

Program and broader security cooperation, including future U.S. arms sales.

The F-35 program promotes NATO interoperability. And Turkey's decision to complete the purchase of the S-400 would erode its partnership in this multilateral alliance.

While we are deeply, deeply concerned about our alliance with Turkey, we very much want to rehabilitate our relationship. Both sides of a bilateral partnership need to take steps toward strengthening and preserving it. That is why this resolution expresses full support for the United States Government's offer to sell Turkey the Patriot system if Turkey does not acquire the S-400. We want to give Turkey the ability to accommodate its security needs without endangering its place in NATO.

So Turkey really has a clear binary choice between buying Russian S-400s and the U.S. offer to accelerate the delivery of Patriot missiles.

So I call upon Turkey to now step forward and choose the United States and NATO over Russia.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I don't have any speakers on this side. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 372, Expressing Concern for the United States-Turkey Alliance.

Turkey has failed in its basic NATO responsibility to safeguard the freedom and security of NATO allies, both politically, and militarily. Turkey has bullied and continues to bully the U.S. and NATO allies around the world, in particular, Greece and Cyprus.

Meanwhile, Turkey has grown ever closer in diplomatic and military ties to the authoritarian regimes of Russia and Iran, sowing international instability, especially in the Eastern Mediterranean, Madam Speaker, which is why I joined my colleagues in introducing H.R. 91, to reaffirm the robust commitment of the House of Representatives to the importance of the United States, Israel, Greece, and Cyprus partnership.

The Russian S-400 missile defense system is in no way interoperable with NATO's defense systems and represents a dangerous vulnerability to the F-35 program in the event an S-400 system user learns how to target lock F-35s and shares that knowledge with other international bad actors. We can't take that chance.

Rewarding an international bad actor with F-35s, one of the most sophisticated articles of U.S. military technology, while they imprison and orchestrate brazen acts of violence against U.S. citizens, threaten U.S. allies and their sovereignty, and violate international law, sends the wrong message to the enemies of freedom and stability around the world.

The clock has nearly struck midnight on the U.S.-Turkey relationship, and the time has come for Turkey to choose whether it will stand with the United States and NATO or fall with revisionist powers like Russia and China.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I would like to applaud my good friends, Chairman ENGEL and Ranking Member MCCAUL, along with Leaders HOYER and MCCARTHY and the leadership of both the House Appropriations and Judiciary Committees, who made this possible.

I urge my colleagues to pass this resolution.

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

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

Let me just say this: Chairman ENGEL and I met with the Foreign Minister of Turkey and their Ambassador trying to avoid this impasse, this choice between Russia and the United States.

And Chairman ENGEL and I talked about this alliance that we have with them.

Nearly 70 years ago, NATO and the United States stood with Turkey against growing Soviet aggression. In fact, that is the reason NATO was formed in the first place. That is why we have Incirlik Air Force Base in Turkey. And yet, the idea that Turkey would break from this alliance and choose Russia over the United States, truly, is a defining moment for Turkey.

I hope they are listening to this debate as we speak right now. They still have time to salvage this, what I consider to be an error in judgment of choosing Russia over NATO and the United States of America.

That is why this resolution is so important. It sends a very strong message to Erdogan and to Turkey, that we are not going to allow this to happen; and, in fact, it would run afoul of the sanctions that we passed almost overwhelmingly in the House and Senate against Russia. It would sort of violate the Russia sanctions law.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank Chairman ENGEL for his strong bipartisan support on this issue. We are on the right side of history, and I urge my colleagues to support this.

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

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Once again, I am pleased to support this bipartisan measure that strengthens our security policy in Europe. I thank Ranking Member MCCAUL and all of the other chairs and ranking members of important committees who have stood by us on this bill. It is really a Congress speaking with one voice in a very bipartisan fashion for something that is really very important.

Today's resolution reaffirms the historic partnership between the United

States and Turkey, and it lays the groundwork for how Erdogan can start to put this relationship back on the right track.

