

Let's stand with the people of Venezuela and support the immediate passage of S. 2142.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to thank and congratulate the vibrant Venezuelan American community in our area in south Florida and, indeed, throughout our great Nation for never forgetting the suffering of their native lands. They have many family members in Venezuela, and they care deeply about what happens in their homeland.

Now they have adopted America as their homeland and they are proud Americans, but they are also very proud of their traditions. It is because of their desire to go back to a Venezuela one day—that will be free, that will be democratic, that will respect the human rights—that we are here today fighting on their behalf. So thanks to our constituents for making this day a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ).

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I, too, want to thank my colleague and the gentlewoman from south Florida, who has really been a passionate advocate and whom I have stood in solidarity with on this and so many other issues.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Venezuela Defense of Human Rights and Civil Society Act of 2014. I do so as the proud representative of Westonzuela, my hometown, and one in which we have an incredibly rich and vibrant community of Venezuelans and Venezuelan Americans. As the representative of one of the largest communities of Venezuelans and Venezuelan Americans in the United States, I am here to strongly speak out against the continued, unconscionable abuses of the Maduro government against innocent citizens.

Earlier this year, facing a repressive government and crushing economic conditions, thousands of Venezuelans peacefully protested to demand their basic human rights and dignity. In response, President Maduro and his security forces brutally suppressed their own citizens in the streets and used the judiciary to squash voices championing freedom of expression and democracy. Although President Maduro has tried to further silence these voices by limiting media coverage of the ongoing oppression and repression and terrible economic conditions of his country, we can still hear the demands for justice and for dignity.

This bill would impose sanctions on those individuals in Maduro's regime who have ordered the arrest or prosecution of anyone exercising their right to peacefully assemble or protest, or

those who supported those actions. Through our action here today, we signify the determination of the American people to stand for freedom and democracy, and this bill reinforces the sentiments and actions of the U.S. Congress and the Obama administration.

Along with my colleagues, I stand in solidarity with those brave Venezuelans continuing to advocate for their rights, including opposition leader Leopoldo Lopez, who outrageously remains in prison. I look forward to this measure's passage and to President Obama's signature, and working with the Obama administration and our allies to hold these perpetrators of the injustice accountable for their crimes.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

In closing, I would like to emphasize, once again, that today's legislation is consistent with our treatment of human rights violators throughout the world.

Will this legislation all of a sudden turn President Maduro and his government into great respecters of human rights? None of us are naive enough to believe this, but what it will do is it will send a message to human rights violators in Venezuela and throughout the world that your visas and your assets in U.S. financial institutions are in peril if you abuse individuals' human rights.

I once again urge my colleagues to support the immediate passage of S. 2142.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I would like to thank our entire south Florida congressional delegation. All of us worked together in a bipartisan way to get this bill to this moment.

I would especially like to thank Senator BOB MENENDEZ, the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, along with our own Florida Senator whom we are so proud of, MARCO RUBIO, for their hard work on this bill and, really, for their work on the broader issues of the lack of democracy in our hemisphere, the disrespect for human rights, the lack of the rule of law.

Sadly, in our Western Hemisphere, instead of seeing advances of human rights and advances of democracy, we have seen a sad erosion in these years. We thank all of the Members for always using these esteemed floors to talk about our basic values that we share with our hemispheric neighbors, and that is respect for human rights, respect for democracy, respect for the rule of law, and always to continue to do everything we can to make sure that all of our oppressed brothers and sisters will live in freedom, the freedom that we enjoy so much.

I thank very much our chairman of our Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr.

ROYCE, for his help and his leadership in this fight.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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. 2142.

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.

GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY ACT OF 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5656) to authorize the Feed the Future Initiative to reduce global poverty and hunger in developing countries on a sustainable basis, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5656

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 "Global Food Security Act of 2014".

