

LONG-TERM HIGHWAY TRUST FUND REAUTHORIZATION

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

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a long-term reauthorization of the highway trust fund.

Just this week, Mayor Dumas from Attleboro, Massachusetts, came to Washington to tell me how another stopgap bill would negatively impact projects in his city.

The bridges in my home State are some of the oldest in our country. Of the over 5,000 bridges in our Commonwealth, more than half are considered deficient.

Every single day, cars, trucks, and schoolbuses cross our structurally compromised bridges nearly 10 million times. Those numbers underscore the urgency for our government to provide the critical, long-term investments in infrastructure that our constituents demand and deserve.

Each time we approve a short-term patch of the highway trust fund, we are continuing the uncertainty and doubt that prevents States and municipalities from moving forward on projects that not only create jobs but keep all of us safe.

Our refusal to even consider a lasting transportation plan is hindering our ability to maintain the infrastructure we already have, when we should be instead focused on new projects that increase our modern economy in communities across our country.

It is time to fix this problem. It is time to invest in our country. It is time to pass this bill.

TEACHER APPRECIATION MONTH

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

Ms. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, recently, South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley designated May as Teacher Appreciation Month.

As the husband of a retired teacher, I know firsthand the time, resources, support, and guidance our dedicated educators give to their students. While I regularly take the opportunity to visit schools and honor educators throughout the year, I am grateful for the opportunity to give special recognition and thanks to our hard-working educators this month.

I would especially like to honor my constituent, Daniel Oddo, from Dreher High School, who was a finalist for the South Carolina Teacher of the Year. Staff member Drew Kennedy is a Dreher graduate.

I am grateful for the Palmetto State Teachers Association, led by executive director Kathy Maness, for their tireless work on behalf of teachers across the State. The success of our teachers is amplified by the leadership of State

Superintendent of Education Molly Spearman, who is dedicated to recruiting and retaining quality teachers in the Palmetto State.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and may the President by his actions never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

FUNDING TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE

(Ms. ADAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of long-term investments in our Nation's critical transportation infrastructure.

Across this Nation, our roads and bridges are crumbling, and communities are in need of updated transit systems. Investments in critical infrastructure are necessary to ensure our roads, bridges, and transit systems are in good working condition and updated with the newest technologies to ensure our safety. Jobs hang in the balance. The safety of our constituents hang in the balance.

In North Carolina alone, there are more than 5,000 bridges in need of repair. More than 700 of those are in my district. We must make sure that critical road and infrastructure projects are not put on hold and that jobs are not placed in jeopardy.

My colleagues, I urge you to make the smart decision for our Nation and support a long-term solution to funding our transportation infrastructure.

SUPPORT PASSAGE OF FY16 NDAA

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my fellow Republicans and other Members to support the fiscal year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act.

My colleagues and I on the Armed Services Committee came together in a bipartisan fashion to pass this legislation out of committee with a vote of 60-2. That seems pretty bipartisan to me. And it should be. Our Nation's security should not be a partisan issue.

The committee had a goal of implementing some lasting reforms to ensure that our military is better prepared for the challenges that we face.

Part of facing these challenges is ensuring that our military has the very best training and weapons systems for the fight. This legislation recognizes that need by preserving the A-10, which is the best close air support aircraft, and flown out of Moody Air Force Base.

This bill also invests in the future replacement of the JSTARS, an important ISR platform that flies out of Robins Air Force Base.

It is an honor to serve as a voice for Robins and Moody in Congress, and I urge my colleagues to pass this legisla-

tion for our Nation's warfighters who bravely serve so that we may remain the land of the free.

FUTURE FARMERS, AMERICA'S FUTURE

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

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker: "Learning to do, doing to learn, earning to live, living to serve." Those 12 short words comprise the motto of the Future Farmers of America Organization, founded in 1928 by 33 students from 18 different States who came together with a shared mission to develop as the future farmers of this country.

Agriculture is the cornerstone of our economy, supporting more than 23 million jobs in our country. But it is also an industry that requires more than just skills and knowledge that might be learned in the classroom, skills that are necessary to feed our country and to connect with the changing marketplace and consumers.

FAA has succeeded in fulfilling this gap by expanding not only agricultural education in our schools but also in teaching students to be confident participants and leaders, to be honest and fair, and to show respect for others and our land's resources. These lifelong skills are vital not just for farmers but in all aspects of agriculture, whether it is marketing, management, research, communications, or engineering.

I rise today to recognize this organization and the millions of Future Farmers of America, both current and past, and express my gratitude for your dedication, leadership, and commitment to strengthening our towns.

It is that spirit and love for this country that truly represents the heart of rural America.

IRAN REVIEW ACT

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

Ms. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise with concern over the President's ongoing nuclear negotiations with Iran, and I rise in support of the legislation that the House passed yesterday, the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act.

Mr. Speaker, there is absolutely no guarantee that any final agreement negotiated by Secretary Kerry and President Obama will be a good deal. There is no guarantee this agreement will be good for the security of the United States, good for the stability of the Middle East, and good for the security of our close ally, Israel.

By passing H.R. 1191, we are empowering Congress to review the final agreement and block any bad deal negotiated by the President.

Mr. Speaker, June 30, the deadline for the negotiations, is nearing quickly. When, and if, the President is able

to arrive at a deal, I encourage my colleagues to take a strong, thorough look at all of the details. There is too much at stake in the world to get this wrong.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania). Pursuant to House Resolution 260 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 1735.

