

(1) the evacuation of hostages; and
 (2) the transportation of hostages to safe locations;

Whereas Anita Ashok Datar—

(1) resided in Takoma Park, Maryland;
 (2) was born in Pittsfield, Massachusetts; and

(3) was raised in Flanders, New Jersey;

Whereas Anita Ashok Datar was an international public health and development worker, public health expert, mother, daughter, sister, and friend;

Whereas Anita Ashok Datar served as a volunteer of the Peace Corps in Senegal from 1997 through 1999;

Whereas Anita Ashok Datar was a graduate of—

(1) Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; and

(2) Columbia University’s—

(A) Mailman School of Public Health; and

(B) School of International and Public Affairs;

Whereas Anita Ashok Datar helped found a not-for-profit organization dedicated to connecting low-income women in underserved communities to quality health services;

Whereas, of all of the accomplishments of Anita Ashok Datar, she was most proud of her son, Rohan; and

Whereas the people of the United States stand united with the family, friends, and colleagues of Anita Ashok Datar—

(1) to support the individuals touched by her life or affected by her death; and

(2) to pray for healing, understanding, and peace: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the terrorist attack in Bamako, Mali, on November 20, 2015;

(2) honors the memory of Anita Ashok Datar, the citizen of the United States that was killed in the terrorist attack on November 20, 2015, in Bamako, Mali;

(3) recognizes and honors the commitment of Anita Ashok Datar to advance international development and public health, including her work to connect low-income women to quality health services;

(4) extends heartfelt condolences and prayers to—

(A) the family, friends, and colleagues of Anita Ashok Datar, particularly her son, Rohan; and

(B) the individuals touched by the life of Anita Ashok Datar or affected by her death, including the dedicated development professionals and volunteers that continue to selflessly engage in critical humanitarian and development efforts; and

(5) pledges to continue to work to counter violent extremism, including through education and health care, in the United States and abroad.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 28—TO ESTABLISH THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES FOR THE INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT AND VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE UNITED STATES ON JANUARY 20, 2017

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 28

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMITTEE.

There is established a Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies (in this

resolution referred to as the “joint committee”) consisting of 3 Senators and 3 Members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively. The joint committee is authorized to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect and Vice President-elect of the United States on January 20, 2017.

SEC. 2. SUPPORT OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE.

The joint committee—

(1) is authorized to utilize appropriate equipment and the services of appropriate personnel of departments and agencies of the Federal Government, under arrangements between the joint committee and the heads of those departments and agencies, in connection with the inaugural proceedings and ceremonies; and

(2) may accept gifts and donations of goods and services to carry out its responsibilities.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 29—TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA AND EMANCIPATION HALL OF THE CAPITOL BY THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON INAUGURAL CEREMONIES IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROCEEDINGS AND CEREMONIES CONDUCTED FOR THE INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT AND THE VICE PRESIDENT-ELECT OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 29

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. USE OF THE ROTUNDA AND EMANCIPATION HALL OF THE CAPITOL.

The rotunda and Emancipation Hall of the United States Capitol are authorized to be used on January 20, 2017, by the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies in connection with the proceedings and ceremonies conducted for the inauguration of the President-elect and the Vice President-elect of the United States.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2945. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, to require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2946. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2947. Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2948. Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2949. Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2950. Mr. FLAKE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2951. Mr. FLAKE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2952. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. SANDERS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 607, to provide for a five-year extension of the Medicare rural community hospital demonstration program.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2945. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, to require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . . . REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The governor of each State shall be permitted to advise the Secretary of State, on a weekly basis, of the willingness of such State to accept the resettlement of a refugee in such State.

(b) ADVISE.—The Secretary of State shall provide full information to a governor of any State if the Secretary resettles a refugee in that State.

SA 2946. Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, to require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . . . REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT VETO AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The governor of each State shall be permitted to advise the Secretary of State, on a weekly basis, of the willingness of such State to accept the resettlement of a refugee in such State.

(b) VETO AUTHORITY.—The governor of any State may veto the resettlement of any refugee in that State.