SEC. 2. STATEMENT OF POLICY OBJECTIVES; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY OBJECTIVES.—It is in the national security interest of the United States to promote global food security and nutrition, consistent with national food security investment plans, which is reinforced through programs, activities, and initiatives that—

(1) accelerate inclusive, agricultural-led economic growth that reduces global poverty, hunger, and malnutrition, particularly among women and children;

(2) increase the productivity, incomes, and livelihoods of small-scale producers, especially women, by working across agricultural value chains and expanding producer access to local and international markets;

(3) build resilience to food shocks among vulnerable populations and households while reducing reliance upon emergency food assistance;

(4) create an enabling environment for agricultural growth and investment, including through the promotion of secure and transparent property rights;

(5) improve the nutritional status of women and children, with a focus on reducing child stunting, including through the promotion of highly nutritious foods, diet diversification, and nutritional behaviors that improve maternal and child health;

(6) align with and leverage broader United States investments in trade, economic growth, science and technology, maternal and child health, and water, sanitation, and hygiene; and

(7) ensure the effective use of United States taxpayer dollars to further these objectives.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Congress that the President, in providing assistance to implement the Global Food Security Strategy, should—

(1) coordinate, through a whole-of-government approach, the efforts of relevant Federal departments and agencies to implement the Global Food Security Strategy;

(2) utilize, to the extent possible, open and streamlined solicitations to allow for the participation of a wide range of implementing partners via the most appropriate contracting mechanism; and

(3) continue to strengthen existing partnerships between developing country institutions of agricultural sciences with universities in the United States, with a focus on building the capacities of developing nation universities in agriculture.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **AGRICULTURE.**—The term “agriculture” means crops, livestock, fisheries, and forestry.

(2) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(3) **FEED THE FUTURE INNOVATION LABS.**—The term “Feed the Future Innovation Labs” means research partnerships led by United States universities that advance solutions to reduce global hunger, poverty, and malnutrition.

(4) **GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.**—The term “Global Food Security Strategy” means the strategy developed and implemented pursuant to section 4(a).

(5) **FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY.**—The term “food and nutrition security” means access to, and availability, utilization, and stability of, sufficient food to meet caloric and nutritional needs for an active and healthy life.

(6) **MALNUTRITION.**—The term “malnutrition” means poor nutritional status caused by nutritional deficiency or excess.

(7) **RESILIENCE.**—The term “resilience” means the ability of people, households, communities, countries, and systems to mitigate, adapt to, and recover from shocks and stresses to food security in a manner that reduces chronic vulnerability and facilitates inclusive growth.

(8) **RELEVANT FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.**—The term “relevant Federal departments and agencies” means the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Department of State, the Department of the Treasury, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, the Peace Corps, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the United States African Development Foundation, the United States Geological Survey, and any other department or agency specified by the President for purposes of this section.

(9) **SMALL-SCALE PRODUCER.**—The term “small-scale producer” means farmers, pastoralists, foresters, and fishers that have a low-asset base and limited resources, including land, capital, skills and labor, and, in the case of farmers, typically farm on fewer than 5 hectares of land.

SEC. 4. COMPREHENSIVE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.

(a) **STRATEGY.**—The President shall coordinate the development and implementation of a United States whole-of-government strategy to accomplish the policy objectives set forth in section 2(a), which shall—

(1) support and be aligned with country-owned agriculture, nutrition, and food secu-

rity policy and investment plans developed with input from relevant governmental and nongovernmental sectors within partner countries and regional bodies, including representatives of the private sector, agricultural producers, including women and small-scale producers, international and local civil society organizations, faith-based organizations, research institutions, and farmers as reasonable and appropriate;

(2) support inclusive agricultural value chain development, with small-scale producers, especially women, gaining greater access to the inputs, skills, networking, bargaining power, financing, and market linkages needed to sustain their long-term economic prosperity;

(3) seek to improve the nutritional status of women and children, particularly during the critical first 1,000-day window until a child reaches 2 years of age, with a focus on reducing child stunting;

(4) seek to ensure the long-term success of programs by building the capacity of local organizations and institutions;

(5) integrate resilience strategies into food security programs, such that chronically vulnerable populations are better able to build safety nets, secure livelihoods, access markets, and access opportunities from longer-term economic growth;

(6) develop community and producer resiliency to natural disasters, emergencies, and natural occurrences that adversely impact agricultural yield;

(7) harness science, technology, and innovation, including the research conducted at Feed the Future Innovation Labs, or any successor entities, throughout the United States;

(8) support integrating agricultural development activities among food insecure populations living in proximity to designated national parks or wildlife areas to support wildlife conservation efforts;

(9) leverage resources and expertise through partnerships with the private sector, farm organizations, cooperatives, civil society, faith-based organizations, research entities, and academic institutions;

(10) support collaboration, as appropriate, between United States universities and public and private institutions in developing countries to promote agricultural development and innovation;

(11) set clear and transparent selection criteria for target countries, regions, and intended beneficiaries of assistance to implement the Global Food Security Strategy;

(12) set specific and measurable goals, targets, and time frames, and a plan of action consistent with the policy objectives described in section 2(a);

(13) seek to ensure that target countries respect and promote the lawful land tenure rights of local communities, particularly those of women and small-scale producers; and

(14) include criteria and methodology for graduating countries from assistance to implement the Global Food Security Strategy once the countries have achieved certain benchmarks.

