (I), by striking ''and'';

(2) in subclause (II), by inserting ''and'' at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(III) no alien who is, or was at any time after admission has been, a member of a criminal gang shall be eligible for any immigration benefit under this subparagraph;''.

(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to acts that occur before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1102. MANDATORY EXPEDITED REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS CRIMINALS, TERRORISTS, AND GANG MEMBERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an immigration officer who finds an alien described in subsection (b) at a land border or port of entry of the United States and determines that such alien is inadmissible under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) shall treat such alien in accordance with section 235 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225).

(b) THREATS TO PUBLIC SAFETY.—An alien described in this subsection is an alien who the Secretary of Homeland Security determines, or has reason to believe—

(1) has been convicted of any offense carrying a maximum term of imprisonment of more than 180 days;

(2) has been convicted of an offense which involved—

(A) domestic violence (as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a));

(B) child abuse and neglect (as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a));

(C) assault resulting in bodily injury (as defined in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code);

(D) the violation of a protection order (as defined in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code);

(E) driving while intoxicated (as defined in section 164 of title 23, United States Code); or

(F) any offense under foreign law, except for a purely political offense, which, if the offense had been committed in the United States, would render the alien inadmissible under section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a));

(3) has been convicted of more than 1 criminal offense (other than minor traffic offenses);

(4) has engaged in, is engaged in, or is likely to engage after entry in any terrorist activity (as defined in section 212(a)(3)(B)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(iii)), or intends to participate or has participated in the activities of a foreign terrorist organization (as designated under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189));

(5) is or was a member of a criminal street gang (as defined in paragraph (53) of section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)), as added by section 1101(a)); or

(6) has entered the United States more than 1 time in violation of section 275(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1325(a)), knowing that the entry was unlawful.

SEC. 1103. FUGITIVE OPERATIONS.

The Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized to hire 350 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention officers that comprise 50 Fugitive Operations Teams responsible for identifying, locating, and arresting fugitive aliens.

SEC. 1104. ADDITIONAL DETENTION CAPACITY FOR FAMILY UNITS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall increase the number of detention beds available for aliens placed in removal proceedings under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101

et seq.) by not less than 5,000, including such detention beds available for family units.

TITLE XII—BORDER SECURITY

SEC. 1201. REDUCING INCENTIVES FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION.

No Federal funds or resources may be used to issue a new directive, memorandum, or Executive Order that provides for relief from removal or work authorization to a class of individuals who are not otherwise eligible for such relief under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) or such work authorization, including expanding deferred action for childhood arrivals.

SEC. 1202. BORDER SECURITY ON CERTAIN FEDERAL LANDS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FEDERAL LANDS.—The term ''Federal lands'' includes all land under the control of the Secretary concerned that is located within the Southwest border region in the State of Arizona along the international border between the United States and Mexico.

(2) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term ''Secretary concerned'' means—

(A) with respect to land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(B) with respect to land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) SUPPORT FOR BORDER SECURITY NEEDS.—To achieve effective control of Federal lands—

(1) the Secretary concerned, notwithstanding any other provision of law, shall authorize and provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel with immediate access to Federal lands for security activities, including—

(A) routine motorized patrols; and

(B) the deployment of communications, surveillance, and detection equipment;

(2) the security activities described in paragraph (1) shall be conducted, to the maximum extent practicable, in a manner that the Secretary determines will best protect the natural and cultural resources on Federal lands; and

(3) the Secretary concerned may provide education and training to U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel on the natural and cultural resources present on individual Federal land units.

(c) PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After implementing subsection (b), the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretaries concerned, shall prepare and publish in the Federal Register a notice of intent to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) to analyze the impacts of the activities described in subsection (b).

(2) EFFECT ON PROCESSING APPLICATION AND SPECIAL USE PERMITS.—The pending completion of a programmatic environmental impact statement under this section shall not result in any delay in the processing or approving of applications or special use permits by the Secretaries concerned for the activities described in subsection (b).

(3) AMENDMENT OF LAND USE PLANS.—The Secretaries concerned shall amend any land use plans, as appropriate, upon completion of the programmatic environmental impact statement described in paragraph (1).

(4) SCOPE OF PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.—The programmatic environmental impact statement described in paragraph (1)—

(A) may be used to advise the Secretary of Homeland Security on the impact on natural and cultural resources on Federal lands; and

(B) shall not control, delay, or restrict actions by the Secretary of Homeland Security to achieve effective control on Federal lands.

(d) INTERMINGLED STATE AND PRIVATE LAND.—This section shall not apply to any private or State-owned land within the boundaries of Federal lands.

SEC. 1203. STATE AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE TO ALLEVIATE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS.

(a) STATE AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall enhance law enforcement preparedness, humanitarian responses, and operational readiness along the international border between the United States and Mexico through Operation Stonegarden.

(b) GRANTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts made available to carry out this section shall be allocated for grants and reimbursements to State and local governments in Border Patrol Sectors on the along the international border between the United States and Mexico for—

(A) costs personnel, overtime, and travel;

(B) costs related to combating illegal immigration and drug smuggling; and

(C) costs related to providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied alien children and family units who have entered the United States.

(2) FUNDING FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—Allocations for grants and reimbursements to State and local governments under this paragraph shall be made by the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency through a competitive process.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 1204. PREVENTING ORGANIZED SMUGGLING.

(a) UNLAWFULLY HINDERING IMMIGRATION, BORDER, OR CUSTOMS CONTROLS.—

(1) AMENDMENT TO TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 27 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 556. Unlawfully hindering immigration, border, or customs controls

''(a) ILLICIT SPOTTING.—Any person who knowingly transmits to another person the location, movement, or activities of any Federal, State, or tribal law enforcement agency with the intent to further a Federal crime relating to United States immigration, customs, importation of controlled substances, agriculture products, or monetary instruments, or other border controls shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

''(b) DESTRUCTION OF UNITED STATES BORDER CONTROLS.—Any person who knowingly and without lawful authorization destroys, alters, or damages any fence, barrier, sensor, camera, or other physical or electronic device deployed by the Federal Government to control the international border of the United States or a port of entry, or otherwise seeks to construct, excavate, or make any structure intended to defeat, circumvent or evade any such fence, barrier, sensor camera, or other physical or electronic device deployed by the Federal Government to control the international border of the United States or a port of entry—

''(1) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both; and

''(2) if, at the time of the offense, the person uses or carries a firearm or, in furtherance of any such crime, possesses a firearm, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

''(c) CONSPIRACY AND ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts or conspires to violate subsection (a) or (b) shall be punished in the same manner as a person who completes a violation of such subsection.''.

(B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 27 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 555 the following:

''556. Unlawfully hindering immigration, border, or customs controls.''.

(2) PROHIBITING CARRYING OR USE OF A FIREARM DURING AND IN RELATION TO AN ALIEN SMUGGLING CRIME.—Section 924(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting '', alien smuggling crime,'' after ''crime of violence'' each place such term appears; and

(ii) in subparagraph (D)(ii), by inserting '', alien smuggling crime,'' after ''crime of violence''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) For purposes of this subsection, the term 'alien smuggling crime' means any felony punishable under section 274(a), 277, or 278 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324(a), 1327, and 1328).''.

(3) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Section 3298 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''556 (hindering immigration, border, or customs controls), 1598 (organized human smuggling),'' before ''1581''.

(b) ORGANIZED HUMAN SMUGGLING.—

(1) AMENDMENT TO TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—Chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 1598. Organized human smuggling

''(a) PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.—It shall be unlawful for any person, while acting for profit or other financial gain, to knowingly direct or participate in an effort or scheme to assist or cause 3 or more persons—

''(1) to enter, attempt to enter, or prepare to enter the United States—

''(A) by fraud, falsehood, or other corrupt means;

''(B) at any place other than a port or place of entry designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security; or

''(C) in a manner not prescribed by the immigration laws and regulations of the United States;

''(2) to travel by air, land, or sea toward the United States (whether directly or indirectly)—

''(A) knowing that the persons seek to enter or attempt to enter the United States without lawful authority; and

''(B) with the intent to aid or further such entry or attempted entry; or

''(3) to be transported or moved outside of the United States—

''(A) knowing that such persons are aliens in unlawful transit from 1 country to another or on the high seas; and

''(B) under circumstances in which the persons are seeking to enter the United States without official permission or legal authority.

''(b) CONSPIRACY AND ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts or conspires to violate subsection (a) shall be punished in the same manner as a person who completes a violation of such subsection.

''(c) BASE PENALTY.—Except as provided in subsection (d), any person who violates subsection (a) or (b) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 20 years, or both.

''(d) ENHANCED PENALTIES.—Any person who violates subsection (a) or (b)—

''(1) in the case of a violation causing a serious bodily injury (as defined in section 1365) to any person, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(2) in the case of a violation causing the life of any person to be placed in jeopardy,

shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(3) in the case of a violation involving 10 or more persons, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(4) in the case of a violation involving the bribery or corruption of a United States or foreign government official, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(5) in the case of a violation involving robbery or extortion (as such terms are defined in paragraph (1) or (2), respectively, of section 1951(b)), shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(6) in the case of a violation causing any person to be subjected to an involuntary sexual act (as defined in section 2246(2)), shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(7) in the case of a violation resulting in the death of any person, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any term of years or for life, or both;

''(8) in the case of a violation in which any alien is confined or restrained, including by the taking of clothing, goods, or personal identification documents, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both; or

''(9) in the case of smuggling an unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section 462(g)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)(2)), shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) EFFORT OR SCHEME TO ASSIST OR CAUSE 3 OR MORE PERSONS.—The term 'effort or scheme to assist or cause 3 or more persons' does not require that the 3 or more persons enter, attempt to enter, prepare to enter, or travel at the same time if such acts are completed during a 1-year period.

''(2) LAWFUL AUTHORITY.—The term 'lawful authority'—

''(A) means permission, authorization, or license that is expressly provided for under the immigration laws of the United States; and

''(B) does not include—

''(i) any authority described in subparagraph (A) that was secured by fraud or otherwise unlawfully obtained; or

''(ii) any authority that was sought, but not approved.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1597 the following:

''1598. Organized human smuggling.''.

(c) STRATEGY TO COMBAT HUMAN SMUGGLING.—

(1) HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS OF HUMAN SMUGGLING DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''high traffic areas of human smuggling'' means the United States ports of entry and areas between such ports that have relatively high levels of human smuggling activity, as measured by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall implement a strategy to deter, detect, and interdict human smuggling across the international land and maritime borders of the United States.

(3) COMPONENTS.—The strategy referred to in paragraph (2) shall include—

(A) efforts to increase coordination between the border and maritime security components of the Department of Homeland Security;

(B) an identification of intelligence gaps impeding the ability to deter, detect, and interdict human smuggling across the international land and maritime borders of the United States;

(C) efforts to increase information sharing with State and local governments and other Federal agencies;

(D) efforts to provide, in coordination with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, training for the border and maritime security components of the Department of Homeland Security to deter, detect, and interdict human smuggling across the international land and maritime borders of the United States; and

(E) the identification of the high traffic areas of human smuggling.

(4) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report that describes the strategy to be implemented under paragraph (2), including the components listed in paragraph (3), to—

(i) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(B) FORM.—The Secretary may submit the report required under subparagraph (A) in classified form if the Secretary determines that such form is appropriate.

(5) ANNUAL LIST OF HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS.—Not later than February 1st of the first year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a list of the high traffic areas of human smuggling referred to—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2755. A bill to prevent deaths occurring from drug overdoses; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today, in an effort to decrease the rate of drug overdose deaths, I am pleased to be joined by Senators DURBIN, MARKEY, WHITEHOUSE, and LEAHY in introducing the Overdose Prevention Act. Representative DONNA EDWARDS has introduced a similar bill in the House.

Throughout the country, the death rate from drug overdoses has been rapidly climbing. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC, drug overdose death rates have more than tripled since 1990, and more than 110 Americans died each day from drug overdoses in 2011. More than half of these deaths are attributable to opioids, like prescription pain relievers or heroin. Indeed, this tragic epidemic has hit particularly hard in my home State of Rhode Island, where already in 2014, more than 100 individuals have died from apparent and confirmed drug overdoses.

Americans aged 25 to 64 are now more likely to die as a result of a drug overdose than from injuries sustained in motor vehicle traffic crashes. While overdoses from illegal drugs persist as a major public health problem, fatal overdoses from prescribed opioid pain medications such as oxycodone account for more than 40 percent of all overdose deaths.

It is clear that we must do more to stop these often preventable deaths. Fortunately, the drug naloxone, which has no side effects and no potential for abuse, is widely recognized as an important tool to help prevent drug overdose deaths. Naloxone can rapidly reverse an overdose from heroin and opioid medications if provided in a timely manner. Overdose prevention programs, including those that utilize naloxone, have been credited with saving more than 10,000 lives since 1996, according to the CDC.

Opioid abuse and overdose is not an abstract threat found in far-off corners. It is a national public health crisis and it's taking place right here at home in our communities and our neighborhoods.

Rhode Island is taking steps to combat this scourge and is leading the way in adopting innovative solutions. Through a ''collaborative practice agreement,'' some Rhode Island pharmacies are dispensing naloxone, along with training about its proper use, to anyone who walks in and requests the treatment, no prescription necessary. In addition, the Rhode Island State Police now carry naloxone in every cruiser. However, there's more work to be done at the federal level.

The Overdose Prevention Act, which I am introducing today, would complement Rhode Island's efforts and take important steps towards addressing this issue and increasing access to naloxone in our communities. The legislation aims to establish a comprehensive national response to this epidemic that emphasizes collaboration between State and Federal officials and employs best practices from the medical community, as well as programs and treatments that have been proven effective to combat this startling national trend. This is an emergency and it requires a coordinated and comprehensive response.

Specifically, the bill would authorize the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, HHS, to award funding through cooperative agreements to eligible entities—like public health agencies or community-based organizations with expertise in preventing overdose deaths. As a condition of participation, an entity would use the grant to purchase and distribute naloxone, and carry out overdose prevention activities, such as educating and training prescribers, pharmacists, and first responders on how to recognize the signs of an overdose, seek emergency medical help, and administer naloxone and other first aid.

As rates of overdose deaths continue to spike, public health agencies, law enforcement, and others are struggling to keep up without accurate and timely information about the epidemic. Therefore, the Overdose Prevention Act would also require HHS to take

steps to improve surveillance and research of drug overdose deaths, so that public health agencies, law enforcement, and community organizations have an accurate picture of the problem.

It would also establish a coordinated federal plan of action to address this epidemic. The Overdose Prevention Act brings together first responders, medical personnel, addiction treatment specialists, social service providers, and families to help save lives and get at the root of this problem.

I am pleased that the Overdose Prevention Act has the support of the American Association of Poison Control Centers, the Drug Policy Alliance, the Harm Reduction Coalition, and the Trust for America's Health. I look forward to working with these and other stakeholders, as well as Representative EDWARDS and the rest of our colleagues in passing this crucial legislation. Many of these overdose deaths are preventable, and it is time for Congress to act to give communities the help they need to stop this epidemic.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 2761. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to permit the consolidation of metropolitan planning organizations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I rise to talk about our Nation's infrastructure and how Congress needs a long-term transportation bill that empowers local and regional planning authorities.

Infrastructure drives our economy. New Jersey alone has more than 38,000 miles of public roads, and nearly 1,000 miles of rail freight lines, connecting every corner of my State to consumers and networks throughout the region.

This means jobs. It means quality of life. It means investment in our communities and moving us forward.

Currently, just 8 percent of our Federal highway dollars are controlled by regional and local interests.

In order to increase the role of local communities in our transportation policy decisions, I introduced today The Local Empowerment Act, which would reward high-performing Metropolitan Planning Organizations, MPO's, with additional, directly-allocated funds.

MPO's that coordinate well with other MPOs in the region, consider performance goals as part of their planning, have equitable approaches to decision making, and demonstrate high technical capacity would be rewarded with additional resources to support their local priorities.

Consider the fact that ¾ of GDP is generated from within metro areas, 65 percent of the population resides in metro areas, and 95 percent of all public transportation passenger miles traveled take place in metro areas.

As the mayor of Newark, NJ, I learned through first-hand experience how important it is that the federal government partner with local communities to make substantial, long-term investments in our transportation infrastructure.

Federal transportation policy must provide local and regional stakeholders with resources and decision-making power, and take into account how local communities are being impacted by congestion, air pollution and our broader investment decisions.

At all levels of government, there is a dire need for additional, creative policy options that will rind more projects, create more jobs, and rehabilitate and rebuild our crumbling infrastructure.

I would like to highlight the leadership of Anthony Foxx, Secretary of Transportation, for proposing a program along the lines of this legislation.

Secretary Foxx, like me a former mayor, understands how important it is that Federal programs empower local entities and I urge my colleagues to join in supporting this legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 531—HONORING THE LIFE, ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AND LEGACY OF LOUIS ZAMPERINI AND EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES ON HIS PASSING

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 531

Whereas Louis Silvie ''Lou'' Zamperini was born on January 26, 1917, to Anthony and Louise Zamperini, in Olean, New York;

Whereas Louis Zamperini represented the United States in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin as a distance runner;

Whereas Louis Zamperini graduated from the University of Southern California in 1940 and enlisted in the United State Army Air Corps in 1941, earning the rank of lieutenant;

Whereas in May 1943, Louis Zamperini's B-24 bomber malfunctioned and crashed during a search-and-rescue mission over the Pacific Ocean, leaving him and 2 other individuals stranded;

Whereas Louis Zamperini survived for 47 days adrift in a life raft with Second Lieutenant Russell Phillips before being captured by Japanese forces and placed in a prisoner of war camp;

Whereas for more than 2 years, during his imprisonment, Louis Zamperini endured brutal treatment and forced labor with courage and resilience;

Whereas upon the conclusion of World War II, Louis Zamperini was released from the prisoner of war camp in September 1945;

Whereas Louis Zamperini was promoted to captain and awarded multiple distinguishing military honors, including the Purple Heart, the Distinguished Flying Cross, and the Prisoner of War Medal;

Whereas Louis Zamperini was given the honor of carrying the Olympic flame in 1984, 1996, and 1998;

Whereas in the years after World War II, Louis Zamperini traveled as an inspirational public speaker, using his experiences to inspire a message of forgiveness;

Whereas the airport in Torrance, California was named ''Zamperini Field'' in honor of Louis Zamperini; and

Whereas Louis Zamperini leaves a legacy as a national hero and an inspiration to future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Louis Zamperini;

(2) extends heartfelt sympathies and condolences to the family of Louis Zamperini; and

(3) requests the President to identify an appropriate and lasting program of the United States Government to honor the legacy of Louis Zamperini.

SENATE RESOLUTION 532—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 7, 2014, AS ''NATIONAL DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK''

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 532

Whereas direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals (referred to in this preamble as ''direct support professionals'') are the primary providers of publicly-funded long-term support and services for millions of individuals with disabilities;

Whereas direct support professionals must build a close, respectful, and trusted relationship with individuals with disabilities;

Whereas direct support professionals assist individuals with disabilities with intimate personal care assistance on a daily basis;

Whereas direct support professionals provide a broad range of individualized support, including—

(1) preparation of meals;

(2) helping with medications;

(3) assisting with bathing and dressing;

(4) assisting individuals with physical disabilities with access to their environment;

(5) providing transportation to school, work, religious, and recreational activities; and

(6) helping with general aspects of daily living, such as financial matters, medical appointments, and personal interests;

Whereas direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to family, friends, and community;

Whereas direct support professionals support individuals with disabilities in making choices that lead to meaningful, productive lives;

Whereas direct support professionals are the key to helping individuals with disabilities to live successfully in the community, and to avoid more costly institutional care;

Whereas the participation of direct support professionals in medical care planning is critical to the successful transition from medical events to post-acute care and long-term support and services;

Whereas the majority of direct support professionals are the primary financial providers for their families and often work multiple jobs to make ends meet;

Whereas direct support professionals are a critical element in supporting individuals who are receiving health care services for severe chronic health conditions and individuals with with functional limitations;

Whereas while direct support professionals work and pay taxes, many direct support

professionals earn poverty-level wages and are therefore eligible for the same Federal and State public assistance programs on which individuals with disabilities served by direct support professionals must also depend;

Whereas Federal and State policies assert the right of certain individuals with a disability to live in a residential setting in the community, or an institutional setting of their choice, and the Supreme Court of the United States, in Olmstead v. L.C., 527 U.S. 581 (1999), confirmed that right for certain individuals;

Whereas, as of 2014, the majority of direct support professionals are employed in home and community-based settings and this majority is projected to increase over the next decade;

Whereas there is a documented and increasing critical shortage of direct support professionals throughout the United States; and

Whereas many direct support professionals are forced to leave their jobs due to inadequate wages and benefits and limited opportunities for advancement, creating demonstrated high turnover and vacancy rates, which adversely affect the quality of support and the safety and health of individuals with disabilities: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning September 7, 2014, as ''National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week'';

(2) recognizes the dedication of direct support professionals and the vital role direct support professionals have in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages;

(3) appreciates the contribution of direct support professionals in supporting individuals with disabilities and their families in the United States;

(4) identifies direct support professionals as integral to long-term support and services for individuals with disabilities; and

(5) finds that the successful implementation of the public policies affecting individuals with disabilities in the United States depends on the dedication of direct support professionals.

SENATE RESOLUTION 533—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2014 AS ''NATIONAL SPINAL CORD INJURY AWARENESS MONTH''

Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. NELSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 533

Whereas over 1,275,000 individuals in the United States are estimated to live with a spinal cord injury and cost society billions of dollars in health care and lost wages;

Whereas 100,000 of the individuals in the United States with a spinal cord injury are estimated to be veterans who suffered the spinal cord injury while serving as members of the Armed Forces;

Whereas accidents are the leading cause of spinal cord injuries;

Whereas motor vehicle crashes are the second leading cause of spinal cord and traumatic brain injuries;

Whereas 70 percent of all spinal cord injuries that occur in children under the age of 18 are a result of motor vehicle accidents;

Whereas every 48 minutes a person becomes paralyzed, underscoring the urgent need to develop new neuroprotection, pharmacological, and regeneration treatments to reduce, prevent, and reverse paralysis; and

Whereas increased education and investment in research are key factors to improving outcomes for victims of spinal cord injuries, improving the quality of life of victims, and ultimately curing paralysis: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2014 as ''National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month'';

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support research to find better treatments, more effective therapies, and a cure for paralysis;

(4) supports clinical trials for new therapies that offer promise and hope to people living with paralysis; and

(5) commends the dedication of local, regional, and national organizations, researchers, doctors, volunteers, and people across the United States that are working to improve the quality of life of people living with paralysis and their families.

SENATE RESOLUTION 534—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 6, 2014, AS ''EVERETT MCKINLEY DIRKSEN AND MARIGOLD DAY''

Mr. KIRK (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 534

Whereas the great Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen of Pekin, Illinois, has passed from the halls of the United States Capitol;

Whereas the current Senators wish to honor Senator Dirksen;

Whereas, upon the passing of Senator Dirksen, his contemporaries and peers stated that—

(1) Senator Dirksen—

(A) provided sage advice and counsel and wholehearted wisdom;

(B) provided support that made the civil rights legislation of the 1960s a fact rather than a dream during that decade; and

(C) was known as an American who cultivated a high sense of honor; and

(2) when Senator Dirksen spoke, the country listened, and his eloquence was a source of national strength;

Whereas, as the obituary for Senator Dirksen in the New York Times noted, Senator Dirksen ''was ever constant to the marigold, which he sought to make the national flower and which he grew profusely in his garden'';

Whereas, as Senator Dirksen said on the Senate floor on April 17, 1967, the marigold ''is a native of North America and can in truth and in fact be called an American flower'';

Whereas, as Senator Dirksen said in that speech, the marigold ''is national in character, for it grows and thrives in every one of the fifty states of this nation'';

Whereas, as Senator Dirksen said in that speech, the marigold's ''robustness reflects the hardihood and character of the generations who pioneered and built this land into a great nation'';

Whereas, beginning in 1973, Pekin has held the Pekin Marigold Festival each year to honor Pekin's favorite son, Senator Everett McKinley Dirksen; and

Whereas the 40th Pekin Marigold Festival will be held during the first week of September 2014, which includes Saturday, September 6: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate designates September 6, 2014, as ''Everett McKinley Dirksen and Marigold Day''.

SENATE RESOLUTION 535—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRINTING OF A REVISED EDITION OF THE SENATE RULES AND MANUAL

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 535

Resolved, That—

(1) the Committee on Rules and Administration shall prepare a revised edition of the Senate Rules and Manual for the use of the 113th Congress;

(2) the manual shall be printed as a Senate document; and

(3) in addition to the usual number of copies, 1,500 copies of the manual shall be bound, of which—

(A) 500 paperbound copies shall be for the use of the Senate; and

(B) 1,000 copies shall be bound (550 paperbound; 250 nontabbed black skiver; 200 tabbed black skiver) and delivered as may be directed by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 42—RECOGNIZING CAREGIVING AS A PROFESSION AND THE EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS OF PAID AND FAMILY CAREGIVERS

Mr. JOHANNS (for himself and Ms. AYOTTE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 42

Whereas 10,000 individuals in the United States turn 65 years old each day;

Whereas it is estimated that 40,000,000 individuals in the United States, 13 percent of the population of the United States, are 65 years of age or older;

Whereas in 2056, for the first time, the population of individuals in the United States who are age 65 or older is projected to outnumber the population of individuals in the United States who are under age 18;

Whereas by 2060, the population of individuals in the United States who are age 65 or older is projected to increase from 1 out of 7 individuals to 1 out of 5 individuals;

Whereas the population of individuals in the United States who are age 85 or older is projected to increase from 5,900,000 to 18,200,000 by 2060;

Whereas the population of individuals in the Unites States who are age 85 or older is projected to comprise 4.3 percent of the total population of the United States by 2060;

Whereas more than 5,000,000 individuals in the United States have Alzheimer's disease;

Whereas by 2050, as many as 16,000,000 individuals in the United States are projected to have Alzheimer's disease;

Whereas it is estimated that 60 percent to 70 percent of individuals in the United States who have Alzheimer's disease or dementia live at home, and such individuals may need assistance in their homes with activities of daily living;

Whereas 1 out of 5 of individuals in the United States who are older than 65 years of age need assistance from a caregiver to complete activities of daily living;

Whereas in order to address the surging population of seniors who have significant needs for in-home care, the field of senior caregiving must continue to grow;

Whereas it is estimated that there are 65,700,000 adults in the United States who provide care to an individual who is ill, disabled, or aged;

Whereas it is estimated that there are 1,800,000 paid caregivers in the United States;

Whereas both unpaid family caregivers and paid caregivers work together to serve the daily living needs of seniors who live in their own homes;

Whereas employment of caregivers is projected to grow 49 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the projected average growth of all occupations; and

Whereas as a senior is able to assume responsibility for more of his or her own care, the burden on public payment systems in the Federal government and State governments decreases: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes the valuable contributions of caregivers;

(2) supports paid caregivers, the private home care industry, and the efforts of family caregivers in the United States by encouraging individuals to provide care to family, friends, and neighbors;

(3) encourages accessible and affordable self-directed care for seniors;

(4) should review Federal programs that address the needs of seniors and the family caregivers of seniors; and

(5) encourages the Secretary of Health and Human Services to continue efforts to educate the people of the United States on the impact of aging and the importance of knowing the options available to seniors when seniors need care to meet their personal needs.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3723. Mr. MCCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3724. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3725. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3726. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3727. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3728. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KAINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3729. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3730. Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Mr. DONNELLY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3731. Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3732. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1233, to amend chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, popularly known as the Presidential Records Act, to establish procedures for the consideration of claims of constitutionally based privilege against disclosure of Presidential records, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3733. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3734. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3735. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3736. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3737. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3738. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3739. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3740. Mr. KIRK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3741. Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3742. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. FLAKE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3743. Ms. AYOTTE (for herself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3744. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3745. Mr. DONNELLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3746. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3747. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. COATS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3748. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3749. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3750. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

SA 3751. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3750 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2648, supra.

SA 3752. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2648, supra.

SA 3753. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3752 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2648, supra.

SA 3754. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3753 proposed by Mr. REID to the amendment SA 3752 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2648, supra.

SA 3755. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3756. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3757. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3758. Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. REED, Mr. KING, and Mr. KAINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3759. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3760. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3761. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3762. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3763. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3764. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3765. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3766. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3767. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3768. Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3769. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3770. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3771. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3772. Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3060 proposed by Mr. WYDEN to the bill H.R. 3474, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of the employer mandate under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3773. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3774. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3775. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3776. Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3777. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3778. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3779. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. MURPHY) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 520, condemning the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 and expressing condolences to the families of the victims.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3723. Mr. MCCONNELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. (a) It is the policy of the United States that unaccompanied alien children (as defined in section 462(g) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g))) should be—

(1) treated humanely; and

(2) expeditiously repatriated to their country of origin.

(b) No funds appropriated under this Act or any other Act may be used to transport, or facilitate the transport of, any unaccompanied alien child into a State unless, at least 30 days before such use, the following preconditions are met:

(1) The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Governor of the affected State, has certified, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the appropriate congressional committees of jurisdiction, that the unaccompanied alien children will not have a burdensome economic impact or negative public health impact on the State or affected localities.

(2) The Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Homeland Security have jointly certified to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the appropriate congressional committees of jurisdiction that the transportation of unaccompanied alien children will not delay their immediate repatriation.

(c) The certification under section (b)(1) shall include—

(1) the number of unaccompanied alien children involved;

(2) the proposed localities and facilities involved; and

(3) the approximate length of stay within the State.

SA 3724. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. (a) Before placing an unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section 462(g) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g))) with an individual, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall provide the Secretary of Homeland Security with the following information regarding the individual with whom the child will be placed:

(1) The name of the individual.

(2) The social security number of the individual.

(3) The date of birth of the individual.

(4) The location of the individual's residence in which the child will be placed.

(5) The immigration status of the individual, if known.

(6) Contact information for the individual.

(b) If a child who was apprehended on or after June 15, 2012, and before the date of the enactment of this Act, was placed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services with an individual, the Secretary shall provide the information listed in subsection (a) to the Secretary of Homeland Security not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) Not later than 30 days after receiving the information listed in subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

(1) investigate the immigration status of any individual with whom a child is placed whose immigration status is unknown; and

(2) share the results of such investigation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

SA 3725. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. (a) Not later than 24 hours before the Secretary of Homeland Security or the Secretary of Health and Human Services places unaccompanied alien children (as defined in section 462(g) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g))) in a facility, or with a sponsor, in a State, the Secretary who has custody of such child shall notify—

(1) the Governor of each State in which the children are placed of the number of such children who are being placed in such State, broken down by age and placement county; and

(2) the chief law enforcement officer of each county in which the children are placed of the number of such children who are being placed in such county, broken down by age.

(b) If an unaccompanied alien child fails to appear at an immigration proceeding that he or she was legally required to attend, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall notify the Governor of the State and the chief law enforcement officer of the county in which such child was temporarily placed of such failure to appear.

SA 3726. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of chapter 5 of title I, insert the following:

SEC. ____. Section 4002(b) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-11) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (3) through (5) as paragraphs (6) through (8), respectively; and

(2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2014, $1,000,000,000;

''(3) for fiscal year 2016, $800,000,000;

''(4) for fiscal year 2017, $1,000,000,000;''.

SA 3727. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for

the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 20, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

(c) LIMITATION ON ACQUISITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in paragraph (2), beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and during each of the subsequent 10 full fiscal years, none of the funds made available to the Secretary under any law may be used—

(A) to survey land for future acquisition as Federal land; or

(B) to enter into discussions with non-Federal landowners to identify land for acquisition as Federal land.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to the use of funds—

(A) to complete land transactions underway on the date of enactment of this Act;

(B) to exchange Federal land for non-Federal land; or

(C) to accept donations of non-Federal land as Federal land.

(3) OFFSETTING USE OF FUNDS.—Funds that would otherwise have been used for purchase of non-Federal land by the Forest Service shall be used to carry out the amendments made by subsections (a) and (b).

SA 3728. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KAINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title V, the following:

SEC. 557. PRIVILEGE AGAINST DISCLOSURE OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN USERS AND PERSONNEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SAFE HELPLINE AND USERS AND PERSONNEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SAFE HELPROOM.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Military Rules of Evidence shall be modified to establish a privilege against the disclosure of communications between users and personnel of the Department of Defense Safe Helpline, and between users and personnel of the Department of Defense Safe HelpRoom.

SA 3729. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. _____. PROCEDURES FOR PROVISION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION TO STATE VETERANS AGENCIES TO FACILITATE THE TRANSITION OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES FROM MILITARY SERVICE TO CIVILIAN LIFE.

(a) PROCEDURES REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop procedures to share the information described in subsection (b) on members of the Armed Forces who are separating from the Armed Forces with State veterans agencies in electronic data format as a means of facilitating the transition of members of the Armed Forces from military service to civilian life.

(b) COVERED INFORMATION.—The information described in this subsection with respect to a member is as follows:

(1) Military service and separation data.

(2) A personal email address.

(3) A personal telephone number.

(4) A mailing address.

(c) CONSENT.—The procedures required by subsection (a) shall include a requirement for consent of a member before sharing information about the member.

(d) USE OF INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that the information shared with State veterans agencies in accordance with the procedures required by subsection (a) is only shared by such agencies with county government veterans service offices for such purposes as the Secretary shall specify for the administration and delivery of benefits.

(e) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the progress of the Secretary on sharing information with State veterans agencies as described in subsection (a).

(2) CONTENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A description of the procedures developed under subsection (a).

(B) A description of the activities carried out by the Secretary in accordance with such procedures.

(C) Such recommendations as the Secretary may have for legislative or administrative action to improve the sharing of information as described in subsection (a).

SA 3730. Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Mr. DONNELLY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1087. NATIONAL DESERT STORM AND DESERT SHIELD MEMORIAL.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ASSOCIATION.—The term ''Association'' means the National Desert Storm Memorial Association, a corporation that is—

(A) organized under the laws of the State of Arkansas; and

(B)(i) described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; and

(ii) exempt from taxation under 501(a) of that Code.

(2) MEMORIAL.—The term ''memorial'' means the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial authorized to be established under subsection (b).

(b) AUTHORIZATION TO ESTABLISH COMMEMORATIVE WORK.—The Association may establish the National Desert Storm and Desert Shield Memorial as a commemorative work, on Federal land in the District of Columbia to commemorate and honor the members of the Armed Forces that served on active duty in support of Operation Desert Storm or Operation Desert Shield.

(c) COMPLIANCE WITH STANDARDS FOR COMMEMORATIVE WORKS ACT.—The establishment of the memorial under this section shall be in accordance with chapter 89 of title 40, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Commemorative Works Act'').

(d) USE OF FEDERAL FUNDS PROHIBITED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Federal funds may not be used to pay any expense of the establishment of the memorial under this section.

(2) RESPONSIBILITY OF ASSOCIATION.—The Association shall be solely responsible for acceptance of contributions for, and payment of the expenses of, the establishment of the memorial.

(e) DEPOSIT OF EXCESS FUNDS.—If, on payment of all expenses for the establishment of the memorial (including the maintenance and preservation amount required by section 8906(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code), or on expiration of the authority for the memorial under section 8903(e) of title 40, United States Code, there remains a balance of funds received for the establishment of the memorial, the Association shall transmit the amount of the balance to the Secretary of the Interior for deposit in the account provided for in section 8906(b)(3) of title 40, United States Code.

SA 3731. Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title V, add the following:

SEC. 557. REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINERS FOR THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) PERSONNEL ELIGIBLE FOR ASSIGNMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the individuals who may be assigned to duty as a sexual assault forensic examiner (SAFE) for the Armed Forces shall be members of the Armed Forces and civilian personnel of the Department of Defense or Department of Homeland Security who are as follows:

(A) Physicians.

(B) Nurse practitioners.

(C) Nurse midwives.

(D) Physician assistants.

(E) Registered nurses.

(2) INDEPENDENT DUTY CORPSMEN.—An independent duty corpsman or equivalent may be assigned to duty as a sexual assault forensic examiner for the Armed Forces if the assignment of an individual specified in paragraph (1) is impracticable.

(b) AVAILABILITY OF EXAMINERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary concerned shall ensure the availability of an adequate number of sexual assault forensic examiners for the Armed Forces through the following:

(A) Assignment of at least one sexual assault forensic examiner at each military medical treatment facility under the jurisdiction of such Secretary, whether in the United States or overseas.

(B) If assignment as described in subparagraph (A) is infeasible or impracticable, entry into agreements with facilities, whether Governmental or otherwise, with appropriate resources for the provision of sexual assault forensic examinations, for the provision of sexual assault forensic examinations for the Armed Forces.

(2) NAVAL VESSELS.—The Secretary concerned shall ensure the availability of an adequate number of sexual assault forensic

examiners for naval vessels through the assignment of at least one sexual assault forensic examiner for each naval vessel.

(c) TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary concerned shall establish and maintain, and update when appropriate, a training and certification program for sexual assault forensic examiners under the jurisdiction of such Secretary. The training and certification programs shall apply uniformly to all sexual assault forensic examiners under the jurisdiction of the Secretaries.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each training and certification program under this subsection shall include the following:

(A) Training in sexual assault forensic examinations by qualified personnel who possess—

(i) a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner—adolescent/adult (SANE–A) certification or equivalent certification; or

(ii) training and clinical or forensic experience in sexual assault forensic examinations similar to that required for a certification described in clause (i).

(B) A minimum of 40 hours of coursework for participants in sexual assault forensic examinations of adults and adolescents.

(C) Ongoing examinations and evaluations on sexual assault forensic examinations.

(D) Clinical mentoring.

(E) Continuing education.

(3) NATURE OF TRAINING.—The training provided under each training and certification program under this subsection shall incorporate and reflect current best practices and standards on sexual assault forensic examinations.

(4) APPLICABILITY OF TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—An individual may not be assigned to duty as a sexual assault forensic examiner for the Armed Forces after the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act unless the individual has completed all training required under the training and certification program under this subsection at the time of assignment.

(5) SENSE OF CONGRESS ON CERTIFICATION.—It is the sense of Congress that each participant who successfully completes all training required under the certification and training program under this subsection should obtain a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner—adolescent/adult certification or equivalent certification by not later than five years after completion of such training.

(6) EXAMINERS UNDER AGREEMENTS.—Any individual providing sexual assault forensic examinations for the Armed Forces under an agreement under subsection (b)(1)(B) shall possess training and experience equivalent to the training and experience required under the training and certification program under this subsection.

(d) SECRETARY CONCERNED DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''Secretary concerned'' means—

(1) the Secretary of Defense with respect to matters concerning the Department of Defense; and

(2) the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to matters concerning the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy.

(e) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED REQUIREMENTS.—Section 1725 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 971) is amended by striking subsection (b) (10 U.S.C. 1561 note).

SA 3732. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1233, to amend chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, popularly known as the Presidential Records Act, to establish procedures for the consideration of claims of constitutionally based privilege against disclosure of Presidential records, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 33, after the matter following line 7, add the following:

SEC. 11. ENHANCEMENT OF THE NATIONAL DECLASSIFICATION CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall take appropriate actions to enhance the authority and capacity of the National Declassification Center under Executive Order No. 13526, or any successor Executive order, in order to facilitate, enhance, and advance a government-wide strategy for the declassification of information.

(b) REQUIRED ACTIONS.—The actions taken under subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A requirement that Federal agencies complete the review of Presidential and Federal records proposed for declassification, in accordance with priorities established by the National Declassification Center, within one year of the start of the declassification process, except that agencies may complete such review within two years of the start of the declassification process upon the written approval of the Director of the National Declassification Center.

(2) A requirement that Federal agencies with authority to classify information share their declassification guidance with other such Federal agencies and with the National Declassification Center.

SEC. 12. PUBLIC CONSULTATION WITH ADVISORY PANEL TO THE NATIONAL DECLASSIFICATION CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the National Declassification Center shall provide for consultation between the advisory panel to the National Declassification Center and the public.

(b) FREQUENCY.—Consultations under subsection (a) shall occur not less frequently than the frequency of the regular meetings of the advisory panel to the National Declassification Center and, to the extent practicable, shall occur concurrently with the meetings of the advisory panel.

SEC. 13. EXTENSION OF PUBLIC INTEREST DECLASSIFICATION BOARD.

Section 710(b) of the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 3161 note) is amended by striking ''2014'' and inserting ''2018''.

SEC. 14. PRESERVATION AND ACCESS TO HISTORICALLY VALUABLE RECORDS.

Federal agencies shall take appropriate actions to identify and designate historically valuable records as soon as possible after their creation in order to ensure the preservation and future accessibility of such documents and records.

SA 3733. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title VII, add the following:

SEC. 725. PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK PROGRAM FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES, THEIR DEPENDENTS, AND VETERANS.

Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, prescribe regulations that allow for prescription drug take-back under which members of the Armed Forces and their dependents may deliver controlled substances to military medical treatment facilities, and veterans may deliver controlled substances to Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities, in accordance with section 302(g) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 822(g)). The delivery of such substances shall be subject to such requirements as the Attorney General, after consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall specify in the regulations.

SA 3734. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to place an unaccompanied alien child pursuant to section 235(c) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)) in any setting other than a secure facility.

SA 3735. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. ELIGIBILITY FOR CHILD TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''under this section to a taxpayer'' and all that follows and inserting ''under this section to any taxpayer unless—

''(1) such taxpayer includes the taxpayer's valid identification number (as defined in section 6428(h)(2)) on the return of tax for the taxable year, and

''(2) with respect to any qualifying child, the taxpayer includes the name and taxpayer identification number of such qualifying child on such return of tax.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 3736. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE ___—EXPEDITED PROCESSING OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN

SEC. __01. EQUAL TREATMENT OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

Section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by amending the paragraph heading to read as follows: ''RULES FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN'';

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''who is a national or habitual resident of a country that is contiguous with the United States'';

(iii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''may'' and inserting ''shall''; and

(II) in clause (ii), by inserting ''not later than 72 hours after the child is screened under paragraph (4) by placing the child on the next available flight to such country, subject to determinations of cost, feasibility and any repatriation agreements with such country'' before the period at the end; and

(iv) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''countries contiguous to the United States'' and inserting ''countries from which large numbers of unaccompanied alien children are unlawfully entering the United States'';

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by striking ''Within 48 hours of'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 48 hours after''; and

(ii) by striking ''Nothing in this paragraph'' and inserting the following:

''(B) GANG AFFILIATION.—If an immigration officer determines that an unaccompanied alien child is, or has been, affiliated with a criminal street gang (as defined in section 521(a) of title 18, United States Code), the child shall be treated in accordance with paragraph (2)(B).

''(C) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this paragraph''; and

(C) in paragraph (5)(D), by striking ''from a contiguous country subject to exceptions under subsection (a)(2)'' and inserting ''described in paragraph (2)(A)''; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking paragraphs (2) through (4);

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively; and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) MANDATORY DETENTION FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—An unaccompanied alien child who is apprehended by U.S. Border Patrol or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall be detained and remain in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security until the child—

''(A) voluntarily departs from the United States in accordance with section 240B of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229c);

''(B) is expeditiously removed from the United States in accordance with—

''(i) an order of removal issued in accordance with section 235(b)(1) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(1)); or

''(ii) a final order of removal issued at the conclusion of special removal proceedings conducted pursuant to section 240 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1229a); or

''(C) is legally admitted into the United States as—

''(i) a refugee under section 207 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1157); or

''(ii) an asylee under section 208 of such Act (8 U.S. C. 1158).''.

SEC. __02. EXPEDITED DUE PROCESS AND SCREENING OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by inserting after section 235A the following:

''SEC. 235B. HUMANE AND EXPEDITED INSPECTION AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

''(a) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term 'asylum officer' means an immigration officer who—

''(1) has had professional training in country conditions, asylum law, and interview techniques comparable to that provided to full-time adjudicators of applications under section 208, and

''(2) is supervised by an officer who—

''(A) meets the condition described in paragraph (1); and

''(B) has had substantial experience adjudicating asylum applications.

''(b) PROCEEDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 days after the screening of an unaccompanied alien child under section 235(a)(4) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)(4)), an immigration judge shall conduct a proceeding to inspect, screen, and determine the status of an unaccompanied alien child who is an applicant for admission to the United States.

''(2) BIOMETRIC DATA COLLECTION.—The inspection and screening required under paragraph (1) shall include the collection of biometric data from each unaccompanied alien child, including photographs and fingerprints.

''(3) TIME LIMIT.—Not later than 72 hours after the conclusion of a proceeding with respect to an unaccompanied alien child under this section, the immigration judge who conducted such proceeding shall issue an order pursuant to subsection (e).

''(c) CONDUCT OF PROCEEDING.—

''(1) AUTHORITY OF IMMIGRATION JUDGE.—The immigration judge conducting a proceeding under this section—

''(A) shall administer oaths, receive evidence, and interrogate, examine, and cross-examine the alien and any witnesses;

''(B) may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and presentation of evidence; and

''(C) is authorized to sanction by civil money penalty any action (or inaction) in contempt of the judge's proper exercise of authority under this Act.

''(2) FORM OF PROCEEDING.—A proceeding under this section may take place—

''(A) in person;

''(B) at a location agreed to by the parties, in the absence of the alien;

''(C) through video conference; or

''(D) through telephone conference.

''(3) PRESENCE OF ALIEN.—If it is impracticable by reason of an alien's mental incompetency for the alien to be present at the proceeding, the Attorney General shall prescribe safeguards to protect the rights and privileges of the alien.

''(4) RIGHTS OF THE ALIEN.—In a proceeding under this section—

''(A) the alien shall be given the privilege of being represented, at no expense to the Government, by counsel of the alien's choosing who is authorized to practice in such proceedings;

''(B) the alien shall be given a reasonable opportunity—

''(i) to examine the evidence against the alien;

''(ii) to present evidence on the alien's own behalf; and

''(iii) to cross-examine witnesses presented by the Government;

''(C) the rights set forth in subparagraph (B) shall not entitle the alien—

''(i) to examine such national security information as the Government may proffer in opposition to the alien's admission to the United States; or

''(ii) to an application by the alien for discretionary relief under this Act; and

''(D) a complete record shall be kept of all testimony and evidence produced at the proceeding.

''(5) WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.—In the discretion of the Attorney General, an alien applying for admission to the United States may, and at any time, be permitted to withdraw such application and immediately be returned to the alien's country of nationality or country of last habitual residence.

''(d) DECISION AND BURDEN OF PROOF.—

''(1) DECISION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—At the conclusion of a proceeding under this section, the immigration judge shall determine whether an unaccompanied alien child is likely to be—

''(i) admissible to the United States; or

''(ii) eligible for any form of relief from removal under this Act.

''(B) EVIDENCE.—The determination of the immigration judge under subparagraph (A) shall be based only on the evidence produced at the hearing.

''(2) BURDEN OF PROOF.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In a proceeding under this section, an alien who is an applicant for admission has the burden of establishing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the alien—

''(i) is likely to be entitled to be lawfully admitted to the United States or eligible for any form of relief from removal under this Act; or

''(ii) is lawfully present in the United States pursuant to a prior admission.

''(B) ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS.—In meeting the burden of proof under subparagraph (A)(ii), the alien shall be given access to—

''(i) the alien's visa or other entry document, if any; and

''(ii) any other records and documents, not considered by the Attorney General to be confidential, pertaining to the alien's admission or presence in the United States.

''(e) ORDERS.—

''(1) PLACEMENT IN FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.—If an immigration judge determines that the unaccompanied alien child has met the burden of proof under subsection (d)(2), the judge shall order the alien to be placed in further proceedings in accordance with section 240.

''(2) ORDERS OF REMOVAL.—If an immigration judge determines that the unaccompanied alien child has not met the burden of proof required under subsection (d)(2), the judge shall order the alien removed from the United States without further hearing or review unless the alien claims—

''(A) an intention to apply for asylum under section 208; or

''(B) a substantiated fear of persecution.

''(3) CLAIMS FOR ASYLUM.—If an unaccompanied alien child described in paragraph (2) claims an intention to apply for asylum under section 208 or a substantiated fear of persecution, the officer shall order the alien referred for an interview by an asylum officer under subsection (f).

''(f) ASYLUM INTERVIEWS.—

''(1) DEFINED TERM.—In this subsection, the term 'substantiated fear of persecution' means, after taking into account the credibility of the statements made by the alien in support of the alien's claim and such other facts as are known to the officer, there is a significant possibility that the alien could establish eligibility for asylum under section 208.

''(2) CONDUCT BY ASYLUM OFFICER.—An asylum officer shall conduct interviews of aliens referred under subsection (e)(3).

''(3) REFERRAL OF CERTAIN ALIENS.—If the officer determines at the time of the interview that an alien has a substantiated fear of persecution, the alien shall be held in the custody of the Secretary for Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)) during further consideration of the application for asylum.

''(4) REMOVAL WITHOUT FURTHER REVIEW IF NO SUBSTANTIATED FEAR OF PERSECUTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (C), if the asylum officer determines that an

alien does not have a substantiated fear of persecution, the officer shall order the alien removed from the United States without further hearing or review.

''(B) RECORD OF DETERMINATION.—The officer shall prepare a written record of a determination under subparagraph (A), which shall include—

''(i) a summary of the material facts as stated by the applicant;

''(ii) such additional facts (if any) relied upon by the officer;

''(iii) the officer's analysis of why, in light of such facts, the alien has not established a substantiated fear of persecution; and

''(iv) a copy of the officer's interview notes.

''(C) REVIEW OF DETERMINATION.—

''(i) RULEMAKING.—The Attorney General shall establish, by regulation, a process by which an immigration judge will conduct a prompt review, upon the alien's request, of a determination under subparagraph (A) that the alien does not have a substantiated fear of persecution.

''(ii) MANDATORY COMPONENTS.—The review described in clause (i)—

''(I) shall include an opportunity for the alien to be heard and questioned by the immigration judge, either in person or by telephonic or video connection; and

''(II) shall be conducted—

''(aa) as expeditiously as possible;

''(bb) within the 24-hour period beginning at the time the asylum officer makes a determination under subparagraph (A), to the maximum extent practicable; and

''(cc) in no case later than 7 days after such determination.

''(D) MANDATORY PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.—Any alien subject to the procedures under this paragraph shall be held in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security—

''(i) pending a final determination of substantiated fear of persecution; and

''(ii) after a determination that the alien does not have such a fear, until the alien is removed.

''(g) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (f)(4)(C) and paragraph (2), a removal order entered in accordance with subsection (e)(2) or (f)(4)(A) is not subject to administrative appeal.

