

to S. 192, the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2015. It has been nearly ten years since Congress last reauthorized the Older Americans Act (OAA), making today's amendment and the reforms in the underlying bill long overdue.

Last year marked the 50th Anniversary of the OAA and its many social services and programs that continue to provide a critical safety net for seniors around the country. This includes supportive services, nutrition services—whether at group sites or home-delivered programs such as “meals on wheels”—family caregiver support, community service employment, and services to protect seniors from and prevent abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

In New Jersey, the Department of Human Services Division of Aging Services uses OAA funds to serve more than 500,000 individuals. From 2000 to 2010, New Jersey saw a 15 percent increase in individuals age 60 and older, representing 19 percent of the state population. By 2030, it is projected that those 60 and older will represent over 25 percent of the state population, making OAA services and programs more critical than ever.

Among many reforms, S. 192 contains provisions to reduce elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in long term facilities, improve federal collaboration with state and local agencies and service providers on the modernization of senior centers, and improve care coordination for those with multiple chronic conditions with services through health care entities such as Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs).

It reforms funding allocations to ensure that money follows the person, helping maximize the number of seniors reached by the OAA's services and programs. It permits state grant programs to begin providing support services for chronic condition self-care management and falls prevention. It also requires states to utilize a dietician in its nutrition projects and encourage the use of locally grown foods—as well as partnerships and contracts with local producers and providers—in meal programs.

The ad-hoc means of funding these programs over the last several years has made them less secure and efficient. As our population ages, it is imperative that we preserve access to these and other services that enable senior citizens to live healthy and productive lives, and give seniors the security and confidence they need when planning for their future medical care and financial security. Today's vote will protect and improve OAA's vital programs to assist and protect older Americans, allowing them to maintain their independence and quality of life during retirement.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 192, the “Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2015,” which amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA), to require the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs to collect and analyze best practices to prevent and respond to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in long-term care facilities, and to publish a report to document best practices to achieve these goals.

S. 192 also requires the administration to provide information and technical assistance to State and local agencies on aging as well as service providers.

S. 192 also mandates the development of a consumer-friendly tool to assist older individuals and their families in choosing home and community-based services, with a particular

focus on ways for consumers to assess how providers protect the health, safety, welfare, and rights of older individuals.

S. 192 directs the administration to ensure that programs authorized under the OAA include training in the prevention of abuse, neglect, and exploitation and provision of services that address elder justice and exploitation of older individuals.

S. 192 also reauthorizes appropriations for specified supportive services, congregate nutrition services, home delivered nutrition services, disease prevention, health promotion services, and family caregiver support.

Mr. Speaker, S. 192 will increase public awareness of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and remove barriers to education, prevention, investigation, and treatment of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

Mr. Speaker, it has been noted often that the moral test of government is how it treats those in the dawn of life, our children; those in the shadows of life, the sick and infirm; and those in the twilight of life, the elderly.

I urge my colleagues to support S. 192 because it makes a significant contribution to meeting our obligations to our senior citizens who have done so much to make our country great.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the House amendment to S. 192, Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2015, which passed by unanimous consent in the Senate. I commend my chairman, Mr. KLINE, and Ranking Member *Scott* for their leadership and bringing this bill to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, about one (1) in every seven (7) Americans or 14 percent of the population is considered an “Older American”—aged 65 or older. As more “baby boomers” enter retirement, it is critical for Congress to update this law as the major vehicle for the delivery of social and nutritional programs for older persons and their caregivers—and to help seniors maintain their independence and dignity.

According to a national survey of Older Americans Act participants, 91 percent indicated that the home-delivery nutrition program helped them stay in their own home. Additionally, 60 percent of participants indicated that a single home-delivered meal provided one-half or more of their total food for the day.

In my Congressional District, access to these transportation services is sometimes the only way our seniors can go to the doctor's office or to the grocery store. I am pleased that this bill also provides community service employment, adult day care, respite care, transportation services, legal assistance, long-term care and a range of programs protecting the rights of vulnerable seniors from fraud and exploitation.