SA 2947. Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, to require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2, line 14, insert “, and has provided support to any foreign terrorist organization, which may include publishing or otherwise engaging in social media to promote or otherwise support a foreign terrorist organization” before the period at the end.

Beginning on page 3, strike line 15 and all that follows through page 5, line 2, and insert the following:

SEC. 3. INADMISSIBILITY FOR USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO PROMOTE TERRORISM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 212(a)(3)(B)(i)(VII) of the Immigration and

Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(i)(VII)) is amended by inserting “, including through the use of social media” before the semicolon at the end.

(b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall issue regulations, in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code, to ensure that every covered alien who has violated section 212(a)(3)(B)(i)(VII) of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(B)(i)(VII))—

(1) does not receive an immigrant visa under section 203 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1153); and

(2) does not have his or her status adjusted to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence under section 245 of such Act (8 U.S.C. 1155).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The regulations issued under subsection (b) shall take effect on the date that is 30 days after the date on which such regulations are published in the Federal Register.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(B) the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(G) the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives;

(H) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives;

(I) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives;

(J) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

(K) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

(L) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) COVERED ALIEN.—The term “covered alien” means any alien who—

(A)(i) is applying for admission to the United States as a refugee; and

(ii) is a national or resident of Iraq or Syria;

(iii) has no known nationality and whose last habitual residence was in Iraq or in Syria; or

(iv) has been present in Iraq or in Syria at any time on or after March 1, 2011.

(B) is not a citizen of Iraq who—

(i) is or was employed by or on behalf of the United States Government in Iraq on or after March 20, 2003, for not less than 1 year; and

(ii) provided faithful and valuable service to the United States Government, which is documented in a positive recommendation or evaluation described in subsection (c), from the employer's senior supervisor in the United States Government or from a more senior person if the employee's senior supervisor cannot be located;

(C) is not the spouse or child of an alien described in subparagraph (B); and

(D) is not an infant child without living parents who is younger than 4 years of age, as certified under procedures promulgated by the Secretary of State under subsection (b).

(3) FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.—The term “foreign terrorist organization” is a foreign organization that is designated as a

foreign terrorist organization by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 219(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189(a)).

(b) CERTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall issue regulations establishing procedures for certifying that an alien is an alien child without living parents who is younger than 4 years of age, as described in subsection (a)(2)(D).

(2) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit the regulations issued under paragraph (1) to the appropriate congressional committees.

(3) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not earlier than 90 days after the submission of regulations under paragraph (2), the Secretary of State shall implement the regulations issued under paragraph (1).

(c) APPROVAL BY CHIEF OF MISSION REQUIRED.—Each recommendation or evaluation required under subsection (a)(2)(B)(ii) shall be accompanied by approval from the appropriate Chief of Mission, or his or her designee, who shall conduct a risk assessment of the alien and an independent review of records maintained by the United States Government or hiring organization or entity to confirm the alien's employment and faithful and valuable service to the United States Government before the alien is exempted from definition of covered alien under subsection (a)(2)(B).

SA 2948. Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, to require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 3. STATE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT. Section 412(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1522(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(9) Before a refugee is resettled in a State, the Secretary of State shall provide the governor of such State, or the governor's designee, with respect to the refugee—

“(A) the full, legal name;

“(B) a physical description, including biometric information;

“(C) relevant biographical information;

“(D) the country of origin; and

“(E) any prior citizenship.”.

SA 2949. Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, to require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 3. PRIORITIZING SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISAS FOR IRAQI AND AFGHAN TRANSLATORS.

In allocating the resources of the Department of State, the Secretary of State shall prioritize the issuance of special immigrant visas authorized under—

(1) section 1059 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109-163; 8 U.S.C. 1101 note);

(2) section 1244 of the Refugee Crisis in Iraq Act of 2007 (8 U.S.C. 1157 note); and

(3) section 602 of the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2009 (8 U.S.C. 1101 note).

SA 2950. Mr. FLAKE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, to require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. 3. ELIMINATION OF EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN DUAL NATIONALS FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE VISA WAIVER PROGRAM.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Equal Protection in Travel Act of 2016”.