''(2) RULEMAKING.—The Attorney General shall establish, by regulation, a process for the prompt review of an order under subsection (e)(2) against an alien who claims under oath, or as permitted under penalty of perjury under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code, after having been warned of the penal ties for falsely making such claim under such conditions to have been—

''(A) lawfully admitted for permanent residence;

''(B) admitted as a refugee under section 207; or

''(C) granted asylum under section 208.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents for the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 235A the following:

''Sec. 235B. Humane and expedited inspection and screening for unaccompanied alien children.''.

SEC. __03. ASYLUM SEEKERS.

(a) REFUGEE DEFINED.—Section 101(a)(42) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of'' and inserting ''the alien's life or freedom would be threatened in that country because of the alien's''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''who is persecuted or who has a well-founded fear of persecution on account of'' and inserting ''the person's life or freedom is threatened if the person remains in that country because of the person's''.

(b) MANDATORY DETENTION.—Section 208(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(8) DETENTION.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall detain any alien seeking asylum under this section until the alien—

''(A) is removed from the United States in accordance with—

''(i) an order of removal issued in accordance with section 235(b)(1); or

''(ii) a final order of removal issued at the conclusion of special removal proceedings conducted pursuant to section 240; or

''(B) granted asylum under subsection (b).''.

SEC. __04. EXTENSION OF BAR TO REENTRY.

Section 212(a)(9) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(9)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)(i) by striking ''5 years'' and inserting ''10 years''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)(i)(I), by striking ''3 years'' and inserting ''10 years''.

SEC. __05. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit an annual report to Congress that identifies, for the previous 12-month period—

(1) the number of aliens unlawfully present in the United States who were apprehended by, or placed in the physical custody of, U.S. Border Patrol or U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement;

(2) the number of aliens described in paragraph (1) who were deported from the United States pursuant to a final order of removal;

(3) the number of aliens described in paragraph (1) who departed from the United States without an order of removal (voluntary departures); and

(4) the number of aliens who were granted refugee status or asylum.

SA 3737. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 26, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

TITLE VI—VERIFICATION OF STATUS FOR REMITTANCE TRANSFERS

SEC. 601. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Remittance Status Verification Act of 2014''.

SEC. 602. STATUS VERIFICATION FOR REMITTANCE TRANSFERS.

Section 919 of the Electronic Fund Transfer Act (relating to remittance transfers) (12 U.S.C. 1692o–1) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (h); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (f) the following:

''(g) STATUS VERIFICATION OF SENDER.—

''(1) REQUEST FOR PROOF OF STATUS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each remittance transfer provider shall request from each sender of a remittance transfer, the recipient of which is located in any country other than the United States, proof of the status of that sender under the immigration laws, prior to the initiation of the remittance transfer.

''(B) ACCEPTABLE DOCUMENTATION.—Acceptable documentation of the status of the sender under this paragraph—

''(i) shall be, in any State that requires proof of legal residence—

''(I) a State-issued driver's license or Federal passport; or

''(II) the same documentation as required—

''(aa) by the State for proof of identity for the issuance of a driver's license;

''(bb) by the Department of State for a citizen to obtain a Federal passport; or

''(cc) for a citizen of a foreign country to enter the United States and obtain the relevant and necessary visa issued by the Department of State for any foreign citizen who—

''(AA) is a nonimmigrant; or

''(BB) has entered the United States temporarily for business (visa category B-1), tourism, pleasure, or visiting (visa category B-2), or a combination of both purposes (B-1/B-2);

''(ii) shall be, in any State that does not require proof of legal residence, such documentation as the Bureau shall require, by rule; and

''(iii) does not include any matricula consular card.

''(2) FINE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—Each remittance transfer provider shall impose on any sender who is unable to provide the proof of status requested under paragraph (1) at the time of transfer, a fine equal to 7 percent of the United States dollar amount to be transferred (excluding any fees or other charges imposed by the remittance transfer provider).

''(3) SUBMISSION OF FINES TO BUREAU.—All fines imposed and collected by a remittance transfer provider under paragraph (2) shall be submitted to the Bureau, in such form and in such manner as the Bureau shall establish, by rule.

''(4) ADMINISTRATIVE AND ENFORCEMENT COSTS.—The Bureau shall use fines submitted under paragraph (3) to pay the administrative and enforcement costs to the Bureau in carrying out this subsection.

''(5) USE OF FINES FOR BORDER PROTECTION.—Amounts from the collection of fines under this subsection that remain available after the payment of expenses described in paragraph (4), shall be transferred by the Bureau to the Treasury, to be used to pay expenses relating to United States Customs and Border Protection for border security fencing, infrastructure, and technology.

''(6) DEFINITION RELATING TO IMMIGRATION STATUS.—In this subsection, the term 'immigration laws' has the same meaning as in section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)).''.

SEC. 603. STUDY AND REPORT REGARDING REMITTANCE TRANSFER PROCESSING FINES AND IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study to determine the effects of the enactment of section 919(g) of the Electronic Fund Transfer Act, as amended by this Act.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report on the results of the study conducted under paragraph (1) that includes—

(1) an analysis of the costs and benefits of complying with section 919(g) of the Electronic Fund Transfer Act, as amended by this Act; and

(2) recommendations about whether the fines imposed under that section 919(g) should be extended or increased.

SA 3738. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 15, after line 22, add the following:

CHAPTER 6—BORDER SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS

SEC. 1601. MEASURES USED TO EVALUATE BORDER SECURITY.

(a) BORDER SECURITY REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct an annual comprehensive review of the following:

(A) The security conditions in each of the following 9 Border Patrol sectors along the Southwest border:

(i) The Rio Grande Valley Sector.

(ii) The Laredo Sector.

(iii) The Del Rio Sector.

(iv) The Big Bend Sector.

(v) The El Paso Sector.

(vi) The Tucson Sector.

(vii) The Yuma Sector.

(viii) The El Centro Sector.

(ix) The San Diego Sector.

(B) Update on the new and existing double layered fencing built and in place, broken down on an annual basis since the date of the enactment of the Secure Fence Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–367), with the goal of completing the fence not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(C) Progress towards the completion of an effective exit and entry program at all points of entry that tracks visa holders.

(D) Progress towards the goal of a 95 percent apprehension or turn back rate.

(E) A 100 percent incarceration until trial rate for newly captured illegal entrants and overstays.

(F) Progress towards the goal ending of illegal immigration, as measured by census data and the Department.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than July 1, 2015, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress containing specific results of the review conducted under paragraph (1).

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), nothing in paragraph (1) may be construed as prohibiting the Secretary from proposing—

(i) alterations to boundaries of the Border Patrol sectors; or

(ii) a different number of sectors to be operated on the Southern border.

(B) REPORTING.—The Secretary may not make any alteration to the Border Patrol sectors in operation or the boundaries of such sectors as of the date of the enactment of this Act unless the Secretary submits, to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, a written notification and description of the proposed change not later than 120 days before any such change would take effect.

(b) UNQUALIFIED OPINION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit a report to Congress that contains—

(A) an unqualified opinion of whether each of the sectors referred to in subsection (a)(1)(A) has achieved ''total operational control'' of the border within its jurisdiction; and

(B) the following criteria and goals of the Department:

(i) Transparent data relating to the success of border security and immigration enforcement policies.

(ii) Improved accountability to the people of the United States.

(iii) 100 percent surveillance capability on the border not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(iv) An apprehension or turn back rate of more than 95 percent not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(v) Increasing annual targets for apprehensions, which shall be adapted to the unique conditions of each Border Patrol sector.

(vi) Uniformity in data collection and analysis for each Border Patrol sector.

(vii) An update on the new and existing double layered fencing built and in place, broken down on an annual basis since the date of the enactment of the Secure Fence Act of 2006.

(2) TOTAL OPERATIONAL CONTROL DEFINED.—In this chapter, the term ''total operational control'', with respect to a border sector, occurs if—

(A) the fence construction requirements required under this chapter have been completed;

(B) the infrastructure enhancements required under this chapter have been completed and deployed;

(C) there has been verifiable increases in personnel dedicated to patrols, inspections, and interdiction;

(D) U.S. Customs and Border Protection has achieved 100 percent surveillance capacity throughout the entire sector;

(E) U.S. Customs and Border Protection has achieved an apprehension rate of at least 95 percent for all attempted unauthorized crossings;

(F) uniform data collection standards have been adopted across all sectors; and

(G) U.S. Customs and Border Protection is tracking the exits of 100 percent of the visitors to the United States visitors through land points of entry.

(3) METRICS DESCRIBED.—The Secretary shall use specific metrics to assess the progress toward, and maintenance of, total operational control of the border in each Border Patrol sector, including—

(A) with respect to resources and infrastructure—

(i) a description of the infrastructure and resources deployed on the Southwest border, including physical barriers and fencing, surveillance cameras, motion and other ground sensors, aerial platforms, and unmanned aerial vehicles;

(ii) an assessment of the Border Patrol's ability to perform uninterrupted surveillance on the entirety of the border within each sector;

(iii) an assessment of whether the Department of Homeland Security has attained a 100 percent surveillance capability for each sector; and

(iv) a specific analysis detailing the miles of fence built, including double-layered fencing, pursuant to the Secure Fence Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–367), as amended by this chapter.

(B) with respect to illegal entries between ports—

(i) the number of attempted illegal entries, categorized by—

(I) number of apprehensions;

(II) people turned back to country of origin (turn-backs); and

(III) individuals who have escaped (got aways);

(ii) the number of apprehensions, including data on unique apprehensions to capture individuals who attempted to enter multiple times;

(iii) the apprehension rate as a percentage of total attempted illegal entries;

(iv) an estimate of the number of successful illegal entries, based on reliable supporting evidence;

(v) the prevalence of drug and contraband smuggling, categorized by—

(I) the frequency of attempted crossings;

(II) successful evasions of law enforcement;

(III) the value of smuggled contraband;

(IV) successful discoveries and arrests; and

(V) arrest rate trends related to violent criminals crossing the border;

(vi) physical evidence of crossings not otherwise tied to a pursuit, including fence-cuttings; and

(vii) transparent data that reports if the numbers include actual physical capture or turn-backs witnessed by border control and a segregation of data that includes evidence of individuals going back, including but not limited to footprints, food and torn clothing;

(C) with respect to illegal entries at ports—

(i) the number of attempted illegal entries, categorized by the number of apprehensions, turn-backs, and got aways;

(ii) the number of apprehensions, including data on unique apprehensions to capture individuals who attempt to enter multiple times;

(iii) the apprehension rate as a percentage of total attempted illegal entries;

(iv) an estimate of the number of successful illegal entries, based on reliable supporting evidence; and

(v) the prevalence of drug and contraband smuggling, categorized by—

(I) the frequency of attempted entries;

(II) successful discovery methods;

(III) the use of falsified official travel documents;

(IV) evolving evasion tactics; and

(V) arrest rate trends related to persons apprehended attempting to smuggle prohibited items;

(D) with respect to repeat offenders, data and analysis of recidivism trends, including the prevalence of multiple arrests and repeated attempts to enter illegally;

(E) with respect to smuggling—

(i) updated information on U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Consequence Delivery System;

(ii) progress made in creating uniformity in the punishment of unlawful border crossers relative to their crimes for the purposes of deterring smuggling;

(iii) the percentage of unlawful immigrants and smugglers who are subject to a uniform punishment; and

(iv) data breaking down the treatment of, and consequences for, repeat offenders to determine the extent to which the Consequence Delivery System serves as an effective deterrent;

(F) with respect to visa overstays, data for each year, categorized by the type of visa issued to the alien;

(G) with respect to the unlawful presence of aliens—

(i) the total number of individuals present in the United States, which will be correlated in future years with normalization participants;

(ii) net migration into the United States, including legal and illegal immigrants;

(iii) deportation data, categorized by country and the nature of apprehension;

(iv) individuals who have obtained or who seek legal status; and

(v) individuals without legal status who have died while in the United States;

(H) the number of Department agents deployed to the border each year, categorized by staffing assignment and security function;

(I) progress made on the implementation of a full exit tracking capabilities for land, sea, and air points of entry;

(J) progress towards the goal of 100 percent incarceration until trial rate for newly captured illegal entrants and overstays; and

(K) progress towards the goal ending of illegal immigration, as measured by data collected by the United States Census Bureau and the Department.

SEC. 1602. REPORTS ON BORDER SECURITY.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2014, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall submit a report to Congress that contains a comprehensive review of the security conditions in each of the Border Patrol sectors along the Southwest border.

(2) PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR REPORT.—Congress shall hold public hearings with the Secretary and other individuals responsible for preparing the report submitted under paragraph (1) to discuss the report and educate the United States public on border security from the perspective of such officials. Congress shall allow differing views on the conclusions of the report to be expressed by outside groups and interested parties for purposes of analyzing data through a transparent and deliberative committee process.

(b) INSPECTOR GENERAL'S REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the issuance of each report under subsection (a), the Inspector General of the Department shall submit a report to Congress that provides an independent analysis of the report submitted under subsection (a)(1) to analyze—

(A) the accuracy of the report; and

(B) the validity of the data used by the Department to issue the report.

(2) PARTICIPATION.—The Inspector General should participate in any hearings relating to the assessment of the border security report of the Department.

(c) GOVERNORS REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Governor of each of the States along the Southern border may submit an independent report to Congress that provides the perspective of the Governor and other officials of such State tasked to law enforcement on the security conditions along that State's border with Mexico.

(2) PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR STATE REPORTS.—Congress shall hold public hearings with the Governor and other officials from each State that submits a report under paragraph (1) to discuss the report and educate the United States public on border security from the perspective of such officials.

(d) PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF REPORTS.—Upon the receipt of a report submitted under this section, the Senate and the House of Representatives shall—

(1) provide copies of the report to the Chair and ranking member of each standing committee with jurisdiction under the rules of such House, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the Senate, and the Minority Leader of the Senate; and

(2) make the report available to the public.

SEC. 1603. REQUIREMENT FOR PHYSICAL BORDER FENCE CONSTRUCTION.

(a) CONSTRUCTION OF BORDER FENCING.—Using funds made available to the Secretary under this Act, and except as provided under subsection (d), the Secretary shall construct not fewer than 140 miles of double-layer fencing on the Southern border during each 1-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—Except as provided in subsection (d), not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a written certification that construction of not fewer than 140 miles of double-layer fencing has been completed in the preceding year to—

(1) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(2) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(3) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(4) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(c) DETERMINATION OF MILES OF FENCING CONSTRUCTED.—

(1) INCLUDED ITEMS.—In determining the number of fencing miles constructed in the preceding year, the Secretary may apply, toward the requirement under subsection (a), the number of miles of—

(A) new double-layer fencing that have been completed; and

(B) a second fencing layer that has been added to an existing, single-layered fence.

(2) EXCLUDED ITEMS.—In determining the number of fencing miles constructed in the preceding year, the Secretary may not apply, toward the requirement in subsection (a)—

(A) vehicle barriers;

(B) ground sensors;

(C) motion detectors;

(D) radar-based surveillance;

(E) thermal imaging;

(F) aerial surveillance platforms;

(G) observation towers;

(H) motorized or nonmotorized ground patrols;

(I) existing single-layer fencing; or

(J) new construction of single-layer fencing.

(d) SUNSET.—The Secretary shall no longer be required to comply with the requirements under subsection (a) and (b) on the earliest of—

(1) the date on which the Secretary submits the 5th affirmative certification pursuant to subsection (b); or

(2) the date on which the Secretary certifies the completion of not fewer than 700 miles of double-layer fencing on the Southern border.

(e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 102(b)(1) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1103 note) is amended by striking subparagraph (D).

SEC. 1604. ONE HUNDRED PERCENT EXIT TRACKING FOR ALL UNITED STATES VISITORS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Consistent with the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, the United States will continue its progress toward full biometric entry-exit capture capability at land, air, and sea points of entry.

(2) No capability exits to fully track whether non-United States persons in the United States on a temporary basis have exited the country consistent with the terms of their visa, whether by land, sea, or air.

(3) No program exists along the Southwest border to track land exits from the United States into Mexico.

(4) Without the ability to capture the full cycle of a visitor's trip to and from the United States, it is possible for persons to remain in the United States unlawfully for years without detection by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

(5) Because there is no exit tracking capability, there is insufficient data for an official assessment of the number of persons who have overstayed a visa and that remain in the United States. Studies have estimated that as many as 40 percent of all persons in the United States without lawful immigration status entered the country legally and did not return to their country of origin or follow the terms of their entry.

(6) Despite a legal mandate to track visitor exits, more than a decade without any significant capability to do so has—

(A) degraded the Federal Government's ability to enforce immigration laws;

(B) placed a greater strain on law enforcement resources; and

(C) undermined the legal immigration process in the United States.

(b) REQUIREMENT FOR OUTBOUND TRAVEL DOCUMENT CAPTURE AT LAND POINTS OF ENTRY.—

(1) OUTBOUND TRAVEL DOCUMENT CAPTURE AT FOOT CROSSINGS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a mandatory exit data system for all outbound lanes at each land point of entry along the Southern border that is only accessible to individuals on foot or by nonmotorized means.

(B) DATA COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS.—The system established under subparagraph (A) shall require the collection of data from machine-readable visas, passports, and other travel and entry documents for all categories of aliens who are exiting the United States through an outbound lane described in subparagraph (A).

(2) OUTBOUND TRAVEL DOCUMENT CAPTURE AT ALL OTHER LAND POINTS OF ENTRY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a mandatory exit data system at all outbound lanes not subject to paragraph (1) at each land point of entry along the Southern border.

(B) DATA COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS.—The system established under subparagraph (A) shall require the collection of data from machine-readable visas, passports, and other travel and entry documents for all categories of aliens who are exiting the United States through an outbound lane described in subparagraph (A).

(3) INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR COLLECTION.—While collecting information under paragraphs (1) and (2), the Secretary shall collect identity-theft resistant departure information from the machine-readable visas, passports, and other travel and entry documents.

(4) RECORDING OF EXITS AND CORRELATION TO ENTRY DATA.—The Secretary shall integrate the records collected under paragraphs (1) and (2) into any database necessary to correlate an alien's entry and exit data.

(5) PROCESSING OF RECORDS.—Before the departure of outbound aliens at each point of entry, the Secretary shall provide for cross-reference capability between databases designated by the Secretary under paragraph (4) to determine and record whether an outbound alien has been in the United States without lawful immigration status.

(6) RECORDS INCLUSION REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall maintain readily accessible entry-exit data records for immigration and other law enforcement and improve immigration control and enforcement by including information necessary to determine whether an outbound alien without lawful presence in the United States entered the country through—

(A) unauthorized entry between points of entry;

(B) visa or other temporary authorized status;

(C) fraudulent travel documents;

(D) misrepresentation of identity; or

(E) any other method of entry.

(7) PROHIBITION ON COLLECTING EXIT RECORDS FOR UNITED STATES CITIZENS.—

(A) PROHIBITION.—While documenting the departure of outbound individuals at each point of entry along the Southern border, the Secretary may not—

(i) process travel documents of United States citizens;

(ii) log, store, or transfer exit data for United States citizens;

(iii) create, maintain, operate, access, or support any database containing information collected through outbound processing at a point of entry under paragraph (1) or (2) that contains records identifiable to an individual United States citizen.

(B) EXCEPTION.—The prohibition set forth in subparagraph (A) does not apply to the records of an individual if an officer processing travel documentation in the outbound lanes at a point of entry along the Southern border—

(i) has a strong suspicion that the individual has engaged in criminal or other prohibited activities; or

(ii) needs to verify an individual's identity because the individual is attempting to exit the United States without approved travel documentation.

(C) VERIFICATION OF TRAVEL DOCUMENTS.—Subject to the prohibition set forth in subparagraph (A), the Secretary may provide for the confirmation of a United States citizen's approved travel documentation validity in the outbound lanes at a point of entry along the Southern border.

(c) INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AT LAND POINTS OF ENTRY.—

(1) FACILITATION OF LAND EXIT TRACKING.—The Secretary may improve the infrastructure at, or adjacent to, land points of entry, as necessary, to implement the requirements under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b), by—

(A) expanding or reconfiguring outbound road or bridge lanes within a point of entry;

(B) improving or reconfiguring public roads or other transportation infrastructure leading into, or adjacent to, the outbound lanes at a point of entry if—

(i) there has been a demonstrated negative impact on transportation in the area adjacent to a point of entry as a result of projects carried out under this section; or

(ii) the Secretary, in consultation with State, local, or tribal officials responsible for transportation adjacent to a point of entry, has submitted a report to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives that projects proposed under this section will have a significant negative impact on transportation adjacent to a point of entry without such transportation infrastructure improvements; and

(iii) the total of funds obligated in any year to meet the requirements of subsection (b)(1)(B) shall not exceed 25 percent of the total funds obligated to meet the requirements under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) in the same year;

(C) where possible, construction of, expansion of, or improvement of access to secondary inspection areas;

(D) physical structures to accommodate inspections and processing travel documents described in subsection (b)(3) for outbound aliens, including booths or kiosks at exit lanes;

(E) transfer, installation, use, and maintenance of computers, software or other network infrastructure to facilitate capture and processing of travel documents described in subsection (b)(3) for all outbound aliens; and

(F) performance of outbound inspections outside of secondary inspection areas at a point of entry to detect suspicious activity or contraband.

(2) REPORT ON INFRASTRUCTURE REQUIREMENTS TO CARRY OUT 100 PERCENT LAND EXIT TRACKING.—Not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit, to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, a report that assesses the infrastructure needs for each point of entry along the Southern border to fulfill the requirements under subsection (b), including—

(A) a description of anticipated infrastructure needs within each point of entry;

(B) a description of anticipated infrastructure needs adjacent to each point of entry;

(C) an assessment of the availability of secondary inspection areas at each point of entry;

(D) an assessment of space available at or adjacent to a point of entry to perform processing of outbound aliens; and

(E) an assessment of the infrastructure demands relative to the volume of outbound crossings for each point of entry.

(d) PROCEDURES FOR EXIT PROCESSING AND INSPECTION.—

(1) INDIVIDUALS SUBJECT TO OUTBOUND SECONDARY INSPECTION.—Officers performing outbound inspection or processing travel documents may send an outbound individual to a secondary inspection area for further inspection and processing if the individual is—

(A) determined or suspected to have been in the United States without lawful status during processing under subsection (b) or at another point during the exit process;

(B) found to be subject to an outstanding arrest warrant;

(C) suspected of engaging in prohibited activities at the point of entry;

(D) traveling without approved travel documentation; or

(E) subject to any random outbound inspection procedures, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) LIMITATIONS ON OUTBOUND SECONDARY INSPECTIONS.—The Secretary may not designate an outbound United States citizen for secondary inspection or collect biometric information from a United States citizen under outbound inspection procedures unless criminal or other prohibited activity has been detected or is strongly suspected.

(3) OUTBOUND PROCESSING OF PERSONS IN THE UNITED STATES WITHOUT LAWFUL PRESENCE.—

(A) PROCESS FOR RECORDING UNLAWFUL PRESENCE.—If the Secretary determines, at a point of entry along the Southern border, that an outbound alien has been in the United States without lawful presence, the Secretary shall—

(i) collect and record biometric data from the individual;

(ii) combine data related to the individual's unlawful presence with any other information related to the individual in the interoperable database, in accordance with paragraphs (4) and (5) of subsection (b); and

(iii) except as provided in clause (ii), permit the individual to exit the United States.

(B) EXCEPTION.—An individual shall not be permitted to leave the United States if, during outbound inspection, the Secretary detects previous unresolved criminal activity by the individual.

SEC. 1605. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this chapter, or in the amendments made by this chapter, may be construed as replacing or repealing the requirements for biometric entry-exit capture required under the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (division C of Public Law 104–208).

SA 3739. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 15, after line 22, add the following:

SEC. 1503. ENSURING THAT REFUGEES, ASYLEES, AND OTHER ALIENS ARE NOT DEPENDENT ON WELFARE.

(a) INELIGIBLE PERSON DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''ineligible person'' means a noncitizen who—

(1) is in the custody of the Federal Government on the basis of a violation of immigration law;

(2) is subject to a removal order; or

(3) is not otherwise eligible for permanent residency in the United States under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.).

(b) NO ACCESS TO WELFARE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an ineligible person is not eligible for any of the following:

(1) Any assistance or benefits provided under a State program funded under the temporary assistance for needy families program under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).

(2) Any medical assistance provided under a State Medicaid plan under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) or under a waiver of such plan, other than emergency medical assistance provided under paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 1903(v), and any child health assistance provided under a State child health plan under title XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.) or under a waiver of such plan.

(3) Any benefits or assistance provided under the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).

(4) Supplemental security income benefits provided under title XVI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1381).

(5) Federal Pell Grants under section 401 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a).

(6) Housing vouchers under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f).

(7) Federal old-age, survivors, and disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.).

(8) Health insurance benefits for the aged and disabled under the medicare program established under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.).

(9) Assistance or benefits provided under the program of block grants to States for social services under subtitle A of title XX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397 et seq.).

(c) NO WELFARE FOR REFUGEES OR ASYLEES AFTER 1 YEAR OF DATE OF ADMISSION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an alien admitted to the United States as a refugee under section 207 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157) or granted asylum under section 208 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1158) shall not be eligible for any assistance or benefits described in paragraphs (1) through (8) of subsection (b), and shall not be allowed the earned income tax credit under section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, after the date that is 1 year after the date on which the alien is so admitted or granted asylum.

(d) NO CITIZENSHIP FOR ALIENS WHO APPLY FOR AND RECEIVE WELFARE.—Any alien, refugee, asylee, nonimmigrant admitted to the United States under a permanent or temporary visa, or ineligible person who is prohibited under this section or any other provision of law from applying for, or receiving, assistance or benefits described in subsection (b) or from claiming the earned income tax

credit allowed under section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or any other credit allowed under subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of such Code, and who applies for and receives any such assistance or benefits, or who claims and is allowed any such credit, shall be permanently prohibited from becoming naturalized as a citizen of the United States.

(e) ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) STATE DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''State'' means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—Each State shall implement the verification procedures listed in paragraph (5) to prevent noncitizens from receiving the assistance or benefits described in subsection (b) and from being allowed the earned income tax credit under section 32 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. To the extent that the State is not responsible for the administration of such assistance, benefits, or tax credit, the procedures implemented by the State shall be designed to assist the head of the Federal agency responsible for administering such assistance, benefits, or tax credit in ensuring that noncitizens do not receive the assistance, benefits, or tax credit.

(3) PENALTY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, with respect to a State, each head of the Federal agency responsible for administering a Federal means-tested benefit program listed in paragraph (4) shall reduce the annual amount of federal financial payments that would otherwise be made to the State under the program by 10 percent, beginning with the payments for fiscal year 2015.

(B) The reduction under subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to any fiscal year that begins after the date on which the State certifies to the Secretary of the Homeland Security that the State has complied with paragraph (2).

(4) FEDERAL MEANS-TESTED BENEFIT PROGRAMS.—The Federal means-tested benefit programs listed in this paragraph are the following:

(A) The temporary assistance for needy families program under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).

(B) The Medicaid program under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.).

(C) The State children's health insurance program under title XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397aa et seq.).

(D) The supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.).

(E) The program of block grants to States for social services under subtitle A of title XX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397 et seq.).

(5) VERIFICATION PROCEDURES.—The verification procedures listed in this paragraph are the following:

(A) Requiring proof of citizenship as a condition for receipt of assistance or benefits under the Federal means-tested benefit programs listed in paragraph (4).

(B) Verifying the proof of citizenship provided as a condition for receipt of assistance or benefits under the Federal means-tested benefit programs listed in paragraph (4), including by using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to confirm that an individual who has presented proof of citizenship as a condition for receipt of assistance or benefits under a Federal means-tested benefit program listed in paragraph (4) is not an alien.

(C) Requiring officers and employees of State agencies that administer a Federal means-tested benefit program listed in paragraph (4) to report to the Secretary of Homeland Security any suspicious or fraudulent identity information provided by an individual applying for assistance or benefits.

(6) MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.—

(A) NONAPPLICABILITY OF THE PRIVACY ACT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, section 552a of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ''Privacy Act'') may not be construed as prohibiting an officer or employee of a State from verifying a claim of citizenship for purposes of eligibility for assistance or benefits under a Federal means-tested benefit program listed in paragraph (4).

(B) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN PERSONS IN SAVE.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall certify that the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements Program of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services has the ability to establish verifiable ineligibility for any Federal means-tested benefit program listed in paragraph (4) for any ineligible person.

SA 3740. Mr. KIRK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1247. EXTENSION OF ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE MILITARY POWER OF IRAN.

Section 1245(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111–84; 123 Stat. 2544) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2014'' and inserting ''December 31, 2016''.

SA 3741. Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1087. OBSERVANCE OF VETERANS DAY.

(a) TWO MINUTES OF SILENCE.—Chapter 1 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 145. Veterans Day

''The President shall issue each year a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe two minutes of silence on Veterans Day in honor of the service and sacrifice of veterans throughout the history of the Nation, beginning at—

''(1) 3:11 p.m. Atlantic standard time;

''(2) 2:11 p.m. eastern standard time;

''(3) 1:11 p.m. central standard time;

''(4) 12:11 p.m. mountain standard time;

''(5) 11:11 a.m. Pacific standard time;

''(6) 10:11 a.m. Alaska standard time; and

''(7) 9:11 a.m. Hawaii-Aleutian standard time.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 1 of title 36, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''145. Veterans Day.''.

SA 3742. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. FLAKE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 15, after line 22, add the following:

CHAPTER 6—PREVENTION OF ORGANIZED SMUGGLING

SEC. 1601. SHORT TITLE.

This chapter may be cited as the ''Children Returning on an Expedited and Safe Timeline Act'' or the ''CREST Act''.

SEC. 1602. DEFINED TERM.

For purposes of this chapter, the term ''unaccompanied alien child'' means an alien who—

(1) has no lawful immigration status in the United States;

(2) has not attained 18 years of age; and

(3) attempts to enter or has entered the United States unaccompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

SEC. 1603. REDUCING THE NUMBER OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN FROM EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, AND HONDURAS.

(a) RESTRICTIONS ON FOREIGN AID TO CERTAIN COUNTRIES.—

(1) INITIAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning on the date that is 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Government shall not provide any non-security assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras until the President certifies that the government of El Salvador, of Guatemala, or of Honduras, respectively is—

(A) actively working to reduce the number of unaccompanied alien children from such country who are attempting to migrate northward in order to illegally enter the United States; and

(B) cooperating with the Government of the United States to facilitate the repatriation of unaccompanied alien children who are removed from the United States and returned to their country of origin.

(2) SUBSEQUENT CERTIFICATIONS.—The restriction under paragraph (1) shall take effect beginning on the date that is 1 year after the President issued the latest certification in accordance with paragraph (1) unless the President recertifies that the governments referred to in paragraph (1) are meeting the requirements set forth in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of such paragraph.

(b) IN-COUNTRY REFUGEE PROCESSING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 101(a)(42)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42)(B)), the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the Department of Health and Human Services, shall carry out in-country processing of refugee applications in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out paragraph (1).

SEC. 1604. INCREASING THE NUMBER OF REFUGEE ADMISSIONS FROM CERTAIN COUNTRIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President, in determining the number of refugees who may

be admitted under section 207(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157(a)) for fiscal years 2014 and 2015, shall authorize the admission, in each such fiscal year, of—

(1) up to 5,000 refugees from El Salvador;

(2) up to 5,000 refugees from Guatemala; and

(3) up to 5,000 refugees from Honduras.

SEC. 1605. PREVENTING ORGANIZED SMUGGLING.

(a) UNLAWFULLY HINDERING IMMIGRATION, BORDER, OR CUSTOMS CONTROLS.—

(1) AMENDMENT TO TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 27 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 556. Unlawfully hindering immigration, border, or customs controls

''(a) ILLICIT SPOTTING.—Any person who knowingly transmits to another person the location, movement, or activities of any Federal, State, or tribal law enforcement agency with the intent to further a Federal crime relating to United States immigration, customs, controlled substances, agriculture, monetary instruments, or other border controls shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

''(b) DESTRUCTION OF UNITED STATES BORDER CONTROLS.—Any person who knowingly and without lawful authorization destroys, alters, or damages any fence, barrier, sensor, camera, or other physical or electronic device deployed by the Federal Government to control the border or a port of entry, or otherwise seeks to construct, excavate, or make any structure intended to defeat, circumvent or evade any such fence, barrier, sensor camera, or other physical or electronic device deployed by the Federal Government to control the border or a port of entry—

''(1) shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both; and

''(2) if, at the time of the offense, the person uses or carries a firearm or, in furtherance of any such crime, possesses a firearm, shall be fined under title 18, United States Code, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

''(c) CONSPIRACY AND ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts or conspires to violate subsection (a) or (b) shall be punished in the same manner as a person who completes a violation of such subsection.''.

(B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 27 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 555 the following:

''556. Unlawfully hindering immigration, border, or customs controls.''.

(2) PENALTY FOR CARRYING OR USE OF A FIREARM DURING AND IN RELATION TO AN ALIEN SMUGGLING CRIME.—Section 924(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting '', alien smuggling crime,'' after ''crime of violence'' each place such term appears; and

(ii) in subparagraph (D)(ii), by inserting '', alien smuggling crime,'' after ''crime of violence''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) For purposes of this subsection, the term 'alien smuggling crime' means any felony punishable under section 274(a), 277, or 278 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324(a), 1327, and 1328).''.

(3) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Section 3298 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''or under'' and inserting '', under section 2 or subsection (a), (b), or (c) of section 556, or under''.

(b) ORGANIZED HUMAN SMUGGLING.—

(1) AMENDMENT TO TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—Chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 1598. Organized human smuggling

''(a) PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.—It shall be unlawful for any person, while acting for profit or other financial gain, to knowingly direct or participate in an effort or scheme to assist or cause 5 or more persons—

''(1) to enter, attempt to enter, or prepare to enter the United States—

''(A) by fraud, falsehood, or other corrupt means;

''(B) at any place other than a port or place of entry designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security; or

''(C) in a manner not prescribed by the immigration laws and regulations of the United States;

''(2) to travel by air, land, or sea toward the United States (whether directly or indirectly)—

''(A) knowing that the persons seek to enter or attempt to enter the United States without lawful authority; and

''(B) with the intent to aid or further such entry or attempted entry; or

''(3) to be transported or moved outside of the United States—

''(A) knowing that such persons are aliens in unlawful transit from 1 country to another or on the high seas; and

''(B) under circumstances in which the persons are seeking to enter the United States without official permission or legal authority.

''(b) CONSPIRACY AND ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts or conspires to violate subsection (a) shall be punished in the same manner as a person who completes a violation of such subsection.

''(c) BASE PENALTY.—Except as provided in subsection (d), any person who violates subsection (a) or (b) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 20 years, or both.

''(d) ENHANCED PENALTIES.—Any person who violates subsection (a) or (b)—

''(1) in the case of a violation during and in relation to which a serious bodily injury (as defined in section 1365) occurs to any person, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(2) in the case of a violation during and in relation to which the life of any person is placed in jeopardy, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(3) in the case of a violation involving 10 or more persons, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(4) in the case of a violation involving the bribery or corruption of a United States or foreign government official, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(5) in the case of a violation involving robbery or extortion (as such terms are defined in paragraph (1) or (2), respectively, of section 1951(b)), shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(6) in the case of a violation during and in relation to which any person is subjected to an involuntary sexual act (as defined in section 2246(2)), shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not fewer than 5 years and not more than 30 years, or both;

''(7) in the case of a violation resulting in the death of any person, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not fewer than 5 years and up to life, or both;

''(8) in the case of a violation in which any alien is confined or restrained, including by the taking of clothing, goods, or personal identification documents, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not fewer than 5 years and not more than 10 years, or both; and

''(9) in the case of smuggling an unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section 462(g)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)(2))), shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) EFFORT OR SCHEME.—The term 'effort or scheme to assist or cause 5 or more persons' does not require that the 5 or more persons enter, attempt to enter, prepare to enter, or travel at the same time if such acts are completed during a 1-year period.

''(2) LAWFUL AUTHORITY.—The term 'lawful authority'—

''(A) means permission, authorization, or license that is expressly provided for under the immigration laws of the United States; and

''(B) does not include—

''(i) any authority described in subparagraph (A) that was secured by fraud or otherwise unlawfully obtained; or

''(ii) any authority that was sought, but not approved.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1597 the following:

''1598. Organized human smuggling.''.

(c) STRATEGY TO COMBAT HUMAN SMUGGLING.—

(1) DEFINED TERM.—In this subsection, the term ''high traffic areas of human smuggling'' means the United States ports of entry and areas between such ports that have the most human smuggling activity, as measured by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall implement a strategy to deter, detect, and interdict human smuggling across the international land and maritime borders of the United States.

(3) COMPONENTS.—The strategy referred to in paragraph (2) shall include—

(A) efforts to increase coordination between the border and maritime security components of the Department of Homeland Security;

(B) an identification of intelligence gaps impeding the ability to deter, detect, and interdict human smuggling across the international land and maritime borders of the United States;

(C) efforts to increase information sharing with State and local governments and other Federal agencies;

(D) efforts to provide, in coordination with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, training for the border and maritime security components of the Department of Homeland Security to deter, detect, and interdict human smuggling across the international land and maritime borders of the United States; and

(E) the identification of the high traffic areas of human smuggling along the international land and maritime borders of the United States.

(4) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report that describes the strategy to be implemented under paragraph (2), including the components listed in paragraph (3), to—

(i) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(B) FORM.—The Secretary may submit the report required under subparagraph (A) in classified form if the Secretary determines that such form is appropriate.

(5) ANNUAL LIST OF HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS.—Not later than February 1st of the first year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a list of the high traffic areas of human smuggling referred to in paragraph (3)(A) to—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 1606. EQUITABLE TREATMENT OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 235(a)(2) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking the paragraph heading and inserting ''RULES FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN'';

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''who is a national or habitual resident of a country that is contiguous with the United States''; and

(3) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) by striking the subparagraph heading and inserting ''AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES''; and

(B) by striking ''countries contiguous to the United States'' and inserting ''Canada, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and any other foreign country that the Secretary determines appropriate''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to any unaccompanied alien child who was apprehended on or after October 1, 2013.

SEC. 1607. EXPEDITED REMOVAL AUTHORITY FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

Section 235(a)(5)(D) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)(5)(D)) is amended—

(1) by striking the subparagraph heading and inserting ''EXPEDITED REMOVAL FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN'';

(2) in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(A) by inserting ''described in paragraph (2)(A) who is'' after ''Any unaccompanied alien child''; and

(B) by striking '', except for an unaccompanied alien child from a contiguous country subject to exceptions under subsection (a)(2),''; and

(3) by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) placed in a proceeding in accordance with section 235 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225).''.

SEC. 1608. MANDATORY SAFE FEDERAL CUSTODY.

Section 235(c) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''shall be promptly placed in the least restrictive setting that is in the best interest of the child. In making such placements, the Secretary may consider danger to self, danger to the community, and risk of flight. Placement of child trafficking victims may include placement in an Unaccompanied Refugee Minor program pursuant to section 412(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1522(d)), if a suitable family member is not available to provide care.'' and inserting ''may not be placed in the custody of a nongovernmental sponsor or otherwise released from the custody of the United States Government until the child is repatriated or has been adjudicated to be admissible or subject to an exception to removal.'';

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (D); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

''(B) EXCEPTIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines that an unaccompanied alien child is a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons, a special needs child with a disability (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)), a child who has been a victim of physical or sexual abuse under circumstances that indicate that the child's health or welfare has been significantly harmed or threatened, or a child with mental health needs that require ongoing assistance from a social welfare agency, the child may be placed with a biological parent if—

''(I) the parent can prove that he or she is lawfully residing in the United States;

''(II) the parent has submitted to a mandatory biometric criminal history check; and

''(III) the Secretary completes a safety and suitability study of the parent's household.

''(ii) MONITORING.—If an unaccompanied alien child described in clause (i) is between 15 and 18 years of age and the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines that such child is not a danger to self, a danger to the community, or a risk of flight, the child shall—

''(I) enroll in the alternative to detention program of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and

''(II) continuously wear an electronic ankle monitor while his or her immigration case is pending.

''(iii) EFFECT OF VIOLATION OF CONDITIONS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall remove an unaccompanied alien minor from a parent who has violated the terms of the agreement specifying the conditions under which the unaccompanied alien child was placed in his or her custody.

''(iv) FAILURE TO APPEAR.—

''(I) CIVIL PENALTY.—If an unaccompanied alien child is placed with a parent and fails to appear in a mandatory court appearance, the parent shall be subject to a civil penalty of $250 per day, up to a maximum of $5,000.

''(II) BURDEN OF PROOF.—The parent is not subject to the penalty imposed under subclause (I) if the parent—

''(aa) proves to the immigration court that the failure to appear by the unaccompanied alien child was not the fault of the parent; and

''(bb) supplies the immigration court with documentary evidence that supports such assertion.

''(v) UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEE MINORS PROGRAM.—An unaccompanied alien child described in clause (i) who is a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons may be placed in the Unaccompanied Refugee Minors Program authorized under section 412(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1522(d)) if a parent is not available to provide care for the child in accordance with this subparagraph.

''(C) INFORMATION SHARING.—In verifying the legal presence of parents under subparagraph (B)(i)(I), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall provide information on those determined to be unlawfully present in the United States to the Secretary of Homeland Security.''; and

(2) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking ''individual'' and inserting ''parent''.

SEC. 1609. TRAINING.

The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that U.S. Border Patrol agents receive appropriate training in immigration laws relating to screening, identifying, and addressing vulnerable populations, such as children, victims of crime and human trafficking, and individuals fleeing persecution or torture.

SEC. 1610. EMERGENCY IMMIGRATION PERSONNEL; NATIONAL JUVENILE DOCKET.

(a) GOAL.—It shall be the goal of the Attorney General, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review to use the amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (f) to bring a resolution to immigration cases, from the issuance of a notice to appear through the exhaustion of appeals, within 30 days.

(b) EMERGENCY IMMIGRATION JUDGES.—

(1) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 14 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall designate up to 100 temporary immigration judges, with renewable 6-month terms, including through the hiring of retired immigration judges, magistrate judges, administrative law judges, or other qualified attorneys using the same criteria as applied to the hiring of permanent immigration judges.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—The Attorney General shall ensure that sufficient immigration judge resources are dedicated to the purpose described in paragraph (1).

(c) IMMIGRATION LITIGATION ATTORNEYS.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall hire 150 new immigration litigation attorneys in the Field Legal Operations of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement with particular focus on the Office of Chief Counsel attorneys in the areas of need.

(d) ASYLUM OFFICERS.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall hire 100 new asylum officers to be placed in the Refugee, Asylum, and International Operations Directorate of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

(e) JUVENILE DOCKET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review shall establish a separate juvenile docket in every immigration court in the United States to facilitate the processing of immigration cases involving unaccompanied alien children.

(2) EXEMPTION.—The Director may exempt an immigration court from the requirement under paragraph (1) upon its application for exemption based on its juvenile caseload. The Director shall make a determination under this paragraph after reviewing the court's latest 2 quarters of juvenile cases. An exemption may be awarded if the Director determines that a juvenile docket is not warranted.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated $100,000,000 to carry out this section.

SEC. 1611. REPORTING AND MONITORING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) REPORTS.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit a report to each State in which unaccompanied children were discharged to parents or placed in a facility while remaining in the legal custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services that provides the number of children placed in the State since Oct. 1, 2013, broken down by location and age.

(2) MONTHLY DISCHARGE REPORTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit a monthly report to each State in which unaccompanied alien children, during the reporting period—

(A) were discharged to their parents; or

(B) were placed in a facility while remaining in the legal custody of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(3) CONTENTS.—The reports required under paragraph (2) shall identify the number of children placed in the State during the reporting period, broken down by—

(A) location; and

(B) age.

(b) MONITORING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

(1) require all parents to agree—

(A) to notify and receive approval from the Department of Health and Human Services prior to an unaccompanied alien child placed in their custody changing addresses from that in which he or she was originally placed; and

(B) to provide a current address for the child and the reason for the change of address;

(2) provide regular and frequent monitoring of the physical and emotional well-being of unaccompanied alien children who have been discharged to a parent or remain in the legal custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services until their respective immigration cases are resolved; and

(3) not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, provide to Congress a plan for implementing the requirement set forth in paragraph (2).

(c) NOTIFICATION TO STATES.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall notify each State in which potential facilities are being reviewed to house unaccompanied alien children who will remain in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(d) FAILURE TO APPEAR.—The Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review shall—

(1) track the number of unaccompanied alien children who fail to appear at a removal hearing that they were required to attend; and

(2) make the information described in paragraph (1) available to the public on a quarterly basis.

SA 3743. Ms. AYOTTE (for herself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title VIII, add the following:

Subtitle E—Never Contract With the Enemy

SEC. 1271. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Never Contract With the Enemy Act''.

SEC. 1272. PROHIBITION ON PROVIDING FUNDS TO THE ENEMY.

(a) IDENTIFICATION OF PERSONS AND ENTITIES.—The Secretary of Defense shall, in conjunction with the Director of National Intelligence and in consultation with the Secretary of State, establish in each covered combatant command a program to identify persons and entities within the area of responsibility of such command that—

(1) provide funds, including goods and services, received under a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement of an executive agency directly or indirectly to a covered person or entity; or

(2) fail to exercise due diligence to ensure that none of the funds, including goods and services, received under a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement of an executive agency are provided directly or indirectly to a covered person or entity.

(b) NOTICE OF IDENTIFIED PERSONS AND ENTITIES.—

(1) NOTICE.—Upon the identification of a person or entity as being described by subsection (a), the head of an executive agency (or the designee of such head) or the commander of a covered combatant command (or the specified deputies of the commander) shall be notified, in writing, of such identification of the person or entity.

(2) RESPONSIVE ACTIONS.—Upon receipt of a notice under paragraph (1), the head of an executive agency (or the designee of such head) or the commander of a covered combatant command (or the specified deputies of the commander) may notify the heads of contracting activities, or other appropriate officials of the agency or command, in writing of such identification.

(3) MAKING OF NOTIFICATIONS.—Any written notification pursuant to this subsection shall be made in accordance with procedures established to implement the revisions of regulations required by this section.

(c) AUTHORITY TO TERMINATE OR VOID CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND TO RESTRICT FUTURE AWARD.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement, and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Account Requirements for Federal Awards shall be revised to provide that, upon notice from the head of an executive agency (or the designee of such head) or the commander of a covered combatant command (or the specified deputies of the commander) pursuant to subsection (b), the head of contracting activity of an executive agency, or other appropriate official, may do the following:

(1) Restrict the award of contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements of the executive agency concerned upon a written determination by the head of contracting activity or other appropriate official that the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement would provide funds received under such contract, grant, or cooperative agreement directly or indirectly to a covered person or entity.

(2) Terminate for default any contract, grant, or cooperative agreement of the executive agency concerned upon a written determination by the head of contracting activity or other appropriate official that the contractor, or the recipient of the grant or cooperative agreement, has failed to exercise due diligence to ensure that none of the funds received under the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement are provided directly or indirectly to a covered person or entity.

(3) Void in whole or in part any contract, grant, or cooperative agreement of the executive agency concerned upon a written determination by the head of contracting activity or other appropriate official that the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement provides funds directly or indirectly to a covered person or entity.

(d) CLAUSE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement, and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Account Requirements for Federal Awards shall be revised to require that—

(A) the clause described in paragraph (2) shall be included in each covered contract, grant, and cooperative agreement of an executive agency that is awarded on or after the date that is 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) to the maximum extent practicable, each covered contract, grant, and cooperative agreement of an executive agency that is awarded before the date of the enactment of this Act shall be modified to include the clause described in paragraph (2).

(2) CLAUSE DESCRIBED.—The clause described in this paragraph is a clause that—

(A) requires the contractor, or the recipient of the grant or cooperative agreement, to exercise due diligence to ensure that none of the funds, including goods and services, received under the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement are provided directly or indirectly to a covered person or entity; and

(B) notifies the contractor, or the recipient of the grant or cooperative agreement, of the authority of the head of the contracting activity, or other appropriate official, to terminate or void the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement, in whole or in part, as provided in subsection (c).

(3) TREATMENT AS VOID.—For purposes of this section:

(A) A contract, grant, or cooperative agreement that is void is unenforceable as contrary to public policy.

(B) A contract, grant, or cooperative agreement that is void in part is unenforceable as contrary to public policy with regard to a segregable task or effort under the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement.

(4) PUBLIC COMMENT.—The President shall ensure that the process for amending regulations required by paragraph (1) shall include an opportunity for public comment, including an opportunity for comment on standards of due diligence required by this Act.

(e) REQUIREMENTS FOLLOWING CONTRACT ACTIONS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement, and the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Account Requirements for Federal Awards shall be revised as follows:

(1) To require that any head of contracting activity, or other appropriate official, taking an action under subsection (c) to terminate, void, or restrict a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement notify in writing the contractor or recipient of the grant or cooperative agreement, as applicable, of the action.

(2) To permit the contractor or recipient of a grant or cooperative agreement subject to an action taken under subsection (c) to terminate or void the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement, as the case may be, an opportunity to challenge the action by requesting an administrative review of the action under the procedures of the executive agency concerned not later than 30 days after receipt of notice of the action.

(f) ANNUAL REVIEW; PROTECTION OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—

(1) ANNUAL REVIEW.—The Secretary of Defense, in conjunction with the Director of National Intelligence and in consultation with the Secretary of State shall, on an annual basis, review the lists of persons and entities previously covered by a notice under subsection (b) as having been identified as described by subsection (a) in order to determine whether or not such persons and entities continue to warrant identification as described by subsection (a). If a determination is made pursuant to such a review that a person or entity no longer warrants identification as described by subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall notify the head of an executive agency (or designee) or commander (or deputy), as the case may be, in writing of such determination.

(2) PROTECTION OF CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—Classified information relied upon to make an identification in accordance with

subsection (a) may not be disclosed to a contractor or a recipient of a grant or cooperative agreement with respect to which an action is taken pursuant to the authority provided in subsection (c), or to their representatives, in the absence of a protective order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction established under Article I or Article III of the Constitution of the United States that specifically addresses the conditions upon which such classified information may be so disclosed.

(g) DELEGATION OF CERTAIN RESPONSIBILITIES.—

(1) COMBATANT COMMAND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The commander of a covered combatant command may delegate the responsibilities in this section to any deputies of the commander specified by the commander for purposes of this section. Any delegation of responsibilities under this paragraph shall be made in writing.

