

This will not solve every problem sequestration has caused, but it is a step in the right direction and a dramatic improvement over the status quo.

Over the past year I have talked to workers at Joint Base Lewis-McChord and Fairchild Air Force Base and elsewhere who have been very much impacted by the sequestration and very worried about how another round of cuts would affect their jobs and families. I have heard from military leaders who told me sequestration would impact our national security if it continued and from companies that do business with the Defense Department that the uncertainty and the cuts were hurting their ability to hire workers and invest in future growth. So I am very glad this bill will prevent the upcoming round of defense sequestration and provide some certainty to the Pentagon for the upcoming years.

Secretary of Defense Hagel and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Dempsey have both expressed support for this bill, as have a number of colleagues in Congress who have spent the last few years highlighting the impact of continued sequestration on national security and defense workers.

The increased investments we get from rolling back sequestration over the next 2 years are fully replaced with a smarter, balanced mix of new revenue and more responsible spending cuts. Experts and economists have said the responsible thing to do is increase investments now while our economic recovery remains fragile and workers are still fighting to get back on the job, while tackling our deficit and debt over the long run. This bill moves us in the direction of exactly that.

We have cut our deficit in half over the past few years, and this bill adds to the \$2.5 trillion in deficit reduction done since 2011 with an additional \$23 billion in savings over the next 10 years.

This bill is not exactly what I would have written on my own. I am pretty sure it is not what Chairman RYAN would have written on his own.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 3 additional minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BOOKER). Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. MURRAY. This bill is a compromise, and that means neither side got everything they wanted and both of us had to give a bit.

I was very disappointed we were not able to close a single wasteful tax loophole that benefits the wealthiest Americans and biggest corporations. I had hoped to extend critical support for workers who are fighting to get back on the job. I was very disappointed that Republicans refused to allow that to be part of this deal. I certainly would have liked to have replaced more of sequestration. I know it was difficult for many Republicans to accept any increases in the BCA caps at all.

I know many Republicans had hoped this would be an opportunity to make

the kind of Medicare and Social Security benefit cuts they have advocated in the past, but I fought hard to keep them out.

This deal is a compromise. It doesn't tackle every one of the challenges we face as a nation, but that was never our goal. This bipartisan bill takes the first steps toward rebuilding our broken budget process and hopefully toward rebuilding our broken Congress.

We have spent far too long here scrambling to fix artificial crises instead of working together to solve the big problems we all know we need to address. We have budget deficits that have improved but have not disappeared, and we have deficits in education, innovation, and infrastructure that continue to widen. There is so much more we need to do to create jobs, boost our economy, replace the remaining years of sequestration, and tackle our long-term fiscal challenges fairly and responsibly.

I am hopeful that this deal can be just the first of many bipartisan deals, that it can rebuild some of the trust, bring Democrats and Republicans together, and demonstrate that government can work for the people we all represent.

I urge my colleagues to support the bipartisan Budget Act of 2013.

I thank Chairman RYAN for his work with me over the last several months. I thank a number of Members who have worked very closely with us, including Ranking Member VAN HOLLEN and every Member of our Budget Committee here in the Senate who worked hard to pass a budget, start a conference, and get a bipartisan deal.

When we come back next year, I will be ready to get to work with Chairman RYAN or anyone else from either side of this aisle who wants to build on this bipartisan foundation to continue addressing our Nation's challenges fairly and responsibly. It is not going to be easy, but the American people are expecting nothing less.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived with respect to the cloture motion relative to H.J. Res. 59.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

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

The assistant 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 the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.J. Res. 59, the Bipartisan Budget Act.

Harry Reid, Patty Murray, Max Baucus, Mark Begich, Barbara Boxer, Richard

Blumenthal, Tom Udall, Debbie Stabenow, Sheldon Whitehouse, Claire McCaskill, Mazie Hirono, Christopher A. Coons, Jon Tester, Brian Schatz, Martin Heinrich, Joe Donnelly, Heidi Heitkamp, Kirsten E. Gillibrand.

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 the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.J. Res. 59, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2014, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 67, nays 33, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 279 Leg.]

YEAS—67

Alexander	Hagan	Murkowski
Baldwin	Harkin	Murphy
Baucus	Hatch	Murray
Begich	Heinrich	Nelson
Bennet	Heitkamp	Portman
Blumenthal	Hirono	Pryor
Blunt	Hoeben	Reed
Booker	Isakson	Reid
Boxer	Johnson (SD)	Rockefeller
Brown	Johnson (WI)	Sanders
Cantwell	Kaine	Schatz
Cardin	King	Schumer
Carper	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Casey	Landrieu	Stabenow
Chambliss	Leahy	Tester
Collins	Levin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Manchin	Udall (NM)
Donnelly	Markey	Warner
Durbin	McCain	Warren
Feinstein	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Flake	Menendez	Wyden
Franken	Merkley	
Gillibrand	Mikulski	

NAYS—33

Ayotte	Enzi	Paul
Barrasso	Fischer	Risch
Boozman	Graham	Roberts
Burr	Grassley	Rubio
Coats	Heller	Scott
Coburn	Inhofe	Sessions
Cochran	Johanns	Shelby
Corker	Kirk	Thune
Cornyn	Lee	Toomey
Crapo	McConnell	Vitter
Cruz	Moran	Wicker

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 67 and the nays are 33. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

MAKING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate a message from the House which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Resolved, that the House recede from its amendment to the amendment of the Senate to the resolution (H.J. Res. 59) entitled, "A joint resolution making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2014, and for other purposes," and concur with a House amendment to the Senate amendment.

Pending:

Reid motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the joint resolution, with Reid amendment No. 2547, to change the enactment date.