

to the sanctuary system for surplus chimpanzees.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "CHIMP Act Amendments of 2013".

SEC. 2. SANCTUARY SYSTEM FOR SURPLUS CHIMPANZEES.

(a) *IN GENERAL.—Section 404K(g) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 283m(g)) is amended—*

(1) *in paragraph (1)—*

(A) *by striking "and each subsequent fiscal year" and inserting "through fiscal year 2023";*

(B) *by inserting after "\$30,000,000" the following: ", unless the Secretary determines that reserving additional funds would enable the National Institutes of Health to operate more efficiently and economically by decreasing the overall Federal cost of supporting and maintaining chimpanzees from fiscal year 2014 through fiscal year 2023. Such a determination shall be reported to Congress by the Secretary and shall include a report, to be updated biennially, regarding the care and maintenance of the chimpanzees and costs related to such care and maintenance"; and*

(C) *by striking the last sentence; and*

(2) *in paragraph (3), by striking "board of directors" and inserting "Secretary, in consultation with the board of directors".*

(b) *GAO STUDY.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an independent evaluation, and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report, regarding chimpanzees owned or supported by the National Institutes of Health. Such report shall review and assess—*

(1) *the research status of National Institutes of Health-owned or supported chimpanzees;*

(2) *the cost for the care and maintenance of such chimpanzees, including the cost broken down by research or retirement status, location and for transportation, as appropriate;*

(3) *the extent to which matching requirements have been met pursuant to section 404K(e)(4) of the Public Health Service Act; and*

(4) *any options for cost-savings for the support and maintenance of such chimpanzees that may be identified.*

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and passed; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1561), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

UNITED STATES PAROLE COMMISSION EXTENSION ACT OF 2013

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 3190.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3190) to provide for the continued performance of the functions of the United States Parole Commission, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the United States Parole Commission is scheduled to expire tomorrow. After significant bicameral negotiations, 2 weeks ago, the House of Representatives passed by unanimous consent a bipartisan bill, H.R. 3190, to reauthorize the commission for 5 years. Public safety demands that we pass this legislation swiftly and I urge the Senate to support its immediate enactment. We should have passed this bill weeks ago, but a single Republican hold has placed us in the precarious position of seeking passage on the eve of expiration. This is not the way to protect public safety.

The Parole Commission is responsible for granting or denying parole for Federal and District of Columbia prisoners who were sentenced before the Federal and DC Governments abolished parole. The commission was created to consider the requests of these "old law" Federal and DC inmates, but it also has jurisdiction over more recent DC offenders who are on supervised release from prison. In addition, the commission supervises some military law offenders, State offenders in the witness protection program, and foreign-law offenders serving sentences in the United States.

The consequences of failing to reauthorize the commission would be dire. "Old law" Federal and DC inmates are required by law to receive periodic parole hearings. If the commission were unavailable to hold these hearings and declare that certain inmates should not be paroled, around 3,500 inmates would be released. Potentially dangerous individuals would be allowed to simply walk free without any assessment of the risk to public safety if this reauthorization does not pass the Senate immediately.

Failure to reauthorize the commission would have particularly harsh consequences for the District of Columbia. The commission currently sets the conditions of supervision for DC offenders and determines when those conditions have been violated. If the commission were to cease operations, around 9,000 offenders would no longer receive adequate supervision. These include extremely dangerous criminals, such as murderers and rapists.

Congress has consistently recognized the importance of the commission, reauthorizing it on 6 prior occasions. We last reauthorized the commission 2 years ago. At that time, the Republican-led House of Representatives unanimously passed a bill to extend the commission for 3 years, but a single Senator blocked the bill and insisted on only a 2-year extension.

So we are here now, 2 years later, and the House has appropriately passed a bipartisan 5-year extension. I have been working with the House since

July on this straightforward reauthorization. As the House recognizes, the need for the commission will not cease within the next 5 years. In fact, it is estimated that Federal "old-law" offenders will require parole decisions for the next 35 years.

I hope we can agree to this 5-year extension, which includes extensive annual reporting requirements that will allow Congress to conduct oversight of the commission. All of the reporting requirements from the last reauthorization are included, along with new requirements related specifically to the District of Columbia. There is nothing objectionable in this bill, and there is no substantive reason for anyone to block it.

The events of the past few weeks have shown deep divisions in the House Republican caucus. But one thing on which all 232 House Republicans agree is that the Parole Commission should be reauthorized for another 5 years. They all agreed that releasing potentially dangerous prisoners was a bad idea. This bill is not controversial.

As I have mentioned before, Senator PAUL and I and others are working in a bipartisan manner on sentencing reform. We believe that judges should have more discretion in sentencing when a mandatory minimum sentence is unnecessary and counterproductive. The extension of the Parole Commission is quite a different matter, however. If the commission is not reauthorized, there will be no one to decide whether thousands of offenders are ready for parole. These inmates will simply be released.

I want to commend the sponsor of the House bill, Congressman STEVE CHABOT, along with co-sponsors Chairman BOB GOODLATTE and Ranking Member JOHN CONYERS of the House Judiciary Committee, and Chairman JIM SENSENBRENNER and Ranking Member BOBBY SCOTT of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations. They understood the urgency and imminent consequences of inaction. Unfortunately, some in the Senate did not share that position and now we are up against the final deadline. It is time to end these petty games and to let Congress do its job. We must pass this bill now.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (H.R. 3190) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY MONTH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 278, submitted earlier today.