(2) NONDELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR CERTAIN ACTIONS.—The authority provided by subsection (c) to terminate, void, or restrict contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements, in whole or in part, may not be delegated below the level of head of contracting activity, or equivalent official for purposes of grants or cooperative agreements.

(h) ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXECUTIVE AGENCIES.—

(1) SHARING OF INFORMATION ON SUPPORTERS OF THE ENEMY.—The Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, carry out a program through which agency components may provide information to heads of executive agencies (or the designees of such heads) and the commanders of the covered combatant commands (or the specified deputies of the commanders) relating to persons or entities who may be providing funds, including goods and services, received under contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements of the executive agencies directly or indirectly to a covered person or entity. The program shall be designed to facilitate and encourage the sharing of risk and threat information between executive agencies and the covered combatant commands.

(2) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ON CONTRACT ACTIONS IN FAPIIS AND OTHER SYSTEMS.—Upon the termination, voiding, or restriction of a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement of an executive agency under subsection (c), the head of contracting activity of the executive agency shall provide for the inclusion in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS), or other formal system of records on contractors or entities, of appropriate information on the termination, voiding, or restriction, as the case may be, of the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement.

(3) REPORTS.—The head of contracting activity that receives a notice pursuant to subsection (b) shall submit to the head of the executive agency (or designee) concerned or the appropriate covered combatant command, as the case may be, a report on the action, if any, taken by the head of contracting activity pursuant to subsection (c), including a determination not to terminate, void, or restrict the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement as otherwise authorized by subsection (c).

(i) REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1 of 2016, 2017, and 2018, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the use of the authorities in this section in the preceding calendar year, including the following:

(A) For each instance in which an executive agency exercised the authority to terminate, void, or restrict a contract, grant, and cooperative agreement pursuant to subsection (c), based on a notification under subsection (b), the following:

(i) The executive agency taking such action.

(ii) An explanation of the basis for the action taken.

(iii) The value of the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement voided or terminated.

(iv) The value of all contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements of the executive agency in force with the person or entity concerned at the time the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement was terminated or voided.

(B) For each instance in which an executive agency did not exercise the authority to terminate, void, or restrict a contract, grant, and cooperative agreement pursuant to subsection (c), based on a notification under subsection (b), the following:

(i) The executive agency concerned.

(ii) An explanation why the action was not taken.

(2) FORM.—Any report under this subsection may, at the election of the Director—

(A) be submitted in unclassified form, but with a classified annex; or

(B) be submitted in classified form.

(j) NATIONAL SECURITY EXCEPTION.—Nothing in this section shall apply to the authorized intelligence or law enforcement activities of the United States Government.

(k) CONSTRUCTION WITH OTHER AUTHORITIES.—Except as provided in subsection (l), the authorities in this section shall be in addition to, and not to the exclusion of, any other authorities available to executive agencies to implement policies and purposes similar to those set forth in this section.

(l) COORDINATION WITH CURRENT AUTHORITIES.—

(1) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED AUTHORITY RELATED TO CENTCOM.—Effective 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, section 841 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–81; 125 Stat. 1513; 10 U.S.C. 2313 note) is repealed.

(2) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED AUTHORITY RELATED TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—Effective 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, section 831 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66; 127 Stat. 810; 10 U.S.C. 2302 note) is repealed.

(3) USE OF SUPERSEDED AUTHORITIES IN DISCHARGE OF REQUIREMENTS.—In providing for the discharge of the requirements of this section by the Department of Defense, the Secretary of Defense may use and modify for that purpose the regulations and procedures established for purposes of the discharge of the requirements of section 841 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 and section 831 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014.

(m) SUNSET.—The provisions of this section shall cease to be effective on December 31, 2019.

SEC. 1273. ADDITIONAL ACCESS TO RECORDS.

(a) CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, applicable regulations shall be revised to provide that, except as provided under subsection (c)(1), the clause described in paragraph (2) may, as appropriate, be included in each covered contract, grant, and cooperative agreement of an executive agency that is awarded on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) CLAUSE.—The clause described in this paragraph is a clause authorizing the head of the executive agency concerned, upon a written determination pursuant to paragraph (3), to examine any records of the contractor, the recipient of a grant or cooperative agreement, or any subcontractor or subgrantee under such contract, grant, or cooperative agreement to the extent necessary to ensure that funds, including goods and services, available under the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement are not provided directly or indirectly to a covered person or entity.

(3) WRITTEN DETERMINATION.—The authority to examine records pursuant to the contract clause described in paragraph (2) may be exercised only upon a written determination by the contracting officer or comparable official responsible for a grant or cooperative agreement, upon a finding by the commander of a covered combatant command (or the specified deputies of the commander) or the head of an executive agency (or the designee of such head) that there is reason to believe that funds, including goods and services, available under the contract, grant, or cooperative agreement concerned may have been provided directly or indirectly to a covered person or entity.

(4) FLOWDOWN.—A clause described in paragraph (2) may also be included in any subcontract or subgrant under a covered contract, grant, or cooperative agreement if the subcontract or subgrant has an estimated value in excess of $50,000.

(b) REPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than March 1 of 2016, 2017, and 2018, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the use of the authority provided by this section in the preceding calendar year.

(2) ELEMENTS.—Each report under this subsection shall identify, for the calendar year covered by such report, each instance in which an executive agency exercised the authority provided under this section to examine records, explain the basis for the action taken, and summarize the results of any examination of records so undertaken.

(3) FORM.—Any report under this subsection may be submitted in classified form.

(c) RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING AUTHORITIES APPLICABLE TO CENTCOM.—

(1) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall not apply to contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements covered under section 842 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–81; 125 Stat. 1510; 10 U.S.C. 2302 note).

(2) EXTENSION OF CURRENT AUTHORITIES APPLICABLE TO CENTCOM.—Section 842 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112–81; 125 Stat. 1510; 10 U.S.C. 2302 note) is amended by striking ''date of the enactment of this Act'' and inserting ''date of the enactment of the Carl Levin National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015''.

SEC. 1274. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) CONTINGENCY OPERATION.—The term ''contingency operation'' has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, United States Code.

(3) CONTRACT.—The term ''contract'' includes a contract for commercial items but

is not limited to a contract for commercial items.

(4) COVERED COMBATANT COMMAND.—The term ''covered combatant command'' means the following:

(A) The United States Africa Command.

(B) The United States Central Command.

(C) The United States European Command.

(D) The United States Pacific Command.

(E) The United States Southern Command.

(5) COVERED CONTRACT, GRANT, OR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT DEFINED.—The term ''covered contract, grant, or cooperative agreement'' means a contract, grant, or cooperative agreement with an estimated value in excess of $50,000 that is performed outside the United States, including its possessions and territories, in support of a contingency operation.

(6) COVERED PERSON OR ENTITY.—The term ''covered person or entity'' means a person or entity that is actively opposing United States or coalition forces involved in a contingency operation in which members of the Armed Forces are actively engaged in hostilities.

(7) EXECUTIVE AGENCY.—The term ''executive agency'' has the meaning given that term in section 133 of title 41, United States Code.

(8) HEAD OF CONTRACTING ACTIVITY.—The term ''head of contracting activity'' has the meaning given that term in subpart 601 of part 1 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

SA 3744. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 544 and insert the following:

SEC. 544. ACCESS TO SPECIAL VICTIMS' COUNSEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 1044e of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(a) DESIGNATION; PURPOSES.—(1) The Secretary concerned shall designate legal counsel (to be known as 'Special Victims' Counsel') for the purpose of providing legal assistance to an individual described in paragraph (2) who is the victim of an alleged sex-related offense, regardless of whether the report of that offense is restricted or unrestricted.

''(2) An individual described in this paragraph is any of the following:

''(A) An individual eligible for military legal assistance under section 1044 of this title.

''(B) An individual who is—

''(i) not covered under subparagraph (A);

''(ii) a member of a reserve component of the armed forces; and

''(iii) a victim of an alleged sex-related offense as described in paragraph (1)—

''(I) during a period in which the individual served on active duty, full-time National Guard duty, or inactive-duty training; or

''(II) during any period, regardless of the duty status of the individual, if the circumstances of the alleged sex-related offense have a nexus to the military service of the victim, as determined under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (f) of such section is amended by striking ''eligible for military legal assistance under section 1044 of this title'' each place it appears and inserting ''described in subsection (a)(2)''.

SA 3745. Mr. DONNELLY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2813. INDEMNIFICATION OF TRANSFEREES OF PROPERTY AT MILITARY INSTALLATIONS CLOSED SINCE OCTOBER 24, 1988, THAT REMAIN UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

Section 330(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993 (Public Law 102–484; 10 U.S.C. 2687 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''paragraph (3)'' and inserting ''paragraph (4)''; and

(B) by striking ''paragraph (2)'' and inserting ''paragraph (3)'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(3) in paragraph (4), as redesignated, by striking ''paragraph (2) contributed to any such release or threatened release, paragraph (1)'' and inserting ''paragraph (3) contributed to any such release or threatened release, paragraph (1) or (2)''; and

(4) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph (2):

''(2) The responsibility of the Secretary of Defense to hold harmless, defend, and indemnify in full certain persons and entities described in paragraph (3) also applies with respect to any military installation (or portion thereof) that—

''(A) was closed during the period beginning on October 24, 1988, and ending on the date of the enactment of this paragraph, other than pursuant to a base closure law; and

''(B) remains under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense as of the date of the enactment of this paragraph.''.

SA 3746. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle F of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1069. REPORT ON GENDER INTEGRATION IN THE PLANNING AND EXECUTION OF MILITARY OPERATIONS OF THE ARMED FORCES ABROAD.

(a) STUDY ON GENDER INTEGRATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall conduct a study on the integration of gender considerations into the planning and execution at all levels of military operations of the Armed Forces abroad.

(2) ELEMENTS.—In conducting the study under this subsection, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall—

(A) determine whether existing Department of Defense campaign, security cooperation, and contingency plans for operations abroad adequately address security and operational challenges related to gender;

(B) identify means of improving the integration of gender considerations into future Department of Defense planning for campaign, security cooperation, and contingencies for operations abroad;

(C) identify the elements of defense doctrine, if any, that should be revised to reflect lessons learned regarding women and gender as a result of experiences engaging with female populations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other operations abroad;

(D) evaluate the need for a gender advisor training program for the Armed Forces, including the length of training, proposed curriculum, and location of training for such a program;

(E) determine the extent to which personnel qualified to advise on women and gender are available within the Department of Defense, and assess the development of a billet description for gender advisors;

(F) determine how to best educate military command leadership on the integration of attention to women and gender in military operations across all lines of effort; and

(G) evaluate where to assign gender advisors in strategic, operational, and tactical commands, including, in particular in assignment to field operations and the planning staffs of the combatant commands.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report setting forth the results of the study conducted under subsection (a).

(2) FORM.—The report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SA 3747. Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. COATS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, namely:

DIVISION A—SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS

TITLE I

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW AND APPEALS

For an additional amount for ''Administrative Review and Appeals'', $63,200,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, as follows:

(1) $54,000,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review to hire 54 Immigration Judge Teams, which shall be trained and assigned to adjudicate juvenile cases.

(2) $6,700,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review for the purchase of video teleconferencing equipment, digital audio recording devices, and other technology that will enable expanded immigration courtroom capacity and capability.

(3) $2,500,000 for the Executive Office for Immigration Review's Legal Orientation Program, of which not less than $1,000,000

shall be for the Legal Orientation Program for Custodians:

Provided, That not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Executive Office for Immigration Review shall submit a reorganization plan to the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives that includes detailed plans for prioritizing the adjudication of non-detained, unaccompanied alien children and specific plans to reassign Immigration Judge Teams to expedite the adjudication of juveniles on the non-detained docket:

Provided further, That the submitted plan shall ensure that juveniles will appear before an immigration judge for an initial hearing not later than 10 days after the juvenile is apprehended.

LEGAL ACTIVITIES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES, GENERAL LEGAL ACTIVITIES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses, General Legal Activities'', $1,100,000, for necessary expenses to respond to the significant rise in unaccompanied children and adults with children at the southwest border and related activities, to remain available until September 30, 2014.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U. S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' to cover necessary expenses to respond to the significant rise in unaccompanied alien children and adults with children at the Southwest border and related activities, including the acquisition, construction, improvement, repair, and management of facilities, and for necessary expenses related to border security, $71,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015.

U. S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For an additional amount for ''Salaries and Expenses'' to cover necessary expenses to respond to the significant rise in unaccompanied alien children and adults with children at the Southwest border and related activities, and for the necessary expenses for enforcement of immigration and customs law, detention and removals of adults with children crossing the border unlawfully, and investigations, $398,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, of which, $50,000,000 shall be expended for 50 additional fugitive operations teams and not less than $14,000,000 shall be expended for vetted units operations in Central America and human smuggling and trafficking investigations: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Homeland Security shall support no fewer than an additional 3,000 family and 800 other beds and substantially increase the availability and utilization of detention space for adults with children.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. (a) For an additional amount for meeting the data collection and reporting requirements of this Act, $5,000,000.

(b) Notwithstanding section 503 of Division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113–76), funds made available under subsection (a) for data collection and reporting requirements may be transferred by the Secretary of Homeland Security between appropriations for the same purpose.

(c) The Secretary may not make a transfer described in subsection (b) until 15 days after notifying the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives of such transfer.

TITLE III

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

REFUGEE AND ENTRANT ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Refugee and Entrant Assistance'', $150,000,000, to be merged with and available for the same period and purposes as funds appropriated in Public Law 113–76 ''for carrying out such sections 414, 501, 462, and 235'': *Provided*, That funds appropriated under this heading may also be used for other medical response expenses of the Department of Health and Human Services in assisting individuals identified under subsection (b) of such section 235: *Provided further*, That, the Secretary may, in this fiscal year and hereafter, accept and use money, funds, property, and services of any kind made available by gift, devise, bequest, grant, or other donation for carrying out such sections: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading for medical response expenses may be transferred to and merged with the ''Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund'': *Provided further*, That transfer authority under this heading is subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 301. Of the funds made available for performance bonus payments under section 2105(a)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1397ee(a)(3)(E)), $1,700,000,000 is rescinded.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS—THIS TITLE

REPATRIATION AND REINTEGRATION

SEC. 401. (a) Of the funds appropriated in titles III and IV of division K of Public Law 113–76, and in prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs, for assistance for the countries in Central America, up to $40,000,000 shall be made available for such countries for repatriation and reintegration activities: *Provided*, That funds made available pursuant to this section may be obligated notwithstanding subsections (c) and (e) of section 7045 of division K of Public Law 113–76.

(b) Prior to the initial obligation of funds made available pursuant to this section, but not later than 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter until September 30, 2015, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the obligation of funds made available pursuant to this section by country and the steps taken by the government of each country to—

(1) improve border security;

(2) enforce laws and policies to stem the flow of illegal entries into the United States;

(3) enact laws and implement new policies to stem the flow of illegal entries into the United States, including increasing penalties for human smuggling;

(4) conduct public outreach campaigns to explain the dangers of the journey to the Southwest Border of the United States and to emphasize the lack of immigration benefits available; and

(5) cooperate with United States Federal agencies to facilitate and expedite the return, repatriation, and reintegration of illegal migrants arriving at the Southwest Border of the United States.

(c) The Secretary of State shall suspend assistance provided pursuant to this section to the government of a country if such government is not making significant progress on each item described in paragraphs (1) through (5) of subsection (b): *Provided*, That assistance may only be resumed if the Secretary reports to the appropriate congressional committees that subsequent to the suspension of assistance such government is making significant progress on each of the items enumerated in such subsection.

(d) Funds made available pursuant to this section shall be subject to the regular notification procedures of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of House of Representatives and the Senate.

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS — THIS ACT

SEC. 501. Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, working in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall institute a process for collecting, exchanging, and sharing specific data pertaining to individuals whose cases will be adjudicated by the Executive Office for Immigration Review that ensures that—

(1) the Department of Justice is capable of electronically receiving information from the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Health and Human Services related to the apprehension, processing, detention, placement, and adjudication of such individuals, including unaccompanied alien children;

(2) case files prepared by the Department of Homeland Security after an individual has been issued a notice to appear are electronically integrated with information collected by the Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review during the adjudication process;

(3) cases are coded to reflect immigration status and appropriate categories at apprehension, such as unaccompanied alien children and family units;

(4) information pertaining to cases and dockets are collected and maintained by the Department of Justice in an electronic, searchable database that includes—

(A) the status of the individual appearing before the court upon apprehension;

(B) the docket upon which the case is placed;

(C) the individual's presence for court proceedings;

(D) the final disposition of each case;

(E) the number of days each case remained on the docket before final disposition; and

(F) any other information the Attorney General determines to be necessary and appropriate; and

(5) the final disposition of an adjudication or an order of removal is electronically submitted to—

(A) the Department of Homeland Security; and

(B) the Department of Health and Human Services, if appropriate.

SEC. 502. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, working in coordination with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall institute a process for collecting, exchanging, and sharing specific data pertaining to individuals who are apprehended or encountered for immigration enforcement purposes

by the Department of Homeland Security that ensures that—

(1) case files prepared by the Department of Homeland Security after an individual has been issued a notice to appear are electronically transmitted to—

(A) the Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review for integration with case files prepared during the adjudication process; and

(B) to the Department of Health and Human Services, as appropriate, if the files relate to unaccompanied alien children;

(2) the Department of Homeland Security is capable of electronically receiving information pertaining to the disposition of an adjudication, including removal orders and the individual's failure to appear for proceedings, from the Department of Justice's Executive Office for Immigration Review; and

(3) information is collected and shared with the Department of Justice regarding the immigration status and appropriate categories of such individuals at the time of apprehension, such as—

(A) unaccompanied alien children or family units;

(B) the location of their apprehension;

(C) the number of days they remain in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security;

(D) the reason for releasing the individual from custody;

(E) the geographic location of their residence, if released from custody;

(F) any action taken by the Department of Homeland Security after receiving information from the Department of Justice regarding an individual's failure to appear before the court;

(G) any action taken by the Department of Homeland Security after receiving information from the Department of Justice regarding the disposition of an adjudication; and

(H) any other information that the Secretary of Homeland Security determines to be necessary and appropriate.

SEC. 503. Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, working in coordination with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall institute a process for collecting, exchanging, and sharing specific data pertaining to unaccompanied alien children that ensures that—

(1) the Department of Health and Human Services is capable of electronically receiving information from the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice related to the apprehension, processing, placement, and adjudication of unaccompanied alien children;

(2) the Department of Health and Human Services shares information with the Department of Homeland Security regarding its capacity and capability to meet the 72-hour mandate required under section 235(b)(3) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)(3)); and

(3) information is collected and shared with the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security regarding—

(A) the number of days a child remained in the custody of the Department of Health and Human Services;

(B) whether the child was placed in a facility operated by the Department of Defense;

(C) for children placed with a sponsor—

(i) the number of children placed with the sponsor;

(ii) the relationship of the sponsor taking custody of the child;

(iii) the type of background check conducted on the potential sponsor; and

(iv) the geographic location of the sponsor; and

(D) any other information the Attorney General or the Secretary of Homeland Security determines to be necessary and appropriate.

SEC. 504. The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go-Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled ''Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation'' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

SEC. 505. This Act may be cited as the ''Protecting Children and America's Homeland Act of 2014''.

DIVISION B—UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN AND BORDER SECURITY

TITLE X—UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN

Subtitle A—Protection and Due Process for Unaccompanied Alien Children

SEC. 1001. REPATRIATION OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

Section 235(a) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by amending the paragraph heading to read as follows: ''RULES FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—'';

(B) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''who is a national or habitual resident of a country that is contiguous with the United States''; and

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by amending the subparagraph heading to read as follows: ''AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES.—''; and

(ii) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking ''countries contiguous to the United States'' and inserting ''Canada, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and any other foreign country that the Secretary determines appropriate'';

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (4), (5), and (6), respectively;

(3) inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) MANDATORY EXPEDITED REMOVAL OF CRIMINALS AND GANG MEMBERS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall place an unaccompanied alien child in a proceeding in accordance with section 235 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225a) if, the Secretary determines or has reason to believe the alien—

''(A) has been convicted of any offense carrying a maximum term of imprisonment of more than 180 days;

''(B) has been convicted of an offense which involved—

''(i) domestic violence (as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a));

''(ii) child abuse and neglect (as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a));

''(iii) assault resulting in bodily injury (as defined in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code);

''(iv) the violation of a protection order (as defined in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code);

''(v) driving while intoxicated (as defined in section 164 of title 23, United States Code); or

''(vi) any offense under foreign law, except for a purely political offense, which, if the offense had been committed in the United States, would render the alien inadmissible under section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a));

''(C) has been convicted of more than 1 criminal offense (other than minor traffic offenses);

''(D) has engaged in, is engaged in, or is likely to engage after entry in any terrorist activity (as defined in section 212(a)(3)(B)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(iii)), or intends to participate or has participated in the activities of a foreign terrorist organization (as designated under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189));

''(E) is or was a member of a criminal gang (as defined in paragraph (53) of section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a));

''(F) provided materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent information regarding age or identity to the United States Government with the intent to wrongfully be classified as an unaccompanied alien child; or

''(G) has entered the United States more than 1 time in violation of section 275(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1325(a)), knowing that the entry was unlawful.''; and

(4) in subparagraph (D) of paragraph (6), as redesignated by paragraph (2)—

(A) by amending the subparagraph heading to read as follows: ''EXPEDITED DUE PROCESS AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—'';

(B) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking '', except for an unaccompanied alien child from a contiguous country subject to the exceptions under subsection (a)(2), shall be—'' and inserting ''who meets the criteria listed in paragraph (2)(A)—'';

(C) by striking clause (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) shall be placed in a proceeding in accordance with section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, which shall commence not later than 7 days after the screening of an unaccompanied alien child described in paragraph (4);'';

(D) by redesignating clauses (ii) and (iii) as clauses (iii) and (iv), respectively;

(E) by inserting after clause (i) the following:

''(ii) may not be placed in the custody of a nongovernmental sponsor or otherwise released from the immediate custody of the United States Government until the child is repatriated unless the child—

''(I) is the subject of an order under section 235B(e)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act; and

''(II) is placed or released in accordance with subsection (c)(2)(C) of this section.'';

(F) in clause (iii), as redesignated, by inserting ''is'' before ''eligible''; and

(G) in clause (iv), as redesignated, by inserting ''shall be'' before ''provided''.

SEC. 1002. EXPEDITED DUE PROCESS AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) HUMANE AND EXPEDITED INSPECTION AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 235A the following:

''SEC. 235B. HUMANE AND EXPEDITED INSPECTION AND SCREENING FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

''(a) ASYLUM OFFICER DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'asylum officer' means an immigration officer who—

''(1) has had professional training in country conditions, asylum law, and interview techniques comparable to that provided to full-time adjudicators of applications under section 208; and

''(2) is supervised by an officer who—

''(A) meets the condition described in paragraph (1); and

''(B) has had substantial experience adjudicating asylum applications.

''(b) PROCEEDING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 7 days after the screening of an unaccompanied alien child under section 235(a)(5) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)(5)), an immigration judge shall conduct and conclude a proceeding to inspect, screen, and determine the status of the unaccompanied alien child who is an applicant for admission to the United States.

''(2) TIME LIMIT.—Not later than 72 hours after the conclusion of a proceeding with respect to an unaccompanied alien child under this section, the immigration judge who conducted such proceeding shall issue an order pursuant to subsection (e).

''(c) CONDUCT OF PROCEEDING.—

''(1) AUTHORITY OF IMMIGRATION JUDGE.—The immigration judge conducting a proceeding under this section—

''(A) shall administer oaths, receive evidence, and interrogate, examine, and cross-examine the unaccompanied alien child and any witnesses;

''(B) may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and presentation of evidence;

''(C) is authorized to sanction by civil money penalty any action (or inaction) in contempt of the judge's proper exercise of authority under this Act; and

''(D) shall determine whether the unaccompanied alien child meets any of the criteria set out in subparagraphs (A) through (G) of paragraph (3) of section 235(a) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)), and if so, order the alien removed under subsection (e)(2) of this section.

''(2) FORM OF PROCEEDING.—A proceeding under this section may take place—

''(A) in person;

''(B) at a location agreed to by the parties, in the absence of the unaccompanied alien child;

''(C) through video conference; or

''(D) through telephone conference.

''(3) PRESENCE OF ALIEN.—If it is impracticable by reason of the mental incompetency of the unaccompanied alien child for the alien to be present at the proceeding, the Attorney General shall prescribe safeguards to protect the rights and privileges of the alien.

''(4) RIGHTS OF THE ALIEN.—In a proceeding under this section—

''(A) the unaccompanied alien child shall be given the privilege of being represented, at no expense to the Government, by counsel of the alien's choosing who is authorized to practice in the proceedings;

''(B) the alien shall be given a reasonable opportunity—

''(i) to examine the evidence against the alien;

''(ii) to present evidence on the alien's own behalf; and

''(iii) to cross-examine witnesses presented by the Government;

''(C) the rights set forth in subparagraph (B) shall not entitle the alien—

''(i) to examine such national security information as the Government may proffer in opposition to the alien's admission to the United States; or

''(ii) to an application by the alien for discretionary relief under this Act; and

''(D) a complete record shall be kept of all testimony and evidence produced at the proceeding.

''(5) WITHDRAWAL OF APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION.—An unaccompanied alien child applying for admission to the United States may, and at any time prior to the issuance of a final order of removal, be permitted to withdraw the application and immediately be returned to the alien's country of nationality or country of last habitual residence.

''(6) CONSEQUENCES OF FAILURE TO APPEAR.—An unaccompanied alien child who does not attend a proceeding under this section, shall be ordered removed, except under exceptional circumstances where the alien's absence is the fault of the Government, a medical emergency, or an act of nature.

''(d) DECISION AND BURDEN OF PROOF.—

''(1) DECISION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—At the conclusion of a proceeding under this section, the immigration judge shall determine whether an unaccompanied alien child is likely to be—

''(i) admissible to the United States; or

''(ii) eligible for any form of relief from removal under this Act.

''(B) EVIDENCE.—The determination of the immigration judge under subparagraph (A) shall be based only on the evidence produced at the hearing.

''(2) BURDEN OF PROOF.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In a proceeding under this section, an unaccompanied alien child who is an applicant for admission has the burden of establishing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that the alien—

''(i) is likely to be entitled to be lawfully admitted to the United States or eligible for any form of relief from removal under this Act; or

''(ii) is lawfully present in the United States pursuant to a prior admission.

''(B) ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS.—In meeting the burden of proof under subparagraph (A)(ii), the alien shall be given access to—

''(i) the alien's visa or other entry document, if any; and

''(ii) any other records and documents, not considered by the Attorney General to be confidential, pertaining to the alien's admission or presence in the United States.

''(e) ORDERS.—

''(1) PLACEMENT IN FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.—If an immigration judge determines that the unaccompanied alien child has met the burden of proof under subsection (d)(2), the immigration judge shall—

''(A) order the alien to be placed in further proceedings in accordance with section 240; and

''(B) order the Secretary of Homeland Security to place the alien on the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detained docket for purposes of carrying out such proceedings.

''(2) ORDERS OF REMOVAL.—If an immigration judge determines that the unaccompanied alien child has not met the burden of proof required under subsection (d)(2), the judge shall order the alien removed from the United States without further hearing or review unless the alien claims—

''(A) an intention to apply for asylum under section 208; or

''(B) a fear of persecution.

''(3) CLAIMS FOR ASYLUM.—If an unaccompanied alien child described in paragraph (2) claims an intention to apply for asylum under section 208 or a fear of persecution, the immigration judge shall order the alien referred for an interview by an asylum officer under subsection (f).

''(f) ASYLUM INTERVIEWS.—

''(1) CREDIBLE FEAR OF PERSECUTION DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'credible fear of persecution' means, after taking into account the credibility of the statements made by an unaccompanied alien child in support of the alien's claim and such other facts as are known to the asylum officer, there is a significant possibility that the alien could establish eligibility for asylum under section 208.

''(2) CONDUCT BY ASYLUM OFFICER.—An asylum officer shall conduct the interviews of an unaccompanied alien child referred under subsection (e)(3).

''(3) REFERRAL OF CERTAIN ALIENS.—If the asylum officer determines at the time of the interview that an unaccompanied alien child has a credible fear of persecution, the alien shall be held in the custody of the Secretary for Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)) during further consideration of the application for asylum.

''(4) REMOVAL WITHOUT FURTHER REVIEW IF NO CREDIBLE FEAR OF PERSECUTION.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (C), if the asylum officer determines that an unaccompanied alien child does not have a credible fear of persecution, the asylum officer shall order the alien removed from the United States without further hearing or review.

''(B) RECORD OF DETERMINATION.—The asylum officer shall prepare a written record of a determination under subparagraph (A), which shall include—

''(i) a summary of the material facts as stated by the alien;

''(ii) such additional facts (if any) relied upon by the asylum officer;

''(iii) the asylum officer's analysis of why, in light of such facts, the alien has not established a credible fear of persecution; and

''(iv) a copy of the asylum officer's interview notes.

''(C) REVIEW OF DETERMINATION.—

''(i) RULEMAKING.—The Attorney General shall establish, by regulation, a process by which an immigration judge will conduct a prompt review, upon the alien's request, of a determination under subparagraph (A) that the alien does not have a credible fear of persecution.

''(ii) MANDATORY COMPONENTS.—The review described in clause (i)—

''(I) shall include an opportunity for the alien to be heard and questioned by the immigration judge, either in person or by telephonic or video connection; and

''(II) shall be concluded as expeditiously as possible, to the maximum extent practicable within 24 hours, but in no case later than 7 days after the date of the determination under subparagraph (A).

''(D) MANDATORY PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.—Any alien subject to the procedures under this paragraph shall be held in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b))—

''(i) pending a final determination of an application for asylum under this subsection; and

''(ii) after a determination under this subsection that the alien does not have a credible fear of persecution, until the alien is removed.

''(g) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (f)(4)(C) and paragraph (2), a removal order entered in accordance with subsection (e)(2) or (f)(4)(A) is not subject to administrative appeal.

''(2) RULEMAKING.—The Attorney General shall establish, by regulation, a process for the prompt review of an order under subsection (e)(2) against an alien who claims under oath, or as permitted under penalty of perjury under section 1746 of title 28, United States Code, after having been warned of the penal ties for falsely making such claim under such conditions to have been—

''(A) lawfully admitted for permanent residence;

''(B) admitted as a refugee under section 207; or

''(C) granted asylum under section 208.

''(h) LAST IN, FIRST OUT.—In any proceedings, determinations, or removals under this section, priority shall be accorded to the alien who has most recently arrived in the United States.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the first section of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 235A the following:

''Sec. 235B. Humane and expedited inspection and screening for unaccompanied alien children.''.

(b) JUDICIAL REVIEW OF ORDERS OF REMOVAL.—Section 242 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1252) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''section 235(b)(1))'' and inserting ''section 235(b)(1) or an order of removal issued to an unaccompanied alien child after proceedings under section 235B''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting ''or section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)(1)'' each place it appears; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the subparagraph heading, by inserting ''OR 235B'' after ''SECTION 235(B)(1)''; and

(II) in clause (iii), by striking ''section 235(b)(1)(B),'' and inserting ''section 235(b)(1)(B) or 235B(f);''; and

(2) in subsection (e)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by inserting ''OR 235B'' after ''SECTION 235(B)(1)'';

(B) by inserting ''or section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)(1)'' each place it appears;

(C) in subparagraph (2)(C), by inserting ''or section 235B(g)'' after ''section 235(b)(1)(C)''; and

(D) in subparagraph (3)(A), by inserting ''or section 235B'' after ''section 235(b)''.

SEC. 1003. EXPEDITED DUE PROCESS FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN PRESENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

(a) SPECIAL MOTIONS FOR UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.—

(1) FILING AUTHORIZED.—During the 60-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, notwithstanding any other provision of law, permit an unaccompanied alien child who was issued a notice to appear under section 239 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229) during the period beginning on January 1, 2013, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act—

(A) to appear, in-person, before an immigration judge who has been authorized by the Attorney General to conduct proceedings under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002;

(B) to attest that the unaccompanied alien child desires to apply for admission to the United States; and

(C) to file a motion—

(i) to replace any notice to appear issued between January 1, 2013, and the date of the enactment of this Act under such section 239 that has not resulted in a final order of removal; and

(ii) to apply for admission to the United States by being placed in proceedings under such section 235B.

(2) ADJUDICATION OF MOTION.—An immigration judge may, at the sole and unreviewable discretion of the judge, grant a motion filed under paragraph (1)(C) upon a finding that—

(A) the petitioner was an unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232)) on the date on which a notice to appear was issued to the alien under section 239 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229);

(B) the notice to appear was issued during the period beginning on January 1, 2013, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act;

(C) the unaccompanied alien child is applying for admission to the United States; and

(D) the granting of such motion would not be manifestly unjust.

(3) EFFECT OF MOTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon the granting of a motion to replace a notice to appear under paragraph (2), the immigration judge who granted such motion shall—

(A) while the petitioner remains in-person, immediately inspect and screen the petitioner for admission to the United States by conducting a proceeding under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002;

(B) immediately notify the petitioner of the petitioner's ability, under section 235B(c)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act to withdraw the petitioner's application for admission to the United States and immediately be returned to the petitioner's country of nationality or country of last habitual residence; and

(C) replace the petitioner's notice to appear with an order under section 235B(e) of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

(4) PROTECTIVE CUSTODY.—An unaccompanied alien child who has been granted a motion under paragraph (2) shall be held in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232).

SEC. 1004. CHILD WELFARE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT INFORMATION SHARING.

Section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) INFORMATION SHARING.—

''(A) IMMIGRATION STATUS.—If the Secretary of Health and Human Services considers placement of an unaccompanied alien child with a potential sponsor, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the Secretary of Health and Human Services the immigration status of such potential sponsor prior to the placement of the unaccompanied alien child.

''(B) OTHER INFORMATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall provide to the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General any relevant information related to an unaccompanied alien child who is or has been in the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services, including the location of the child and any person to whom custody of the child has been transferred, for any legitimate law enforcement objective, including enforcement of the immigration laws.''.

SEC. 1005. ACCOUNTABILITY FOR CHILDREN AND TAXPAYERS.

Section 235(b) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(b)), as amended by section 1004, is further amended by inserting at the end the following:

''(6) INSPECTION OF FACILITIES.—The Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services shall conduct regular inspections of facilities utilized by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide care and custody of an unaccompanied alien children who are in the immediate custody of the Secretary to ensure that such facilities are operated in the most efficient manner practicable.

''(7) FACILITY OPERATIONS COSTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall ensure that facilities utilized to provide care and custody of unaccompanied alien children are operated efficiently and at a rate of cost that is not greater than $500 per day for each child housed or detained at such facility, unless the Secretary certifies that compliance with this requirement is temporarily impossible due to emergency circumstances.''.

SEC. 1006. CUSTODY OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN IN FORMAL REMOVAL PROCEEDING.

Section 235(c) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2) by inserting at the end the following:

''(C) CHILDREN IN FORMAL REMOVAL PROCEEDINGS.—

''(i) LIMITATION ON PLACEMENT.—An unaccompanied alien child who has been placed in a proceeding under section 240 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229a) may not be placed in the custody of a nongovernmental sponsor or otherwise released from the immediate custody of the United States Government unless—

''(I) the nongovernmental sponsor is a biological or adoptive parent of the unaccompanied alien child;

''(II) the parent is legally present in the United States at the time of the placement;

''(III) the parent has undergone a mandatory biometric criminal history check; and

''(IV) the Secretary of Health and Human Services has determined that the unaccompanied alien child is not a danger to self, danger to the community, or risk of flight.

''(ii) EXCEPTIONS.—If the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines that an unaccompanied alien child is a victim of severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)), a special needs child with a disability (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102)), a child who has been a victim of physical or sexual abuse under circumstances that indicate that the child's health or welfare has been significantly harmed or threatened, or a child with mental health needs that require ongoing assistance from a social welfare agency, the unaccompanied alien child may be placed with a grandparent or adult sibling if the grandparent or adult sibling meets the requirements set out in subclauses (II), (III), and (IV) of clause (i).

''(iii) MONITORING.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—An unaccompanied alien child who is 15, 16, or 17 years of age placed with a nongovernmental sponsor or, in the case of an unaccompanied alien child younger than 15 years of age placed with a nongovernmental sponsor, such nongovernmental sponsor shall—

''(aa) enroll in the alternative to detention program of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and

''(bb) continuously wear an electronic ankle monitor while the unaccompanied alien child is in removal proceedings.

''(II) PENALTY FOR MONITOR TAMPERING.—If an electronic ankle monitor required by subclause (I) is tampered with, the sponsor of the unaccompanied alien child shall be subject to a civil penalty of $150 for each day the monitor is not functioning due to the tampering, up to a maximum of $3,000.

''(iv) EFFECT OF VIOLATION OF CONDITIONS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall remove an unaccompanied alien child from a sponsor if the sponsor violates the terms of the agreement specifying the conditions under which the alien was placed with the sponsor.

''(v) FAILURE TO APPEAR.—

''(I) CIVIL PENALTY.—If an unaccompanied alien child is placed with a sponsor and fails to appear in a mandatory court appearance,

the sponsor shall be subject to a civil penalty of $250 for each day until the alien appears in court, up to a maximum of $5,000.

''(II) BURDEN OF PROOF.—The sponsor is not subject to the penalty imposed under subclause (I) if the sponsor—

''(aa) appears in person and proves to the immigration court that the failure to appear by the unaccompanied alien child was not the fault of the sponsor; and

''(bb) supplies the immigration court with documentary evidence that supports the assertion described in item (aa).

''(vi) PROHIBITION ON PLACEMENT WITH SEX OFFENDERS AND HUMAN TRAFFICKERS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services may not place an unaccompanied alien child under this subparagraph in the custody of an individual who has been convicted of, or the Secretary has reason to believe was otherwise involved in the commission of—

''(I) a sex offense (as defined in section 111 of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (42 U.S. 16911)); or

''(II) a crime involving severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)).

''(vii) REQUIREMENTS OF CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK.—A biometric criminal history check required by clause (i)(IV) shall be conducted using a set of fingerprints or other biometric identifier through—

''(I) the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

''(II) criminal history repositories of all States that the individual lists as current or former residences; and

''(III) any other State or Federal database or repository that the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines is appropriate.''.

SEC. 1007. FRAUD IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRANSFER OF CUSTODY OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 1041. Fraud in connection with the transfer of custody of unaccompanied alien children

''(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for a person to obtain custody of an unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section 462(g) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)) by—

''(1) making any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation; or

''(2) making or using any false writing or document knowing the same to contain any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry.

''(b) PENALTIES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any person who violates, or attempts or conspires to violate, this section shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not less than 1 year.

''(2) ENHANCED PENALTY FOR TRAFFICKING.—If the primary purpose of the violation, attempted violation, or conspiracy to violate this section was to subject the child to sexually explicit activity or any other form of exploitation, the offender shall be fined under this title and imprisoned for not less than 15 years.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 47 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1040 the following:

''1041. Fraud in connection with the transfer of custody of unaccompanied alien children.''.

SEC. 1008. NOTIFICATION OF STATES, REPORTING, AND MONITORING.

(a) NOTIFICATION.—Section 235 of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(j) NOTIFICATION TO STATES.—

''(1) PRIOR TO PLACEMENT.—The Secretary of Homeland Security or the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall notify the Governor of a State not later than 48 hours prior to the placement of an unaccompanied alien child from in custody of such Secretary in the care of a facility or sponsor in such State.

''(2) INITIAL REPORTS.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit a report to the Governor of each State in which an unaccompanied alien child was discharged to a sponsor or placed in a facility while remaining in the legal custody of the Secretary during the period beginning October 1, 2013 and ending on the date of the enactment of the Protecting Children and America's Homeland Act of 2014.

''(3) MONTHLY REPORTS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit a monthly report to the Governor of each State in which, during the reporting period, unaccompanied alien children were discharged to a sponsor or placed in a facility while remaining in the legal custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

''(4) CONTENTS.—Each report required to be submitted to the Governor of a State by paragraph (2) or (3) shall identify the number of unaccompanied alien children placed in the State during the reporting period, disaggregated by—

''(A) the locality in which the aliens were placed; and

''(B) the age of the aliens.''.

(b) MONITORING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

(1) require all sponsors to agree—

(A) to receive approval from the Secretary of Health and Human Services prior to changing the location in which the sponsor is housing an unaccompanied alien child placed in the sponsor's custody; and

(B) to provide a current address for the child and the reason for the change of address;

(2) provide regular and frequent monitoring of the physical and emotional well-being of each unaccompanied alien child who has been discharged to a sponsor or remained in the legal custody of the Secretary until the child's immigration case is resolved; and

(3) not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, provide to Congress a plan for implementing the requirement of paragraph (2).

SEC. 1009. EMERGENCY IMMIGRATION JUDGE RESOURCES.

(a) DESIGNATION.—Not later than 14 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall designate up to 100 immigration judges, including through the temporary or permanent hiring of retired immigration judges, magistrate judges, or administrative law judges, or the reassignment of current immigration judges, that are dedicated to—

(1) conducting humane and expedited inspection and screening for unaccompanied alien children under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002; or

(2) reducing existing backlogs in immigration court proceedings initiated under section 239 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229).

(b) REQUIREMENT.—The Attorney General shall ensure that sufficient immigration judge resources are dedicated to the purpose described in subsection (a)(1) to comply with the requirement under section 235B(b)(1) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002.

SEC. 1010. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

(a) REPORTS ON CARE OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILD.—Not later than December 31, 2014 and September 30, 2015, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to Congress and make publically available a report that includes—

(1) a detailed summary of the contracts in effect to care for and house unaccompanied alien children, including the names and locations of contractors and the facilities being used;

(2) the cost per day to care for and house an unaccompanied alien child, including an explanation of such cost;

(3) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have been released to a sponsor, if any;

(4) a list of the States to which unaccompanied alien children have been released from the custody of the Secretary of Health and Human Services to the care of a sponsor or placement in a facility;

(5) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have been released to a sponsor who is not lawfully present in the United States, including the country of nationality or last habitual residence and age of such children;

(6) a determination of whether more than 1 unaccompanied alien child has been released to the same sponsor, including the number of children who were released to such sponsor;

(7) an assessment of the extent to which the Secretary of Health and Human Services is monitoring the release of unaccompanied alien children, including home studies done and ankle bracelets or other devices used;

(8) an assessment of the extent to which the Secretary of Health and Human Services is making efforts—

(A) to educate unaccompanied alien children about their legal rights; and

(B) to provide unaccompanied alien children with access to pro bono counsel; and

(9) the extent of the public health issues of unaccompanied alien children, including contagious diseases, the benefits or medical services provided, and the outreach to States and localities about public health issues, that could affect the public.

(b) REPORTS ON REPATRIATION AGREEMENTS.—Not later than February 31, 2015 and August 31, 2015, the Secretary of State shall submit to Congress and make publically available a report that—

(1) describes—

(A) any repatriation agreement for unaccompanied alien children in effect and a copy of such agreement; and

(B) any such repatriation agreement that is being considered or negotiated; and

(2) describes the funding provided to the 20 countries that have the highest number of nationals entering the United States as unaccompanied alien children, including amounts provided—

(A) to deter the nationals of each country from illegally entering the United States; and

(B) to care for or reintegrate repatriated unaccompanied alien children in the country of nationality or last habitual residence.

(c) REPORTS ON RETURNS TO COUNTRY OF NATIONALITY.—Not later than December 31, 2014 and September 30, 2015, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to Congress and make publically available a report that describes—

(1) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have voluntarily returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence, disaggregated by—

(A) country of nationality or habitual residence; and

(B) age of the unaccompanied alien children;

(2) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have been returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence, including assessment of the length of time such children were present in the United States;

(3) the number of unaccompanied alien children who have not been returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence pending travel documents or other requirements from such country, including how long they have been waiting to return; and

(4) the number of unaccompanied alien children who were granted relief in the United States, whether through asylum or any other immigration benefit.

(d) REPORTS ON IMMIGRATION PROCEEDINGS.—Not later than September 30, 2015, and once every 3 months thereafter, the Director of the Executive Office for Immigration Review shall submit to Congress and make publically available a report that describes—

(1) the number of unaccompanied alien children who, after proceedings under section 235B of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as added by section 1002, were returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence, disaggregated by—

(A) country of nationality or residence; and

(B) age and gender of such aliens;

(2) the number of unaccompanied alien children who, after proceedings under such section 235B, prove a claim of admissibility and are place in proceedings under section 240 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229a);

(3) the number of unaccompanied alien children who fail to appear at a removal hearing that such alien was required to attend;

(4) the number of sponsors who were levied a penalty, including the amount and whether the penalty was collected, for the failure of an unaccompanied alien child to appear at a removal hearing; and

(5) the number of aliens that are classified as unaccompanied alien children, the ages and countries of nationality of such children, and the orders issued by the immigration judge at the conclusion of proceedings under such section 235B for such children.

Subtitle B—Cooperation With Countries of Nationality of Unaccompanied Alien Children

SEC. 1021. IN-COUNTRY REFUGEE PROCESSING.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Consistent with section 101(a)(42)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42)(B)) and section 207(e) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1157(e)), special circumstances currently exist due to grave humanitarian concerns throughout the travel, and attempts to travel, to the United States by unaccompanied children sufficient to justify and require, for fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the allowance of processing of in-country refugee applications in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras in order to prevent such children from undertaking the long and dangerous journey across Central America and Mexico.

(2) Grave humanitarian concerns exist due to—

(A) at least 60,000 unaccompanied children having undertaken the long and dangerous journey to the United States from Central America in fiscal year 2014 alone;

(B) substantial reports of unaccompanied children becoming, during the course of their journey intended for the United States, victims of—

(i) significant injury, including loss of limbs;

(ii) severe forms of violence;

(iii) death due to accident and intentional killing;

(iv) severe forms of human trafficking;

(v) kidnap for ransom; and

(vi) sexual assault and rape; and

(C) the likelihood that the vast majority of the unaccompanied children seeking admission or immigration relief, including through application as a refugee or claims of asylum, do not qualify for such admission or relief, and therefore will be repatriated.

(3) While special circumstances currently exist to justify in-country refugee application processing for El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, it is appropriate to determine the admissibility of individuals applying for refugee status from those countries according to current law and granting administrative relief in instances in which refugee or asylum applications are denied, or are expected to be denied, would exacerbate the grave humanitarian concerns described in paragraph (2) by further encouraging attempts at migration.

(b) AUTHORITY FOR IN-COUNTRY REFUGEE PROCESSING.—Notwithstanding section 101(a)(42)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(42)(B)), for fiscal years 2014 and 2015, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement of the Department of Health and Human Services, shall process an application for refugee status—

(1) for an alien who is a national of El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras and is located in such country; or

(2) in the case of an alien having no nationality, for an alien who is habitually residing in such country and is located in such country.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed as a grant of immigration benefit or relief, nor as a change to existing law regarding the eligibility for any individual for such benefit or relief, other than to the extent refugee applications shall be permitted in-country in accordance with this section.

SEC. 1022. REFUGEE ADMISSIONS FROM CERTAIN COUNTRIES.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President, in determining the number of refugees who may be admitted under section 207(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1157(a))—

(1) for fiscal year 2014, may —

(A) allocate the unallocated reserve refugee number set out in the Presidential Memorandum on Refugee Admissions for Fiscal Year 2014 issued on October 2, 2013 to admit refugees from Central America; and

(B) allocate any unused admissions allocated to a particular region for Central American refugee admissions; and

(2) for fiscal year 2015, shall include Central America among the regional allocations included in the Presidential determination for refugee admissions that fiscal year.

SEC. 1023. FOREIGN GOVERNMENT COOPERATION IN REPATRIATION OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILDREN.

(a) CERTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), on the date that is 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the President shall make a certification of whether the Government of El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras—

(A) is actively working to reduce the number of unaccompanied alien children from that country who are attempting to migrate northward in order to illegally enter the United States;

(B) is cooperating with the Government of the United States to facilitate the repatriation of unaccompanied alien children who are removed from the United States and returned to their country of nationality or habitual residence; and

(C) has negotiated or is actively negotiating an agreement under section 235(a)(2)(C) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232(a)(2)(C)), as amended by section 1001.

(2) INTERIM CERTIFICATION.—If prior to the date an annual certification is required by paragraph (1) the President determines the most recent such certification for the Government of El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras is no longer accurate, the President may make an accurate certification for that country prior to such date.

(b) LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE.—The Federal Government may not provide any assistance (other than security assistance) to El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras unless in the most recent certification for that country under subsection (a) is that the Government of El Salvador, Guatemala, or Honduras, respectively, meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of subsection (a)(1).

TITLE XI—CRIMINAL ALIENS

SEC. 1101. ALIEN GANG MEMBERS.

(a) DEFINITION.—Section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(53)(A) The term 'criminal gang' means an ongoing group, club, organization, or association of 5 or more persons—

''(i)(I) that has as 1 of its primary purposes the commission of 1 or more of the criminal offenses described in subparagraph (B); and

''(II) the members of which engage, or have engaged within the past 5 years, in a continuing series of offenses described in subparagraph (B); or

''(ii) that has been designated as a criminal gang under section 220 by the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Attorney General, or the Secretary of State.

''(B) The offenses described in this subparagraph, whether in violation of Federal or State law or foreign law and regardless of whether the offenses occurred before, on, or after the date of the enactment of the Protecting Children and America's Homeland Act of 2014, are the following:

''(i) A 'felony drug offense' (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)).

''(ii) An offense under section 274 (relating to bringing in and harboring certain aliens), section 277 (relating to aiding or assisting certain aliens to enter the United States), or section 278 (relating to importation of alien for immoral purpose).

''(iii) A crime of violence (as defined in section 16 of title 18, United States Code).

''(iv) A crime involving obstruction of justice, tampering with or retaliating against a witness, victim, or informant, or burglary.

''(v) Any conduct punishable under sections 1028 and 1029 of title 18, United States Code (relating to fraud and related activity in connection with identification documents or access devices), sections 1581 through 1594 of such title (relating to peonage, slavery and trafficking in persons), section 1952 of such title (relating to interstate and foreign travel or transportation in aid of racketeering enterprises), section 1956 of such title (relating to the laundering of monetary instruments), section 1957 of such title (relating to engaging in monetary transactions in property derived from specified unlawful activity), or sections 2312 through 2315 of such title (relating to interstate transportation of stolen motor vehicles or stolen property).

''(vi) A conspiracy to commit an offense described in clauses (i) through (v).

''(C) Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including any effective date), the term 'criminal gang' applies regardless of

whether the conduct occurred before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this paragraph.''.