(b) **COORDINATION.**—The President shall coordinate, through a whole-of-government approach, the efforts of relevant Federal departments and agencies in the implementation of the Global Food Security Strategy by—

(1) establishing monitoring and evaluation systems, coherence, and coordination across relevant Federal departments and agencies; and

(2) establishing platforms for regular consultation and collaboration with key stakeholders, including—

(A) multilateral institutions;

(B) private voluntary organizations;

(C) cooperatives;

(D) the private sector;

(E) local nongovernmental and civil society organizations;

(F) faith-based organizations;

(G) congressional committees; and

(H) other stakeholders, as appropriate.

SEC. 5. ASSISTANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President is authorized to provide assistance to implement the Global Food Security Strategy pursuant to the authorities of section 103, section 103A, title XII of chapter 2 of part I, and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151a, 2151a–1, 2220a et seq., and 2346 et seq.) notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(b) **MONITORING AND EVALUATION.**—The President should seek to ensure that assistance to implement the Global Food Security Strategy is provided under established parameters for a rigorous accountability system to monitor and evaluate progress and impact of the strategy, including by reporting to the appropriate congressional committees and the public on an annual basis.

(c) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the President \$1,000,600,000 for fiscal year 2015 to carry out this section.

SEC. 6. REPORT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that describes the status of the implementation of the Global Food Security Strategy.

(b) **CONTENT.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall—

(1) contain a summary of the Global Food Security Strategy as an appendix;

(2) identify any substantial changes made in the Global Food Security Strategy during the preceding calendar year;

(3) identify the indicators that will be used to measure results, set benchmarks for progress over time, and establish mechanisms for reporting results in an open and transparent manner;

(4) describe the progress made in implementing the Global Food Security Strategy;

(5) assess the progress and results of implementing international food and nutrition security programming;

(6) contain a transparent, open, and detailed accounting of spending by relevant Federal departments and agencies to implement the Global Food Security Strategy, including by listing all recipients of funding or partner organizations and, to the extent possible, describing their activities;

(7) identify any United States legal or regulatory impediments that could obstruct the effective implementation of the programming referred to in paragraph (5);

(8) contain a clear gender analysis of programming that includes established disaggregated gender indicators to better analyze outcomes for food productivity, income growth, equity in access to inputs, jobs and markets, and nutrition;

(9) describe the strategies and benchmarks for graduating target countries and monitoring any graduated target countries;

(10) assess efforts to coordinate United States international food security and nutrition programs, activities, and initiatives with—

(A) other bilateral donors;

(B) international and multilateral organizations;

(C) international financial institutions;

(D) host country governments;

(E) international and local private voluntary, nongovernmental, faith-based organizations, and civil society organizations; and

(F) other stakeholders;

(11) assess United States Government-facilitated private investment in related sectors and the impact of private sector investment in target countries;

(12) include consultation with relevant United States Government agencies in the preparation of the report; and

(13) incorporate a plan for regularly reviewing and updating strategies, partnerships, and programs and sharing lessons learned with a wide range of stakeholders.

(C) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—The information referred to in subsection (b) shall be made publicly accessible in a timely manner on a consolidated website.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) and the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the Global Food Security Act, H.R. 5656, is a bipartisan bill with 21 cosponsors, including BETTY MCCOLLUM, our lead Democrat, who has worked very hard on this issue.

I would also like to thank House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman ED ROYCE, Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL, Ranking Member BASS. I would like to thank JEFF FORTENBERRY, who has played a key role, as well as ERIK PAULSEN and, again, other Members who have joined across the aisle to work on this legislation and to work on the language.

I also want to thank the staff that worked tirelessly on this. In particular, Jenn Holcomb, Kelly Stone from Congresswoman MCCOLLUM's office; Joan Condon, Katy Crosby, and Janice Kaguyutan from the full committee; and from my own staff, Pierro Tozzi. Thank you so much for your work in helping to make this bill a reality and bringing it to the floor.