For these reasons, Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to vote for the House amendment to S. 192. America's seniors deserve nothing less.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. CURBELO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 192, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COUNTERTERRORISM SCREENING AND ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2016

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4314) to require a plan to combat international travel by terrorists and foreign fighters, accelerate the transfer of certain border security systems to foreign partner governments, establish minimum international border security standards, authorize the suspension of foreign assistance to countries not making significant efforts to comply with such minimum standards, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4314

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 “Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2016”.

SEC. 2. FOREIGN PARTNER ENGAGEMENT PLAN.

(a) FINDINGS.—Consistent with the final report of the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives bipartisan “Task Force on Combating Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel”, Congress makes the following findings:

(1) It is important for the national security of the United States to assist foreign partners in closing security gaps which may allow terrorists and foreign fighters to travel internationally, avoiding detection.

(2) Building foreign partner capacity to combat terrorist travel helps extend the United States security beyond its border to mitigate threats before they reach the United States.

(3) United States Government departments and agencies have spent billions of dollars to help foreign partners improve their security against terrorist travel since the attacks of September 11, 2001, including through the provision of technical assistance, equipment, training, and other tools.

(4) The lack of a United States Governmentwide, risk-based approach increases the odds that systematic security gaps abroad may persist and that United States response efforts will not be maximized in order to close these gaps.

(5) Failure to effectively coordinate capacity-building activities also results in greater risk of overlap, waste, and unnecessary duplication between the United States and international programs.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the United States Government must ensure capacity-building assistance is coordinated both among United States Government departments and agencies as well as with foreign implementing partners, and assistance should be prioritized for the highest-risk countries for travel by terrorists and foreign fighters.

(c) PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and every two years thereafter at the time of the President's budget submission to Congress under section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, until 2022, the Secretary of State shall, in accordance with the protection of intelligence sources and methods, develop and submit to the appropriate congressional committees unclassified and classified versions of a foreign partner engagement plan which catalogues existing capacity-building initiatives abroad to combat travel by terrorists and foreign fighters and identifies areas for adjustment to align ongoing efforts with risk-based priorities.

(2) **COORDINATION.**—The plan required under paragraph (1) shall be developed in coordination with all relevant United States Government departments and agencies and in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Defense, the Attorney General, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(3) **CONTENTS.**—The plan required under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) include an assessment of all countries and whether each country is high-risk, medium-risk, or low-risk for travel by terrorists and foreign fighters based on the minimum standards described in section 4(b), as well as—

(i) an identification of the number of flights that originate from last points of departure in each country to the United States;

(ii) visa waiver program status or visa application and denial rates for each country;

(iii) recent threats, terrorist and foreign fighter travel trends, and the overall threat environment in each country; and

(iv) other criteria as determined by the Secretary of State and the Secretary of Homeland Security;

(B) detail existing United States Government programs, projects, and activities which are intended to or have the substantial effect of building the capacity of such countries to combat travel by terrorists and foreign fighters, including estimated spending levels by country where practicable; and

(C) outline a plan for prioritizing United States Government resources toward high-risk and medium-risk countries, including—

(i) identifying efforts which should be reformed, consolidated, or eliminated; and

(ii) detailing new programs, projects, or activities that are requested, being planned, or are undergoing implementation and associated costs.

SEC. 3. SHARING SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT TO OBSTRUCT TRAVEL BY TERRORISTS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS.

(a) **BORDER SECURITY AND COUNTERTERRORISM SCREENING TOOLS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subsection (d), the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State shall accelerate the provision of appropriate versions of the following systems to foreign governments:

(A) U.S. Customs and Border Protection's Automated Targeting System—Global.

(B) The Department of State's Personal Identification Secure Comparison and Evaluation System.

(2) **PRIORITIZATION.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State shall coordinate to prioritize the provision of the systems specified in paragraph (1) to countries determined to be high-risk and medium-risk in the foreign partner engagement plan required under section 2.

(b) **EQUIPMENT TRANSFER.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is authorized to provide, with or without reimbursement, excess nonlethal equipment and supplies owned by the Department of Homeland Security to a foreign government.

