Whereas, on November 8, 2011, the IAEA issued an extensive report that—

(1) documents ''serious concerns regarding possible military dimensions to Iran's nuclear programme'';

(2) states that ''Iran has carried out activities relevant to the development of a nuclear device''; and

(3) states that the efforts described in paragraphs (1) and (2) may be ongoing;

Whereas, as of November 2008, Iran had produced, according to the IAEA—

(1) approximately 630 kilograms of uranium hexaflouride enriched up to 3.5 percent uranium-235; and

(2) no uranium hexaflouride enriched up to 20 percent uranium-235;

Whereas, as of November 2011, Iran had produced, according to the IAEA—

(1) nearly 5,000 kilograms of uranium hexaflouride enriched up to 3.5 percent uranium-235; and

(2) 79.7 kilograms of uranium hexaflouride enriched up to 20 percent uranium-235;

Whereas, on January 9, 2012, IAEA inspectors confirmed that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran had begun enrichment activities at the Fordow site, including possibly enrichment of uranium hexaflouride up to 20 percent uranium-235;

Whereas section 2(2) of the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions, Accountability, and Divestment Act of 2010 (Public Law 111–195) states, ''The United States and other responsible countries have a vital interest in working together to prevent the Government of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability.'';

Whereas, if the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran were successful in acquiring a nuclear weapon capability, it would likely spur other countries in the region to consider developing their own nuclear weapons capabilities;

Whereas, on December 6, 2011, Prince Turki al-Faisal of Saudi Arabia stated that if international efforts to prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons fail, ''we must, as a duty to our country and people, look into all options we are given, including obtaining these weapons ourselves'';

Whereas top leaders of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran have repeatedly threatened the existence of the State of Israel, pledging to ''wipe Israel off the map'';

Whereas the Department of State has designated Iran as a state sponsor of terrorism since 1984 and characterized Iran as the ''most active state sponsor of terrorism'';

Whereas the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has provided weapons, training, funding, and direction to terrorist groups, including Hamas, Hezbollah, and Shiite militias in Iraq that are responsible for the murders of hundreds of United States forces and innocent civilians;

Whereas, on July 28, 2011, the Department of the Treasury charged that the Government of Iran had forged a ''secret deal'' with al Qaeda to facilitate the movement of al Qaeda fighters and funding through Iranian territory;

Whereas, in October 2011, senior leaders of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) Quds Force were implicated in a terrorist plot to assassinate Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to the United States on United States soil;

Whereas, on December 26, 2011, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution denouncing the serious human rights abuses occurring in the Islamic Republic of Iran, including torture, cruel and degrading treatment in detention, the targeting of human rights defenders, violence against women, and ''the systematic and serious restrictions on freedom of peaceful assembly'' as well as severe restrictions on the rights to ''freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief'';

Whereas President Barack Obama, through the P5+1 process, has made repeated efforts to engage the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran in dialogue about Iran's nuclear program and its international commitments under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968, and entered into force March 5, 1970 (commonly known as the ''Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty'');

Whereas representatives of the P5+1 countries (the United States, France, Germany, the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom) and representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran held negotiations on Iran's nuclear program in Istanbul, Turkey on April 14, 2012, and these discussions are set to resume in Baghdad, Iraq on May 23, 2012;

Whereas, on March 31, 2010, President Obama stated that the ''consequences of a nuclear-armed Iran are unacceptable'';

Whereas in his State of the Union Address on January 24, 2012, President Obama stated, ''Let there be no doubt: America is determined to prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon, and I will take no options off the table to achieve that goal.'';

Whereas, on March 4, 2012, President Obama stated ''Iran's leaders should understand that I do not have a policy of containment; I have a policy to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon'';

Whereas Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta stated, in December 2011, that it was unacceptable for Iran to acquire nuclear weapons, reaffirmed that all options were on the table to thwart Iran's nuclear weapons efforts, and vowed that if the United States gets ''intelligence that they are proceeding with developing a nuclear weapon then we will take whatever steps necessary to stop it'';

Whereas the Department of Defense's January 2012 Strategic Guidance stated that United States defense efforts in the Middle East would be aimed ''to prevent Iran's development of a nuclear weapons capability and counter its destabilizing policies''; and

Whereas, on April 2, 2012, President Obama stated, ''All the evidence indicates that the Iranians are trying to develop the capacity to develop nuclear weapons. They might decide that, once they have that capacity that they'd hold off right at the edge in order not to incur more sanctions. But, if they've got nuclear weapons-building capacity and they are flouting international resolutions, that creates huge destabilizing effects in the region and will trigger an arms race in the Middle East that is bad for U.S. national security but is also bad for the entire world.'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

That Congress—

(1) reaffirms that the United States Government and the governments of other responsible countries have a vital interest in working together to prevent the Government of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability;

(2) warns that time is limited to prevent the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability;

(3) urges continued and increasing economic and diplomatic pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran until the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran agrees to and implements—

(A) the full and sustained suspension of all uranium enrichment-related and reprocessing activities and compliance with United Nations Security Council resolutions;

(B) complete cooperation with the IAEA on all outstanding questions related to the nuclear activities of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the implementation of the additional protocol to Iran's Safeguards Agreement with the IAEA; and

(C) a permanent agreement that verifiably assures that Iran's nuclear program is entirely peaceful;

(4) expresses the desire that the P5+1 process successfully and swiftly leads to the objectives identified in paragraph (3), but warns that, as President Obama has said, the window for diplomacy is closing;

(5) expresses support for the universal rights and democratic aspirations of the people of Iran;

(6) strongly supports United States policy to prevent the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability;

(7) rejects any United States policy that would rely on efforts to contain a nuclear weapons-capable Iran; and

(8) joins the President in ruling out any policy that would rely on containment as an option in response to the Iranian nuclear threat.