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Mr. Speaker, this is important legislation which will help provide a long-term solution to global hunger by authorizing and strengthening the existing national food security program coordinated by USAID, commonly known as Feed the Future. This program strengthens nutrition, especially for children during the critical first 1,000-day window—from conception to the child's second birthday. It also teaches small-scale farmers—in particular, women—the requisite techniques and best practices to increase agricultural yield, thereby helping nations achieve

food security, which is something that is, first and foremost, humane but also in the national security interests of the United States.

As USAID Administrator Dr. Rajiv Shah has pointed out—who, I want to point out, parenthetically, has done a tremendous job as the Administrator of USAID—this program encourages self-sufficiency and operates in targeted countries where the host governments have committed to investing in local agricultural development and to undertaking reforms that allow the private sector to flourish. Its hallmarks are the building of local capacity and sustainability, as well as resiliency in linking local entrepreneurs to the global economy, while boosting transparency and accountability.

The end result of this can be seen in lives saved and in lives enriched. In the past year, the Feed the Future program has helped 7 million farmers across the globe to increase harvests, resulting in improved nutrition for some 12.5 million children. To give one example, in Ethiopia, stunting rates were driven down by some 9 percent in just 3 years, resulting in, roughly, 160,000 fewer children suffering from malnutrition.

Yet, today, even though progress has been made, malnutrition is the underlying cause of death for at least 3.1 million children per year around the world and is responsible for 45 percent of all deaths among children under 5. More than 800,000 babies—one in four newborns—die each year because they are born too soon or they are too small as a result of poor maternal nutrition.

Mr. Speaker, one of the first laws that I wrote over 30 years ago was the Child Survival Fund—a \$50 million program that included vaccinating kids to protect against preventable diseases like polio, pertussis, and diphtheria, as well as oral rehydration for kids at risk of death from repeated bouts of diarrheal disease. What we discovered then was that, for mere pennies on the dollar, we could intervene before problems arose, not only saving lives but also saving money in the long term. This Global Food Security Act has the potential to be equally transformative in the lives of so many.

Malnutrition, in addition to death, leads to the stunted growth of children. Stunted children become adults who suffer from diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease—conditions that not only result in poor health but that also impede earning capacity and result in lower incomes. Of particular concern, women affected by stunting give birth to children who are also likely to be afflicted by this preventable condition, perpetuating the cycle of malnutrition and of poverty.

Adequate nutrition for pregnant women, lactating moms, and all women and adolescent girls of childbearing age needs to be prioritized in food policies for the sake of children, women, and, by extension, nations. By ensuring comprehensive prenatal, maternal, and

robust support, including nutrition—again, through that first 1,000 days of life—government health workers, civil society, and others will not only prevent many deaths, but children will be stronger, healthier, happier; their immune systems will be boosted; and as they matriculate to adulthood, they will be more prosperous. If women of childbearing age are well-nourished, they are healthier and are able to provide nourishment for their children.

I remember being in so many refugee camps. At a Darfur refugee camp, on one of many trips to Africa, I remember the women there were so concerned that they would be able to breastfeed their children, but they were so malnourished that that was next to impossible. After several weeks, they were able to do so.

I should also add, when these children—healthy children—get this kind of help, it also ensures greater not only physical but cognitive development. Healthy children thrive and are empowered to become healthy adults. Again, they can make, because of that, meaningful contributions to their families and society.

Finally, I note that the program authorized by H.R. 5656 is not only penny-wise, but it is also pound-wise. It is economical in the long run, and it should lead to a reduction in the amount of money we spend on emergency food aid. A comprehensive food security strategy outlined in the bill, as well as in the policy, also helps us to do more with less by leveraging our aid with that of other countries, the private sector, NGOs, and especially faith-based organizations, whose great work on the ground in so many different countries impacts so many lives.

By statutorily authorizing this program, which has its roots in the Bush administration and was formalized by President Obama and, thus, is an example of bipartisan success on both the executive and legislative levels, we are also increasing oversight by requiring the administration to report to Congress.

H.R. 5656 demonstrates, again, strong bipartisan support that does exist for assistance, and it is a strategy that truly gives people the tools to let themselves out of poverty and to live healthier and better lives.

I implore you, my colleagues, to vote in favor of it, and, hopefully, this legislation can become law by the end of this session.