(b) INADMISSIBILITY.—Section 212(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(J) ALIENS ASSOCIATED WITH CRIMINAL GANGS.—Any alien is inadmissible who a consular officer, the Secretary of Homeland Security, or the Attorney General knows or has reason to believe—

''(i) is or has been a member of a criminal gang; or

''(ii) has participated in the activities of a criminal gang knowing or having reason to know that such activities will promote, further, aid, or support the illegal activity of the criminal gang.''.

(c) DEPORTABILITY.—Section 237(a)(2) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(G) ALIENS ASSOCIATED WITH CRIMINAL GANGS.—Any alien is deportable who the Secretary of Homeland Security or the Attorney General knows or has reason to believe—

''(i) is or has been a member of a criminal gang; or

''(ii) has participated in the activities of a criminal gang knowing or having reason to know that such activities will promote, further, aid, or support the illegal activity of the criminal gang.''.

(d) DESIGNATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 2 of title II of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1181 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 219 the following:

''SEC. 220. DESIGNATION OF CRIMINAL GANGS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Attorney General, or the Secretary of State may designate a group or association as a criminal gang if their conduct is described in section 101(a)(53) or if the group or association conduct poses a significant risk that threatens the security and the public safety of nationals of the United States or the national security, homeland security, foreign policy, or economy of the United States.

''(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—A designation made under subsection (a) shall remain in effect until the designation is revoked after consultation between the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of State or is terminated in accordance with Federal law.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in the first section of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 219 the following:

''220. Designation of criminal gangs.''.

(e) MANDATORY DETENTION OF CRIMINAL GANG MEMBERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 236(c)(1)(D) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226(c)(1)(D)) is amended—

(A) by striking ''section 212(a)(3)(B)'' and inserting ''paragraph (2)(J) or (3)(B) of section 212(a)''; and

(B) by striking ''237(a)(4)(B),'' and inserting ''paragraph (2)(G) or (4)(B) of section 237(a),''.

(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than March 1 of each year (beginning 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act), the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with the appropriate Federal agencies, shall submit a report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on the number of aliens detained under the amendments made by paragraph (1).

(f) ASYLUM CLAIMS BASED ON GANG AFFILIATION.—

(1) INAPPLICABILITY OF RESTRICTION ON REMOVAL TO CERTAIN COUNTRIES.—Section 241(b)(3)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(b)(3)(B)) is amended, in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting ''who is described in section 212(a)(2)(J)(i) or section 237(a)(2)(G)(i) or who is'' after ''to an alien''.

(2) INELIGIBILITY FOR ASYLUM.—Section 208(b)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(b)(2)(A)) is amended—

(A) in clause (v), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) by redesignating clause (vi) as clause (vii); and

(C) by inserting after clause (v) the following:

''(vi) the alien is described in section 212(a)(2)(J)(i) or section 237(a)(2)(G)(i) (relating to participation in criminal gangs); or''.

(g) TEMPORARY PROTECTED STATUS.—Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1254a) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Attorney General'' each place that term appears and inserting ''Secretary of Homeland Security'';

(2) in subparagraph (c)(2)(B)—

(A) in clause (i), by striking ''States, or'' and inserting ''States;'';

(B) in clause (ii), by striking the period and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) the alien is, or at any time after admission has been, a member of a criminal gang.''; and

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking paragraph (3); and

(B) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end the following: ''The Secretary of Homeland Security may detain an alien provided temporary protected status under this section whenever appropriate under any other provision of law.''.

(h) SPECIAL IMMIGRANT JUVENILE VISAS.—Section 101(a)(27)(J)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(J)(iii)) is amended—

(1) in subclause (I), by striking ''and'';

(2) in subclause (II), by inserting ''and'' at the end; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(III) no alien who is, or was at any time after admission has been, a member of a criminal gang shall be eligible for any immigration benefit under this subparagraph;''.

(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply to acts that occur before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 1102. MANDATORY EXPEDITED REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS CRIMINALS, TERRORISTS, AND GANG MEMBERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an immigration officer who finds an alien described in subsection (b) at a land border or port of entry of the United States and determines that such alien is inadmissible under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) shall treat such alien in accordance with section 235 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225).

(b) THREATS TO PUBLIC SAFETY.—An alien described in this subsection is an alien who the Secretary of Homeland Security determines, or has reason to believe—

(1) has been convicted of any offense carrying a maximum term of imprisonment of more than 180 days;

(2) has been convicted of an offense which involved—

(A) domestic violence (as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a));

(B) child abuse and neglect (as defined in section 40002(a) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13925(a));

(C) assault resulting in bodily injury (as defined in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code);

(D) the violation of a protection order (as defined in section 2266 of title 18, United States Code);

(E) driving while intoxicated (as defined in section 164 of title 23, United States Code); or

(F) any offense under foreign law, except for a purely political offense, which, if the offense had been committed in the United States, would render the alien inadmissible under section 212(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a));

(3) has been convicted of more than 1 criminal offense (other than minor traffic offenses);

(4) has engaged in, is engaged in, or is likely to engage after entry in any terrorist activity (as defined in section 212(a)(3)(B)(iii) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(iii)), or intends to participate or has participated in the activities of a foreign terrorist organization (as designated under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189));

(5) is or was a member of a criminal street gang (as defined in paragraph (53) of section 101(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)), as added by section 1101(a)); or

(6) has entered the United States more than 1 time in violation of section 275(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1325(a)), knowing that the entry was unlawful.

SEC. 1103. FUGITIVE OPERATIONS.

The Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized to hire 350 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention officers that comprise 50 Fugitive Operations Teams responsible for identifying, locating, and arresting fugitive aliens.

SEC. 1104. ADDITIONAL DETENTION CAPACITY FOR FAMILY UNITS.

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall increase the number of detention beds available for aliens placed in removal proceedings under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) by not less than 5,000, including such detention beds available for family units.

TITLE XII—BORDER SECURITY

SEC. 1201. REDUCING INCENTIVES FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION.

No Federal funds or resources may be used to issue a new directive, memorandum, or Executive Order that provides for relief from removal or work authorization to a class of individuals who are not otherwise eligible for such relief under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.) or such work authorization, including expanding deferred action for childhood arrivals.

SEC. 1202. BORDER SECURITY ON CERTAIN FEDERAL LANDS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FEDERAL LANDS.—The term ''Federal lands'' includes all land under the control of the Secretary concerned that is located within the Southwest border region in the State of Arizona along the international border between the United States and Mexico.

(2) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term ''Secretary concerned'' means—

(A) with respect to land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Agriculture; and

(B) with respect to land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) SUPPORT FOR BORDER SECURITY NEEDS.—To achieve effective control of Federal lands—

(1) the Secretary concerned, notwithstanding any other provision of law, shall

authorize and provide U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel with immediate access to Federal lands for security activities, including—

(A) routine motorized patrols; and

(B) the deployment of communications, surveillance, and detection equipment;

(2) the security activities described in paragraph (1) shall be conducted, to the maximum extent practicable, in a manner that the Secretary determines will best protect the natural and cultural resources on Federal lands; and

(3) the Secretary concerned may provide education and training to U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel on the natural and cultural resources present on individual Federal land units.

(c) PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After implementing subsection (b), the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretaries concerned, shall prepare and publish in the Federal Register a notice of intent to prepare a programmatic environmental impact statement in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) to analyze the impacts of the activities described in subsection (b).

(2) EFFECT ON PROCESSING APPLICATION AND SPECIAL USE PERMITS.—The pending completion of a programmatic environmental impact statement under this section shall not result in any delay in the processing or approving of applications or special use permits by the Secretaries concerned for the activities described in subsection (b).

(3) AMENDMENT OF LAND USE PLANS.—The Secretaries concerned shall amend any land use plans, as appropriate, upon completion of the programmatic environmental impact statement described in paragraph (1).

(4) SCOPE OF PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.—The programmatic environmental impact statement described in paragraph (1)—

(A) may be used to advise the Secretary of Homeland Security on the impact on natural and cultural resources on Federal lands; and

(B) shall not control, delay, or restrict actions by the Secretary of Homeland Security to achieve effective control on Federal lands.

(d) INTERMINGLED STATE AND PRIVATE LAND.—This section shall not apply to any private or State-owned land within the boundaries of Federal lands.

SEC. 1203. STATE AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE TO ALLEVIATE HUMANITARIAN CRISIS.

(a) STATE AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall enhance law enforcement preparedness, humanitarian responses, and operational readiness along the international border between the United States and Mexico through Operation Stonegarden.

(b) GRANTS AND REIMBURSEMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts made available to carry out this section shall be allocated for grants and reimbursements to State and local governments in Border Patrol Sectors on the along the international border between the United States and Mexico for—

(A) costs personnel, overtime, and travel;

(B) costs related to combating illegal immigration and drug smuggling; and

(C) costs related to providing humanitarian relief to unaccompanied alien children and family units who have entered the United States.

(2) FUNDING FOR STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—Allocations for grants and reimbursements to State and local governments under this paragraph shall be made by the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency through a competitive process.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 1204. PREVENTING ORGANIZED SMUGGLING.

(a) UNLAWFULLY HINDERING IMMIGRATION, BORDER, OR CUSTOMS CONTROLS.—

(1) AMENDMENT TO TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 27 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 556. Unlawfully hindering immigration, border, or customs controls

''(a) ILLICIT SPOTTING.—Any person who knowingly transmits to another person the location, movement, or activities of any Federal, State, or tribal law enforcement agency with the intent to further a Federal crime relating to United States immigration, customs, importation of controlled substances, agriculture products, or monetary instruments, or other border controls shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

''(b) DESTRUCTION OF UNITED STATES BORDER CONTROLS.—Any person who knowingly and without lawful authorization destroys, alters, or damages any fence, barrier, sensor, camera, or other physical or electronic device deployed by the Federal Government to control the international border of the United States or a port of entry, or otherwise seeks to construct, excavate, or make any structure intended to defeat, circumvent or evade any such fence, barrier, sensor camera, or other physical or electronic device deployed by the Federal Government to control the international border of the United States or a port of entry—

''(1) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both; and

''(2) if, at the time of the offense, the person uses or carries a firearm or, in furtherance of any such crime, possesses a firearm, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.

''(c) CONSPIRACY AND ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts or conspires to violate subsection (a) or (b) shall be punished in the same manner as a person who completes a violation of such subsection.''.

(B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 27 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 555 the following:

''556. Unlawfully hindering immigration, border, or customs controls.''.

(2) PROHIBITING CARRYING OR USE OF A FIREARM DURING AND IN RELATION TO AN ALIEN SMUGGLING CRIME.—Section 924(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting '', alien smuggling crime,'' after ''crime of violence'' each place such term appears; and

(ii) in subparagraph (D)(ii), by inserting '', alien smuggling crime,'' after ''crime of violence''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(6) For purposes of this subsection, the term 'alien smuggling crime' means any felony punishable under section 274(a), 277, or 278 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324(a), 1327, and 1328).''.

(3) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—Section 3298 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''556 (hindering immigration, border, or customs controls), 1598 (organized human smuggling),'' before ''1581''.

(b) ORGANIZED HUMAN SMUGGLING.—

(1) AMENDMENT TO TITLE 18, UNITED STATES CODE.—Chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"§ 1598. Organized human smuggling

''(a) PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.—It shall be unlawful for any person, while acting for profit or other financial gain, to knowingly direct or participate in an effort or scheme to assist or cause 3 or more persons—

''(1) to enter, attempt to enter, or prepare to enter the United States—

''(A) by fraud, falsehood, or other corrupt means;

''(B) at any place other than a port or place of entry designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security; or

''(C) in a manner not prescribed by the immigration laws and regulations of the United States;

''(2) to travel by air, land, or sea toward the United States (whether directly or indirectly)—

''(A) knowing that the persons seek to enter or attempt to enter the United States without lawful authority; and

''(B) with the intent to aid or further such entry or attempted entry; or

''(3) to be transported or moved outside of the United States—

''(A) knowing that such persons are aliens in unlawful transit from 1 country to another or on the high seas; and

''(B) under circumstances in which the persons are seeking to enter the United States without official permission or legal authority.

''(b) CONSPIRACY AND ATTEMPT.—Any person who attempts or conspires to violate subsection (a) shall be punished in the same manner as a person who completes a violation of such subsection.

''(c) BASE PENALTY.—Except as provided in subsection (d), any person who violates subsection (a) or (b) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 20 years, or both.

''(d) ENHANCED PENALTIES.—Any person who violates subsection (a) or (b)—

''(1) in the case of a violation causing a serious bodily injury (as defined in section 1365) to any person, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(2) in the case of a violation causing the life of any person to be placed in jeopardy, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(3) in the case of a violation involving 10 or more persons, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(4) in the case of a violation involving the bribery or corruption of a United States or foreign government official, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(5) in the case of a violation involving robbery or extortion (as such terms are defined in paragraph (1) or (2), respectively, of section 1951(b)), shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(6) in the case of a violation causing any person to be subjected to an involuntary sexual act (as defined in section 2246(2)), shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 30 years, or both;

''(7) in the case of a violation resulting in the death of any person, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for any term of years or for life, or both;

''(8) in the case of a violation in which any alien is confined or restrained, including by the taking of clothing, goods, or personal identification documents, shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 10 years, or both; or

''(9) in the case of smuggling an unaccompanied alien child (as defined in section 462(g)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of

2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)(2)), shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) EFFORT OR SCHEME TO ASSIST OR CAUSE 3 OR MORE PERSONS.—The term 'effort or scheme to assist or cause 3 or more persons' does not require that the 3 or more persons enter, attempt to enter, prepare to enter, or travel at the same time if such acts are completed during a 1-year period.

''(2) LAWFUL AUTHORITY.—The term 'lawful authority'—

''(A) means permission, authorization, or license that is expressly provided for under the immigration laws of the United States; and

''(B) does not include—

''(i) any authority described in subparagraph (A) that was secured by fraud or otherwise unlawfully obtained; or

''(ii) any authority that was sought, but not approved.''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1597 the following:

''1598. Organized human smuggling.''.

(c) STRATEGY TO COMBAT HUMAN SMUGGLING.—

(1) HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS OF HUMAN SMUGGLING DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''high traffic areas of human smuggling'' means the United States ports of entry and areas between such ports that have relatively high levels of human smuggling activity, as measured by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall implement a strategy to deter, detect, and interdict human smuggling across the international land and maritime borders of the United States.

(3) COMPONENTS.—The strategy referred to in paragraph (2) shall include—

(A) efforts to increase coordination between the border and maritime security components of the Department of Homeland Security;

(B) an identification of intelligence gaps impeding the ability to deter, detect, and interdict human smuggling across the international land and maritime borders of the United States;

(C) efforts to increase information sharing with State and local governments and other Federal agencies;

(D) efforts to provide, in coordination with the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, training for the border and maritime security components of the Department of Homeland Security to deter, detect, and interdict human smuggling across the international land and maritime borders of the United States; and

(E) the identification of the high traffic areas of human smuggling.

(4) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report that describes the strategy to be implemented under paragraph (2), including the components listed in paragraph (3), to—

(i) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(ii) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(B) FORM.—The Secretary may submit the report required under subparagraph (A) in classified form if the Secretary determines that such form is appropriate.

(5) ANNUAL LIST OF HIGH TRAFFIC AREAS.—Not later than February 1st of the first year beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a list of the high traffic areas of human smuggling referred to—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

SA 3748. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title I, add the following:

SEC. 141. LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR DIVESTMENT OR TRANSFER OF KC–10 AIRCRAFT.

None of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2015 for the Air Force may be obligated or expended during such fiscal year to divest or transfer, or prepare to divest or transfer, KC–10 aircraft.

SA 3749. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title XI, add the following:

SEC. 1105. PAY PARITY FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EMPLOYEES EMPLOYED AT JOINT BASES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

(1) the term ''joint military installation'' means 2 or more military installations reorganized or otherwise associated and operated as a single military installation;

(2) the term ''locality'' or ''pay locality'' has the meaning given that term by section 5302(5) of title 5, United States Code; and

(3) the term ''locality pay'' refers to any amount payable under section 5304 or 5304a of title 5, United States Code.

(b) PAY PARITY AT JOINT BASES.—Whenever 2 or more military installations are reorganized or otherwise associated as a single joint military installation, but the constituent installations are not all located within the same pay locality, all Department of Defense employees of the respective installations constituting the joint installation (who are otherwise entitled to locality pay) shall receive locality pay at a uniform percentage equal to the percentage which is payable with respect to the locality which includes the constituent installation then receiving the highest locality pay (expressed as a percentage).

(c) REGULATIONS.—The Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.—

(1) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall be effective with respect to pay periods beginning on or after such date (not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section) as the Secretary of Defense shall determine in consultation with the Office of Personnel Management.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall apply to any joint military installation created as a result of the recommendations of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission in the 2005 base closure round.

SA 3750. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 1 day after enactment.

SA 3751. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3750 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''1 day'' and insert ''2 days''.

SA 3752. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This Act shall become effective 3 days after enactment.

SA 3753. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3752 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''3 days'' and insert ''4 days''.

SA 3754. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3753 proposed by Mr. REID to the amendment SA 3752 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; as follows:

In the amendment, strike ''4'' and insert ''5''.

SA 3755. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title V, add the following:

SEC. 515. ROLE OF THE CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU IN ASSIGNMENT OF DIRECTORS AND DEPUTY DIRECTORS OF THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 10506(a) of title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''selected by the Secretary of the Army'' and inserting ''recommended by the Chief of the

National Guard Bureau, from not less than three candidates identified by the Secretary of the Army,''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''selected by the Secretary of the Air Force'' and inserting ''recommended by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, from not less than three candidates identified by the Secretary of the Air Force,''; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking ''The officers so selected'' and inserting ''The Director and Deputy Director, Army National Guard, and the Director and Deputy Director, Air National Guard,''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS REGARDING APPOINTMENT.—Paragraph (3) of such section is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''The President'' and inserting ''Consistent with paragraph (1), the President'';

(2) by striking subparagraphs (B) and (D); and

(3) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (E) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively.

SA 3756. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title IX, add the following:

SEC. 912. ASSIGNMENT OF CERTAIN NEW REQUIREMENTS BASED ON DETERMINATIONS OF COST-EFFICIENCY.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Chapter 146 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 2463 the following new section:

''§ 2463a. Assignment of certain new requirements based on determinations of cost-efficiency

''(a) ASSIGNMENTS BASED ON DETERMINATIONS OF COST-EFFICIENCY.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) and subject to subsection (b), the assignment of performance of a new requirement by the Department of Defense to military personnel, civilian personnel, or contractor personnel shall be based on a determination of which sector of the Department's workforce can perform the services in the most cost-efficient manner, based on an analysis of the costs to the Federal Government in accordance with Department of Defense Instruction 7041.04 (''Estimating and Comparing the Full Costs of Civilian and Active Duty Military Manpower and Contract Support'') or successor guidance.

''(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply in the case of a new requirement that is inherently governmental, closely associated with inherently governmental functions, critical, or required by law to be performed by military personnel or civilian personnel.

''(3) Nothing in this section may be construed as affecting the requirements of the Department of Defense under policies and procedures established by the Secretary of Defense under section 129a of this title for determining the most appropriate and cost-efficient mix of military, civilian, and contractor personnel to perform the mission of the Department of Defense.

''(b) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—(1) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary of a military department, the commander of a combatant command, or the head of a Defense Agency or activity may waive such subsection and assign performance of a new requirement without a determination of cost-efficiency as required by such subsection if—

''(A) the Secretary, commander, or head certifies in writing to the congressional defense committees that the time required to conduct the determination of cost-efficiency would result in a gap in service that would significantly undermine performance of the mission of the Department of Defense or pose an unacceptable risk; and

''(B) a period of 30 days has expired after such certification is so submitted to the committees.

''(2) A waiver of subsection (a) may be in effect for a period of not greater than 180 days.

''(3) The waiver authority under this subsection may not be exercised after September 30, 2015.

''(c) PROVISIONS RELATING TO ASSIGNMENT OF CIVILIAN PERSONNEL.—If a new requirement is assigned to civilian personnel consistent with the requirements of this section—

''(1) the Secretary of Defense may not—

''(A) impose any constraint or limitation on the size of the civilian workforce in terms of man years, end strength, full-time equivalent positions, or maximum number of employees; or

''(B) require offsetting funding for civilian pay or benefits or require a reduction in civilian full-time equivalents or civilian end-strengths; and

''(2) the Secretary may assign performance of such requirement without regard to whether the employee is a temporary, term, or permanent employee.

''(d) NEW REQUIREMENT DESCRIBED.—For purposes of this section, a new requirement is an activity or function that is not being performed, as of the date of consideration for assignment of performance under this section, by military personnel, civilian personnel, or contractor personnel at a Department of Defense component, organization, installation, or other entity. For purposes of the preceding sentence, an activity or function that is performed at such an entity and that is re-engineered, reorganized, modernized, upgraded, expanded, or changed to become more efficient but is still essentially providing the same service shall not be considered a new requirement.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2463 the following new item:

''2463a. Assignment of certain new requirements based on determinations of cost-efficiency.''.

SA 3757. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1015. NATIONAL GUARD DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Since 1989, the National Guard has worked with law enforcement agencies and community-based organizations through the National Guard Counterdrug Program to address the gap between Department of Defense and State and local institutions to perform interdiction and anti-drug activities that contribute to the defense of the United States against narco-trafficking and transnational organized crime threats.

(2) The link between drug trafficking organizations and criminal networks is well documented, as drug traffickers have diversified their activities to include trafficking in weapons, humans, cash, and counterfeit goods. These criminal networks have grown in size and influence posing a significant threat to national security.

(3) According to the National Guard Association of the United States, the five National Guard Counterdrug Training Centers located throughout the United States have provided essential training to over 680,000 law enforcement officials, military personnel, and coalition forces since their inception.

(4) The Department of Defense has continually reduced the funding for the National Guard Counterdrug Program since its fiscal year 2013 request and has eliminated funding for the National Guard Counterdrug Training Centers in the fiscal year 2015 request.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the National Guard Counterdrug Training Centers' mission of providing combatant commands, law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations, and military personnel with training and support to enhance their capabilities to detect, interdict, disrupt, and curtail drug trafficking plays a role in United States efforts to combat narcotics trafficking and transnational organized crime;

(2) a sustainable funding solution that keeps the National Guard Counterdrug Training Centers operational and that meets the requirement for training and support for law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations, and military personnel to combat narcotics trafficking and transnational organized crime is needed;

(3) the Secretary of Defense should consult with the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and as appropriate, with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Homeland Security, on—

(A) how best to meet the requirement for training and support for law enforcement agencies, community-based organizations, and military personnel to combat narcotics trafficking and transnational organized crime;

(B) what role the National Guard Counterdrug Training Centers should play; and

(C) whether a partnership between the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the National Guard Bureau, the Department of Justice, and the Department of Homeland Security is appropriate;

(4) efforts should be made to align National Guard Counterdrug Training Centers' activities with key United States counternarcotics policies and programs, including the Department of Defense Counternarcotics and Global Threats strategy, the President's National Drug Control Strategy, and the President's Strategy to Combat Transnational Organized Crime; and

(5) the Secretary of Defense should ensure that the existing National Guard Counterdrug Training Centers continue operations to achieve their full mission until a sustainable funding solution is developed and implemented.

(c) ACTIVITIES.—Section 112 of title 32, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) The operation of five regionally located National Guard Counter-drug Training

Centers within the United States for the purposes of providing counter-drug related training to Federal, State, and local law enforcement personnel, as well as for foreign law enforcement personnel participating in the National Guard State Partnership Program.''; and

(2) in subsection (h)(1), by inserting ''and activities that counter threats posed by local, State, and transnational criminal organizations engaged in drug smuggling and associated illicit activities within and on their borders, as'' after ''drug demand reduction activities''.

SA 3758. Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. REED, Mr. KING, and Mr. KAINE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 24, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

For an additional amount for ''Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense'', $122,250,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, which shall be for drug interdiction and counter-drug activities of the United States Southern Command: *Provided,* That not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations and Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the use of funds made available by this paragraph, including the amounts provided to any military or security forces of a foreign country and the use of amounts so provided by such forces: *Provided further,* That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SA 3759. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 23, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

SEC. 21___. LIMITATION ON ACQUISITION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in subsection (b), beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and during each of the subsequent 10 full fiscal years, none of the funds made available to the Secretary under any law may be used—

(1) to survey land for future acquisition as Federal land; or

(2) to enter into discussions with non-Federal landowners to identify land for acquisition as Federal land.

(b) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) does not apply to the use of funds—

(1) to complete land transactions underway on the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) to exchange Federal land for non-Federal land; or

(3) to accept donations of non-Federal land as Federal land.

(c) OFFSETTING USE OF FUNDS.—Funds that would otherwise have been used for the purchase of non-Federal land by the Forest Service shall be used to carry out the supplemental funding for wildland fire management provided under this title.

SA 3760. Ms. HIRONO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title VII, add the following:

SEC. 737. ENHANCEMENT OF GLOBAL SURVEILLANCE AND RESPONSE ACTIVITIES REGARDING EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(a) ENHANCEMENT IN CONNECTION WITH MEDICAL TRACKING OF MEMBERS DEPLOYED OVERSEAS.—As part of the ongoing development of the medical tracking system for members of the Armed Forces deployed overseas under section 1074f of title 10, United States Code, the Secretary of Defense may extend and enhance the engagement of the geographic combatant commands and overseas laboratories of the Department of Defense with international infectious disease surveillance partners in order to provide such partners with training, laboratory equipment, and supplies used by the Department to identify and develop force health protection measures. The objective of the extension and enhancement of such engagement shall be to enhance the capacity of such partners to engage in surveillance and response activities regarding emerging infectious diseases overseas.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report setting forth a plan for the exercise of the authority in subsection (a).

SA 3761. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1087. CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR FEDERAL RETIREMENT FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''annuity'' includes a survivor annuity of a widow or widower;

(2) the term ''unfunded liability'' has the meaning given the term under section 8331 of title 5, United States Code; and

(3) the terms ''widow'' and ''widower'' have the meanings given those terms under section 8341 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8332(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (16), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (17), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and'';

(C) by inserting after paragraph (17) the following:

''(18) any period of service performed—

''(A) not later than December 31, 1977;

''(B) while a citizen of the United States;

''(C) in the employ of—

''(i) Air America, Inc.; or

''(ii) any entity associated with, predecessor to, or subsidiary to Air America, Inc., including—

''(I) Air Asia Company Limited;

''(II) CAT Incorporated;

''(III) Civil Air Transport Company Limited; and

''(IV) the Pacific Division of Southern Air Transport; and

''(D) during the period that Air America, Inc. or any other entity described in subparagraph (C) was owned and controlled by the United States Government.''; and

(D) in the second undesignated paragraph following paragraph (18) (as added by subparagraph (C)), by adding at the end the following: ''For purposes of this subchapter, service of the type described in paragraph (18) shall be considered to have been service as an employee.''.

(2) EXEMPTION FROM DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT.—Section 8334(g) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(7) any period of service for which credit is allowed under section 8332(b)(18) of this title.''.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to annuities commencing on or after the effective date of this section.

(2) PROVISIONS RELATING TO CURRENT ANNUITANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under subparagraph (D) or paragraph (4), any individual who is entitled to an annuity for the month in which this section becomes effective may elect to have the amount of the annuity recomputed as if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity is or may be based.

(B) SUBMISSION OF ELECTION.—An election to have an annuity recomputed under subparagraph (A) shall be submitted to the Office of Personnel Management not later than 2 years after the effective date of this section.

(C) PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION OF RECOMPUTATION.—A recomputation under subparagraph (A) shall be effective as of the date of the first payment under the annuity that is made after the later of—

(i) the date of the recomputation; or

(ii) the effective date of this section.

(D) NO RETROACTIVE PAYMENTS.—An individual may not receive payments for any additional amounts that would have been payable, if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity is or may be based, for periods before the first month for which recomputation is reflected in the regular monthly annuity payments of the individual.

(3) PROVISIONS RELATING TO INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR (BUT NOT CURRENTLY RECEIVING) AN ANNUITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—

(i) ELECTION.—Except as provided under subparagraph (B)(ii) or paragraph (4), an individual not described in paragraph (2) who becomes eligible for an annuity or for an increased annuity as a result of the enactment of this section may elect to have the rights of the individual under subchapter III of

chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, determined as if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity is or would be based.

(ii) SUBMISSION OF ELECTION.—An individual shall make an election under clause (i) by submitting an appropriate application to the Office of Personnel Management not later than 2 years after the later of—

(I) the effective date of this section; or

(II) the date on which the individual separates from service.

(B) COMMENCEMENT DATE; RETROACTIVITY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), any entitlement to an annuity or to an increased annuity resulting from an election under subparagraph (A) shall be effective as of the date on which regular monthly annuity payments begin to be made in accordance with the amendments made by this section.

(ii) NO RETROACTIVE PAYMENTS.—An individual may not receive payments for any amounts that would have been payable, if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity or increased annuity is or may be based, for periods before the first month for which regular monthly annuity payments begin to be made in accordance with the amendments made by this section.

(iii) RETROACTIVITY FOR PURPOSES OF ENTITLEMENT TO ANNUITY.—Any determination of the amount of any annuity, all the requirements for entitlement to which (including separation, but not including any application requirement) would have been satisfied before the effective date of this section if this section had been in effect (but would not then otherwise have been satisfied absent this section) shall be made as if application for the annuity had been submitted as of the earliest date that would have been allowable, after the date on which the individual separated from service, if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout the periods of service referred to in subparagraph (A)(i).

(4) SURVIVOR ANNUITIES FOR SURVIVING SPOUSES ONLY.—Notwithstanding section 8341 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, an individual other than a widow or a widower shall not be entitled to an annuity or increased annuity under subchapter III of chapter 83 of such title based on service described in section 8332(b)(18) of such title (as added by subsection (b)(1)(C)) performed by a deceased individual.

(d) FUNDING.—Any increase in the unfunded liability of the Civil Service Retirement System attributable to the enactment of this section shall be financed in accordance with section 8348(f) of title 5, United States Code.

(e) REGULATIONS AND SPECIAL RULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall promulgate regulations necessary to carry out this section, which shall include provisions under which rules similar to those established under the amendments made by section 201 of the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–335; 100 Stat. 588) shall be applied with respect to any service described in section 8332(b)(18) of title 5, United States Code (as added by subsection (b)(1)(C)) that was subject to title II of the Social Security Act.

(2) SPECIAL RULE.—For purposes of any application for any benefit which is computed or recomputed taking into account any service described in section 8332(b)(18) of title 5, United States Code (as added by subsection (b)(1)(C)), section 8345(i)(2) of such title shall be applied by deeming the reference to the date of the ''other event which gives rise to title to the benefit'' to refer to the effective date of this section, if later than the date of the event that would otherwise apply.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this section.

SA 3762. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1087. CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR FEDERAL RETIREMENT FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''unfunded liability'' has the meaning given the term under section 8331 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8332(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (16), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (17), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and'';

(C) by inserting after paragraph (17) the following:

''(18) any period of service performed—

''(A) not later than December 31, 1977;

''(B) while a citizen of the United States;

''(C) in the employ of—

''(i) Air America, Inc.; or

''(ii) any entity associated with, predecessor to, or subsidiary to Air America, Inc., including—

''(I) Air Asia Company Limited;

''(II) CAT Incorporated;

''(III) Civil Air Transport Company Limited; and

''(IV) the Pacific Division of Southern Air Transport; and

''(D) during the period that Air America, Inc. or any other entity described in subparagraph (C) was owned and controlled by the United States Government.''; and

(D) in the second undesignated paragraph following paragraph (18) (as added by subparagraph (C)), by adding at the end the following: ''For purposes of this subchapter, service of the type described in paragraph (18) shall be considered to have been service as an employee.''.

(2) EXEMPTION FROM DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT.—Section 8334(g) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(7) any period of service for which credit is allowed under section 8332(b)(18) of this title.''.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to annuities commencing on or after the effective date of this section.

(2) PROVISIONS RELATING TO CURRENT ANNUITANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under subparagraph (D) or paragraph (4), any individual who is entitled to an annuity for the month in which this section becomes effective may elect to have the amount of the annuity recomputed as if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity is or may be based.

(B) SUBMISSION OF ELECTION.—An election to have an annuity recomputed under subparagraph (A) shall be submitted to the Office of Personnel Management not later than 2 years after the effective date of this section.

(C) PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION OF RECOMPUTATION.—A recomputation under subparagraph (A) shall be effective as of the date of the first payment under the annuity that is made after the later of—

(i) the date of the recomputation; or

(ii) the effective date of this section.

(D) NO RETROACTIVE PAYMENTS.—An individual may not receive payments for any additional amounts that would have been payable, if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity is or may be based, for periods before the first month for which recomputation is reflected in the regular monthly annuity payments of the individual.

(3) PROVISIONS RELATING TO INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR (BUT NOT CURRENTLY RECEIVING) AN ANNUITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—

(i) ELECTION.—Except as provided under subparagraph (B)(ii) or paragraph (4), an individual not described in paragraph (2) who becomes eligible for an annuity or for an increased annuity as a result of the enactment of this section may elect to have the rights of the individual under subchapter III of chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, determined as if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity is or would be based.

(ii) SUBMISSION OF ELECTION.—An individual shall make an election under clause (i) by submitting an appropriate application to the Office of Personnel Management not later than 2 years after the later of—

(I) the effective date of this section; or

(II) the date on which the individual separates from service.

(B) COMMENCEMENT DATE; RETROACTIVITY.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), any entitlement to an annuity or to an increased annuity resulting from an election under subparagraph (A) shall be effective as of the date on which regular monthly annuity payments begin to be made in accordance with the amendments made by this section.

(ii) NO RETROACTIVE PAYMENTS.—An individual may not receive payments for any amounts that would have been payable, if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity or increased annuity is or may be based, for periods before the first month for which regular monthly annuity payments begin to be made in accordance with the amendments made by this section.

(iii) RETROACTIVITY FOR PURPOSES OF ENTITLEMENT TO ANNUITY.—Any determination of the amount of any annuity, all the requirements for entitlement to which (including separation, but not including any application requirement) would have been satisfied before the effective date of this section if this section had been in effect (but would not then otherwise have been satisfied absent this section) shall be made as if application for the annuity had been submitted as of the earliest date that would have been allowable, after the date on which the individual separated from service, if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout the periods of service referred to in subparagraph (A)(i).

(4) NO RIGHT TO SURVIVOR ANNUITY.—Notwithstanding section 8341 of title 5, United States Code, or any other provision of law, an individual shall not be entitled to an annuity or increased annuity under subchapter III of chapter 83 of such title based on service described in section 8332(b)(18) of such title (as added by subsection (b)(1)(C)) performed by a deceased individual.

(d) FUNDING.—Any increase in the unfunded liability of the Civil Service Retirement System attributable to the enactment of this section shall be financed in accordance with section 8348(f) of title 5, United States Code.

(e) REGULATIONS.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall promulgate regulations necessary to carry out this section, which shall include provisions under which rules similar to those established under the amendments made by section 201 of the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–335; 100 Stat. 588) shall be applied with respect to any service described in section 8332(b)(18) of title 5, United States Code (as added by subsection (b)(1)(C)) that was subject to title II of the Social Security Act.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this section.

SA 3763. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle H of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1087. CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR FEDERAL RETIREMENT FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''annuity'' includes a survivor annuity; and

(2) the terms ''survivor'', ''survivor annuitant'', and ''unfunded liability'' have the meanings given those terms under section 8331 of title 5, United States Code.

(b) AMENDMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8332(b) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (16), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (17), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and'';

(C) by inserting after paragraph (17) the following:

''(18) any period of service performed—

''(A) not later than December 31, 1977;

''(B) while a citizen of the United States;

''(C) in the employ of—

''(i) Air America, Inc.; or

''(ii) any entity associated with, predecessor to, or subsidiary to Air America, Inc., including Air Asia Company Limited, CAT Incorporated, Civil Air Transport Company Limited, and the Pacific Division of Southern Air Transport; and

''(D) during the period that Air America, Inc. or such other entity described in subparagraph (C) was owned and controlled by the United States Government.''; and

(D) in the second undesignated paragraph following paragraph (18) (as added by subparagraph (C)), by adding at the end the following: ''For purposes of this subchapter, service of the type described in paragraph (18) of this subsection shall be considered to have been service as an employee.''.

(2) EXEMPTION FROM DEPOSIT REQUIREMENT.—Section 8334(g) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (5), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting '' ; or''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(7) any period of service for which credit is allowed under section 8332(b)(18) of this title.''.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to annuities commencing on or after the effective date of this section.

(2) PROVISIONS RELATING TO CURRENT ANNUITANTS.—

(A) ELECTION.—Any individual who is entitled to an annuity for the month in which this section becomes effective may elect to have the amount of such annuity recomputed as if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity is or may be based.

(B) SUBMISSION OF ELECTION.—An individual shall make an election under subparagraph (A) by submitting an appropriate application to the Office of Personnel Management not later than 2 years after the effective date of this section.

(C) EFFECTIVE DATE OF RECOMPUTATION; RETROACTIVE PAY AS LUMP-SUM PAYMENT.—

(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—A recomputation under subparagraph (A) shall be effective as of the commencement date of the annuity.

(ii) RETROACTIVE PAY AS LUMP-SUM PAYMENT.—Any additional amounts becoming payable, due to a recomputation under subparagraph (A), for periods before the first month for which the recomputation is reflected in the regular monthly annuity payments of an individual shall be payable to the individual in the form of a lump-sum payment.

(3) PROVISIONS RELATING TO INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR (BUT NOT CURRENTLY RECEIVING) AN ANNUITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—

(i) ELECTION.—An individual not described in paragraph (2) who becomes eligible for an annuity or an increased annuity as a result of the enactment of this section may elect to have the rights of the individual under subchapter III of chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, determined as if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout all periods of service on the basis of which the annuity is or would be based.

(ii) SUBMISSION OF ELECTION.—An individual shall make an election under clause (i) by submitting an appropriate application to the Office of Personnel Management not later than 2 years after the later of—

(I) the effective date of this section; or

(II) the date on which the individual separates from service.

(B) EFFECTIVE DATE OF ENTITLEMENT; RETROACTIVITY.—

(i) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), any entitlement to an annuity or an increased annuity resulting from an election under subparagraph (A) shall be effective as of the commencement date of the annuity.

(II) RETROACTIVE PAY AS LUMP-SUM PAYMENT.—Any amounts becoming payable for periods before the first month for which regular monthly annuity payments begin to be made in accordance with the amendments made by this section shall be payable to the individual in the form of a lump-sum payment.

(ii) RETROACTIVITY.—Any determination of the amount, or of the commencement date, of any annuity, all the requirements for entitlement to which (including separation, but not including any application requirement) would have been satisfied before the effective date of this section if this section had been in effect (but would not then otherwise have been satisfied absent this section) shall be made as if application for the annuity had been submitted as of the earliest date that would have been allowable, after the date on which the individual separated from service, if the amendments made by this section had been in effect throughout the periods of service referred to in subparagraph (A)(i).

(4) RIGHT TO FILE ON BEHALF OF A DECEDENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The regulations promulgated under subsection (e)(1) shall include provisions, in accordance with the order of precedence under section 8342(c) of title 5, United States Code, under which a survivor of an individual who performed service described in section 8332(b)(18) of such title (as added by subsection (b)(1)(C)) shall be allowed to submit an application on behalf of and to receive any lump-sum payment that would otherwise have been payable to the decedent under paragraph (2)(C)(ii) or (3)(B)(i)(II) of this subsection.

(B) SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION.—An application under this paragraph shall not be valid unless it is filed not later than the later of—

(i) 2 years after the effective date of this section; or

(ii) 1 year after the date of the decedent's death.

(d) FUNDING.—

(1) LUMP-SUM PAYMENTS.—Any lump-sum payment under paragraph (2)(C)(ii) or (3)(B)(i)(II) of subsection (c) shall be payable out of the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund.

(2) UNFUNDED LIABILITY.—Any increase in the unfunded liability of the Civil Service Retirement System attributable to the enactment of this section shall be financed in accordance with section 8348(f) of title 5, United States Code.

(e) REGULATIONS AND SPECIAL RULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall promulgate any regulations necessary to carry out this section, which shall include provisions under which rules similar to those established under the amendments made by section 201 of the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986 (Public Law 99–335; 100 Stat. 588) shall be applied with respect to any service described in section 8332(b)(18) of title 5, United States Code (as added by subsection (b)(1)(C)) that was subject to title II of the Social Security Act.

(2) SPECIAL RULE.—For purposes of any application for any benefit which is computed or recomputed taking into account any service described in section 8332(b)(18) of title 5, United States Code (as added by subsection (b)(1)(C)), section 8345(i)(2) of such title shall be applied by deeming the reference to the date of the ''other event which gives rise to title to the benefit'' to refer to the effective date of this section, if later than the date of the event that would otherwise apply.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the first day of the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 3764. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department

of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 626. ELIGIBILITY FOR PAYMENT OF BOTH RETIRED PAY AND VETERANS' DISABILITY COMPENSATION FOR MILITARY RETIREES WITH COMPENSABLE SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES.

(a) RESTATEMENT OF CURRENT CONCURRENT PAYMENT AUTHORITY WITH EXTENSION OF PAYMENT AUTHORITY TO RETIREES WITH COMPENSABLE SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES RATED LESS THAN 50 PERCENT DISABLING.—Subsection (a) of section 1414 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraphs (1) and (2) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) and subsection (b), a member or former member of the uniformed services who is entitled for any month to retired pay and who is also entitled for that month to veterans' disability compensation for a service-connected disability or combination of service-connected disabilities that is compensable under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (hereinafter in this section referred to as 'qualified retiree') is entitled to be paid both for that month without regard to sections 5304 and 5305 of title 38.

''(2) ONE-YEAR PHASE-IN FOR QUALIFIED RETIREES WITH TOTAL DISABILITIES.—During the period beginning on January 1, 2004, and ending on December 31, 2004, payment of retired pay to a qualified retiree is subject to subsection (c) if the qualified retiree is any of the following:

''(A) A qualified retiree receiving veterans' disability compensation for a disability rated as 100 percent disabling by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

''(B) A qualified retiree receiving veterans' disability compensation at the rate payable for a disability rated as 100 percent disabling by reason of a determination of individual unemployability.

''(3) 10-YEAR PHASE-IN FOR QUALIFIED RETIREES WITH DISABILITIES RATED 50 PERCENT DISABLING OR HIGHER.—During the period beginning on January 1, 2004, and ending on December 31, 2013, payment of retired pay to a qualified retiree is subject to subsection (c) if the qualified retiree is entitled to veterans' disability compensation for a service-connected disability or combination of service-connected disabilities that is rated not less than 50 percent disabling by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

''(4) 10-YEAR PHASE-IN FOR QUALIFIED RETIREES WITH COMPENSABLE DISABILITIES RATED LESS THAN 50 PERCENT DISABLING.—During the period beginning on January 1, 2016, and ending on December 31, 2025, payment of retired pay to a qualified retiree is subject to subsection (d) if the qualified retiree is entitled to veterans' disability compensation for a service-connected disability or combination of service-connected disabilities that is rated less than 50 percent disabling by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs but is compensable under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.''.

(b) PHASE-IN FOR QUALIFIED RETIREES WITH COMPENSABLE DISABILITIES RATED LESS THAN 50 PERCENT DISABLING.—Such section is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (e) and (f), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection (d):

''(d) PHASE-IN OF FULL CONCURRENT RECEIPT FOR QUALIFIED RETIREES WITH COMPENSABLE DISABILITIES RATED LESS THAN 50 PERCENT DISABLING.—During the period beginning on January 1, 2016, and ending on December 31, 2025, retired pay payable to a qualified retiree that pursuant to subsection (a)(4) is subject to this subsection shall be determined as follows:

''(1) CALENDAR YEAR 2016.—For a month during 2016, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the amount (if any) of retired pay in excess of the current baseline offset plus the following:

''(A) For a month for which the retiree receives veterans' disability compensation for a disability rated as 40 percent disabling, $_____.

''(B) For a month for which the retiree receives veterans' disability compensation for a disability rated as 30 percent disabling, $_____.

''(C) For a month for which the retiree receives veterans' disability compensation for a disability rated as 20 percent disabling, $_____.

''(D) For a month for which the retiree receives veterans' disability compensation for a disability rated as 10 percent disabling, $_____.

''(2) CALENDAR YEAR 2017.—For a month during 2017, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the sum of—

''(A) the amount specified in paragraph (1) for that qualified retiree; and

''(B) 10 percent of the difference between (i) the current baseline offset, and (ii) the amount specified in paragraph (1) for that member's disability.

''(3) CALENDAR YEAR 2018.—For a month during 2018, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the sum of—

''(A) the amount determined under paragraph (2) for that qualified retiree; and

''(B) 20 percent of the difference between (i) the current baseline offset, and (ii) the amount determined under paragraph (2) for that qualified retiree.

''(4) CALENDARY YEAR 2018.—For a month during 2019, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the sum of—

''(A) the amount determined under paragraph (3) for that qualified retiree; and

''(B) 30 percent of the difference between (i) the current baseline offset, and (ii) the amount determined under paragraph (3) for that qualified retiree.

''(5) CALENDAR YEAR 2020.—For a month during 2020, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the sum of—

''(A) the amount determined under paragraph (4) for that qualified retiree; and

''(B) 40 percent of the difference between (i) the current baseline offset, and (ii) the amount determined under paragraph (4) for that qualified retiree.

''(6) CALENDAR YEAR 2021.—For a month during 2021, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the sum of—

''(A) the amount determined under paragraph (5) for that qualified retiree; and

''(B) 50 percent of the difference between (i) the current baseline offset, and (ii) the amount determined under paragraph (5) for that qualified retiree.

''(7) CALENDAR YEAR 2022.—For a month during 2022, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the sum of—

''(A) the amount determined under paragraph (6) for that qualified retiree; and

''(B) 60 percent of the difference between (i) the current baseline offset, and (ii) the amount determined under paragraph (6) for that qualified retiree.

''(8) CALENDAR YEAR 2023.—For a month during 2023, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the sum of—

''(A) the amount determined under paragraph (7) for that qualified retiree; and

''(B) 70 percent of the difference between (i) the current baseline offset, and (ii) the amount determined under paragraph (7) for that qualified retiree.

''(9) CALENDAR YEAR 2024.—For a month during 2024, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the sum of—

''(A) the amount determined under paragraph (8) for that qualified retiree; and

''(B) 80 percent of the difference between (i) the current baseline offset, and (ii) the amount determined under paragraph (8) for that qualified retiree.

''(10) CALENDAR YEAR 2025.—For a month during 2025, the amount of retired pay payable to a qualified retiree is the sum of—

''(A) the amount determined under paragraph (9) for that qualified retiree; and

''(B) 90 percent of the difference between (i) the current baseline offset, and (ii) the amount determined under paragraph (9) for that qualified retiree.

''(11) GENERAL LIMITATION.—Retired pay determined under this subsection for a qualified retiree, if greater than the amount of retired pay otherwise applicable to that qualified retiree, shall be reduced to the amount of retired pay otherwise applicable to that qualified retiree.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO PHASE-IN FOR QUALIFIED RETIREES WITH DISABILITIES RATED 50 PERCENT DISABLING OR HIGHER.—Subsection (c) of such section is amended—

(1) in the subsection caption, by inserting ''FOR QUALIFIED RETIREES WITH DISABILITIES RATED 50 PERCENT DISABLING OR HIGHER'' after ''FULL CONCURRENT RECEIPT''; and

(2) by striking ''the second sentence of subsection (a)(1)'' and inserting ''subsection (a)(3)''.

(d) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The heading of such section is amended to read as follows:

''§ 1414. Members eligible for retired pay who are also eligible for veterans' disability compensation: concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation''.

(2) The item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 71 of such title is amended to read as follows:

''1414. Members eligible for retired pay who are also eligible for veterans' disability compensation: concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on December 31, 2015, and shall apply to payments for months beginning on or after that date.

SEC. 627. COORDINATION OF SERVICE ELIGIBILITY FOR COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION AND CONCURRENT RECEIPT.

(a) AMENDMENT TO STANDARDIZE SIMILAR PROVISIONS.—Paragraph (2) of section 1414(b) of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR RETIREES WITH FEWER THAN 20 YEARS OF SERVICE.—The retired pay of a qualified retiree who is retired under chapter 61 of this title with fewer than 20 years of creditable service is subject to reduction by the lesser of—

''(A) the amount of the reduction under sections 5304 and 5305 of title 38; or

''(B) the amount (if any) by which the amount of the member's retired pay under such chapter exceeds the amount equal to 2½ percent of the member's years of creditable service multiplied by the member's retired pay base under section 1406(b)(1) or 1407 of this title, whichever is applicable to the member.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on

July 1, 2015, and shall apply to payments for months beginning on or after that date.

SA 3765. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 626. ELIGIBILITY FOR PAYMENT OF BOTH RETIRED PAY AND VETERANS' DISABILITY COMPENSATION FOR CERTAIN MILITARY RETIREES WITH COMPENSABLE SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES.

(a) EXTENSION OF CONCURRENT RECEIPT AUTHORITY TO RETIREES WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES RATED LESS THAN 50 PERCENT.—Subsection (a) of section 1414 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (2).

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The heading of such section is amended to read as follows:

"§ 1414. Members eligible for retired pay who are also eligible for veterans' disability compensation: concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation".

(2) The item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 71 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"1414. Members eligible for retired pay who are also eligible for veterans' disability compensation: concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation.".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on July 1, 2015, and shall apply to payments for months beginning on or after that date.

SEC. 627. COORDINATION OF SERVICE ELIGIBILITY FOR COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION AND CONCURRENT RECEIPT.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO STANDARDIZE SIMILAR PROVISIONS.—

(1) QUALIFIED RETIREES.—Subsection (a) of section 1414 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by section 626(a) of this Act, is further amended—

(A) by striking "a member or" and all that follows through "retiree')" and inserting "a qualified retiree"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(2) QUALIFIED RETIREES.—For purposes of this section, a qualified retiree, with respect to any month, is a member or former member of the uniformed services who—

"(A) is entitled to retired pay (other than by reason of section 12731b of this title); and

"(B) is also entitled for that month to veterans' disability compensation.".