(2) **DETERMINATION.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized to provide equipment and supplies pursuant to paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that the provision of such equipment and supplies would—

(A) further the homeland security interests of the United States; and

(B) enhance the recipient government's capacity to—

(i) mitigate the risk or threat of terrorism, infectious disease, or natural disaster;

(ii) protect and expedite lawful trade and travel; or

(iii) enforce intellectual property rights.

(3) **LIMITATION ON TRANSFER.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security may not—

(A) provide any equipment or supplies that are designated as items on the United States Munitions List pursuant to section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778); or

(B) provide any vessel or aircraft pursuant to this subsection.

(4) **RELATED TRAINING.**—In conjunction with a provision of equipment or supplies pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security may provide such equipment-related or supplies-related training and assistance as the Secretary determines to be necessary.

(5) **MAINTENANCE OF TRANSFERRED EQUIPMENT.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security may provide for the maintenance of transferred equipment or supplies through service contracts or other means, with or without reimbursement, as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(6) **REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized to collect payment from the recipient government for the provision of training, shipping costs, supporting materials, maintenance, supplies, or other assistance in support of provided equipment or supplies under this subsection.

(7) **RECEIPTS CREDITED AS OFFSETTING COLLECTIONS.**—Notwithstanding section 3302 of title 31, United States Code, any amount collected under this subsection—

(A) shall be credited as offsetting collections, subject to appropriations, to the account that finances the activities and services for which the payment is received; and

(B) shall remain available until expended for the purpose of providing for the security interests of the homeland.

(8) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this subsection may be construed as affecting, augmenting, or diminishing the authority of the Secretary of State.

(9) **DEFINITION.**—For the purposes of this section, the term “excess nonlethal equipment and supplies” means equipment and supplies the Secretary of Homeland Security has determined is either not required for United States domestic operations, or would be more effective to homeland security if deployed for use outside of the United States.

(c) **NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 15 days before providing any systems or equipment or supplies under this section, the Secretary of Homeland Security and Secretary of State shall provide notification to the appropriate congressional committees of such provision.

(2) **CONTENTS.**—A notification required under paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The specific vulnerability that will be mitigated by the provision of any systems or equipment or supplies under this section.

(B) An explanation as to why the recipient is unable or unwilling to independently acquire such systems or equipment or supplies.

(C) An evacuation plan for any sensitive technologies in case of emergency or instability in the country to which such systems or equipment or supplies is being provided.

(D) How the United States Government will ensure that such systems or equipment or supplies are being maintained appropriately and used as intended.

(E) The total dollar value of such systems, equipment, and supplies.

(d) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The authority provided under this section shall be exercised in accordance with applicable provisions of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et

seq.), the Export Administration Regulations, or any other similar provision of law.

(2) **DEFINITION.**—In this subsection, the term “Export Administration Regulations” means—

(A) the Export Administration Regulations as maintained and amended under the authority of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and codified in subchapter C of chapter VII of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations; or

(B) any successor regulations.

SEC. 4. ACTIONS WITH RESPECT TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES THAT FAIL TO MEET MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR SERIOUS AND SUSTAINED EFFORTS TO COMBAT TERRORIST AND FOREIGN FIGHTER TRAVEL.

(a) **REPORTS TO CONGRESS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than April 30 of each year through 2021, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report with respect to the status of efforts of foreign governments to combat terrorist and foreign fighter travel. The report shall include the following:

(A) A list of those foreign countries, if any, to which the minimum standards for serious and sustained efforts to combat terrorist and foreign fighter travel as described in subsection (b) are applicable and whose governments comply with such standards.

(B) A list of those foreign countries, if any, to which the minimum standards for serious and sustained efforts to combat terrorist and foreign fighter travel as described in subsection (b) are applicable and whose governments do not yet fully comply with such standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance.

(C) A list of those foreign countries, if any, to which the minimum standards for serious and sustained efforts to combat terrorist and foreign fighter travel as described in subsection (b) are applicable and whose governments do not fully comply with such standards and are not making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance.