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

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

I rise in strong support of H.R. 5656, the Global Food Security Act of 2014.

I would like to begin by thanking Congressman CHRIS SMITH and Congresswoman BETTY MCCOLLUM for authoring this important legislation, which authorizes USAID's Feed the Future Initiative. I would also like to thank Chairman ROYCE for working with us in a bipartisan manner to take

this bill up in committee and bring it to the floor.

Around the world, 800 million people suffer from chronic hunger. Malnutrition causes the deaths of 3.1 million children under the age of 5 every year. This is a global crisis. President Obama has made global food security a top priority, and USAID Administrator Raj Shah has done tremendous work in carrying out that policy.

The Feed the Future Initiative focuses on reducing global poverty and hunger in developing countries through agricultural development. This program is only a few years old, but it has already made a real difference in fighting hunger, poverty, and malnutrition.

In 2013, Feed the Future helped nearly 7 million farmers and food producers use new technologies. This initiative has secured more than \$10 billion in private sector commitments to African agriculture, the majority of which has been made by African businesses. It has helped bring 3.5 million hectares of land under improved cultivation and management practices. Last year, the initiative reached more than 12.5 million children with nutritional assistance.

The success of this initiative stems, in part, from the collaboration and partnership of more than 10 U.S. Government agencies, the private sector, NGOs, and American universities. By working together, they have helped to advance real solutions to global hunger, poverty, and malnutrition.

Most importantly, Feed the Future has generated strong buy-in from partner governments in 19 countries across Latin America and the Caribbean, Asia, and Africa. Each host country is required to put forward a country investment plan and contribute a portion of its own GDP to agricultural development. This model ensures that Feed the Future programs are sustainable and can eventually be transferred fully to the host country.

Despite the gains we have made, there is still a lot of work that has to be done. We need continued American leadership in global food security. We need proven programs like Feed the Future to continue its highly effective work in alleviating global hunger and poverty.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important measure, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. FORTENBERRY), a member of the Appropriations Committee and also one of the sponsors of the legislation before us.

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me thank my friend and colleague, Chairman CHRIS SMITH, for his steadfast leadership on this issue, this important bill, as well as on so many other concerns that affect vulnerable persons around the world.

Again, Congressman SMITH, you rightly pointed out that Dr. Rajiv

Shah, the Agency Director for the United States Agency for International Development, has been steadfast in his leadership on this as well and deserves a tremendous amount of credit.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support this important bipartisan initiative to save the lives of hurting people around the world. The United States has a decades-long history on food security, and this act—the Global Food Security Act, also known as Feed the Future—really does three things: it saves lives; it creates sustainable development throughout the world; and it strengthens our own national security by stopping the underlying problems that lead to international instability.

Americans are the most generous people in the world. This bill continues our tradition of generosity in a smart, whole-of-government approach that combines the goodwill of the private sector as well as charities for a 21st century approach to development aid. Feed the Future is one of the most cost-effective and results-oriented international development initiatives that we have championed to date. It is the right thing to do.

Many of some estimated 800 million people throughout the world who suffer from chronic hunger rely on agriculture to make a living. Back in 2007 and 2008, we launched this response to the global food crisis by helping to bring self-sufficiency to struggling agricultural communities worldwide. By working together with partner countries that are invested in taking responsibility for their own success, what started out as a modest program has developed into a serious global commitment to end hunger and improve nutrition standards, especially for vulnerable women and their children.

In 2013 alone, market-based agricultural productivity initiatives funded by Congress reached more than 12.5 million children with good nutrition and has helped some 7 million farmers leverage new agricultural technologies on nearly 10 million acres of land. Importantly as well, Feed the Future has leveraged more than \$10 billion in private sector investment—the majority from African businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this very thoughtful measure, which has earned broad-based support from the U.S. agricultural sector, universities nationwide, faith-based nongovernmental organizations, as well as private enterprise. We will never regret the good we can do in helping feed the hungry, and the return on this investment will surely compound to the benefit of future generations in, perhaps, ways we can never measure.

To everyone who has been involved here and to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, I want to thank you all for working in such a bipartisan spirit to get this important bill done.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Minnesota, Representative BETTY MCCOLLUM, the coauthor of this bill.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Thank you, Mr. VARGAS.