(2) DISABILITY RETIREES.—Paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of section 1414 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR RETIREES WITH FEWER THAN 20 YEARS OF SERVICE.—The retired pay of a qualified retiree who is retired under chapter 61 of this title with fewer than 20 years of creditable service is subject to reduction by the lesser of—

"(A) the amount of the reduction under sections 5304 and 5305 of title 38; or

"(B) the amount (if any) by which the amount of the member's retired pay under such chapter exceeds the amount equal to 2½ percent of the member's years of creditable service multiplied by the member's retired pay base under section 1406(b)(1) or 1407 of this title, whichever is applicable to the member.".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on July 1, 2015, and shall apply to payments for months beginning on or after that date.

SA 3766. Mr. REID submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title VI, add the following:

SEC. 626. ELIGIBILITY FOR PAYMENT OF BOTH RETIRED PAY AND VETERANS' DISABILITY COMPENSATION FOR MILITARY RETIREES WITH SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABILITIES RATED 40 PERCENT DISABLING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a)(2) of section 1414 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by striking "means" and all that follows and inserting "means the following:

"(A) During the period beginning on January 1, 2004, and ending on June 30, 2015, a service-connected disability or combination of service-connected disabilities that is rated as not less than 50 percent disabling by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

"(B) After June 30, 2015, a service-connected disability or combination of service-connected disabilities that is rated as not less than 40 percent disabling by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The heading of such section is amended to read as follows:

"§ 1414. Members eligible for retired pay who are also eligible for veterans' disability compensation rated 40 percent or higher: concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation".

(2) The item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 71 of such title is amended to read as follows:

"1414. Members eligible for retired pay who are also eligible for veterans' disability compensation rated 40 percent or higher: concurrent payment of retired pay and disability compensation.".

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on July 1, 2015, and shall apply to payments for months beginning on or after that date.

SEC. 627. COORDINATION OF SERVICE ELIGIBILITY FOR COMBAT-RELATED SPECIAL COMPENSATION AND CONCURRENT RECEIPT.

(a) AMENDMENT TO STANDARDIZE SIMILAR PROVISIONS.—Paragraph (2) of section 1414(b) of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR RETIREES WITH FEWER THAN 20 YEARS OF SERVICE.—The retired pay of a qualified retiree who is retired under chapter 61 of this title with fewer than 20 years of creditable service is subject to reduction by the lesser of—

"(A) the amount of the reduction under sections 5304 and 5305 of title 38; or

"(B) the amount (if any) by which the amount of the member's retired pay under such chapter exceeds the amount equal to 2½ percent of the member's years of creditable service multiplied by the member's retired pay base under section 1406(b)(1) or 1407 of this title, whichever is applicable to the member.".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on July 1, 2015, and shall apply to payments for months beginning on or after that date.

SA 3767. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PERSONNEL APPOINTMENT AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 306 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 186) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e) PERSONNEL APPOINTMENT AUTHORITY.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In appointing employees to positions in the Directorate of Science and Technology, the Secretary shall have the hiring and management authorities described in section 1101 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (5 U.S.C. 3104 note; Public Law 105–261) (referred to in this subsection as 'section 1101').

"(2) TERM OF APPOINTMENTS.—The term of appointments for employees under subsection (c)(1) of section 1101 may not exceed 5 years before the granting of any extension under subsection (c)(2) of that section.".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 307(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 187(b)) is amended by—

(1) striking paragraph (6); and

(2) redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (6).

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in the amendments made by this section shall be construed to limit the authority granted under paragraph (6) of section 307(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 187(b)), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 3768. Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, and Ms. HIRONO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 113, strike line 15 and all that follows through page 115, line 2, and insert the following:

(b) AVAILABILITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION COMPONENT ONLINE.—

(1) MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the higher education component of the Transition Assistance Program is available to members of the Armed Forces on an Internet website of the Department of Defense so that members have an option to complete such component electronically and remotely.

(2) VETERANS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall ensure that the higher education component of

the Transition Assistance Program is available to veterans and their dependents on an Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affair so that veterans and their dependents have an option to complete such component electronically and remotely.

(c) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION COMPONENT UPON REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF ENTITLEMENT TO CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—

(1) TUITION ASSISTANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever a member of the Armed Forces requests a certificate from the Secretary of Defense to prove entitlement to educational assistance under section 2007 of title 10, United States Code, the Secretary shall notify the member of the availability of the higher education component of the Transition Assistance Program online pursuant to subsection (b)(1).

(B) GUIDANCE REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall carry out this paragraph with such guidance as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(2) POST-9/11 EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Whenever a veteran or a dependent of a veteran requests a certificate from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to prove entitlement to educational assistance under chapter 33 of title 38, United States Code, the Secretary shall notify the veteran or dependent of the availability of the higher education component of the Transition Assistance Program online pursuant to subsection (b)(2).

(B) GUIDANCE REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall carry out this paragraph with such guidance as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(d) TRACKING COMPLETION OF HIGHER EDUCATION COMPONENT ONLINE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in collaboration with the Secretary of Defense, shall develop a mechanism to track the completion by veterans and their dependents of the higher education component of the Transition Assistance Program made available online pursuant to subsection (b)(2).

(2) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—When the Secretary of Veterans Affairs has completed development of the mechanism required by paragraph (1), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress notice of such completion.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary of Veterans Affairs submits notice under subsection (d)(2), the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to Congress a report on—

(1) the number of veterans and the number of dependents to whom the Secretary of Veterans Affairs provided notice pursuant to subsection (c)(2)(A); and

(2) the number of veterans and the number of dependents who completed the higher education component of the Transition Assistance Program electronically and remotely.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''institution of higher learning'' has the meaning given such term in section 3452 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) The term ''type of institution of higher learning'' means the following types of institutions of higher learning:

(A) An educational institution described in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

(B) An educational institution described in subsection (b) of section 102 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1002).

(C) An educational institution described in subsection (c) of such section.

SEC. 534. SHARING OF INFORMATION AMONG DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO FACILITATE ASSESSMENT.

(a) SHARING OF INFORMATION TO ASSESS STUDENT LOAN DEBT.—

(1) PLAN.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Education, the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly develop and implement a plan to share information that will enable the Secretary of Education to distinguish members of the Armed Forces and veterans in the student loan databases of the Department of Education for the purposes of determining aggregate information on student loan debt incurred by the member and veteran populations.

(2) ELEMENTS OF INFORMATION SHARED BY SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.—Information to be shared by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from databases of the Department of Veterans Affairs under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The type and extent of educational assistance provided under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, including chapters 30 and 33 of title 38, United States Code.

(B) The names of the educational institutions at which individuals pursue programs of education with educational assistance provided under such laws.

(C) The extent of assistance provided under the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program.

(D) The degree of exhaustion of entitlement to such assistance.

(E) To what degree an overpayment of such assistance is made.

(F) Such other information as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Education consider appropriate.

(b) ANNUAL REPORT ON STUDENT LOAN DEBT INCURRED BY VETERANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and not less frequently than once each year thereafter, the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall submit to Congress a report on debt incurred by veterans to pursue programs of education at institutions of higher learning.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The extent of debt incurred by veterans to pursue programs of education at institutions of higher learning, disaggregated by type of institution of higher learning, including the following:

(i) How the debt compares to the debt incurred by individuals who are not veterans.

(ii) The status of repayment of and default on such debt and how that compares to the repayment of and default on debt incurred by individuals who are not veterans to pursue programs of education at institutions of higher learning.

(iii) The proportion of veterans who do not incur any Federal student loan debt to pursue a program of education at an institution of higher learning.

(B) Assessment and analysis of the factors that contribute to the debt incurred by veterans in their pursuit of programs of education at institutions of higher learning, disaggregated by type of institution of higher learning, including the following:

(i) The extent of coverage of educational assistance under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(ii) The exhaustion of entitlement to educational assistance under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

(iii) The availability of assistance under the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program.

(iv) Such other factors as the Secretary of Education considers appropriate.

(C) Such recommendations as the Secretary of Education may have for legislative or administrative action to address such issues as the Secretary of Education may have identified concerning debt incurred by veterans to pursue programs of education at institutions of higher learning.

(c) SHARING OF INFORMATION ON INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Education, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, shall establish an automated system to enable the Department of Education, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Department of Defense to more efficiently share information pertaining to the same institutions of higher learning.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term ''institution of higher learning'' has the meaning given such term in section 3452 of title 38, United States Code.

(2) The term ''type of institution of higher learning'' means the following types of institutions of higher learning:

(A) An educational institution described in section 101(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

(B) An educational institution described in subsection (b) of section 102 of such Act (20 U.S.C. 1002).

(C) An educational institution described in subsection (c) of such section.

SA 3769. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title VIII, add the following:

SEC. 864. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO PROTEST TASK AND DELIVERY ORDERS UNDER CIVILIAN CONTRACTS.

Section 4106(f) of title 41, United States Code, is amended by striking paragraph (3).

SA 3770. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title X, add the following:

Subtitle I—Federal Information Security

SEC. 1091. FISMA REFORM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, is amended by striking subchapters II and III and inserting the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—INFORMATION SECURITY

''§ 3551. Purposes

''The purposes of this subchapter are to—

''(1) provide a comprehensive framework for ensuring the effectiveness of information

security controls over information resources that support Federal operations and assets;

''(2) recognize the highly networked nature of the current Federal computing environment and provide effective governmentwide management and oversight of the related information security risks, including coordination of information security efforts throughout the civilian, national security, and law enforcement communities;

''(3) provide for development and maintenance of minimum controls required to protect Federal information and information systems;

''(4) provide a mechanism for improved oversight of Federal agency information security programs;

''(5) acknowledge that commercially developed information security products offer advanced, dynamic, robust, and effective information security solutions, reflecting market solutions for the protection of critical information infrastructures important to the national defense and economic security of the nation that are designed, built, and operated by the private sector; and

''(6) recognize that the selection of specific technical hardware and software information security solutions should be left to individual agencies from among commercially developed products.

''§ 3552. Definitions

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided under subsection (b), the definitions under section 3502 shall apply to this subchapter.

''(b) ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS.—As used in this subchapter:

''(1) The term 'binding operational directive' means a compulsory direction to an agency that is in accordance with policies, principles, standards, and guidelines issued by the Director.

''(2) The term 'incident' means an occurrence that—

''(A) actually or imminently jeopardizes, without lawful authority, the integrity, confidentiality, or availability of information or an information system; or

''(B) constitutes a violation or imminent threat of violation of law, security policies, security procedures, or acceptable use policies.

''(3) The term 'information security' means protecting information and information systems from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction in order to provide—

''(A) integrity, which means guarding against improper information modification or destruction, and includes ensuring information nonrepudiation and authenticity;

''(B) confidentiality, which means preserving authorized restrictions on access and disclosure, including means for protecting personal privacy and proprietary information; and

''(C) availability, which means ensuring timely and reliable access to and use of information.

''(4) The term 'information technology' has the meaning given that term in section 11101 of title 40.

''(5) The term 'intelligence community' has the meaning given that term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

''(6)(A) The term 'national security system' means any information system (including any telecommunications system) used or operated by an agency or by a contractor of an agency, or other organization on behalf of an agency—

''(i) the function, operation, or use of which—

''(I) involves intelligence activities;

''(II) involves cryptologic activities related to national security;

''(III) involves command and control of military forces;

''(IV) involves equipment that is an integral part of a weapon or weapons system; or

''(V) subject to subparagraph (B), is critical to the direct fulfillment of military or intelligence missions; or

''(ii) is protected at all times by procedures established for information that have been specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive order or an Act of Congress to be kept classified in the interest of national defense or foreign policy.

''(B) Subparagraph (A)(i)(V) does not include a system that is to be used for routine administrative and business applications (including payroll, finance, logistics, and personnel management applications).

''(7) The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

''§ 3553. Authority and functions of the Director and the Secretary

''(a) DIRECTOR.—The Director shall oversee agency information security policies, including—

''(1) developing and overseeing the implementation of policies, principles, standards, and guidelines on information security, including through ensuring timely agency adoption of and compliance with standards promulgated under section 11331 of title 40;

''(2) requiring agencies, consistent with the standards promulgated under such section 11331 and the requirements of this subchapter, to identify and provide information security protections commensurate with the risk and magnitude of the harm resulting from the unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of—

''(A) information collected or maintained by or on behalf of an agency; or

''(B) information systems used or operated by an agency or by a contractor of an agency or other organization on behalf of an agency;

''(3) ensuring that the Secretary carries out the authorities and functions under subsection (b);

''(4) coordinating the development of standards and guidelines under section 20 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g–3) with agencies and offices operating or exercising control of national security systems (including the National Security Agency) to assure, to the maximum extent feasible, that such standards and guidelines are complementary with standards and guidelines developed for national security systems;

''(5) overseeing agency compliance with the requirements of this subchapter, including through any authorized action under section 11303 of title 40, to enforce accountability for compliance with such requirements;

''(6) coordinating information security policies and procedures with related information resources management policies and procedures; and

''(7) consulting with the Secretary in carrying out the authorities and functions under this subsection.

''(b) SECRETARY.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Director, shall oversee the operational aspects of agency information security policies and practices for information systems, except for national security systems and information systems described in paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (e), including—

''(1) assisting the Director in carrying out the authorities and functions under subsection (a);

''(2) developing and overseeing the implementation of binding operational directives to agencies to implement the policies, principles, standards, and guidelines developed by the Director under subsection (a)(1) and the requirements of this subchapter, which may be repealed by the Director if the operational directives issued on behalf of the Director are not in accordance with policies, principles, standards, and guidelines developed by the Director, including—

''(A) requirements for reporting security incidents to the Federal information security incident center established under section 3556;

''(B) requirements for the contents of the annual reports required to be submitted under section 3554(c)(1);

''(C) requirements for the mitigation of exigent risks to information systems; and

''(D) other operational requirements as the Director or Secretary may determine necessary;

''(3) monitoring agency implementation of information security policies and practices;

''(4) convening meetings with senior agency officials to help ensure effective implementation of information security policies and practices;

''(5) coordinating Government-wide efforts on information security policies and practices, including consultation with the Chief Information Officers Council established under section 3603;

''(6) providing operational and technical assistance to agencies in implementing policies, principles, standards, and guidelines on information security, including implementation of standards promulgated under section 11331 of title 40, including by—

''(A) operating the Federal information security incident center established under section 3556;

''(B) upon request by an agency, deploying technology to assist the agency to continuously diagnose and mitigate against cyber threats and vulnerabilities, with or without reimbursement;

''(C) compiling and analyzing data on agency information security; and

''(D) developing and conducting targeted operational evaluations, including threat and vulnerability assessments, on the information systems; and

''(7) other actions as the Secretary may determine necessary to carry out this subsection on behalf of the Director.

''(c) REPORT.—Not later than March 1 of each year, the Director, in consultation with the Secretary, shall submit to Congress a report on the effectiveness of information security policies and practices during the preceding year, including—

''(1) a summary of the incidents described in the annual reports required to be submitted under section 3554(c)(1), including a summary of the information required under section 3554(c)(1)(A)(iii);

''(2) a description of the threshold for reporting major information security incidents;

''(3) a summary of the results of evaluations required to be performed under section 3555;

''(4) an assessment of agency compliance with standards promulgated under section 11331 of title 40; and

''(5) an assessment of agency compliance with the policies and procedures established under section 3559(a).

''(d) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.—Except for the authorities and functions described in subsection (a)(4) and subsection (c), the authorities and functions of the Director and the Secretary under this section shall not apply to national security systems.

''(e) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY SYSTEMS.—(1) The authorities of the Director described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) shall be delegated to the Secretary of Defense in the case of systems described in paragraph (2)

and to the Director of National Intelligence in the case of systems described in paragraph (3).

''(2) The systems described in this paragraph are systems that are operated by the Department of Defense, a contractor of the Department of Defense, or another entity on behalf of the Department of Defense that processes any information the unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of which would have a debilitating impact on the mission of the Department of Defense.

''(3) The systems described in this paragraph are systems that are operated by an element of the intelligence community, a contractor of an element of the intelligence community, or another entity on behalf of an element of the intelligence community that processes any information the unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of which would have a debilitating impact on the mission of an element of the intelligence community.

''§ 3554. Federal agency responsibilities

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The head of each agency shall—

''(1) be responsible for—

''(A) providing information security protections commensurate with the risk and magnitude of the harm resulting from unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of—

''(i) information collected or maintained by or on behalf of the agency; and

''(ii) information systems used or operated by an agency or by a contractor of an agency or other organization on behalf of an agency;

''(B) complying with the requirements of this subchapter and related policies, procedures, standards, and guidelines, including—

''(i) information security standards promulgated under section 11331 of title 40;

''(ii) operational directives developed by the Secretary under section 3553(b);

''(iii) policies and procedures issued by the Director under section 3559; and

''(iv) information security standards and guidelines for national security systems issued in accordance with law and as directed by the President; and

''(C) ensuring that information security management processes are integrated with agency strategic and operational planning processes;

''(2) ensure that senior agency officials provide information security for the information and information systems that support the operations and assets under their control, including through—

''(A) assessing the risk and magnitude of the harm that could result from the unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of such information or information systems;

''(B) determining the levels of information security appropriate to protect such information and information systems in accordance with standards promulgated under section 11331 of title 40, for information security classifications and related requirements;

''(C) implementing policies and procedures to cost-effectively reduce risks to an acceptable level; and

''(D) periodically testing and evaluating information security controls and techniques to ensure that they are effectively implemented;

''(3) delegate to the agency Chief Information Officer established under section 3506 (or comparable official in an agency not covered by such section) the authority to ensure compliance with the requirements imposed on the agency under this subchapter, including—

''(A) designating a senior agency information security officer who shall—

''(i) carry out the Chief Information Officer's responsibilities under this section;

''(ii) possess professional qualifications, including training and experience, required to administer the functions described under this section;

''(iii) have information security duties as that official's primary duty; and

''(iv) head an office with the mission and resources to assist in ensuring agency compliance with this section;

''(B) developing and maintaining an agencywide information security program as required by subsection (b);

''(C) developing and maintaining information security policies, procedures, and control techniques to address all applicable requirements, including those issued under section 3553 of this title and section 11331 of title 40;

''(D) training and overseeing personnel with significant responsibilities for information security with respect to such responsibilities; and

''(E) assisting senior agency officials concerning their responsibilities under paragraph (2);

''(4) ensure that the agency has trained personnel sufficient to assist the agency in complying with the requirements of this subchapter and related policies, procedures, standards, and guidelines;

''(5) ensure that the agency Chief Information Officer, in coordination with other senior agency officials, reports annually to the agency head on the effectiveness of the agency information security program, including progress of remedial actions;

''(6) ensure that senior agency officials, including chief information officers of component agencies or equivalent officials, carry out responsibilities under this subchapter as directed by the official delegated authority under paragraph (3); and

''(7) ensure that all personnel are held accountable for complying with the agencywide information security program implemented under subsection (b).

''(b) AGENCY PROGRAM.—Each agency shall develop, document, and implement an agency-wide information security program to provide information security for the information and information systems that support the operations and assets of the agency, including those provided or managed by another agency, contractor, or other source, that includes—

''(1) periodic assessments of the risk and magnitude of the harm that could result from the unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of information and information systems that support the operations and assets of the agency;

''(2) policies and procedures that—

''(A) are based on the risk assessments required by paragraph (1);

''(B) cost-effectively reduce information security risks to an acceptable level;

''(C) ensure that information security is addressed throughout the life cycle of each agency information system; and

''(D) ensure compliance with—

''(i) the requirements of this subchapter;

''(ii) policies and procedures as may be prescribed by the Director, and information security standards promulgated under section 11331 of title 40;

''(iii) minimally acceptable system configuration requirements, as determined by the agency; and

''(iv) any other applicable requirements, including standards and guidelines for national security systems issued in accordance with law and as directed by the President;

''(3) subordinate plans for providing adequate information security for networks, facilities, and systems or groups of information systems, as appropriate;

''(4) security awareness training to inform personnel, including contractors and other users of information systems that support the operations and assets of the agency, of—

''(A) information security risks associated with their activities; and

''(B) their responsibilities in complying with agency policies and procedures designed to reduce these risks;

''(5) periodic testing and evaluation of the effectiveness of information security policies, procedures, and practices, to be performed with a frequency depending on risk, but no less than annually, of which such testing—

''(A) shall include testing of management, operational, and technical controls of every information system identified in the inventory required under section 3505(c); and

''(B) may include testing relied on in an evaluation under section 3555;

''(6) a process for planning, implementing, evaluating, and documenting remedial action to address any deficiencies in the information security policies, procedures, and practices of the agency;

''(7) procedures for detecting, reporting, and responding to security incidents, consistent with standards and guidelines described in section 3556(b), including—

''(A) mitigating risks associated with such incidents before substantial damage is done;

''(B) notifying and consulting with the Federal information security incident center established in section 3556; and

''(C) notifying and consulting with, as appropriate—

''(i) law enforcement agencies and relevant Offices of Inspector General;

''(ii) an office designated by the President for any incident involving a national security system;

''(iii) the committees of Congress described in subsection (c)(1)—

''(I) not later than 7 days after the date on which the incident is discovered; and

''(II) after the initial notification under subclause (I), within a reasonable period of time after additional information relating to the incident is discovered; and

''(iv) any other agency or office, in accordance with law or as directed by the President; and

''(8) plans and procedures to ensure continuity of operations for information systems that support the operations and assets of the agency.

''(c) AGENCY REPORTING.—

''(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each agency shall submit to the Director, the Secretary, the Committee on Government Reform, the Committee on Homeland Security, and the Committee on Science of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate, the appropriate authorization and appropriations committees of Congress, and the Comptroller General a report on the adequacy and effectiveness of information security policies, procedures, and practices, including—

''(i) a description of each major information security incident or related sets of incidents, including summaries of—

''(I) the threats and threat actors, vulnerabilities, and impacts relating to the incident;

''(II) the risk assessments conducted under section 3554(a)(2)(A) of the affected information systems before the date on which the incident occurred; and

''(III) the detection, response, and remediation actions;

''(ii) the total number of information security incidents, including a description of incidents resulting in significant compromise of information security, system impact levels, types of incident, and locations of affected systems;

''(iii) a description of each major information security incident that involved a breach of personally identifiable information, including—

''(I) the number of individuals whose information was affected by the major information security incident; and

''(II) a description of the information that was breached or exposed; and

''(iv) any other information as the Secretary may require.

''(B) UNCLASSIFIED REPORT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Each report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall be in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

''(ii) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—The head of an agency shall ensure that, to the greatest extent practicable, information is included in the unclassified version of the reports submitted by the agency under subparagraph (A).

''(2) OTHER PLANS AND REPORTS.—Each agency shall address the adequacy and effectiveness of information security policies, procedures, and practices in management plans and reports.

''(d) PERFORMANCE PLAN.—(1) In addition to the requirements of subsection (c), each agency, in consultation with the Director, shall include as part of the performance plan required under section 1115 of title 31 a description of—

''(A) the time periods; and

''(B) the resources, including budget, staffing, and training,

that are necessary to implement the program required under subsection (b).

''(2) The description under paragraph (1) shall be based on the risk assessments required under subsection (b)(1).

''(e) PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT.—Each agency shall provide the public with timely notice and opportunities for comment on proposed information security policies and procedures to the extent that such policies and procedures affect communication with the public.

''§ 3555. Annual independent evaluation

''(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Each year each agency shall have performed an independent evaluation of the information security program and practices of that agency to determine the effectiveness of such program and practices.

''(2) Each evaluation under this section shall include—

''(A) testing of the effectiveness of information security policies, procedures, and practices of a representative subset of the agency's information systems;

''(B) an assessment of the effectiveness of the information security policies, procedures, and practices of the agency; and

''(C) separate presentations, as appropriate, regarding information security relating to national security systems.

''(b) INDEPENDENT AUDITOR.—Subject to subsection (c)—

''(1) for each agency with an Inspector General appointed under the Inspector General Act of 1978, the annual evaluation required by this section shall be performed by the Inspector General or by an independent external auditor, as determined by the Inspector General of the agency; and

''(2) for each agency to which paragraph (1) does not apply, the head of the agency shall engage an independent external auditor to perform the evaluation.

''(c) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.—For each agency operating or exercising control of a national security system, that portion of the evaluation required by this section directly relating to a national security system shall be performed—

''(1) only by an entity designated by the agency head; and

''(2) in such a manner as to ensure appropriate protection for information associated with any information security vulnerability in such system commensurate with the risk and in accordance with all applicable laws.

''(d) EXISTING EVALUATIONS.—The evaluation required by this section may be based in whole or in part on an audit, evaluation, or report relating to programs or practices of the applicable agency.

''(e) AGENCY REPORTING.—(1) Each year, not later than such date established by the Director, the head of each agency shall submit to the Director the results of the evaluation required under this section.

''(2) To the extent an evaluation required under this section directly relates to a national security system, the evaluation results submitted to the Director shall contain only a summary and assessment of that portion of the evaluation directly relating to a national security system.

''(f) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—Agencies and evaluators shall take appropriate steps to ensure the protection of information which, if disclosed, may adversely affect information security. Such protections shall be commensurate with the risk and comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

''(g) OMB REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—(1) The Director shall summarize the results of the evaluations conducted under this section in the report to Congress required under section 3553(c).

''(2) The Director's report to Congress under this subsection shall summarize information regarding information security relating to national security systems in such a manner as to ensure appropriate protection for information associated with any information security vulnerability in such system commensurate with the risk and in accordance with all applicable laws.

''(3) Evaluations and any other descriptions of information systems under the authority and control of the Director of Central Intelligence or of National Foreign Intelligence Programs systems under the authority and control of the Secretary of Defense shall be made available to Congress only through the appropriate oversight committees of Congress, in accordance with applicable laws.

''(h) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—The Comptroller General shall periodically evaluate and report to Congress on—

''(1) the adequacy and effectiveness of agency information security policies and practices; and

''(2) implementation of the requirements of this subchapter.

''(i) ASSESSMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Comptroller General may provide technical assistance to an Inspector General or the head of an agency, as applicable, to assist the Inspector General or head of an agency in carrying out the duties under this section, including by testing information security controls and procedures.

''§ 3556. Federal information security incident center

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure the operation of a central Federal information security incident center to—

''(1) provide timely technical assistance to operators of agency information systems regarding security incidents, including guidance on detecting and handling information security incidents;

''(2) compile and analyze information about incidents that threaten information security;

''(3) inform operators of agency information systems about current and potential information security threats, and vulnerabilities;

''(4) provide, as appropriate, intelligence and other information about cyber threats, vulnerabilities, and incidents to agencies to assist in risk assessments conducted under section 3554(b); and

''(5) consult with the National Institute of Standards and Technology, agencies or offices operating or exercising control of national security systems (including the National Security Agency), and such other agencies or offices in accordance with law and as directed by the President regarding information security incidents and related matters.

''(b) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS.—Each agency operating or exercising control of a national security system shall share information about information security incidents, threats, and vulnerabilities with the Federal information security incident center to the extent consistent with standards and guidelines for national security systems, issued in accordance with law and as directed by the President.

''§ 3557. National security systems

''The head of each agency operating or exercising control of a national security system shall be responsible for ensuring that the agency—

''(1) provides information security protections commensurate with the risk and magnitude of the harm resulting from the unauthorized access, use, disclosure, disruption, modification, or destruction of the information contained in such system;

''(2) implements information security policies and practices as required by standards and guidelines for national security systems, issued in accordance with law and as directed by the President; and

''(3) complies with the requirements of this subchapter.

''§ 3558. Effect on existing law

''Nothing in this subchapter, section 11331 of title 40, or section 20 of the National Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g–3) may be construed as affecting the authority of the President, the Office of Management and Budget or the Director thereof, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, or the head of any agency, with respect to the authorized use or disclosure of information, including with regard to the protection of personal privacy under section 552a of title 5, the disclosure of information under section 552 of title 5, the management and disposition of records under chapters 29, 31, or 33 of title 44, the management of information resources under subchapter I of chapter 35 of this title, or the disclosure of information to the Congress or the Comptroller General of the United States.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections for chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code is amended by striking the matter relating to subchapters II and III and inserting the following:

''SUBCHAPTER II—INFORMATION SECURITY

''3551. Purposes.
''3552. Definitions.
''3553. Authority and functions of the Director and the Secretary.
''3554. Federal agency responsibilities.
''3555. Annual independent evaluation.
''3556. Federal information security incident center.
''3557. National security systems.
''3558. Effect on existing law.''.

(2) CYBERSECURITY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT.—Section 8(d)(1) of the Cybersecurity Research and Development Act (15

U.S.C. 7406) is amended by striking ''section 3534'' and inserting ''section 3554''.

(3) HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002.—Section 1001(c)(1)(A) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 511) by striking ''section 3532(3)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)(5)''.

(4) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY ACT.—Section 20 of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g–3) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)(2), by striking ''section 3532(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)(5)''; and

(B) in subsection (e)—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking ''section 3532(1)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)(2)''; and

(ii) in paragraph (5), by striking ''section 3532(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)(5)''.

(5) TITLE 10.—Title 10, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in section 2222(j)(5), by striking ''section 3542(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)(5)'';

(B) in section 2223(c)(3), by striking ''section 3542(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)(5)''; and

(C) in section 2315, by striking ''section 3542(b)(2)'' and inserting ''section 3552(b)(5)''.

(c) OTHER PROVISIONS.—

(1) CIRCULAR A-130.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall revise Office of Management and Budget Circular A–130 to eliminate inefficient or wasteful reporting.

(2) ISPAB.—Section 21(b) of the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278g–4(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2), by inserting '', the Secretary of Homeland Security,'' after ''the Institute''; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by inserting ''the Secretary of Homeland Security,'' after ''the Secretary of Commerce,''.

SEC. 1092. FEDERAL DATA BREACH RESPONSE GUIDELINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, as added by this subtitle, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 3559. Privacy breach requirements

''(a) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—The Director, in consultation with the Secretary, shall establish and oversee policies and procedures for agencies to follow in the event of a breach of information security involving the disclosure of personally identifiable information, including requirements for—

''(1) timely notice to affected individuals based on a determination of the level of risk and consistent with law enforcement and national security considerations;

''(2) timely reporting to the Federal information security incident center established under section 3556 or other Federal cybersecurity center, as designated by the Director;

''(3) timely notice to committees of Congress with jurisdiction over cybersecurity; and

''(4) such additional actions as the Director may determine necessary and appropriate, including the provision of risk mitigation measures to affected individuals.

''(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Director shall consider recommendations made by the Government Accountability Office, including recommendations in the December 2013 Government Accountability Office report entitled 'Information Security: Agency Responses to Breaches of Personally Identifiable Information Need to Be More Consistent' (GAO–14–34).

''(c) REQUIRED AGENCY ACTION.—The head of each agency shall ensure that actions taken in response to a breach of information security involving the disclosure of personally identifiable information under the authority or control of the agency comply with policies and procedures established under subsection (a).

''(d) TIMELINESS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the policies and procedures established under subsection (a) shall require that the notice to affected individuals required under subsection (a)(1) be made without unreasonable delay and with consideration of the likely risk of harm and the level of impact, but not later than 60 days after the date on which the head of an agency discovers the breach of information security involving the disclosure of personally identifiable information.

''(2) DELAY.—The Attorney General, the head of an element of the intelligence community (as such term is defined under section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)), or the Secretary may delay the notice to affected individuals under subsection (a)(1) for not more than 180 days, if the notice would disrupt a law enforcement investigation, endanger national security, or hamper security remediation actions from the breach of information security involving the disclosure of personally identifiable information.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subchapter II for chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, as added by this Act, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3558 the following:

''3559. Privacy breach requirements.''.

SA 3771. Mr. CARPER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title X, add the following:

Subtitle I—National Cybersecurity Communications Integration Center

SEC. 1091. NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY AND COMMUNICATIONS INTEGRATION CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 121 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 210G. OPERATIONS CENTER.

''(a) FUNCTIONS.—There is in the Department an operations center, which may carry out the responsibilities of the Under Secretary appointed under section 103(a)(1)(H) with respect to security and resilience, including by—

''(1) serving as a Federal civilian information sharing interface for cybersecurity;

''(2) providing shared situational awareness to enable real-time, integrated, and operational actions across the Federal Government;

''(3) sharing cybersecurity threat, vulnerability, impact, and incident information and analysis by and among Federal, State, and local government entities and private sector entities;

''(4) coordinating cybersecurity information sharing throughout the Federal Government;

''(5) conducting analysis of cybersecurity risks and incidents;

''(6) upon request, providing timely technical assistance to Federal and non-Federal entities with respect to cybersecurity threats and attribution, vulnerability mitigation, and incident response and remediation; and

''(7) providing recommendations on security and resilience measures to Federal and non-Federal entities.

''(b) COMPOSITION.—The operations center shall be composed of—

''(1) personnel or other representatives of Federal agencies, including civilian and law enforcement agencies and elements of the intelligence community, as such term is defined under section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)); and

''(2) representatives from State and local governments and other non-Federal entities, including—

''(A) representatives from information sharing and analysis organizations; and

''(B) private sector owners and operators of critical information systems.

''(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Carl Levin National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, and every year thereafter for 3 years, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the operations center, which shall include—

''(1) an analysis of the performance of the operations center in carrying out the functions under subsection (a);

''(2) information on the composition of the center, including—

''(A) the number of representatives from non-Federal entities that are participating in the operations center, including the number of representatives from States, nonprofit organizations, and private sector entities, respectively; and

''(B) the number of requests from non-Federal entities to participate in the operations center and the response to such requests, including—

''(i) the average length of time to fulfill such identified requests by the Federal agency responsible for fulfilling such requests; and

''(ii) a description of any obstacles or challenges to fulfilling such requests; and

''(3) the policies and procedures established by the operations center to safeguard privacy and civil liberties.

''(d) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Carl Levin National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the effectiveness of the operations center.

''(e) NO RIGHT OR BENEFIT.—The provision of assistance or information to, and inclusion in the operations center of, governmental or private entities under this section shall be at the discretion of the Under Secretary appointed under section 103(a)(1)(H). The provision of certain assistance or information to, or inclusion in the operations center of, one governmental or private entity pursuant to this section shall not create a right or benefit, substantive or procedural, to similar assistance or information for any other governmental or private entity.''.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 note) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 210F the following:

''Sec. 210G. Operations center.''.

SA 3772. Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3060 proposed by Mr. WYDEN to the bill H.R. 3474, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of the employer mandate under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 9, between lines 13 and14, insert the following:

(c) ENCOURAGEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS OF CAPITAL GAIN REAL PROPERTY MADE FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES BY NATIVE CORPORATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 170(b) is amended by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D), and by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

''(C) QUALIFIED CONSERVATION CONTRIBUTIONS BY CERTAIN NATIVE CORPORATIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Any qualified conservation contribution (as defined in subsection (h)(1)) which—

''(I) is made by a Native Corporation, and

''(II) is a contribution of property which was land conveyed under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act,

shall be allowed to the extent that the aggregate amount of such contributions does not exceed the excess of the taxpayer's taxable income over the amount of charitable contributions allowable under subparagraph (A).

''(ii) CARRYOVER.—If the aggregate amount of contributions described in clause (i) exceeds the limitation of clause (i), such excess shall be treated (in a manner consistent with the rules of subsection (d)(2)) as a charitable contribution to which clause (i) applies in each of the 15 succeeding years in order of time.

''(iii) DEFINITION.—For purposes of clause (i), the term 'Native Corporation' has the meaning given such term by section 3(m) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 170(b)(2)(A) of such Code is amended by striking ''subparagraph (B) applies'' and inserting ''subparagraphs (B) or (C) apply''.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section or the amendments made by this section shall be construed to modify any existing property rights conveyed to Native Corporations (withing the meaning of section 3(m) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act) under such Act.

SA 3773. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title X, add the following:

SEC. 1035. SENSE OF SENATE ON THE MAY 31, 2014, TRANSFER OF FIVE DETAINEES FROM THE DETENTION FACILITY AT UNITED STATES NAVAL STATION, GUANTANAMO BAY, CUBA.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate makes the following findings:

(1) In enacting the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66), Congress provided the executive branch with clear guidance and requirements for transferring or releasing individuals from the detention facility at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

(2) The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 states the Secretary of Defense may transfer an individual detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, if the Secretary determines, following a review conducted in accordance with the requirements of section 1023 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (10 U.S.C. 801 note) and Executive Order No. 13567, that the individual is no longer a threat to the United States, or the individual is ordered released by a United States court, or such an individual can be transferred if the Secretary determines that actions have been or are planned to be taken which will substantially mitigate the risk of the individual engaging or re-engaging in any terrorist activity or other hostile activity that threatens the United States or United States persons or interests and the transfer is in the national security interest of the United States.

(3) The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 states that the Secretary of Defense must notify the appropriate committees of Congress of such a determination not later than 30 days before the transfer or release of the individual concerned from United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

(4) The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 states that such a notification must include a detailed statement of the basis for the transfer or release, an explanation of why the transfer or release is in the national security interests of the United States, a description of any actions taken to mitigate the risks of reengagement by the individual to be transferred or released, a copy of any Periodic Review Board findings relating to the individual, and a description of the evaluation conducted pursuant to factors that must be considered prior to such a transfer or release.

(5) The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113–76) states that none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in that Act may be used to transfer covered individuals detained at United States Naval Station Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, except in accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014.

(6) On May 31, 2014, detainees Khairullah Khairkhwa, Abdul Haq Wasiq, Mohammed Fazl, Noorullah Noori, and Mohammed Nabi Omari were transferred from United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to Qatar.

(7) The appropriate committees of Congress were not notified of the transfers as required by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 prior to the transfers.

(b) SENSE OF SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the transfers of detainees Khairullah Khairkhwa, Abdul Haq Wasiq, Mohammed Fazl, Noorullah Noori, and Mohammed Nabi Omari from United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to Qatar on May 31, 2014, violated the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113–66) and the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014 (Public Law 113–76); and

(2) Congress should—

(A) investigate the actions taken by President Obama and his administration that led to the unlawful transfer of such detainees, including an evaluation of other options considered to reach the desired common defense policy outcome of the President; and

(B) determine the impact of the transfer of such detainees on the common defense of the United States and measures that should be taken to mitigate any negative consequences.

SA 3774. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title VII, add the following:

SEC. 737. PRELIMINARY MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS BECOMING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 31 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''§ 520d. Preliminary mental health assessments

''(a) PROVISION OF MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT.—Before any individual enlists in an armed force or is commissioned as an officer in an armed force, the Secretary concerned shall provide the individual with a mental health assessment.

''(b) USE OF ASSESSMENT.—(1) The Secretary shall use the results of a mental assessment conducted under subsection (a) as a baseline for any subsequent mental health examinations of the individual, including such examinations provided under sections 1074f and 1074m of this title.

''(2) The Secretary may not consider the results of a mental health assessment conducted under subsection (a) in determining the assignment or promotion of a member of the armed forces.

''(c) APPLICATION OF PRIVACY LAWS.—With respect to applicable laws and regulations relating to the privacy of information, the Secretary shall treat a mental health assessment conducted under subsection (a) in the same manner as the medical records of a member of the armed forces.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by adding after the item relating to section 520c the following new item:

''520d. Preliminary mental health assessments.''.

(c) REPORTS.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the National Institute of Mental Health of the National Institutes of Health shall submit to Congress and the Secretary of Defense a report on preliminary mental health assessments of members of the Armed Forces.

(B) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The report under subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

(i) Recommendations with respect to establishing a preliminary mental health assessment of members of the Armed Forces to bring mental health screenings to parity with physical screenings of members.

(ii) Recommendations with respect to the composition of the mental health assessment, evidenced-based best practices, and how to track assessment changes relating to traumatic brain injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other conditions.

(iii) Recommendations with respect to overcoming limitations experienced during previous efforts to conduct preliminary mental health assessments of members of the Armed Forces.

(C) COORDINATION.—The National Institute of Mental Health shall carry out subparagraph (A) in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the surgeons general of the military departments, and other relevant experts.

(2) PERIODIC REPORTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than two years after the date on which the Secretary of Defense begins providing preliminary mental health assessments under section 520d(a) of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), and not less frequently than once every three years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the efficacy of such preliminary mental health assessments.

(B) MATTERS INCLUDED.—Each report required by subparagraph (A) shall include the following:

(i) An evaluation of the parity between mental health screenings and physical health screenings of members of the Armed Forces.

(ii) An evaluation of the evidence-based best practices used by the Secretary in composing and conducting preliminary mental health assessments of members of the Armed Forces under such section 520d(a).

(iii) An evaluation of the evidence-based best practices used by the Secretary in tracking mental health assessment changes relating to traumatic brain injuries, posttraumatic stress disorder, and other conditions among members of the Armed Forces.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION OF PRELIMINARY MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT.—The Secretary of Defense may not provide a preliminary mental health assessment under section 520d(a) of title 38, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), until the Secretary receives and evaluates the initial report required by subsection (c)(1).

SEC. 738. PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH SCREENINGS FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS UNDERGOING SEPARATION FROM THE ARMED FORCES WHO ARE NOT OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH EXAMINATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the military department concerned shall provide a comprehensive physical examination (including a screening for Traumatic Brain Injury) and a mental health screening to each member of the Armed Forces who, after a period of active duty of more than 180 days, is undergoing separation from the Armed Forces and is not otherwise provided such an examination or screening in connection with such separation from the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(b) NO RIGHT TO HEALTH CARE BENEFITS.—The provision of a physical examination or mental health screening to a member under subsection (a) shall not, by itself, be used to determine the eligibility of the member for any health care benefits from the Department of Defense or the Department of Veterans Affairs.

(c) FUNDING.—Funds for the provision of physical examinations and mental health screenings under this section shall be derived from funds otherwise authorized to be appropriated for the military department concerned for the provision of health care to members of the Armed Forces.

SEC. 739. REPORT ON CAPACITY OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO PROVIDE ELECTRONIC COPY OF MEMBER SERVICE TREATMENT RECORDS TO MEMBERS SEPARATING FROM THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than six months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report setting forth an assessment of the capacity of the Department of Defense to provide each member of the Armed Forces who is undergoing separation from the Armed Forces an electronic copy of the member's service treatment record at the time of separation.

(b) MATTERS RELATING TO THE NATIONAL GUARD.—The assessment under subsection (a) with regards to members of the National Guard shall include an assessment of the capacity of the Department to ensure that the electronic copy of a member's service treatment record includes health records maintained by each State or territory in which the member served.

SA 3775. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 24, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

For an additional amount for ''Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense'', $122,250,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, which shall be for drug interdiction and counter-drug activities of the United States Southern Command: *Provided*, That not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations and Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the use of funds made available by this paragraph, including the amounts provided to any military or security forces of a foreign country and the use of amounts so provided by such forces.

(RESCISSION)

SEC. 3101. Of the unobligated balance available for ''Department of Homeland Security—Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund'', $122,250,000 is rescinded: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on a budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985: *Provided further*, That no amounts may be rescinded from the amounts that were designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

SA 3776. Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. ADDITIONAL APPOINTING AUTHORITIES FOR COMPETITIVE SERVICE.

(a) SELECTION FROM CERTIFICATES.—Section 3318 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (b) and (c) as subsections (c) and (d), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

''(b) CERTIFICATE SHARING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—During the 240-day period beginning on the date of issuance of a certificate of eligibles under section 3317(a), an appointing authority other than the appointing authority requesting the certificate may select an individual from that certificate in accordance with paragraph (2) for an appointment to a position that is—

''(A) in the same occupational series as the position for which the certification of eligibles was issued (in this subsection referred to as the 'original position'); and

''(B) at a similar grade level as the original position.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The selection of an individual under paragraph (1)—

''(A) shall be made in accordance with subsection (a); and

''(B) may be made without any additional posting under section 3327.

''(3) APPLICABILITY.—An appointing authority requesting a certificate of eligibles may share the certificate with another appointing authority only if the announcement of the original position provided notice that the resulting list of eligible candidates may be used by another appointing authority.

''(4) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING OBLIGATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection limits any collective bargaining obligation of an agency under chapter 71.''.

(b) ALTERNATIVE RANKING AND SELECTION PROCEDURES.—Section 3319(c) of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (6);

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraphs:

''(2) An appointing official other than the appointing official described in paragraph (1) may select an individual for appointment to a position that is—

''(A) in the same occupational series as the position for which the certification of eligibles was issued (in this subsection referred to as the 'original position'); and

''(B) at a similar grade level as the original position.

''(3) The selection of an individual under paragraph (2)—

''(A) shall be made in accordance with this subsection; and

''(B) may be made without any additional posting under section 3327.

''(4) An appointing authority requesting a certificate of eligibles may share the certificate with another appointing authority only if the announcement of the original position provided notice that the resulting list of eligible candidates may be used by another appointing authority.

''(5) Nothing in this subsection limits any collective bargaining obligation of an agency under chapter 71.''; and

(3) in paragraph (6) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by striking ''paragraph (1)'' and inserting ''paragraphs (1) and (2)''; and

(B) by striking ''3318(b)'' and inserting ''3318(c)''.

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall issue regulations to carry out the amendments made by subsections (a) and (b).

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 9510(b)(5) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ''3318(b)'' and inserting ''3318(c)''.

SA 3777. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. CARPER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for

military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title X, insert the following:

Subtitle I—Cybersecurity Workforce

SEC. 1091. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CYBERSECURITY WORKFORCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—At the end of subtitle C of title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 141 et seq.), add the following:

"SEC. 226. CYBERSECURITY RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term 'appropriate committees of Congress' means the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

''(2) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.—The term 'collective bargaining agreement' has the meaning given that term in section 7103(a)(8) of title 5, United States Code.

''(3) EXCEPTED SERVICE.—The term 'excepted service' has the meaning given that term in section 2103 of title 5, United States Code.

''(4) PREFERENCE ELIGIBLE.—The term 'preference eligible' has the meaning given that term in section 2108 of title 5, United States Code.

''(5) QUALIFIED POSITION.—The term 'qualified position' means a position, designated by the Secretary for the purpose of this section, in which the incumbent performs, manages, or supervises functions that execute the responsibilities of the Department relating to cybersecurity.

''(6) SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE.—The term 'Senior Executive Service' has the meaning given that term in section 2101a of title 5, United States Code.

''(b) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—

''(1) ESTABLISH POSITIONS, APPOINT PERSONNEL, AND FIX RATES OF PAY.—

''(A) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may—

''(i) establish, as positions in the excepted service, such qualified positions in the Department as the Secretary determines necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the Department relating to cybersecurity, including positions formerly identified as—

''(I) senior level positions designated under section 5376 of title 5, United States Code; and

''(II) positions in the Senior Executive Service;

''(ii) appoint an individual to a qualified position (after taking into consideration the availability of preference eligibles for appointment to the position); and

''(iii) subject to the requirements of paragraphs (2) and (3), fix the compensation of an individual for service in a qualified position.

''(B) CONSTRUCTION WITH OTHER LAWS.—The authority of the Secretary under this subsection applies without regard to the provisions of any other law relating to the appointment, number, classification, or compensation of employees.

''(2) BASIC PAY.—

''(A) AUTHORITY TO FIX RATES OF BASIC PAY.—In accordance with this section, the Secretary shall fix the rates of basic pay for any qualified position established under paragraph (1) in relation to the rates of pay provided for employees in comparable positions in the Department of Defense and subject to the same limitations on maximum rates of pay established for such employees by law or regulation.

''(B) PREVAILING RATE SYSTEMS.—The Secretary may, consistent with section 5341 of title 5, United States Code, adopt such provisions of that title as provide for prevailing rate systems of basic pay and may apply those provisions to qualified positions for employees in or under which the Department may employ individuals described by section 5342(a)(2)(A) of that title.

''(3) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION, INCENTIVES, AND ALLOWANCES.—

''(A) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION BASED ON TITLE 5 AUTHORITIES.—The Secretary may provide employees in qualified positions compensation (in addition to basic pay), including benefits, incentives, and allowances, consistent with, and not in excess of the level authorized for, comparable positions authorized by title 5, United States Code.

''(B) ALLOWANCES IN NONFOREIGN AREAS.—An employee in a qualified position whose rate of basic pay is fixed under paragraph (2)(A) shall be eligible for an allowance under section 5941 of title 5, United States Code, on the same basis and to the same extent as if the employee was an employee covered by such section 5941, including eligibility conditions, allowance rates, and all other terms and conditions in law or regulation.

''(4) PLAN FOR EXECUTION OF AUTHORITIES.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit a report to the appropriate committees of Congress with a plan for the use of the authorities provided under this subsection.

''(5) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.—Nothing in paragraph (1) may be construed to impair the continued effectiveness of a collective bargaining agreement with respect to an office, component, subcomponent, or equivalent of the Department that is a successor to an office, component, subcomponent, or equivalent of the Department covered by the agreement before the succession.

''(6) REQUIRED REGULATIONS.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, shall prescribe regulations for the administration of this section.

''(c) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, and every year thereafter for 4 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a detailed report that—

''(1) discusses the process used by the Secretary in accepting applications, assessing candidates, ensuring adherence to veterans' preference, and selecting applicants for vacancies to be filled by an individual for a qualified position;

''(2) describes—

''(A) how the Secretary plans to fulfill the critical need of the Department to recruit and retain employees in qualified positions;

''(B) the measures that will be used to measure progress; and

''(C) any actions taken during the reporting period to fulfill such critical need;

''(3) discusses how the planning and actions taken under paragraph (2) are integrated into the strategic workforce planning of the Department;

''(4) provides metrics on actions occurring during the reporting period, including—

''(A) the number of employees in qualified positions hired by occupation and grade and level or pay band;

''(B) the placement of employees in qualified positions by directorate and office within the Department;

''(C) the total number of veterans hired;

''(D) the number of separations of employees in qualified positions by occupation and grade and level or pay band;

''(E) the number of retirements of employees in qualified positions by occupation and grade and level or pay band; and

''(F) the number and amounts of recruitment, relocation, and retention incentives paid to employees in qualified positions by occupation and grade and level or pay band; and

''(5) describes the training provided to supervisors of employees in qualified positions at the Department on the use of the new authorities.

''(d) THREE-YEAR PROBATIONARY PERIOD.—The probationary period for all employees hired under the authority established in this section shall be 3 years.

''(e) INCUMBENTS OF EXISTING COMPETITIVE SERVICE POSITIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An individual serving in a position on the date of enactment of this section that is selected to be converted to a position in the excepted service under this section shall have the right to refuse such conversion.

''(2) SUBSEQUENT CONVERSION.—After the date on which an individual who refuses a conversion under paragraph (1) stops serving in the position selected to be converted, the position may be converted to a position in the excepted service.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3132(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amended in the matter following subparagraph (E)—

(1) in clause (i), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in clause (ii), by inserting ''or'' after the semicolon; and

(3) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

''(iii) any position established as a qualified position in the excepted service by the Secretary of Homeland Security under section 226 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002;''.

(c) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 225 the following:

''Sec. 226. Cybersecurity recruitment and retention.''.