SEC. 2. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this resolution shall be construed as an authorization for the use of force or a declaration of war.

MAKING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012—Continued

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows.

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on H.J. Res. 117, a joint resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Daniel K. Inouye, Patty Murray, Bernard Sanders, Jeanne Shaheen, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Debbie Stabenow, Max Baucus, Mark Pryor, Christopher A. Coons, Jon Tester, Michael F. Bennet, Kay R. Hagan, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Ron Wyden, Barbara Boxer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 2 minutes equally divided prior to a vote on the motion.

The Senator from Hawaii.

Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, this CR funds the government for the next 6 months at a level agreed to by the Budget Control Act. It contains a minimum of anomalies and allows adequate funding for disaster relief. This is an inefficient way to fund our Federal Government, but it is better than shutting it down next week.

I urge a ''yes'' vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on H.J. Res. 117, a joint resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2013, and for

other purposes shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) would have voted: ''yea.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 62, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 198 Leg.]

YEAS—62

Akaka	Hagan	Mikulski
Alexander	Harkin	Murkowski
Baucus	Hoeven	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Hutchison	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Inouye	Pryor
Bingaman	Johanns	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Blunt	Kerry	Rockefeller
Brown (MA)	Klobuchar	Sanders
Brown (OH)	Kohl	Schumer
Cantwell	Kyl	Shaheen
Cardin	Landrieu	Stabenow
Carper	Lautenberg	Tester
Casey	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Cochran	Levin	Udall (NM)
Conrad	Lieberman	Warner
Coons	Lugar	Webb
Durbin	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Feinstein	McConnell	Wicker
Franken	Menendez	Wyden
Gillibrand	Merkley	

NAYS—30

Ayotte	Enzi	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Chambliss	Grassley	Risch
Coats	Hatch	Roberts
Coburn	Isakson	Rubio
Collins	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
Corker	Lee	Shelby
Cornyn	Manchin	Snowe
Crapo	McCain	Thune
DeMint	Moran	Toomey

NOT VOTING—8

Boozman	Heller	Murray
Boxer	Inhofe	Vitter
Burr	Kirk	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 62, the nays are 30. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

Under the previous order, the pending amendments are withdrawn.

The clerk will read the joint resolution for the third time.

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 117) was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on passage of the joint resolution.

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) are necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) would have voted: ''yea.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWN of Ohio). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 62, nays 30, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 199 Leg.]

YEAS—62

Akaka	Hagan	Mikulski
Alexander	Harkin	Murkowski
Baucus	Hoeven	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Hutchison	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Inouye	Pryor
Bingaman	Johanns	Reed
Blumenthal	Johnson (SD)	Reid
Blunt	Kerry	Rockefeller
Brown (MA)	Klobuchar	Sanders
Brown (OH)	Kohl	Schumer
Cantwell	Kyl	Shaheen
Cardin	Landrieu	Stabenow
Carper	Lautenberg	Tester
Casey	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Cochran	Levin	Udall (NM)
Conrad	Lieberman	Warner
Coons	Lugar	Webb
Durbin	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Feinstein	McConnell	Wicker
Franken	Menendez	Wyden
Gillibrand	Merkley	

NAYS—30

Ayotte	Enzi	Paul
Barrasso	Graham	Portman
Chambliss	Grassley	Risch
Coats	Hatch	Roberts
Coburn	Isakson	Rubio
Collins	Johnson (WI)	Sessions
Corker	Lee	Shelby
Cornyn	Manchin	Snowe
Crapo	McCain	Thune
DeMint	Moran	Toomey

NOT VOTING—8

Boozman	Heller	Murray
Boxer	Inhofe	Vitter
Burr	Kirk	

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 117) was passed.

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I was unable to attend the roll call votes that occurred at midnight, September 22. Had I been present, I would have voted against S. 3576, related to foreign aid and voted in favor of S.J. Res. 41, the Iran Resolution. I would have also voted to support passage of H.J. Res. 117, the Continuing Appropriations resolution and would have voted against the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 3525, the Sportsmen's Act.•

SPORTSMEN'S ACT OF 2012—MOTION TO PROCEED

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 504, S. 3525, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Jon Tester, Joe Manchin III, Jeanne Shaheen, Sheldon Whitehouse, Debbie Stabenow, Ron Wyden, Max Baucus, Daniel K. Inouye, Kent Conrad, Mark Pryor, Christopher A. Coons, Michael F. Bennet, Kay R. Hagan, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Richard Blumenthal, Ben Nelson.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are now 2 minutes equally divided.

The Republican leader is recognized.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I am going to proceed very briefly on my leader time. I ask consent that the next vote on cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2535 be vitiated and the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 4089, which is at the desk and is the House-passed Sportsmen's Heritage Act, the bill be read a third time and passed with the motion to reconsider laid upon the table.

For the record, again, this will allow a bill to get to the President's desk immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Reserving the right to object, Mr. President, the House bill is this big. It has three provisions. The bill we are going to vote on has 20, supported by over 50 groups—NRA, Ducks Unlimited, and more than 50 others, a wonderful piece of legislation that is robust, it is conclusive, and it is not partisan. It is a very good piece of legislation. It should be widely accepted. It is a fine piece of legislation supported by conservation groups, sportsmen's groups all over America.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, very briefly, we could have tonight passed the House-passed Sportsmen's bill. It would have gone straight to the President for signature. That having been thwarted by our friends on the other side, I certainly think it is appropriate to vote to proceed to the measure before us and I intend to vote aye.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is now 2 minutes equally divided. The Senator from Montana is recognized.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, as the majority leader pointed out, this Sportsmen's Act is a compilation of 19 bills. Hunting season has already started. This bill benefits 90 million Americans who hunt, fish, and watch wildlife,