

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 2269) was passed, as follows:

S. 2269

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 Reauthorization Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) ASSISTANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.—Section 6(b) of the Global Food Security Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9305(b)) is amended by striking “fiscal years 2017 and 2018” and inserting “fiscal years 2017 through 2023”.

(b) EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM.—Section 492(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2292a(a)) is amended by striking “fiscal years 2017 and 2018” and inserting “fiscal years 2017 through 2023”.

SEC. 3. GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS.

Section 8(a) of the Global Food Security Act of 2016 (22 U.S.C. 9307(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “Not later than 1 year and 2 years” and inserting “During each of the first 7 years”; and

(2) by striking “for 2017 and 2018” and inserting “at the end of the reporting period”.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 20; further, that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed. Finally, I ask that following leader remarks, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 5895.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator BENNET.

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

ENERGY AND WATER, LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, AND MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019—Continued

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 5895.

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

AMENDMENTS NOS. 2943, AS MODIFIED, AND 2985
TO AMENDMENT NO. 2910

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following amendments be called up en bloc: Crapo No. 2943, as modified, and Baldwin No. 2985. I further ask consent that at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 20, the Senate vote in relation to the Crapo and Baldwin amendments in the order listed; finally, that there be no second-degree amendments in order to the amendments prior to the votes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the amendments en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL], for others, proposes amendments numbered 2943, as modified, and 2985 to amendment No. 2910.

The amendments are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 2943, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To increase funds for a nuclear demonstration program)

On page 24, line 2, strike the period at the end and insert the following: “: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$15,000,000 shall be for a material recovery demonstration project to provide high assay enriched low uranium to support advanced reactors.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2985

(Purpose: To set aside funds for cooperative agreements and laboratory support to accelerate the domestic production of Molybdenum-99)

On page 32, line 16, strike the period at the end and insert the following: “: *Provided*, That of the amounts appropriated under this heading, \$20,000,000 shall be for cooperative agreements and laboratory support to accelerate the domestic production of Molybdenum-99.”.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Colorado.

FORCED FAMILY SEPARATION

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, this past April, Attorney General Sessions announced a new zero tolerance policy—those were his words—for the southern border. Last month, the Chief of Staff to the President said that this new zero tolerance policy “could be a tough deterrent. . . . The children will be taken care of—put into foster care or whatever.” That is what he said. To justify his zero tolerance policy, Attorney General Sessions cited Romans 8, a Bible passage that was used throughout our history to justify human slavery.

The administration knew precisely what the effect of this action would be; yet they did it anyway. The result is that over 2,300 children have been separated by the U.S. Government in the name of the American people since May.

The results are the images we see of children caged in chain-link enclosures. We hear it in the young boys and girls crying for their parents—all done in the name of America. That is an

image that has ricocheted all across the world, just as the image of Bull Connor’s dogs tearing at Birmingham’s children ricocheted across the world. It said to the world that we actually weren’t upholding the high ideals that our Founders set out to create.

Well, that is terrible, but what is also terrible is that President Trump will take no responsibility for what he has done and instead takes on a cheap political tactic, which I think he thinks he can get away with. There is a lot of evidence he will get away with it because of the repetition on cable news that somehow Democrats are responsible for this. The President said:

I hate the children being taken away. The Democrats have to change their law. That’s their law.

That statement is false. It has no basis in reality. And I will presume that he is not using the children as a negotiating tool. I am not going to come to the floor and make that accusation. There are people who have said that because they are searching for some logic to explain how he could say something that is so false.

He tweeted: “The Democrats are forcing the breakup of families at the Border with their horrible and cruel legislative agenda.” That is what he wrote. That is ridiculous, and we know it is false because until they created this zero tolerance policy, which they thought would deter other immigrants, the United States of America handled this matter in a way that managed to enforce our laws without doing hideous violence to our bedrock values as a nation.

When migrants with children cross the border unlawfully, the government has broad discretion about whether to charge the violation as a criminal offense or a civil offense, and every American administration—every American administration, including the Trump administration until 6 weeks ago, dealt with it as a civil matter and avoided the trauma of family separation by charging them for illegal entry and deporting them.

During the first 15 months of this administration, until Attorney General Sessions started this zero tolerance policy, the Trump administration—not the Obama administration—did this with nearly 100,000 immigrants who were apprehended at the U.S.-Mexico border.

In terms of the law, nothing has changed in 6 months. The only thing which has changed is the administration’s policy and their decision to file criminal charges for every unlawful crossing, including cases that involved families with young children. I think that is the wrong policy.

By the way, the Attorney General doesn’t make up stories about it is the Democrats’ fault. He said this is what will happen because of their policy, but the President will not admit it. American citizens, thank goodness, don’t want this done in their name. They don’t want our history besmirched by