(D) A description for each foreign country identified in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of the areas in which the government of the foreign country does not meet the minimum standards for serious and sustained efforts to combat terrorist and foreign fighter travel as described in subsection (b).

(2) **FORM.**—The report required by paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex, if necessary.

(3) **INCLUSION IN COUNTRY REPORTS ON TERRORISM.**—To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, should incorporate the report required by paragraph (1) into the annual country reports on terrorism submitted pursuant to section 140 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1988 and 1989 (22 U.S.C. 2656f).

(b) **MINIMUM STANDARDS DESCRIBED.**—The minimum standards for serious and sustained efforts to combat terrorist and foreign fighter travel applicable to the government of a foreign country are the following:

(1) The government of the country makes meaningful efforts to identify and monitor terrorists and foreign fighters operating within the territory of the country.

(2) The government of the country regularly exchanges substantive counterterrorism information with other foreign governments, including the United States Government, through bilateral or multilateral channels and international organizations such as INTERPOL, and cooperates with

other foreign governments in the investigation and prosecution of terrorists and foreign fighters.

(3) The government of the country implements effective border controls or participates in an existing border-crossing control regime that has been determined by the United States Government to employ effective border-crossing oversight.

(4) The government of the country has controls and systems in place to prevent and report upon counterfeiting, forgery, and, fraudulent use or possession of false, stolen or lost identity papers and travel documents.

(5) The government of the country collects air passenger data and employs evidence-based traveler risk assessment and screening procedures, including collection and analysis of travel data.

(6) The government of the country appropriately screens travelers, including vetting of travelers at air, sea, and land ports of entry, against counterterrorism and other criminal databases, as appropriate.

(7) The government of the country submits information to INTERPOL databases and screens travelers against INTERPOL databases at ports of entry and exit.

(8) The government of the country has established and implemented domestic laws criminalizing material support to foreign terrorist organizations and has the ability and willingness to prosecute cases involving such material support to foreign terrorist organizations.

(9) The government of the country takes measures to prevent individuals in its territory from traveling abroad to enlist with or provide material support to foreign terrorist organizations.

(10) The government of the country takes measures to ensure a minimal level of corruption and likelihood that corruption could impact the veracity of security and intelligence reporting from the country, a minimal likelihood that such corruption could adversely affect the legitimacy of national identity papers of the country, and the country does not shelter suspects from investigation and prosecution.

(11) The government of a country is not determined to be a high-risk program country under section 217(c)(12) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187(c)(12)).

(c) **SUSPENSION OF ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the heads of other Federal agencies, as appropriate, is authorized to suspend nonhumanitarian, nontrade-related foreign assistance to any government of a foreign country if the foreign country is identified in subparagraph (C) of subsection (a)(1) in the most recent report submitted to the appropriate congressional committees under such subsection.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) **FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.**—The term “foreign terrorist organization” means an organization that is designated as a foreign terrorist organization pursuant to section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189).

(3) **NONHUMANITARIAN, NONTRADE-RELATED FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.**—The term “non-

humanitarian, nontrade-related foreign assistance” has the meaning given the term in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

SEC. 6. PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL FUNDING.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BERA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material on H.R. 4314.

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

There was no objection.

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

Let me begin by thanking Mr. ZELDIN of New York for his work on H.R. 4314, the Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act, as well as to thank the other members of the Committee on Homeland Security’s bipartisan Task Force on Combating Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel.

Under the leadership of Chairman MCCAUL and with the significant contributions of Mr. KATKO of New York and the Foreign Affairs Committee, we unanimously approved this measure in January. Mr. Speaker, the reason we did goes back to a little bit of history.

Al Qaeda planned the 9/11 attacks from Afghanistan because they had the capacity to do so—to plan an attack there on the United States. Now, ISIS controls significant territory. They control that territory in Syria, in Iraq, in Libya. As long as terrorist groups maintain these safe havens abroad, where they can work on new forms of munitions, bombing, and go through trial runs on how they carry out an attack, as a consequence, we are under a threat here on our homeland, much like the situation prior to 9/11.

