

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.

□ 1700

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and 10 a.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

UNITED STATES-JORDAN DEFENSE COOPERATION EXTENSION ACT

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2646) to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2646

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-Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In December 2011, Congress passed section 7041(b) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-74; 125 Stat. 1223), which appropriated funds made available under the heading “Economic Support Fund” to establish an enterprise fund for Jordan.

(2) The intent of an enterprise fund is to attract private investment to help entrepreneurs and small businesses create jobs and to achieve sustainable economic development.

(3) Jordan is an instrumental partner in the fight against terrorism, including as a member of the Global Coalition To Counter ISIS and the Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve.

(4) In 2014, His Majesty King Abdullah stated that “Jordanians and Americans have been standing shoulder to shoulder against extremism for many years, but to a new level with this coalition against ISIL”.

(5) On February 3, 2015, the United States signed a three-year memorandum of understanding with Jordan, pledging to provide the kingdom with \$1,000,000,000 annually in United States foreign assistance, subject to the approval of Congress.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Jordan plays a critical role in responding to the overwhelming humanitarian needs created by the conflict in Syria;

(2) Jordan, the United States, and other partners should continue working together to address this humanitarian crisis and promote regional stability, including through support for refugees in Jordan and internally displaced people along the Jordan-Syria bor-

der and the creation of conditions inside Syria that will allow for the secure, dignified, and voluntary return of people displaced by the crisis; and

(3) The Governments of the United States and Jordan should negotiate a new Memorandum of Understanding, for fiscal years 2018 through 2022, to significantly enhance Jordan’s military capacity and local economy.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF UNITED STATES-JORDAN DEFENSE COOPERATION ACT OF 2015.

Section 5(a) of the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015 (22 U.S.C. 2753 note) is amended—

(1) by striking “During the 3-year period” and inserting “During the period”; and

(2) by inserting “and ending on December 31, 2022” after “enactment of this Act”.

SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF ENTERPRISE FUND FOR JORDAN.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF JORDAN ENTERPRISE FUND.—The President is authorized to establish and operate an enterprise fund to provide assistance to Jordan.

(b) PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS.—The provisions contained in section 201 of the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5421), excluding the provisions of subsections (a), (b), (c), (d)(3), (f), and (j) of that section, shall be deemed to apply with respect to the Jordan Enterprise Fund and to funds made available to the enterprise fund in the same manner and to the same extent as such provisions apply with respect to enterprise funds established pursuant to such section or to funds made available to such established enterprise funds.

(c) OPERATION OF FUND.—

(1) EXPENDITURES.—Funds made available to the Jordan Enterprise Fund shall be expended at the minimum rate necessary to make timely payments for projects and activities.

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 3 percent of the funds made available to the Jordan Enterprise Fund may be obligated or expended for the administrative expenses of the enterprise fund.

(d) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Jordan Enterprise Fund shall be governed by a Board of Directors comprised of private citizens of the United States or Jordan, who—

(A) shall be appointed by the President, in consultation with the chair and ranking member of each of the appropriate congressional committees; and

(B) have pursued international business careers and have demonstrated expertise in international and emerging market investment activities.

(2) MAJORITY MEMBER REQUIREMENT.—The majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall be United States citizens.

(e) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter until the Jordan Enterprise Fund terminates in accordance with subsection (g), the Board of Directors shall—

(1) submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing the administrative expenses of the enterprise fund; and

(2) publish, on an Internet website administered by the enterprise fund, each report submitted pursuant to subsection (b) in accordance with section 201(p) of the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5421(p)).

(f) LIQUIDATION.—Any funds resulting from any liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of the Jordan Enterprise Fund, in whole or in part, shall be returned to the Treasury.

(g) TERMINATION.—The authority of the Jordan Enterprise Fund to provide assistance shall terminate on the earlier of—

(1) the date that is 7 years after the date of the first expenditure of amounts in accordance with subsection (c)(1); or

(2) the date on which the enterprise fund is liquidated in accordance with subsection (f). (h) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL for their support for this measure and for their leadership in helping to bring H.R. 2646, the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act, to the floor today.

I also want to thank my friends and colleagues Nita Lowey, Ted Deutch, Hal Rogers, and Adam Schiff for joining me in introducing this bill.

This is a strong bipartisan bill that underscores the importance of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in helping both of our nations work toward achieving shared goals of security and stability in the Middle East.

It acknowledges what we have all known for many years, and that is that His Majesty and the kingdom are indispensable allies in the fight against radicalism and terror in the region.

Jordan and its military have played important roles in many of our counter-ISIS operations, and in many ways our relationship with Jordan has served as a force multiplier and has allowed the coalition to make all the positive gains that we have made over the past year or so.

But that would have not been possible without a robust foreign military financing—FMF—program that we have in place with our allies in Jordan. That is why in 2015, Mr. Speaker, I introduced and the President signed in 2016 the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act.

This bill authorized the administration to enter into a memorandum of understanding—MOU—with Jordan.

Why?

To increase our military cooperation with Jordan and to provide the kingdom with increased FMF assistance.