We cannot stand by as he turns this NATO ally into an authoritarian regime aligned with Vladimir Putin. So I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this measure.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 372.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### UNITED STATES-MEXICO TOURISM IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2019

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 951) to promote bilateral tourism through cooperation between the United States and Mexico, as amended. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 951

*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-Mexico Tourism Improvement Act of 2019".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States and Mexico have benefitted economically from a bilateral, mutually beneficial partnership focused on enhancing the tourism industry in both countries.

(2) In 2016, Mexican tourism to the United States peaked at 18,990,585 visitors, constituting 1 in 4 (24.9 percent) of all tourists that year.

(3) Additionally, in 2016, spending by Mexican tourists in the United States totaled \$20.3 billion, which represented a 3 percent growth from 2015.

(4) Tourist activity to the United States from Mexico has declined since 2016, which is in contrast to an overall international tourism industry increase in the United States.

(5) In 2017, international tourist arrivals totaled 76,900,000, up 0.7 percent from 76,400,000 in 2016.

(6) The same year, 77,000,000 international visitors spent a record \$251.4 billion on hotels, travel, food, and souvenirs, a 2-percent increase over 2016.

(7) However, also in 2017, there was a 6.1-percent decline in visitors to the United States from Mexico, comprising a loss of 1,166,585 Mexican tourists from 2016.

(8) The Department of Commerce has not yet released 2017 spending totals by Mexican tourists in the United States, but a corresponding monetary decline would be approximately \$1.24 billion in lost revenue.

(9) This is a critical economic trend given that Mexico is the biggest source of international visitors to the United States after Canada.

#### SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to continue deepening bilateral tourism through governmental cooperation between the United States and Mexico;

(2) to improve third-party tourism to the United States and Mexico through joint international promotional efforts; and

(3) to seek to prioritize and expand the tourism industries in both countries by emphasizing exchanges in various international economic sectors, including relating to—

- (A) hospitality and accommodation;
- (B) retail; and
- (C) cultural education.

**SEC. 4. STRATEGY TO EXPAND BILATERAL TOURISM THROUGH COOPERATION WITH MEXICO.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State shall develop a strategy through the High Level Economic Dialogue (HLED) platform to carry out the bilateral tourism policy described in section 3 and to encourage the Government of Mexico to take reciprocal action relating to bilateral tourism.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall—

(1) encourage more joint tourism initiatives between the United States and Mexico, including collaborations between governmental and non-governmental entities; and

(2) encourage United States and Mexican nonprofit institutions and private businesses to assist prospective and developing entrepreneurs in strengthening their business skills in the United States and Mexico.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to Congress a report on the strategy required under subsection (a).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MCCAUL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. ENGEL. Madam 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 H.R. 951, as amended.

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

There was no objection.

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

Madam Speaker, let me start by thanking the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR), the recently-appointed chairman of the U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Group, for authoring this legislation, which sends a positive message from this Chamber to the Mexican people at a time when, frankly, it is needed more than ever in view of all the things that have been talked about with American belligerence toward Mexico and the unnecessary saber rattling.

□ 1945

I think it is important that we talk about positive things between our two countries, and tourism certainly is right there. It is one way to make a positive difference.

In recent years, bilateral tourism between the United States and Mexico has steadily declined. This is in sharp

contrast to a rise in the broader international tourism industry in the United States.

In 2017 alone, there was a 6 percent decline in visitors to the United States from Mexico, and this decrease hurts our economy and American workers, specifically in the States along our southern border with Mexico where President Trump is still trying to build an ill-advised wall.

The legislation we are now considering would direct the State Department to expand tourism cooperation with Mexico, including by close collaboration with nonprofit organizations and the private sector. It also encourages expanded third-party tourism to the United States and Mexico through joint international promotional efforts.

But more than anything, this bill is about jobs. It is about creating American jobs and maintaining a robust partnership with our neighbor to the south.

Its consideration could not be more timely. Last month, the President again threatened to punish American workers and consumers for failures at the border, only to claim victory with a so-called deal that reverted to the status quo. The President has again managed to cause further harm to the U.S.-Mexico relationship for no good reason whatsoever, and tourists are staying home in response.

Today, the House of Representatives is choosing to go in a different direction. With this bill, we are once again coming to the House floor to build bridges with our neighbor to the south.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mr. CUELLAR for his continued persistence in promoting the U.S.-Mexico relationship. I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the United States-Mexico Tourism Improvement Act of 2019.