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The perpetrators of the horrific attack that we all saw on that coverage out of Paris that killed 130—those killed were European nationals. Those who did those murders had trained to fight in Syria. They had traveled by train. They returned to Europe through Greece and through Turkey.

Despite the fact that many of those local attackers were known by authorities, they were still able to move across borders. They moved without detection. In some cases, they moved with those fraudulent passports from Syria.

Given the high number of foreign fighters returning home from that ISIS stronghold in Syria and from the ISIS training camps in Iraq—and, frankly, from Libya as well, we have now heard—there is a recognized and urgent

need for improved border security and information sharing between governments.

This bill is a way to get there because this threat is not just limited, by the way, to us in the United States and to Europe.

Earlier this month terrorists who had received training inside Libya were killed by Tunisian security forces during an attempted attack inside Tunisia.

So these attacks now demonstrate how easy it has become for terrorists and for foreign fighters to move across open borders.

This legislation makes several important changes to how border security is administered. It improves the tools deployed at the border. It increases the border security coordination between Allied states.

It does it in the following way: This legislation requires the Departments of State and Homeland Security to produce an annual scorecard assessing the border security efforts of countries around the world.

This is going to identify the weaknesses and areas for improvement abroad. It will also mandate a streamlining of our own efforts to assist partners overseas with their border security programs. The administration will then submit a plan to Congress for prioritizing U.S. assistance on this.

This bill requires the establishment of minimum standards for border security on the part of our Allied states. Countries that fail to meet these minimum standards can have U.S. foreign assistance suspended, cut off, employing the same incentive already in place that we use today in order to force compliance against human trafficking overseas, against those states that commit human rights violations.

Many of the Members here are familiar with how we leverage those states to force them to pass legislation and change the way in which they address these issues. We are going to deploy the same leverage here.

So this bill reflects the recommendations made by our colleagues on the Homeland Security’s bipartisan task force on combating terrorists and foreign fighter travel, which we have worked together on. The Foreign Affairs Committee has worked with the Homeland Security Committee on that.

I again thank Mr. LEE ZELDIN for his leadership and for his work to make our Nation safer against this terrorist threat.

I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, March 3, 2016.

Hon. ED ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: I am writing with respect to H.R. 4314, the “Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2016,” which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary. As a result of your having consulted with us on provisions in H.R. 4314

that fall within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, I agree to discharge our Committee from further consideration of this bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House floor for consideration.

The Judiciary Committee takes this action with our mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 4314 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and that our Committee will be appropriately consulted and involved as this bill or similar legislation moves forward so that we may address any remaining issues in our jurisdiction. Our Committee also reserves the right to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this or similar legislation, and asks that you support any such request.

I would appreciate a response to this letter confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 4314, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration of H.R. 4314.

Sincerely,

BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, March 16, 2016.

Hon. BOB GOODLATTE,
Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on H.R. 4314, the Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2016, and for agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of that bill.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on the Judiciary, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 4314 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with your Committee as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY,
Washington, DC, March 18, 2016.

Hon. ED ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROYCE: I am writing to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Homeland Security in H.R. 4314, the "Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2016." The bill contains provisions that fall within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security.

I recognize and appreciate the desire to bring this legislation before the House of Representatives in an expeditious manner, and accordingly, the Committee on Homeland Security will forego consideration of this bill. The Committee takes this action with the mutual understanding that by foregoing action at this time we do not waive any jurisdiction over subject matter contained in this or similar legislation.

This waiver is also given with the understanding that the Committee on Homeland

Security expressly reserves its authority to seek conferees on any provision within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference on this or any similar legislation, and requests your support for such a request.

I ask that a copy of this letter and your response be included in the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill on the House floor.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL T. MCCAUL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, March 18, 2016.

Hon. MICHAEL MCCAUL,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on H.R. 4314, the Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2016, and for agreeing to be discharged from further consideration of that bill.