SEC. 1092. HOMELAND SECURITY CYBERSECURITY WORKFORCE ASSESSMENT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

(C) the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives.

(2) CYBERSECURITY WORK CATEGORY; DATA ELEMENT CODE; SPECIALTY AREA.—The terms ''Cybersecurity Work Category'', ''Data Element Code'', and ''Specialty Area'' have the meanings given such terms in the Office of Personnel Management's Guide to Data Standards.

(3) DEPARTMENT.—The term ''Department'' means the Department of Homeland Security.

(4) DIRECTOR.—The term ''Director'' means the Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY WORKFORCE MEASUREMENT INITIATIVE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(A) identify all cybersecurity workforce positions within the Department;

(B) determine the primary Cybersecurity Work Category and Specialty Area of such positions; and

(C) assign the corresponding Data Element Code, as set forth in the Office of Personnel Management's Guide to Data Standards which is aligned with the National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education's National Cybersecurity Workforce Framework report, in accordance with paragraph (2).

(2) EMPLOYMENT CODES.—

(A) PROCEDURES.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish procedures—

(i) to identify open positions that include cybersecurity functions (as defined in the OPM Guide to Data Standards); and

(ii) to assign the appropriate employment code to each such position, using agreed standards and definitions.

(B) CODE ASSIGNMENTS.—Not later than 9 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall assign the appropriate employment code to—

(i) each employee within the Department who carries out cybersecurity functions; and

(ii) each open position within the Department that have been identified as having cybersecurity functions.

(3) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit a progress report on the implementation of this subsection to the appropriate congressional committees.

(c) IDENTIFICATION OF CYBERSECURITY SPECIALTY AREAS OF CRITICAL NEED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 1 year after the date on which the employment codes are assigned to employees pursuant to subsection (b)(2)(B), and annually through 2021, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director, shall—

(A) identify Cybersecurity Work Categories and Specialty Areas of critical need in the Department's cybersecurity workforce; and

(B) submit a report to the Director that—

(i) describes the Cybersecurity Work Categories and Specialty Areas identified under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) substantiates the critical need designations.

(2) GUIDANCE.—The Director shall provide the Secretary with timely guidance for identifying Cybersecurity Work Categories and Specialty Areas of critical need, including—

(A) current Cybersecurity Work Categories and Specialty Areas with acute skill shortages; and

(B) Cybersecurity Work Categories and Specialty Areas with emerging skill shortages.

(3) CYBERSECURITY CRITICAL NEEDS REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Director, shall—

(A) identify Specialty Areas of critical need for cybersecurity workforce across the Department; and

(B) submit a progress report on the implementation of this subsection to the appropriate congressional committees.

(d) GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE STATUS REPORTS.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall—

(1) analyze and monitor the implementation of subsections (b) and (c); and

(2) not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that describes the status of such implementation.

SEC. 1093. UNITED STATES CYBER COMMAND WORKFORCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 81 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"§ 1599e. Cyber operations recruitment and retention

''(a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—(1) The Secretary of Defense may—

''(A) establish, as positions in the excepted service, such qualified positions in the Department as the Secretary determines necessary to carry out the responsibilities of the United States Cyber Command relating to cyber operations, including positions formerly identified as—

''(i) senior level positions designated under section 5376 of title 5; and

''(ii) positions in the Senior Executive Service;

''(B) appoint an individual to a qualified position (after taking into consideration the availability of preference eligibles for appointment to the position); and

''(C) subject to the requirements of subsections (b) and (c), fix the compensation of an individual for service in a qualified position.

''(2) The authority of the Secretary under this subsection applies without regard to the provisions of any other law relating to the appointment, number, classification, or compensation of employees.

''(b) BASIC PAY.—(1) In accordance with this section, the Secretary shall fix the rates of basic pay for any qualified position established under subsection (a)—

''(A) in relation to the rates of pay provided for employees in comparable positions in the Department, in which the incumbent performs, manages, or supervises functions that execute the cyber mission of the Department; and

''(B) subject to the same limitations on maximum rates of pay established for such employees by law or regulation.

''(2) The Secretary may—

''(A) consistent with section 5341 of title 5, adopt such provisions of that title as provide for prevailing rate systems of basic pay; and

''(B) apply those provisions to qualified positions for employees in or under which the Department may employ individuals described by section 5342(a)(2)(A) of such title.

''(c) ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION, INCENTIVES, AND ALLOWANCES.—(1) The Secretary may provide employees in qualified positions compensation (in addition to basic pay), including benefits, incentives, and allowances, consistent with, and not in excess of the level authorized for, comparable positions authorized by title 5.

''(2) An employee in a qualified position whose rate of basic pay is fixed under subsection (b)(1) shall be eligible for an allowance under section 5941 of title 5 on the same basis and to the same extent as if the employee was an employee covered by such section, including eligibility conditions, allowance rates, and all other terms and conditions in law or regulation.

''(d) PLAN FOR EXECUTION OF AUTHORITIES.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit a report to the appropriate committees of Congress with a plan for the use of the authorities provided under this section.

''(e) COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.—Nothing in subsection (a) may be construed to impair the continued effectiveness of a collective bargaining agreement with respect to an office, component, subcomponent, or equivalent of the Department that is a successor to an office, component, subcomponent, or equivalent of the Department covered by the agreement before the succession.

''(f) REQUIRED REGULATIONS.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, shall prescribe regulations for the administration of this section.

''(g) ANNUAL REPORT.—(1) Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section and not less frequently than once each year thereafter until the date that is five years after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a detailed report on the administration of this section during the most recent one-year period.

''(2) Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include, for the period covered by the report, the following:

''(A) A discussion of the process used by the Secretary in accepting applications, assessing candidates, ensuring adherence to veterans' preference, and selecting applicants for vacancies to be filled by an individual for a qualified position.

''(B) A description of the following:

''(i) How the Secretary plans to fulfill the critical need of the Department to recruit and retain employees in qualified positions.

''(ii) The measures that will be used to measure progress.

''(iii) Any actions taken during the reporting period to fulfill such critical need.

''(C) A discussion of how the planning and actions taken under subparagraph (B) are integrated into the strategic workforce planning of the Department.

''(D) The metrics on actions occurring during the reporting period, including the following:

''(i) The number of employees in qualified positions hired, disaggregated by occupation, grade, and level or pay band.

''(ii) The placement of employees in qualified positions, disaggregated by directorate and office within the Department.

''(iii) The total number of veterans hired.

''(iv) The number of separations of employees in qualified positions, disaggregated by occupation and grade and level or pay band.

''(v) The number of retirements of employees in qualified positions, disaggregated by occupation, grade, and level or pay band.

''(vi) The number and amounts of recruitment, relocation, and retention incentives paid to employees in qualified positions, disaggregated by occupation, grade, and level or pay band.

''(E) A description of the training provided to supervisors of employees in qualified positions at the Department on the use of the new authorities.

''(h) THREE-YEAR PROBATIONARY PERIOD.—The probationary period for all employees hired under the authority established in this section shall be three years.

''(i) INCUMBENTS OF EXISTING COMPETITIVE SERVICE POSITIONS.—(1) An individual serving in a position on the date of enactment of this section that is selected to be converted to a position in the excepted service under this section shall have the right to refuse such conversion.

''(2) After the date on which an individual who refuses a conversion under paragraph (1) stops serving in the position selected to be converted, the position may be converted to a position in the excepted service.

''(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'appropriate committees of Congress' means—

''(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

''(B) the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

''(2) The term 'collective bargaining agreement' has the meaning given that term in section 7103(a)(8) of title 5.

''(3) The term 'excepted service' has the meaning given that term in section 2103 of title 5.

''(4) The term 'preference eligible' has the meaning given that term in section 2108 of title 5.

''(5) The term 'qualified position' means a position, designated by the Secretary for the purpose of this section, in which the incumbent performs, manages, or supervises functions that execute the responsibilities of the United States Cyber Command relating to cyber operations.

''(6) The term 'Senior Executive Service' has the meaning given that term in section 2101a of title 5.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3132(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, is amended in the matter following subparagraph (E)—

(1) in clause (i), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in clause (ii), by inserting ''or'' after the semicolon; and

(3) by inserting after clause (ii) the following new clause:

''(iii) any position established as a qualified position in the excepted service by the Secretary of Defense under section 1599e of title 10;''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 81 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1599d the following new item:

''Sec. 1599e. United States Cyber Command recruitment and retention.''.

SA 3778. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following:

SEC. 1268. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT OF CIVILIAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION AGREEMENTS.

(a) THIRTY-YEAR LIMIT ON NUCLEAR EXPORTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153) and except as provided in paragraph (2) and subsection (b), no license to export pursuant to an agreement that has entered into force pursuant to the requirements of such section 123 may be issued after the date that is 30 years after the date of entry into force of such agreement.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—The restriction in paragraph (1) shall not apply to—

(A) any agreement with a country that is a member country of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, or Australia, Israel, Japan, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (TECRO), or the International Atomic Energy Agency;

(B) any agreement that had entered into force as of August 1, 2014; or

(C) any amendment to an agreement described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

(b) EXTENSION OF EXISTING AGREEMENTS.—Congress may, in the final five years of the 30-year time limit applicable to the issuance of export licenses pursuant to an agreement under subsection (a)(1), enact a joint resolution permitting the issuance of such licenses for an additional period of not more than 30 years without the President submitting a new agreement pursuant to the requirements of section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153).

(c) APPLICABLE LAW.—Each proposed export pursuant to an agreement described under this section shall be subject to United States laws and regulations in effect at the time of each such export.

SA 3779. Mr. PRYOR (for Mr. MURPHY) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 520, condemning the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 and expressing condolences to the families of the victims; as follows:

In the fourth whereas clause of the preamble, insert ''more than'' before ''10 additional aircraft''.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 31, 2014, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled ''Financial Products for Students: Issues and Challenges.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 31, 2014, at 10:30 a.m. in room SR–253 of the Russell Senate Office Building a hearing entitled ''Domestic Challenges and Global Competition in Aviation Manufacture.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 31, 2014, at 10 a.m. in room SD–215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 31, 2014, at 2:15 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 31, 2014, at 3 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 31, 2014, at 2 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled ''Examining the GAO Report on Expectations of Government Support for Bank Holding Companies.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

RAFAEL J. LOPEZ, OF MARYLAND, TO BE COMMISSIONER ON CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, VICE BRYAN HAYES SAMUELS, RESIGNED.

OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION

CARMEN AMALIA CORRALES, OF NEW JERSEY, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OVERSEAS PRIVATE INVESTMENT CORPORATION FOR A TERM EXPIRING DECEMBER 17, 2015, VICE MATTHEW MAXWELL TAYLOR KENNEDY, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

MANSON K. BROWN, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, VICE KATHRYN D. SULLIVAN, RESIGNED.

THE JUDICIARY

ALLISON DALE BURROUGHS, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS, VICE RYA W. ZOBEL, RETIRED.

AMIT PRIYAVADAN MEHTA, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, VICE ELLEN SEGAL HUVELLE, RETIRED.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. STEVEN L. KWAST

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

MAJ. GEN. TERRENCE J. O'SHAUGHNESSY

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. SCOTT G. PERRY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. JOSEPH J. HECK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MARK S. INCH

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be admiral

VICE ADM. PHILIP S. DAVIDSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. DIXON R. SMITH

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

LISA L. ADAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be colonel

RICHARD D. MINK

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

PETER BRIAN ABERCROMBIE II
MATTHEW P. ACER
GREGORY M. ADAMS
JEFFREY S. ADAMS
MICHAEL J. ADAMS
SCOTT L. ADAMS
SHILETTE M. ADDISON REED
STACEY L. ADORISIO
RAJ AGRAWAL
COREY M. AKIYAMA
CARMELO ALAMO, JR.
DANZEL W. ALBERTSEN
FREDERICK V. ALDRICH
MICHAEL C. ALFARO
MATTHEW R. ALLEN
WILLIAM H. ALLEN, JR.
MAELI A. ALLISON
MATTHEW R. ALTMAN
LAWRENCE JAMES ANDERLEY
ANTHONY W. ANDERSON
CHRISTOPHER A. ANDERSON
JASON R. ANDERSON
JAY K. ANDERSON
JEFFREY P. ANDERSON
STEPHEN P. ANDERSON
MICHAEL R. ANDREWS
SOUNDER R. ANDREWS
TEODORO G. APALISOK
DARRELL M. APILADO
JERRETT A. ARCHER
DANIEL J. ARKEMA
ADONIS C. ARVANITAKIS
MARK L. ASHMAN
MATTHEW A. ASTROTH
JAMES W. ATCHLEY, JR.
JASON E. ATTAWAY
RANDALL R. AUSTILL
DANNY AVILA
ALAN B. AVRIETT, JR.
ERIK M. AXT
MANUEL J. AYALA
STEVEN J. AYRE
SARAH S. BABBITT
JASON R. BACHELOR
CRAIG S. BAILEY
GREGORY P. BAILEY
BLAINE L. BAKER
LUKE A. BAKER
SARAH NELSON BAKHTIARI
BRIAN A. BALAZS
NICHOLAS J. BALDWIN
JASON W. BALES
JOHN I. BALL
GREGORY M. BARNES
RENAE BARNES
RICHARD D. BARNHART
CRAIG R. BARRINGTON
BRENDON C. BARTHOLOMEW
CASEY J. BARTHOLOMEW
JEFF K. BARTLETT
PAUL G. BATISH
MELVIN I. BAYLON
THERESA D. BEAVER
TIMOTHY D. BECK
MARIA T. BEECHER
BERNIE E. BEIGH
JENNIFER B. BEISEL
ALPHONZO R. BELCHER
ZDRAVKO BELIC
ISAAC T. BELL
JONATHAN B. BELL
SHAUN G. BELLAMY
MATTHEW M. BELLE
BRIAN J. BENJAMIN
NELSON P. BENNETT
CARLOS E. BERDECIA
CHRISTIAN M. BERGTHOLDT
ALULA B. BERHANE
GAVIN A. BERNE
JAY A. BERTSCH
ANGEL E. BETANCOURT TOYENS
DAVID A. BETHEL
MARK C. BETTERS
THOMAS E. BIERLY
MARK C. BIGLEY
ADAM DEWAIN BINGHAM
ERIC M. BISSONETTE
ERIC R. BIXBY
ANDREW H. BLACK
JOHN D. BLACKMAN
FELICIA A. BLAIR
MICHAEL R. BLISS
ANQUENETTA BLOUNT
TIMOTHY R. BOBINSKI
SEAN BOLDT
JOEL ANDREW BOLINA
WILLIAM H. BONES
DAVID E. BONN
JOSEPH M. BONNER
SANDRA A. BONNEY
TIMOTHY E. BOOK
STEPHEN F. BOOTH
DAVID A. BOPP
DENNIS M. BORRMAN
RAFAEL A. BOSCH
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JASON J. ROSS
BRADLEY A. ROTHWELL
NATHAN P. ROWAN
JEFFREY S. ROWSEY
JOHN W. ROYAL
JAY L. RUESCHHOFF
BRADLEY A. RUETER
MATTHEW C. RUSSELL
ROBERT M. RUSSELL
DANIEL M. RUTTENBER
LISA B. RYAN
SCOTT B. RYAN
FRANCIS M. SAAVEDRA
CHRISTOPHER J. SAETTEL
STEVEN SAKS
ANTONIO V. SALAZAR
ABRAHAM D. SALOMON, JR.
ANTHONY J. SAMPSON
MICHAEL J. SANDER
GEORGE R. SANDERLIN
SARAH C. SANTORO
JARED M. SANTOS
MATTHEW P. SATTLER
GREGORY M. SAVELLA II
EVAN T. SCAGGS
JOHN N. SCARLETT
ERIC A. SCHAFER
HENRY B. SCHANTZ
MATHEWS C. SCHARCH
DANIEL E. SCHERDT
RICHARD B. SCHERMER
JACOB D. SCHERRER
DYANN L. SCHILLING
JAMES L. SCHLABACH
ERIC W. SCHMIDT
JAYSON H. SCHMIEDT
LUKE J. SCHNEIDER
PETER J. SCHNOBRICH
JOSHUA B. SCHORE
JEFFREY J. SCHRUM
CHARLES E. SCHUCK
PATRICK J. SCHULDT
RANDY D. SCHWINLER
MICHAEL J. SCIANNA
AMY N. SCOTT
BRIAN L. SEALOCK
LUIS A. SEGURA
JAMES M. SELL
TAPAN SEN
DANIEL F. SEVIGNY
RICHARD S. SEYMOUR
BRANDON G. SHADE
BILLY SHAW
DENISE A. SHEA
JOHN D. SHELL
GARON L. SHELTON
ADAM C. SHICKS
KENNETH W. SHINN
KENNETH M. SHIRLEY
JEREMIAH A. SHOCKLEY
LEONARD M. SHORES III
ROBERT E. SHRADER
JASMIN SILENCE
JAMES D. SILVA
CHARLES R. SILVANIC, JR.
JASON W. SIMMONS
DAVID W. SIMPSON
BRIANA J. SINGLETON
JENNIFER J. SITZ
LORENZO SLAY, JR.
JASON J. SLEGER
MARK ANDREW SLETTEN
NISHAWN S. SMAGH
CLAYTON A. SMALL
PATRICK H. SMILEY
KRISTOFFER SMITH RODRIGUEZ
ANDREW R. SMITH
BRIAN C. SMITH
BRIAN D. SMITH
CHRISTOPHER D. SMITH
JEFFREY A. SMITH
JEREMY J. SMITH
JESSE L. SMITH
MARTY T. SMITH
TREVOR K. SMITH
VINCENT B. SMITS
PATRICK S. SMYTH
DOUGLAS A. SNEAD
LESLIE R. SNODGRASS, JR.
KEITH H. SNOOK, JR.
JON M. SNYDER
BRANDON H. SOKORA
JOHN T. SOPHIE
WALTER J. SORENSEN
SHAWN T. SOUTH
SETH W. SPANIER
MATTHEW R. SPEARS
ALLEN M. SPECHT
HUGH P. SPONSELLER
SIDNEY S. SQUIRES
BRIAN D. SROUFE
THOMAS C. STADY
DAVID I. STAMPS
MATTHEW S. STANFORD
JOSEPH M. STANGL
FREDERICK M. STANLEY
WESLEY B. STARK
JOHN G. STAUDT III
GEOFFREY M. STEEVES
CHADWICK M. STEIPP
CHANSE D. STEPHENS
CHRISTOPHER R. STEPHENS
DARRYLE STEPHENS
JON B. STEVENS
GERALD A. STEVENSON
STERLING M. STEWART
JONATHAN U. STICKA
TODD M. STINCHFIELD
SAMUEL CLAIRE STITT
WILLIAM F. STORMS
KENNETH A. STREMMEL
MARLON J. STRICKLAND
JUSTIN L. SUTHERLAND
ROSS H. SUTHERLAND
WILLIAM K. SWAN
NICHOLAS J. SWEENEY
SCOTT R. SWEENEY
ANTHONY SYLVAIN
MEGHAN M. SZWARC
FRANK A. TARAVELLA
ERIK M. TARNANEN
REGINA J. TATE
JEFFREY L. TAYLOR
LATRESE M. TAYLOR

SCOTT M. TAYLOR
JASON M. TEAGUE
AARON H. TELTSCHIK
LAURA C. TERRY
NATHAN B. TERRY
JOHN C. THARP
RYAN L. THEISS
ERIC D. THERIAULT
LIZA MOYA THERIAULT
JAY C. THOMAS
MARK R. THOMAS
RONALD L. THOMAS
STEVEN J. THOMAS
SCOTT THOMASON
ERIC D. THOMPSON
HARLEY P. THOMPSON
JASON I. THOMPSON
JEFFREY R. THOMPSON
JACOB M. THORNBURG
THOMAS M. THORP
CRAIG A. THORSTENSON
ROBERT S. THROWER
ANTHONY L. TILLMAN
MATTHEW P. TINKER
BRYAN M. TITUS
JAMES P. TOBIN
SHAMEKIA N. TOLIVER
TYLER C. TOLLMAN
CHRISTOPHER A. TOOMAN
AARON O. TORCZYNSKI
NICHOLAS A. TORRES
BRENT J. TOTH
ROBERT C. TOURNAY
TODD E. TRACY
BRYAN E. TRINKLE
PETER A. TRITSCH, JR.
MATTHEW R. TROVINGER
ANTHONY A. TRUETTE
TRAVIS C. TRUSSELL
ERIC A. TUCKER
WILLIAM D. TUCKER
CHRISTOPHER A. ULIBARRI
BRYAN T. UNKS
NICHOLAS D. UNRUH
EMILIO J. URENA
LEAH B. VANAGAS
BRIAN H. VANCE
DAVID ALLEN VANPELT
MARK F. VANWEEZENDONK
JASON C. VAP
JENNIFER L. VARGA
RAFAEL A. VARGASFONTANEZ
MARC A. VASSALLO
WILLIAM J. VAUSE
FRANCISCO VEGA
JEREMY D. VERBOUT
MARIO O. VERRETT
BRIAN P. VESEY
ROBERT D. VIDOLOFF
CHRISTINA DUNN VILE
DAVID W. VILLARREAL
DANIEL J. VISOSKY
GREGORY S. VOELKEL
ROBERT A. VOLESKY
DAMON C. VORHEES
GREGORY W. VOTH
ELWOOD T. WADDELL
JAMIE M. WADE
AARON D. WALENGA
TOBY LOUIS WALKER
TODD A. WALKER
CAROLYN J. WALKOTTE
KIMBERLY Y. WALLACE
LONZO E. WALLACE
DANIEL P. WALLICK
LEON H. WALTS, JR.
TERRY L. WANNER, JR.
JASON T. WARD
THOMAS C. WARD
DAVID M. WARE
DOUGLAS M. WARREN
THOMAS C. WASHBURN
ANA C. WATKINS
WARREN B. WATKINSON II
JOSEPH C. WATSON
DAVID T. WATTS
JEFFERY C. WATTS
NEAL A. WATTS
CEDRIC D. WEATHERLY
CHRISTOPHER J. WEATON
STEPHANIE L. WEAVER
VANESSA C. WEED
THOMAS F. WEGNER
WILLIAM L. WEIFORD III
KENNETH H. WEINER
MATTHEW R. WEINSCHENKER
JOHN S. WELCH
CHRIS T. WELLBAUM
JAMES E. WELLS
RACHEL A. WELLS
FRANK W. WELTON
REBECCA M. WELTON
AMANDA J. G. WERKHEISER
JASON E. WEST
TONI J. WHALEY
NEIL D. WHELDEN
ANTHONY D. WHITE
JUSTIN D. WHITE
MICHELLE M. H. WHITFIELD
JOSEPH E. WHITTINGTON, JR.
STEVEN P. WICK
KEVIN W. WIERSCHKE
GEORGEREECO J. WIGFALL
JASON W. WILD
SHAUN M. WILLHITE
DANIEL L. WILLIAMS
JASON EDWARD WILLIAMS
JEREMY E. WILLIAMS
DANIEL P. WILLISON, JR.
CARL C. WILSON
DAVID J. WILSON
ERIC W. WILSON
MARCUS D. WILSON
RICHARD G. WILSON
SHEENA L. WINDER
JAMES M. WINNING
DOUGLAS R. WITMER
RANDOLPH B. WITT
JAMES D. WOMBLE
CHRISTOPHER C. WOOD
NICHOLAS S. WOODROW
TANNER G. WOOLSEY
RICHARD H. WORCESTER
CHRISTOPHER M. WRIGHT
NORMAN P. WRIGHT
PAUL B. WURSTER
REID J. WYNANS
NICHOLAUS A. YAGER
SEAN E. YARBROUGH
MARK L. YARIAN
STEVEN D. YELVERTON
CHRISTIAN C. YERXA
MARK T. YOUKEY
KEITH A. YOUNG
ROBERT M. YOUNG
RONNIE B. YOUNG
EVER O. ZAVALA
RYAN A. ZEITLER
ERIC D. ZION
MICHAEL E. ZISKA
ERIC J. ZUHLSDORF
JASON C. ZUMWALT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

DAVID L. ALLISON
MELANIE N. ASBURY
ANDREW M. BRUTON
ANTHONY COCHET
ANDREW L. CORNELIUS
LARRY E. MYLES II
DAVE C. PRAKASH
KENNETH R. RICHMOND
KIRSTEN J. SJOSTRAND
LAVANYA VISWANATHAN
KWANI D. WILLIAMS

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant colonel

CLAUDIA D. HENDERSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

JESSE ABREU
GERARD M. ACOSTA
TOD A. ADDISON
TRAVIS D. ADKINS
KEVIN W. AGNESS
RICKY L. ALLBRITTON
STEPHEN R. ALLYN
PATRICK B. ALMOND
WILLETTE L. ALSTONWILLIAMS
CHRISTOPHER W. ANDERSON
KEVIN W. C. ANDERSON
MATTHEW S. ARBOGAST
DAPHNE H. AUSTIN
BRETT A. AYVAZIAN
JOHN M. BALBUENA
PAUL R. BAMONTE
STEFAN R. BANDAS, JR.
GRANT B. BANKO
DACHELLE D. BANKS
ROB W. BARNHILL
AARON T. BARTH
KARL J. BEIER
SHARI R. BENNETT
SCOTT M. BISHOP
PAUL M. BONANO
ERIC L. BOOKER
ERIC L. BOWEN
LUCAS J. A. BRAXTON
ANDRE L. BROWN
JACOB M. BROWN
MARVIN J. BROWN, JR.
YVETTE L. BROWN
TAVI N. BRUNSON
NATHANAEL D. BRYANT
LAVERN T. BURKES
JULIE L. BURMEISTER
BEIRE D. CASTRO
DAVID A. CENTENO, JR.
EDGAR A. CERDA
FAITH M. CHAMBERLAIN
MARIA CHAMORRO
DAVID C. CHANDLER, JR.
MARK A. CHEATHAM
JILL N. CHENEY
ROBERT E. CICCOLELLA
MICHAEL C. CIMATO
BONNIE B. B. CLEMENTE
BYRON T. COLEMAN
MELISSA R. COLEMAN
CHRISTOPHER F. CONLEY
BRIAN T. COURTER
RODNEY O. CRENSHAW
GEORGE S. CROCKATT
ELIZABETH H. CURTIS
JOHN R. CUVA
KANDACE M. DAFFIN
WILLIAM R. DAILEY III
SCOTT E. DAVIDSON
MELVIN T. DAVIS III
LAURA C. DECLOUETSMITH
ERIC B. DENNIS
LESLIE A. DESANDER
KHANH T. DIEP
BRIAN T. DOERR
JORGE A. DOLMO
ANTHONY E. DOUGLAS
RICHARD T. DOWNS
ANDREW J. DUUS
ERIK J. DYE
C M. DYER III
BOYCE L. EDWARDS, JR.
MEKELLE L. EPPERSON
ANGEL R. ESTRADA
JOSEPH EVANS
NICOLE E. FISCHER
MICHAEL S. FLETCHER
KELLY L. FRENCH
MICHAEL R. GAINES
JAMES M. GALLAGHER
BRUCE P. GANNAWAY
CEDRIC D. GASKIN, JR.
MATTHEW A. GIERTZ
ERIN M. GILLIAM
JACQUELINE M. GLAZE
KELVIN L. GRAVES
HENRY S. GROULX
ANH H. HA
MICHAEL D. HAGERTY, JR.
MICHAEL F. HAMMOND
SHERRIE L. HANCOCK
CHRISTOPHER HARVEY, SR.
CHAD B. HAYES
KEVIN G. HEINONEN
RICHARD D. HELLING
HAROLD P. HENDERSON, JR.
CONNIE V. HERBIN III
JOSEPH M. HERMAN
ROBERT M. HICKS
DARIUS M. HIGHSMITH
CHRISTOPHER P. HILL
CRYSTAL M. HILLS
ROBERT D. HILTON, JR.
LETICIA M. HINES
JOSHUA D. HIRSCH
STEVEN W. HOLDEN
NED C. HOLT
DANIEL L. HORN
ANDREW T. HOTALING
YU K. HU
GEORGE K. HUGHES
ANTHONY E. HUGHLEY
ROBIN D. HUSTED
ADRAIN C. JACKSON
FRANK E. JEFFERSON, JR.
JEYANTHAN JEYASINGAM
DAVID A. JIMENEZ
BENJAMIN G. JOHNSON
ROBIN A. JOHNSON
DALE A. JONES
DAMAR K. JONES
NATASHA S. JONES
RHONDA E. JONES
SHAWN L. KADLEC
JASON M. KAHNE
JOSHUA M. KEENA
ROBERT L. KELLAM
ROLAND A. KELLER, JR.
HOWELL M. KELLY
SEAN P. KELLY
BRIAN J. KETZ
DAVID P. KEY
ROBERT G. KLARENBACH
JEFFREY M. KUTTER
JOSHUA J. LAMOTTE
MICHAEL A. LAPORTE
ANDREW D. LEE
JIM A. LEE
GREGORY W. LEIPHART
EDWARD LEWIS
PETER LIN
PHILLIP R. LOPEZ
ANDREW S. LUNOFF
ANDREW P. MACK
DARCY S. MANION
SARAH K. MARSHREAD
TIMOTHY E. MATTHEWS
CHRISTOPHER L. MAY
THOMAS G. MCFALL
CRAIG M. MCILWAIN
JAMES W. MCKENNA
BRETT M. MEDLIN
MATTHEW S. METCALF
ETHAN J. MILLS
SANDRA D. MINGWILKS
DAMIKO K. MOORE
MARK S. MORGAN
STEVEN W. MORRIS
DETRICE D. MOSBY
BRIAN S. NEILL
TERRANCE R. NEWMAN
JARED P. NOVAK
ROBERT L. OBER
TRACEY J. A. OLSON
EMMITT K. OSBORNE II
JAMES T. OUTLAND
MARK D. OWENS
AARON A. PARKER
KARRIE M. PATTERSON

BRIDGETTE L. PAYTON
DOUGLAS J. PELUSO
JOHNNY A. PEREZ
TODD D. PERODEAU
PETER M. PERZEL
JAMES P. PETE
ROBERT L. PETROSKY, JR.
JAMIE M. PHELPS
GEORGE M. PLANSKY
KEVIN M. POLOSKY
LISA M. PRUITT
STEVE L. RAGEL
GRETA A. RAILSBACK
ROLAND E. RAMIREZ
EFRAIN RAMOS
JOE A. RATLIFF
HARVEY R. RAVENHORST
JAMES W. READ
JONATHAN D. REEVES
BENJAMIN B. REX
PERCY W. RHONE, JR.
MICHAEL A. RICCIARDI
DOUGLAS C. RICHTER
TONI M. RIEKE
MARK D. RIPLEY
ROBERT G. RIVERS
ERIC C. ROBINSON
MELISSA M. ROSOL
SHAWN C. ROSS
DANIEL A. ROWELL
JOSEPH J. RUSH, JR.
RIZALDO D. L. SALVADOR
GINA D. SANNICOLAS
PATRICK L. SCHACHLE
JUSTIN C. SCHAEFFER
JOHN L. SCHIMMING
MICHAEL G. SCHOONOVER
JAY S. SCHRODER
TONYA L. SEBOLD
ROD W. SECOR
JUSTIN R. SHELL
ANTHONY R. SHERRILL
SHANE D. SIMS
EDWARD L. SLEEPER
SHAWANTA D. SMART
ADAM D. SMITH
RODNEY C. SMITH
RYAN D. SMITH
SEAN D. SMITH
STEVEN R. SMITH
TAURUS D. SMITH
LANCE M. SNEED
CHRISTIAN SOLINSKY
KENNETH E. SOSA
BRIAN M. SPURLOCK
MELISSA A. SQUIZZEROLEE
GEORGE J. STEFFENS
SCOTT H. STEPHENSON
MICHAEL C. SUAREZ
TIMOTHY SUGARS
BRETT C. SWANKE
JASON F. TATE
STACY M. TOMIC
TRAVIS D. TRAINER
KECIA M. TROY
ROCKY R. VAIRA
SANTEE B. VASQUEZ
LISA A. VILLARREALRENNARD
WALLY VIVESOCASIO
JEFFREY E. WAGSTAFF
FRANCES K. WALKER
RALPH L. WARE
DAVID G. WATSON
DAVID M. WEESE
GAIL L. WEGE
GINGER L. WHITEHEAD
TREVOR D. WIECK
BRYAN J. WILEY
MICHAEL J. WILLIAMS
MICHELLE M. WILLIAMS
JULIA A. WILSON
ROBERT B. WILSON
NATHAN N. WINN
ROBERT J. WOLFE
DAVID J. YOUNG
JOSEPH W. YOUNG
JAMES J. ZACCHINO, JR.
RYAN B. ZACHRY
D001385
D011286
D011399
D011933
D003102
D011406
D011861
D012122
D011533

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AS A CHAPLAIN UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 624 AND 3064:

To be lieutenant colonel

SUN S. MACUPA

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

BRIAN S. ADAMS
JOHN A. ADAMS
STEPHAN E. ADAMS
EDWARD M. ALLEN III
VINCENT A. AMERENA
LEIGHTON W. ANGLIN
RONALD E. ANZALONE
CHE T. AROSEMENA
THOMAS J. ARRIAGA
JASON B. AVERY
DUSTIN J. BAADTE
BRETT A. BAIR
MICHAEL B. BAKA
MICHELLE L. BALDANZA
DAVID A. BARBER
JAMES A. BARBER
ANTHONY P. BARBINA
JAMES R. BARROWS
STEPHEN L. BATTLE
ANDREW M. BEAL
BENNY R. BEASLEY
KEVEN P. BEATTIE
HENRY M. BENNETT, JR.
HOLLI A. BENNETT
PHILLIP A. BERGERON
JOHN M. BERGMAN
ROBERT P. BEUERLEIN
BRANDON A. BISSELL
JEREMY N. BLACK
CHRISTOPHER T. BLAIS
AARON D. BOHRER
MANDI L. BOHRER
GARY S. BONHAM
JAMES L. BOOTH
KEVIN D. BRADLEY
KELBY V. BRAKE
JOSEPH S. BRANNON
MATTHEW A. BREITBACH
THOMAS J. BROCK, JR.
JAY W. BROOKE
SCOTT T. BROOME
CHRISTOPHER D. BROUGH
JASON S. BROWN
LOYD W. BROWN
SEAN M. BROWN
DANFORD W. BRYANT II
KEITH D. BRYANT
JOSEPH P. BUCCINO
AMY L. BURROWS
MICHAEL A. BUSBY
SHAWN D. BUTLER
THOMAS A. CALDWELL
GREGORY V. CAMPION
SCOTT C. CAPEHART
PAUL S. CARLOCK
DARRELL W. CARR
JOHN P. CARSON IV
TANEHA N. CARTER
STEPHEN V. CARUSO
JOHN M. CASIANO
CHARLES B. CAUDILL
JON C. CECALUPO
SCOTT B. CHENEY
JUSTIN M. CHEZEM
JASON A. CLARKE
KAREN L. CLARKE
DAVID S. CLUKEY
CHARLES J. COGGER
BRYAN K. COHOON
FORREST V. COOK
JASON T. COOK
DONALD E. CRAWFORD II
KEVIN G. CROOKS
JOHN C. CROTZER
JESSE T. CURRY
JAMES R. CUTCHIN
MATTHEW P. CUVIELLO
ADAM J. CZEKANSKI
HERBERT A. DANIELS, JR.
MICHAEL R. DAVIS
RICHARD J. DAVIS
WILLIAM L. DAVIS
JAMES C. DAYHOFF
DAMON A. DELAROSA
MATTHEW B. DENNIS
ANDREW T. DEPONAI
DAVID S. DIAZ
CARL D. DICK
JEREMY J. DIGIOIA
BYRON A. DOBSON
DWIGHT D. DOMENGEAUX, JR.
ARAM M. DONIGIAN
JOHN C. DONLIN
SEAN P. DONNELLY
BRYAN T. DONOHUE
PATRICK A. DOUGLAS
ROBERT F. DOUGLAS
STEPHEN E. DOUGLAS
JAMES W. DOWNING
EARL DOYLE
TIMOTHY H. DRAVES
BRIAN M. DUCOTE
ANDREW R. DUPREY
JONATHAN A. EASLEY
PAUL B. EBERHARDT
SAMUEL G. EDWARDS
JAMES M. EGAN
RYAN J. ELLIS
BARRETT M. EMENHEISER
SCOTT J. EMMEL
JOEY L. ERRINGTON
JOHNNY A. EVANS, JR.
MATTHEW S. FARMER
ALAN E. FAYE
JOHN M. FERNAS
EUGENE J. FERRIS
BRIAN J. FICKEL
SHANE F. FINN
MICHAEL T. FITZPATRICK
JANUS T. FRALEY
AARON L. FREEMAN
RECELLA S. L. FROBE
CHAD A. FROEHLICH
CHRISTOPHER FUHRIMAN
MARC P. GAGUZIS
BRYON G. GALBRAITH
JON R. GARDNER
MATTHEW B. GARNER
RUBEN GARZA
DARIN L. GAUB
JOSEPH R. GEARY
JOHN J. GEIS III
JASON T. GENTILE
BRIAN J. GERBER
WADE A. GERMANN
DANIEL C. GIBSON
JOHN B. GILLIAM
TIMOTHY L. GITTINS
PHILIP W. GODDARD III
MICHAEL GOMEZ
MATTHEW J. GOMLAK
MATTHEW F. GOODING
EVAN H. GOTKIN
JAMES M. GRANDY
SCOTT W. GRECO
ROBERT G. GREEN
ANGELA M. GREENEWALD
WILLIAM M. GRIESHABER
TIMON D. GROVES
STEVEN E. GVENTER
JEREMY T. GWINN
RAYMOND L. HAKEY, JR.
JEFFREY D. HALL
MICHAEL J. HALL
BRIAN P. HALLBERG
SALLY C. HANNAN
ERIC W. HARRELSON
BRYAN M. HARRIS
JONATHAN L. HARVEY
JOSEF S. HATCH
JOHN J. HAWBAKER
MARCUS C. HAY
MALCOLM G. HAYNES
RALPH D. HEATON
SEAN C. HEIDGERKEN
STEPHEN A. HEINZ
MICHAEL D. HELTON
JASON A. HENDERSON
WADE D. HERMAN
BRIAN D. HEVERLY
BRENDAN R. HOBBS
GEORGE A. HODGES
BRIAN T. HOFFMAN
KYLE M. HOGAN
ROBERT J. HOLCOMBE
DEXTER A. HOLLEY
EDWARD L. HOLLIS
BERNARD HOUSE
ROBERT C. HOWARD
JUSTIN R. HOWE
SCOTT L. HOWELL
RONALD J. HUGHES
RICHARD C. HYDE
RICHARD J. IKENA, JR.
JEFFREY E. IVEY
SEDRICK L. JACKSON
TRAVIS A. JACOBS
ERIC JACOBSON
JASON R. JAJACK
JEREMY W. JAMES
RANDY P. JAMES, JR.
ANDREW JASSO
NICHOLAS C. JENKINS
BJORN D. A. JOHNSON
RODNEY D. JOHNSON
HARRY H. JONES IV
ANDREW Q. JORDAN
CHRISTOPHER E. JUDGE
MARK A. KAPERAK
STEPHEN M. KAPLACHINSKI
CHRISTOPHER G. KASKER
EDWARD W. KEEL
BLAKE W. KEIL
DEREK R. KELLER
ZACHARY D. KERNS
RYAN D. KEYS
JAMES A. KIEVIT
ROSS A. KILBURN
ROBERT C. KIMMEL
LIAM J. KINGDON
CHRISTOPHER J. KIRK
ANDREW J. KISER
DAMON M. KNARR
JEFFREY R. KNUDSON
ERIC J. KUNAK
STEVEN J. KURCZAK
ADAM J. LACKEY
DONALD J. LAGRANGE
PHILLIP H. LAMB
CHRISTOPHER V. LANE
THOMAS E. LAYBOURN
JEFFREY J. LESPERANCE
CHRISTOPHER M. LEUNG
RYAN P. LEVESQUE
ADAM J. LEWIS
ALEXANDER C. LOVASZ
ADAM L. LOWMASTER
SHARON R. LYGHT
EDWARD J. LYNCH
GARY J. LYSAGHT
TRENT J. LYTHGOE
THOMAS N. MACMILLIN
TIMOTHY M. MAHONEY
JOHN A. MAILMAN, JR.
MICHAEL J. MANNION
LAFRAN MARKS
CHRISTOPHER M. MARQUEZ
DAVID C. MARTIN
ELIZABETH A. MARTIN
TIMOTHY S. MARZANO

JARRET D. MATHEWS
EDWIN D. MATTHAIDESS III
ROBERT W. MATTHEWS
RAYMOND M. MATTOX
JAMES D. MAXWELL
MICHAEL R. MCCARSON
BRIAN E. MCCARTHY
PATRICK M. MCCARTHY
GINAMARIE MCCLOSKEY
TRAVIS E. MCCRACKINE
CHRISTOPHER C. MCGARRY
SEAN P. MCGEE
WILLIAM P. MCGLOTHLIN
KASI E. MCGRAW
TIM M. MCGREW
GEOFFREY M. MCKENZIE
THURMAN C. MCKENZIE
SCOTT W. MCLELLAN
KALI A. MCMURRAY
ROBERT B. MCNELLIS
STEVEN R. MEEK
JUAN R. MEJIA
JON W. MEREDITH
MATTHEW A. MERTZ
KEYES M. METCALF
CARY J. METZ
RYAN M. MIEDEMA
JACOB W. MILLER
SCOTT D. MILLER
TIMOTHY M. MILLER
DUSTIN R. MITCHELL
JAMES M. MITCHELL
PATRICK C. MOFFETT
CHANDA I. MOFU
JOHN J. MONTGOMERY
PETER J. H. MOON
RYAN I. MOORE
RODNEY J. MORGAN
JOHN D. MORIS
JASON C. MORITZ
CHRISTOPHER S. MORRIS
MICHAEL G. MOUROUZIS
CARLOS E. MOYA
JEFFREY M. MUNN
JENNIFER A. MYKINS
BRIAN J. NEWILL
JASON M. NIERMAN
DAVID A. NORRIS
LANCE A. OBRYAN
SEAN M. OCONNELL
MARTIN L. ODONNELL
CHRISTOPHER W. OGWIN
DAVID R. OLSEN
EMANUEL L. E. ORTIZCRUZ
MARK A. PACZYNSKI
DANIEL W. PADGETT
DAVID J. PAINTER
JAMES T. PALMER
WAYNE D. PARE
FREDRICK B. PARKER
MICHAEL S. PARSONS
SHAWN M. PATRICK
ROBERT J. PAWLAK
MARC E. PELINI
SCOTT A. PENCE
ROBERT E. V. PETTY
ROBERT W. PHILLIPS
JUSTIN D. PIERSON
ESTHER S. PINCHASIN
CHIP POTTER
JEFFREY M. PRAY
WILLIAM C. PRUETT
JUSTIN B. PUTNAM
LANDON M. RABY
ISAAC J. RADEMACHER
FREDERICK D. RAMIREZ
CARLOS A. RAMOS
JONATHAN R. RASTALL
MATTHEW C. RAWLINS
DANIEL P. RAYCA
OTIS E. REGISTER III
ANDREW R. RIES
JOHN J. RIPA
ALEXIS RIVERAESPADA
BRIAN C. ROEDER
JOSE E. ROSARIOMENENDEZ
SIDNEY D. ROSENQUIST
JASON H. ROSENSTRAUCH
ROBERT J. ROSS
MATTHEW L. ROWLAND
JOSHUA R. RUISANCHEZ
KEVIN L. RUNKLE
ROBERTO SALAS
ROSA C. SANCHEZ
JOHN W. SANDOR
VICTOR R. SATTERLUND
ERIC M. SAULSBURY
BRIAN P. SCHOELLHORN
CORY E. SCHOWENGERDT
GREGORY M. SCHREIN
GERALD P. SCHUCK
WALKER W. SCOTT III
JEFFREY A. SEARL
EDWARD A. SEDLOCK, JR.
JONATHAN K. SHAFFNER
KEVIN R. SHARP
JAMES E. SHERIDAN
MICHAEL J. SHOUSE
JASON C. SHROPSHIRE
MICHAEL J. SIEBER
KEVIN W. SIEBOLD
MICHAEL A. SINES
KURT N. SISK
CHARLES E. SLAGLE III
JAMES J. SMITH
MATTHEW E. SNELL
DAVID J. SNODDERLY
PAUL H. SNYDER
KENT G. SOLHEIM
REYNALDO F. SOLIZ, JR.
MORGAN G. SOUTHERN
SEAN A. SPENCE
DAVID K. SPENCER
SCOTT R. SPURRIER
CHRISTOPHER D. STANGLE
JOHN E. STEEN II
MICHAEL P. STEWART
TED L. STOKES, JR.
MARK T. STONE
DEREK P. STORY
DENNIS P. SUGRUE
JOEY J. SULLINGER
NATHAN S. SURREY
JARED J. SUTTON
DANIEL L. SWANSON
JOSEPH L. SWINDLE
KELVIN P. SWINT
ANTHONY E. TANGEMAN
ASHLEY F. THAMES
DOUGLAS M. THOMAS
CHRISTIAN A. THOMPSON
BEAU W. TIBBITTS
JOHN E. TIEDEMAN
TERRY R. TILLIS
GREGORY S. TILY
PAUL J. TOOLAN
JASON C. TOWNSEND
CLINT E. TRACY
KEVIN M. TRUJILLO
MATTHEW P. TUCKER
RICHARD P. TUCKER
JAMES E. TULLY
JEREMY R. TURNER
BILLY J. VANCUREN
JAMES M. VANG
LOUIS VENEZIANO
ERIC P. VETRO
WILLIAM D. VICKERY
DARYL S. VONHAGEL
WILLIAM D. WADE
DAVID M. WARD
MATTHEW D. WASHBURN
KARIN L. WATSON
MARK C. WEAVER
THAD D. WEIST
JOHN C. WELCH
MARCUS S. WELCH
RANDALL D. WENNER
JASON L. WEST
ERIC A. WESTPHAL
SETH A. WHEELER
SCOTT C. WHITE
MICHAEL T. WHITNEY
KIRK J. WHITTENBERGER
RICHARD T. WILLBANKS
EDWARD O. WILLIAMS
EVERETT C. WILLIAMS
TIMIKA M. WILSON
CHRISTOPHER W. WINGATE
ROBERT J. WISHAM
JOHN P. WISHART
KARL M. WOJTKUN
JOHN S. WOO
MICHAEL L. WOOD
TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF
MARCUS W. WRIGHT
RYAN E. YEDLINSKY
JAYSEN A. YOCHIM
ANDREW P. YODER
DANIEL R. YOUNG
JUDD K. YOUNG
PATRICK R. YOUNG
WILLIAM M. YUND
WILLIAM J. ZIELINSKI
MATTHEW T. ZIGLAR
JOHN J. ZOLLINGER
D002263
D011237
D012184
D002129
D006292
D011134
D002302
D011350
D011956
D005922
D011554
D010207
D012106
G010266

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

CLARK C. K. ADAMS II
LEONARDO ADAMS
MICHAEL J. ADAMSKI
KRISTOPHER S. ALEXANDER
MICHAEL P. ANDERSON
KRISTIN M. ARNEY
MICHAEL A. AVILA
CHRISTOPHER H. BACHMANN
STEPHEN J. BANKS
THEODORE A. BANNER
JACQUELYN M. BARCOMB
LEE A. BARNARD
MATTHEW C. BENIGNI
DEREK S. BICKLER
JOSEPH C. BILBO
WADE C. BIRDWELL
DONALD E. BISHOP
RICHARD A. BLACKBURN, JR.
TIMOTHY P. BLANCH
KATIE J. BLUE
KENNETH N. BOOK
JOSHUA J. BRADLEY
LOUIVE B. BROGAN
CHRISTOPHER P. BROOKE
DONALD K. BROOKS
ANDREW P. BROSNAN
ANDRE M. BROWN
ANDREW R. BROWN
KEVIN P. BUETTNER
DAVID H. BURNHAM
BOBBY R. BURRUS
MATTHEW D. BUTT
ANDREW D. BYRD
NATHANEAL R. BYRNES
KATHLEEN S. CAGE
ERICA L. CAMERON
JASON L. CAMPBELL
STUART B. CATE
JAMES C. CHENEY
KWOK F. CHIU
ANDREW P. CLARK
SEAN P. COAKLEY
DUDLEY J. COBB
JOHN A. COFIELD
JUSTIN K. COLBERT
ROBERT L. COLLINS III
JOSHUA B. COMSTOCK
JUSTIN D. CONSIDINE
JONATHAN D. CORNETT
EDWARD L. COX
ZACHARY W. COYAN
ROBERT R. CRAIG
MELLYORA K. CRAWFORD
JUAN R. CUELLAR
STEVEN B. CUNNINGHAM
STEPHEN M. DAIL
ILYA DASHEVSKY
ANNA M. DAVIS
JEFFREY A. DAYTON
VICTOR M. DEEKENS
CHRISTOPHER S. DENHAM
MARK A. DENTON
PAUL K. DONNELL
JOHN C. DRAKE
ANDREW A. DUGGER
CHRISTOPHER J. DUNCAN
PATRICK D. DUNCAN
JOHNATHAN K. EASLER
JOSEPH H. EVANS, JR.
PAUL J. EWALD
BRETT T. FEHRENBACHER
BRIAN P. FLEMING
BRENT D. FOGLEMAN
BRYCE E. FREDERICKSON
SEAN J. GALLAGHER
BRIAN M. GELLMAN
ROBERT T. GERALD
JEFFREY T. GIBBONS
JOSHUA A. GILLEN
MICHAEL D. GOSSETT
AARON M. GOULD
BRYAN N. GROVES
JOSEPH C. GUIDO, JR.
STEPHEN M. HALL
BRIAN K. HAMILTON
JOSHUA J. HAMILTON
ROBERT J. HANNAH
BRETT I. HANSON
EDMOND A. HARDY
MATTHEW D. HASTING
ANTON J. HEDRICK
GLEN R. HEES
MATTHEW W. HEIM
WILLIAM D. HEMPHILL
ANDREW J. HIERSTETTER
JIMMY W. HILL
JOHN P. HILTZ
KEITH D. HOCKMAN
JOHN J. HOSEY, JR.
ROBERT R. HOUSTON
SAMUEL H. HUDDLESTON
MIKEL E. HUGO
NATHAN C. HURT
JOHN M. IVES
BRIAN P. JACOBSON
CRAIG S. JAYSON
ROBERT J. JOHANEK
BYRON G. JOHNSON
JAMES R. JOHNSON
JERAMIE D. JOHNSON
ROBERT R. JOHNSTON II
DAMIAN M. JONES
LEONARD E. JONES
MICHAEL R. JONES
JEFFREY C. KACALA
BRIAN M. KADET
CHARLES J. KARELS
CARLOS J. KAVETSKY
GREGORY P. KEENEY
RICHARD A. KIPHUTH
DIANE E. KLEIN
MATTHEW D. KOEHLER
ERIK E. KOENIG
JONATHAN P. KOERNIG
MICHAEL T. KOSUDA
THOMAS J. KUCIK
KANAME K. KUNIYUKI II
YUKIO A. KUNIYUKI III
SHAWN W. KYLE
BRYAN D. LAKE
MICHAEL A. LANDIN
KARLTON L. LANE
PATRICK J. LANE
MARK J. LAVIN II
MATTHEW J. LENNOX