(b) VISA WAIVER PROGRAM.—Section 217(a)(12) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187(a)(12)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking clause (ii);

(B) by striking “(C)” and all that follows through “the alien has not been present” and inserting “(C), the alien has not been present”; and

(C) by redesignating subclauses (I), (II), and (III) as clauses (i), (ii), and (iii), respectively; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “(A)(i)” and inserting “(A)”.

SA 2951. Mr. FLAKE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 4038, to require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, strike line 14 and insert the following:

(e) DELEGATION AUTHORIZED.—The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Secretary of Homeland Security may delegate their respective responsibilities for issuing the certifications required under subsections (a) and (b) to an individual or individuals with the relevant authority and expertise within their respective agency.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

SA 2952. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. SANDERS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 607, to provide for a five-year extension of the Medicare rural community hospital demonstration program; as follows:

Strike section 2 and insert the following:

SEC. 2. FIVE-YEAR EXTENSION OF THE RURAL COMMUNITY HOSPITAL DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

(a) EXTENSION.—Section 410A of the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-173; 42 U.S.C. 1395ww note), as amended by sections 3123 and 10313 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148), is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(5), by striking “5-year extension period” and inserting “10-year extension period”; and

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “FIVE-YEAR” and inserting “TEN-YEAR”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “additional 5-year” and inserting “additional 10-year”;

(C) by striking “5-year extension period” and inserting “10-year extension period” each place it appears;

(D) in paragraph (4)(B)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “each 5-year period in” after “hospital during”; and

(ii) in clause (i), by inserting “each applicable 5-year period in” after “the first day of”; and

(E) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(5) OTHER HOSPITALS IN DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—During the second 5 years of the 10-year extension period, the Secretary shall apply the provisions of paragraph (4) to rural community hospitals that are not described in paragraph (4) but are participating in the demonstration program under this section as of December 30, 2014, in a similar manner as such provisions apply to rural community hospitals described in paragraph (4).

“(6) EXPANSION OF DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM TO RURAL AREAS IN ANY STATE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, notwithstanding subsection (a)(2) or paragraph (2) of this subsection, not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, issue a solicitation for applications to select up to the maximum number of additional rural community hospitals located in any State to participate in the demonstration program under this section for the second 5 years of the 10-year extension period without exceeding the limitation under paragraph (3) of this subsection.

“(B) PRIORITY.—In determining which rural community hospitals that submitted an application pursuant to the solicitation under subparagraph (A) to select for participation in the demonstration program, the Secretary—

“(i) shall give priority to rural community hospitals located in one of the 20 States with the lowest population densities (as determined by the Secretary using the 2015 Statistical Abstract of the United States); and

“(ii) may consider—

“(I) closures of hospitals located in rural areas in the State in which the rural community hospital is located during the 5-year period immediately preceding the date of the enactment of this paragraph; and

“(II) the population density of the State in which the rural community hospital is located.”

(b) CHANGE IN TIMING FOR REPORT.—Subsection (e) of such section 410A is amended—

(1) by striking “Not later than 6 months after the completion of the demonstration program under this section” and inserting “Not later than August 1, 2018”; and

(2) by striking “such program” and inserting “the demonstration program under this section”.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet during the session of the Senate on January 28, 2016, at 10 a.m. in room SD-430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Generic Drug User Fee Amendments: Accelerating Patient Access to Generic Drugs.”

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Jamie Garden of the committee staff on (202) 224-0623.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room 328A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. VITTER. 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 January 20, 2016, at 10:30 a.m., in room, SR-253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SD-406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “The Middle East after the JCPOA.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SD-403 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “Improving the Federal Response to Challenges in Mental Health Care in America.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., to con-

duct a hearing entitled “Inside the Mind of ISIS: Understanding Its Goals and Ideology to Better Protect the Homeland.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “The Adequacy of Criminal Intent Standards in Federal Prosecutions.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 11:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION AND THE NATIONAL INTEREST

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Immigration and the National Interest be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Why is the Biometric Exit Tracking System Still Not in Place?”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 20, 2016, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 440.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the nomination.