I want to thank Chairman ENGEL and also thank my good friend HENRY CUELLAR for leading this legislation, which we introduced together earlier this year.

I must say, the timing probably couldn't be better, as we avoided a tariff situation on Mexico in exchange for some security cooperation.

We know, being from Texas, that Mexico is our largest trading partner. Just last month, Mexico now has become the United States' largest trading partner.

We understand well the value of tourism from our neighbors to the south, what that provides to our economy. As a matter of fact, Mr. CUELLAR and I both chair the U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Group, and I look forward to working together to strengthen our ties with the Mexican Congress to address our mutual interests rather than divide.

Tourism between the United States and Mexico, in both directions, is worth tens of billions of dollars to our economies every year. To help increase these benefits, this bill directs the State Department to develop a strategy to expand tourism through cooperation with Mexico, including collaboration with governmental and non-governmental entities.

Legitimate tourism between our two countries, in my view, strengthens our economies, strengthens our cultures and our partnership together, and should be encouraged and expanded.

Madam Speaker, once again, let me just thank my good friend Mr. CUELLAR for his hard work. He does a lot of good work between the United States and Mexico, and I fully look forward to working together with him as we serve together in this Congress.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR), the author of this bill, who also happens to be the chair of the U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Group.

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I want to thank Chairman ENGEL for yielding to me and for his leadership that he has provided in making sure that we develop a good working relationship with the Republic of Mexico.

In fact, a few months ago, we also passed a U.S.-Mexico economic development bill that is over in the Senate, and now today we are passing a tourism bill that will be used to promote this important relationship.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the chairman for his leadership.

I also want to thank the ranking member, a friend of mine who is also with me on the U.S.-Mexico Interparliamentary Group, and I want to thank him because, as a Texan, he also understands this very important relationship that we have with Mexico.

Madam Speaker, I also want to thank the majority staff and, certainly, the minority staff for the Committee on Foreign Affairs because they get it. They understand the type of legislation that we need to have to improve this relationship that we have between the U.S. and Mexico. So I want to thank both staffs.

The relationship with Mexico is very important. Let me first talk about trade.

Every day, there is more than \$1.7 billion of trade between the U.S. and Mexico. That is over \$1 million every single minute, the trade that we have between these two countries.

If we look at the more than 5 million jobs that have been created because of the trade that we have with Mexico, it is important that we nourish this relationship.

So it is not only the trade that we have, the commerce that we have, but it is certainly also the tourism.

In 2016, we had over 19 million Mexicans that came over and spent over \$20.5 billion at our restaurants, at our

hotels, at our malls, at our stores—a lot of money that has been spent here in the United States. But the last couple years, we have seen a different trend.

While international tourist arrivals in the U.S. have totaled 79.6 million visitors, which has been almost a 5 percent increase, a 4.2 percent increase, the tourism from Mexico has actually decreased, and, again, for different reasons.

Again, if we call them murderers, rapists, and other words, they are not going to come and spend the money. So we have to make sure that we get our friends to the south to come back and spend money because, again, in 2016, Mexican tourism to the United States peaked at almost 19 million, which means that one out of every four international visitors, that is almost 25 percent of the tourists coming from across the world, was coming here to the United States from Mexico.

Madam Speaker, this is why, with Chairman ENGEL and my good friend, the ranking member, MICHAEL MCCAUL, we are trying to make sure that we get this tourism back because, again, it is good for our economy.

What does this bill do? Basically, it is asking that we focus on doing a couple things:

Having the State Department develop a strategy to expand this bilateral tourism with Mexico;

Encouraging collaboration between governmental and nongovernmental entities;

Making sure that this strategy is at the highest level, which is, again, at the High Level Economic Dialogue platform with Mexico; and

Making sure that the Mexican Government is involved.

I have spoken to some of the Mexican congressmen that we met last time we were there, like, for example, Congressman Luis Alegre from the Cancun area. They know that this tourism business is very important.

Madam Speaker, again, I want to thank the chairman; I want to thank the ranking member; and, again, I want to thank the staff for putting this bill up.