CHRISTIAN T. LEWIS
THEODORE T. LIEBREICH
BRETT D. LINDBERG
KELLEY D. LITZNER
CHARLES S. LOCKWOOD
GARY M. L. LYKE
NEILL A. MACLEOD III
MICHAEL I. MAHARAJ
CHRISTOPHER E. MARKS
CHRISTOPHER M. MARTINEZ
DANIEL I. MATTEI
ROBERT L. MAY
MICHAEL E. MCCARTHY
TARA L. MCCARTY
DAVIS K. MCELWAIN
CHARLES J. MCGARRY
PHILIP J. MCGOVERN
ROBERT E. MCGUIRE
KRISTIAN MCKENNEY
KEITH D. MCMANUS
DOUGLAS J. MCNAIR
ROBERT A. MCVEY, JR.
PAUL C. MEAUX
ANDREW J. MEETZE
RICHARD E. MICHAEL
STEPHEN J. MIKO
ZACHARY F. MILLER
GREGORY R. MITCHELL
ROBERT G. MITCHELL
BASEL M. MIXON IV
MATTHEW J. MOAKLER
GEORGE L. MOORE
DANIEL R. MORRIS
BRIAN M. MURNOCK
IAN H. MURRAY
RICHARD J. NOWINSKI
TERRENCE J. OCONNOR
MARTIN H. OKADA
FREDERICK H. ORNDORFF
CHRISTOPHER J. ORTIONA
CASSANDRA M. OWENS
DAVID E. OWENS
DUSTIN M. OWENS
JOSHUA G. PARRISH
BYRON C. PATERAS
CLAUDIA P. PENAGUZMAN
GLEN D. PENROD
KRISTY K. PERRY
JONATHAN T. PETTY
GREGORY D. PIPES
ANTHONY F. PISANO
BRANDON A. PRESSLEY
BRYAN C. PRICE
WAYNE E. PRINCE
NICHOLAS E. PRISCO
MATTHEW R. PROVOST
ROMEO QUREISHI
PABLO A. RAGGIO
JOSE A. RAMIREZ
MANUEL F. RAMIREZ
KLAUDIUS K. ROBINSON
SHAWNETTE M. ROCHELLE
JOSE R. RODRIGUEZ, JR.
MELBERT V. ROLDAN
JOSEPH A. ROMAN
JAMES M. ROSS
JASON K. ROUNDY
KELLIE S. ROURKE
JOHN A. RUCKAUF
PHILIP R. RUSIECKI
KENNETH J. RUTKA, JR.
TONI K. SABO
CADE M. SAIE
MELAN P. SALAS
FRANKLIN B. SCHERRA, JR.
JAMES A. SHAW
BRYAN P. SHRANK
CHRISTOPHER M. SIEGRIST
BENJAMIN R. SIMMS
JAMES A. SINK
KENNETH P. SIVERSON, JR.
CHARLES M. SMITH
DONALD E. SMITH II
BERNARD L. SNOW, SR.
SANG M. SOK
GENE R. SOUZA
MICHAEL P. STACHOUR
RYAN P. STAMATIS
THOMAS L. STJOHN, JR.
MICHAEL STURDIVANT
WILLIAM E. SYMOLON
CHRISTOPHER S. SYNOWIEZ
JEAN P. G. TARMAN
MARK A. TERRELL
MICHAEL D. TETER
KRIST G. THODOROPOULOS
CHRISTOPHER M. THOMAS
DAVID C. THOMAS
DARIN A. TIBBETTS
JAMES D. TOLBERT
CHRISTOPHER G. TURNER
JAMES O. TURNER, JR.
NICOLE E. VINSON
DAVID E. VIOLAND
VICTOR A. VOGEL III
ROBERT T. VOLK
JASON D. VULCAN
STEVEN B. WALDROP
JASON M. WARD
LATISHA M. WAYNE
JASON R. WHIPPLE
MARK R. WHITEMAN
SHANNON J. WHITEMAN
GEORGE B. WHITTENBURG
CHIKE T. WILLIAMS
DERRICK B. WILLIAMS
KRISTINA M. WILLIAMS
CARL J. WINOWIECKI II
TIMOTHY E. WOLFE
DANIEL C. WOOD II
PRINCETON D. WRIGHT
BRUNO A. ZITTO
BRENDA D. ZOLLINGER
D001245
D001992
D003840
D003879
D006536
D010105
D010490
D010740
D010779
D011333
D011359
D011367
D012109
D012186
G001008
G001232
G001288
G001298
G010051
G010059
G010212
G010269

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be captain

EDWARD J. EDER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

WILLIAM A. BURNS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR REGULAR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be lieutenant commander

KEVIN L. BELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be commander

CLAYTON M. PENDERGRASS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

CASEY D. FERGUSON
ANTHONY K. TOBIAS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

CRYSTAL R. AANDAHL
TUESDAY L. ADAMS
KIMBERLY ALBERO
BRANDI M. ALFORD
TIMOTHY J. BENJAMIN
MOHNEKE V. BROUGHTON
SARA M. BROWN
MARK C. BUENO
STEPHANIE L. BURLESON
JEFFREY K. BURNEY
ERA P. BURROWS
MICHAEL D. BUSHEY
ARVELLA M. CASE
EDWARD R. CAVANAUGH
SARAH M. CHAMBERAS
KATHERINE M. CHIU
MARK W. CLARK, JR.
MARY S. CLEMENTS
CHRISTOPHER J. DAVIS
JEFFERY L. DEWEY
BRIAN P. DRZEWIECKI
ERIN M. EICKHOFF
BRANDI A. EPPERSON
COLLEEN L. FISHER
LADONYIA L. GRAHAM
DARCY R. GUERRICAGOITIA
MONICA L. HALL
WADE C. HANSON
KRISTEN A. HARDING
JUSTIN B. HEFLEY
MARIE J. HOOD
SACHIKO M. IKARI
ANGELA M. KELLY
GEORGE C. KRAFT III
MICHELLE L. LIND
KRISTIE L. LINDER
LAUREN B. LOGAN
JUBAL L. MARLATT
MICHELLE M. MCCORMICK
JOSEPH C. MCDONALD
MICHELLE K. MCKENNA
ELAINE P. MEDLEY
JEFFREY A. MILES
KATHERINE C. MONAGHAN
RACHEL E. NEWNAM
MELODY A. OCONNOR
NICHOLAS G. PEREZ
BYRON J. PETERSON
NICKY S. PETERSON
CHAD E. PHIPPS
SUSANNE M. PICKMAN
WOODY PIERRE
KELLY P. RICKETTS
JOSEPH I. ROMAN
MICHAEL T. RUCKER
RAMIR C. SALCEDO
JULIE M. SCHAUB
SONIA C. SCOTT
JAMIE E. SHERRY
KATHERINE E. STOWELL
SARAH J. T. TALLENT
JOSEPH A. UKE
TRACI J. VANDERMOLEN
TERRY D. VINCENT
MEGHAN L. WEAVER
STELLA J. WEISS
ALLYSON E. WHALEN
AHMON R. WHITE
JAMES H. WHITE
LILLIAN W. WHITE
LINA M. YECPOT

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

CYNTHIA N. ABELLA
KENDAL J. ALLMANBAILEY
MICHAEL R. ANDERSEN
SALIM M. AQIL
ROBERT B. ARTHUR
CHRISTINE M. BAKER
ANNA E. I. W. BECK
SCOTT P. BLACKHART
MATTHEW S. BOLDUC
CHRISTOPHER D. BRADLEY
TODD G. BRINGHURST
HEATHER M. BROWN
ANGEL J. CALVO
JOSEPH F. CAREY
SARA A. CHILCUTT
KATIANA CRUET
CHAD E. CUCA
JEFFREY K. DEAN
CHRISTOPHER D. DINDAL
JAMES K. DOLL
CARLA L. EPPEL
TODD A. EPPEL
DANIEL J. FUHRMANN
MORGEN Y. GARDNER
DEREK B. GATTA
JEREMY R. GIES
JOAN M. GONZALEZ
THOMAS D. GRUBBS
NICHOLAS J. HAMLIN
CHRISTOPHER M. HANSON
AARON G. HASSELL
DREW B. HAVARD
JASON L. HICKS
DANIEL J. HONL
ERIC M. HOWARD
JEFFREY T. HOYLE
SHAWNA L. JACKSON
STEPHEN W. JOHNDREAU
DORIS K. LAM
DEVIN J. LANGGUTH
KATHY A. LIGON
BRYAN S. MAY
MICHELLE M. MAYER
MATTHEW J. MILLER
DANIELLE T. MUCKENTHALER
JOSEPH R. MUCKENTHALER
DAVID A. MYERS
CODY J. NELSON
ANDREW J. PAKCHOIAN
ERIN R. PALMER
PHILIP PARK
JENNIFER M. PILBY
ALLEN D. RASMUSSEN
DAVID M. RASMUSSEN
CLAYTON T. RAU
FRANCISCO RODRIGUEZ
NOEL RODRIGUEZ
PAUL M. RUSSELL
DAVID J. RUSTHOVEN
LESLEY A. SACRAMENTO
YOUNGSEOK SEO
KAMBEZ SHUKOOR
MICHAEL A. SMITH
JULIE K. SUGUITAN
MICHAEL R. SYAMKEN
CHRISTOPHER E. VERZOSA
ERIC D. VILLARREAL
JAMES D. WARD
CHRISTOPHER P. WERMERSON
RACHEL L. WERNER
SHAUN T. WHITE
BARAK A. WRAY
YU ZHENG

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

CHRISTOPHER A. ADAMS
JENNIFER H. ANDERSON
DONALD A. BAKER III
STEVEN T. BENEFIELD
SHAWN L. BOOTSMA
GENEVIEVE M. F. CLARK
STEPHEN L. CLOER

GREGORY R. COATES
JASON M. CONSTANTINE
BRYAN J. DAVENPORT
DAVID S. DEESE
JAMES O. DEWEY
JASON M. DIPINTO
DAVID L. DUPREY
DEVON H. FOSTER
TODD D. FOWLER
CALVIN B. GARDNER, SR.
JASON A. GREGORY
ANDREW J. HAYLER
PAUL A. HYDER
GLEN D. KITZMAN
AARON E. KLEINMAN
JOHN M. MABUS
WAYNE J. MASON
ROBERT E. MILLS
DAVID L. MOWBRAY
DAVID T. NELSON
MATTHEW G. PRINCE
BRYAN E. PURVIS
DANIEL R. SPIES
JONATHAN D. STEPHENS
GREGORY D. UVILA
JASON D. WEATHERWAX
MARLIN WILLIAMS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JESSE D. ADAMS
MATTHEW C. ANDERSON
KATHERINE R. CALLAN
PARKER S. CARLISLE
ERIK A. CARLSON
CALEB CHRISTEN
DAVID A. CHRISTENSON
JOSHUA L. CORNTHWAITE
NEIL R. DARCO
BRADLEY L. DAVIS
BRYAN M. DAVIS
CHRISTOPHER M. FLETCHER
RYAN G. FORBES
BENJAMIN B. M. GARCIA
MANDY L. GARDNER
LINDSAY P. GEISELMAN
WILLIAM L. GERATY
JOSEPH T. GRIFFO
LAUREN F. HANZEL
TRACY L. HARP
JONATHAN K. HULLIHAN
MIKAEL P. JOHNSON
NICHOLAS J. KASSOTIS
DAYTON A. KRIGBAUM
ANDREA J. LEAHY
SAMANTHA F. LIPPOFF
JOCELYN E. LOFTUSWILLIAMS
DARREN E. MYERS
BYRON M. NAKAMURA
BRANDI R. ORTON
JESSICA L. PYLE
MARK T. RASMUSSEN
ALEXANDER R. SEVALD
ROBERT C. SINGER
NICHOLAS B. STAMPFLI

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

JON A. ANGLE
NICHOLAS C. BROWN
KIMBERLY M. CAUDLE
PAULSTEPHEN CHIERICO
VINCENZO J. CIARAVINO III
DAVID C. COLLINS
THOMAS J. DILL
MICHAEL L. DOBLING
JAMES R. W. GALLOWAY
SHAWN C. GORMAN
AMY J. HONEK
JONATHAN R. HORNER
TIMOTHY P. JAMES
DALONE T. JENKINS
JAMES D. JOHNCOCK
CLIFFORD L. KELSEY, JR.
ROBERT W. LEFTWICH
MATTHEW M. MATTIVI
ROBERT E. MCCHAREN
DANNY B. MCMASTER
SANDRANELL L. MOERBE
WILLIAM E. MOILES
STEVEN H. PARKS
JEFFREY D. PATTON
JOHN K. PERGERSON
JEREMY M. SCHWARTZ
RILEY W. SMITH
LAVELL B. WALSON
KEVIN E. WESTBROOK
KHALID J. WOODS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

TODD A. ANDERSON
EBENEZER ANIAGYEI
JOELLE L. ANNANDONO
JAMES L. ARMITAGE
KISHLA A. ASKINS
YESENIA ASTORGA
SHANDA F. AVENT
JEFFREY D. BATEMAN
JOSEPH A. BAUGH
DAVID G. BENNETT
NEVON R. BURNEY
MICHAEL J. BUYSKE
LANCE CALHOUN
KATHLEEN R. DAGHER
MATTHEW W. DESHAZO
SHARON K. DOERSOM
JAMES C. DUNFORD
JOSEPH M. FROMKNECHT
HEATH G. GASIER
CHERYL A. GRISWOLD
NICHOLAS P. GUZMAN
JOSHUA P. HALFPAP
KAREN B. HARMAN
SHANI K. HENRY
HANNAH L. HOOTEN
CHRISTOPHER A. JACKSON
KENNETH R. JENKINS
SANDRA P. JIMENEZ
JAMES A. LAGGER
JEREMY D. LAMB
JAKE S. LEHMAN
JESSE D. LOCKE
JAMAAL D. LOFTON
ORLANDO LOPEZ
ANDREA J. MCCOY
JENNIFER G. MCNAB
ROBERT M. NOSEK
OLUSEGUN A. OLABODE
KENNETH C. PADGETT
MELISSA K. PARKES
BENJAMIN B. PARKS
FRANK G. PERCY, JR.
COBEY B. PETE
YARON RABINOWITZ
SETH A. REINI
BERNARDINO RODRIGUEZ
IRINA ROMAN
DOMINIC J. ROMANOWSKI
DOUGLAS R. SANTILLO
MICHAEL D. SCHWARTZ
ALALEH K. SELKIRK
CHRISTOPHER R. SHARPE
PHILIP M. SHERRICK, JR.
JUDITH A. SILVA
THOMAS J. SLOCUM
CAROLYN N. SMITH
EUGENE SMITH, JR.
JAMES D. SPEITEL
ADAM C. STRONG
CHERYL D. SWINK
MICHAEL L. TAPIA
CHAD M. THOEMKE
JONE L. TILLMAN
DAVID VALENTINE III
DAVID M. VIAYRA
ANDREW J. WEISS
SHEVONNE K. WELLS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

AUSTIN G. ALDRIDGE
LINDSAY R. ANDERSON
JAMES F. BABCOCK
JACOB T. BAKER
ANJAIL F. BELTON
WARREN K. BLACKBURN
JASON E. BLANCHARD
LAMONT A. BROWN
WILLIAM C. BUFFINGTON
CHRISTOPHER S. BURT
CURTISS BUTLER
CURTIS P. CEASER
JON K. CHRISTENSEN
HYONG Y. CHU
MATTHEW C. CLUTE
JOSEPH M. COZART
JENNIFER L. CUSTARD
JASON F. DELEON
CHARLES M. DONALDSON
JEREMY J. DUKE
MATTHEW E. DUNCAN
NATHANIEL S. EDGE
DANNY L. EWING, JR.
JEFFGERARD C. FERNANDEZ
ERIC C. FOLKERS
GIOVANNI FORERO
JAMES L. FOSTER
ANDREW R. HALEY
JOSHUA R. HARDING
RICHARD P. HARTL
LINORA C. HAYES
DAVID M. HENTON
SAMUEL A. HULL
MARK C. JACKSON
BRIAN J. KENDRICK
DAVID C. KNOBEL
NOEL K. KOENIG
KONRAD R. KRUPA
SUNEET KUNDRA
KARA B. LANGFORD
HEATHER E. K. LEE
DAVID S. LEWIS
JAMES R. MARSH
SCOTT M. MCCARTHY
GREGORY T. MCCLEERY
SCOTT R. MILLIET
ALEXANDER S. MOLNAR
SEAN R. MOODY
ARTHUR C. NELSONWILLIAMS
ERIC J. NEWSOME
KURTIS A. NOACK
PAUL C. NOTARNICOLA
JAMAL M. OSMAN
WILFREDO OTEROMATOS
CARRIE L. PABEN
ROBERT W. PAUL
BRADY R. PETERS
KEVIN M. PETERS
JASON J. PFAFF
JACOB M. PRENTISS
DOMINIC M. RAIGOZA
MICHAEL P. RIGONI
MICHAEL P. SARGENT
JASON A. SHAW
CHRISTOPHER G. SMITH
FREDERICK M. STAINES
WENDELL K. STEPHENS
GARRETT D. STONE
BRENT L. SUMMERS
RYAN M. TOBIN
EDWARD E. TUCKER III
PETER L. VAPOR
NATHAN T. WOODWARD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant commander

ALWIN L. ALBERT
PAUL C. ALGRA
ART A. AMBROSIO
DAVID R. ANDRES
MICHAEL J. ANNEN
FRANK J. ARNOLD
ARNEH BABAKHANI
BRIAN T. BARLOW
ERIC V. BARTON
ANDREW M. BASNETT
LYNN L. BEAUCHAMP
ANDREW S. BERNHARDSON
KEVIN M. BERNSTEIN
ERICA L. BERRY
NIKUNJ A. BHATT
BENJAMIN A. BOGRAD
PATRICK L. BOOTHE
JOEL A. BRAMAN
JASON B. BRILL
JOSEPH V. BROWN
TAM BUI
JOHN M. BURGER
MARY C. CARONITI
ERIC T. CARROLL
CHRISTOPHER A. COCHRAN
GLEN A. COOK
CHRISTOPHER P. COSENTINO
WILLIAM A. CRONIN
JAMEY D. CROSS
DEREK J. DAVIES
CHRISTINE A. DEFOREST
THEODORE J. DEMETRIOU
JONATHAN R. DETTMER
NATHAN J. DETTORI
JILLIAN M. DORSAM
SIBYL M. DUNCAN
NICHOLAS S. DUROCHER
CICELY A. DYE
KEVIN T. ELWELL
ROBERT R. ENLOE
SHALIMAR J. ENRIGHT
SHARON C. ENUJIOKE
WILLIAM J. EPPS
CHRISTIAN E. ESQUIVEL
MATTHEW P. FEIST
HUCKELBERRY A. FINNE
GAVIN W. FORD
ADAM J. FORREST
IZHAK FRIDMAN
RYAN M. FUGATE
JAMI L. GANN
GABRIEL T. GIZAW
GALE K. GOODLOW II
DAVID L. GRIFFIN
GEORGE R. GRIMES
MATHEW R. GUGGENBILLER
JONATHAN L. HALBACH
DAVID M. HANRAHAN
TODD P. HANSEN
ROBERT S. HANSON
SARA N. HANSON
CURTIS L. HARDY
RASHEED HASSAN
LESLEY A. HAWLEY
EDWARD E. HEARN
MARA H. HEGEL
CHRISTOPHER D. HELMAN
MATTHEW D. HENRY
AMY A. HERNANDEZ
COLLEEN T. HIEBENTHAL
MAUREEN M. HIGGS
TIMOTHY J. HILL II
CURTIS A. HIMES
DUY T. HOANG
SEQUIA A. HOLLAND
TIFFANY N. HOLLAND
MANJU S. HURVITZ
DANIEL S. HWANG
WILLIAM W. IDE
CHRISTY Y. INAE
JOHANES M. ISMAWAN
CODY R. JACKSON
MICHAEL L. JACKSON
HARBRINDER S. KAHLON
SUMMANTHER A. KAVIRATNE
STEPHEN A. KECK
JOHN E. KEHOE
EAMON C. KELEHER
TAMARA L. KEMP
JOSHUA J. KUHN

COLLEEN F. LAHEY
DAVID S. LAW
MICHAEL A. LEE
MICHAEL M. LEE
TIDA K. LEE
TRACY J. LEE
COURTNEY L. LENNON
ROBERT P. LENNON
KATRINA M. LESHANSKI
LOUIS R. LEWANDOWSKI
RADHAMES E. LIZARDO
BRYAN E. LONG
DONALD J. LUCAS, JR.
VERNON E. MACKIE, JR.
CLIFFORD M. MADSEN
BRIAN J. MANNINO
GORDON T. MARKHAM
CHARLES D. MARTIN
BLAKE A. MARVIN
LAUREN H. MATTINGLY
BRENDAN J. MCCLUNEY
MELISSA M. MCCORMACK
VICTORIA S. D. MCDONALD
ANNE E. MCLENDON
BRANDI N. MILMO
LAURA M. MORGAN
ROSS A. MULLINAX
KENNETH E. NEEDHAM
LUKE S. OAKLEY
ANDREW J. OBARA
BRENDAN M. OCONNOR
KRISTINA W. OCONNOR
ROBERT J. OLDT III
JARED M. PATTON
JOSHUA R. PAUL
ASHLEY B. PENN
DAVID E. PIKE
DUSTIN M. PORTER
LINDSEY M. PRESCHER
KENNETH R. PRINCE, JR.
JACOB F. QUAIL
STEPHEN T. RACHAEL
PATRICIA A. REICHERT
DANIELLE M. ROBINS
GABRIEL A. RODRIGUEZ
KATHERINE J. ROSS
BRANDI L. SAKAI
KERMIT C. SALIVIA
PAUL M. SCHMIDT
MARGARET E. SCOTT
JONATHAN G. SEAVEY
DANIEL N. SHIPPY
VIKAS SHRIVASTAVA
ANDREA N. SIMS
MOHENISH K. SINGH
ROBERT V. SKLAR
CHARLES T. SMARK
STEPHANIE L. SMITH
JOSEPH SPINELLI
PAUL A. STICKELS
JUSTIN P. STOCKS
ERIN B. STORIE
SCOTT G. STORY
DANIEL D. TARMAN
BRYON D. THOMSON
BRENDON G. TILLMAN
DENISE R. TORBERT
VISONG TRING
DIEGO A. VICENTE
JOHN A. VIGILANTE IV
JEREMY D. WALDRAM
MARCUS A. WALTON
JACK C. WANG
CHRISTINA M. WARD
DANIEL E. WARREN
STEVEN R. WEATHERSPOON
XIN WEI
SCOTT M. WEITZEL
SHANNON M. WELTER
SARAH M. WIED
CLIFTON J. WILCOX
MARCIE S. WILDE
MATTHEW C. WILLETT
BENJAMIN C. WILLIAMS
LAWRENCE L. WILLIAMS, JR.
JUSTIN D. WILSON
KERRY E. WILSON
JIAN XU
JAMES A. YODER
KAREN G. ZEMAN
JANIE A. ZUBER
JACK M. ZUCKERMAN

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

BRODI L. FONTENOT, OF LOUISIANA, TO BE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY, VICE DANIEL M. TANGHERLINI, RESIGNED.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

LOURDES MARIA CASTRO RAMIREZ, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, VICE SANDRA BROOKS HENRIQUEZ.

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

ANDREW LAMONT EANES, OF KANSAS, TO BE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY FOR THE TERM EXPIRING JANUARY 19, 2019, VICE CAROLYN W. COLVIN, TERM EXPIRED.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MARI CARMEN APONTE, OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, TO BE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, WITH THE RANK OF AMBASSADOR.

ROBERT T. YAMATE, OF CALIFORNIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE REPUBLIC OF MADAGASCAR, AND TO SERVE CONCURRENTLY AND WITHOUT ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE UNION OF THE COMOROS.

FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MARY LUCILLE JORDAN, OF MARYLAND, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE FEDERAL MINE SAFETY AND HEALTH REVIEW COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF SIX YEARS EXPIRING AUGUST 30, 2020. (REAPPOINTMENT)

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

P. DAVID LOPEZ, OF ARIZONA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION FOR A TERM OF FOUR YEARS. (REAPPOINTMENT)

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate July 31, 2014:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

LAURA JUNOR, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE A PRINCIPAL DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JOHN FRANCIS TEFFT, OF VIRGINIA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF MINISTER–COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be brigadier general

COL. CLARENCE ERVIN

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. CHARLES L. GABLE

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. STEPHEN L. DANNER

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be major general

BRIGADIER GENERAL PATRICIA M. ANSLOW
BRIGADIER GENERAL ELIZABETH D. AUSTIN
BRIGADIER GENERAL WALTER E. FOUNTAIN
BRIGADIER GENERAL RICHARD J. GALLANT
BRIGADIER GENERAL SCOTT A. GRONEWALD
BRIGADIER GENERAL JEFFREY H. HOLMES
BRIGADIER GENERAL WALTER T. LORD
BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHNNY R. MILLER
BRIGADIER GENERAL GLEN E. MOORE
BRIGADIER GENERAL LESTER SIMPSON
BRIGADIER GENERAL REX A. SPITLER
BRIGADIER GENERAL ROY S. WEBB
BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID E. WILMOT
BRIGADIER GENERAL DAVID C. WOOD

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MARK W. PALZER

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 1211:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. NEAL G. LOIDOLT

To be brigadier general

COL. THOMAS P. BUMP
COL. JEFFREY E. IRELAND
COL. ISABELO RIVERA
COL. WALLACE N. TURNER

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be brigadier general

COL. ROBERT J. ULSES

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. TIMOTHY J. SHERIFF

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. TIMOTHY S. PAUL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. GLENN A. GODDARD

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COLONEL GREGREY C. BACON
COLONEL DARYL D. JASCHEN
COLONEL DAVID S. WERNER

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. ROBERT J. HOWELL, JR.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral

REAR ADM. (LH) KERRY M. METZ

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. GENE F. PRICE
CAPT. LINNEA J. SOMMERWEDDINGTON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

CAPT. DAWN E. CUTLER

IN THE AIR FORCE

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JONATHAN ACKLEY AND ENDING WITH AARON ALLEN WILSON, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RICHARD EDWARD ALFORD AND ENDING WITH DYLAN B. WILLIAMS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH WILLIAM J. ANNEXSTAD AND ENDING WITH DAVID J. WESTERN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

AIR FORCE NOMINATION OF ROBERT P. MCCOY, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

AIR FORCE NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL E. COGHLAN AND ENDING WITH AJAY K. OJHA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2014.

IN THE ARMY

ARMY NOMINATION OF BURTON C. GLOVER, TO BE LIEUTENANT COLONEL.

ARMY NOMINATION OF PAUL A. THOMAS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ALEKSANDR BARON AND ENDING WITH RYAN D. ZIMMERMAN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CARLO J. ALPHONSO AND ENDING WITH JORDAN E. YOKLEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

ARMY NOMINATION OF DESIREE S. DIRIGE, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATION OF NEALANJON P. DAS, TO BE MAJOR.

ARMY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH YONG K. CHO AND ENDING WITH THOMAS A. STARKOSKI, JR., WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 22, 2014.

IN THE NAVY

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JOHN I. ACTKINSON AND ENDING WITH ROBERT E. ZUBECK II, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTOPHER W. ACOR AND ENDING WITH RICHARD P. ZABAWA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MATE W. AERANDIR AND ENDING WITH JACQUELINEMAR W. WRONA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH CHRISTIAN G. ACORD AND ENDING WITH BRIAN P. WORDEN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH AARON N. AARON AND ENDING WITH CHELSEY L. ZWICKER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN F. BRESHEARS AND ENDING WITH DAVID A. ZIEMBA, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DANIEL J. BRADSHAW AND ENDING WITH ROSS W. PETERS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ARLO K. ABRAHAMSON AND ENDING WITH TIFFANI B. WALKER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JAMES C. BAILEY AND ENDING WITH AMANDA J. WELLS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH ERIC S. KINZBRUNNER AND ENDING WITH ERIC M. ZACK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JERMAINE A. BAILEY AND ENDING WITH JEREMIAH J. YOUNG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH JEMAR R. BALLESTEROS AND ENDING WITH ANNE L. ZACK, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATION OF CHRISTOPHER A. CEGIELSKI, TO BE CAPTAIN.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KEVIN C. ANTONUCCI AND ENDING WITH JOSHUA D. WEISS, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH FERDINAND D. ABRIL AND ENDING WITH ALLEN E. WILLEY, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH MICHAEL D. AMEDICK AND ENDING WITH DENNIS M. WHEELER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KERRY E. BAKER AND ENDING WITH MICHAEL D. WINN, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KENNETH R. BASFORD AND ENDING WITH JOHN P. ZALAR, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH BRIAN J. ELLIS, JR. AND ENDING WITH SYLVAINE W. WONG, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH KEVIN S. BAILEY AND ENDING WITH THEODOR A. ZAINAL, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH DAVID L. BELL, JR. AND ENDING WITH NATHAN J. WONDER, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATIONS BEGINNING WITH RUBEN D. ACOSTA AND ENDING WITH DAVID M. YOU, WHICH NOMINATIONS WERE RECEIVED BY THE SENATE AND APPEARED IN THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD ON JULY 17, 2014.

NAVY NOMINATION OF ADAM J. RAINS, TO BE COMMANDER.

N O T I C E

Incomplete record of Senate proceedings. Today's Senate proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICERS AND THE INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WITH 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE HOUSE AND RECIPIENTS OF THE HOUSE EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Ranking Member ROBERT BRADY and I rise today to congratulate and recognize the outstanding employees of the Officers (Clerk of the House, Sergeant at Arms, and Chief Administrative Officer) and the Inspector General of the U.S. House of Representatives who have reached the milestone of 25 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives, as well as the recipients of the House Employee Excellence Award.

The House's most important asset is its dedicated and exceptional employees, whose work, which is often behind the scenes, is vital in keeping the operations and services of the House running smoothly and efficiently. The employees we recognize today are acknowledged and commended for their hard work, dedication, professionalism, support of House Members and their staffs and constituents, and for their contributions day-in and day-out to the overall operations of the House. These employees have a wide range of responsibilities and skills that support the legislative process, ensure the security of the institution, maintain our technology and service infrastructure, and contribute to a more effective and efficiently operating House support structure. They have accomplished many great things in a wide range of activities, and the House of Representatives and its Members, staff, and the American public is better served because of them.

We recognize and honor the individuals named below for 25 years of dedicated service to the House. Collectively, this group has provided 325 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives:

David E. Bailey, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Cephas L. Carter, Office of the Clerk;

Antoinette P. Freeman, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Anthony T. Howard, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Carlos Leon-Campos, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Michael P. Mallon, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

William B. Plaster, Office of the Clerk;

Vincent H. Plowden, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Wallace A. Simpson, Office of the Sergeant at Arms;

Susan E. Sneden, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Jerome B. Williams, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Waverly Y. Williams, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Diane E. Wilson, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer.

We also recognize and congratulate four House employees for receiving the Employee Excellence Award. This is a merit-based award, given to one employee from each House Officer organization, and the Office of Inspector General. Selected employees exhibited outstanding overall job performance and displayed a willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty for their organization throughout the last year. We honor the individuals named below for receiving this prestigious award.

Russell H. Gore, Office of the Clerk;

Joyce L. Hamlett, Office of the Sergeant at Arms;

Christopher Jordan, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer;

Susan E. Simpson, Office of Inspector General.

On behalf of the entire House community, I extend our congratulations and once again recognize and thank these employees for their professionalism and commitment to the U.S. House of Representatives as a whole, and in particular to their respective House Officers and the Inspector General. Their long hours and hard work are invaluable, and their years of unwavering service, dedication, and commitment to the House set an example for their colleagues and other employees who will follow in their footsteps. I celebrate our honorees, and I am proud to stand before you and the nation on their behalf to recognize the importance of their public service.

CONGRATULATING DANSBY SWANSON, 2014 COLLEGE WORLD SERIES' MOST OUTSTANDING PLAYER

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Marietta native, Marietta High School Alumnus, and Vanderbilt second baseman, Dansby Swanson, on his accomplishments in the 2014 NCAA College World Series.

Swanson was awarded the College World Series' Most Outstanding Player Award and was an incredible asset in helping Vanderbilt clinch its first College World Series Championship.

Throughout the 2014 season, Swanson became one of the key players on Vanderbilt's tremendously talented roster and was key in Vandy's 3–2 victory over the University of Virginia in the final to cap off a landmark 50 win season.

Just a sophomore, Swanson batted .323 with five runs scored and two RBI in Omaha—the most impressive performance of any player in the tournament.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Georgia's 11th Congressional District, I applaud Dansby for his achievement and look forward to his future successes. I extend my enthusiastic congratulations to him on achieving the highest level of recognition possible in the NCAA College World Series.

CONGRATULATING ETHICON ON 50-YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ethicon, a member of the Johnson & Johnson family, in San Angelo, Texas on their 50th anniversary. Throughout the years, Ethicon has been an essential part of the community and has grown side-by-side with San Angelo.

Ethicon opened its doors in West Texas in 1964. During this time, Ethicon was a surgical suture manufacturing site that was critical to the Vietnam War effort. Over the past five decades, the company has expanded and modernized their production to meet the needs of today's world.

Ethicon has been a global leader in providing medical supplies for critical and life-saving procedures. Their standard of excellence is not only evident in the lives they have saved, but the families they have impacted across this nation.

The Ethicon family gathered last week to celebrate this tremendous 50-year milestone together. The smiles on the faces of their 450 employees, their families, and friends said it all. They have provided opportunities and inspiration for their people. This company is so much more than a job or a shift to its employees or this community; it is a source of pride. And I am proud to have Ethicon located in the 11th District and honored to be part of their joyous occasion.

Again, I congratulate Ethicon on reaching such a distinguished marker in their company history. I wish them many more in the great town of San Angelo, Texas.

IN HONOR OF JOHN PISTO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of a remarkable American who has spent the last half century helping to turn food into public art. John Pisto is one of the original celebrity chefs. He is part of the cutting edge group of restaurant professionals who have brought the creativity,

artisanship, art, and excitement of America's best professional kitchens to the attention of the general public. And in doing so he has helped make his hometown of Monterey, California, one of the world's finest culinary treasures.

Chef Pisto was born in Syracuse New York, on October 16, 1941. His Italian immigrant parents, Santo and Santa Pisto, soon moved to Monterey, CA where Santo worked as a tailor for the Naval Postgraduate School. After graduating from Monterey High School, Pisto began work as a line cook at a fish house on Fisherman's Wharf, adjacent to Monterey harbor. Within a couple years he had learned, saved, and bought the place. The fish house began to acquire a large local following and soon celebrities such as Clint Eastwood and Doug McClure began flocking to what was one of the few wharf restaurants that actually served fresh fish harvested from the Monterey Bay.

After years of working as a top line chef, Pisto found his calling in developing new restaurants. Pisto first established Domenico's on the Wharf in the late 80's, then followed up with the Abalonetti Seafood Trattoria, followed by Paradiso Trattoria, and finally the Whaling Station. Located in the heart of Monterey's famous Cannery Row, Pisto's Whaling Station has earned an international reputation for some of the world's best steaks and freshest seafood. Each of these creations have both boosted the Monterey Peninsula's dynamic tourism industry and added to Monterey's hometown charm for its own residents.

However, Pisto is best known as the host of "Monterey's Cookin' Pisto Style". His unique style of cooking brings simplicity to recipes thought difficult to prepare, always with a touch of humor and informality. Pisto will often take viewers on adventures to culinary exploits around the world, then return to kitchen to prepare a recipe related to the excursion. The show has been filmed in China, Tunisia, Italy, France, Thailand, Portugal, Spain, Costa Rica, and Croatia, as well as dozens of U.S. locales. Celebrity guests have also been brought onto to the show, such as the legendary Julia Child, renown chef Charlie Trotter, musicians Michael Bolton, Johnny Rivers, Sammy Hagar, racing legend Mario Andretti, and the past Secretary of Defense and personal friend, Leon Panetta.

As Pisto slows down his schedule after years of dynamic work, it is appropriate to reflect on how much he has enriched our lives. And while he may let his business involvement cool down to a low simmer, I know that Pisto will continue to enrich the community that has benefited so much from his efforts over the past 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in offering John Pisto, his wife Cheryl, son Dana, and daughters Kim and Gia our gratitude and best wishes. Buon appetito!

CELEBRATING DR. LOWELL DILLER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Dr. Lowell Diller on the occasion of his retirement from Green Diamond Resource Co. Dr. Diller's commitment and pioneering approach to scientific research and monitoring of fisheries and wildlife has been of tremendous benefit to California's North Coast and the United States.

Dr. Diller earned bachelors and masters degrees in zoology from Oregon State University before serving in the U.S. Army from 1970 to 1971, with a tour in Vietnam. He then attended the University of Idaho, where he earned a Ph.D. in zoology with a focus on herpetology.

In 1990, Dr. Diller was hired by Simpson Timber Co., now Green Diamond Resource Co. Dr. Diller developed a Habitat Conservation Plan for northern spotted owls for the company, the first for the species. The company now has the largest demographic data set within the range of the northern spotted owl. Dr. Diller was integral in developing Green Diamond's Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan which covers the company's 457,000 acres in California.

Dr. Diller brought a passion for teaching to Humboldt State University's Department of Wildlife Management, where he is an adjunct professor since 2001. He has contributed to at least 37 peer-reviewed publications and major reports. Dr. Diller is a member of the California Board of Forestry Research and Science Committee and a member of the Northern Spotted Owl Recovery Team.

Dr. Diller's career in research and conservation will leave its mark for generations to come. Please join me in expressing deep appreciation to Dr. Lowell Verne Diller for his long and impressive record of service.

HONORNG THE LIFE OF ELI SETENCICH

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Eli Setencich, who passed away on July 12, 2014, at the age of 90. Eli was a veteran of America's greatest generation who will be greatly missed by residents throughout Central Valley.

Eli was born on April 10, 1924, in Sacramento, California and later moved to Sanger, California to live with relatives upon his mother's passing. In 1941, he graduated from Sanger High School and joined the Army Air Corps. During World War II, Eli flew 142 combat missions. He flew the A–36 Apache and P–47 Thunderbolt. Eli always showed great courage and superior flying ability during his combat missions. His service, heroism, and extraordinary achievements were recognized with two Distinguished Flying Cross awards.

In 1944, upon receiving his first Distinguished Flying Cross for the combat mission he completed in Italy, Eli was promoted from First Lieutenant to Captain. In 1945, Eli received his second Distinguished Flying Cross after flying a combat mission in Germany. He exhibited great leadership and determination.

When the war ended, Eli continued his service at the 144th Fighter Wing of the California Air National Guard. Later, he attended College of the Sequoias and began his legacy in journalism. After working in the radio and television industry for a short time, he started his remarkable career at The Fresno Bee. Eli worked at The Bee for 41 years. He started out writing a weekly column, and later in his career, he was writing three columns a week. In 2002, Eli retired, and the contributions he made to the paper and the field of journalism were highly commended. Eli was a very insightful journalist, and his writing was both witty and humorous. His way with words could go unmatched.

Eli was a mentor and friend to countless individuals. His humble demeanor and ability to poke fun at himself was always refreshing. Eli will be greatly missed by his wife, Yvonne, daughter, Amy, and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor the life of Eli Setencich, an American hero and distinguished journalist. His presence will undoubtedly be missed, but the impact he made on our community will never be forgotten.

HONORING PAUL AND EMMA ESKER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paul and Emma Esker for their many contributions to healthcare, education and the arts in Madison County, Kentucky. The leadership of both these citizens has been evident and invaluable to Richmond and throughout Madison County.

In particular, I would like to recognize the Eskers' dedication to the Pattie A. Clay Regional Medical Center and its Infirmary Association, and to Baptist Health Richmond. Mr. Esker served as a member of the Pattie A. Clay Foundation Board of Directors from 2005 to 2012, and has worked at the hospital as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist since 1973.

Mrs. Esker served as the St. Mark Catholic Church representative to the Pattie A. Clay Infirmary Association and as a member of its Board of Directors from 2001 to 2012. In 2013, she joined the board of Baptist Health Foundation Richmond. She also served the community as president of the St. Mark Catholic School Board and as a director of the Richmond Area Arts Council. She is a retired Radiology Technician who was employed at Baptist Health Richmond.

The retirement of Mr. and Mrs. Esker on August 1, 2014 marks the end of decades of quiet, selfless commitment to Madison County and beyond. Their service is a role model and inspiration to many, and has made a real difference to generations.

ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BOROUGH OF MADISON, NEW JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the Borough of Madison, County of Morris, New Jersey.

The first residents of the borough of Madison were Lenape Indians with small villages located near rivers and streams. In 1715, when the first European settler, Barnabas Carter, reached what would become Madison, the Lenape had already left the area. The Presbyterian Church of South Hanover acquired a piece of land from Carter and built a meeting-house on it. This place, known as ''Bottle Hill,'' became a center for Presbyterianism.

When the Revolutionary War began, the 20 families who resided in Bottle Hill joined the Morris County militia. The group was led by Reverend Azariah Horton, a Presbyterian minister. Bottle Hill provided a direct route to and from Morristown. The town served as a camp for the largest Continental Army in the Revolutionary War during the winter of 1777. Officers took up quarters in Bottle Hill, and General George Washington was offered hospitality in homes that are still located on Ridgedale Avenue today.

Once a part of South Hanover, Bottle Hill was divided between Morris and Hanover Townships until 1806 when the village joined with Florham Park, Chatham Township, and Chatham Borough to create one Chatham Township. Bottle Hill was the name originally given to Madison, and there are two beliefs surrounding this moniker. One idea is that the name is derived from the bottle-like shape of the town's original land, which was formed by two hills. The other, more likely idea, comes from a tavern that was once located on top of a hill at the meeting of Park and Ridgedale avenues that advertised by hanging a bottle-shaped sign outside. The nickname is also used for Madison's annual ''Bottle Hill Day'' street fair. In 1834, to pay tribute to James Madison, the fourth President of the United States and father of the U.S. Constitution, Bottle Hill's name was changed to Madison. In 1889, Madison seceded from Chatham Township to create the Borough of Madison.

In the mid-1800s, Madison was nicknamed ''The Rose City'' during a time when Madison was a popular destination for wealthy families from New York City seeking fresh-air and an area on which to build their country homes. So as to ornament their estates, these families wanted fresh flowers every day. Thus, they used individual greenhouses to grow roses for themselves and, later in 1856, for the commercial market. The growth of Madison's rose production was made possible by the Morris and Essex Railroad service that began in 1937. Roses and rose shows in Madison became internationally known, and working-class immigrants from Germany, Italy, and Ireland were attracted to Madison because of jobs in the rose industry and on the estates there. The descendants of these ancestors that still reside in Madison make it the diverse municipality that it is today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating with the residents and the officials that represent the wonderful Borough of Madison on the occasion of their one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was $10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is $17,621,751,199,943.72. We've added $6,994,874,151,030.64 to our debt in 5 years. This is over $6.9 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING THE DESIGNATION OF A PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ENVOY TO THE BALKANS

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing a resolution to recommend the designation of a Presidential Special Envoy to the Balkans.

In November of 1995 the United States government spearheaded a series of peace talks in Dayton, Ohio ending more than three years of warfare and genocide plaguing the Croats of the Balkans. Ultimately, from those talks stemmed the Dayton Peace Accords, establishing the new nation-state of Bosnia-Herzegovina. However, as time has lapsed for the Dayton Peace Accords the U.S. has made no attempt to revisit the many faults in the original agreements. The time has come to lend our services in aid of the Republic of Croatia and effect positive, and lasting diplomatic change.

While the U.S. has demanded that the Bosnian people initiate these revisions themselves, we have witnessed a nation-state with great political and economic potential fall back into violent patterns. As the Representative of the 44th district of California, an area steeped in Croatian culture, I have heard firsthand the concerns arising from growing political instability in the Bosnian-Herzegovinian region. This region is integral to the future success of our interdependent international community. We have an obligation to support the democratic and free market progress that has been hard won over the last two decades.

Therefore, I call upon this 113th Congress to designate a special presidential envoy to evaluate the successes and shortcomings of the Dayton Peace Accords, and to provide tangible policy recommendations to the Republic of Croatia. It is my greatest hope that the United States can be a catalyst for change and success in the new Bosnia-Herzegovina region.

SUPPORT FOR THE WORK OF ECODISTRICTS

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to express my support for the work of EcoDistricts, a national organization founded in my district in Portland, Oregon, and which fosters innovation, community action, and sustainability at the neighborhood level.

I have spent my career working to build livable communities in my hometown of Portland and around the country. These are communities where people are safe, economically secure and healthy. The EcoDistrict model has achieved great success in achieving this goal by starting small and engaging neighbors, local businesses, and government in the process of improving communities and creating spaces where employers want to locate and families want to live.

We have seen the success of Portland's EcoDistricts, which are diverse and range from downtown near Portland State University, to the Lents neighborhood in the Southeast part of the city. This is an area that has struggled for decades with crime, air quality, transportation access, and equity issues. The engagement fostered by these districts helped approve a project to stripe bike lanes on the major arterial to Lents, a farmers market now runs every Sunday through the summer that features local immigrant communities, and volunteers are helping kids create gardens at three neighborhood schools.

The EcoDistrict model and process does more than just set goals and implement projects. It helps neighbors identify shared values and work together to make their shared spaces fit those values. I am thrilled that this model has since been expanded to other cities around the country, and look forward to continued success stories.

Thank you to the EcoDistrict team, and to the leaders involved in this initiative, for continuing this important on-the-ground work to make communities across the nation more livable.

CELEBRATING THE RUSSIAN RIVER HEALTH CENTER 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize the Russian River Health Center on the occasion of the organization's 40th Anniversary Celebration and National Health Centers Week on August 15, 2014.

For four decades, the Russian River Health Center has been recognized as an invaluable asset within the community and has continued to serve the growing and diverse needs of the people of West Sonoma County. The Center's HIV program has become a model and a leader in the integration of HIV care in a primary care setting and continues to provide care to people affected by the disease and reduce the spread of it in our community. In 2002, West

County Health Centers became a Federally Qualified Health Center ensuring ongoing funding to care for low-income and uninsured patients.

Russian River Health Center has had an incredible impact on the community it serves and will continue to provide vital health care for many years to come. Please join me in expressing hearty congratulations to the Russian River Health Center on the occasion of their fortieth anniversary.

HONORING ALLEN JACOB WEBB

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Allen Jacob Webb. Allen is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 43, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Allen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Allen has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Allen has earned the rank of Runner in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Allen has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Allen restored a grave box at Mt. Mora cemetery, the oldest operating cemetery in Saint Joseph, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Allen Jacob Webb for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CARLTON SMITH, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT RESOURCES OF FLORIDA, INC. (HERO FL), UPON RECEIVING THE SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION'S 2014 REGIONAL AND STATE OF FLORIDA SMALL BUSINESS EXPORTER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jacksonville's very own Carlton Smith, Executive Vice President of Heavy Equipment Resources of Florida, Inc. (HERO FL), upon receiving the Small Business Administration's 2014 Regional and State of Florida Small Business Exporter of the Year Award. It is an honor to represent Carlton and his thriving export company, located in the Fourth Congressional District of Florida. Small businesses, like HERO FL, are the backbone of this country and are job creators that are revitalizing our nation's economy.

HERO FL began in 2008, when Carlton, his father Leslie, and uncle George, decided to take advantage of the opportunities that the expansion of JAXPORT had to offer. Expanding on their already successful commercial landscaping business, Carlton saw an opportunity to branch out internationally, exporting machinery and other materials to construction and mining industries across the globe. And so, HERO FL was born.

HERO FL began specializing in worldwide exports of components, spare parts, and heavy machinery to mining and earthmoving industries. The company's ability to deliver hard-to-find parts quickly and efficiently to remote mining locations throughout the world has deservedly garnered a lot of attention.

In addition to the prestigious Small Business Administration award, HERO FL was recently honored with the President's "E" Award for its efforts to expand national exports. Created under President John F. Kennedy, the "E" Award recognizes people, firms or organizations that make major contributions in U.S. exports. Today, the "E" Award is the highest recognition any U.S. entity can receive for noteworthy export promotion efforts.

Due to HERO FL's success, today, 100 percent of its revenue stems from export sales and from 2010 to 2013, HERO FL's sales grew an astounding 344 percent. This is a true American success story and should serve as inspiration for all small business owners. I am proud that the First Coast can claim Carlton Smith and his prosperous company as its own.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of the House of Representatives join me in this very special congressional salute to Carlton Smith and everyone at HERO FL.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MAJOR JOSHUA S. KIRK, U.S. MARINE CORPS

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Major Joshua S. Kirk, United States Marine Corps, who recently passed away after over 10 years of service to our nation.

In 1999, Major Kirk, a native of my home state of Ohio, joined the United States Marine Corps and was commissioned in August 2000. He earned a law degree from the University of Virginia in 2004 and over the course of the next 10 years, held several positions around the world in service to his country as a Marine Corps Judge Advocate.

His assignments included Civil Law Officer and Trial Counsel at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar; Legal Assistance Officer in Charge, Senior Defense Counsel, and Chief Prosecutor at Marine Corps Base Hawaii; and Prosecutor in the Office of Military Commissions in Washington, DC. In 2006–2007, Major Kirk deployed to Iraq with the Third Marine Aircraft Wing in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate. He has earned a variety of awards for his outstanding service to our country. His personal awards include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards).

I recognize Major Kirk's honorable commitment to our country and the sacrifices he made on its behalf. He is survived by his wife of 10 years, Lieutenant Commander Erin Quay, United States Navy, Judge Advocate General Corps, and his son, Aedan Kirk. It is an honor to stand in recognition of this dedicated military family.

CANCEL AUGUST RECESS

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, once again, I am disappointed that Congress plans to adjourn this August without addressing critical issues important to the American people.