Mr. Speaker, the Global Food Security Act is an important bill, and I want to thank my colleagues—Chairman ROYCE, Ranking Member ENGEL, Representative BASS, and Representative FORTENBERRY for his kind remarks—for their hard work to get this bipartisan legislation to the floor today. My very biggest “thank you” goes to my great partner in this, Representative CHRIS SMITH.

Thank you, Mr. SMITH.

Mr. Speaker, in the world's poorest countries, more than 800 million people are chronically hungry and malnourished. They are struggling and are in desperate poverty, forced to watch as their children suffer and too often die from malnutrition. Children who do survive will remain hungry, and they are so chronically malnourished they are physically and mentally stunted. This malnutrition—this lack of food—hurts not only the individual but the development of an entire country.

With this in mind, former Republican Senator Dick Lugar and I introduced bipartisan-bicameral legislation to call for a comprehensive U.S. food global security strategy in 2009.

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But while that bill did not become law, we did build a strong base of bipartisan support around food security, and in 2010, President Obama took up the call to invest in agricultural development and launched Feed the Future.

With the support of Congress, Feed the Future is working to accelerate agriculturally-led economic growth and reduce poverty. It is working with smallholder farmers in 19 countries to help them grow their way out of poverty, improve nutrition for women and children, and create income-generating opportunities.

I have seen the difference our investments in agriculture and nutrition are having in these developing nations. I have met the women farmers who are feeding their families, sending their children to school, and investing in their communities because of Feed the Future. And we need to continue to build on these successes.

The Global Food Security Act will continue to enhance global food security by assisting small-scale farmers, increasing yields, putting more food on families' tables, and then selling more food in the market.

Our bill is about partnering with hardworking farmers who are mostly women to make them more successful. It helps to provide them access to the knowledge, the tools, the markets, and the business opportunities because when a woman farmer succeeds, her children and family are healthier, and they are more likely to succeed.

H.R. 5656 is leveraging a unique partnership with NGOs, private sector businesses, educational institutions, and faith-based groups.

Three Minnesota-based businesses—Land O' Lakes, General Mills, and

Cargill—are already partnering with Feed the Future. In fact, General Mills CEO Ken Powell said: “We are hungry to help the farmer in Malawi who, by selling her crop, will generate the money needed to support her family and pay for her children to go to school.”

So the bottom line is, we cannot sit by and do nothing as 800 million hungry people suffer and far too many die from malnutrition. As mothers and fathers are forced to watch their children go hungry, we can do something.

Human dignity, decency, and our own national security demands that we support and sustain this important investment in agricultural development and nutrition.

I urge all of my colleagues to support the Global Food Security Act.

Once again, I would like to thank CHRIS SMITH, Chairman ROYCE, Ranking Member ENGEL, Representative BASS, and all of our staff—Piero, Kelly, Joan, Janice, and Jenn—for all of their work on this bill.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. PAULSEN), a member of the Committee on Ways and Means who is also one of the sponsors of this bill.

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Congressman SMITH for his hard work and bipartisan leadership, and for bringing a very, very important issue to the floor, and also for his long-time advocacy for lifting people up out of poverty.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard Members speak on the floor here today very bipartisanly in support of H.R. 5656, the Feed the Future Global Food Security Act. The Feed the Future Initiative embodies the very best of the United States’ foreign aid. It is a new approach. It doesn’t just provide hand-outs but, instead, provides a hand-up to some of the very poorest parts of the world.

Feed the Future is working to bring sustainable agricultural practices to targeted communities around the world to help lift people out of extreme poverty. In fact, in 2013, farmers working with the program applied these improved techniques to over 4 million hectares of land.

The program’s work goes far beyond just increasing yields for farmers though, Mr. Speaker. It is introducing an entrepreneurial spirit into these communities, a business model, an empowerment model. It is increasing family incomes. It is expanding economic growth. And it is opening up new trade opportunities.

This work is also empowering communities to take control of their future by building sustainable local economies. As they become more reliant on themselves, they become less reliant on government assistance. This should always be the goal of our U.S. foreign aid programs.

This program is also leveraging support, as has been mentioned, from the

private sector, the civil sector, and the research community. This targeted approach from all of these sides of the equation and the reliance on advanced data and research has allowed them now to achieve these cost-effective results. Those results are very impressive so far: 4.5 million farmers reached, over \$98 million in private sector investment, \$93 million in new local income, and 12.5 million children under the age of 5 receiving very important nutrition programs.