I agree that your forgoing further action on this measure does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Homeland Security, or prejudice its jurisdictional prerogatives on this bill or similar legislation in the future. I would support your effort to seek appointment of an appropriate number of conferees to any House-Senate conference involving this legislation.

I will seek to place our letters on H.R. 4314 into the Congressional Record during floor consideration of the bill. I appreciate your cooperation regarding this legislation and look forward to continuing to work with your Committee as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I rise in support of this measure.

Let me thank Chairman ROYCE for his leadership on the Foreign Affairs Committee and, also, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN) for bringing this bill forward.

Violence in recent months has shown us that the threat of violent extremism isn't isolated to particular countries or regions. More and more we see the danger posed by terrorists and foreign fighters when they can cross borders unimpeded.

So the United States, along with our allies and partners, need to do whatever we can to stop those dangerous individuals as they cross from country to country. This bill would help us move in that direction.

Here at home, this legislation would ramp up coordination among government agencies dealing with this problem. I would call on the administration for a specific plan laying out how we are going to meet this challenge.

Around the world, it would help governments by speeding the transfer of software and technology we can use to track people entering a country, to collect biometric data, and to figure out what sort of risks they might present. It would prioritize the sharing of specific border security systems with foreign partners.

It would put a particular focus on countries where this danger is particu-

larly acute. It would establish minimum standards for international border security and makes it clear that governments that don't take this problem seriously are putting their American foreign assistance at risk. This legislation provides commonsense steps to ensure our own security and that of our allies and partners.

I again thank Mr. ZELDIN for all his hard work. I am pleased to support this bill, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ZELDIN). He is a member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. He is also the author of this bill.

Again, we appreciate the expertise he has brought in crafting this legislation as it relates to border security because of his experience, his distinguished career in the U.S. Army and, also, as an intelligence officer, a former prosecutor in the Army, and a military magistrate.

Mr. ZELDIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee as well as his great staff for all of their incredible assistance in making sure that this legislation not only came to the House floor for a vote, but came to the House floor for a vote swiftly and, fortunately, with very strong bipartisan support.

So I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, especially to Chairman ROYCE and to Chairman MCCAUL as well of the House Homeland Security Committee, for all of their efforts.

I rise today in support of my bill, the Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2016. This legislation is about protecting America's security at home and abroad.

Foreign fighter movement is a very serious challenge that has resulted in the well-recognized need for improved border security around the world and better information sharing between governments.

The horrific terror attacks in Paris that killed over 100 people showed us just how easy it is for terrorists to move undetected across borders.

This attack was largely carried out by European nationals, many of whom traveled to train and fight in Syria and then later returned to Europe through Greece and Turkey.

Although local authorities already knew some of the attackers, they were still able to move across borders without detection and, in some cases, using fraudulent passports.

It is essential that the United States work with the international community to monitor and stop the movement of terrorists abroad.

Additionally, this legislation helps us counter the spread of infectious diseases like Zika. With the recent outbreak of the mosquito-borne Zika virus which has spread at rapid rates across South America, Central America, and the Caribbean, and the number of Zika cases among travelers visiting or returning to the United States, we must take action now.

As evidenced with the Ebola outbreak in 2013, which decimated populations across Western Africa, if the proper effort is not implemented proactively, the consequences can be truly devastating.

The Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act recently passed the House Foreign Affairs Committee unanimously with bipartisan support.

This bill would establish international border security standards to close security gaps that currently exist that allow terrorists and foreign fighters to travel internationally.

These standards would be developed in coordination with all relevant U.S. Government departments and agencies in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, Attorney General, Director of National Intelligence, and Director of the FBI.

Our resources would be utilized in the most efficient way possible, with a special focus on high-risk and medium-risk countries to boost security.

A reporting system would also be established to monitor efforts of foreign governments to combat terrorism and foreign fighter travel and to suspend foreign assistance to countries not making significant efforts to comply.

Furthermore, the bill would put in place a monitoring system that would screen for infectious diseases to contain and prevent any potential outbreaks, which will help quarantine viruses by authorizing the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide the necessary equipment and supplies to mitigate the risk or threat of infectious diseases such as Zika, a disease that has caused widespread alarm as it has continued to spread across the global community.

I also thank Congressman JOHN KATKO for his assistance as well.

The Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2016 is a bipartisan measure long overdue to not only protect our homeland from terrorism, but also ensure the U.S. is always prepared to combat the spread of any infectious diseases.

I strongly encourage my colleagues in Congress to join me in this important effort to address a serious national security threat and vote today to pass the Counterterrorism Screening and Assistance Act of 2016 to keep America safe.

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

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE).

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this commonsense legislation.

Thousands of Europeans who have traveled to fight alongside ISIS and other terrorist groups throughout the world pose a serious threat to our national security.

One of the problems is making sure that those terrorists who go fight in Iraq, Syria, and other places don't go back to their home countries in Europe

undetected because, once a person gets in Europe, it is easier for Europeans to travel to the United States from Europe than it is from some other countries. Terrorists often travel through a number of countries before they get home, and some of these countries have very good border security and others not so good.

The United States has the technology to help our friends and our allies track down these bad guys. But our bureaucracy, of course, has gotten in the way of national security. This bill expedites the process, cutting through the red tape and giving our partners the tools they need to track terrorist travel throughout the world and in their countries.

Terrorist travel is not a problem we can solve by ourselves. We must stop terrorists before they show up in America. We must work with our partners overseas.

I strongly support this legislation.

And that is just the way it is.

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, again I thank the Congressman from New York, Major LEE ZELDIN, for authoring this bill.

Let me also again express my appreciation for the cooperation of Ranking Member ENGEL and to commend his work and, also, that of our colleague from California (Mr. BERA), on this legislation.

The 9/11 Commission states in their report to the Congress on recommendations: "The U.S. Government cannot meet its own obligations to the American people to prevent the entry of terrorists without a major effort to collaborate with other governments. We should do more to exchange terrorist information with trusted allies, and raise U.S. and global border security standards for travel and for border crossing over the medium and long term through extensive international cooperation."

This bill does that. It adds another component, and that is as it relates to the collateral benefit, which will come through trying to prevent infectious diseases borne by these exotic vectors, like these mosquitoes that bring the Zika virus or like Ebola.

So this bill, H.R. 4314, increases collaboration with our allies through improved information sharing, tightened border security screening methods overseas, and the Department of State and Department of Homeland Security are required to accelerate the delivery of certain border security systems and prioritizing delivery to countries deemed to be at high or medium risk for foreign fighter or terrorist travel.

□ 1700

It also establishes minimum border security standards. The Department of State and the Department of Homeland

Security are required to submit an annual report to us in Congress detailing how countries are meeting the minimum border security standards established there.

The annual report will not only assess partner country efforts over the previous 12 months, but it is also going to identify those areas that are most necessary for improvement. Countries that don't meet border security standards could have their nonhumanitarian, nontrade-related U.S. assistance suspended, cut off. Suspension of assistance is meant to ensure that countries take the necessary steps to improve their border security.

I again want to thank Mr. ZELDIN and other members of the Committee on Homeland Security's bipartisan Task Force on Combating Terrorist and Foreign Fighter Travel and all the bipartisan cosponsors for their support for this bill, which deserves our unanimous support.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4314, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROYCE. 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 motion will be postponed.

FORECLOSURE RELIEF AND EXTENSION FOR SERVICEMEMBERS ACT OF 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2393) to extend temporarily the extended period of protection for members of uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2393

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 "Foreclosure Relief and Extension for Servicemembers Act of 2015".

SEC. 2. TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF EXTENDED PERIOD OF PROTECTIONS FOR MEMBERS OF UNIFORMED SERVICES RELATING TO MORTGAGES, MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE, AND EVICTION.

Section 710(d) of the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-154; 50 U.S.C. 3953 note) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "December 31, 2015" and inserting "December 31, 2017"; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking "January 1, 2016" and inserting "January 1, 2018".