I appreciate that district work periods allow Members to visit and work on behalf of their constituents. I am fortunate to commute from my home in Montross to Washington, DC on a daily basis, so I am in my district listening to the concerns of my constituents every day.

However, too much unfinished business remains, and too many important issues must still be addressed with a limited amount of time on the calendar. Congress has not completed its work, and our constituents expect us to stay and finish the job.

I am prepared to stay in Washington until we complete the people's work. As I have asked year after year, let's clear our schedule, halt the outdated tradition of adjourning for the month of August, and stay in Washington to complete the work our constituents sent us here to do.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF COLONEL GARY P. GOLDSTONE OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. TONY CÁRDENAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of California's 29th district, I am proud to honor one of our most distinguished constituents and homegrown heroes, Colonel Gary P. Goldstone of the United States Air Force. On August 6, 2014, Colonel Goldstone is retiring, after an incredible 26 years and 19 days of active duty service.

Colonel Goldstone has served our great country with dedication and honor beginning his military career as a candidate in the United States Air Force Officer Training School. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1989. In the time since then, Colonel Goldstone's career epitomizes leadership and selfless service. He has served his country extraordinarily well as a Commander at the Squadron, Group, Wing, and Installation levels of command. During those challenging command tours he deployed into austere conditions in foreign lands to command flying operations in combat and humanitarian missions. Further, Colonel Goldstone has flown all over the world as a command pilot in a variety of aircraft in service to the United States.

Colonel Goldstone attended California State University, Northridge, and graduated in 1987. He went on to earn his commission and the coveted Air Force pilot wings of silver at

Laughlin Air Force Base Texas in the Smooth and Easy Class of 1990–07. He has nearly 4,000 flying hours (including over 630 hours of combat time) in the following aircraft: T–37, T–38, C–130E/H, EC–130H, EC–130J, KC–135R/T, C–17A, and C–21A. Colonel Goldstone's career has taken him to foreign lands and harsh living conditions and to the dynamic environment of the Chairman's Joint Staff in the Pentagon, the Headquarters Air Force Staff in the Pentagon, and the Headquarters Air Mobility Command Staff. Additionally, Colonel Goldstone has held key positions on every staff and concludes his career as Chief of the Strategic Planning Integration Division in the Directorate of Strategic Planning. He also serves as Chief of Staff at the Headquarters Air Force Total Force Task Force and the Total Force Continuum.

As testament to his exceptional service, Colonel Goldstone's military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Air Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Colonel Goldstone's wife of 25 years, Mary Goldstone, has also supported the Air Force mission, actively volunteering and holding a variety of positions primarily with spouse and family support organizations. Notably, she was instrumental in reactivating the 16th Airlift Squadron spouses group while at Charleston Air Force Base, South Carolina. Through her tireless commitment she expanded the group from approximately 30 spouses to 120 spouses by the time the Goldstones departed in June 2004. During this time she helped sponsor numerous morale-building socials, fundraisers, and welcome/farewells. These activities were vital toward promoting unity of effort and support for families, especially when active-duty members were deployed conducting combat operations.

During Colonel Goldstone's tour as the Scott Air Force Base Illinois Installation Commander, Mary shined as "The First Lady of Scott Air Force Base" by continuing her steadfast work primarily with families and spouses through groups such as Phoenix Spouses, Heartlink, and Newcomer's Orientations for spouses. She also worked closely with the Airman and Family Readiness Center to restart and revitalize various key programs.

Colonel and Mrs. Goldstone have two children, Garrett and Danielle. It is with great pride and honor that I extend my heartfelt appreciation to Colonel Gary Goldstone and his family for all of their sacrifice and service, and wish them well in all future endeavors.

Colonel Goldstone has set a truly inspiring example of dedication to the defense of freedom, service before self, and what it means to be an Officer and Gentleman.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS McNABB ON COMPLETION OF 30 YEARS AS THE NATIONAL SECRETARY OF THE ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS OF AMERICA

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas McNabb on his completion of 30 years as the National Secretary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians of America (AOH).

Thomas McNabb was born and raised in Auburn, New York, where he joined the Auburn Hibernian Division in 1955. Known as "Mr. Hibernian" around town, Tom has served his division in every capacity. He started many local Irish-American traditions such as the Friends of Ireland Annual St. Patrick's Day Luncheon; he was also the founder of Auburn's Irish Festival.

Thomas McNabb also served on the AOH New York State Board as Secretary, Treasurer, Organizer, State Director, and Vice President. Tom rose through the ranks to become the youngest AOH state President in 1975.

Tom's unwavering commitment to the AOH was recognized nationally when he was elected National Vice President in 1976 and then later became the second youngest National President in 1978.

Thomas McNabb was elected to his current position of AOH National Secretary in 1984.

During his years in National Hibernian leadership, Tom met with numerous elected officials and prominent figures to promote and support Irish causes. Notable meetings included President Jimmy Carter, Members of Congress, as well as Catholic Bishops, Cardinals and Archbishops.

In addition to Tom's great work in the United States, he has traveled to Ireland numerous times in support of the nation's causes. Tom was instrumental in the funding, building, and dedication of the Great Hunger Memorial in County Clare in 1995. This monument was the first memorial in Ireland to honor those who suffered and were lost during The Potato Famine, now renamed The Great Hunger.

On top of his distinguished and devoted work for the AOH, Tom had worked as the Safety Inspector for the City of Auburn and served as an Auburn City Council member from 1995 to 2011.

Throughout his life, Thomas McNabb has fully embodied the AOH Motto—"Friendship, Unity, and Christian Charity".

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Thomas McNabb on his completion of 30 years as the National Secretary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians of America (AOH). May he continue to be a leading force for good in an ever-changing world.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of the House the powerful effect that National Night Out has on our communities' continued unity and success. Next month, we will celebrate the event's 30th anniversary.

The annual event was started in 1984 by the National Town Watch Association in order to incite local cultural and philanthropic interests in the name of crime prevention and promoting deeper community relations. On Tuesday, August 7, 1984, 2.5 million Americans participated across 400 communities in 23 states.

Presently, through the efforts of thousands of hard-working Americans with those missions in mind, National Night Out comprises 37.8 million people across 16,124 communities in all 50 states, U.S. Territories, Canadian cities, and military bases around the world.

My district contains the City of Salinas, an agricultural hub, providing fresh produce throughout the United States. The City of Salinas struggles with crime and, as often follows, social splintering among residents—partially due to gang-related violence. But time and time again, my constituents and organizations in the community come together to support each other and to remind the community that peace is the answer. This year the City of Salinas' National Night Out has approximately 30 organizations taking part in the Community Safety Fair and Peace March. Some of the organizations include: A Time for Grieving and Healing, Second Chance, County of Monterey, Clinica De Salud del Valle de Salinas, Monterey County Rape Crisis Center, Natividad Medical Center, Partners for Peace, Peacock Acres, United Farm Workers Foundation, United Way, and Sun Street Centers that are dedicated to creating unity and peace in the community.

Mr. Speaker, National Night Out will spread the message of unity and positive energy to communities throughout the United States, including Salinas, the way Salinas has shared Salinas-grown fresh produce throughout the country. I commend all of the participants taking part in National Night Out on their contribution to the worthy goal of eliminating crime and encouraging deeper community relations.

RECOGNIZING THE 2014 MINNESOTA POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

HON. COLLIN C. PETERSON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. PETERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Eric Kilian of the Hutchinson, Minnesota Police Department, a brave law enforcement officer from the 7th Congressional District who was recently awarded the 2014 Police Officer of the Year award by the Minnesota Police and Peace Officers Association—the largest organization of professional law enforcement officers in the State.

Sgt. Kilian has served as a law enforcement officer for over 22 years and was recently recognized for his heroic actions during an occurrence that took place last October in Hutchinson. When responding to a report of a suspicious person, Sgt. Kilian was faced with a dangerous suspect likely under the influence of methamphetamines. The suspect engaged the officer in a physical altercation and attempted to disarm him and take command of his service weapon. Running out of options and thinking quickly, Sgt. Kilian discharged his weapon in the suspect's chest. The injured perpetrator attempted to escape but collapsed nearby. Sgt. Kilian then proceeded to administer first aid until paramedics arrived. The suspect ultimately survived after being transported for medical treatment. Based on Sgt. Kilian's actions, a dangerous situation was resolved, and a life was saved. Sgt. Kilian's professional response to the incident demonstrates his excellence as a law enforcement

officer and I would like to recognize his brave actions before this Chamber.

Mr. Speaker, as a long-time friend, supporter and ally of the Minnesota law enforcement community, I am proud to recognize the sacrifices our officers make in the line of duty each and every day. I, along with all my colleagues, owe a great deal of gratitude to the Americans who make this a safer country every single day. It is a great honor to represent these heroic men and women and I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Officer Kilian on receiving this recognition.

HUMAN RIGHTS VETTING: NIGERIA AND BEYOND

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Boko Haram has significantly accelerated its acts of mass murder and abduction in Nigeria, requiring a more robust and effective response from the Government of Nigeria and friends like the United States. According to a recent report by the Internal Displaced Monitoring Centre and the Norwegian Refugee Council, there are 3.3 million Nigerian Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs)—more than every other country in the world except Syria and Colombia. The UN High Commission for Refugees estimates that there are now more than 10,000 Nigerian refugees in Niger and Cameroon. According to the International Rescue Committee (IRC), due to credible fears of abduction as many as one thousand refugees a week—80% women and girls—are fleeing to the nearby country of Niger from Nigeria's Borno State alone.

Former U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria Robin Renee Sanders testified before my subcommittee on June 11th that the fight against Boko Haram will be a long war, but that Nigerian military and security forces are insufficiently trained and ill-equipped to meet the challenge of savage, relentless violence. Earlier this month, she told a Capitol Hill forum on Boko Haram that in the vacuum created by delays in training Nigerian forces, vigilante groups have been formed and that now are themselves committing human rights abuses.

According to the current State Department human rights report, Boko Haram is responsible for the most heinous human rights violations in Nigeria, but that same report tells us elements in the Nigerian armed forces and security apparatus have committed serious human rights abuses with little or no accountability.

Even in the face of serious threats to Nigerian and regional security, the U.S. Government, which has a longstanding alliance with the Federal Republic of Nigeria, has experienced obstacles in providing the security assistance necessary to help our ally address this dire emergency. Laws our Congress created to prevent our alliance with rogue military and security forces are being blamed for making our assistance more difficult to provide. But is the law the problem or rather is it how the law is being applied? Or is the U.S. not attempting to train sufficient numbers of human rights-vetted Nigerian forces? What is the targeted number of trained Nigerians? For this year—and the future—how many trainers have committed to this task?

I believe the Leahy laws are necessary components of a prudent human rights policy, and today's hearing is in large part intended to find out whether there are legitimate obstacles to their implementation.

At the outset, I would like to make clear that I have long supported human rights vetting to allow for training of those who pass muster. One example of many: as chair of the then-Subcommittee on International Operations and Human Rights, I chaired a hearing on Indonesia on May 7, 1998 featuring Pius Lustrilanang, who was tortured by members of the Indonesian military amid deep concerns that those involved may have been trained under our International Military Education and Training Program or IMET program. In like manner, I and others were concerned that U.S.-trained Indonesian troops may have been complicit in slaughtering people in East Timor.

On a fact-finding mission to Jakarta, I sought—but never received—the names of specific individuals, trained by the U.S. including members of the elite Kopassus unit, who slaughtered dissidents as the Suharto government fell.

Similar training concerns were expressed by me and others concerning the Joint Combined Exchange Training or JCET program and the Rwandan Patriotic Army during the period of time when the RPA was engaged in the killing of refugees in Zaire, now the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Moreover, in 1999, Congress passed my legislation (part of P.L. 106–113) that suspended all U.S. federal law enforcement support and exchanges with the British police force in Northern Ireland, the Royal Ulster constabulary, until new human rights training programs were implemented there and until programs were established to "vet out" any RUC officers who engaged in human rights abuses from benefiting from American training and preparation.

The "vetting" legislation worked. Exchanges and training at FBI facilities for RUC officers were suspended for more than two years until President Bush certified that the British established a system to vet and block anyone who committed or condoned human rights violations from the program.

According to the current Quadrennial Defense Review, we are in a time of increased danger from terrorist forces in foreign nations while shrinking budgets force our military and security forces to become smaller and leaner.

The QDR states that: "The Department of Defense will rebalance our counterterrorism efforts toward greater emphasis on building partnership capacity, especially in fragile states." One manifestation of that developing policy is the president's proposal to allocate $5 billion to a new Counterterrorism Partnership Fund (CTPF).

I have visited Nigeria twice in the past nine months alone and have chaired several hearings on security in Nigeria in the past two Congresses alone. Just last month, I met with U.S. and Nigerian Government officials to find out why our security assistance has been so difficult to provide when the need is so increasingly great. Is it the process or has the Administration not sought to seriously expand training?

You will notice that the Department of State did not testify at the hearing that I convened on human rights vetting earlier this month. That is partly because Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and Labor Tom Malinowski was unavailable when we invited him to testify. But it may also be partly due to the abundance of caution surrounding the discussion of difficulties experienced in implementing the Leahy laws.

When I was in Abuja last month, I asked our Embassy to provide me with their recommendations for making the Leahy vetting more effective so that we can provide the much-needed aid to the Nigerian government and end the increasing slaughter and kidnapping of innocents, such as the Chibok school girls. Despite initial assurances of cooperation, I have yet to receive the information. I understand that not everything that can be said publicly should be said. Nevertheless, these laws were created in the light of day and so should our efforts to implement them be clear and transparent to all concerned.

We refer to Leahy laws because there are actually two: one for the Department of State and one for the Department of Defense. Together, they cover material assistance, including equipment, and training. These laws require investigation of allegations of human rights violations by military and security forces, including police. These investigations, performed mostly by the Department of State, require details on not only individuals, but also military units. Failure to obtain such information as name and date and place of birth can place an investigation in limbo. National government officials may consider such information an invasion of their sovereignty, but to avoid aiding and abetting rogue elements, we must know if a perpetrator of abuse is a man from Jos or a man with the same name from Kano, for example.

If individuals or elements of a larger force are guilty of human rights violations, entire battalions or regiments can be tainted unless the guilty are identified and separated out from those forces that are innocent of such crimes. The Leahy laws allow for the re-creation of "clean" units. On the surface, it would seem that such a policy is clear and possible to implement. Unfortunately, it seems not to be so simple in practice.

Despite the fact that Sarah Sewall, Undersecretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights told the Foreign Affairs Committee on May 21st that at least half the Nigerian military and security forces are clear of allegations of human rights violations, we continue to be told that Leahy vetting is at least slowing the provision of security assistance. According to congressional testimony by Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Robert Jackson, there are an estimated 187 Nigerian military units and 173 police units that have been cleared, but very few Nigerian units have been trained or are in training today. Why?

Our Government provides approximately $15 billion in security assistance worldwide each year, involving 158 countries. Yet there are only 13 headquarters staff people handling Leahy vetting, in addition to embassy personnel. Is this a sign that these laws are not being taken seriously enough by our own government?

In the current Fiscal Year, the Department of State is receiving $2.75 million to conduct Leahy vetting, which represents only two-one-hundredths of a percent of all military aid. Is

insufficient funding for such vetting the major problem?

Of the 158 countries we provide with security assistance each year, 46 had some aid withheld in 2011. The typical percentage of global Leahy vettings that don't meet requirements is at most 1–2 percent with just under 10% suspended. In Fiscal Year 2012, according to Congressional Research Service expert Lauren Ploch "the State Department vetted 1,377 members of the Nigerian security forces—of that figure, almost 85% were cleared to receive assistance, with 15% were rejected or suspended."

In Colombia, the government rejected the requirements of the Leahy laws before changing their minds and accepting the process. Now there reportedly are more high-ranking Colombian military officers behind bars than in any country other than Argentina, and Colombia is cited as a Leahy law success. In Nigeria, there have been no disciplinary actions against Nigerian military for scorched earth assaults on populations, and few high-ranking Nigerian military officers have been held accountable for human rights violations.

We are here today to examine the questions these facts raise, and our witnesses have been asked to walk us through the process, to tell us what works and what doesn't work and to suggest ways to make this process more effective.

In more than three decades of promoting human rights adherence in Congress, I have seen far too much brutality and indiscipline among military and security forces that are charged with establishing the peace and protecting their people. The Leahy laws are intended to prevent our Government from supporting such behavior, but if these laws are not implemented properly, they cannot achieve the goals for which they were created. No law is perfect, and we must never stop trying to perfect the laws we create—especially when they are meant to be both practical and aspirational.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE YMCA OF GREATER HOUSTON AND CHILDHOOD SWIM SAFETY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the three children who die every day in our country as a result of drowning and to recognize organizations, like the YMCA, that are working to give America's children the necessary skills to prevent these tragic accidents from happening.

Drowning is the leading cause of death nationally for children aged one to four and is the second leading cause of death for children aged five to nine. For children between five and nine, the drowning rate for African American and American Indian children is three times the rate of white American children. At ages 11 and 12, the disparity between black and white children grows even worse. Regardless of race or ethnicity, lower income populations disproportionately bear the burden of drowning.

For my hometown and state, the numbers are very sobering. In the Houston metropolitan area, 22 children drowned last year. For the State of Texas, 82 children were victims of drowning in 2013 and 66 percent of all child-aged drowning victims in our state in 2012 were male.

The YMCA is one example of an organization that is changing statistics for children across the country. The YMCA is bringing swimming safety and drowning prevention programs to underserved communities throughout the U.S., including communities in Houston and Harris County. YMCAs partner with schools to bring kids to the Y for lessons and offer swimming lessons year around. I learned to swim at the M.D. Anderson YMCA in our congressional district.

I am proud that the YMCA of Greater Houston is one of 15 YMCAs across the country piloting a program to improve childhood swimming and drowning prevention. This commendable program is providing drowning prevention and water safety skills to underserved communities who would otherwise not have access to these lifesaving skills.

The YMCA of Greater Houston is one of 103 Y's providing additional scholarships to children in their communities that may not otherwise have access to swim lessons as part of a nationwide data collection project on effectiveness of skill instruction in all communities.

I would like to congratulate the YMCA of Greater Houston on serving the people of Houston and Harris County for over 100 years and on its great efforts to save the lives of all our children and I invite Members of this chamber to join them in educating parents and providing children the skills they need to swim safely and avoid harm.

REMEMBERING THE GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues of the ongoing genocide in Darfur, which began in 2003 and continues unabated. During that time more than 300,000 Darfuris have been murdered, countless numbers of women and children as young as 6 years of age have been brutally raped. Millions have been left homeless. The International Criminal Court has issued an arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar Bashir for crimes against humanity and, in July 2010, issued a warrant for his arrest on charges of genocide.

The government of Sudan, however, has yet to turn him over, and since the issuance of the warrants, the country has seen increased violence. Furthermore, the government's forceful expulsion of humanitarian aid agencies from the country has further jeopardized conditions for many more thousands of displaced and marginalized civilians. Days, weeks, months, years pass and the people of Darfur are not closer to security, a just peace, or adequate humanitarian relief. The international community must do much more to help the people of Darfur.

RECOGNIZING JUAN ESPARZA LOERA

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Juan Esparza Loera as he receives the "Service Above Self" award presented by the Fresno Latino Rotary. Juan's dedication and commitment to reporting quality news to the community is something to be honored.

Juan was born in Chihuahua, Mexico, and immigrated with his parents to the United States when he was only three and a half years old. He moved to the San Joaquin Valley in 1969, and has lived there ever since. Upon his graduation from Delano High School, Juan continued his education at Bakersfield Junior College and then went on to California State University, Fresno, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism.

Juan's career in journalism began in Bakersfield as the high school sports editor for the Bakersfield Californian. His career would then take him to Modesto, where he worked for the Modesto Bee. During his time at the Modesto Bee, Juan held multiple positions ranging from general assignment reporter to business editor. His hard work in Bakersfield and Modesto created opportunities for him in Fresno. In May 1990, Juan was hired as the Editor and Publisher for Vida en el Valle. Twenty-four years later, Juan still holds the position.

Over the years, Vida en el Valle has been recognized for national awards. In 1998, Vida en el Valle was awarded the General Excellence Award by the California Newspaper Publishers Association. It was the first time a bilingual newspaper had ever won the award. Since then, Vida en el Valle has earned more than 20 additional awards from the California Newspaper Publishers Association. In 2003, Juan was recognized by Hispanic Media 100 as one of the most influential Latino journalists in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to recognize Mr. Juan Esparza Loera. The contributions he has made to our San Joaquin Valley deserve to be commended.

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS RELATING TO H.R. 4263

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following exchange of letters between the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure relating to H.R. 4263, the Social Media Working Group Act of 2014.

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

Washington, DC, July 7, 2014.

Hon. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,

Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write concerning H.R. 4263, the Social Media Working Group

Act of 2014, as reported by the Committee on Homeland Security on June 19, 2014. There are certain provisions in the legislation that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

In order to expedite this legislation for floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action on this bill. However, this is conditional on our mutual understanding that forgoing consideration of the bill does not alter or diminish the jurisdiction of the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or to any future jurisdictional claim over the subject matters contained in the bill or similar legislation. I request you urge the Speaker to name members of the Committee to any conference committee named to consider such provisions.

Please place a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during consideration of the measure on the House Floor.

Sincerely,

BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, July 7, 2014.

Hon. BILL SHUSTER,
Chairman, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SHUSTER: Thank you for your letter regarding the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure's jurisdictional interest in H.R. 4263, the ''Social Media Working Group Act of 2014.''

I agree that the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure has a valid jurisdictional interest in emergency disaster response, and that the Committee's jurisdiction will not be adversely affected by your decision to forego consideration of H.R. 4263. As you have requested, I will support your request for an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your Committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation, should such a conference be convened.

Finally, I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the Floor. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

16TH DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL FIRE AND RESCUE AND EMS AWARDS

HON. VERN BUCHANAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. BUCHANAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize fire and rescue and EMS personnel who have provided distinguished service to the people of Florida's 16th Congressional District.

As first responders, fire departments and emergency medical service teams are summoned on short notice to serve their respective communities. Oftentimes, they arrive at scenes of great adversity and trauma, to which they reliably bring strength and composure. These brave men and women spend hundreds of hours in training so that they are prepared when they get ''the call.''

Two years ago, I established the 16th District Congressional Fire and Rescue and EMS Awards to honor officers, departments, and units for outstanding achievement.

On behalf of the people of Florida's 16th District, it is my privilege to congratulate the following winners, who were selected this year by an independent committee comprised of a cross section of current and retired fire and rescue personnel living in the district.

Dr. Steven R. Newman, a Fellow of the American College of Emergency Physicians and Medical Director for Sarasota County Emergency Medical Services, was chosen to receive the Career Service Award.

Manatee County EMS Lt. Mark Jones, Charge Paramedic Angie Hadlock, and Paramedic Renee Bergschneider; East Manatee Fire Rescue Battalion Chief Stacy Bailey, Lt. Sean Battick, Lt. Chad Gamble, and Firefighters Stephen Beecher, Steven Rickman, Doug Sprigg, and Andrew Stark; and Bayflight 2 Flight Nurse Kelly Long, Paramedic Mike Bull, and Pilot Joe Mattina were chosen to receive the Unit Citation award.

Firefighter/Paramedic Larry Gibbs of the Sarasota County Fire Department was chosen to receive the Dedication and Professionalism award.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF HARIS SULEMAN

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise with a profound sense of sadness, as I grieve with so many of my fellow Hoosiers over the loss of a young man who cared deeply for his community. Today, we remember Haris Suleman, a 17-year-old student who passed away last week in a plane crash.

For the past month, Haris had been piloting a single-engine aircraft around the world with the hope of setting a world record and raising money to help build schools in his family's native country of Pakistan. He was a determined young man, who took interest in being a pilot after years of flying with his father, Babar. Sadly, his father, who accompanied him on this trip, is still missing.

Haris was going to be a high school senior this fall and he dreamed of becoming an engineer like his father. Although he was only with us for a short time, Haris made a positive and lasting impact in his community, and his passing is a great loss for so many. May his determination to reach his goals and his commitment to help others serve as an example for all of us to follow.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our thoughts and prayers to Haris Suleman's family.

REMEMBERING FORMER REP. CALDWELL BUTLER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor my former colleague, Rep. Caldwell Butler of Roanoke, who passed away on July 29, 2014 at the age of 89.

I will always remember Caldwell as a true Virginia gentleman. Representing Virginia's Sixth District from 1972 until 1983, I had the pleasure of serving with him during my first term in Congress. I appreciated Caldwell's golden character and the lasting impact he had on this body. He was a good, decent and honorable man—qualities that we should all aspire to emulate; qualities that are especially important for those in public service.

Rep. Butler had a great sense of humor and sharp wit. As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, he demonstrated these qualities each and every day. He served his country and his district with distinction.

Prior to serving in Congress, Caldwell joined the Navy during World War II and later attended the University of Richmond and the University of Virginia School of Law. In 1962, he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates, where he served until his election to Congress.

Caldwell and his wife, June, were always a team. Sadly, June passed away just last month. Together, they raised four sons—Manley, Henry, James and Marshall—and have seven grandchildren and two step-grandchildren

I submit the following article from The Roanoke Times on Caldwell's life and accomplishments. I respectfully ask that my colleagues join me in extending our deepest condolences to his family and in honoring his great service to our country.

[From the Roanoke Times, July 29, 2014]

CALDWELL BUTLER, FORMER ROANOKE CONGRESSMAN WHO CAST KEY VOTE DURING WATERGATE, DIES

Caldwell Butler, a former congressman from Roanoke who was thrust into the national spotlight when he became one of the few Republicans to favor Richard Nixon's impeachment during the Watergate scandal, has died. He was 89.

Richard Cullen, a close family friend and former Virginia attorney general, confirmed Butler's death this morning. Cullen said he expects funeral services to be held Friday at St. John's Church in Roanoke. Butler's wife, June, died last month.

Rep. Bob Goodlatte, R–Roanoke County, who holds the 6th District seat today, remembered Butler in comments before the Judiciary Committee today. Longtime Rep. John Conyers, D–Mich., also recalled serving with Butler. Watch the comments here.

Butler was first elected to Congress representing Virginia's 6th District in 1972, running as a member of ''the Nixon team'' in a district where Nixon amassed 72 percent of the vote. But less than two years later, in a dramatic reversal, Butler voted for Nixon's impeachment.

As a freshman member of the House Judiciary Committee, Butler was thrown by circumstance into the Watergate scandal, which grew out of Nixon's cover-up of a break-in at the Democratic headquarters in 1972. Through the spring and summer of 1974, as the committee investigated the actions of the president and his advisers, Butler's role became more important.

Butler had supported Nixon's legislative efforts. And some said he owed his own congressional career to the GOP landslide sparked by Nixon.

Butler was viewed as one of the half-dozen crucial swing votes on the Judiciary Committee, though. During most of the committee hearings, he had not joined the president's attackers. But neither had he joined the defenders.

Butler and the other pivotal committee members were considered bellwethers of support for impeachment. When Butler announced, in July 1974, that he backed two impeachment charges, the president's defense withered.

THE GLOBAL CHALLENGE OF AUTISM

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the global incidence of autism is steadily increasing. About 1 in 68 children has been identified with autism spectrum disorder, or ASD, according to estimates from the Center for Disease Control's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network. ASD is reported to occur in all racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups, but is almost 5 times more common among boys (1 in 42) than among girls (1 in 189).

Studies in Asia, Europe, and North America have identified individuals with ASD with an average of about 1% of the population. The prevalence of autism in Africa is unknown, but there is no reason to believe that it is any different than other parts of the world. A new study recently found that each case of autism costs $2.4 million over a lifetime, including the expense of special education and lost productivity for their parents. Meanwhile, 85 percent of autistic adults are jobless or underemployed.

It is, therefore imperative that people with ASD are empowered to be self-sufficient so that they can not only earn money to meet their own needs, but also so they can utilize the talents they possess to contribute to society at large. A hearing that I held last week examined some innovative strategies to achieve this goal.

SAP, a global software company, is working to rectify this problem. SAP partnered with Thorkil Sonne, CEO and Founder of Specialisterne, to develop its highly successful ''Autism at Work'' program. Mr. Sonne, whose 17-year-old son Lars is autistic, realized that, while those with autism might lack the social skills recruiters are looking for, they possess many attributes high on their radar as well: intelligence and memory, the ability to see patterns and attention to detail on repetitive tasks. He reasoned that it would be phenomenal if we could use skills like we see among people with autism in software testing, data analysis, and quality control. He said that there is no reason why we should leave these people unemployed when they have so much talent and there are so many vacant jobs in the high-tech sector. SAP and Mr. Sonne provided further details of their extraordinary program at last week's hearing.

In her testimony, Theresa Hussman of Autism Society of America said, ''In school, at work and in the community, people with autism are often faced with segregation, low expectations, impoverished conditions and denial of opportunity that a society committed to civil rights should find unacceptable. Today, if you are an adult living with autism, you will likely be unemployed or vastly under-employed, living well below the poverty level, and denied access to affordable housing and so much more.''

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, Ron Suskind testified in part about success with an ''affinity'' approach, and he says, ''for every visible deficit, there is an equal and opposing strength. This population is just like the rest of us, only less so and more so. The question increasingly is not 'if' these 'more so' qualities exist, but 'where'?''

Autism used to be described as a disorder characterized by delays or abnormal functioning before the age of three years in social interaction, communication or restricted, repetitive and stereotyped patterns of behavior, interests and activities. More recently, behavioral scientists describe a range of such behavior now referred to as autism spectrum disorder, which includes a more high-functioning version known as Asperger syndrome.

It is medically possible to diagnose someone with ASD as early as 18 months or even younger, and a reliable diagnosis can be made by the age of two. However, symptoms might not present themselves until later in life. Those with some form of autism may never be diagnosed at all.

This has led to a debate over famous, productive people, often considered geniuses, who appear to have symptoms of autism, especially Asperger syndrome. In the April 30, 2003 issue of New Scientist magazine, writer Hazel Muir revealed the debate over whether geniuses Albert Einstein and Isaac Newton had Asperger syndrome.

Simon Baron Cohen, an autism expert based at Cambridge University, and Oxford University mathematician loan James speculated that Newton, the noted English physicist and mathematician, exhibited Asperger traits such as hardly speaking, forgetting to eat and giving scheduled lectures even to an empty room. Einstein, the German physicist, was said to have obsessively repeated sentences until he was seven years old and was a notoriously confusing lecturer. Both were highly productive scientists, perhaps because of the kind of focus ASD produces rather than in spite of it.

In a February 2, 2005, report on CNBC, anchor Sue Herara presented an interview with 2002 Nobel laureate Vernon L. Smith in which he spoke of the way in which his autism has allowed him to excel. ''I can switch out and go into a concentrated mode and the world is completely shut out,'' Smith is quoted as saying. ''If I'm writing something, nothing else exists.''

During the interview, Smith, who won the Nobel Prize for inventing the field of experimental economics, admitted that he is sometimes ''not there'' in social situations. He said that teaching had forced him to be more social, but it was only because he was talking about issues on which he was already focused.

I raise the issue of intelligence and functionality because we too often see people with ASD as victims who must be cared for when the focus their condition produces may allow them to be highly successful in certain endeavors. When we begin to look at people with ASD in this light, we can better see how they can be enabled to contribute to society. It just requires understanding of their potential as well as their limitations.

Many fields involving mathematics and science would allow for the intense focus exhibited by many people with ASD to be quite useful. Think also of fields of analysis—intelligence, actuary science, and other positions requiring what we commonly call ''numbers crunching.'' The ability to analyze data and see patterns most people would not recognize would be invaluable in analytical jobs.

As Nobel laureate Vernon Smith said, his disconnection from social relationships enables him to think outside the box, as it were, without concern for violating social norms. Smith found his condition to be an advantage in enabling greater creativity. In our increasingly technical world, people with ASD actually are becoming more valuable, if we can help them overcome social disconnection and allow them to find fields in which what we have thought to be their disability is actually their advantage.

We hope today's hearing can be instructive in at least initiating a change in perspective on what people with ASD can do to help themselves and to make a contribution to society as a whole. We must not continue to waste the talents of people who could make their lives and ours much better.

Finally, I'd like to thank the amazing group of individuals who testified last week who made a historic difference in the lives of those on spectrum.

As Michael Rosanoff put it in his testimony ''our mission at Autism Speaks is to change the future for all who struggle with autism spectrum disorders.'' Each of you on the expert witness panel did just that.

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3230, Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act.

Senate agreed to the motion to recede in the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 5021, Highway and Transportation Funding Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S5159–S5285

Measures Introduced: Sixty bills and seven resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2714–2773, S.J. Res. 41, S. Res. 531–535, and S. Con. Res. 42.

Pages S5216–18

Measures Reported:

S. 1771, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to adjust the Crooked River boundary, to provide water certainty for the City of Prineville, Oregon. (S. Rept. No. 113–225)

S. 1800, to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–226)

S. 1946, to amend the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 to modify the authorization of appropriations, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 113–227)

S. 1965, to amend the East Bench Irrigation District Water Contract Extension Act to permit the Secretary of the Interior to extend the contract for certain water services. (S. Rept. No. 113–228)

S. 2010, to amend the Water Conservation and Utilization Act to authorize the development of non-Federal hydropower and issuance of leases of power privileges at projects constructed pursuant to the authority of the Water Conservation and Utilization Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–229)

S. 2019, to reauthorize and update certain provisions of the Secure Water Act, with amendments. (S. Rept. No. 113–230)

H.R. 1963, to amend the Water Conservation and Utilization Act to authorize the development of non-Federal hydropower and issuance of leases of power privileges at projects constructed pursuant to the authority of the Water Conservation and Utilization Act, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–231)

S. 2741, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System. (S. Rept. No. 113–233)

S. 2250, to extend the Travel Promotion Act of 2009, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–234)

S. 231, to reauthorize the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp. (S. Rept. No. 113–235)

S. 1214, to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government. (S. Rept. No. 113–236)

S. 1486, to improve, sustain, and transform the United States Postal Service, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–237)

S. 1961, to protect surface water from contamination by chemical storage facilities, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–238)

S. 2042, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize the National Estuary Program, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 113–239)

S. 2519, to codify an existing operations center for cybersecurity, with an amendment. (S. Rept. No. 113–240)

H.R. 606, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, as the "Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building".

H.R. 1671, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the "James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office".

H.R. 2291, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office".

H.R. 3472, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13127 Broadway Street in Alden, New York, as the "Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office".

H.R. 3765, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, as the "Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building".

H.R. 4194, to provide for the elimination or modification of Federal reporting requirements, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S.Rep.No 113-232)

H.R. 4197, to amend title 5, United States Code, to extend the period of certain authority with respect to judicial review of Merit Systems Protection Board decisions relating to whistleblowers.

S. 2117, to amend title 5, United States Code, to change the default investment fund under the Thrift Savings Plan. **Pages S5215–16**

Measures Passed:

Enrollment Corrections: Senate agreed to H. Con. Res. 111, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make certain corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 3230. **Pages S5208–09**

Jason Crisp Forest Service Building: Senate passed H.R. 4360, to designate the facility of the United States Forest Service for the Grandfather Ranger District located at 109 Lawing Drive in Nebo, North Carolina, as the "Jason Crisp Forest Service Building". **Page S5312**

Autism CARES Act: Senate passed H.R. 4631, to reauthorize certain provisions of the Public Health Service Act relating to autism. **Page S5312**

Improving Trauma Care Act: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3548, to amend title XII of the Public Health Service Act to expand the definition of trauma to include thermal, electrical, chemical, radioactive, and other extrinsic agents, and the bill was then passed. **Page S5312**

William H. Gray III 30th Street Station: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4838, to redesignate the railroad station located at 2955 Market Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, commonly known as "30th Street Station", as the "William H. Gray III 30th Street Station", and the bill was then passed. **Page S5312**

Nuclear Cooperation between the United States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Senate passed S.J. Res. 36, relating to the approval and implementation of the proposed agreement for nuclear cooperation between the United States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S5312–13**

Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo: Senate agreed to S. Res. 502, concerning the suspension of exit permit issuance by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo for adopted Congolese children seeking to depart the country with their adoptive parents, after agreeing to the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S5313–14**

Warsaw Uprising 70th Anniversary: Senate agreed to S. Res. 513, honoring the 70th anniversary of the Warsaw Uprising. **Page S5314**

Condemning the Downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17: Senate agreed to S. Res. 520, condemning the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 and expressing condolences to the families of the victims, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S5314–15**

Pryor (for Murphy) Amendment No. 3779, to make a technical correction. **Page S5314**

U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit Support: Senate agreed to S. Res. 522, expressing the sense of the Senate supporting the U.S.-Africa Leaders Summit to be held in Washington, D.C. from August 4 through 6, 2014. **Page S5315**

Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp Reauthorization Act: Senate passed S. 231, to reauthorize the Multinational Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp. **Page S5315**

National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 532, designating the week beginning September 7, 2014, as "National Direct Support Professionals Recognition Week". **Page S5315**

National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 533, designating September 2014 as "National Spinal Cord Injury Awareness Month". **Page S5315**

Everett McKinley Dirksen and Marigold Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 534, designating September 6, 2014, as "Everett McKinley Dirksen and Marigold Day". **Page S5315**

Authorizing Printing: Senate agreed to S. Res. 535, to authorize the printing of a revised edition of the Senate Rules and Manual. **Page S5315**

Measures Considered:

Election Contributions and Expenditures: Senate began consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of S.J. Res. 19, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections. **Page S5197**

Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act: Senate began consideration of S. 2648, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, after agreeing to the motion to proceed, and taking action on the following amendments and motions proposed thereto: **Pages S5159–5197, S5197–S5206**

Pursuant to Section 312 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, a 306 point of order having been sustained on S. 2648, the bill was referred to the Committee on Appropriations. All of the following amendments thereto fell, and the cloture motion thereon was rendered moot: **Pages S5204-05, S5310**

Reid Amendment No. 3750, to change the enactment date. **Page S5197**

Reid Amendment No. 3751 (to Amendment No. 3750), of a perfecting nature. (By 43 yeas to 52 nays (Vote No. 251), Senate failed to table the amendment.) **Pages S5197, S5204**

Reid motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions, Reid Amendment No. 3752, to change the enactment date. **Page S5197**

Reid Amendment No. 3753 (to (the instructions) Reid Amendment No. 3752), of a perfecting nature. **Page S5197**

Reid Amendment No. 3754 (to Amendment No. 3753), of a perfecting nature. **Page S5197**

During consideration of this measure today, the Senate also took the following action: By 50 yeas to 44 nays (Vote No. 252), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, Senate rejected a motion to waive all applicable sections of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, with respect to S. 2648. Subsequently, a point of order that the bill was in violation of section 306 of the Congressional Budget Act, and that the bill contained matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Budget, was sustained. **Page S5205**

Conference Reports:

Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act: By 91 yeas to 3 nays (Vote No. 254), Senate agreed to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3230, making continuing appropriations during a Government shutdown to provide pay and allowances to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who perform inactive-duty training during such period, by the order of the Senate of Thursday, July 31, 2014, 60 Senators having voted in the affirmative. **Pages S5206–09**

During consideration of this measure today, Senate also took the following action:

By 86 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. 253), three-fifths of those Senators duly chosen and sworn, having voted in the affirmative, Senate agreed to the motion to waive all applicable sections of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, and all applicable budget resolutions, with respect to the conference report to accompany H.R. 3230, making continuing appropriations during a Government shutdown to provide pay and allowances to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces who perform inactive-duty training during such period. Subsequently, the point of order that the emergency designation provision contained in section 803(b) of the conference report to accompany H.R. 3230, was in violation of Section 403(e)(1) of the FY 2010 Budget Resolution, S. Con. Res. 13, was not sustained. **Page S5207**

House Messages:

Highway and Transportation Funding Act: Senate began consideration of the House message to H.R. 5021, to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and taking action on the following motion proposed thereto: **Page S5209**

Adopted:

By 81 yeas to 13 nays (Vote No. 255), Senate agreed to the motion to recede in the amendment of the Senate to the bill. **Page S5209**

Appointments:

State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader and the Republican Leader, pursuant to Public Law 110–298, the reappointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board: Mike Hettich of Kentucky. **Page S5315**

State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Majority Leader and the Republican Leader, pursuant to Public Law 110–298, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the State and Local Law Enforcement Congressional Badge of Bravery Board: Michael Harris of Nevada. **Page S5315**

Public Service Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: The Chair announced, on behalf of the Republican Leader, pursuant to Public Law 107–12, the appointment of the following individual to serve as a member of the Public Service Safety Officer Medal of Valor Review Board: Berl Perdue of Kentucky. **Page S5316**

Pryor Nomination—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Jill A. Pryor, of Georgia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit. **Pages S5209–11**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 58 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. 256), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S5211**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that all post-cloture time be expired, and at 5:30 p.m., on Monday September 8, 2014, Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; and that no further motions be in order to the nomination. **Page S5209**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

John Francis Tefft, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation. **Pages S5284, S5310**

Laura Junor, of Virginia, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense. **Pages S5284, S5310**

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

30 Army nominations in the rank of general.

4 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy. **Pages S5284–85, S5310–12**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Rafael J. Lopez, of Maryland, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, Department of Health and Human Services.

Carmen Amalia Corrales, of New Jersey, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation for a term expiring December 17, 2015.

Manson K. Brown, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Allison Dale Burroughs, of Massachusetts, to be United States District Judge for the District of Massachusetts.

Amit Priyavadan Mehta, of the District of Columbia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

Brodi L. Fontenot, of Louisiana, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of the Treasury.

Lourdes Maria Castro Ramirez, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

Andrew LaMont Eanes, of Kansas, to be Deputy Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2019.

Mari Carmen Aponte, of the District of Columbia, to be Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Organization of American States, with the rank of Ambassador.

Robert T. Yamate, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Madagascar, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Union of the Comoros.

Mary Lucille Jordan, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission for a term of six years expiring August 30, 2020.

P. David Lopez, of Arizona, to be General Counsel of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term of four years.

2 Air Force nominations in the rank of general.

3 Army nominations in the rank of general.

2 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Navy. **Pages S5275–84**

Messages from the House: **Pages S5213-14**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Pages S5159, S5214**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S5214, S5315**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S5214**

Executive Communications: **Pages S5214–15**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Page S5216**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S5218–21**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S5221–36**

Additional Statements **Pages S5305–10**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S5236–75**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S5275**

Record Votes: Six record votes were taken today. (Total—256) **Pages S5204–05, S5207–09, S5211**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m. and adjourned at 11:15 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Friday, August 1, 2014. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S5316.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FINANCIAL PRODUCTS FOR STUDENTS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine financial

products for students, focusing on issues and challenges, including S. 915, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to update reporting requirements for institutions of higher education and provide for more accurate and complete data on student retention, graduation, and earnings outcomes at all levels of postsecondary enrollment, S. 2460, to amend the Truth in Lending Act and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require additional disclosures and protections for students and cosigners with respect to student loans, and S. 2432, to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for the refinancing of certain Federal student loans, after receiving testimony from David A. Bergeron, Center for American Progress, Alexandria, Virginia; Christine Lindstrom, U.S. Public Interest Research Group, Boston, Massachusetts; Ken Kocer, Mount Marty College, Yankton, South Dakota; and Richard Hunt, Consumer Bankers Association, Washington, DC.

GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR BANK HOLDING COMPANIES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection concluded a hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office report on expectations of government support for bank holding companies, after receiving testimony from Lawrance L. Evans, Jr., Director, Financial Markets and Community Investment, Government Accountability Office; Deniz Anginer, Virginia Tech Pamplin Business School, Falls Church; Edward J. Kane, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts; Anat R. Admati, Stanford University Graduate School of Business, Stanford, California; and Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, Arlington, Virginia.

AVIATION MANUFACTURING

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security concluded a hearing to examine domestic challenges and global competition in aviation manufacturing, after receiving testimony from Gerald L. Dillingham, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, Government Accountability Office; Marc Allen, The Boeing Company, Chicago, Illinois; and Keith Crane, The RAND Corporation, Arlington, Virginia.

NOMINATION

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Carolyn Watts Colvin, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Mikulski, testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Finance: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Robert W. Holleyman II, of Louisiana, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, D. Nathan Sheets, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary, and Ramin Toloui, of Iowa, to be Deputy Under Secretary, both of the Department of the Treasury, Maria Cancian, of Wisconsin, to be Assistant Secretary of Health and Human Sevices for Family Support, and Cary Douglas Pugh, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 87 public bills, H.R. 5303–5389; and 11 resolutions, H.J. Res. 122; and H. Res. 699, 701–709 were introduced. **Pages H7180–85**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H7188–90**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 5078, to preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 113–568);

H. Res. 644, condemning and disapproving of the Obama administration's failure to comply with the lawful statutory requirement to notify Congress before releasing individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and expressing national security concerns over the release of five Taliban leaders and the repercussions of negotiating with terrorists, with amendments (H. Rept. 113–569); and H. Res. 700, waiving a requirement

of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules, and providing for consideration of motions to suspend the rules (H. Rept. 113–570). **Page H7180**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Hultgren to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H7131**

Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the guest chaplain, Reverend Roger Spradlin, Valley Baptist Church, Bakersfield, California. **Page H7131**

Journal: The House agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal by voice vote. **Pages H7131, H7176**

Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act: The House passed H.R. 935, to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, by a recorded vote of 267 ayes to 161 noes, Roll No. 470. Consideration of the measure began yesterday, July 30th. **Pages H7149–52**

Rejected the Capps motion to recommit the bill to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure with instructions to report the same back to the House forthwith with an amendment, by a yea-and-nay vote of 195 yeas to 233 nays, Roll No. 469. **Page H7150**

H. Res. 694, the rule providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 676) and the bill (H.R. 935), was agreed to yesterday, July 30th.

Making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014: The House began consideration of H.R. 5230, to make supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014. Further proceedings were postponed. **Pages H7153–69**

H. Res. 696, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 5230) and (H.R. 5272) and the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5021), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 220 ayes to 205 noes, Roll No. 472, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 198 nays, Roll No. 471. **Pages H7133–49, H7152–53**

Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2014: The House agreed to the Shuster motion to disagree to the Senate amendment to H.R. 5021, to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, by a yea-and-nay vote of 272 yeas to 150 nays, Roll No. 473. **Pages H7169–76**

H. Res. 696, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 5230) and (H.R. 5272) and the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5021), was agreed to by a recorded vote of 220 ayes to 205 noes, Roll No. 472, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 198 nays, Roll No. 471. **Pages H7133–49, H7152–53**

Recess: The House recessed at 2:30 p.m. and reconvened at 6:19 p.m. **Page H7177**

Selection of Majority Leader: The Chair of the Republican Conference, Representative McMorris Rodgers, notified the House officially that the Republican Members have selected Representative McCarthy (CA) as Majority Leader effective August 1, 2014. **Page H7177**

Selection of Majority Whip: The Chair of the Republican Conference, Representative McMorris Rodgers, notified the House officially that the Republican Members have selected Representative Scalise as Majority Whip effective August 1, 2014. **Page H7177**

Communication from the Speaker of the House: Read a letter from the Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the House, notifying the House that pursuant to H. Con. Res. 1, and also for purposes of such concurrent resolutions of the current Congress as may contemplate his designation of Members to act in similar circumstances, he designated Representative McCarthy (CA) to act jointly with the Majority Leader of the Senate or his designee, in the event of his death or inability, to notify the Members of the House and Senate, respectively, of any reassembly under any such concurrent resolution. In the event of the death or inability of that designee, the alternate Members of the House listed in the letter bearing this date that the Speaker placed with the Clerk are designated, in turn, for the same purposes. **Page H7177**

Clerk Designations: Read a letter from the Clerk wherein she designated Robert Reeves, Deputy Clerk, and Kirk Boyle, Legal Counsel, to sign any and all papers and do all other acts under the name of the Clerk of the House in case of her temporary absence or disability. **Page H7177**

Meeting Hour: Agreed that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 10 a.m. tomorrow, August 1st. **Page H7177**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Three yea-and-nay votes and two recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H7150, H7151–52, H7152–53, H7153, H7176. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

House Committees

PPACA IMPLEMENTATION: UPDATES FROM CMS AND GAO

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled ''PPACA Implementation: Updates from CMS and GAO''. Testimony was heard from Andy Slavitt, Principal Deputy Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; and William T. Woods, Director of Acquisition and Sourcing Management, Government Accountability Office.

PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES: OPERATING WHILE STONED

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations held a hearing entitled ''Planes, Trains and Automobiles: Operating While Stoned''. Testimony was heard from Christopher A. Hart, Acting Chairman, National Transportation Safety Board; Jeffrey P. Michael, Associate Administrator for Research and Program Development, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration; Patrice M. Kelly, Acting Director, Office of Drug and Alcohol Policy and Compliance, Department of Transportation; and Ronald Flegel, Director, Division of Workplace Programs, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration.

WAIVING A REQUIREMENT OF CLAUSE 6(a) OF RULE XIII WITH RESPECT TO CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS REPORTED FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on a resolution waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII with respect to consideration of certain resolutions reported from the Committee on Rules. The committee granted, by record vote of 9–2, a rule that waives clause 6(a) of rule XIII (requiring a two-thirds vote to consider a rule on the same day it is reported from the Rules Committee) against any resolution reported from the Rules Committee through the legislative day of September 5, 2014 relating to the ongoing humanitarian crisis on the U.S. southern border, border security, and related immigration law. In section 2, the rule provides that it shall be in order at any time through the legislative day of September 5, 2014, for the Speaker to entertain motions that the House suspend the rules for measures relating to the ongoing humanitarian crisis on the U.S. southern border, border security, and related immigration law.

TECHNOLOGY NEEDED TO SECURE AMERICA'S BORDER

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Subcommittee on Research and Technology; and Subcommittee on Oversight held a joint subcommittee hearing entitled ''Technology Needed to Secure America's Border''. Testimony was heard from David C. Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

TELEMEDICINE: A PRESCRIPTION FOR SMALL MEDICAL PRACTICES?

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Health and Technology held a hearing entitled ''Telemedicine: A Prescription for Small Medical Practices?''. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ABLE ACT OF 2013

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a markup on H.R. 647, the ''Able Act of 2013''. The bill was ordered reported, as amended.

BUSINESS MEETING

House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Full Committee held a markup on final HPSCI Investigative Report on the September 2012 Attacks in Benghazi, Libya. A portion of the meeting was closed. The report was adopted.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2014

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Friday, August 1

Senate Chamber

Program for Friday: Senate will be in a period of morning business until 2 p.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Friday, August 1

House Chamber

Program for Friday: To be announced.

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