We need to continue to build upon the successes of the Feed the Future Initiative in our efforts to end global poverty. There is no doubt that programs like this are driving a new pathway in foreign aid and bringing along life-changing results.

I want to recognize the bipartisan work that is going on in Congress, along with the leadership also of Dr. Raj Shah at USAID, so that we can continue to help so many.

I ask all of my colleagues to support this very bipartisan legislation and the Feed the Future Initiative.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts, Representative JIM MCGOVERN, the cochair of the Anti-Hunger Caucus, who is a real champion for food security not only here domestically but also internationally.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding me the time and for his leadership on these important issues.

I also want to thank my colleagues, the gentleman from New Jersey, CHRIS SMITH, and the gentlewoman from Minnesota, BETTY MCCOLLUM, for their leadership in bringing this important bill before the House.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud to rise in support of H.R. 5656, the Feed the Future Global Food Security Act of 2014. I remember in 2008 when our former colleague from Missouri, Congresswoman Jo Ann Emerson, and I sat down with researchers from the GAO to talk about how our global food security programs could be improved and made more effective. Their advice was simple: Create a comprehensive government-wide strategy.

I want my House colleagues to know that it was State Department and USAID officials under President George W. Bush who were the first to brainstorm about how to undertake such a comprehensive approach to global food security. And then in 2009, we were lucky enough to have Raj Shah, with his deep experience in agricultural development, evaluation, and analysis, take the helm at USAID. And most of all, we had Hillary Clinton as Secretary of State, who understood the importance of tackling agriculture and nutrition in a comprehensive fashion in order to increase food security, strengthen small farmers, empower women, and develop local and regional agricultural markets.

Mr. Speaker, this bipartisan bill helps codify and institutionalize one of

our most important and effective global food security programs, Feed the Future, and its related nutrition and agricultural development programs. These programs have a proven track record of success. I want to thank all of the NGOs and private sector partners that have brought these programs to life on the ground.

I have been engaged on global hunger, child nutrition, and food security issues for the past 18 years. I have never been more hopeful that the U.S. is finally pursuing a strategy that works and can make a difference.

Increasing the ability of nations to feed their own people, care for the nutritional needs of their children, increase incomes for their farmers, and help them remain on their land is not just a worthy goal, it is an attainable one. And H.R. 5656 will ensure that the U.S. stays on that course. I urge all my colleagues to support this bill.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I would say to my colleagues that global hunger, I believe, is essentially a political condition. We have the leadership capability, we have the resources, we have the ability to end global hunger. What we need is the political will.

I urge my colleagues, as they support this legislation, to reflect upon the success story of Feed the Future, and let’s amplify it even more. This program works. It deserves our support.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I will continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, the Feed the Future Initiative has been successful in alleviating food insecurity over the last 4 years. This important bill authorizes this proven approach to food security. It is a moral, economic, and security imperative that we continue the fight against hunger and malnutrition.

I think we all need to be thankful for the heart that has gone in here from our colleagues. Certainly we want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey, CHRIS SMITH, and the gentlewoman from Minnesota, BETTY MCCOLLUM. Their hearts have been in this and fighting for this. They brought us all together. We appreciate that.

And with that, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

First of all, I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. VARGAS) for his leadership. This truly is a bipartisan bill. I want to again say how grateful I am to the gentlewoman from Minnesota, BETTY MCCOLLUM, to be working with her and her staff. Our staffs are all trying to make sure we have a bill that will make a huge difference not only in putting our arms around the existing program but in strengthening it and taking it to the next level.

I do want to point out that this is about a whole of government strategy:

all in on the part of the U.S. Government so that everyone is working on all six cylinders to make sure that sustainable development occurs throughout the world in target countries and, as those targets increase, that it is totally inclusive of women.

When we worked on issues like microtargeting, we found—particularly in most parts of Africa—that women have really stepped up to the plate and have done yeoman's work. They are fully included in this effort.

Again, I want to thank all of my colleagues. I want to thank the leadership, the gentleman from California, KEVIN MCCARTHY, and Speaker BOEHNER, for making sure that this legislation got to the floor. Our hope is that the Senate may take it up. If not, we will be right back here next year. But I do hope that they will take it up because delay is denial. This is an important piece of legislation that will save lives.

I yield back the balance of my time. The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEWART). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 5656, as amended.

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

The title of the bill was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize a comprehensive strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to reduce global poverty and hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, promote sustainable agricultural-led economic growth, improve nutritional outcomes, especially for women and children, build resilience among vulnerable populations, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2614. An act to amend certain provisions of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012.

IN MEMORY OF MARGARET COLF HEPOLA

(Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in great admiration and a little bit of humility because I get to honor the life of a tremendous woman, a friend from southwest Washington who has made a lasting impact on our region. She passed away this week at the age of 97.

A lifelong resident of Clark County, Margaret Colf Hepola could recount the

history of southwest Washington in a way that was more complete and exponentially more colorful than any history book. Her great grandparents moved to the Lewis River Valley before Washington had even claimed statehood, and more than 140 years later, Margaret's family still calls our region home.

There are people who live in a community, and then there are people who define what "community" means. Margaret was the latter. She made it one of her life ambitions to share the history of the community she loved and to preserve the memories of those who came before her. Through the Colf family's generous philanthropy, Margaret saved historical landmarks, supported museums, and founded the La Center Library.

Margaret's wit, her grit, and her compassion made her one of the most celebrated women in our entire region. Twice-widowed and a mother of five, Margaret did not let tragedy or the responsibilities of motherhood deter her from giving back to the community that she cared about so deeply. By the time she had reached the ninth decade of her life, Margaret Colf Hepola had become a household name in southwest Washington.

I will conclude today by honoring her legacy, one of a passionate historical preservationist who herself has earned a place in southwest Washington's history books.

□ 1915

HONORING CONGRESSMAN HENRY WAXMAN AND CONGRESSMAN GEORGE MILLER ON THEIR RETIREMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2013, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order on honoring our retiring Members, Congressman HENRY WAXMAN and Congressman GEORGE MILLER.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I am the chair of the California Democratic delegation, and we are losing from our membership two spectacular Members who have served with tremendous distinction for 40 years each.

Representative MILLER and Representative WAXMAN were the final two remaining Members of the House elected as part of the historic Watergate class of 1974. Both were instrumental in passing the Affordable Care Act of 2010,

which is the culmination of a nearly century-long struggle to guarantee that every American has access to quality and affordable health care.

Representative WAXMAN was one of the most prolific lawmakers in American history. He has a long record of not only legislative, but oversight achievements. He was elected, as I said, in 1974 and reelected 17 times. He chaired the Energy and Commerce Subcommittees on Health and the Environment, the Energy and Commerce Committee from 2009 to 2011, and the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee from 2007 to 2009.

He left his mark all over this body, but the five areas that he will be remembered most about is health care, consumer protection, environmental protection, telecommunications policy, and just many good government laws.

Some of the most important bills that he either wrote or coauthored include: the 1990 Clean Air Act amendments—we can recall when we couldn't breathe in Los Angeles, and that is no longer the case because of Henry's leadership and work preventing smog, air pollution, acid rain, and the depletion of the ozone layer; the Medicaid and CHIP expansion gave coverage and access to health care for children and working families; and his nursing home reforms helped protect the most vulnerable people in America.

The Hatch-Waxman generic drug act gave rise to the generic drug industry, and the Orphan Drug Act gave hope to families across the country whose family members had diseases not lucrative prior to the act. From the Ryan White CARE Act to the Nutrition Labeling and Education Act to the cigarette and smokeless tobacco health warning laws, Henry has been recognized as a leader here.

His oversight efforts were simply marvelous. Looking at waste, fraud, and abuse, he identified over \$1 trillion in wasteful and mismanaged Federal contracts, including billions of dollars in wasteful spending in Iraq and in response to Hurricane Katrina. His oversight of the tobacco industry and the Wall Street collapse are known throughout the country. He has over his 40 years here provided tremendous service to our country.

Our colleague, Representative GEORGE MILLER, has similarly left his mark not only on this body, but on this country and indeed on this world. Our friend, George, is an aggressive and unapologetic investigator on behalf of taxpayers into the health and safety of children and workers.

He took on asbestos executives, for-profit colleges, subsidized agribusiness, mining corporations, oil companies, and administration officials of both parties. Why? To stand up for the little guy who didn't have a voice.

He chaired three committees during the past 40 years, the Select Committee on Children, Youth, and Families from 1983 to 1992; the Committee on Natural Resources from 1992 to 1994;