Will the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK) kindly take the chair.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 1735) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes, with Mr. WOMACK (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on Thursday, May 14, 2015, amendment No. 83 printed in House Report 114–112, offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS), had been disposed of.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 6 OFFERED BY MR. THORNBERRY OF TEXAS

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chairman, pursuant to House Resolution 260, I offer amendments en bloc.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 6 consisting of amendment Nos. 90, 91, 96, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, and 118 printed in House Report No. 114–112, offered by Mr. THORNBERRY of Texas:

AMENDMENT NO. 90 OFFERED BY MR. HILL OF ARKANSAS

Page 528, after line 2, insert the following:
SEC. 1092. BUSINESS CASE ANALYSIS OF DECISION TO MAINTAIN C130J AIRCRAFT AT KEESLER AIR FORCE BASE, MISSISSIPPI.

Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Air Force shall conduct a business case analysis of the decision to maintain 10 C-130J aircraft at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi. Such analysis shall include consideration of—

(1) any efficiencies or cost savings that would be achieved by transferring such aircraft to Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas;

(2) any effects of such decision on the operation of the air mobility command; and

(3) the short-term and long-term costs of maintaining such aircraft at Keesler Air Force Base.

AMENDMENT NO. 91 OFFERED BY MR. MEEHAN OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 528, after line 2, insert the following:
SEC. 1092. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING CYBER RESILIENCY OF NATIONAL GUARD NETWORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) National Guard personnel need to have situational awareness and reliable communications in the event of an emergency, terrorist attack, or natural or man-made disaster;

(2) in the event of such an emergency, attack, or disaster, the ability of the National Guard personnel to communicate and coordinate response is vital;

(3) current communications and networking systems for the National Guard, including commercial wireless solutions, such as mobile wireless kinetic mesh and other systems that are interoperable with the systems of civilian first responders, should provide the necessary robustness, interoperability, reliability, and resilience to extend needed situational awareness and communications to all users and under all operating conditions, including in degraded communications environments where infrastructure is damaged, destroyed, or under cyber attack or disruption; and

(4) the National Guard should be constantly seeking ways to improve and expand its communications and networking capabilities to provide for enhanced performance and resilience in the face of cyber attacks or disruptions, as well as other instances of degradation.

AMENDMENT NO. 96 OFFERED BY MR. WALBERG OF MICHIGAN

At the end of subtitle B of title XII (page 550, after line 26), add the following:

SEC. 12xx. REPORT ON ACCESS TO FINANCIAL RECORDS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF AFGHANISTAN TO AUDIT THE USE OF FUNDS FOR ASSISTANCE FOR AFGHANISTAN.

Not later than December 31, 2016, the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction shall submit to Congress a report on the extent to which the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction has adequate access to financial records of the Government of Afghanistan to audit the use of funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2016 for assistance for Afghanistan.

AMENDMENT NO. 99 OFFERED BY MR. POE OF TEXAS

Page 559, after line 11, add the following:

(H) An assessment of United States' efforts to disrupt and prevent foreign fighters traveling to Syria and Iraq and disrupt and prevent foreign fighters in Syria and Iraq traveling to the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 101 OFFERED BY MR. LAMBORN OF COLORADO

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

SEC. 1234. LIMITATION ON MILITARY-TO-MILITARY EXCHANGES AND CONTACTS WITH IRAN.

(a) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of Defense may not authorize any military-to-military exchange or contact described in subsection (b) to be conducted by the Armed Forces or Department of Defense civilians with representatives of the military or paramilitary forces (including the IRGC) of the Islamic Republic of Iran until the Secretary certifies that Iran—

(1) has ended its ballistic missile program;

(2) is no longer listed by the Secretary of State as a state sponsor of terrorism; and

(3) has recognized the Israel as a Jewish state.

(b) COVERED EXCHANGES AND CONTACTS.—Subsection (a) applies to any military-to-military exchange or contact that includes inappropriate exposure to any of the following:

(1) Force projection operations.

(2) Nuclear operations.

(3) Advanced combined-arms and joint combat operations.

(4) Advanced logistical operations.

(5) Chemical and biological defense and other capabilities related to weapons of mass destruction.

(6) Surveillance and reconnaissance operations.

(7) Joint warfighting experiments.

(8) Military space operations.

(9) Other advanced capabilities of the Armed Forces.

(10) Arms sales or military-related technology transfers.

(11) Release of classified or restricted information.

(12) Access to a Department of Defense laboratory or base.

(13) Military operations or exercises with allies and partners.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—Subsection (a) does not apply to any search-and-rescue or humanitarian operation or exercise.

(d) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary of Defense shall, without delegation, submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, not later than December 31 each year, a certification in writing as to whether or not any military-to-military exchange or contact during that calendar year was conducted in violation of subsection (a).

AMENDMENT NO. 102 OFFERED BY MRS.

WALORSKI OF INDIANA

At the end of subtitle D of title XII, add the following (and conform the table of contents accordingly):

SEC. 1234. SECURITY GUARANTEES ASSOCIATED WITH IRAN'S NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall provide the appropriate congressional committees a copy of any security agreement or commitment provided by the United States to any country in the Middle East, including the member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council, associated with Iran's nuclear weapons program.

(b) ANALYSIS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of staff shall provide the Secretary of Defense with a detailed analysis of the United States military force structure and posture, as well as the estimated costs associated with such force structure and posture, required to meet any security agreement or commitment in the Middle East, including member countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council. The Secretary shall provide such analysis, without change, along with any additional views the Secretary may offer, when the Secretary submits the materials required under subsection (a).

(c) LIMITATION ON CERTAIN EXPENDITURES.—The Secretary of Defense may not obligate or expend any funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act or otherwise made available to the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2016 for meeting any security agreements or commitments described in this section unless the Secretary certifies to the appropriate congressional committees that the Secretary has provided a copy of such agreement as required under subsection (a).

(d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee