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House of Representatives

The House met at noon and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

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

WASHINGTON, DC,
July 17, 2012.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

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

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 17, 2012, the Chair would now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 1 hour and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes each, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 1:50 p.m.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

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 16, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 16, 2012 at 2:12 p.m.:

That the Senate passed with an amendment H.R. 2527.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Loving God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

Stir our spirits, O Lord, that we may praise You with full attention and be wholehearted in all the tasks You set before us this day.

We can see Your deeds unfolding in our history and in every act of justice and kindness. Bless those who have blessed us, and be close to those most in need of Your compassion and love.

Fear of You, O Lord, is the beginning of wisdom. Bless the Members of this people's House with such wisdom. As they resume the work of this assembly, guide them to grow in understanding in attaining solutions to our Nation's needs that are imbued with truth and justice.

May all that is done here this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

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.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Mr. BURGESS 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.

SEQUESTRATION DEVASTATES DEFENSE

(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 Hill newspaper published a special report a few weeks ago, bringing more attention to the very real threat of defense sequestration.

Many people are under the false impression that defense spending represents a significantly larger portion of the Federal budget than it truly does. The current budget of the Department of Defense represents 15.1 percent of the Federal budget. This chart shows

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that defense spending has declined over the last 20 years.

Sequestration represents a $1.2 trillion cut. Half of the $1.2 trillion comes from the defense budget. I do not believe that half of these cuts should come from 15.1 percent of the budget.

Additionally, sequestration will affect all areas of our national economy. It is projected that sequestration could cost 1 million American jobs and cause the unemployment rate to rise by an entire percentage point. We should pass the bill by Armed Services Committee Chairman BUCK MCKEON, which addresses the issue without tax increases.

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

Congratulations, Mary and Jerry Howard of Lexington, South Carolina, on your 50th anniversary.

ABORTION RIGHTS FOR THE WOMEN OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

(Ms. NORTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, my request to testify was summarily refused on a bill to be marked up tomorrow to deny only women in my district, the District of Columbia, the right to an abortion after 20 weeks of pregnancy as guaranteed by Roe v. Wade. So I testify for 1 minute today.

TRENT FRANKS, the chairman and sponsor of H.R. 3803 must have thought that one unfairness deserves another. The bill is of a piece with Republican attacks all year—to deny contraceptives in health insurance, and to defund Planned Parenthood.

The bill is unprincipled, or it would not apply only to the District of Columbia. Its bogus science is matched by the absence of a need. Recent figures show almost three-quarters of abortions in the District occurred under 10 weeks of pregnancy, only one past 21 weeks.

LISA JACKSON AND PRESIDENT OBAMA WAGE WAR ON ASTHMATICS

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

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, this year, a common over-the-counter emergency asthma inhaler was forced off the pharmacy shelves due to an international treaty agreement. Now, patients who suffer from asthma and who find themselves awake at 2 a.m. with unexpected attacks and who don't have access to immediate inhalers, well, they've got a problem. It used to be a problem they could solve with a quick trip down to the 24-hour pharmacy. Now they have to go to the emergency room.

Although a replacement inhaler has been before the FDA's approval board, they've taken no action. When the ban on the available over-the-counter inhaler went into effect, most people expected the replacement would be available with no disruption, but this has not been the case. Because of the FDA's intransigence, our patients have nowhere to go.

I don't know why the FDA has not acted. I've asked them. They won't tell me. There is a simple solution:

The Environmental Protection Agency has within its authority the ability to waive the ban on the over-the-counter inhaler, allowing existing stock to be sold. Yet, despite multiple letters to the EPA and to President Obama and despite questions during committee hearings, they remain unresponsive.

Why has the EPA not approved the waiver? Again, you'll have to ask them. They are not telling me.

The minuscule number of chlorofluorocarbons that exists in the over-the-counter inhaler will have negligible affects on our ozone layer, especially considering the limited supply left.

The EPA should be on the side of the patients. Lisa Jackson and President Obama need to stop this senseless war on asthmatics.

IN HONOR OF STAFF SERGEANT RICARDO SEIJA, AN AMERICAN HERO

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an American hero who is being laid to rest back home in Tampa, Florida, today. Staff Sergeant Ricardo Seija was killed on Sunday, July 8, when his armored vehicle struck an improvised explosive device. Staff Sergeant Seija was 31 years old.

Known as Ricky, Sergeant Seija was a graduate of Leto High School. He joined the Army in 2000 and was assigned to the 978th Military Police Company, 93rd Military Police Battalion, Fort Bliss, Texas.

His mother, Ignacia, said, ''Since he was a child, he wanted to defend his country. He very much loved liberty. He wanted a free country without war, without problems.''

''Ricky died like a hero, fighting for his country,'' she said, ''not just for his country but for all of us who live in America. He loved this country very much.''

He is survived by his wife, Sunny; son, Ricardo; his mother and father, Ignacia and Ricardo Seija of Tampa; and two older brothers, Jose and Eduardo.

On behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I salute Staff Sergeant Seija for his service and for his ultimate sacrifice to our great country, and I ask that all Americans recognize this remarkable patriot.

WHERE ARE THE JOBS?

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. FOXX. As the Nation sits beneath 41 straight months of unemployment above 8 percent, it remains painfully clear that the President's policies have failed and have made our economy worse. ''Painful'' is, indeed, the operative word.

As we slog through the worst unemployment crisis since the Great Depression, Americans continue to ask, ''Where are the jobs?''

More than 23 million of our fellow Americans are unemployed. Almost 500,000 net jobs have evaporated since the President's so-called ''stimulus'' was enacted, and entrepreneurship—that cornerstone of the American Dream—has reached a 17-year low. This is President Obama's record, and these facts do not lie.

House Republicans have a plan for America's job creators to help get our Nation back to work. Dozens of bipartisan bills have passed the House and are sitting on HARRY REID's doorstep. It is time he and the Democratic-controlled Senate put the American people before politics and pass these bills.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DR. ANNA SCHWARTZ

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

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Last month, the United States lost one of its most preeminent economic minds.

Anna J. Schwartz, perhaps the most pioneering economist in her generation, passed away at the age of 96. Dr. Schwartz had a considerable impact on how academics and others think about monetary policy.

She was best known for coauthoring, along with Milton Friedman, ''A Monetary History of the United States.'' The book's thesis attributed the worst depth of the Great Depression to the Federal Reserve's restricting the supply of money when it should have expanded it. Its conclusions revolutionized our understanding of that era.

''Anna did all of the work, and I got most of the recognition,'' Friedman observed, who received the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences in 1976.

I ask the House to join me in paying tribute to this most inspiring woman and in expressing both our gratitude and condolences to her family.

THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMER LIBERIAN REGIME OF CHARLES TAYLOR—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 112–124)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message

from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice to the *Federal Register* for publication stating that the national emergency and related measures dealing with the former Liberian regime of Charles Taylor are to continue in effect beyond July 22, 2012.

Although Liberia has made advances to promote democracy, and the Special Court for Sierra Leone recently convicted Charles Taylor for war crimes and crimes against humanity, the actions and policies of former Liberian President Charles Taylor and other persons, in particular their unlawful depletion of Liberian resources and their removal from Liberia and secreting of Liberian funds and property, could still challenge Liberia's efforts to strengthen its democracy and the orderly development of its political, administrative, and economic institutions and resources. These actions and policies continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to the former Liberian regime of Charles Taylor.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *July 17, 2012.*

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 12 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1700

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. WOMACK) at 5 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote incurs objection under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken later.

HAQQANI NETWORK TERRORIST DESIGNATION ACT OF 2012

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1959) to require a report on the designation of the Haqqani Network as a foreign terrorist organization and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Haqqani Network Terrorist Designation Act of 2012''.

SEC. 2. REPORT ON DESIGNATION OF THE HAQQANI NETWORK AS A FOREIGN TERRORIST ORGANIZATION.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) A report of the Congressional Research Service on relations between the United States and Pakistan states that ''[t]he terrorist network led by Jalaluddin Haqqani and his son Sirajuddin, based in the FATA, is commonly identified as the most dangerous of Afghan insurgent groups battling U.S.-led forces in eastern Afghanistan''.

(2) The report further states that, in mid-2011, the Haqqanis undertook several high-visibility attacks in Afghanistan. First, a late June assault on the Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul by 8 Haqqani gunmen and suicide bombers left 18 people dead. Then, on September 10, a truck bomb attack on a United States military base by Haqqani fighters in the Wardak province injured 77 United States troops and killed 5 Afghans. A September 13 attack on the United States Embassy compound in Kabul involved an assault that sparked a 20-hour-long gun battle and left 16 Afghans dead, 5 police officers and at least 6 children among them.

(3) The report further states that ''U.S. and Afghan officials concluded the Embassy attackers were members of the Haqqani network''.

(4) In September 22, 2011, testimony before the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral Mullen stated that ''[t]he Haqqani network, for one, acts as a veritable arm of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence agency. With ISI support, Haqqani operatives plan and conducted that [September 13] truck bomb attack, as well as the assault on our embassy. We also have credible evidence they were behind the June 28th attack on the Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul and a host of other smaller but effective operations''.

(5) In October 27, 2011, testimony before the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton stated that ''we are taking action to target the Haqqani leadership on both sides of the border. We're increasing international efforts to squeeze them operationally and financially. We are already working with the Pakistanis to target those who are behind a lot of the attacks against Afghans and Americans. And I made it very clear to the Pakistanis that the attack on our embassy was an outrage and the attack on our forward operating base that injured 77 of our soldiers was a similar outrage.''.

(6) At the same hearing, Secretary of State Clinton further stated that ''I think everyone agrees that the Haqqani Network has safe havens inside Pakistan; that those safe havens give them a place to plan and direct operations that kill Afghans and Americans.''.

(7) On November 1, 2011, the United States Government added Haji Mali Kahn to a list of specially designated global terrorists under Executive Order 13224. The Department of State described Khan as ''a Haqqani Network commander'' who has ''overseen hundreds of fighters, and has instructed his subordinates to conduct terrorist acts.'' The designation continued, ''Mali Khan has provided support and logistics to the Haqqani Network, and has been involved in the planning and execution of attacks in Afghanistan against civilians, coalition forces, and Afghan police''. According to Jason Blazakis, the chief of the Terrorist Designations Unit of the Department of State, Khan also has links to al-Qaeda.

(8) Five other top Haqqani Network leaders have been placed on the list of specially designated global terrorists under Executive Order 13224 since 2008, and three of them have been so placed in the last year. Sirajuddin Haqqani, the overall leader of the Haqqani Network as well as the leader of the Taliban's Mira shah Regional Military Shura, was designated by the Secretary of State as a terrorist in March 2008, and in March 2009, the Secretary of State put out a bounty of $5,000,000 for information leading to his capture. The other four individuals so designated are Nasiruddin Haqqani, Khalil al Rahman Haqqani, Badruddin Haqqani, and Mullah Sangeen Zadran.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the Haqqani Network meets the criteria for designation as a foreign terrorist organization as set forth in section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189); and

(2) the Secretary of State should so designate the Haqqani Network as a foreign terrorist organization under such section 219.

(c) REPORT.—

(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress—

(A) a detailed report on whether the Haqqani Network meets the criteria for designation as a foreign terrorist organization as set forth in section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189); and

(B) if the Secretary determines that the Haqqani Network does not meet the criteria set forth under such section 219, a detailed justification as to which criteria have not been met.

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

(3) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term ''appropriate committees of Congress'' means—

(A) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(d) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act may be construed to infringe upon the sovereignty of Pakistan to combat militant or terrorist groups operating inside the boundaries of Pakistan.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. GRIFFIN) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on S. 1959, as amended, currently under consideration.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I my consume.

I thank my Senate colleague, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, and chairman of the House Intelligence Committee, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, for their work on this issue.

This bill directs the Secretary of State to submit a report to Congress detailing whether the Haqqani Network meets the criteria for designation as a foreign terrorist organization according to current Federal law. If the Secretary determines that the Haqqani Network does not meet the criteria, the Secretary shall provide a detailed justification as to which criteria have not been met. The bill also provides a sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should designate the network as a foreign terrorist organization.

The Haqqani Network is an insurgent group fighting against U.S.-led NATO forces and the Government of Afghanistan. Maulvi Jalaluddin Haqqani and his son lead the network, which is now based in Pakistan but operates on both sides of the Afghanistan-Pakistan border.

For about 2 years, the Pakistani Government has sought to facilitate a compromise between the Haqqani Network and the Government of Afghanistan. However, the network has close links with al Qaeda and is believed to provide al Qaeda operatives with safe haven in Haqqani-controlled areas. The Pakistani Government is believed to be the only entity with the influence to bring the Haqqani Network to the negotiating table.

The Obama administration has been considering formally designating the Haqqani Network as a foreign terrorist organization under U.S. law, but has yet to act. Seven Haqqani leaders have been under U.S. sanctions since 2008; and in 2011, Secretary Clinton designated operational commander Badruddin Haqqani under Executive Order 13224, thereby blocking movement of his assets, but not those of the umbrella Haqqani Network.

Since 2008, several attacks have been linked or attributed to the Haqqani Network. In addition to kidnappings of journalists and bombings of hotels and embassies, the Haqqani Network is blamed for the attacks on the U.S. Embassy and nearby NATO bases in Kabul in September 2011. U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker blamed the Haqqani Network for the 19-hour Kabul attack which killed four police officers, three coalition soldiers, and four civilians. Two dozen more soldiers and civilians were injured.

The Obama administration insists on negotiating with the Haqqani Network despite unsuccessful attempts in the past. Secretary Clinton has indicated that these negotiations may be necessary again in order to establish sustainable peace in Afghanistan. However, the Haqqani Network has been permitted to evade designation as a foreign terrorist organization. Congress' frustration with the Obama administration's overdue review of the Haqqani Network is clearly evidenced by this legislation.

According to U.S. military commanders, the Haqqani Network is highly resilient and is one of the biggest threats to the U.S.-led NATO forces and the Afghan Government in the current war in Afghanistan. This straightforward legislation simply directs the Secretary of State to analyze whether the Haqqani Network meets the standards for designation as a foreign terrorist organization under Federal law and report those findings back to Congress. It also expresses the sense of Congress that the Haqqani Network should be designated as a foreign terrorist network. The bill does not, however, require that the President designate the Haqqani Network as a foreign terrorist organization. This is a carefully limited bill, and, as I noted earlier, similar legislation was passed by the Senate without opposition.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan, bicameral legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, July 16, 2012.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing concerning S. 1959, the "Haqqani Network Terrorist Designation Act of 2012," which is scheduled to be considered by the House this week.

As you know, pursuant to House Rule X, the Committee on Foreign Affairs maintains jurisdiction over matters concerning foreign relations, the U.S. diplomatic service, and the protection of Americans abroad. The Office of the Parliamentarian has indicated that S. 1959, which concerns the Secretary of State's designation of the Pakistan-based Haqqani Network as a Foreign Terrorist Organization under U.S. law, implicates Foreign Affairs jurisdiction.

In order to expedite Floor consideration of this bill, the Foreign Affairs Committee will forego consideration of this measure. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees, or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to S. 1959, and ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration of the bill.

Sincerely,

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, July 16, 2012.

Hon. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN ROS-LEHTINEN: Thank you for your letter of even date herewith regarding S. 1959, the "Haqqani Network Terrorist Designation Act of 2012," which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary on December 19, 2011.

It is my understanding that the Committee on Foreign Affairs would receive a sequential referral on S. 1959 if it were to seek one. I am, therefore, most appreciative of your decision to forego consideration of the bill so that it may move expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you are waiving formal consideration of the bill, the Committee on Foreign Affairs is in no way waiving its jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in the bill. In addition, if a conference is necessary on this legislation, I will support any request that your committee be represented therein.

Finally, I shall be pleased to include your letter and this reply letter memorializing our mutual understanding in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of S. 1959.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in cautious support of S. 1959, the Haqqani Network Terrorist Designation Act.

Despite its name, this bill does not require the U.S. Department of State to formally designate the Haqqani Network as a terrorist organization. Rather, it imposes a one-time reporting requirement on the State Department to explain whether the Haqqani Network meets the statutory requirements for that designation. More importantly, the bill preserves the authority of the State Department to make this determination without congressional interference.

Let's be clear: the Haqqani Network is a dangerous organization and sworn enemy of the United States. From its base along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border, the network of insurgents led by Jalaluddin Haqqani and his family has, for years, fought U.S. and allied forces in eastern Afghanistan. The Haqqanis are responsible for several high-profile acts of terror—including an attack on the United States Embassy on September 13, 2011, that left 16 Afghans dead.

One tool—one tool out of many—for fighting an organization like the Haqqani Network is to designate the group a terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Once a group receives that formal designation, the full weight of the Federal Government is brought to bear, including criminal penalties for the provision of material support to the organization, restrictions on travel, and seizure of assets. Designating an organization a terrorist organization is often an appropriate tool when the circumstances are unambiguous.

But the circumstances in eastern Afghanistan and northwest Pakistan are anything but unambiguous. The United States is engaged in delicate negotiations with the Government of Pakistan as it prepares to draw down troops and end the war in Afghanistan. In just the last few weeks, our diplomatic corps has achieved the monumental task of reopening our lines of communication with the Pakistani Government. It

may be that, in this context, there is a diplomatic or strategic benefit to holding back on the formal designation of the Haqqani Network as a terrorist organization—perhaps just for the time being.

The State Department has already designated several individuals in the Haqqani Network as terrorists. If there's a reason that Secretary of State Clinton has not yet formally designated the entire network, then we ought to defer to her judgment.

Still, a modest reporting requirement as to some of the legal reasoning behind that decision is a fair request. Even if the Haqqani Network meets the statutory criteria for designation as a foreign terrorist organization—even if that tool is available to us—Secretary Clinton will make that decision when she determines that it is useful and appropriate to do so.

I thank the Speaker, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. GRIFFIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1959, 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.

□ 1710

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 2013

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6018) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6018

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 ''Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2013''.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.
Sec. 3. Appropriate congressional committees defined.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101. Administration of foreign affairs.
Sec. 102. Contributions to International Organizations.
Sec. 103. Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities.
Sec. 104. International Commissions.
Sec. 105. Peace Corps.
Sec. 106. National Endowment for Democracy.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORITIES AND ACTIVITIES

Subtitle A—Basic Authorities and Activities

Sec. 201. International Litigation Fund.
Sec. 202. Actuarial valuations.
Sec. 203. Special agents.
Sec. 204. Diplomatic security program contracting.
Sec. 205. Accountability review boards.
Sec. 206. Physical security of certain soft targets.
Sec. 207. Rewards program update and technical corrections.
Sec. 208. Cybersecurity efforts of the Department of State.
Sec. 209. Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications of the Department of State.

Subtitle B—Consular Services and Related Matters

Sec. 211. Extension of authority to assess passport surcharge.
Sec. 212. Border crossing card fee for minors.

Subtitle C—Reporting Requirements

Sec. 221. Reporting reform.

TITLE III—ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL AUTHORITIES

Sec. 301. Suspension of Foreign Service members without pay.
Sec. 302. Repeal of recertification requirement for Senior Foreign Service.
Sec. 303. Limited appointments in the Foreign Service.
Sec. 304. Limitation of compensatory time off for travel.
Sec. 305. Department of State organization.
Sec. 306. Reemployment of annuitants in high-risk posts.
Sec. 307. Overseas comparability pay limitation.

TITLE IV—UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

Sec. 401. Authorization of appropriations for international broadcasting.
Sec. 402. Personal services contracting program.
Sec. 403. Technical amendment relating to civil immunity for Broadcasting Board of Governors members.

TITLE V—ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT AMENDMENTS AND RELATED PROVISIONS

Subtitle A—General Provisions

Sec. 501. Authority to transfer excess defense articles.
Sec. 502. Annual military assistance report.
Sec. 503. Annual report on foreign military training.
Sec. 504. Increase in congressional notification thresholds.
Sec. 505. Return of defense articles.
Sec. 506. Annual estimate and justification for sales program.
Sec. 507. Updating and conforming penalties for violations of sections 38 and 39 of the Arms Export Control Act.
Sec. 508. Clarification of prohibitions relating to state sponsors of terrorism and their nationals.
Sec. 509. Exemption for transactions with countries supporting acts of international terrorism.
Sec. 510. Report on Foreign Military Financing program.
Sec. 511. Congressional notification of regulations and amendments to regulations under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act.
Sec. 512. Diplomatic efforts to strengthen national and international arms export controls.
Sec. 513. Review and report of investigations of violations of section 3 of the Arms Export Control Act.
Sec. 514. Reports on commercial and governmental military exports under the Arms Export Control Act; congressional actions.

Subtitle B—Miscellaneous Provisions

Sec. 521. Treatment of militarily insignificant parts and components.
Sec. 522. Special export licensing for United States allies.
Sec. 523. Improving and streamlining licensing under United States Government arms export control programs.
Sec. 524. Authority to remove satellites and related components from the United States Munitions List.
Sec. 525. Report on licenses and other authorizations to export commercial satellites and related components and technology contained on the Commerce Control List.
Sec. 526. Review of United States Munitions List.
Sec. 527. Report on country exemptions for licensing of exports of munitions and related technical data.
Sec. 528. End-use monitoring of munitions.
Sec. 529. Definitions.

SEC. 3. APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.

Except as otherwise provided in this Act, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 101. ADMINISTRATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

The following amounts are authorized to be appropriated for the Department of State under ''Administration of Foreign Affairs'' to carry out the authorities, functions, duties, and responsibilities in the conduct of foreign affairs of the United States, and for other purposes authorized by law:

(1) DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR PROGRAMS.—For ''Diplomatic and Consular Programs'', $8,983,778,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(A) WORLDWIDE SECURITY PROTECTION.—Of such amounts, not less than $1,591,201,000 is authorized to be appropriated for worldwide security protection.

(B) BUREAU OF DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND LABOR.—Of such amounts, not less than $24,147,000 for fiscal year 2013 is authorized to be appropriated for the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor.

(2) CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND.—For ''Capital Investment Fund'', $59,380,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(3) EMBASSY SECURITY, CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.—For ''Embassy Security, Construction and Maintenance'', $1,570,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(4) EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.—For ''Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs'', $598,800,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(5) CONFLICT STABILIZATION OPERATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For ''Conflict Stabilization Operations'', $8,500,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(B) TRANSFER.—Subject to subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, of the amount authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1), up to $35,000,000 is authorized to be transferred to, and merged with, the amount specified in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

(C) NOTIFICATION.—If the Secretary of State exercises the transfer authority described in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall notify the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(6) REPRESENTATION ALLOWANCES.—For ''Representation Allowances'', $7,300,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(7) PROTECTION OF FOREIGN MISSIONS AND OFFICIALS.—For ''Protection of Foreign Missions and Officials'', $27,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(8) EMERGENCIES IN THE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR SERVICE.—For ''Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service'', $9,300,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(9) REPATRIATION LOANS.—For ''Repatriation Loans'', $1,447,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(10) PAYMENT TO THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—For ''Payment to the American Institute in Taiwan'', $21,108,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(B) TRANSFER.—Subject to subparagraph (C) of this paragraph, of the amount authorized to be appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1), up to $15,300,000 is authorized to be transferred to, and merged with, the amount specified in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

(C) NOTIFICATION.—If the Secretary of State exercises the transfer authority described in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall notify the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(11) OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL.—For ''Office of the Inspector General'', $129,086,000 for fiscal year 2013, including for the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction and the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, notwithstanding section 209(a)(1) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3929(a)(1)) as such section relates to the inspection of the administration of activities and operations of each Foreign Service post.

SEC. 102. CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated for ''Contributions to International Organizations'', $1,551,000,000 for fiscal year 2013, for the Department of State to carry out the authorities, functions, duties, and responsibilities in the conduct of the foreign affairs of the United States with respect to international organizations and to carry out other authorities in law consistent with such purposes.

SEC. 103. CONTRIBUTIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING ACTIVITIES.

There are authorized to be appropriated for ''Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities'', $1,828,182,000 for fiscal year 2013 for the Department of State to carry out the authorities, functions, duties, and responsibilities of the United States with respect to international peacekeeping activities and to carry out other authorities in law consistent with such purposes.

SEC. 104. INTERNATIONAL COMMISSIONS.

The following amounts are authorized to be appropriated under ''International Commissions'' for the Department of State to carry out the authorities, functions, duties, and responsibilities in the conduct of the foreign affairs of the United States and for other purposes authorized by law:

(1) INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY AND WATER COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND MEXICO.—For ''International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico''—

(A) for ''Salaries and Expenses'', $44,722,000 for fiscal year 2013; and

(B) for ''Construction'', $31,453,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(2) INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARY COMMISSION, UNITED STATES AND CANADA.—For ''International Boundary Commission, United States and Canada'', $2,279,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(3) INTERNATIONAL JOINT COMMISSION.—For ''International Joint Commission'', $7,012,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(4) INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSIONS.—For ''International Fisheries Commissions'', $36,300,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(5) BORDER ENVIRONMENT COOPERATION COMMISSION.—For ''Border Environment Cooperation Commission'', $2,396,000 for fiscal year 2013.

SEC. 105. PEACE CORPS.

There are authorized to be appropriated for the Peace Corps $375,000,000 for fiscal year 2013, of which not less than $5,150,000 is authorized to be appropriated for the Office of the Inspector General of the Peace Corps.

SEC. 106. NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY.

There are authorized to be appropriated for the ''National Endowment for Democracy'' for authorized activities $122,764,000 for fiscal year 2013.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORITIES AND ACTIVITIES

Subtitle A—Basic Authorities and Activities

SEC. 201. INTERNATIONAL LITIGATION FUND.

Paragraph (3) of section 38(d) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2710(d)) is amended by striking ''by the Department of State from another agency of the United States Government or pursuant to'' and inserting ''by the Department of State as a result of a decision of an international tribunal, from another agency of the United States Government, or pursuant to''.

SEC. 202. ACTUARIAL VALUATIONS.

The Foreign Service Act of 1980 is amended—

(1) in section 818 (22 U.S.C. 4058)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking ''Secretary of the Treasury'' and inserting ''Secretary of State''; and

(B) by amending the second sentence to read as follows: ''The Secretary of State is authorized to expend from money to the credit of the Fund such sums as may be necessary to administer the provisions of this subchapter, including actuarial advice, but only to the extent and in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriations Acts.'';

(2) in section 819 (22 U.S.C. 4059), in the first sentence, by striking ''Secretary of the Treasury'' the second place it appears and inserting ''Secretary of State'';

(3) in section 825(b) (22 U.S.C. 4065(b)), by striking ''Secretary of the Treasury'' and inserting ''Secretary of State''; and

(4) section 859(c) (22 U.S.C. 4071h(c))—

(A) by striking ''Secretary of the Treasury'' and inserting ''Secretary of State''; and

(B) by striking ''and shall advise the Secretary of State of'' and inserting ''that will provide''.

SEC. 203. SPECIAL AGENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 37(a) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2709(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) conduct investigations concerning—

''(A) illegal passport or visa issuance or use;

''(B) identity theft or document fraud affecting or relating to the programs, functions, and authorities of the Department of State; and

''(C) Federal offenses committed within the special maritime and territorial jurisdiction of the United States as defined in paragraph (9) of section 7 of title 18, United States Code, except as that jurisdiction relates to the premises of United States military missions and related residences;''.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in paragraph (1) of section 37(a) the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (as amended by subsection (a) of this section) shall be construed to limit the investigative authority of any other Federal department or agency.

SEC. 204. DIPLOMATIC SECURITY PROGRAM CONTRACTING.

Section 136 of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1990 and 1991 (22 U.S.C. 4864) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''With respect'' and inserting ''Except as provided in subsection (d), with respect''; and

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking ''subsection (d)'' and inserting ''subsection (e)'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (d), (e), (f), and (g) as subsections (e), (f), (g), and (h), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

''(d) AWARD OF LOCAL GUARD AND PROTECTIVE SERVICE CONTRACTS IN HIGH RISK AREAS.—With respect to local guard contracts for Foreign Service buildings located in high risk areas which exceed $250,000, the Secretary of State shall—

''(1) comply with paragraphs (1), (2), (4), (5), and (6) of subsection (c) in the award of such contracts;

''(2) in evaluating proposals for such contracts, award contracts to the firm representing the best value to the Government in accordance with the best value tradeoff process described in subpart 15.1 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (48 C.F.R. 15.101–1); and

''(3) ensure that in all contracts awarded under this subsection, contractor personnel providing local guard or protective services are classified as—

''(A) employees of the offeror;

''(B) if the offeror is a joint venture, as the employees of one of the persons or parties constituting the joint venture; or

''(C) as employees of a subcontractor to the offeror, and not as independent contractors to the offeror or any other entity performing under such contracts.''; and

(4) in subsection (e), as redesignated by paragraph (2) of this section—

(A) in paragraph (3), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) the term 'high risk areas' means—

''(A) an area subject to a contingency operation as defined in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, United States Code; or

''(B) an area determined by the Assistant Secretary of Diplomatic Security to present an increased threat of serious damage or harm to United States diplomatic facilities or personnel.''.

SEC. 205. ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW BOARDS.

Paragraph (3) of section 301(a) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4831(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking the heading and inserting ''FACILITIES IN HIGH-RISK AREAS''; and

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by amending clause (i) to read as follows:

''(i) involves serious injury, loss of life, or significant destruction of property at, or related to, a United States Government mission in an area subject to a contingency operation (as defined in section 101(a)(13) of title 10, United States Code), or in an area previously determined by the Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security to present an increased threat of serious damage or harm to United States diplomatic facilities or personnel; and''; and

(B) in clause (ii), by striking ''2009'' and inserting ''2015''.

SEC. 206. PHYSICAL SECURITY OF CERTAIN SOFT TARGETS.

Section 29 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2701) is amended, in the third sentence, by inserting ''physical security enhancements and'' after ''may include''.

SEC. 207. REWARDS PROGRAM UPDATE AND TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) ENHANCED AUTHORITY.—Section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by inserting ''serious violations of international humanitarian law, transnational organized crime,'' after ''international narcotics trafficking,'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''Attorney General'' and inserting ''heads of other relevant departments or agencies'';

(B) in paragraphs (4) and (5), by striking ''paragraph (1), (2), or (3)'' each place it appears and inserting ''paragraph (1), (2), (3), (8), or (9)'';

(C) in paragraph (6)—

(i) by inserting ''or transnational organized crime group'' after ''terrorist organization''; and

(ii) by striking ''or'' at the end;

(D) in paragraph (7)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking '', including the use by the organization of illicit narcotics production or international narcotics trafficking'' and inserting ''or transnational organized crime group, including the use by such organization or group of illicit narcotics production or international narcotics trafficking'';

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''or transnational organized crime'' after ''international terrorism''; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting ''or transnational organized crime group'' after ''terrorist organization''; and

(II) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

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

''(8) the arrest or conviction in any country of any individual for participating in, primarily outside the United States, transnational organized crime;

''(9) the arrest or conviction in any country of any individual conspiring to participate in or attempting to participate in transnational organized crime; or

''(10) the arrest or conviction in any country, or the transfer to or conviction by an international criminal tribunal (including a hybrid or mixed tribunal), of any foreign national accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide, as defined under the statute of such tribunal.''; and

(3) in subsection (k)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraphs:

''(5) TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME.—The term 'transnational organized crime' means—

''(A) racketeering activity (as such term is defined in section 1961 of title 18, United States Code) that involves at least one jurisdiction outside the United States; or

''(B) any other criminal offense punishable by a term of imprisonment of at least four years under Federal, State, or local law that involves at least one jurisdiction outside the United States and that is intended to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.

''(6) TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME GROUP.—The term 'transnational organized crime group' means a group of persons that includes one or more citizens of a foreign country, exists for a period of time, and acts in concert with the aim of engaging in transnational organized crime.''.

(b) ADVANCE NOTIFICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL REWARDS.—Section 36(g) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(g)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) ADVANCE NOTIFICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL REWARDS.—Not less than 15 days before publicly announcing that a reward may be offered for the arrest or conviction in any country, or the transfer to or conviction by an international criminal tribunal (including a hybrid or mixed tribunal), of a foreign national accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide (as defined under the statute of such tribunal), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report, which may be submitted in classified form if necessary, specifying the reasons why such arrest or conviction or transfer of such foreign national is in the national interests of the United States.''.

(c) ENHANCING PUBLICITY OF REWARDS INFORMATION.—The Department of State and the Broadcasting Board of Governors shall make themselves available to the appropriate congressional committees for periodic briefings on their cooperative efforts to publicize rewards authorized under section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708).

(d) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Section 36(e)(1) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended by striking ''The Secretary shall authorize a reward of $50,000,000 for the capture or death or information leading to the capture or death of Osama bin Laden.''.

(e) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as authorizing the use of activity precluded under the American Servicemembers' Protection Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–206).

(f) FUNDING.—To carry out this section, the Secretary of State shall use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to the Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Service account of the Department of State.

SEC. 208. CYBERSECURITY EFFORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

(a) COORDINATOR FOR CYBER ISSUES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State is authorized to establish within the office of the Secretary of State a Coordinator for Cyber Issues (in this section referred to as the ''Coordinator''), who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(2) PRINCIPAL DUTIES.—The Coordinator should—

(A) be the principal official within the senior management of the Department responsible for cyberspace and cybersecurity issues;

(B) be the principal advisor to the Secretary of State on international cyberspace and cybersecurity issues;

(C) report directly to the Secretary;

(D) perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Secretary shall prescribe; and

(E) coordinate United States cyberspace and cybersecurity foreign policy in each country or region that the Secretary considers significant with respect to efforts of the United States Government to enhance cybersecurity globally.

(3) ADDITIONAL DUTIES.—In addition to the duties described in paragraph (2), the Coordinator should—

(A) provide strategic direction and coordination for Department of State policy and programs aimed at addressing and responding to cyberspace and cybersecurity issues overseas;

(B) work with relevant Federal departments and agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Justice, the Department of Commerce, and the intelligence community, in the development of interagency plans regarding international cyberspace and cybersecurity issues;

(C) conduct internal exercises for the Department of State to plan for responses to a cyber attack;

(D) consult, where appropriate, with the private sector on international cyberspace and cybersecurity issues; and

(E) build multilateral cooperation to develop international norms, common policies, and responses to secure the integrity of cyberspace.

(4) RANK AND STATUS OF AMBASSADOR.—The Coordinator should have the rank and status of Ambassador-at-Large.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report that includes the following:

(1) A description of the Department of State's internal cybersecurity efforts, including the following:

(A) A description of the nature and scope of major incidents of cybercrime against the Department of State.

(B) A description of action taken to ensure that all individuals trained by the Department of State are adequately prepared to detect and respond to existing and foreseeable vulnerabilities in the Department's information security.

(C) An assessment of whether the Department of State's staffing levels, facilities, financial resources, and technological equipment are sufficient to provide effective cybersecurity training and protection against incidents of cybercrime.

(D) A description of action taken to develop and implement response plans to mitigate and isolate disruption caused by incidents of cybercrime.

(E) A description of action taken to enhance cooperation on cybersecurity issues with other Federal departments and agencies.

(F) A description of any deployments of interagency teams from the Department of State, the United States Agency for International Development, and other Federal departments and agencies that have been deployed to foreign countries to respond to incidents of cybercrime.

(2) A description of the actions that the Department of State is taking to work with other countries and international organizations to strengthen cooperative efforts to—

(A) combat cybercrime and enhance information security;

(B) pressure countries identified as countries of cybersecurity concern under subsection (c) to take effective action to end incidents of cybercrime; and

(C) assist cybersecurity capacity-building in less developed countries.

(c) LIST OF COUNTRIES OF CYBERSECURITY CONCERN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall determine if a country is a country of cybersecurity concern if the Secretary of State finds that with respect to such a country—

(A) during the two-year period preceding the date of the Secretary of State's determination, there is significant credible evidence that there has been a pattern of incidents of cybercrime—

(i) against the United States Government or United States persons, or that disrupt United States electronic commerce or otherwise negatively impact the trade or intellectual property interests of the United States; and

(ii) that are attributable to persons or property based in such country; and

(B) the government of such country has demonstrated a pattern of being uncooperative with efforts to combat cybercrime by—

(i) failing to conduct its own reasonable criminal investigations, prosecutions, or other proceedings with respect to the incidents of cybercrime described in subparagraph (A);

(ii) failing to cooperate with the United States, any other party to the Convention on Cybercrime, or INTERPOL, in criminal investigations, prosecutions, or other proceedings with respect to such incidents, in accordance with chapter III of the Convention on Cybercrime; or

(iii) not adopting or implementing legislative or other measures in accordance with chapter II of the Convention on Cybercrime with respect to criminal offenses related to computer systems or computer data.

(2) SUBMISSION OF LIST.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon making the determinations under paragraph (1), the Secretary of State shall submit to Congress a list of—

(i) each country that is a country of cybersecurity concern;

(ii) the basis for each such determination; and

(iii) any actions the Department of State is taking to address the concerns described in such paragraph.

(B) FORM.—The Secretary of State may submit the list described in this paragraph (or any portion of such list) in classified form if the Secretary determines that such is appropriate.

(d) STRATEGY FOR UNITED STATES ENGAGEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL CYBER ISSUES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Coordinator, in consultation with the heads of appropriate Federal departments and agencies with relevant technical expertise or policy mandates pertaining to cyberspace and cybersecurity issues, shall, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, develop and submit to congressional committees specified in subsection (b) a strategy to support the objective of promoting United States engagement on international cyber issues.

(2) CONTENTS.—The strategy developed under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) include—

(i) efforts to be undertaken;

(ii) specific and measurable goals;

(iii) benchmarks and timeframes for achieving the objectives referred to in subsection (d)(3)(B); and

(iv) progress made towards achieving the benchmarks and timeframes described in clause (iii); and

(B) to the greatest extent practicable, draw upon the expertise of technology, security, and policy experts, private sector actors, international organizations, and other appropriate entities.

(3) COMPONENTS.—The strategy developed under paragraph (1) should include—

(A) assessments and reviews of existing strategies for international cyberspace and cybersecurity policy and engagement;

(B) short- and long-term objectives for United States cyberspace and cybersecurity engagement; and

(C) a description of programs, activities, and policies to foster United States Government collaboration and coordination with other countries and organizations to bolster an international framework of cyber norms, governance, and deterrence, including consideration of the utility of negotiating a multilateral framework to provide internationally acceptable principles to better mitigate cyberwarfare, including noncombatants.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMPUTER DATA.—The term ''computer data'' means any representation of facts, information, or concepts in a form suitable for processing in a computer system, including a program suitable to cause a computer system to perform a function.

(2) COMPUTER SYSTEMS.—The term ''computer systems'' means any device or group of interconnected or related devices, one or more of which, pursuant to a program, performs automatic processing of data.

(3) CONVENTION ON CYBERCRIME.—The term ''Convention on Cybercrime'' refers to the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime, done at Budapest on November 23, 2001, as ratified by the United States Senate with any relevant reservations or declarations.

(4) CYBERCRIME.—The term ''cybercrime'' refers to criminal offenses relating to computer systems or computer data described in the Convention on Cybercrime.

(5) ELECTRONIC COMMERCE.—The term ''electronic commerce'' has the meaning given such term in section 1105(3) of the Internet Tax Freedom Act (47 U.S.C. 151 note).

(6) INFORMATION SECURITY.—The term ''information security'' refers to—

(A) the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of an information system, or the information such system processes, stores, or transmits; and

(B) the security policies, security procedures, or acceptable use policies with respect to an information system.

(7) INTERPOL.—The term ''INTERPOL'' means the International Criminal Police Organization.

(8) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term ''United States person'' means—

(A) a United States citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence to the United States; or

(B) an entity organized under the laws of the United States, or of any jurisdiction within the United States.

SEC. 209. CENTER FOR STRATEGIC COUNTERTERRORISM COMMUNICATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—As articulated in Executive Order 13584, issued on September 9, 2011, it is the policy of the United States to actively counter the actions and ideologies of al-Qa'ida, its affiliates and adherents, other terrorist organizations, and violent extremists overseas that threaten the interests and national security of the United States.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER FOR STRATEGIC COUNTERTERRORISM COMMUNICATIONS.—There is authorized to be established within the Department of State, under the direction of the Secretary of State, the Center for Strategic Counterterrorism Communications (in this section referred to as the ''CSCC'').

(c) MISSION.—The CSCC may coordinate, orient, and inform government-wide public communications activities directed at audiences abroad and targeted against violent extremists and terrorist organizations, especially al-Qa'ida and its affiliates and adherents.

(d) COORDINATOR OF THE CENTER FOR STRATEGIC COUNTERTERRORISM COMMUNICATIONS.—The head of the CSCC should be the Coordinator. The Coordinator of the CSCC should—

(1) report to the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs; and

(2) collaborate with the Bureau of Counterterrorism of the Department of State, other Department bureaus, and other United States Government agencies.

(e) DUTIES.—The CSCC may—

(1) monitor and evaluate extremist narratives and events abroad that are relevant to the development of a United States strategic counterterrorism narrative designed to counter violent extremism and terrorism that threaten the interests and national security of the United States;

(2) develop and promulgate for use throughout the executive branch United States strategic counterterrorism narrative developed in accordance with paragraph (1), and public communications strategies to counter the messaging of violent extremists and terrorist organizations, especially al-Qa'ida and its affiliates and adherents;

(3) identify current and emerging trends in extremist communications and communications by al-Qa'ida and its affiliates and adherents in order to coordinate and provide guidance to the United States Government regarding how best to proactively promote a United States strategic counterterrorism narrative developed in accordance with paragraph (1) and related policies, and to respond to and rebut extremist messaging and narratives when communicating to audiences outside the United States;

(4) facilitate the use of a wide range of communications technologies by sharing expertise and best practices among United States Government and non-government sources;

(5) identify and request relevant information from United States Government agencies, including intelligence reporting, data, and analysis; and

(6) identify shortfalls in United States capabilities in any areas relevant to the CSCC's mission, and recommend necessary enhancements or changes.

(f) STEERING COMMITTEE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State may establish a Steering Committee composed of senior representatives of United States Government agencies relevant to the CSCC's mission to provide advice to the Secretary on the operations and strategic orientation of the CSCC and to ensure adequate support for the CSCC.

(2) MEETINGS.—The Steering Committee should meet not less often than once every six months.

(3) LEADERSHIP.—The Steering Committee should be chaired by the Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy. The Coordinator for Counterterrorism of the Department of State should serve as Vice Chair. The Coordinator of the CSCC should serve as Executive Secretary.

(4) COMPOSITION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Steering Committee may include one senior representative designated by the head of each of the following agencies:

(i) The Department of Defense.

(ii) The Department of Justice.

(iii) The Department of Homeland Security.

(iv) The Department of the Treasury.

(v) The National Counterterrorism Center of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

(vi) The Joint Chiefs of Staff.

(vii) The Counterterrorism Center of the Central Intelligence Agency.

(viii) The Broadcasting Board of Governors.

(ix) The Agency for International Development.

(B) ADDITIONAL REPRESENTATION.—Representatives from United States Government

agencies not specified in subparagraph (A) may be invited to participate in the Steering Committee at the discretion of the Chair.

Subtitle B—Consular Services and Related Matters

SEC. 211. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO ASSESS PASSPORT SURCHARGE.

Paragraph (2) of section 1(b) of the Act of June 4, 1920 (41 Stat. 750; chapter 223; 22 U.S.C. 214(b)), is amended by striking ''2010'' and inserting ''2015''.

SEC. 212. BORDER CROSSING CARD FEE FOR MINORS.

Section 410(a)(1)(A) of the Department of State and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (contained in division A of Public Law 105–277) is amended by striking ''a fee of $13'' and inserting ''a fee equal to one-half the fee that would otherwise apply for processing a machine readable combined border crossing identification card and nonimmigrant visa''.

Subtitle C—Reporting Requirements

SEC. 221. REPORTING REFORM.

The following provisions of law are repealed:

(1) Subsections (c)(4) and (c)(5) of section 601 of Public Law 96–465.

(2) Section 585 in the matter under section 101(c) of division A of Public Law 104–208.

(3) Section 11(b) of Public Law 107–245.

TITLE III—ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL AUTHORITIES

SEC. 301. SUSPENSION OF FOREIGN SERVICE MEMBERS WITHOUT PAY.

(a) SUSPENSION.—Section 610 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4010) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c)(1) In order to promote the efficiency of the Service, the Secretary may suspend a member of the Foreign Service without pay when the member's security clearance is suspended or when there is reasonable cause to believe that the member has committed a crime for which a sentence of imprisonment may be imposed.

''(2) Any member of the Foreign Service for whom a suspension is proposed in accordance with paragraph (1) shall be entitled to—

''(A) written notice stating the specific reasons for the proposed suspension;

''(B) a reasonable time to respond orally and in writing to the proposed suspension;

''(C) representation by an attorney or other representative; and

''(D) a final written decision, including the specific reasons for such decision, as soon as practicable.

''(3) Any member suspended under this section may file a grievance in accordance with the procedures applicable to grievances under chapter 11.

''(4) In the case of a grievance filed under paragraph (3)—

''(A) the review by the Foreign Service Grievance Board shall be limited to a determination of whether the provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) have been fulfilled; and

''(B) the Foreign Service Grievance Board may not exercise the authority provided under section 1106(8).

''(5) In this subsection:

''(A) The term 'reasonable time' means—

''(i) with respect to a member of the Foreign Service assigned to duty in the United States, 15 days after receiving notice of the proposed suspension; and

''(ii) with respect to a member of the Foreign Service assigned to duty outside the United States, 30 days after receiving notice of the proposed suspension.

''(B) The term 'suspend' or 'suspension' means the placing of a member of the Foreign Service in a temporary status without duties and pay.''.

(b) CONFORMING AND CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) AMENDMENT OF SECTION HEADING.—Section 610 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, as amended by subsection (a) of this section, is further amended, in the section heading, by inserting ''; SUSPENSION'' before the period at the end.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The item relating to section 610 in the table of contents in section 2 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 is amended to read as follows:

''Sec. 610. Separation for cause; suspension.''.

SEC. 302. REPEAL OF RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE.

Section 305(d) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3945(d)) is repealed.

SEC. 303. LIMITED APPOINTMENTS IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

Section 309 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3949) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''subsection (b)'' and inserting ''subsection (b) or (c)'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by inserting ''(A),'' after ''if''; and

(ii) by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: '', or (B), the career candidate is serving in the uniformed services, as defined by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (38 U.S.C. 4301 et seq.), and the limited appointment expires in the course of such service'';

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(C) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(D) by adding after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

''(6) in exceptional circumstances where the Secretary determines the needs of the Service require the extension of a limited appointment (A), for a period of time not to exceed 12 months (if such period of time does not permit additional review by boards under section 306), or (B), for the minimum time needed to settle a grievance, claim, or complaint not otherwise provided for in this section.''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) Non-career Foreign Service employees who have served five consecutive years under a limited appointment may be reappointed to a subsequent limited appointment if there is a one year break in service between each such appointment. The Secretary may in cases of special need waive the requirement for a one year break in service.''.

SEC. 304. LIMITATION OF COMPENSATORY TIME OFF FOR TRAVEL.

Section 5550b of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) The maximum amount of compensatory time off earned under this section may not exceed 104 hours during any leave year (as defined by regulations established by the Office of Personnel Management).''.

SEC. 305. DEPARTMENT OF STATE ORGANIZATION.

The Secretary of State may, after consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, transfer to such other officials or offices of the Department of State as the Secretary may determine from time to time any authority, duty, or function assigned by statute to the Coordinator for Counterterrorism, the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization, or the Coordinator for International Energy Affairs.

SEC. 306. REEMPLOYMENT OF ANNUITANTS IN HIGH-RISK POSTS.

Paragraph (2)(A) of section 824(g) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4064(g)(2)(A)) is amended by striking ''2010'' and inserting ''2013''.

SEC. 307. OVERSEAS COMPARABILITY PAY LIMITATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitation described in subsection (b), the authority provided by section 1113 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111-32; 123 Stat. 1904), shall remain in effect through September 30, 2013.

(b) LIMITATION.—The authority described in subsection (a) may not be used to pay an eligible member of the Foreign Service (as defined in section 1113(b) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009) a locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that exceeds two-thirds of the amount of the locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that would be payable to such member under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, if such member's official duty station were in the District of Columbia.

TITLE IV—UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING

SEC. 401. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING.

The following amounts are authorized to be appropriated to carry out United States international broadcasting activities under the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, the Radio Broadcasting to Cuba Act, the Television Broadcasting to Cuba Act, the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994, and the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998, and to carry out other authorities in law consistent with such purposes:

(1) For ''International Broadcasting Operations'', $744,500,000 for fiscal year 2013.

(2) For ''Broadcasting Capital Improvements'', $7,030,000 for fiscal year 2013.

SEC. 402. PERSONAL SERVICES CONTRACTING PROGRAM.

Section 504(c) of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 2003, (Public Law 107–228; 22 U.S.C. 6206 note), is amended by striking ''2009'' and inserting ''2015''.

SEC. 403. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT RELATING TO CIVIL IMMUNITY FOR BROADCASTING BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEMBERS.

Section 304(g) of the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22 U.S.C. 6203(g)) is amended by striking ''Incorporated and Radio Free Asia'' and inserting ''Incorporated, Radio Free Asia, and Middle East Broadcasting Networks''.

TITLE V—ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT AMENDMENTS AND RELATED PROVISIONS

Subtitle A—General Provisions

SEC. 501. AUTHORITY TO TRANSFER EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES.

Section 516(g)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321j(g)(1)) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''authorized to be'' before ''transferred''; and

(2) by striking ''425,000,000'' and inserting ''450,000,000''.

SEC. 502. ANNUAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE REPORT.

(a) INFORMATION RELATING TO MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND MILITARY EXPORTS.—Section 655(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2415(b)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking '', by category, whether such defense articles—'' and inserting ''the following:'';

(2) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting ''Whether such defense articles'' before ''were''; and

(B) by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period;

(3) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting ''Whether such defense articles'' before ''were''; and

(B) by striking ''; or'' at the end and inserting a period; and

(4) by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

''(3) Whether such defense articles were exported without a license under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act pursuant to an exemption established under the International Traffic in Arms Regulations, other than defense articles exported in furtherance of a letter of offer and acceptance under the Foreign Military Sales program or a technical assistance or manufacturing license agreement, including the specific exemption in the regulation under which the export was made.

''(4) A detailed listing, by United States Munitions List sub-category and type, as well as by country and by international organization, of the actual total dollar value of major defense equipment and defense articles delivered pursuant to licenses authorized under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act for the previous fiscal year.

''(5) In the case of defense articles that are firearms controlled under category I of the United States Munitions List, a statement of the aggregate dollar value and quantity of semiautomatic assault weapons, or spare parts for such weapons, the manufacture, transfer, or possession of which is unlawful under section 922 of title 18, United States Code, that were licensed for export during the period covered by the report.''.

(b) INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED.—Section 655 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2415) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED.—Each such report may exclude information relating to—

''(1) exports of defense articles (including excess defense articles), defense services, and international military education and training activities authorized by the United States on a temporary basis;

''(2) exports of such articles, services, and activities to United States Government end users located in foreign countries; and

''(3) and the value of manufacturing license agreements or technical assistance agreements licensed under section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act.''.

SEC. 503. ANNUAL REPORT ON FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING.

Section 656(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2416(a)(1)) is amended by striking ''January 31'' and inserting ''March 1''.

SEC. 504. INCREASE IN CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION THRESHOLDS.

(a) FOREIGN MILITARY SALES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(b)(1)) is amended—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking ''$50,000,000'' and inserting ''$100,000,000'';

(ii) by striking ''$200,000,000'' and inserting ''$300,000,000''; and

(iii) by striking ''$14,000,000'' and inserting ''$25,000,000''; and

(B) in the matter following subparagraph (P)—

(i) by inserting ''of any defense articles or defense services under this Act for $200,000,000 or more, any design and construction services for $300,000,000 or more, or any major defense equipment for $75,000,000 or more,'' after ''The letter of offer shall not be issued, with respect to a proposed sale''; and

(ii) by inserting ''of any defense articles or services under this Act for $100,000,000 or more, any design and construction services for $200,000,000 or more, or any major defense equipment for $50,000,000 or more,'' after ''or with respect to a proposed sale''.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 36(b) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (5)(C), by striking ''Subject to paragraph (6), if'' and inserting ''If''; and

(B) by striking paragraph (6).

(b) COMMERCIAL SALES.—Section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking ''Subject to paragraph (5), in'' and inserting ''In'';

(B) by striking ''$14,000,000'' and inserting ''$25,000,000''; and

(C) by striking ''$50,000,000'' and inserting ''$100,000,000'';

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting after ''for an export'' the following: ''of any major defense equipment sold under a contract in the amount of $75,000,000 or more or of defense articles or defense services sold under a contract in the amount of $200,000,000 or more, (or, in the case of a defense article that is a firearm controlled under category I of the United States Munitions List, $1,000,000 or more)''; and

(B) in subparagraph (C), by inserting after ''license'' the following: ''for an export of any major defense equipment sold under a contract in the amount of $50,000,000 or more or of defense articles or defense services sold under a contract in the amount of $100,000,000 or more, (or, in the case of a defense article that is a firearm controlled under category I of the United States Munitions List, $1,000,000 or more)'';

(3) by striking paragraph (5); and

(4) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5).

SEC. 505. RETURN OF DEFENSE ARTICLES.

Section 21(m)(1)(B) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2761(m)(1)(B)) is amended by adding at the end before the semicolon the following: '', unless the Secretary of State has provided prior approval of such retransfer''.

SEC. 506. ANNUAL ESTIMATE AND JUSTIFICATION FOR SALES PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 25(a)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2765(a)(1)) is amended by striking '', together with an indication of which sales and licensed commercial exports'' and inserting ''and''.

(b) ADDITIONAL AMENDMENT.—Section 25(a)(3) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2765(a)(3)) is amended by adding at the end before the semicolon the following: '', as well as any plan for regional security cooperation developed in consultation with Embassy Country Teams and the Department of State''.

SEC. 507. UPDATING AND CONFORMING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS OF SECTIONS 38 AND 39 OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 38(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(c)) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) VIOLATIONS OF THIS SECTION AND SECTION 39.—

''(1) UNLAWFUL ACTS.—It shall be unlawful for any person to violate, attempt to violate, conspire to violate, or cause a violation of any provision of this section or section 39, or any rule or regulation issued under either section, or a treaty referred to in subsection (j)(1)(c)(i), including any rule or regulation issued to implement or enforce a treaty referred to in subsection (j)(1)(c)(i) or an implementing arrangement pursuant to such a treaty, or who, in a registration or license application or required report, makes any untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading.

''(2) CRIMINAL PENALTIES.—A person who willfully commits an unlawful act described in paragraph (1) shall upon conviction—

''(A) be fined for each violation in an amount not to exceed $1,000,000, or

''(B) in the case of a natural person, imprisoned for not more than 20 years or both.''.

(b) MECHANISMS TO IDENTIFY VIOLATORS.—Section 38(g) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting ''or have otherwise been charged with,'' after ''indictment for,'';

(ii) in clause (xi), by striking ''; or'' at the end and inserting a comma;

(iii) in clause (xii), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a comma; and

(iv) by adding at the end the following:

''(xiii) section 542 of title 18, United States Code, relating to entry of goods by means of false statements,

''(xiv) section 554 of title 18, United States Code, relating to smuggling goods from the United States,

''(xv) section 1831 of title 18, United States Code, relating to economic espionage,

''(xvi) section 545 of title 18, United States Code, relating to smuggling goods into the United States,

''(xvii) section 104A of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act of 1977 (15 U.S.C. 78dd–3), relating to prohibited foreign trade practices by persons other than issuers or domestic concerns,

''(xviii) section 2339B of title 18, United States Code, relating to providing material support or resources to dedicated foreign terrorist organizations, or

''(xix) sections 2339C and 2339D of title 18, United States Code, relating to financing terrorism and receiving terrorism training;''; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting '', have been otherwise charged,'' after ''indictment''; and

(2) in paragraph (3)(A), by inserting ''or otherwise charged with'' after ''indictment for''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and shall apply with respect to violations of sections 38 and 39 of the Arms Export Control Act committed on or after that date.

SEC. 508. CLARIFICATION OF PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO STATE SPONSORS OF TERRORISM AND THEIR NATIONALS.

Section 40(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d)) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''or to the nationals of that country whose substantive contacts with that country give reasonable grounds for raising risk of diversion, regardless of whether such persons maintain such nationality or the nationality of another country not covered by this section'' after ''with respect to a country''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following: ''For purposes of this subsection, the term 'national' means an individual who acquired citizenship by birth from a country that is subject to section 126.1 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulations).''.

SEC. 509. EXEMPTION FOR TRANSACTIONS WITH COUNTRIES SUPPORTING ACTS OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM.

Section 40(h) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(h)) is amended—

(1) in the heading—

(A) by striking ''EXEMPTION'' and inserting ''EXEMPTIONS''; and

(B) by adding ''AND CERTAIN FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES'' after ''REPORTING REQUIREMENTS''; and

(2) by adding at the end before the period the following: ''or with respect to Federal law enforcement activities undertaken to further the investigation of violations of this Act''.

SEC. 510. REPORT ON FOREIGN MILITARY FINANCING PROGRAM.

Section 23 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2763) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(i) REPORT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees as part of the supporting materials of the annual congressional budget justification a report on the implementation of this section for the prior fiscal year.

''(2) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include a description of the following:

''(A) The extent to which the use of the authority of this section is based on a well-formulated and realistic assessments of the capability requirements of foreign countries and international organizations.

''(B) The extent to which the provision of grants under the authority of this section are consistent with United States conventional arms transfer policy.

''(C) The extent to which the Department of State has developed and implemented specific plans to monitor and evaluate outcomes under the authority of this section, including at least one country or international organization assessment each fiscal year.

''(3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this subsection, the term 'appropriate congressional committees' means—

''(A) the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and

''(B) the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate.''.

SEC. 511. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION OF REGULATIONS AND AMENDMENTS TO REGULATIONS UNDER SECTION 38 OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(k) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—The President shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a copy of regulations or amendments to regulations issued to carry out this section at least 30 days before publication of the regulations or amendments in the Federal Register unless, after consulting with such Committees, the President determines that there is an emergency that requires a shorter period of time for submittal of such regulations or amendments.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) takes effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and applies with respect the issuance of regulations or amendments to regulations made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 512. DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ARMS EXPORT CONTROLS.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 4 years, the President shall transmit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on United States diplomatic efforts to strengthen national and international arms export controls, including a detailed description of any senior-level initiative, to ensure that those arms export controls are comparable to and supportive of United States arms export controls, particularly with respect to countries of concern to the United States.

SEC. 513. REVIEW AND REPORT OF INVESTIGATIONS OF VIOLATIONS OF SECTION 3 OF THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT.

(a) REVIEW.—The Inspector General of the Department of State shall conduct a review of investigations by the Department of State during each of fiscal years 2013 through 2017 of any and all possible violations of section 3 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2753) with respect to misuse of United States-origin defense items to determine whether the Department of State has fully complied with the requirements of such section, as well as its own internal procedures (and whether such procedures are adequate), for reporting to Congress any information regarding the unlawful use or transfer of United States-origin defense articles, defense services, and technology by foreign countries, as required by such section.

(b) REPORT.—The Inspector General of the Department of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate for each of fiscal years 2013 through 2017 a report that contains the findings and results of the review conducted under subsection (a). The report shall be submitted in unclassified form to the maximum extent possible, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 514. REPORTS ON COMMERCIAL AND GOVERNMENTAL MILITARY EXPORTS UNDER THE ARMS EXPORT CONTROL ACT; CONGRESSIONAL ACTIONS.

(a) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION.—

(1) GOVERNMENT SALES.—Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(b)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''The President shall consult fully and completely with the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate before submitting a certification under this subsection.''.

(2) COMMERCIAL SALES.—Section 36(c)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''The President shall consult fully and completely with the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate before submitting a certification under this subsection.''.

(b) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE ADVANCE NOTIFICATION AND CONSULTATION ON CERTAIN SALES AND EXPORTS.—Section 36 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i)(1)(A) Not later than 60 calendar days prior to the submission of a certification under subsection (b), (c), or (d) of this section, the President shall provide advance notification in writing to, and consult with, the chairs and ranking minority members of the appropriate congressional committees of the offer to sell or export the defense articles or defense services with respect to which such a certification is required to be submitted pursuant to any such subsection.

''(B)(i) The requirement of subparagraph (A) to provide 60 calendar days advance notification in writing to the chairs and ranking minority members of the appropriate congressional committees shall not apply if the chairs and ranking minority members of the appropriate congressional committees have agreed, at their discretion, to waive such requirement.

''(ii) The requirements of subparagraph (A) shall not apply if the President states in the certification that an emergency exists that requires the sale or export of defense articles or defense services to be in the national security interests of the United States in accordance with subsection (b), (c), or (d) of this section.

''(2)(A) A certification submitted under subsection (b), (c), or (d) of this section shall be subject to the procedures applicable to reprogramming notifications under section 634A(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

''(B) The requirement of subparagraph (A) shall not apply if the President transmits to the chairs and ranking minority members of the appropriate congressional committees a report in writing that contains a determination of the President that extraordinary circumstances exist which necessitates the obviation of such requirement and a detailed description of such circumstances.''.

(c) DEFINITION.—Section 36(e) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(e)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

(2) by inserting before paragraph (2) (as redesignated) the following new paragraph:

''(1) the term 'appropriate congressional committee' means—

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

''(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 36 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776) is amended—

(1) in subsections (a), (b)(1), (c)(1), and (f), by striking ''Speaker of the House of Representatives and to the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate'' and inserting ''chairs of the appropriate congressional committees'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''such committee or the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives'' and inserting ''either chair of the appropriate congressional committees'';

(B) in paragraph (4), by striking ''Congress'' and inserting ''chairs of the appropriate congressional committees''; and

(C) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate'' and inserting ''chairs of the appropriate congressional committees'';

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''Congress'' and inserting ''chairs of the appropriate congressional committees''; and

(iii) in subparagraph (C), by striking ''Speaker of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate'' and inserting ''chairs of the appropriate congressional committees''; and

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''such committee or the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives'' and inserting ''either chair of the appropriate congressional committees'';

(B) in subparagraphs (A) and (C) of paragraph (2), by striking ''Congress receives'' and inserting ''chairs of the appropriate congressional committees receive''; and

(C) in paragraph (4), by striking ''Congress'' each place it appears and inserting ''the chairs of the appropriate congressional committees''.

Subtitle B—Miscellaneous Provisions

SEC. 521. TREATMENT OF MILITARILY INSIGNIFICANT PARTS AND COMPONENTS.

It shall be the policy of the United States, pursuant to section 38(f) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778) to prioritize the removal of those militarily insignificant parts, components, accessories, and attachments from the United States Munitions List that, even if specifically designed for a defense article controlled on the United States Munitions List, would warrant no more than anti-terrorism controls under the Export Administration Act of 1979 (as continued in effect under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act) or any successor Act.

SEC. 522. SPECIAL EXPORT LICENSING FOR UNITED STATES ALLIES.

Section 38 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778), as amended by this Act, is further amended by adding the following new subsection:

''(l) SPECIAL EXPORT LICENSING FOR UNITED STATES ALLIES.—The President may establish special licensing procedures for the export of replacement components, parts, accessories, attachments, equipment, firmware, software or technology that are not designated as major defense equipment or significant military equipment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, any member country of that Organization, or any other country described in section 36(c)(2)(A) of this Act.''.

SEC. 523. IMPROVING AND STREAMLINING LICENSING UNDER UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT ARMS EXPORT CONTROL PROGRAMS.

In implementing reforms of United States arms export control programs, the President should prioritize the development of a new framework to improve and streamline licensing under such programs, including by seeking to revise the Special Comprehensive Export Authorizations for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, any member country of that Organization, or any other country described in section 36(c)(2)(A) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(c)(2)(A)) under section 126.14 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations).

SEC. 524. AUTHORITY TO REMOVE SATELLITES AND RELATED COMPONENTS FROM THE UNITED STATES MUNITIONS LIST.

(a) AUTHORITY.—Subject to subsection (b), the President is authorized to remove commercial satellites and related components and technology from the United States Munitions List pursuant to section 38(f) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(f)).

(b) DETERMINATION.—The President may exercise the authority provided in subsection (a) only if the President submits to the appropriate congressional committees a determination that the transfer of commercial satellites and related components and technology from the United States Munitions List does not pose an unacceptable risk to the national security of the United States. Such determination shall include a description of the risk-mitigating controls, procedures, and safeguards the President will put in place to reduce such risk to an absolute minimum.

(c) PROHIBITION.—No license or other authorization for export shall be granted for the transfer, retransfer, or reexport of any commercial satellite or related component or technology contained on the Commerce Control List maintained under part 774 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations to any person or entity of the following:

(1) The People's Republic of China.

(2) Cuba.

(3) Iran.

(4) North Korea.

(5) Sudan.

(6) Syria.

(7) Any country with respect to which the United States would deny the application for licenses and other approvals for exports and imports of defense articles under section 126.1 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations (relating to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations).

(d) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees on efforts of state sponsors of terrorism, other foreign countries, or entities to illicitly acquire commercial satellites and related components and technology.

(2) FORM.—Such report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

(e) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(1) the Committees on Foreign Relations, Armed Services, and Intelligence of the Senate; and

(2) the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Armed Services, and Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 525. REPORT ON LICENSES AND OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS TO EXPORT COMMERCIAL SATELLITES AND RELATED COMPONENTS AND TECHNOLOGY CONTAINED ON THE COMMERCE CONTROL LIST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the end of each calendar quarter, the President shall transmit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a report containing a listing of all licenses and other authorizations to export commercial satellites and related components and technology contained on the Commerce Control List maintained under part 774 of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) FORM.—Such report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may contain a classified annex.

SEC. 526. REVIEW OF UNITED STATES MUNITIONS LIST.

Section 38(f)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778) is amended by striking the last sentence and inserting the following: ''Such notice shall include, to the extent practicable, an enumeration of the item or items to be removed and describe the nature of any controls to be imposed on that item under any other provision of law.''.

SEC. 527. REPORT ON COUNTRY EXEMPTIONS FOR LICENSING OF EXPORTS OF MUNITIONS AND RELATED TECHNICAL DATA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(1) an assessment of the extent to which the terms and conditions of exemptions for foreign countries from the licensing requirements of the Commerce Munitions List (or analogous controls for commercial satellites and related components and technology) contain strong safeguards; and

(2) a compilation of sufficient documentation relating to the export of munitions, commercial spacecraft, and related technical data to facilitate law enforcement efforts to effectively detect, investigate, deter and enforce criminal violations of any provision of the Export Administration Regulations, including efforts on the part of state sponsors of terrorism, other countries or entities to illicitly acquire such controlled United States technology.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''appropriate congressional committees'' means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(2) the term ''munitions'' means—

(A) items transferred from the United States Munitions List to the Commerce Control List and designated as ''600 series'' items on the Commerce Control List under the Export Administration Regulations, as proposed by the Bureau of Industry and Security of the Department of Commerce on July 15, 2011 (76 F.R. 41958); or

(B) any successor regulations.

SEC. 528. END-USE MONITORING OF MUNITIONS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF MONITORING PROGRAM.—In order to ensure accountability with respect to the export of munitions and related technical data on the Commerce Munitions List, the President shall establish a program to provide for the end-use monitoring of such munitions and related technical data.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the President shall submit to Congress a report describing the actions taken to implement this section, including a detailed accounting of the costs and number of personnel associated with the program established under subsection (a).

(c) MUNITIONS.—In this section, the term ''munitions'' means—

(1) items transferred from the United States Munitions List to the Commerce Control List and designated as ''600 series'' items on the Commerce Control List under the Export Administration Regulations, as proposed by the Bureau of Industry and Security of the Department of Commerce on July 15, 2011 (76 F.R. 41958); or

(2) any successor regulations.

SEC. 529. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) COMMERCE MUNITIONS LIST.—The term ''Commerce Munitions List'' means—

(A) items transferred from the United States Munitions List to the Commerce Control List and designated as ''600 series'' items on the Commerce Control List under the Export Administration Regulations, as proposed by the Bureau of Industry and Security of the Department of Commerce on July 15, 2011 (76 F.R. 41958); or

(B) any successor regulations.

(2) COMMERCIAL SATELLITES AND RELATED COMPONENTS AND TECHNOLOGY.—The term ''commercial satellites and related components and technology'' means—

(A) communications satellites that do not contain classified components, including remote sensing satellites with performance parameters below thresholds identified on the United States Munitions List; and

(B) systems, subsystems, parts, and components associated with such satellites and with performance parameters below thresholds specified for items that would remain on the United States Munitions List.

(3) EXPORT ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS.—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.); or

(B) any successor regulations.

(4) STATE SPONSOR OF TERRORISM.—The term ''state sponsor of terrorism'' means a country the government of which has been determined by the Secretary of State, for purposes of section 6(j) of the Export Administration Act of 1979 (as continued in effect under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act), section 620A of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, section 40 of the Arms Export Control Act, or any other provision of law, is a government that has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism.

(5) UNITED STATES MUNITIONS LIST.—The term ''United States Munitions List'' means the list referred to in section 38(a)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2778(a)(1)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill, H.R. 6018.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank the ranking member—and, indeed, all of the Members on both sides of the aisle—for all of the work that has gone into the drafting of this carefully targeted State Department authorization bill for fiscal year 2013.

Despite significant efforts by the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Department of State has been operating without legislative authority for nearly a decade. The last authorization bill to become law, coauthored by our esteemed former Chairmen Henry Hyde and Tom Lantos, was enacted in September of 2002. The lack of authorities in the intervening years has eroded Congress' foreign policy leverage with the Department of State. By enacting this bill, Congress will repair this lapse, strengthen our foreign policy oversight, and fulfill our obligation to the American public.

The text authorizes basic operations for the State Department, the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and the Peace Corps at fiscally responsible levels coordinated with the Appropriations Committee. This bill does not include any foreign aid authorities.

H.R. 6018 contains important management reforms to increase the efficiency, the accountability, and the safety of our personnel overseas. It reflects bipartisan concern that Congress needs to have a stronger oversight role in the State Department's expanding activities to promote cybersecurity with other governments around the world. It establishes important jurisdiction and oversight authority for the Department's Strategic Counterterrorism Communications Center, which is already operational.

By maintaining current funding for independent audits, inspections, and investigations of the State Department and the Peace Corps, H.R. 6018 ensures that, while we are tightening our belts, we will continue to ferret out waste, fraud, and abuse on behalf of the American taxpayer.

This bill will help American businesses by removing unreasonable obstacles and streamlining the arms export control process for exporting selected equipment and parts. At the same time, it will enhance U.S. security by increasing safeguards against the transfer of sensitive U.S. technologies to state sponsors of terrorism, to China, and to other countries subject to U.S. arms embargoes.

For all of these reasons, Mr. Speaker, H.R. 6018 deserves the bipartisan support that it has received so far and passage by the House this evening.

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

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

I rise in strong support of H.R. 6018, the Fiscal Year 2013 Foreign Relations Authorization Act.

This bill establishes the basis for our Embassies to function and our diplomats to promote U.S. national interests around the world. It provides some of the authorities and resources our State Department needs to promote peaceful international cooperation, protect U.S. national security, and demonstrate the values and principles that define us as a nation.

All around the world, our foreign and civil service officers operate on the front lines of the fight against global terrorism, putting their lives at risk to protect the lives of innocents. By shortchanging our diplomats, we only increase the likelihood of armed confrontation. Skillful diplomacy is also essential for opening foreign markets to American goods and services, which promotes economic growth and creates jobs here at home.

On balance, I do support this bill. It's not perfect. The authorization numbers are well below the FY13 requested levels, lower than what I think is needed to exert strong and effective global leadership, and in a perfect world, I would have preferred a more comprehensive bill that authorizes the full range of our global activities. But the distinguished chairman and her staff have worked with us diligently over the past few weeks to make the changes necessary to arrive at a text that we can wholeheartedly support, so I thank the chairman for her hard work on the bill and for the comity and respect she demonstrated throughout the process.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, we have no further requests for time, so when the gentleman yields back, I will make some closing statements and yield back as well.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, consider my opening to be my closing, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROS-LEHTINEN. In closing, I'd like to thank all of the Members who have worked with us to help put the State Department back on the books for the first time in a decade. I want to thank also the Appropriations, the Budget, and the Intelligence Committees for their helpful consultations throughout this process.

Finally, and most especially, I want to thank the ranking member, my good friend from California (Mr. BERMAN). He has dedicated so many hours, both he and his staff, in making this important bill possible, and I thank him for that.

In particular, I'd like to thank Rick Kessler, Doug Campbell, Daniel Silverberg, Shanna Winters, David Fite, Diana Ohlbaum, Brent Woolfork, Daniel Harsha, our esteemed staff director, Dr. Yleem Poblete, and indeed, all of our hardworking Foreign Affairs staff for their expert assistance, as well as Doug Anderson and Jamie McCormick.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6018, the State Department Authorization Act and to thank Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN and Ranking Member BERMAN for working together to bring this important, bipartisan bill to the floor.

This act authorizes funds for our embassies to function and for our diplomats to promote U.S. national interests abroad.

Congress has not sent a State Authorization bill to the President's desk in years. To get this bill on the suspension calendar, it had to be scrubbed of all controversial provisions. As a consequence, the bill contains no authorization for foreign assistance programs and includes no proposals for much needed foreign aid reform. The bill does, however, include a number of provisions to provide for and protect our men and women serving to advance American interests around the world. The bill authorizes funding for the State Department, the Broadcasting Board of Governors and the multilateral organizations to which the U.S. is a party, such as the United Nations.

Our national security rests on four pillars: the strength of our democracy and economy, defense, diplomacy, and development. Whether in Yemen, where there are growing concerns about that nation becoming a safe haven for al Qaeda or in Afghanistan, where a strong diplomatic presence is helping to facilitate the transition of security responsibility from the coalition forces to the government of Afghanistan, the men and women who serve in our diplomatic corps are on the front lines, in cooperation with our armed forces, protecting U.S. national security.

Mr. Speaker, the men and women who work at the State Department provide vital services to the nation. Both Foreign Service Officers and Civil Service employees monitor and analyze developments throughout the world, and proudly represent our nation and advance our

interests around the globe. It is essential that they have the resources they need to perform their jobs on behalf of our nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6018, 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.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. 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.

UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ENHANCED SECURITY COOPERATION ACT OF 2012

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2165) to enhance strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2165

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 ''United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Since 1948, United States Presidents and both houses of Congress, on a bipartisan basis and supported by the American people, have repeatedly reaffirmed the special bond between the United States and Israel, based on shared values and shared interests.

(2) The Middle East is undergoing rapid change, bringing with it hope for an expansion of democracy but also great challenges to the national security of the United States and our allies in the region, particularly to our most important ally in the region, Israel.

(3) The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is continuing its decades-long pattern of seeking to foment instability and promote extremism in the Middle East, particularly in this time of dramatic political transition.

(4) At the same time, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran continues to enrich uranium in defiance of multiple United Nations Security Council resolutions.

(5) A nuclear-weapons capable Iran would fundamentally threaten vital United States interests, encourage regional nuclear proliferation, further empower Iran, the world's leading state sponsor of terror, and pose a serious and destabilizing threat to Israel and the region.

(6) Over the past several years, with the assistance of the Governments of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria, Hizbollah and Hamas have increased their stockpile of rockets, with more than 60,000 now ready to be fired at Israel. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran continues to add to its arsenal of ballistic missiles and cruise missiles, which threaten Iran's neighbors, Israel, and United States Armed Forces in the region.

(7) As a result, Israel is facing a fundamentally altered strategic environment.

(8) Pursuant to chapter 5 of title 1 of the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2003 (Public Law 108–11; 117 Stat. 576), the authority to make available loan guarantees to Israel is currently set to expire on September 30, 2012.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States:

(1) To reaffirm our unwavering commitment to the security of the State of Israel as a Jewish state. As President Barack Obama stated on December 16, 2011, ''America's commitment and my commitment to Israel and Israel's security is unshakeable.'' And as President George W. Bush stated before the Israeli Knesset on May 15, 2008, on the 60th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, ''The alliance between our governments is unbreakable, yet the source of our friendship runs deeper than any treaty.''.

(2) To help the Government of Israel preserve its qualitative military edge amid rapid and uncertain regional political transformation.

(3) To veto any one-sided anti-Israel resolutions at the United Nations Security Council.

(4) To support Israel's inherent right to self-defense.

(5) To pursue avenues to expand cooperation with the Government of Israel both in defense and across the spectrum of civilian sectors, including high technology, agriculture, medicine, health, pharmaceuticals, and energy.

(6) To assist the Government of Israel with its ongoing efforts to forge a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that results in two states living side-by-side in peace and security, and to encourage Israel's neighbors to recognize Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state.

(7) To encourage further development of advanced technology programs between the United States and Israel given current trends and instability in the region.

SEC. 4. UNITED STATES ACTIONS TO ASSIST IN THE DEFENSE OF ISRAEL AND PROTECT UNITED STATES INTERESTS.

It is the sense of Congress that the United States Government should take the following actions to assist in the defense of Israel:

(1) Seek to enhance the capabilities of the Governments of the United States and Israel to address emerging common threats, increase security cooperation, and expand joint military exercises.

(2) Provide the Government of Israel such support as may be necessary to increase development and production of joint missile defense systems, particularly such systems that defend against the urgent threat posed to Israel and United States forces in the region.

(3) Provide the Government of Israel assistance specifically for the production and procurement of the Iron Dome defense system for purposes of intercepting short-range missiles, rockets, and projectiles launched against Israel.

(4) Provide the Government of Israel defense articles and defense services through such mechanisms as appropriate, to include air refueling tankers, missile defense capabilities, and specialized munitions.

(5) Provide the Government of Israel additional excess defense articles, as appropriate, in the wake of the withdrawal of United States forces from Iraq.

(6) Examine ways to strengthen existing and ongoing efforts, including the Gaza Counter Arms Smuggling Initiative, aimed at preventing weapons smuggling into Gaza pursuant to the 2009 agreement following the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, as well as measures to protect against weapons smuggling and terrorist threats from the Sinai Peninsula.

(7) Offer the Air Force of Israel additional training and exercise opportunities in the United States to compensate for Israel's limited air space.

(8) Work to encourage an expanded role for Israel with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including an enhanced presence at NATO headquarters and exercises.

(9) Expand already-close intelligence cooperation, including satellite intelligence, with Israel.

SEC. 5. ADDITIONAL STEPS TO DEFEND ISRAEL AND PROTECT AMERICAN INTERESTS.

(a) EXTENSION OF WAR RESERVES STOCKPILE AUTHORITY.—

(1) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005.—Section 12001(d) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108–287; 118 Stat. 1011) is amended by striking ''more than 8 years after'' and inserting ''more than 10 years after''.

(2) FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.—Section 514(b)(2)(A) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321h(b)(2)(A)) is amended by striking ''fiscal years 2011 and 2012'' and inserting ''fiscal years 2013 and 2014''.

(b) EXTENSION OF LOAN GUARANTEES TO ISRAEL.—Chapter 5 of title I of the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2003 (Public Law 108–11; 117 Stat. 576) is amended under the heading ''LOAN GUARANTEES TO ISRAEL''—

(1) in the matter preceding the first proviso, by striking ''September 30, 2011'' and inserting ''September 30, 2015''; and

(2) in the second proviso, by striking ''September 30, 2011'' and inserting ''September 30, 2015''.

SEC. 6. REPORTS REQUIRED.

(a) REPORT ON ISRAEL'S QUALITATIVE MILITARY EDGE (QME).—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report on the status of Israel's qualitative military edge in light of current trends and instability in the region.

(2) SUBSTITUTION FOR QUADRENNIAL REPORT.—If submitted within one year of the date that the first quadrennial report required by section 201(c)(2) of the Naval Vessel Transfer Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–429; 22 U.S.C. 2776 note) is due to be submitted, the report required by paragraph (1) may substitute for such quadrennial report.

(b) REPORTS ON OTHER MATTERS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on each of the following matters:

(1) Taking into account the Government of Israel's urgent requirement for F–35 aircraft, actions to improve the process relating to its purchase of F–35 aircraft, particularly with respect to cost efficiency and timely delivery.

(2) Efforts to expand cooperation between the United States and Israel in homeland security, counter-terrorism, maritime security, energy, cyber-security, and other related areas.

(3) Actions to integrate Israel into the defense of the Eastern Mediterranean.

SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

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

(A) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Relations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.

(2) QUALITATIVE MILITARY EDGE.—The term ''qualitative military edge'' has the meaning given the term in section 36(h)(2) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(h)(2)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I ask unanimous consent, Mr. Speaker, that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on Senate bill 2165.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012.

I would like to thank the distinguished majority leader and the minority whip, Mr. CANTOR and Mr. HOYER, for sponsoring the House version of this legislation, as well as Senators BOXER and ISAKSON, who sponsored the Senate version that this House is considering today.

□ 1720

For over 64 years, since the United States recognized Israel just 11 minutes after its creation, the democratic, Jewish State of Israel has been one of our closest allies.

Our shared commitment to peace and to freedom have been the foundation of a special bond that has reinforced the safety and the security of both of our countries. We have forged a defense partnership that has yielded advanced technologies and policies that have benefited both of our nations and helped to keep our citizens secure. Our fates are tied together. A threat to one of our countries is a threat to both.

And so, as the Iranian regime continues to race toward nuclear weapons and sponsor violent extremists like Hamas and Hezbollah, we must work together to counter this growing threat, Mr. Speaker.

And while the United States and Israel are targeted by many of the same threats, Israel's proximity to the Iran-Syria-Hamas-Hezbollah nexus leaves us no room for error. Our goal, with this legislation, is to ensure that Israel has the ability to protect its citizens against the dangers that touch their lives every day, against the rockets, against the bombs, against the missiles that their enemies stockpile while making well-publicized threats every day against the Jewish state.

How do we achieve this goal, Mr. Speaker? By increasing the totality of our bilateral security relations. That means increasing joint missile defense systems, joint military exercises, and intelligence cooperation. We get to learn from them, and they get to learn from us, and we all sleep a little more soundly knowing that we have done all we can to help our citizens.

It also means providing increased excess defense articles and munitions to Israel. With a host of entities stirring the pot of hostility against the Jewish state, it is critical that the United States stand foursquare with Israel.

This legislation also extends authority to provide loan guarantees to the Israeli government that provide the Jewish state with a cushion of support in times of need, and at no cost to the American taxpayer.

Mr. Speaker, our ally, Israel, needs our help, and we are situated to lend a friend this hand while strengthening our own security in the process. Let us stand together today and say that we support a strong and secure Israel, not only because Israel is our friend and ally, but also because a strong and secure Israel means a strong and secure America.

Now is a particularly important time to send that message, as we face the looming specter of this sequester that we're all talking about and working hard to prevent.

Mr. Speaker, if nothing is done to avert this crisis, we will face an almost $450 million cut to security assistance to Israel. This would include over $100 million in cuts to cooperative missile defense programs. These cuts would damage the security of our Nation and our ally, Israel, and they must be averted.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I am so pleased to yield such time as he may consume to the coauthor of this legislation, our leader, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CANTOR).

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentlelady from Florida for her leadership on this issue.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the U.S.-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act. As the gentlelady just said, Mr. Speaker, I, together with my counterpart, STENY HOYER, Chairman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, and the gentleman from California, Ranking Member HOWARD BERMAN, in May introduced this bill, and the House passed it with nearly unanimous support.

At a time when we are facing huge fiscal challenges, this bill makes it clear that no matter what, the United States always stands strong in our support for Israel, with whom we share a commitment to freedom, a respect for human life, and a commitment to security.

Among other things, this bill allows for the continuation of longstanding loan guarantees to Israel, we restate the importance of maintaining Israel's qualitative military edge, and we improve military and intelligence cooperation, particularly with respect to joint missile defense.

We also reiterate our commitment to stand with Israel in international forums like the United Nations, where Israel often finds itself in an unfriendly environment. And, Mr. Speaker, we encourage NATO to welcome an expanded role for Israel. Our investment in Israel's security is an investment in American security.

Beyond this bipartisan expression of America's support for Israel, there is much the United States can do to protect our interests and the interests of our closest allies in the Middle East. But we cannot do so as a spectator.

The U.S. must lead. We cannot rely on Vladimir Putin and Kofi Annan to broker the peace in Syria, or stand idly by as Iran and Russia protect Bashar Assad, one of the world's most active state sponsors of terrorism. And we cannot and must not allow Iran to acquire nuclear weapons capability.

Mr. Speaker, we must meet the existential threat Iran poses to Israel, its neighbors, and the world with strength and engagement. We cannot allow situations in the region to unfold without our leadership. In fact, during my recent trips to the region, I have found there is more agreement on the need for U.S. leadership than anything else.

Today, Mr. Speaker, the House will send this bipartisan bill to the President and deliver the message that, during this pivotal and dangerous period in the Middle East, the United States stands tall for our ally, Israel.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I thank the gentleman for his remarks, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of S. 2165, the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012, and I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I want to thank, first of all, my friends, Majority Leader CANTOR and Minority Whip HOYER, for bringing this important bill back to the floor of the House so that we can accept the Senate's constructive additions and send it to the President's desk.

I'd also like to thank, as did my chairman, Senators BOXER and ISAKSON, and Senator COLLINS, for their leadership on this resolution in the Senate.

And finally, I want to thank my friend and chairman, the gentlelady from Florida, for her continued leadership on the issue of the U.S.-Israel relationship.

Members should recall that in May we passed the House version of this bill, H.R. 4133, by a near-unanimous vote. We will be taking another vote today because the Senate has added an important extension of military stockpile reserve authorities. I strongly support this addition and thank the Senate for its contribution.

Mr. Speaker, since its founding, Israel has faced innumerable challenges to its survival, but the serious threats it faces today are unprecedented. Deadly cross-border attacks from the Sinai Peninsula have taken both Israeli Arab and Israeli Jewish lives.

Terrorism still penetrates Israel from Gaza in the form of rocket and mortar attacks. But unlike in years past, the Iron Dome Anti-Missile System, funded in part by the United States, has changed the rules of the game. In fact, Iron Dome has been successful in intercepting a remarkable 90 percent of incoming rockets aimed at once defenseless population centers.

Currently, there are only a handful of Iron Dome batteries operational in Israel. More are needed in order to protect all of Israel's 8 million citizens.

I'm pleased to say that S. 2165 retains language from the Iron Dome Support Act, bipartisan legislation I introduced which now has nearly 110 cosponsors expressing support for providing Israel assistance to produce additional Iron Dome batteries.

This bill also pledges to assist Israel with its ongoing effort to forge a peaceful, negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that results in two states living side by side in peace and in security. Despite all the obstacles to achieving this goal, we cannot give up trying, as peace is profoundly in Israel's strategic interest.

I applaud Prime Minister Netanyahu's willingness to negotiate anywhere, anytime. The Palestinians should take him up on that offer, instead of pursuing a campaign to delegitimize Israel at the U.N. and elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps the greatest threat to both American and Israeli security today is that posed by Iran's nuclear weapons program. I hope this problem can be solved diplomatically, but as we all know, only massive pressure from the United States and our allies has any chance of persuading Iran to give up its quest for nuclear arms.

□ 1730

In fact, we are currently negotiating a sanctions bill with the Senate, the Iran Threat Reduction Act, which Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN and I introduced and which the House passed late last year. That bill will dramatically increase the economic pressure on Iran. Meanwhile, the bill before us today makes clear that the U.S. Congress will continue to help Israel meet the Iranian threat.

Gaza-based terrorism, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and the Iranian nuclear program are not the only threats faced by Israel. Recent events in Egypt and Syria, along with the presence of Hamas in Gaza and Hezbollah in Lebanon, require Israeli vigilance against danger from all directions.

To that end, this bill, once again, reaffirms our determination to support Israel's qualitative military edge against any possible combination of regional threats. In reinforcing that commitment to Israel's security, this bill extends for 4 years a loan guarantee program for Israel that was initiated in 2003. The extension is based on legislation that Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN and I introduced in March.

Mr. Speaker, our relationship with our ally Israel is one of the most important and closest that we have with any nation in the world. The United States and Israel face many of the same threats, and we share the same values. Israel's defense minister, Ehud Barak, recently said that he can hardly remember a better period of U.S. ''support and cooperation'' and common U.S.-Israel strategic understanding than the current one.

The passage of this bill will help ensure that this cooperation continues into the future. I encourage all of my colleagues to support this legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I am so pleased to yield 4 minutes to my good friend, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), who is the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank the distinguished gentlelady, the chairwoman of our committee, for her great leadership in the defense of Israel. I thank as well my good friend and colleague, the ranking member, Mr. BERMAN. These two individuals work hard every day for the peace and security of our friend and ally Israel.

This is a ''must pass'' bill, Mr. Speaker, as we must reiterate our support for the nation of Israel. Our friend and ally Israel lives under the daily threat of indiscriminate rocket attacks on their homes and businesses, terrorism on public transit, and the unapologetic, undeterred, and unacceptable existential threat of a nuclear Iran. Despite Iran's signature of the Genocide Convention of 1956, Iran's anti-Semitic leader, Ahmadinejad, has repeatedly threatened to wipe Israel off the face of the Earth. Iran has ignored its commitments not to pursue nuclear weapons under the IAEA, refusing inspections and failing the ones they do allow.

The U.N. has failed to be resolute in its response to Iran or to protect Israel, leaving Israel to fend for itself at best but, more often, attacking and undermining it at every opportunity. Most recently and amazingly, the United Nations allowed Iran to be elected to the 15-member general committee of the U.N. Arms Trade Treaty Conference, which is allegedly developing a treaty regulating the international sale of conventional arms. Iran does, after all, have considerable experience in this area. Iran has been arming Israel's neighbors for decades.

Freedom House's annual report on the world, which assesses the political and civil liberties of nearly every nation on Earth, shows that Israel is surrounded by nations that profoundly disrespect the political and civil liberties of their own citizens. These nations actively foment hate against Israel and have human rights records that are among the worst in the world. Syria has now shown its true colors. We cannot sit by and wait for Iran to have the opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, superior deterrence remains among the best guarantors of peace, and that has certainly been the case in the Middle East. S. 2165 enhances Israel's ability to defend itself. When Israel's military superiority was unclear in the eyes of its enemies soon after it was created, soon after Israel became a state, Israel was tested repeatedly with war, yet they won again and again. In response to Israel's clear military superiority, Israel's enemies have relied on cowardly acts of terrorism. They have attacked with Gaza rockets, with the intifada, with the flotilla, and Israel's task has been to overcome those deadly aggressions. Mr. Speaker, S. 2165 provides assistance for several programs that are effective in deterring attacks and in defending Israel, including for the Iron Dome, Israel's successful means of defending itself against missiles and rockets targeting Israeli homes and businesses.

With this bill, Israel will be better equipped for any scenario as it fulfills its solemn duty to protect its own people. With this bill, we also reassert our country's moral obligation and unshakable commitment to give Israel every assistance. The U.S. reaffirms, in word and in deed, our dedication to the defense of the Jewish state. S. 2165 expands U.S. military, intelligence, and civilian cooperation with Israel, including an offer to the Israeli air force for additional training opportunities in the U.S. in order to compensate for Israel's limited airspace and other enhanced cooperation on intelligence sharing.

Israel has shown itself to be a great friend of the United States, not only in setting the standard for democracy and human rights in the region but by being trustworthy with loans—always repaying loans on time and in full. This bill recognizes Israel's dependability with an extension of the longstanding loan guarantee program for Israel.

Finally, this bill reaffirms that the only viable option for peace and security in the region is an Israeli state and a Palestinian state existing side by side. Again, I ask for Members to support this important bill.

Mr. BERMAN. I am very pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman representing American Samoa and the ranking Democrat on the Asia and the Pacific Subcommittee of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA.

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I want to associate myself especially with the remarks made by the gentlelady from Florida, who is our distinguished chairwoman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and with the remarks of my senior ranking member, the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN). I thank them both for their leadership in bringing this legislation forward for consideration and approval before the Members of this body.

I think there is absolutely no question in terms of the provisions provided in this bill. We want to be absolutely certain that our government is making every effort to ensure the security of the State of Israel.

I want to again commend the gentlelady from Florida and also my good friend from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for their comments in assuring and in giving every absolute notice to other countries of the world so as to know where the United States stands in its defense of Israel.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I am so pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CHABOT), who is the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia. He deals with these issues every day.

Mr. CHABOT. Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

I really do appreciate the great leadership Chairwoman ROS-LEHTINEN has shown on this issue and on so many issues around the world. I appreciate as well the great leadership of Mr. BERMAN, the ranking member. Together, in a bipartisan manner, both have really done a great job for our country, and we appreciate that.

Despite the tremendous progress that has been made toward ensuring Israel's continued security, critical challenges still remain. Now, perhaps more than at any time since the 1973 Yom Kippur War, Israel faces real and direct threats to its very homeland. Although the so-called Arab Spring has raised hopes that with time and hard work democracy may take hold in Arab lands, it has also ushered in what will, no doubt, be a period of profound and prolonged instability.

□ 1740

And while we most certainly should be working with Arab countries in this time of transition, we must not forget Israel, the Middle East's only established democracy and our friend and ally, which faces unprecedented threats to its security. Some of these are threats that Israel has not had to deal with in a very long time.

To the west, Israel faces new and untested Egyptian leadership, which has sent some troubling messages about its intentions for Egyptian-Israeli bilateral relations. To the north, fighting in Syria is continuing to intensify, and all signs suggest that the country may collapse into full-scale civil war. Other threats are sadly perennial. To Israel's north and west, terrorists remain poised to attack and otherwise disrupt normal life for millions of Israeli citizens. To the east, the Iranian threat looms large on the horizon, and they threaten Israel and the entire region with the prospect of a nuclear weapon's capable radical regime right next door.

There is no question that the illicit Iranian nuclear program must remain at the very top of our priority list. It's certainly at the top of Israel's priority list. The nuclear program is, however, a symptom of the disease rather than the disease itself. The nuclear program is a paramount challenge to U.S. core national security interests, as well as those of our allies, and it must be addressed. As long as this regime is in power and the region continues to experience the kind of instability we're now witnessing, we must commit ourselves fully to doing everything we can to help aid Israel in securing itself.

I urge the adoption of this very important resolution.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, may I ask how much time is remaining on each side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CHAFFETZ). The gentleman from California has 13½ minutes, and the gentlewoman from Florida has 5½ minutes.

Mr. BERMAN. With that, Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 5 minutes to our distinguished whip, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER).

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Again, as I do repeatedly when I rise to speak on issues related to our closest ally in the Middle East, Israel, and the relationship between our two countries, I congratulate the chairwoman of the committee, the gentlelady from Florida, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, for her leadership on this issue and focus on the importance of not only the relationship, but on the importance of making sure that Israel is strong and able to defend herself.

I also congratulate the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN). I don't know anybody who, for a longer period of time, has focused on the issue of keeping the relationship between Israel and the United States strong, vibrant, and open, and who has, on this floor, in committee, in our caucus, and around this country, educated people any more than he has to the necessity to keep this relationship strong and to keep Israel strong.

So I rise to thank both of them for bringing this issue to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, I was proud to cosponsor this legislation with my friend, the majority leader, Mr. CANTOR. That piece of legislation, which Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN and Mr. BERMAN brought to the floor some months ago, passed here with a vote of 411–2, showing the overwhelming bipartisan support this issue has. This is clearly an issue, unlike so many that we deal with, that enjoys not only bipartisan support between the two parties, but support of philosophical perspectives from all over this caucus and this country. We don't always see eye to eye on matters of policy, but we always find common ground when it comes to strengthening the U.S.-Israel relationship.

This is the case for two very important reasons. The first is because the United States and Israel are linked by history and by the common glue of shared values: democracy, free enterprise, respect for human rights, and the rule of law. Secondly, because a strong Israel is in America's national security interest.

We make that point almost every time we speak because it's important for all of our constituents, our fellow Americans to understand that the investment that we make in Israel, the investment in terms of time, in terms of support, in terms of finances, and in terms of military assistance, are all in the interest of the United States of America and its citizens. Yes, it is to Israel's benefit as well, but primarily the United States acts because it sees as critical to its own interests the safety, security, and sovereignty of Israel.

Military and security ties with Israel help the Pentagon and our intelligence agencies track threats to Americans at home and abroad, and they enable us to partner on the development of technologies that help keep our people safe.

The number one regional threat of course, as all of us know, is the prospect of a nuclear Iran. That is of great concern to every nation in the world. The nonproliferation of nuclear weapons is a principal tenet of the nations of the world, adopted by the United Nations and adopted in treaties.

Iran must not be allowed to obtain nuclear weapons, as it would dramatically destabilize the region, and Iran's leaders have already threatened American targets in that part of the world. Again, it is important to note that are some 250,000 Americans within the range of Iranian missiles.

Of course, there are untold economic interests of the United States and of the international community. Enhanced security cooperation with Israel is one of the many tools we have to help prevent Iran from achieving nuclear weaponization and to protect American assets in the region.

This bill strengthens that cooperation in several ways:

It authorizes aid for the joint U.S.-Israel Iron Dome missile defense, a critical investment.

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

Mr. BERMAN. I yield the gentleman an additional 2 minutes.

Mr. HOYER. It also increases U.S. strategic stockpiles in Israel and provides Israel with additional weaponry as a first line of defense for the United States, as well as for Israel.

Furthermore, this bill extends loan guarantees for Israel and encourages an expanded Israeli role in NATO.

Mr. Speaker, it is so encouraging to see that even while we may divide on other matters, this House will pass the legislation before us with strong, overwhelming bipartisan support. That

sends a message that hopefully cannot be missed, a clarity of purpose expressed by this Congress, the policymaking body of this Nation, that speaks for all the people of our Nation. Hopefully, those who would pose a threat and risk to us and to our allies would take note of that unanimity of purpose. Let us continue to ensure that close U.S.-Israel ties are an issue that unites us as Americans.

As I said, the House overwhelmingly passed this measure earlier this year, 411–2. Now the Senate has sent it back to us for final consideration. I congratulate my friend, Senator BOXER, and the Republican leadership of the Senate, as well.

I hope we can pass it again today. I know we will, and I hope it's with even greater support. I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this bill—for America, for Israel, and for international security.

□ 1750

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I only have some closing remarks and have no further requests for time, so I will wait for my colleague from California to yield back.

Mr. BERMAN. After what we just heard, I would not suggest any further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012 states, and it makes it very clear, that U.S. policy is to: reaffirm the commitment to Israel's security as a Jewish state; also to provide Israel with the military capabilities to defend herself and help preserve its qualitative military edge; also to expand military and civilian cooperation; to assist in a negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that results in two states living side by side in peace and security, which is all of our goals; and also encourage Israel's neighbors to recognize Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state.

This bill expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should take specified actions to assist in the defense of Israel; it amends the 2005 Department of Defense Appropriations Act to extend authority to transfer certain Department of Defense items to Israel; it amends the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to extend authority to make additions to foreign-based defense stockpiles; and, lastly, it amends the Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2003 to extend specified loan guarantee authority to Israel.

This is in the U.S. national security interest, and I hope that the House overwhelmingly passes this important bill.

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

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of "S. 2165; U.S.-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012."

Since 1948 the U.S. and Israel have shared a special bond.

Israel is our greatest ally in a region defined by conflict.

Today, there are significant events in the Middle East that present unique security challenges.

From the upheaval in neighboring states to the defiance of the IAEA by the Iranian regime, Israel is under constant threat.

The Israelis should not be forced to live under duress from a nation that denies the holocaust and Israel's right to exist.

As a nation we must never waiver in our support of Israel's inherent right to self-defense against these threats.

Congress must provide the technology and weapons systems that provide a military advantage over aggressors.

This enhanced cooperation between the U.S. and Israel will provide stability in an increasingly unstable region.

Israel must have the capability and consent to defend themselves or the region will fall deeper into chaos.

I urge my colleagues to support this responsible legislation.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation.

The House passed its version of this legislation in May 2012, with my strong support. The Senate has elected to improve the loan guarantee and stock-pile authorities in its version, which I am also pleased to support.

United States and Israel have built a strong, unique and special relationship, and passage of this legislation will only strengthen those bonds. The political changes that are sweeping through North Africa and the Middle East are creating new uncertainties for the United States and Israel. The revolutions that are underway may not produce the much-hoped for democratic "Arab Spring". Indeed, the ascension of Muslim Brotherhood member Mohamad Morsi to the Egyptian presidency is a development whose consequences cannot be predicted with certainty at the moment. During such times of uncertainty, it is important that America send a clear message to the region that we will continue to stand by our ally, Israel. This bill helps us do exactly that, which is why I am pleased to support it.

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4133, now S. 2165, the U.S.-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in voting for this bill.

Israel continues to face unprecedented and unpredictable challenges from many of its neighbors. American support for Israel must remain unequivocally solid. This legislation is the latest important effort to continue and expand our deep mutual relationship. I am pleased that the House of Representatives is considering H.R. 4133 today, as it is of the utmost importance.

In addition to reaffirming our continued commitment to Israel, this legislation will provide Israel with many new military capabilities needed to defend itself against any threats. It is important for those who may wish to do Israel harm to know that they will not be successful. Specifically, this bill will provide Israel with new missile defense capabilities, mid-air refueling tankers, and specialized munitions. Each of these are key components for ensuring Israel's continued sovereign right to exist. In addition to these items this bill thoughtfully provides Israel with certain defense equipment that is being left behind by the withdrawal of American forces from Iraq.

In addition to the conveyance of equipment, this bill greatly increases our intelligence sharing operations and offers the Israeli Air Force aditional training resources in the United States. This is very important given the severely limited training grounds for the Israeli Air Force in its own country. I am especially pleased with the agreement for increased intelligence cooperation. This new level of intelligence collaboration will substantially assist our own intelligence services in keeping Americans safe. This legislation greatly benefits both countries; it is truly a remarkable partnership.

These efforts are paramount, but we must not rest. When we pass this legislation today, we must know that this is only the next step, and is not the final step in ensuring Israel's freedoms and right to exist. I remain committed to work with my colleagues for helping expand the US-Israeli partnership.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor and strong supporter of the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012, I rise in support of the bill.

The House originally passed this measure by a vote of 411 to 2 in May. The Senate then passed the measure by unanimous consent on June 29. The purpose of the bill is to extend to Israel a U.S. Government loan guarantee and U.S. defense stockpile transfer authority.

Israel is an essential American ally in the Middle East. The rapid change that region is undergoing will have a significant impact on the national security of both our countries. In light of this, S. 2165 helps to reinforce our support for the security of Israel by extending until Sept. 30, 2015, the U.S. Government loan guarantees. The measure also expresses the sense of Congress that the United States should take a number of actions to strengthen the defense of Israel, including: providing support for its "Iron Dome" air defense system; providing Israel with air refueling tankers and specialized munitions; and expanding intelligence cooperation between our two countries.

By passing this bill today, we reaffirm our support for the right of Israel to defend itself and demonstrate our ongoing commitment to Israel as an ally of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2165.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

INSULAR AREAS ACT OF 2011

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2009) to improve the administration of programs in the insular areas, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2009

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 ''Insular Areas Act of 2011''.

SEC. 2. CONTINUED MONITORING ON RUNIT ISLAND.

Section 103(f)(1) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(f)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''Notwithstanding'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) CONTINUED MONITORING ON RUNIT ISLAND.—

''(i) CACTUS CRATER CONTAINMENT AND GROUNDWATER MONITORING.—Effective beginning January 1, 2012, the Secretary of Energy shall, as a part of the Marshall Islands program conducted under subparagraph (A), periodically (but not less frequently than every 4 years) conduct—

''(I) a visual study of the concrete exterior of the Cactus Crater containment structure on Runit Island; and

''(II) a radiochemical analysis of the groundwater surrounding and in the Cactus Crater containment structure on Runit Island.

''(ii) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives, a report that contains—

''(I) a description of—

''(aa) the results of each visual survey conducted under clause (i)(I); and

''(bb) the results of the radiochemical analysis conducted under clause (i)(II); and

''(II) a determination on whether the surveys and analyses indicate any significant change in the health risks to the people of Enewetak from the contaminants within the Cactus Crater containment structure.

''(iii) FUNDING FOR GROUNDWATER MONITORING.—The Secretary of the Interior shall make available to the Department of Energy, Marshall Islands Program, from funds available for the Technical Assistance Program of the Office of Insular Affairs, the amounts necessary to conduct the radiochemical analysis of groundwater under clause(i)(II).''.

SEC. 3. CLARIFYING THE TEMPORARY ASSIGNMENT OF JUDGES TO COURTS OF THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES.

Section 297(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by striking ''circuit or district judge'' and inserting ''circuit, district, magistrate, or territorial judge of a court''.

SEC. 4. DELAY OF SCHEDULED MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE IN AMERICAN SAMOA.

(a) DELAYED INCREASE PENDING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT.—Section 8103(b)(2)(C) of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 (29 U.S.C. 206 note; Public Law 110–28) is amended—

(1) by striking ''each year thereafter until'' and inserting ''on September 30 of every third year thereafter until''; and

(2) by striking ''except that'' and all that follows through ''September 30'' and inserting ''except that there shall be no such increase in 2012, 2013, and 2014 pending the triennial report required under section 8104(a)''.

(b) TRIENNIAL GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REPORT.—Section 8104(a) of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 (29 U.S.C. 206 note; Public Law 110–28) is amended by striking ''April 1, 2013, and every 2 years'' and inserting ''April 1, 2014, and every 3 years''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the bill, S. 2009.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill, S. 2009 the Insular Areas Act, a brief bill that passed the Senate unanimously in December before being transmitted to the House and referred to multiple committees.

The bill consists of three short sections:

The first section, which shifts to the Department of Energy the responsibility for Department of the Interior-funded radiological monitoring at former U.S. nuclear test sites, has long been overseen by the Committee on Natural Resources.

The second section, which confirms the continuing eligibility of U.S. magistrates to participate in long-standing judicial exchange programs, is primarily overseen by the Committee on the Judiciary.

And the third section, involving a domestic workforce issue, is overseen by the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

All of these committees have reviewed the bill, waived additional action, and consented to today's suspension consideration of the bill. I want to thank those committees for their consideration and their input.

I reserve the balance of my time.

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 20, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am writing to convey the consent of the Committee on Education and the Workforce to be discharged from consideration of S. 2009, Insular Areas Act of 2011, in order to expedite its consideration on the House floor.

Although a formal request has not yet been prepared by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), CBO staff informally estimates that the bill should not have any direct spending or revenue effects and should have an annual discretionary cost under CBO's de minimis threshold ($500,000).

While agreeing to waive consideration of S. 2009, the Committee on Education and the Workforce does not waive any jurisdiction that it has over provisions in the bill, nor does it waive the right to seek appointment as conferees in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation, should such a conference be convened.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Sincerely,

JOHN KLINE,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 28, 2012.

Hon. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN,
Chairwoman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRWOMAN ROS-LEHTINEN, the Foreign Affairs Committee has primary jurisdiction over S. 2009, the ''Insular Areas Act of 2011,'' which the Senate passed by unanimous consent on December 16, 2011. Section 3 of the bill contains matter that falls within the Rule X jurisdiction of the Judiciary Committee. Having reviewed the bill, and pursuant to your request, I agree to discharge the Judiciary Committee from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor.

The Judiciary Committee agrees to such discharge with the understanding that, by foregoing consideration of S. 2009 at this time, we do not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation, and with the further understanding that at such time that the bill may be called up on the House Floor, the bill will be identical in form to the bill as referred to the Foreign Affairs Committee. The Judiciary Committee reserves the right to insist on certain amendments to the provisions of the bill that fall within its Rule X jurisdiction if the bill is called up under a rule permitting amendments thereto. Additionally, if you intend to call up a suspension version on the House Floor that is not identical to the bill as referred to your committee, I respectfully request that you consult further with the Judiciary Committee in advance of such floor consideration.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, March 13, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: I am writing to convey the consent of the Foreign Affairs Committee to be discharged from consideration of S. 2009, the Insular Areas Act of 2011, in order to expedite its consideration on the House floor.

In making this decision, the Foreign Affairs Committee conferred extensively with the Committee on Resources, which has traditionally dealt with the issues involved in the bill, even though that Committee did not receive a formal referral of S. 2009. Although a formal estimate has not yet been prepared by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), CBO staff provided an informal estimate that the bill should not have any direct spending or revenue effects, and would have annual discretionary costs under CBO's de minimis threshold ($500,000).

In agreeing to waive consideration of S. 2009, the Foreign Affairs Committee does not waive any jurisdiction that it has over provisions in that bill, or the right to seek to participate in any conference on that bill, should one occur.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cordially,

ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN,
Chairman.

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

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

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. I want to express my deepest appreciation to the

gentlelady from Florida, the chairwoman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and certainly my colleague, the senior ranking member, Mr. BERMAN of California.

I would also like to express my most sincere appreciation to our Speaker of the House, JOHN BOEHNER; our majority leader, ERIC CANTOR; our Democratic leader, NANCY PELOSI; our Democratic Whip, STENY HOYER; the chairman of our Foreign Affairs Committee, ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, and Ranking Member HOWARD BERMAN of California; Chairman JOHN KLINE and Ranking Member GEORGE MILLER of the Committee on Education and the Workforce; Chairman LAMAR SMITH and Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS of the Committee on the Judiciary; Chairman DOC HASTINGS and Ranking Member ED MARKEY of the Committee on Natural Resources; and certainly Senator JEFF BINGAMAN and Senator LISA MURKOWSKI, who respectively served as chairman and ranking member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for all that they have done on behalf of the insular areas. I cannot thank my colleagues enough for standing with me because I know the passage of this bill is only possible today due to their support.

I also thank the committee staff leadership for their working in close association with my office on the provision which will benefit the Associated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Territory of American Samoa.

Mr. Speaker, as my chairman had alluded to earlier about this section, it's very simple.

This atoll, Runit Atoll, is located in Enewetak. For the benefit and information of my colleagues, the Enewetak Atoll is located in the Marshall Islands. This is where we exploded 43 of our nuclear bombs out of the 67 nuclear bombs that we exploded during our testing program from 1943 to 1962; and in the process, this is where we exploded our mini-hydrogen bomb, which was called a Mike shot, which was only about 700 times more powerful than the nuclear bomb that we exploded in Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

Only about a couple of hundred of miles away is also the atoll called Bikini Atoll, and in 1954 we exploded the most powerful and the first hydrogen bomb that was ever exploded on this planet. It was known as the Bravo shot, and it was 1,300 times more powerful than the bombs that we dropped in Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

Just to give my colleagues a sense of understanding and appreciation, what we did in this specific atoll, Enewetak, we had to collect all the debris, all the nuclear waste materials as a result of the 43 bombs that we exploded in this atoll for purposes of preventing nuclear contamination from getting into the water and the ocean squall of that. Well, it started to leak, and there are some very serious problems of nuclear contamination seepage coming out of what we've done in burying, supposedly, the nuclear waste materials on this atoll called Runit Atoll.

This provision is just simply the Congress directs the Secretary of Energy to do a monitoring program and to see what is happening after some 40 years that we did all this tremendous damage, not only to property, but to the lives of these people in the Marshall Islands. This is what this provision provides. It very simply authorizes the Secretary of Energy to go over there and find out what's going on and monitor the underground water so that these people can survive properly.

In the process, and what's about good about this bill, Mr. Speaker, is it doesn't require any offsets. We don't have to worry about any financials. It will be funded by the Technical Assistance Program that is now provided by the Office of Insular Affairs.

The second provision in this bill, Mr. Speaker, it just simply amends the Compact of Free Association to authorize our judges to go there and serve temporarily in the courts of the Associated States of Micronesia. That's all it does. It doesn't require any more expense than it is but just to simply authorize them.

□ 1800

And the third provision that I want to share with my colleagues is simply to delay the increase of the minimum wage in my little Territory of American Samoa for the next 3 years. That's all that this bill provides.

As I said, Mr. Speaker, this is one of the most unusual bills. It has the support of four committee chairmen and senior ranking members. Now, you talk about bipartisanship: I don't know of any other bill that I've ever heard or known and the fact that we have something we can all work toward in solving some of the serious problems affecting the lives of our fellow Americans. And that's all I'm asking for.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 2009, the Insular Areas Act of 2011, which was passed by the Senate on December 16, 2011.

At this time, I would like to express my sincerest appreciation to Speaker of the House JOHN BOEHNER, Majority Leader ERIC CANTOR, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Whip STENY HOYER, Chairman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN and Ranking Member HOWARD BERMAN of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chairman JOHN KLINE and Ranking Member GEORGE MILLER of the Committee on Education and the Workforce, Chairman LAMAR SMITH and Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS of the Committee on the Judiciary, Chairman DOC HASTINGS and Ranking Member ED MARKEY of the Committee on Natural Resources, and Senators JEFF BINGAMAN and LISA MURKOWSKI who respectively serve as the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for all they have done for and on behalf of the people of American Samoa.

I cannot thank my colleagues enough for standing with me because I know that passage of this bill is only possible today due to their support. I also thank committee and leadership staff for working in close association with my office on provisions which will benefit our Associated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, and the U.S. Territory of American Samoa for years to come. Most of all, I thank the people of American Samoa, our tuna cannery workers, our Fono, and Governor for their support and prayers.

I want to especially commend Senator BINGAMAN and Senator MURKOWSKI for their leadership in getting S. 2009 passed by the Senate. S. 2009 includes a provision to delay minimum wage increases in American Samoa until 2015. The provision regarding minimum wage was worked out in advance with my office as well as the Senate HELP Committee, the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Because S. 2009 included other provisions not related to minimum wage, the bill was referred to three different committees in the House, including Education and the Workforce, the Judiciary, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs which has primary jurisdiction for S. 2009. With three different committees sharing jurisdiction, the bill could not move to the House floor unless the committees agreed to be discharged from consideration of S. 2009.

At my request, each of the Chairmen and Ranking Members agreed to waive consideration in order to expedite the bill's consideration. Although S. 2009 was not referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources, I sought and received the support of Chairman DOC HASTINGS and Ranking Member ED MARKEY, too.

While we were hopeful that the bill could be placed on the House calendar after Congress returned from the Christmas recess, in January 2012 the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) unwittingly halted the advancement of the bill due to concerns it raised about a provision related to the monitoring of Runit Island. After explaining how important delaying further minimum wage increases is to American Samoa's economy, we were able to resolve OIA's concerns and move forward. But given these setbacks, Speaker BOEHNER's office subsequently requested that we formalize, in writing, the commitment of the Chairmen of the committees of jurisdiction and, as of March 28, 2012, we completed this request.

On Tuesday, July 10, 2012, I personally met with Majority Leader ERIC CANTOR and presented our case, and he agreed that with the support of Speaker BOEHNER, Democratic Leader PELOSI and Democratic Whip HOYER that he would schedule the bill for consideration. Once the bill was publicly placed on the House calendar for July 17, 2012, I announced the progress we had made. Given the sensitivities surrounding minimum wage, I felt like a public announcement any sooner could have jeopardized our efforts.

The matter of minimum wage is of utmost importance to American Samoa. Since 1956, until Congress enacted P.L. 110–28 which

automatically increases wage rates by $.50 per hour effective July 2007 and every year thereafter until 2014, wage rates for American Samoa were determined by Special Industry Committees in accordance with Sections 5, 6, and 8 of the Fair Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. Sections 205, 206, 208). While these Industry Committees were phased out in other U.S. Territories due to their more diversified economies, American Samoa continues to be a single industry economy, and automatic increases have only served to exacerbate an already difficult situation for the local economy.

For more than 50 years, American Samoa's private sector economy had been nearly 80% dependent, either directly or indirectly, on two canneries—StarKist and Chicken of the Sea—which until recently employed more than 74 percent of our private sector workforce. However, on September 30, 2009, one day after American Samoa was struck by a powerful 8.3 Richter Scale earthquake which set off a 20-foot wave tsunami that left untold damage and loss from which the Territory has not fully recovered, Chicken of the Sea closed its operations in American Samoa and outsourced more than 2,000 jobs to Thailand where fish cleaners are paid $0.75 and less per hour compared to wage rates of about $4.76 per hour in American Samoa.

As noted by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), before minimum wage increases went into effect tuna canneries in American Samoa were operating at about a $7.5 million loss per year when compared to canneries, like Bumble Bee, and now Chicken of the Sea, which outsource fish cleaning jobs to low-wage rate countries. Outsourcing has adversely impacted American Samoa's economy in untold ways. Higher fish costs, higher shipping costs, higher fuel costs, better local tax incentives offered by competitors and the global economic recession have especially contributed to the weakening of the Territory's economy. Passage of S. 2009 will help resolve some of these problems by providing ASG with the time it needs to diversify the Territory's private-sector economy.

While I thank my colleagues for their support and urge them to vote in favor of S. 2009, it is my sincere hope that improvements on the territory's economy will be such that it will provide for fair wages for American Samoa's workers. So between now and 2015, it will be up to ASG and our corporate partners, including StarKist and Tri-Marine, to find new ways of succeeding without further compromising the wages of both our public and private sector workers or wage earners.

American Samoa's cannery workers have been the backbone of the U.S. tuna and fishing processing industries, and I salute them for stabilizing the Territory's economy. With heart-felt gratitude for the sacrifices they have made on our behalf, I am noting their service in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD for historical purposes.

Once more, I thank my colleagues in the House and Senate for helping American Samoa in its time of need, and I urge passage of S. 2009.

THE ENEWETAK PEOPLE—CHALLENGES FACING THE ONLY POPULATION EVER RESETTLED ON A NUCLEAR TEST SITE

INTRODUCTION

Enewetak was the site of 43 of the 67 nuclear tests that the U.S. conducted in the Marshall Islands and the Enewetak people are the only people ever resettled on a nuclear test site.

ENEWETAK ATOLL AS A NUCLEAR TEST SITE

Enewetak Atoll, was the site of forty-three of the sixty-six nuclear tests conducted by the United States in the Marshall Islands between 1946 and 1958. One of the tests at Enewetak was especially significant as it was the first test of a hydrogen bomb. This test occurred on October 31, 1952 and was known as the ''Mike'' test. The test had a yield of 10.4 megatons (750 times greater than the Hiroshima bomb). The destructive power of the Mike test was exceeded only by the Bravo test (15 megatons) in all the nuclear tests conducted by the United States anywhere. The Mike test vaporized an island, leaving a crater a mile in diameter and 200 feet deep. The Mike test detonation and the detonation of the other 42 nuclear devices on Enewetak resulted in the vaporization of over 8% of the land and otherwise devastated the atoll. The devastation is so severe that to this day, fifty-four years after the last nuclear explosion, over half of the land and all of the lagoon remain contaminated by radiation. The damage is so pervasive that the Enewetak people cannot live on over 50% of our land. In fact, they can't live on Enewetak without the importation of food.

The U.S. Department of Energy described the devastating effects of the 43 nuclear tests on Enewetak as follows:

''The immense ball of flame, cloud of dark dust, evaporated steel tower, melted sand for a thousand feet, 10 million tons of water rising out of the lagoon, waves subsiding from a height of eighty feet to seven feet in three miles were all repeated, in various degrees, 43 times on Enewetak Atoll.''

REMOVAL OF THE ENEWETAK PEOPLE FROM ENEWETAK ATOLL TO UJELANG ATOLL

A few days before Christmas in 1947, the U.S. removed the Enewetak people to the much smaller, resource poor, and isolated atoll of Ujelang. They were told by the U.S. that their removal would be for a short time. In fact, Captain John P. W. Vest, the U.S. Military Governor for the Marshall Islands, told them that their removal from Enewetak would be temporary and last no more than three to five years. Unfortunately, they were exiled on Ujelang for a period of over thirty-three years.

HARDSHIP ON UJELANG

The exile on Ujelang was particularly difficult for the Enewetak people leading to hopelessness and despair. During the 33-year exile on Ujelang they endured the suffering of near starvation. They tried to provide food for themselves and their children, but one meal a day and constant hunger was the norm. Malnutrition caused illness and disease. Children and the elderly were particularly vulnerable. Health care was woefully inadequate. In addition, children went largely uneducated in the struggle for survival. They became so desperate that in the late 1960's they took over a visiting government field-trip ship, demanding that they be taken off of Ujelang and returned to Enewetak.

After years of hardship, neglect and isolation the Enewetak people became increasingly insistent that they be returned home. Eventually, the U.S. said it would attempt to make Enewetak Atoll habitable.

The suffering and hardship experienced by the Enewetak people while on Ujelang, was eventually acknowledged by the U.S. The U.S. Department of Interior in a letter to the President of the U.S. Senate, dated January 14, 1978, said, in relevant part:

''The people of Enewetak Atoll were removed from their home atoll in 1947 by the U.S. Government in order that their atoll could be used in the atomic testing program. The people were promised that they would be able to return home once the U.S. Government no longer had need for their islands.

During the thirty years that the Enewetak people have been displaced from their home atoll they have suffered grave privations, including periods of near starvation, in their temporary home on Ujelang Atoll. The people have cooperated willingly with the U.S. Government and have made many sacrifices to permit the United States to use their home islands for atomic testing purposes.''

INITIAL CLEANUP ATTEMPT OF ENEWETAK ATOLL

In 1972, the U.S. said that it would soon no longer require the use of Enewetak. The U.S. recognized that the extensive damage and residual radiation at Enewetak would require radiological cleanup, soil rehabilitation, housing and basic infrastructure before the people could resettle Enewetak. An extensive cleanup, rehabilitation and resettlement effort was undertaken between 1977 and 1980.

Unfortunately, the cleanup left over half of the land mass of the atoll contaminated by radiation confining the people to the southern half of the atoll. This has prevented the Enjebi island members of the Enewetak community from resettling their home island in the northern part of the atoll, and has prevented the people from making full and unrestricted use of their atoll. In addition, the cleanup and rehabilitation was not effective in rehabilitating the soil and revegetating the islands. An extensive soil rehabilitation and revegetation effort is still required to permit the growing of food crops.

RUNIT DOME

The cleanup of Enewetak entailed removal and collection of highly contaminated topsoil, vegetation, and debris (concrete and metal) that was subsequently entombed within an unlined crater produced by an 18 kilo ton surface test and capped with a concrete dome. The site is now known as the Runit Dome. Evidence indicates open hydraulic communication between radioactive waste and intruding ocean water, with migration pathways leading to local groundwater and circulating lagoon waters.

Inside the Runit Dome lies over 110,000 cubic yards of plutonium and other radioactive debris that is radioactive for thousands of years. And, many areas of Runit Island have dangerous levels of contamination. Consequently, the dome and the surrounding area need to be monitored in the same manner that they would be monitored in the US. The reason for such monitoring is simple—the Enewetak people are entitled to the same level of protection from US created radiation as the people of the US.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA for the warm way in which he works with every member of our committee, and that is why it is a pleasure for all of us on the Committee on Foreign Affairs to do everything that we can to help the gentleman, because we know how important these bills are to him, as we can see, as we have heard. What we may consider to be a suspension bill that will not impact our daily lives, it impacts the many thousands of people whom he is so proud to represent in a very real and meaningful way.

So I thank him for his gentle manners. I thank him for his graciousness. I thank him for the important bills that he brings to our attention. And I want to tell him what an honor it is for

all of us on our committee to work with him in a bipartisan way.

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

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, S. 2009 is primarily concerned with U.S. responsibilities to the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the other Freely Associated States in Micronesia, and with a pause in the implementation of federal minimum wage in American Samoa.

I certainly support continuing U.S. oversight of the effects of nuclear testing in the Marshalls.

And I defer to my colleague from American Samoa with respect to economic policy in his district.

In one respect, though, S. 2009 does impact my district, the Northern Marianas Islands.

The bill moves a Government Accountability Office report on the effect of minimum wage increases in the Northern Marianas and American Samoa from every two years to every three years.

These GAO reports are important. They provide a credible analysis of a complex policy, namely the annual 50¢ increase in the minimum wage in the Marianas.

Yet this decision to delay the next GAO report and stretch out the period of time between reports is being made without benefit of a hearing in this House.

Neither businesses nor workers, who are impacted by the minimum wage increases in my district, have had a chance to be heard from.

Last year, in part based on the GAO's findings, I supported a one–year break in the wage increase.

Looking ahead to next year, I had hoped to have another GAO report to guide any decision about—perhaps—skipping another year.

But S. 2009 will leave us without benefit of the GAO's advice.

And I believe this House needs that guidance.

I will not object to passage of S. 2009, but I do regret that this House did not follow its regular order before bringing the measure to the floor.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of S. 2009. This legislation includes provisions adjusting the federal minimum wage schedule for American Samoa in light of GAO's findings on its unique labor market conditions. Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA of American Samoa has asked the Congress to make these adjustments for American Samoa and pass this bill.

Current law requires that the minimum wage increase in American Samoa annually until it reaches the Mainland's federal minimum wage level.

Current law also requires the GAO to regularly report to Congress on economic conditions in American Samoa over the course of these minimum wage adjustments. These GAO reports are intended to give Congress information so that, if necessary, Congress can adjust the minimum wage schedule for the territory.

Precisely because American Samoa has a unique, isolated, and relatively undiversified economy and because the path to the full federal minimum wage for this territory is a necessarily long one, Congress must be flexible over time with the minimum wage schedule in response to changing economic conditions. Congress must also maintain the clear requirement that the minimum wage in American Samoa be on a schedule to reach Mainland levels. In decades past, the use of a special industry committee to periodically review and set the minimum wage in American Samoa proved ineffective, unfairly depressing wage levels below what was economically feasible.

The minimum wage provision in S. 2009 meets these standards. The adjustment proposed by S. 2009 is the result of the GAO's latest report, which lays out certain economic difficulties confronting American Samoa. These difficulties arise from a variety of factors, including recent global economic conditions and a specific set of challenges facing American Samoa's tuna canning industry.

In response to the GAO report, this bill adjusts the schedule by delaying any minimum wage increases in American Samoa until 2015. Importantly, it maintains a clear minimum wage schedule for the territory, with new increases made triennially.

This is not the first adjustment in the schedule since the increases began in 2007. Adjustments were also enacted in 2010.

Congress must continue to monitor conditions in American Samoa. Future adjustments to either accelerate or delay the minimum wage schedule may be necessary and warranted. Workers in American Samoa deserve a fair minimum wage as soon as possible, which not only improves their standard of living but generates new economic activity for everyone's benefit. To achieve that end and to be sensitive to other economic pressures on the island that may affect employment levels, it is our ongoing responsibility to calibrate the minimum wage schedule as conditions warrant.

I look forward to continuing to work with Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA and other colleagues in the House and Senate to ensure workers in American Samoa receive a just wage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2009.

The question was taken.

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

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. 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.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE HONORABLE GARY L. ACKERMAN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable GARY L. ACKERMAN, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
5TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK,
July 16, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives that I have been served with a subpoena for documents, issued by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Queens.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is not consistent with the privileges and rights of the House.

Sincerely,

GARY L. ACKERMAN,
Member of Congress.

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 17, 2012.

Hon. JOHN A. BOEHNER,
The Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on July 17, 2012 at 12:53 p.m.:

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 205.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 4 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1830

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CHAFFETZ) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 6018, by the yeas and nays;

S. 2009, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. The remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEAR 2013

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6018) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by

the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 333, nays 61, not voting 37, as follows:

[Roll No. 469]

YEAS—333

Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Baca
Bachus
Baldwin
Barber
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (CA)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fitzpatrick
Forbes
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gerlach
Granger
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herger
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Huelskamp
Hultgren
Hunter
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Kucinich
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lummis
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Mulvaney
Myrick
Nadler
Neal
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Owens
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Pompeo
Price (NC)
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Richardson
Rivera
Roby
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schock
Schwartz
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stark
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walden
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woodall
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—61

Adams
Amash
Bachmann
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Brooks
Broun (GA)
Burgess
Conaway
Cravaack
DesJarlais
Duncan (TN)
Emerson
Fincher
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gardner
Garrett
Gibbs
Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Gohmert
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Graves (GA)
Griffith (VA)
Harris
Huizenga (MI)
Hurt
Jones
Jordan
Lamborn
Marchant
McClintock
Murphy (PA)
Neugebauer
Palazzo
Posey
Price (GA)
Quayle
Ribble
Rigell
Roe (TN)
Rooney
Ross (FL)
Schmidt
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Stearns
Stutzman
Tipton
Tonko
Walberg
Walsh (IL)
West
Westmoreland

NOT VOTING—37

Ackerman
Akin
Boren
Buchanan
Butterfield
Campbell
DeFazio
Dicks
Doggett
Filner
Flake
Gonzalez
Gosar
Green, Al
Gutierrez
Hahn
Hirono
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (IL)
Kingston
Labrador
Landry
Mack
Murphy (CT)
Napolitano
Paul
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Reyes
Richmond
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Sewell
Stivers

□ 1854

Mrs. SCHMIDT, Messrs. FINCHER, BROUN of Georgia, HURT, PRICE of Georgia, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Messrs. ROE of Tennessee, GARDNER, GARRETT, GRAVES of Georgia, FLEMING, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mrs. BLACK, Messrs. GINGREY of Georgia, SCHWEIKERT, MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and MARCHANT changed their vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. ROHRABACHER changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

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

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 469, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 469, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PITTS). The Chair would ask all present to rise for the purpose of a moment of silence.

The Chair asks that the House now observe a moment of silence in remembrance of our brave men and women in uniform who have given their lives in the service of our Nation in Iraq and Afghanistan and their families, and of all who serve in our Armed Forces and their families.

INSULAR AREAS ACT OF 2011

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2009) to improve the administration of programs in the insular areas, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 378, nays 11, not voting 42, as follows:

[Roll No. 470]

YEAS—378

Adams
Aderholt
Alexander
Altmire
Amash
Amodei
Andrews
Austria
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baldwin
Barber
Barletta
Barrow
Bartlett
Barton (TX)
Bass (NH)
Becerra
Benishek
Berg
Berkley
Berman
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Black
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Bonamici
Bonner
Bono Mack
Boswell
Boustany
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brooks
Brown (FL)
Bucshon
Buerkle
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Calvert
Camp
Canseco
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Carnahan
Carney
Carson (IN)
Carter
Cassidy
Castor (FL)
Chabot
Chaffetz
Chandler
Chu
Cicilline
Clarke (MI)
Clarke (NY)
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Coffman (CO)
Cohen
Cole
Conaway
Connolly (VA)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cravaack
Crawford
Crenshaw
Critz
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
DeGette
DeLauro
Denham
Dent
DesJarlais
Deutch
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Dold
Donnelly (IN)
Doyle
Dreier
Duffy
Duncan (SC)
Duncan (TN)
Edwards
Ellison
Ellmers
Emerson
Engel
Eshoo
Farenthold
Farr
Fattah
Fincher
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fleming
Flores
Forbes
Fortenberry
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Fudge
Gallegly
Garamendi
Gardner
Garrett
Gerlach
Gibbs

Gibson
Gingrey (GA)
Goodlatte
Gowdy
Granger
Graves (GA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Gene
Griffin (AR)
Griffith (VA)
Grijalva
Grimm
Guinta
Guthrie
Hall
Hanabusa
Hanna
Harper
Harris
Hartzler
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Heck
Heinrich
Hensarling
Herrera Beutler
Higgins
Himes
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hochul
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoyer
Hultgren
Hunter
Hurt
Issa
Jenkins
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Jordan
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly
Kildee
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kinzinger (IL)
Kissell
Kline
Kucinich
Lamborn
Lance
Langevin
Lankford
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Latta
Lee (CA)
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Long
Lowey
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luján
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Maloney
Manzullo
Marchant
Marino
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul
McClintock
McCollum
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinley
McNerney
Meehan
Meeks
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Moore
Moran
Murphy (PA)
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neugebauer
Noem
Nugent
Nunes
Nunnelee
Olson
Olver
Owens
Palazzo
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor (AZ)
Paulsen
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Perlmutter
Peters
Peterson
Petri
Pingree (ME)
Pitts
Pompeo
Posey
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Quayle
Quigley
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Rehberg
Reichert
Renacci
Richardson
Rigell
Rivera
Roby
Roe (TN)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Rokita
Rooney
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross (AR)
Ross (FL)
Rothman (NJ)
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Runyan
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Scalise
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schilling
Schock
Schwartz
Schweikert
Scott (SC)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Southerland
Speier
Stark
Stearns
Sullivan
Sutton
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Thornberry
Tiberi
Tierney
Tipton
Tonko
Towns
Tsongas
Turner (NY)
Turner (OH)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden
Walsh (IL)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Waters
Watt
Waxman
Webster
Welch
West
Whitfield
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Wolf
Womack
Woolsey
Yarmuth
Yoder
Young (AK)
Young (FL)
Young (IN)

NAYS—11

Broun (GA)
Gohmert
Huelskamp
Huizenga (MI)
Lummis
Mulvaney
Ribble
Schmidt
Stutzman
Westmoreland
Woodall

NOT VOTING—42

Ackerman
Akin
Bass (CA)
Boren
Buchanan
Butterfield
Campbell
Cardoza
Cleaver
DeFazio
Dicks
Doggett
Filner
Flake
Gonzalez
Gosar
Green, Al
Gutierrez
Hahn
Herger
Hirono
Israel
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee (TX)
Johnson (IL)
Kingston
Labrador
Landry
Mack
McMorris Rodgers
Murphy (CT)
Paul
Platts
Poe (TX)
Polis
Reyes
Richmond
Schrader
Scott (VA)
Sewell
Smith (TX)
Stivers

□ 1904

Mr. RIBBLE changed his vote from ''aye'' to ''no.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

Stated for:

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 470, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING HOWARTH TAYLOR

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

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Howarth Taylor on being inducted into the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame. For over 60 years, Mr. Taylor has been a pillar of his community.

Before starting a career in agriculture, Mr. Taylor demonstrated a strong commitment to our country as a member of the Greatest Generation. Mr. Taylor was a prisoner of war following the Battle of the Bulge in Germany. For his service, Mr. Taylor earned a Purple Heart and a Prisoner of War Medal.

Mr. Taylor started out as a tenant farmer growing corn and soybeans. Soon after he moved to Hickory Ridge, Arkansas, he bought an 850-acre farm and established Taylor Seed Company. Today Mr. Taylor farms over 3,000 acres and grows, processes, stores, and sells rice, soybeans, oats, and wheat seed to farmers throughout Arkansas. By devoting his entire operation to seed production, Mr. Taylor is able to produce a very high-quality product.

Mr. Taylor and his wife, Ella, raised six children on their farm and in 1969 were named the State's Farm Family of the Year. He has been an active member of the Cross County Farm Bureau board of directors since 1952 and served as president for 3 years. The Taylors are also active in their community, local schools, and the Hickory Ridge Missionary Baptist Church.

Congratulations, Mr. Taylor.

CLEARING THE NAMES OF JOHN BROW AND BROOKS GRUBER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FARENTHOLD). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FLORES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROY TISDALE

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, on June 28, America lost another hero, Army Lieutenant Colonel Roy Lin Tisdale.

Lieutenant Colonel Tisdale grew up in Alvin, Texas, and went to Texas A&M University, where he was a member of the Corps of Cadets. After graduating from Texas A&M in 1993, he was commissioned as an Army infantry officer. He served two full tours in Iraq, two full tours in Afghanistan, and made additional short visits to both theaters.

At the time of his tragic death, Lieutenant Colonel Tisdale was commander of the 525th Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 525th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade, stationed in Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

During his 19 years of service to our country, Lieutenant Colonel Tisdale earned many awards and recognitions. He earned the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Joint Military Unit Award, the National Defense Service Medal, the Meritorious Unit Citation, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon, the NATO Medal, the Air Assault Badge, the Combat Infantryman Badge, the Expert Infantryman Badge, and Senior Parachutist Badge.

□ 1910

On July 5, the life of Lieutenant Colonel Tisdale was remembered at Central Baptist Church of Bryan, Texas, and he was later laid to rest at the Aggie Field of Honor in College Station, Texas.

In response to the activities of an extremist group that protests at American military funerals, over 600 college students and community members, a majority of them Texas Aggies, came together to form a ''Maroon Wall'' to prevent those protests from disrupting the funeral and burial. America should be proud of this community of patriotic and respectful Americans that came together to honor the service and sacrifice of Lieutenant Colonel Tisdale and ensure that he was given the respect that he deserved.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Army Lieutenant Colonel Roy Tisdale. He will forever be remembered as an outstanding soldier, husband, and father. We thank him and his family for their service and sacrifice for our country. His sacrifice reflects the words of Jesus in John 15:13, ''Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.''

Continuing a distinguished heritage of military service for our country, Lieutenant Colonel Tisdale is the 27th Texas Aggie to die in the service of our country since 9/11. He, like tens of thousands of Aggies before him, answered ''Here,'' when his country called.

God bless our military men and women, and God bless America.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) will control the remainder of the hour.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, it is 10 years ago that I was contacted by Connie Gruber. On April 8, 2000, 19 marines were killed in a V–22 Osprey crash in Marana, Arizona.

Mr. Speaker, I show this tonight because so many people do not understand what a V–22 is. It is the kind of plane that's basically a helicopter that can become a plane because it would go from the helicopter mode to an airplane mode. And so, therefore, the V–22, again, at the time of this crash was still an experimental plane. In fact, at the time of the crash, Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney spoke out to Congress, both House and Senate, that he wanted to eliminate the program. He did not think the V–22 was the right investment by the United States Marine Corps.

It so happens that one of the pilots, Major Brooks Gruber and his wife, Connie, and his little girl named Brooke live in the Third District of North Carolina, which I represent. The pilot was Colonel John Brow. His wife, Trish, and his sons Michael and Matthew live in California, Maryland.

Connie contacted me. I want to read, Mr. Speaker, what she said. These are taken from a full letter, but I'll read just parts of it to make my point tonight:

> General James Jones is fully aware of my concerns and has apparently supported Generals Nyland and Hough in denying my request for a ''no fault'' amendment to my husband's accident report. He has refused to help me. That is exactly the reason I felt it necessary to contact you as well as other respected leaders.

She further stated in that letter to me:

> My husband's life was sacrificed for the Osprey, the Marine Corps, and for this Nation. I hope you understand why I cannot allow his good name to be sacrificed, too. Please remember, these 19 marines can no longer speak for themselves. I certainly am not afraid to speak for them, and I believe that somebody has to. Even though it is easier put to rest and forgotten, please join me in doing the right thing by taking the time to address this important issue.
>
> Given the controversy of this aircraft and the Marine Corps' vested interest, surely there is an unbiased, ethical way to rightfully absolve these pilots. Please help me by not only forwarding my request but by also supporting it.

Mr. Speaker, I tonight want to show the face of the pilot. Again, for those that might be watching this tonight in their homes, this is an Osprey, the V–22. At the time of this accident there were many, many questions. And I will touch on those questions in the next few minutes, Mr. Speaker. But this is the pilot. His name is Colonel John Brow. The copilot is Major Brooks Gruber. He is to the left of the poster of John Brow.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot continue tonight without letting the American people know that shortly after the accident there were three marines there from New River, which is in my district of eastern North Carolina. These three investigators, Colonel Mike Morgan—and I will mention his name several times in the next 30 minutes—and also Colonel Ron Radich and Major Phil Stackhouse were sent to Arizona the day after the accident. Nineteen marines were killed and the two pilots that I just mentioned. These three marines were sent there by the Marine Corps to investigate the accident. And they wrote what is called the JAGMAN report.

This is what the two wives are asking. The lawsuits are over—and I'll touch on that in just a moment. Bell-Boeing settled for millions of dollars to the 19 marines and their families. And all the two wives have been asking for 10 years is a clarification of whether their husbands were at fault or not at fault. And I'm going to show you tonight, Mr. Speaker, in the next 30 minutes that the pilots were not at fault.

All they would like of the United States Marine Corps, which I have great respect for, is to issue a letter on the Commandant's stationery that says Lieutenant Colonel John Brow, pilot, was not at fault for the accident on April 8, 2000, at Marana, Arizona. Then, what Connie Gruber would like, the wife of the copilot, Major Brooks Gruber, is that her husband was not at fault for the accident that killed 19 marines. Mr. Speaker, again, the lawsuits are over. Everything has been settled. But all the two wives want is their husbands to lie in that grave and not feel that they're responsible for that accident because, Mr. Speaker, they were not responsible.

I want to thank Congressman STENY HOYER from Maryland for joining in this effort because John Brow's wife, Trish, and her sons, Matthew and Michael, live in California, Maryland. They're his constituents. I want to thank NORM DICKS from the State of Washington. I'm sorry that he's not running for reelection. He's a very fine gentleman and a Member of the House. But he's decided not to run for reelection. He has joined and said, Let us help you.

Mr. Speaker, a lawyer for the two families, Jim Furman, in Texas, who defended these two pilots and won the major award from Bell-Boeing, which has not been made public, and cannot be—they settled with the two wives of John Brow and Brooks Gruber—Jim Furman has joined us and said their names need to be cleared. They were not at fault. In addition, the attorney for the 17 marines who were killed in the back of that plane, Brian Alexander and his associate, Francis Young, in New York, have joined. People like Phil Coyle have joined. Rex Rivolo has joined. These were experts within the DOD system that knew this plane and know that these gentlemen were not at fault. And even though he is deceased—and God rest his soul—Mike Wallace did a major ''60 Minutes'' piece on this accident 2 years after it happened.

□ 1920

And yet everything in that ''60 Minutes'' showed that these fellows were put into a situation that they were not trained for, they did not know how to react to—an issue called vortex ring state. And I'll touch on that in just a moment.

The real tragedy of all this is all the families want is an official document that was will say their husbands are not at fault.

Mr. Speaker, it's gotten kind of ironic to me because we have spent 10 years—I'm not going to try to say to you tonight, Mr. Speaker, or to anyone that might be watching that we have spent every day, every week, every month for 10 years, but this has been a 10-year effort to do what is right for these two marines who gave their life for this country.

I got very frustrated in March of 2010. I could not get the response from the Marine Corps that I would hope—not for me because I'm a Member of Congress, but for the wives and the children to clear the names. I contacted Trish Brow. I said, Trish, I need some help. I don't know who to contact, but somebody has to join me in this effort, because I don't think I can get it done by myself.

Mr. Speaker, I've always given credit to God for anything that I did that was worthwhile, but I needed the help. She said, Have you ever spoken to Colonel Jim Schafer? He was a friend of John Brow and a friend of Brooks Gruber, and he was in the air. There were four V–22s flying, and he was one of them.

So I called Colonel Jim Schafer, and he said to me, Congressman, whatever I can do to help you clear the names of these two pilots, I will do it.

He joined us, and, in fact, in the year 2011, he and I made a presentation to the Commandant of the Marine Corps. And I thought Jim Schafer did a magnificent job. With tears in his eyes, he told the Commandant that these fellows had not been trained, they were not equipped, the plane had no warning system to the vortex ring state which affects the nacelles on the twin engines. So therefore, he said, What can I do?

I'm sorry. But, at that time, we were not convincing enough to the Marine Corps to give the wives the two letters.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to share with you that what created the problem after the accident on April 8 was actually the press release by the United States Marine Corps. The Commandant at the time—a very fine gentleman, I've met with him several times. I think the world of him. We are not related, even though my name is Jones—was Commandant Jim Jones. But the press release stated, on July 27 of 2000—April 8 was the accident. This is a quote that gave the problem:

> Unfortunately, the pilots' drive to accomplish that mission appears to have been the fatal factor.

Mr. Speaker, I'm going to read that again. This is the press release from the United States Marine Corps after this tragic accident in Arizona.

Unfortunately, the pilots' drive to accomplish that mission appears to have been the fatal factor.

Mr. Speaker, again, I want to thank Colonel Mike Morgan, Retired. I want to thank Colonel Ron Radich, Retired, and Phil Stackhouse, Major, Retired, for joining me in trying to clear the names of these two pilots.

It so happens in a recent email from Colonel Morgan, one of the three investigators, I read his quote:

This is the crux of the issue; there is nothing in the JAG investigation that says that the pilots are at fault. If you change ''pilots'' to ''flight leaders,'' the statement, in my opinion, is correct, and the investigation so much as brings that out.

Why is it clear to the Blue Ribbon panel that was set up after this accident and not the Commandant of the Marine Corps' office? Because at that time the Blue Ribbon panel was not worried about fielding a new and controversial aircraft, which I just talked about Dick Cheney's being opposed to it. This was the second plane behind a lead plane. It was Nighthawk 71 and Nighthawk 72. Nighthawk 72 crashed.

In the official report that Lieutenant Colonel Morgan made reference to, the JAGMAN report, and I want to read this, Mr. Speaker, the official JAGMAN investigation was released in the following months, and the investigators, Morgan, Stackhouse, and Radich, testified by saying, and I quote, Mr. Speaker:

During this investigation, we found nothing that we would characterize as negligent, deliberate pilot error or maintenance/material failure.

Mr. Speaker, the word ''deliberate'' bothered me so much that I wrote to Colonel Morgan, and I said, Sir, would you please explain why you used the word ''deliberate''? And I'll read his comments back to me, Mr. Speaker:

My personal feeling and opinion supported by my interviews with the lead flight crew is that the mishap aircraft——

That's 72 now, these two men were flying it.

—had no idea they had exceeded any flight parameters. They were merely trying to remain in position on a flight lead trying to salvage a bad approach.

Mr. Speaker, what he is saying is that these two men, in a new experimental airplane, were following behind on a mission that never should have been ordered by the Marine Corps to begin with. These two men are in the second plane. They are following the lead. The lead got into trouble, and they followed the lead.

That is why I want to repeat again, Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Colonel Morgan, the word ''deliberate'':

My personal feeling and opinion supported by my interviews with the lead aircraft is that mishap aircraft had no idea they had exceeded any flight parameters. They were merely trying to remain in a position of a flight lead trying to salvage a bad approach.

Mr. Speaker, he further states, and let me read this for the RECORD, please, sir:

Brow and Gruber did nothing but try to maintain position on their flight lead. Did they fail to recognize they were in a dangerous situation? Absolutely. Were they properly trained for such a situation? Absolutely not.

Mr. Speaker, that's why this 10-year journey has meant so much to me. I did not know these men. I know the families now. But these marines were in the cockpit of a V–22, an experimental airplane that Bell-Boeing did not do the research that they should have done to prepare these men for what was coming. Again, the problem is called vortex ring state. This is pretty well known in airplanes, but, Mr. Speaker, not in the Osprey in these nacelles. It was not fully understood.

In fact, Tom MacDonald, experimental pilot for Bell-Boeing, spent 700 hours, Mr. Speaker, 700 hours trying to figure out after this crash: What do you do? How do you react? How do you respond to vortex ring state?

Mr. Speaker, what is so sad is they now have warning systems on the software. They have even a voice that comes on the helmet that says sync, sync, sync, meaning you're in trouble, react, react. Brow and Gruber had none of that information. In fact, the NATOPS manual that was in their lap the moment before they crashed and burned, it had one page and a paragraph on vortex ring state. And, Mr. Speaker, it was written by an Army helicopter pilot who had never been in the V–22.

Mr. Speaker, now the NATOPS manual that the V–22 pilots have is six pages about vortex ring state and how you react to that ring state.

□ 1930

Mr. Speaker, I'm just going to take a few more minutes, and then I will close tonight. I want to thank the staff for staying late for me to have this opportunity, but I do want to restate what the investigators are saying.

I contacted them and asked them if they would be willing to write me a letter that I could use in trying to clear the names of John Brow and Brooks Gruber. I'm going to read just a few parts of this, and then I'll close in just a few minutes, Mr. Speaker.

This is from Phil Stackhouse:

I do not believe that it would be a surprise to anyone that it is my opinion the mishap was not a result of pilot error, but was the result of a perfect storm of circumstances. During the conduct of the investigation, we collected some 20 binders of evidence.

I'm going to just skip from one paragraph to another. ''This includes, for example, compressed testing and evaluation''—that means they did not do the test on this issue of vortex ring state; they had no way to evaluate it because they didn't test it—''created by deadlines, funding, and maintenance; the omission of important testing and evaluation missions; the actions of the lead aircraft in the section; and lack of understanding how vortex ring state/power settling would actually effect the Osprey in real-world situations and simulated real-world training.''

Mr. Speaker, this is the whole thing. I'll close on Mr. Stackhouse, and then I will read two others very quickly.

Stackhouse, one of the investigators, said:

For any record that reflects the mishap was a result of pilot error, it should be corrected. For any publication that reflects the mishap was a result of pilot error, it should be corrected and recanted.

Again, this is one of the three investigators. I'll read the others very quickly, Mr. Speaker. This is from Mike Morgan. He supports my effort to clear the names of John Brow and Brooks Gruber. He further states that:

The judge advocate general (JAG) mishap report, and over 20 binders of evidence provided, clearly focuses on the consequences of encountering vortex ring state in a tilt-rotor aircraft and questionable flight management of Nighthawk 72 (lead aircraft) as the key contributing factors, among many. In my opinion, as a former USMC weapons and tactics instructor/flight leader/mission commander, John Brow and Brooks Gruber performed as model wingmen on this mission. They were doing exactly what is expected of a wingman on a tactical flight.

Mr. Speaker, the reason for reading that is that I want to restate that the three investigators of the V–22 crash, they know John Brow and Bruce Gruber were not at fault.

Mr. Speaker, I am a man of strong religious faith, but I cannot imagine being the pilot and copilot, with 17 young marines sitting in the back of your plane, and all of a sudden you are hit with a situation that you don't understand. You don't know how to react, you've never been trained, you have no warning system, but something's not right as that plane is beginning to shake. These gentlemen did everything that they could. John Brow and Brooks Gruber, they did everything they could do to save that flight, and yet it was out of their control because they had not been trained. They flipped; and on April 8, a very unbelievable fire took place when that plane hit.

All the wives are asking for is one official document from the Marine Corps. Mr. Speaker, I must say before I close tonight that I want to thank the Marine Corps. They have agreed to meet with the two investigators—the third one lives in California, Ron Radich. I want to thank him for his strong letter, but he will not be here—he cannot—but his letter will stand to speak for him.

The Marine Corps has agreed to give us a meeting with the representative of the Marine Corps and try to come up with some language that will be acceptable to the two families. I'm going to ask the commandant of the Marine Corps—I doubt if he will do it—but do something right for the Corps that so many American people, including myself, have the greatest respect for; bring the two wives and their children

to your office and say: I have an official letter for you that will clearly state that your husbands were not at fault for this accident. Mr. Speaker, I hope that's what will come from this meeting in the next couple of weeks.

It's one of those things in life that Members of Congress get involved in that you don't ask for, but you feel that there's a reason that someone has come to you and said, my husband cannot defend himself anymore, yet because of one press release that indicated these pilots were descending too quickly, they did not know what they were doing at the time, there was no indication on their software panel that they were in trouble. So my hope is, Mr. Speaker, that the Marine Corps will give Connie Gruber and Trish Brow what they're asking for.

Mr. Speaker, because I want to give God credit if we ever clear the names of these two pilots, I've asked God to please give me the energy and the strength to go with Connie Gruber and her daughter Brooke down to Jacksonville, North Carolina, to the grave of her husband and Brooke's father. I want to say to Major Gruber: Sir, no one will ever question your integrity or your honor again. It has been done. You can rest in peace because you won't be blamed.

Then, Mr. Speaker, I want to go with Trish Brow to Arlington Cemetery, and I want to stand with Matthew and Michael, the two young boys that never got a chance to know their daddy—they're young men now, they're in their early twenties, college students—and I want to say the same thing to Colonel Brow: Sir, your reputation is secured. You will not be blamed any longer for that crash on April 8. Mr. Speaker, with that, I will know that I have fulfilled my duty as a Member of Congress. I will fulfill my duty as a man who believes in the truth and integrity. It is very important in my life. And I will be able to say to Connie and to Trish, if ever anybody prints again that your husband was at fault, you have an official document to call that newspaper, call that TV station, call that reporter and say, Sir, I want a retraction. I will send you a copy of the documentation that says that my father—that my husband and my friend's husband were not at fault.

The reason I almost said ''father,'' as I'm closing, Mr. Speaker, I will tell you that 4 or 5 years ago I was in Jacksonville, North Carolina. Connie Gruber invited me to a fall reunion at the church. I had a chance to meet Bruce Gruber's father, the major from Jacksonville, North Carolina. That gentleman lives in Naples, Florida, with his wife, and he came out and we spoke. He had tears in his eyes. Mr. Speaker, he fought in Korea for this country as a marine, and he said with tears in his eyes: Congressman, I want to thank you for trying to clear my son's name. I said, Mr. Gruber, I will accept your kind words on behalf of my savior, Jesus Christ, because Christ was a man of humility, and I try to walk in the light of Christ.

If we ever accomplish anything for this country, no matter what faith my colleagues might be, just remember that accomplishing truth and integrity for John Brow and Brooks Gruber will be God's will and not mine. That gives me one thought, and then I will close.

Voltaire said 1,000 years ago:

> To the living we owe respect, but to the dead we owe only the truth.

Mr. Speaker, as I always close on the floor of the House, because it's time to get our troops out of Afghanistan, they've done their jobs, bid Laden is dead, al Qaeda has been dispersed around the world, it's time to bring them home. I've seen too many at Walter Reed and Bethesda without legs and arms.

□ 1940

Spending money we don't have over there, cutting programs for children and senior citizens here in America, I don't know, it doesn't make any sense.

But on behalf of the families that I talked about tonight, Colonel John Brow's family, Major Brooks Gruber's family, and all of our men and women in uniform and their families across the world, I will close and yield back.

I ask God to please bless our men and women in uniform. I ask God to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform. I ask God to hold in His loving arms the families who have given a child dying for freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq.

I ask God to please bless the House and Senate, that we will do what is right in the eyes of God for God's people today and God's people tomorrow.

And I will ask, from the bottom of my heart, God please bless President Obama that he will do what is right in Your eyes, God, for Your people today and Your people tomorrow.

And, Mr. Speaker, with that I'll say three times, God, please, God, please, God, please continue to bless America.

I yield back the balance of my time.

HEALTH CARE AND MAKING IT IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from California (Mr. GARAMENDI) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, before we start on our dialogue—I expect to have my colleague from New York here in a few minutes—I want to thank my colleague from North Carolina, WALTER JONES.

Mr. JONES, every day and every week you speak on this floor about the Afghanistan war and previously about the Iraq war, and you carry a message that is extremely important, one that I agree with, and one that I would hope that our colleagues here in Congress would take up this issue in a very strong and determined way to bring this Afghanistan war to an end.

I thank the President for bringing the Iraq war to an end. And now there's yet another task for all of us to do, and that is to end this continued use and abuse of the American soldiers. They endure much, and it's time for us to bring them home.

We thank them for their service. We see them as they return.

Some of my colleagues and I are working on a major effort to try to deal with more than 365,000 of those men and women that have returned that are suffering from posttraumatic stress syndrome, dealing with everything from suicides to depression and other issues as they return home, and many of them still in the military dealing with those issues.

We also have the traumatic brain issues, and so there's much to be done. And there will be much more to be done for those that are currently suffering. And the longer this war in Afghanistan continues, the more men and women will be suffering from all sorts of medical, physical, and mental issues.

So, WALTER, thank you so very much for what you're doing here on the floor day in and day out and reminding us that it's time for us to end this war.

What I want to spend some time on today is really talking about America's middle class. The middle class in America has suffered. For the last 25 years, the American middle class's circumstances have stagnated, and in the last 5 years—actually, 6 years—have seriously declined. We've seen this in the statistics. We've seen them in the economic statistics.

The only way the American middle class has been able to sustain its economic position has been for both husband and wife or children to join in providing the income for the family. It's no longer a single-person income sustaining the American middle class.

It is about our policies here on the floor of Congress and the Senate that has led to the decline of the American middle class. Specific policies have been enacted over the last two decades that have hollowed out the opportunities that the American middle class has counted on, specifically, manufacturing in America.

Once, 20 million Americans and their families were in the manufacturing sector. They enjoyed a good salary. A good hourly wage was available to them such that one individual in that family working in the manufacturing sector was able to support the family, own a home, take a vacation, buy a boat, provide for the college education. That is not the case today. Only 11 million and a few thousand beyond that are actually engaged in manufacturing in America today.

So what happened to the 9 million? They lost their jobs. Those jobs disappeared, not from the Earth, but disappeared from America. They went overseas. They were outsourced. American jobs were outsourced.

Why? Well, they'd like to say it's simply the nature of the free market

system, and, indeed, that's part of it. But that's not all of it. A major part of it had to do with specific tax policies and other manufacturing industrial policies that were enacted by Congress and remained on the books for some 20 years or more.

We need to address that issue because, if, in fact, it is the policies of this Congress and previous Congresses that have led to the great outsourcing and decline of the American manufacturing sector and, along with it, the American middle class, then there's something that we can do about it.

We make laws. We establish policies. And if we find that there are policies that are contrary to the good ability of the American economy to prosper and the middle class to prosper along with it, then we ought to change those policies. That's what the Make It In America agenda is all about.

The Make It In America agenda is specifically designed to rebuild the American manufacturing sector. This is an issue that's been taken up by the Democratic Caucus, led by our Minority Whip, Mr. HOYER, and carried on by my colleagues and I. So we're going to talk a little bit about that.

I notice that my colleague from New York (Mr. TONKO) has joined us. Mr. TONKO, we were going to start out on health care, but we kind of morphed into the issue of the American manufacturing industry and the role of the middle class.

Now, the middle class, I went off on manufacturing and the need to rebuild that and the Make It In America agenda, but also, a key part of the inability of the American middle class to sustain itself is health care. And the Affordable Health Care Act, which the Supreme Court recently confirmed was constitutional, is constitutional, is a major effort on the part of the Democratic Congress and President Obama to provide not only health care, but to lift up the American middle class.

So let's hold, for a moment, the issue of Make It In America. We'll come back to it in the latter half of this hour. But let's take up the health care agenda, which I know you wanted to speak to initially.

While you're doing that, I'm going to run and get a couple of placards that show what it is we're talking about. Please, Mr. TONKO, from the great State of New York, part of the East-West team.

Mr. TONKO. There you go. Always a pleasure to join you on this House floor. And thank you for leading us in a very important discussion this evening here on the floor.

It's important for us to recognize that for our business community to compete, and compete effectively, they need to be able to contain costs; they need to be able to have predictability and stability in their day-to-day routine. And I think that the Affordable Care Act takes us toward those goals. It is a predictable outcome. It enables our small business community to have a sound and well workforce.

□ 1950

I know that that is in the ether of the mind-set of our business community in that they know a productive workforce begins with the soundness of a health care plan. We are the last industrialized nation to come to the table to begin to resolve that dilemma, and it has held back our business community. What we will have with this important Affordable Care Act is the opportunity for exchanges to be developed, either along the State line or in a national setting, that enables us to provide for the opportunities for business and to do it in a way that is vastly improved over present situations. Status quo, just about everyone agrees, will not cut it. It is unsustainable to continue with a system of health care delivery that we currently operate under.

This, I believe, will be welcome news for our business community. They will have the opportunity to address this dilemma which has found the business community, the small business community, to be paying anywhere from 18 to 20 percent more than industrial settings and getting reduced services, or a smaller bit of service package, than the industrial setting would get. This allows for better services at reduced premiums that will enable them to have that affordability factor addressed. To go to the marketplace with that operational motif is going to be, I think, a very strong enhancer for the competitive edge of the American business community.

So underpinning, supporting the small business community, is important because, as we know, it is the driver; it is producing the great majority of new jobs in the private sector in America today. If we can take that outcome and enhance it by addressing an Affordable Care Act that impacts soundly and progressively and positively the small business community, then we are doing something to increase America's growth in jobs. We do it also by having the ability to provide for various tax credits that go toward the small business community, especially for those that have 50 and fewer employees.

We have seen what an economic engine the small business community is. Since time beginning for this Nation, the small business community has been that pulse of American enterprise. It has been that predictor of soundness, of job creation, and of economic recovery. If we treat the small business community with the respect and the dignity and the assuredness that it requires, we have done something. We will be doing something.

So, Representative GARAMENDI, I think it is important to understand and to outline that the Affordable Care Act is the beginning of providing that foundation for the small business community to have a sound workforce, which is essential in this very competitive sweepstakes for jobs and landing contracts in that international scenario where we all compete for the right to serve the general public.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. TONKO, I am really pleased that you brought that up. You have reminded me of a rather lengthy article from The Sacramento Bee. I am from California. Sacramento has one of the hometown papers, and the Bee was writing a major article on the exchange.

In the Affordable Care Act, there is an insurance exchange, and California was the first State in the Nation to follow up on the Affordable Care Act's exchange portion and to put in place a law to build an exchange. Now, at least our Republican friends think that's an awful situation. Governor Schwarzenegger, who was a Republican and is a Republican, signed that legislation before he left office almost 2 years ago now.

So this article is very effusive and upbeat about the establishment of an exchange in that they expect to have it online. What they talked about, a lot of it, was of individuals who could get insurance in a large pool and have the same opportunities for reasonably priced policies as occurs in a big business.

They also spent a lot of time talking about small businesses. How correct you are that the Affordable Care Act really offers small businesses an extremely important and heretofore unavailable opportunity to get insurance for the employer as well as for the employees, and a very big subsidy is available for those small companies that choose to buy insurance. Up to 50 percent of the cost of the insurance could be subsidized and costs reduced to the employer. Now, that's a lot of money. It's calculated at about $4,000 per employee if you're looking at an $8,000 or $9,000 policy. So it's really an important opportunity. Why is that good for business?

Go ahead, Mr. TONKO.

Mr. TONKO. I was going to say, too, that many people will say, well, if the option is made available, which it is, why would they choose that? Why would they want to spend even if there is a tax credit made available?

Think about it. The sound business community leader is going to want to recruit, and when you recruit and get the best employees, you offer the best package, and you have, as a result, a soundness in your workforce.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Exactly.

Mr. TONKO. So the management style is driving that sort of benefit so that you will reach to the program so as to recruit and retain quality workers. I think that driving element will influence it more than anything, and then the tax credits will become part and parcel to that package, which, as you suggest, can be as great as 50 percent. This is a huge cost savings and a sound policy to which they're attaching. So I think it's a benefit.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Absolutely true.

In addition to that, because of the exchange situation, individuals as well as

businesses find themselves in a large pool.

Now, I was the insurance commissioner in California for 8 years in the nineties and then again in 2000 with an 8-year hiatus in between. I understand that, in insurance, for it to work, you need a very large, diverse population so that the risk is spread. In the individual market today, you can't get that; but in the exchange, the concept is to allow all of these individuals and these small businesses to be part of a very, very large pool so that they can take advantage of the spreading of the risk and, therefore, the lower cost and the subsidy on top of that.

One more thing. I was at a bagel shop. It was in the early morning, and I needed a cup of coffee and a bagel, so I stopped at a bagel shop. There was the owner and one or two employees—I think there were actually three. One was in the back. I didn't see that employee. We were talking about health insurance, and there was an excitement by this employer because she could get insurance. So it's the employer as well as the two employees who were going to be able to get insurance. Previously, she couldn't. She was a single mother with a new shop, opening it up—pretty good bagels and the coffee was very good. Now she can get insurance through the exchange. It was a new shop, and income was going to be low, so she could also get the subsidy. For the first time in many, many years for this woman—a divorcee whose husband went one way and she went the other, who lost the insurance—she can get insurance.

This is part of the Affordable Care Act, and it is specifically designed in a way to encourage businesses to provide insurance and, in that process, as you say, to find the good employees and keep them. It's very exciting.

Mr. TONKO. If I might add, I know that we want to get into the talk of job creation, but if I might add some of the dialogue that has been developed in the district I represent—and I'm sure it's not unique to the 21st District of New York.

Again, there is this proliferation of small business that has been the driving force and that has really built our economic recovery from this painful recession. What you will hear time and time again is, if I'm a small operation of 10, 15, 20 people, one person—just one person—in that workforce impacted by a catastrophic illness will throw the actuarial science into a frenzy. That means that your premiums will be adjusted in a way that makes it difficult as the employer to continue to afford that insurance or to have the copayments from the employees.

So, as you're suggesting, if you enter this large collection called an ''exchange,'' in which many more numbers than 10, 15, or 20 work in this concept together, it shaves those peaks, and the shock—the premium rate shock—that is dulled is a good thing.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Let me take that a little further.

I wish I'd had this law when I was insurance commissioner because I used to see this all the time when I'd get complaints. We had a consumer hotline, and we would take several thousand calls a week. We'd always get these complaints about: They dropped my insurance.

□ 2000

And we get from businesses, They dropped my insurance. Why did they drop the insurance? You said it right on target. Suddenly one of the members of the workforce of a small group of people had a significant illness. When it came time for the annual renewal—insurance is an annual thing that is renewed every year—they heard back, I'm sorry. We can't renew you this year because we're changing the market. All kinds of excuses. But the reality was there was one sick person in that group. This law will end that.

There's also the opportunity for people that have become unemployed in this economy to get a job, particularly if that person happens to be 50 years or older. That person today has a preexisting condition called ''age.'' They're beginning to enter that part of life where you're going to have more medical issues, and employers go, Wait a minute. We don't have a position for you. We're not discriminating based on age, but your resume isn't exactly the way it ought to be. It's very difficult for a person 50 and older to get back into the workforce because of health insurance.

With the exchange and the anti-discrimination policies in the Affordable Care Act, which we call the Patients' Bill of Rights, they will be able to get back into the workforce. We're talking about people going back to work with health insurance no longer being a barrier to employment.

Mr. TONKO. Representative GARAMENDI, you cite a very awkward dynamic that can be used as a preexisting condition: age. How about gender? There are more and more small business startups that are women-owned businesses, women working in a small business situation as the employer. A preexisting condition is being a woman. It is gender penalizing.

There are many aspects, and the preexisting condition is something that's getting more and more attention, especially in the weeks that accompanied the decision of the Supreme Court. There was a lot of recognition of what was in the Affordable Care Act, and preexisting conditions are now being denounced and not being allowed as a reason, a rationale for denying insurance. That's a prime aspect of the progress made here.

As I've said in my district: Is it perfect? No. We aimed for perfection, and we achieved success. We will continue to work on this order of health care in a way that will continue to build the progressive nature of the outcome.

Mr. GARAMENDI. These are all part of the puzzle of putting people back to work. As I started this discussion, talking about the laws of America, the policies that have been enacted by this Congress and by previous Congresses and the way in which they impact the middle class of America, that impact has been devastating on the middle class for the last 20 years. It is our determination as Democrats to change the policies so that the American middle class can once again thrive, so that a family can enjoy the fruits of their labor, and so that they can enjoy the potential that America brings to them.

I notice that we've been joined by our colleague from Pennsylvania. Please, join us. Thank you for coming in this evening and sharing with us your thoughts.

Mr. ALTMIRE. I thank the gentleman from California.

I was listening to the discussion, as I often do, and I wanted to bring a perspective to join that discussion, Mr. Speaker, as they were both talking about health care.

As one who did not support the health care bill originally, I do think it's important to recognize, as has been happening in this discussion, what's working with regard to the health care bill, what's already been implemented that's making a real difference in people's lives.

The reason I did not support repeal of the health care bill both times we brought it up was because I have the fourth most Medicare beneficiaries of any district in the country. I have 135,000 Medicare beneficiaries. Many of them are caught in the doughnut hole, what we have come to know as that gap in coverage in the Part D prescription drug program. We are now entering the third year of the phase-in to completely close that doughnut hole. Already, people who are in the doughnut hole have received a $250 compensation for coverage through the doughnut hole. They're getting a steep discount on brand-name drugs. Moving forward, as I say in the years to come, they're going to completely close the doughnut hole and get coverage all the way through. That's something that would not have happened if we had repealed the health care bill.

Small businesses all across the country that struggle with the skyrocketing cost of health care that's affecting every family and every business in this country, they're getting a tax credit to help offset the cost, to provide coverage, if they choose, to their employees. That's something that's making a real difference in the district that I represent. They are being able to cover people up to age 26. Often, they are recent college graduates struggling in the down economy. With the job market of today, the parents' plan is being able to for a short period of time insure those young adults after they've graduated from school and may be in transition in their life or in the job market. That's making a real difference for people that I represent. For people with preexisting conditions—

children today and, beginning in 2014, for adults—they will not be able to be denied coverage because of a chronic health condition. That's something that's long overdue in this country. Those are all things that have been implemented. They're in the law today. They're taking effect, and they're impacting people. We can't overlook that.

The legal issues have been decided. This is settled law now. What we need to do is make sure—especially with the Medicaid ruling, which was not talked about as much because the court focused on the mandate. But with the States being able to opt out on the Medicaid side, we have to find a way for health care providers to be guaranteed coverage for people who come to their door, whether they be a hospital, a physician, a long-term care facility, whatever it may be. When the health care bill was put into place, before it became law, the deal that was made in return for universal coverage covering people in this country was the providers—all those provider groups I mentioned—gave a little. They understood they had to take some cuts to help offset the cost of that, the cost to the government and to the taxpayer. Now the court has said that States can opt out of part of that through the Medicaid program. We need to make sure that those health care providers are able to keep their end of the bargain and the government keeps their end of the bargain by finding a way to cover everybody.

I did want to add that perspective again as someone who didn't originally support the bill. There are things that are working and have been implemented, and I commend both my friends from California and New York for having the discussion tonight.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Thank you very much for joining us, and thank you for bringing that perspective.

Twice, now, our Republican colleagues have voted for a full repeal of the law, and you very correctly and, I think, almost totally pointed out the things that would disappear. The doughnut hole would open up again, the preexisting conditions, the patients' bill of rights would be gone, and the insurance companies can then reengage in discrimination, as they have so often. All those things that are very positive would disappear. So we're fighting fiercely to keep them. As Mr. TONKO, our colleague from New York has said, We will work through the years ahead to improve and to deal with the unknown issues that are certain to arise.

We've got work ahead of us, and we can do it.

Mr. TONKO. I just wanted to speak to the issue that Representative ALTMIRE raised with the doughnut hole—such a sweet label thrown onto a hidden attack on our senior community, asking them to dig into their pockets when they hit the threshold of $2,930 and up till they hit the threshold of $4,700.

I can tell you painful, heart-wrenching stories that many of the seniors I represent—and again, I have a huge proportion of seniors in my home county of Montgomery County, New York. Many will reach that threshold early in any fiscal year. It's a phenomenon with the prescription drugs. Those prescription drugs are their connection to quality of life. It's not only keeping them well and healthy; it may be keeping them alive. There are far too many heart-wrenching stories of people who will cut their prescription or their pills in half so that they can balance their budget. That is not the way to respond to their medical needs. They are told by their physician what that prescription drug intake is to look like for their wellness or their getting well. We ought not cause them to be pushed to the brink where they actually adjust their intake of prescription drugs just to meet a budget.

This closing of this doughnut hole, making prescription drugs more affordable, where we finally in 2020 close it completely—I mean, people have realized already billions of dollars of savings. There have been 5.3 million seniors that have received $3.7 billion in savings.

□ 2010

Is that something you want to take away? So when this House, with the majority, the three of us obviously said no, but when the majority said repeal, why? What's the replacement? We didn't hear replace, we heard repeal, and it left many stunned in this Chamber because the progress just begun to be tasted was attempted to be pulled away, and it's regrettable.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, we heard many, many things during that debate last week that are just, I think, incorrect and inaccurate.

One of them was that the Medicare program was cut and benefits taken away from seniors. It didn't happen. What happened was that about $50 billion a year of expenditures going to the insurance industry unnecessarily, an unnecessary bonus was removed, that was about $160 billion, about $16 billion a year; and then there was the Medicare fraud. That is a big problem and other adjustments, but no reduction in benefits to seniors and, in fact, significant increases.

Mr. ALTMIRE talked about those with the drug benefit, as you did. There was also the prescription drug savings, which, Mr. ALTMIRE, you raised. We also know that every senior now has a free annual health checkup, which is an exceedingly important way of keeping seniors, well, anybody, healthy. You get a checkup—we got blood pressure issues, diabetes issues, other kinds of medical issues—you get ahead of them, and then with the drugs you can keep ahead of them. There are many, many improvements in the Medicare program that are as a result of the bill.

Mr. ALTMIRE, I know that you have been spending a lot of time on these issues, and I thank you for your participation here tonight. If you would like to expand on maybe some experiences in your own district, go for it.

Mr. ALTMIRE. I appreciate the gentleman opening the door for that issue, and health care is just one issue facing American families in the country today. I know that this group that meets periodically when we're done with session to have these discussions, as I'm sure both of my colleagues do, Mr. Speaker, I hear from people in my district after these discussions show up on people's TVs.

I hear from people all over the country, in fact, that say you need to continue talking about the job market, continue talking about infrastructure repair, something we have talked about at length, talk about health care, talk about issues facing small businesses and working families in America, because that's something that I think gets lost in the politicization that takes place in a Presidential election year. We're starting to head towards that time of the year when politics trumps everything, and it's unfortunate because what gets lost is these are real people. These are real Americans that are suffering in the job market.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Excuse me just for a moment. I noticed in our gallery two gentlemen, soldiers, who are here, both of them wounded in the wars. This is part of a group that comes in here every day when we're in session to watch what we're doing. They just stepped out the door, and I wanted to catch them before they left to recognize them for the services that they provide. They may come back in, in which case I will interrupt you again.

Mr. ALTMIRE. Absolutely, I would agree. I had a chance to chat with them earlier today, and there is no group that should stand ahead of our Nation's veterans when it comes time to making Federal funding decisions, so I'm glad that they are joining us today.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, they are coming back, and I just want to, maybe the three of us can simply recognize them for the service that they provided to this country. I suspect that, normally, I see a gentleman that's always escorting them here in the gallery. Normally, they come back with some wound or another, and that's difficult; but I want them to know, and I would ask you to join me in this conversation, to know that this House, Democrat and Republican alike, are determined to make sure that all of our men and women that are returning from the wars, and those that have served even though they were not on the field of battle, deserve both our respect and whatever services they need, veterans services, medical services, and a job.

I thank them for coming here.

Mr. TONKO.

Mr. TONKO. Thank you, Representative GARAMENDI. Let me also thank our military, our active forces out there as we speak who are defending us in some

very far-off places, deserted deserts and mountains that extract great courage and commitment to this Nation and her cause.

You know, again, so many veterans returning are looking for work. There ought not be a battlefield in their homeland to find a job, and it's why the American Jobs Act makes it possible for businesses to realize benefits when they hire our veterans, when they hire the active military that are returning, and that's a commitment that ought to be understood by all of us. That's a commitment that should be part and parcel to unanimity in this House. Let's go forward with something like the American Jobs Act.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, this is the only thing that's actually been done. When the President last September proposed the American Jobs Act, the second thing that he talked about was the veterans jobs bill, and it kind of languished around here for a couple of months. It was early September when the President spoke.

Then came this special day every year called Veterans Day, and all 435 of us, we would go home, and we would go to the veterans parades and, lo and behold, we came back and we found compromise, and we found bipartisanship and the veterans jobs bill actually became law shortly thereafter.

Mr. TONKO. But the full package could have been done, which allows for even more opportunity for our veterans if we're hiring police officers and firefighters and educators, teachers. We're building the fabric of the Nation and the infrastructure, the human infrastructure that's required to educate our young, protect our neighborhoods, make certain that we're there in response efforts when tragedy hits. These are the things that can also in a broader sense affect positively the employment factors for our veterans. That full package offered the greatest hope.

The fact that we would nitpick and that we would be pushed to pressure points and finally acknowledge the work getting done is not the way to achieve what we know has to happen out there. We've seen the growth, Representative GARAMENDI, of private sector jobs, 29 consecutive months of private sector job growth, well beyond 4 million jobs.

It is a wonderful number, but still a lot of work to do when we think of the Bush recession and the loss of 8.2 million jobs. Now people want to take us back to those failed policies that saw us losing as many as 800,000 jobs a month and say that's the way to move forward. That's moving backward. We need to move forward with efforts like the American Jobs Act.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. TONKO, before we carry further with the American Jobs Act, I know that the two veterans who were here in the gallery were headed out the door when I recognized them, I saw them leave and I wanted to thank them for their service. I suspect that they were headed off to some other meeting, or wherever they were headed; and I don't want to keep them here, but rather just to thank them for their service and to know that 435 Members of this House care deeply about your situation, what you're dealing with, and all of the others that are in the field and have returned, in providing the extraordinary service to this Nation.

Thank you very much, gentlemen.

Mr. TONKO. Yes. We are, in fact, very proud of their efforts and very proud of the training they endure to be able to be the greatest force on the globe, and so we thank them for that.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Exactly.

Now the American Jobs Act had many, many pieces to it; and this is one of the great what-ifs, you know, one of the woulda, coulda, shouldas. What if back in September this House had actually taken up the elements of the American Jobs Act. There was, I think, almost 250,000 teaching jobs that were in this piece of legislation. There was also almost the same number of police and firemen and public safety officers in the legislation.

It didn't happen and so I know that in my daughter and son-in-law's own school district there have been layoffs because of the economic and financial circumstances of the State of California, and the class size went from 22–23 to 33–34, an extraordinary burden on the kids.

When you're in the second or third grade, you never get a chance to go back and repeat. That's a lost year, and that will carry through perhaps all the rest of your life, that you missed that opportunity to really advance your education.

Just on the educational side, you go, whoa, what if we had another 280,000 teachers in the classroom across America today? How would that advance the well-being of our children? I think it's very clear they'd be far better off, far better off. But it didn't happen.

Mr. TONKO. Representative GARAMENDI, you're offering a very powerful statement, a powerful challenge, the what-if.

When you take that statement and failure to commit to our Nation's children and then contrast that with what's happening in competitor nations, where they're investing in education, investing in higher education, investing in research, investing in advanced manufacturing, these are the challenges that are facing us as a government, as a body, as a House of Representatives.

□ 2020

And if we do not respond accordingly, we're holding back the Nation. We're actually pushing us backward. This discussion here in this House ought to be about moving us forward—moving us forward with progressive policy and investments of human infrastructure.

Mr. GARAMENDI. So the President also talked about building the foundation for tomorrow's economic growth. This is the infrastructure of the Nation—a big word, but one that I think most Americans understand as being the roads, the bridges, the railroads, the sanitation systems, the water systems, the research, the schools. We delayed—I guess all of us, in some respect, but really the Republicans in this House controlled this—the transportation bill. We delayed the implementation of the reauthorization of the transportation bill until the middle of the construction season. Just 2 weeks ago, we actually passed a 2-year transportation authorization program—very, very important and very beneficial. But what if that had happened last September? We lost half of a construction season and States and localities were unable to plan and put in place the projects that they needed to put in place because of the dilly-dallying and the delay that went on here.

We'll take some of the blame on our side, but we don't control the legislation. It's controlled by our Republicans here. Ultimately, they were unable to even put a bill out. The Senate did put a bill out; and I thank Senator BOXER from California, the lead author on that, and the minority leader, and in her committee the two of them came together with a bipartisan bill. It finally got done. We're thankful for it.

But the President wanted to go beyond that. He wanted to establish an infrastructure bank, one where we could literally invest some public money, some private money, and go about building projects that have a cash flow, like a toll road or a sanitation plant or a water system where people pay a fee and there's a cash flow so that we can really build the infrastructure of this Nation. But it didn't happen.

Mr. TONKO. Representative GARAMENDI, as you're speaking, I'm thinking of those ''golden moments'' in our history replete with those statements made by the Nation—this Nation—of investing, especially in tough times.

You know my district. I've described it several times. It's the confluence of the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers and the donor area to the eastern portions of the Erie Canal. In very tough times, Governor DeWitt Clinton proposed—

Mr. GARAMENDI. This was the Governor from New York, not from Arkansas.

Mr. TONKO. Right. He proposed a canal system, in tough times, saying we need to invest our way through this. There's a way to grow a port out of this town called New York. And there's a way perhaps that there will be a ripple effect, which there was, with the birthing of mill towns, a necklace of mill towns that became the epicenters of invention and innovation. And it drove a westward movement so that it headed toward California. It drove an industrial revolution, sparking all sorts of opportunity and activity, driven by a pioneer spirit that is unique to this Nation.

And our collection of stories of journeys to this Nation with people embracing nothing but this noble dream—an American Dream—that transitioned a rags-to-riches scenario, that's what it's all about. It's us in our finest moments. And why not today, as we have these inordinate needs to invest in the people, invest in jobs, understanding the dignity of work, underpinned by the effervescence of the pioneer spirit that is, I think, part and parcel of our DNA. It is within our fabric as a Nation to have that pioneer spirit. We're denying it. We're denying that spirit.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, you just talked about history here. Actually, your Governor, DeWitt Clinton, really did lead a major infrastructure project. Now, California was the Gold Rush. It's very interesting to go back through the old writings; and the folks from the East, New York and around, traveled up the Erie Canal to the Great Lakes to Chicago and then from there on. And they also left—and these are my relatives—the port of New York, which was built as part of the infrastructure, to travel to the Panama and then across the Isthmus of Panama and then up the coast of California. So my own relatives took advantage of those two infrastructure projects that you talked about.

However, your Governor was building off some of the work of the Founding Fathers. There's a lot of talk around here that there's no role for government in the economy. Well, George Washington disagreed. And his Treasury Secretary, Alexander Hamilton, disagreed. And they had a debate with Jefferson, who thought that we ought to be an agrarian State; and George Washington and Hamilton thought there was a role for industrial and for manufacturing. And so George Washington in his very first days as President told Alexander Hamilton to put together an industrial policy for America. And there were about, I think, nine points or maybe 12 points in that industrial policy. One of them was: build the infrastructure. It specifically said canals and harbors.

So this goes back to the very beginning of our country. What the President wanted to do and what we Democrats want to do is to build the infrastructure, the foundation upon which the economy grows. And we can do it. We can pay for it because every dollar we invest in the infrastructure immediately turns around and develops $1.75 of growth in the economy. So it's not money down a rat hole. It is money that builds the foundation and then expands the economy immediately. It is the very best way to put people back to work immediately, together with education.

Mr. TONKO. The reach that we ought to make to our history, to let it to speak to us, the reach we ought to make to the boldness that we embraced in times that preceded us ought to speak to us, ought to feed our soul, ought to feed our mindset. The courageous steps that we were asked to take that we took together as a Nation, committed to a cause, this is the sort of leadership that I think is required. The President is asking us to respond in very challenging times to these orders of investment.

Now, I can tell you in my district, the birthplace of the Erie Canal, mill towns that have achieved and changed the quality of life of peoples around the world, we're watching nanotechnology, semiconductor science, advanced battery manufacturing, chips manufacturing, a growth area happening within the capital region of New York, all built upon, I think, a public-private sector partnership, government inserted in a way that provides for the priming of the pump that goes where you absorb risk which, perhaps, the private sector won't take. And we're now seen as a global center of operations in certain areas. And it's growing and it's expanding. Now is not the time to walk away from that progress. Now is the time to invest in these dreams—these American dreams that people have always seen as the nobleness of the American saga.

Mr. GARAMENDI. I want to just pick this up. I do want to come back to our manufacturing policies before we wrap up here. But before we do, just to pull together the American Jobs Act that the President proposed back in September, A, folks, it did not increase the deficit.

□ 2030

The program was paid for, paid for by changes in the tax policy of the United States, policies that the President continues to talk about today that we eliminate the tax benefits that go unnecessarily to the oil company, the oil industry. Some $5 billion to $15 billion a year of subsidy is going to the wealthiest industry in the world. Pull those back. And the extraordinarily low taxes that have been available to the super rich, the top 1 percent, restore those to the Clinton era tax and other tax proposals that he had made so that the proposal was fully paid for—not decreasing the deficit but rather putting people back to work and creating the jobs that are necessary to move the economy and to get the American middle class back into the game so that they can prosper and so that we can rebuild those American manufacturing jobs, the 9 million jobs in manufacturing that were lost between 1990 and 2010.

Keep in mind that over the last 29 months, there has been private sector job growth every one of those 29 months. And so when people say, no, no, it's not good; say, it's not good enough, but at least it is happening. Men and women are going back to work in the private sector. The public sector continues to lose jobs and continues to shed jobs. But on the private sector job side, in part because of the policies we've been talking about here and the inherent strength of the American entrepreneurial and business spirit, people are coming back, not as strong as we want, but if the American Jobs Act were in place in its fullness, we would be moving towards a more balanced budget, reducing the deficit, and putting people back to work. We're not there yet, but we've not given up on this. And one of the major pieces in this is what we call Make it in America, because manufacturing matters.

I know in your district you've been talking a lot about this Mohawk Valley and about this great history. I'm not going to let you continue on without saying, hey, I'm from California. And we know entrepreneurship, and we know about the next generation of jobs and the next innovation. But New York still is there, and we'll vie with you for the best in the Nation.

Mr. TONKO. Absolutely. And I see the order of progress, Representative GARAMENDI, that we've achieved in that private sector that you just outlined. And it's regrettable that the solution for which the President is calling to provide for the public sector side, which would speak to greater numbers of employment, because we've taken that 4 million-plus in the private sector and reduced the overall results by losing some public sector opportunities which speak to soundness of community, public safety, educating the young, and providing for public protection out there. These are important aspects of quality of life. They ought to be embraced.

So we've denied part of the President's agenda. We've recognized the success and strength part of his plan, but there's been this partisan divide, there's been this holding back on progress because perish the thought if the White House should look good in this comeback from a recession.

Well, you need to place—we need to place the public good, the Nation's good, ahead of partisan divide. It is absolutely essential. And to then criticize the President by restraining some of the progress that he's been trying to cultivate and saying he's not cleaning up the mess quick enough, well, there was a huge mess delivered just before he assumed office—8.2 million jobs is a tough situation from which to walk forward from. And I think that there is a solution there, and we ought to work and put America first, the needs of this Nation first so as to be able to continue to walk forward and not negate any of the progress that we're achieving.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Let me pick up one of the issues the President has been talking about recently, and we actually worked on this more than a year and a half, almost 2 years ago, and that was the tax policy. At the outset, I talked about policies, tax policies being one of them. American tax policies until December of 2010 actually allowed and gave to American corporations a tax reduction, a tax break when they offshore jobs. Send a job oversees and reduce your taxes. Hello? How could that be?

I don't know where it came from, but that was the law of the land until the Democrats, then in control of Congress, pushed through a piece of legislation that ended $12 billion a year of tax breaks for corporations that offshored, sent jobs oversees.

I will just note parenthetically that not one Republican voted to end that extraordinarily damaging tax proposal that rewarded companies with lower taxes when they offshored jobs. Not one Republican voted to repeal that law. However, the Democrats stood together, the President signed that, and it is now the law. There is still about another 4, 5, maybe $6 billion of tax breaks that companies get when they offshore jobs. We've been working to eliminate those, and the President talks about it very often. He also talks about something that we should do, and that is to reward the onshoring of jobs.

When companies bring the jobs back home, they should receive a tax break. When you want to send jobs offshore, you should receive a penalty and certainly ought not receive a tax reduction. Now, that's good public policy. It hasn't happened. We don't control the House of Representatives, and all tax bills have to start in the House of Representatives. So we keep pleading with our Republican colleagues, please, please, give American corporations a tax break when they onshore jobs, and end the remaining tax breaks for offshoring jobs.

Mr. TONKO. Let me tell you, that is welcome news to my manufacturing base. I hear it all the time. They support the efforts of the President to reward those who produce jobs here in the U.S. and where we provide benefits for returning jobs, onshoring them as you suggest. That is welcome news. That is welcome news to the manufacturing base, as is the call for action by the President for investments in advance manufacturing. And I know that's compete and compete effectively, and to allow for job growth to come via the private sector base.

We need to invest in that new day of manufacturing. It is not dead. I refuse to submit to this notion that manufacturing is dead in this country. It is alive, it is well, and it needs to be retrofitted so as to be advanced in nature and in character. Let's get moving forward, and let's, again, reward those job creators, not paying people to offshore or send out of this Nation. Our hugest export was jobs in the decade preceding this administration.

Mr. GARAMENDI. You talk about reward and about tax policy, as was I. And let me give you another one, and I know that you and I are working on this together: tax policy. Right now we provide, we Americans provide a tax credit, a tax reduction, for those who put up solar programs or wind turbines. The thing is, that's our tax money. The question is, where is it being spent? Is it being spent on American-made equipment, or is it being spent on foreign made equipment? All too often, those tax subsidies are used to purchase foreign equipment.

This piece of legislation which I'm working on together with Mr. TONKO, H.R. 613, basically says that if you're using our tax money, for example, the Highway Trust Fund tax money, for buses, trains, or building roads, then you must spend that money on American-made equipment. Similarly, with solar and wind, if you're going to get a tax credit, if you're going to use American taxpayers' money to build something, then it's going to be made in America. We're going to return the American manufacturing by using our tax money on American-made goods and services.

Mr. TONKO, we're nearing the end of our time. Why don't you take a run at wrapping? I get the last 30 seconds. You take the next 90 seconds.

Mr. TONKO. Let me do this quickly, Representative GARAMENDI. We're the greatest nation in the world. I believe our greatest days lie ahead of us. Let us take our golden moments in history when we were faced with heavy challenges, where we responded accordingly with the belief in the worker, belief in the American way, the pioneer spirit, and did it in an order of investment.

Let those solutions-oriented moments speak to us today. We need the soundest of solutions, we need the respect for the American worker, and our greatest days lie ahead. It's a spirit of optimism that we should embrace, a history that ought to challenge, feed us, and inspire us. With that, I thank you for yielding this evening.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Well, Mr. TONKO, thank you for joining us this evening. I thank our two gentlemen from the armed services who were here earlier. And, yes, our best days do lie ahead. It's about public policies, it's about the entrepreneurial spirit, and it's about America's desire to be the best. We're going to make it in America. We're going to make it in America because we will, once again, make things in America. We will rebuild the American middle class.

It's about policy, it's about the spirit of America. It can be done and it will be done, and we're here to see that it does get done.

Mr. TONKO, thank you for this evening.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all Members that it is not in order to bring to the attention of the House an occupant in the gallery.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. PLATTS (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. STIVERS (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today through July 27 on account of military service in the Ohio Army National Guard.

Mr. REYES (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today and for the balance of the week on account of medical reasons.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker pro Tempore, Mr. LEWIS of California, on Friday, July 13, 2012.

H.R. 3902. An act to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to revise the timing of special elections for local office in the District of Columbia.

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, reported that on July 2, 2012, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 4348. To provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs, and for other purposes.

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House, further reported that on July 16, 2012, she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 3902. To amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to revise the timing of special elections for local office in the District of Columbia.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 39 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, July 18, 2012, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the second quarter of 2012 pursuant to Public Law 95–384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JANICE ROBINSON, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 20 AND MAY 27, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Janice Robinson	5/20	5/21	Republic of Korea		350.00		(3)				350.00
	5/21	5/24	Peoples Republic of China		1,224.00		(3)				1,224.00
	5/24	5/26	India		579.00		(3)				579.00
	5/26	5/27	German Federation		291.00		(3)				291.00
Committee total											2,444.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

JANICE ROBINSON, June 25, 2012.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, BARRY JACKSON, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 19 AND MAY 25, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Barry Jackson	5/19	5/22	Thailand		417,000		15,680.00				16,097.00
	5/22	5/25	People's Republic of China		1,422.00						1,422.00
Committee total											17,519.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

BARRY JACKSON, June 25, 2012.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, BARRY JACKSON, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JUNE 14 AND JUNE 18, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Barry Jackson	6/15	6/18	Egypt		801.00		8,696.00				9,497.00
Committee total											9,497.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

BARRY JACKSON, June 25, 1012.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES AND AFGHANISTAN, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JUNE 1 AND JUNE 5, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. David Dreier	6/2	6/3	United Arab Emirates		454.00		12,478.00				12,932.00
Hon. David E. Price	6/2	6/3	United Arab Emirates		454.00		12,478.00				12,932.00
Brad Smith	6/2	6/3	United Arab Emirates		454.00		12,478.00				12,932.00
Rachael Leman	6/2	6/3	United Arab Emirates		454.00		12,478.00				12,932.00
John Lis	6/2	6/3	United Arab Emirates		454.00		12,478.00				12,932.00
Hon. David Dreier	6/3	6/4	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Hon. David E. Price	6/3	6/4	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Brad Smith	6/3	6/4	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Rachael Leman	6/3	6/4	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
John Lis	6/3	6/4	Afghanistan		28.00		(3)				28.00
Committee total											64,800.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

HON. DAVID DREIER, June 29, 2012.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO DENMARK AND FRANCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JUNE 9 AND JUNE 12, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Cliff Stearns	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Hon. James Costa	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Hon. John Duncan	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Hon. Mario Diaz-Balart	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Hon. Donald Manzullo	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Hon. Bill Huizenga	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Hon. Corrine Brown	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Hon. Tim Holden	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Janice Robinson	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Greg McCarthy	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Ed Rice	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Amber Garlock	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Steve Sutton	6/9	6/11	Denmark		828.00		(3)				828.00
Hon. Cliff Stearns	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00
Hon. James Costa	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00
Hon. John Duncan	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00
Hon. Mario Diaz-Balart	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00
Hon. Donald Manzullo	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO DENMARK AND FRANCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JUNE 9 AND JUNE 12, 2012—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Bill Huizenga	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00
Hon. Corrine Brown	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00
Hon. Tim Holden	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00
Janice Robinson	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00
Greg McCarthy	6/11	6/12	France		324.00		(3)				324.00
Ed Rice	6/11	6/12	France		342.00		(3)				342.00
Amber Garlock	6/11	6/12	France		342.00		(3)				342.00
Steve Sutton	6/11	6/12	France		342.00		(3)				342.00
Committee total											15,030.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

HON. CLIFF STEARNS, June 29, 2012.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO ESTONIA FOR THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 24 AND MAY 28, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Mike Turner	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Hon. Carolyn McCarthy	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Hon. John Shimkus	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Hon. Mike Ross	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Hon. Gus Bilirakis	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Hon. Rob Bishop	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Hon. David Scott	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Kelly Craven	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Riley Moore	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
David Fite	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Greg McCarthy	5/24	5/28	Estonia		1,016.36		(3)				1,016.36
Commitee total											11,179.96

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER, June 21, 2012.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DOC HASTINGS, Chairman.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APR. 1 AND JUNE 30, 2012

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. DAVE CAMP, Vice Chairman, July 12, 2012.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

6932. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Importation of Dracaena Plants From Costa Rica [Doc. No.: APHIS-2011-0073] (RIN: 0579-AD54) received June 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6933. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Tart Cherries Grown in the States of Michigan, et al.; Final Free and Restricted Percentages for the 2011-12 Crop Year for Tart Cherries [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-11-0085; FV11-930-3 FR] received June 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6934. A letter from the Acting Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Pistachios Grown in California, Arizona, and New Mexico; Order Amending Marketing Order No. 983 [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-10-0099; FV11-983-1 FR] received June 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6935. A letter from the Administrator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Domestic Dates Produced or Packed in Riverside County, CA: Order Amending Marketing Order 987 [Doc. No.: AMS-FV-10-0025; FV10-987-1 FR] received June 28, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6936. 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

Dusky Gopher Frog (Previously Mississippi Gopher Frog) [Docket No.: FWS-R4-ES-2010-0024] (RIN: 1018-AW89) received June 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Natural Resources.

6937. A letter from the Branch Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Section 162(m)(4)(C) — Dividends and Dividend Equivalents on Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units (Rev. Rul. 2012-19) received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6938. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Applicable Federal Rates — July 2012 (Rev. Rul. 2012-20) received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6939. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Modification to Consolidated Return Regulation Permitting an Election to Treat a Liquidation of a Target, Followed by a Recontribution to a New Target, as a Cross-Chain Reorganization [TD 9594] (RIN: 1545-BI31) received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6940. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Interim Guidance on Tips vs. Service Charges Revenue Ruling 2012-18 received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6941. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Section 3121 — Tips Included for Both Employee and Employer Taxes (Rev. Rul. 2012-18) received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6942. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — PTP-COD Income (Rev. Proc. 2012-28) received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6943. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Disregarded Entities and the Indoor Tanning Services Excise Tax [TD 9596] (RIN: 1545-BK39) received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6944. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Credit for Carbon Dioxide Sequestration 2012 Section 45Q Inflation Adjustment Factor [Notice 2012-42] received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6945. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Qualified Energy Conservation Bonds [Notice 2012-44] received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

6946. A letter from the Chief, Publications and Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting the Service's final rule — Election to include in gross income in year of transfer (Rev. Proc. 2012-29) received June 27, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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. MICA: Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. H.R. 1171. A bill to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act; with an amendment (Rept. 112–584, Pt. 2). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. SMITH of Texas: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 4377. A bill to provide for improved coordination of agency actions in the preparation and adoption of environmental documents for permitting determinations, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–596, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1103. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to develop, maintain, and administer an annex in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as an extension of the American Memorial Park located in Saipan, and for other purposes (Rept. 112–597). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4400. A bill to designate the Salt Pond Visitor Center at Cape Cod National Seashore as the ''Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Salt Pond Visitor Center'', and for other purposes (Rept. 112–598). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4073. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to accept the quitclaim, disclaimer, and relinquishment of a railroad right of way within and adjacent to Pike National Forest in El Paso County, Colorado, originally granted to the Mt. Manitou Park and Incline Railway Company pursuant to the Act of March 3, 1875; with an amendment (Rept. 112–599). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3706. A bill to create the Office of Chief Financial Officer of the Government of the Virgin Islands, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–600). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3404. A bill to establish in the Department of the Interior an Under Secretary for Energy, Lands, and Minerals and a Bureau of Ocean Energy, an Ocean Energy Safety Service, and an Office of Natural Resources Revenue, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–601). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3397. A bill to modify the Forest Service Recreation Residence Program by implementing a simple, equitable, and predictable procedure for determining cabin user fees, and for other purposes (Rept. 112–602). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3388. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Beaver, Chipuxet, Queen, Wood, and Pawcatuck Rivers in the States of Connecticut and Rhode Island for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–603). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3210. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to limit the application of that Act with respect to plants and plant products that were imported before the effective date of amendments to that Act enacted in 2008, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–604). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 2489. A bill to authorize the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812 under the American Battlefield Protection Program; with an amendment (Rept. 112–605). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 4043. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Defense to establish Southern Sea Otter Military Readiness Areas for national defense purposes, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–606, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Natural Resources discharged from further consideration. H.R. 4377 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

REPORTED BILL SEQUENTIALLY REFERRED

Under clause 2 of rule XII, bills and reports were delivered to the Clerk for printing, and bills referred as follows:

Mr. ISSA: Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. H.R. 459. A bill to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States before the end of 2012, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 112–607, Part 1); referred to the Committee on Financial Services for a period ending not later than July 18, 2012, for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(h) of rule X.

TIME LIMITATION OF REFERRED BILLS

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XII, the following actions were taken by the Speaker:

[The following actions occurred on July 16, 2012]

H.R. 1838. Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than September 14, 2012.

H.R. 3283. Referral to the Committee on Agriculture extended for a period ending not later than September 21, 2012.

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. BONO MACK (for herself and Mr. BUTTERFIELD):

H.R. 6131. A bill to extend the Undertaking Spam, Spyware, And Fraud Enforcement With Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006,

and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. LIPINSKI (for himself and Mr. JONES):

H.R. 6132. A bill to amend the Federal charter of the United States Olympic Committee to require the United States Olympic Committee to ensure that goods donated or supplied to athletes are substantially made in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WESTMORELAND (for himself and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 6133. A bill to provide clarity on the use of National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center Commemorative Coin surcharges, the use of Abraham Lincoln Commemorative Coin surcharges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. FARR (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. COHEN, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. STARK, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. MORAN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. POLIS, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. AMASH, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, and Mr. NADLER):

H.R. 6134. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide an affirmative defense for the medical use of marijuana in accordance with the laws of the various States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California (for himself, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. POLIS, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. NORTON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, and Mr. KUCINICH):

H.R. 6135. A bill to increase transparency and reduce students' burdens related to transferring credits between institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania (for himself, Mr. BROUN of Georgia, Mr. TIBERI, Mr. STIVERS, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. GOHMERT, and Mr. ROSS of Florida):

H.R. 6136. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 to require the Director of the Congressional Budget Office to make all data and other information relating to the estimating of the cost of legislation available on its public website; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California (for himself and Mr. SERRANO):

H. Con. Res. 132. Concurrent resolution providing funding to ensure the printing and production of the authorized number of copies of the revised and updated version of the House document entitled ''Hispanic Americans in Congress'', and for other purposes; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania:

H. Con. Res. 133. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the United States Capitol for an event to present the Congressional Gold Medal to Arnold Palmer, in recognition of his service to the Nation in promoting excellence and good sportsmanship in golf; to the Committee on House Administration.

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H. Res. 731. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that clothing issued to athletes representing the United States of America should be made in America; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FRANKS of Arizona (for himself, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. WOLF, Mr. PITTS, Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mrs. HARTZLER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. JONES, Ms. BUERKLE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. FORBES, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. SCALISE, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. POMPEO, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. CANSECO, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. POE of Texas, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MARINO, Mr. HUELSKAMP, Mr. SHULER, Mr. GOWDY, Mr. SIRES, and Ms. ESHOO):

H. Res. 732. A resolution calling for the protection of the rights and freedoms of religious minorities in the Arab world; to the Committee on 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. BONO MACK:

H.R. 6131.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to clause 3 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution.

By Mr. LIPINSKI:

H.R. 6132.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3: The Congress shall have Power * * * To regulate Commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several States, and with the Indian Tribes.

By Mr. WESTMORELAND:

H.R. 6133.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 5 states ''The Congress shall have Power . . . To coin Money, regulate the Value thereof, and of foreign Coin, and fix the Standard of Weights and Measures.''

By Mr. FARR:

H.R. 6134.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Sec. 8 [''to regulate commerce''], and Amendment IV [''to be secure . . . against unreasonable searches and seizures''], and Amendment VI [''the accused shall . . . have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor . . .''].

By Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California:

H.R. 6135.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art. 1 sec. 8, clause 1 and 3

By Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 6136.

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 9, Clause 7 of the United States Constitution.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 139: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 178: Mr. WOMACK, Mr. REED, and Mr. GERLACH.

H.R. 181: Mr. WOMACK.

H.R. 219: Mr. ROSS of Florida.

H.R. 333: Mr. STIVERS, Mr. REED, Mr. YODER, Mrs. BONO MACK, and Mr. ISRAEL.

H.R. 458: Mr. CLARKE of Michigan.

H.R. 459: Mr. PALAZZO.

H.R. 574: Mr. SCHIFF.

H.R. 639: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 687: Mr. SCHILLING, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. STIVERS, and Mr. ISRAEL.

H.R. 694: Ms. RICHARDSON and Ms. HAHN.

H.R. 726: Mr. WALDEN.

H.R. 733: Mr. RIVERA, Mr. YODER, Mr. TONKO, and Mr. DINGELL.

H.R. 860: Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, and Mr. BARROW.

H.R. 894: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 905: Mr. NUGENT.

H.R. 930: Ms. TSONGAS.

H.R. 949: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.

H.R. 965: Mr. LARSEN of Washington and Mr. MARKEY.

H.R. 998: Mr. WATT.

H.R. 1005: Mr. LARSON of Connecticut and Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS.

H.R. 1032: Mrs. MYRICK and Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.R. 1063: Ms. MOORE.

H.R. 1172: Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia.

H.R. 1265: Mr. SHULER.

H.R. 1325: Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois.

H.R. 1327: Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. MCINTYRE, and Mr. GARAMENDI.

H.R. 1370: Mr. GOHMERT.

H.R. 1386: Mrs. CAPITO.

H.R. 1418: Mr. TURNER of New York.

H.R. 1523: Mrs. DAVIS of California.

H.R. 1564: Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. FARR.

H.R. 1621: Mr. MICHAUD, Mr. WITTMAN, Mrs. SCHMIDT, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. NUNES, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, Mr. KIND, and Mr. TOWNS.

H.R. 1648: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.

H.R. 1681: Mr. CROWLEY.

H.R. 1774: Ms. CLARKE of New York.

H.R. 1775: Mr. NUGENT, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. FORBES, Mr. SCHILLING, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. SHULER, and Mr. LANKFORD.

H.R. 1810: Mr. KING of New York, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, and Mr. MICHAUD.

H.R. 1845: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, and Mr. KISSELL.

H.R. 1876: Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 2020: Mr. HEINRICH.

H.R. 2051: Mr. BUCHANAN.

H.R. 2082: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 2130: Ms. HIRONO and Mr. CAPUANO.

H.R. 2239: Mr. BOREN.

H.R. 2267: Mr. QUIGLEY Mr. HARPER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. CLARKE of Michigan, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, and Mr. CARTER.

H.R. 2335: Mr. SESSIONS.

H.R. 2468: Mr. BARROW.

H.R. 2479: Mr. PAUL.

H.R. 2499: Mr. CROWLEY and Ms. BONAMICI.

H.R. 2566: Mr. MORAN.

H.R. 2637: Mr. DOYLE and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD.

H.R. 2672: Mr. CARNAHAN.

H.R. 2962: Mr. FITZPATRICK.

H.R. 2982: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, and Mr. LARSEN of Washington.

H.R. 3091: Mr. WESTMORELAND.

H.R. 3179: Mr. AMODEI.

H.R. 3187: Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. SUTTON, and Mr. LANKFORD.

H.R. 3238: Ms. FUDGE and Mr. TOWNS.

H.R. 3242: Mr. CLAY.

H.R. 3323: Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina.

H.R. 3395: Mr. LOEBSACK.

H.R. 3423: Mr. BARLETTA.

H.R. 3429: Mr. CASSIDY and Mr. SOUTHERLAND.

H.R. 3496: Mr. DOGGETT.

H.R. 3510: Mr. BARTLETT.
H.R. 3553: Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 3591: Mr. CRITZ.
H.R. 3612: Mr. CARNAHAN and Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 3643: Mr. HIMES.
H.R. 3728: Mr. SCHILLING.
H.R. 3762: Mr. BARROW.
H.R. 3769: Mr. TONKO.
H.R. 3798: Ms. EDWARDS, Mr. MEEKS, and Mr. SCHIFF.
H.R. 3803: Mr. LANCE.
H.R. 3816: Mr. BUCSHON.
H.R. 3993: Mr. TURNER of New York.
H.R. 4037: Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Mr. HONDA.
H.R. 4054: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 4057: Mr. HOLT, Mr. HANNA, and Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 4066: Mr. KISSELL and Ms. HOCHUL.
H.R. 4070: Ms. HIRONO and Mr. BACHUS.
H.R. 4124: Ms. HIRONO.
H.R. 4158: Ms. EDWARDS and Mr. MCCAUL.
H.R. 4160: Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 4169: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Ms. MOORE, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. BROWN of Florida, Mr. CLEAVER, and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 4170: Mr. CLAY.
H.R. 4235: Mr. DEUTCH and Mr. FINCHER.
H.R. 4238: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.
H.R. 4248: Mr. ANDREWS.
H.R. 4342: Mr. CRAWFORD.
H.R. 4345: Mr. HARPER.
H.R. 4373: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 4403: Mr. MANZULLO.
H.R. 4405: Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. ROSS of Florida, Mr. CARTER, Mr. RIVERA, Mr. CHABOT, and Mr. COBLE.
H.R. 4818: Mr. KISSELL.
H.R. 5195: Mr. HINCHEY AND MS. NORTON.
H.R. 5542: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. KISSELL, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. BACA, Mr. DEFAZIO, and Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 5545: Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 5638: Mr. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 5684: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. HOLT, Ms. SPEIER, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. HAHN, Ms. RICHARDSON, and Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 5707: Mr. WALZ of Minnesota.
H.R. 5708: Mrs. ELLMERS and Mr. JONES.
H.R. 5741: Mr. CICILLINE and Mr. SCHOCK.
H.R. 5796: Mr. LANCE, Mr. MULVANEY, Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois, Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SCHOCK, and Mr. COBLE.
H.R. 5822: Mr. COBLE and Mr. ADERHOLT.
H.R. 5840: Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. HIMES, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania, Mr. COOPER, Mrs. MALONEY, Ms. MOORE, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. KILDEE and Mrs. CAPPS.
H.R. 5844: Mr. DOYLE.
H.R. 5846: Mr. TERRY and Mr. LONG.
H.R. 5850: Mr. DEUTCH and Mr. ISRAEL.
H.R. 5864: Ms. SUTTON.
H.R. 5879: Mr. SCHILLING.
H.R. 5907: Ms. RICHARDSON and Mr. CARDOZA.
H.R. 5910: Mr. ANDREWS.
H.R. 5911: Mr. KING of Iowa.
H.R. 5929: Mr. SCHOCK and Mr. DOLD.
H.R. 5942: Mr. WILSON of South Carolina.
H.R. 5943: Mr. BRALEY of Iowa and Mr. KELLY.
H.R. 5957: Mr. KLINE.
H.R. 5959: Ms. LEE of California.
H.R. 5969: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 5970: Mr. LATHAM.
H.R. 5974: Mr. CICILLINE.
H.R. 5977: Mr. WAXMAN.
H.R. 5978: Ms. PINGREE of Maine, Mr. HONDA, Mr. MCGOVERN, and Ms. HAHN.
H.R. 5979: Mr. PRICE of Georgia.
H.R. 5990: Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois.
H.R. 5991: Mr. LUJÁN and Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 6000: Mr. KLINE.
H.R. 6003: Mr. STARK.
H.R. 6009: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 6043: Mrs. MYRICK.
H.R. 6046: Mr. MILLER of North Carolina.
H.R. 6062: Ms. HIRONO and Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 6063: Mr. SHULER.
H.R. 6075: Mr. PAUL.
H.R. 6082: Mr. LAMBORN and Mr. LANDRY.
H.R. 6087: Mr. KEATING, Mrs. CAPPS, and Mr. CARNAHAN.
H.R. 6088: Mr. JONES, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. FINCHER.
H.R. 6089: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. DUFFY, and Mr. AMODEI.
H.R. 6092: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.
H.R. 6097: Ms. BUERKLE, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HARRIS, Mr. COBLE, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, and Mr. HASTINGS of Washington.
H.R. 6107: Mr. WESTMORELAND and Ms. BORDALLO.
H.J. Res. 78: Mr. STARK.
H.J. Res. 90: Ms. DELAURO.
H.J. Res. 110: Mr. WALSH of Illinois.
H. Con. Res. 87: Mr. CLEAVER.
H. Res. 134: Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan and Mr. DENT.
H. Res. 285: Mr. BLUMENAUER.
H. Res. 295: Mr. LATHAM.
H. Res. 298: Mr. YODER and Mr. RANGEL.
H. Res. 341: Mr. YODER.
H. Res. 351: Mr. HURT, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. ROE of Tennessee.
H. Res. 484: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H. Res. 652: Mr. PAULSEN and Mr. ELLISON.
H. Res. 662: Mr. WESTMORELAND.
H. Res. 687: Mr. VISCLOSKY.
H. Res. 713: Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. COHEN, Ms. WATERS, Ms. LEE of California, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. FATTAH, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. CHU, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HONDA, and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 8 of rule XVIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 5856

OFFERED BY: MR. KINGSTON

AMENDMENT NO. 2: Page 8, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $4,100,000)''.

Page 8, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $4,200,000)''.

Page 8, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $2,300,000)''.

Page 8, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,900,000)''.

Page 10, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $4,000,000)''.

Page 11, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $700,000)''.

Page 12, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $53,900,000)''.

Page 13, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,200,000)''.

Page 153, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $72,300,000)''.

H.R. 5856

OFFERED BY: MR. POE OF TEXAS

AMENDMENT NO. 3: Page 125, lines 17 and 19, after each dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $1,300,000,000)''.

Page 153, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $1,300,000,000)''.

H.R. 5856

OFFERED BY: MS. MCCOLLUM

AMENDMENT NO. 4: Page 2, line 22, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $96,950,000)''.

Page 3, line 9, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $25,550,000)''.

Page 3, line 20, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $23,710,000)''.

Page 4, line 8, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $23,900,000)''.

Page 8, line 2, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $10,100,000)''.

Page 8, line 11, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $1,360,000)''.

Page 8, line 15, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $2,230,000)''.

Page 8, line 24, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $3,970,000)''.

Page 153, line 15, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $187,770,000)''.

H.R. 5856

OFFERED BY: MR. NADLER

AMENDMENT NO. 5: Page 2, line 22, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $426,636,000)''.

Page 3, line 9, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $217,282,000)''.

Page 3, line 20, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $191,935,000)''.

Page 4, line 8, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $236,374,000)''.

Page 4, line 21, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $49,872,000)''.

Page 5, line 9, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $16,690,000)''.

Page 5, line 23, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $13,569,000)''.

Page 6, line 13, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $15,370,000)''.

Page 7, line 2, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $75,780,000)''.

Page 7, line 16, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(increased by $26,735,000)''.

Page 8, line 2, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $568,000,000)''.

Page 8, line 11, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $295,000,000)''.

Page 8, line 15, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $255,000,000)''.

Page 8, line 24, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $314,000,000)''.

Page 10, line 23, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $67,000,000)''.

Page 11, line 8, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $21,000,000)''.

Page 11, line 17, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $17,000,000)''.

Page 11, line 25, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $20,000,000)''.

Page 12, line 17, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $101,000,000)''.

Page 13, line 9, insert after the dollar amount the following: ''(reduced by $36,000,000)''.

H.R. 5856

OFFERED BY: MR. LANGEVIN

AMENDMENT NO. 6: Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $15,000,000)''.

Page 35, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $15,000,000)''.

Page 35, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $15,000,000)''.

H.R. 5856

OFFERED BY: MS. RICHARDSON

AMENDMENT NO. 7: At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to reduce the number of C–17 aircraft of the Armed Forces.

H.R. 5856

OFFERED BY: MR. BLUMENAUER

AMENDMENT NO. 8: Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert ''(reduced by $88,952,000)''.

Page 16, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert ''(increased by $88,952,000)''.