Madam Speaker, again, I urge my colleagues in the House to pass this measure which will return the economic benefits of bilateral tourism with Mexico again to our U.S. businesses and entrepreneurs.

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

Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Laredo, Texas, who really made a good case for this bill. He knows, being the largest land port in the United States, what trade and tourism means for Mexico and the United States.

This bill will not only strengthen our economies, which is always a positive thing, but I think it will strengthen our relationship. It will also strengthen our security, working together, and it deepens our rich cultural ties that

we have and that we know is so important.

I think it is good for both nations, a step forward in the right direction.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my good friend HENRY CUELLAR for bringing this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume for the purpose of closing.

Madam Speaker, the U.S.-Mexico relationship is too important to be held hostage to petty politics, and yet here we are again for the last 2 weeks.

We don't want to hurt the U.S.-Mexico relationship. In fact, I was in Mexico City just a few weeks ago and met with the new Mexican President, who told us that he really wanted to have good relations and work closely with us. I was impressed with him because he has a steady hand.

I think that we should not be alienating our neighbors. We should be welcoming them, welcoming the partnership with them.

We don't want to undermine tourism; we don't want to hurt Americans; and we don't want to raise taxes on the working class while doing nothing to address the humanitarian challenges on the U.S.-Mexico border.

I am glad that we seem to not be going that way in terms of clashing with Mexico, but, again, this is a win-win bill: a win for us because it helps tourism, a win for Mexico as well.

Congress has chosen to pursue a positive agenda with Mexico instead. This legislation will play an important role in showcasing the mutually beneficial relationship Congress and most Americans want with Mexico.

Madam Speaker, I again thank Mr. CUELLAR for his continued leadership and for wanting a stronger relationship between the United States and Mexico. I thank the ranking member, as usual, for working with us on this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 951, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### PREVENTING CHILD MARRIAGE IN DISPLACED POPULATIONS ACT

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2140) to prevent child marriage in United Nations-administered refugee settlements, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2140

*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 “Preventing Child Marriage in Displaced Populations Act”.

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) According to UNICEF, 12 million girls marry before the age of 18 every year.

(2) Early marriage denies children, especially girls, their right to make vital decisions about their well-being, including relating to their health, family, and career. Child brides are less likely to finish their education, and are at higher risk for abuse, contracting HIV, and dying while pregnant or giving birth.

(3) Child marriage also imposes substantial economic costs to developing countries, impeding development and prosperity gains.

(4) Displaced populations are particularly vulnerable to child marriage, in communities where poverty, instability, and displacement put pressure on families to marry children, particularly young girls, off at a young age.

(5) One United Nations (UN) study found that child marriage rates were four times higher among displaced Syrian refugees than among Syrians before the crisis. This indicates that displacement, instability, and poverty are driving child marriages.

(6) United Nations agencies, including UNICEF and UNHCR, have acknowledged the dangers of child marriage and taken steps to address its risk in the populations they serve.

(7) The UN Joint Program on Child Marriage supports this work by building the resilience of populations to indirectly prevent child marriage and by generating new data and evidence on the prevalence of child marriage in humanitarian and fragile settings. For example, in Uganda, the UN Joint Program on Child Marriage helped 27,000 adolescent girls strengthen critical skills through school clubs and Go Back to School campaigns, as well as life-skills and financial literacy training.

(8) After the UN Joint Program on Child Marriage identified Yemen as one of its focus countries, 65,000 people, of whom 45,000 are adolescents, were reached with awareness raising activities on the harms of child marriage in 2018 alone. As a result, local council representatives, elders, and community leaders from six districts signed a pledge to support advocacy efforts to end child marriage.

#### SEC. 3. PREVENTING CHILD MARRIAGE IN DISPLACED POPULATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall direct the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States at the United Nations to call for an adoption of an agreed-upon definition of “child marriage” across United Nations agencies.

(b) STRATEGY.—The President shall direct the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States at the United Nations to call for the development of a comprehensive strategy to address child marriage in refugee settlements administered by the United Nations. Such strategy should include the following:

(1) A mandate to regularly collect and report data related to the number of known or suspected child marriages taking place inside each such settlement.

(2) Protocols for United Nations personnel regarding prevention and monitoring of child marriages inside each such settlement.