

7107(d)(5)(B)) states, “The President shall exercise the [waiver] authority under paragraph (4) when necessary to avoid significant adverse effects on vulnerable populations, including women and children.”.

(11) The President has not exercised the waiver authority provided for in section 110(d)(5)(B) of the Trafficking in Victims Protection Act of 2000 in relation to health, education, or community outreach activities essential to the success of the Ebola response in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

(12) It is in the national interest of the United States to help control and end the current Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo before it spreads.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION TO ADDRESS THE EBOLA OUTBREAK IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 110 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107), the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall immediately provide assistance, including multi-sectoral, non-humanitarian, and non-trade related foreign assistance, to the Democratic Republic of the Congo and other vulnerable countries to effectively combat the Ebola outbreak that began in August 2018. Subject to the availability of appropriations, such assistance shall be provided at levels commensurate with both the threat posed by the Ebola outbreak and an effective response. Activities to expand and improve access to communities heavily affected by the Ebola outbreak should be prioritized under this section.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report—

(1) describing the actions the Administrator has taken and plans to take under section 3(a) to end the Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo; and

(2) proposing any additional legal authorities required to improve the response to the Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Mr. RUBIO. I further ask unanimous consent that the Menendez-Lee amendment at the desk be agreed to; that the committee-reported substitute, as amended, be agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The amendment (No. 940) was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the authority to provide assistance)

On page 7, strike lines 12 through 25 and insert the following:

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 110 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107), and subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall immediately provide assistance, including targeted foreign assistance under chapters 1 and 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.; 22 U.S.C. 2293 et seq.) for global health and activities necessary to respond to the threat posed by Ebola, and under chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.), to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, and Burundi to effectively combat

the Ebola outbreak that began in August 2018, including water and sanitation infrastructure, global health activities, public messaging and other critical activities necessary for ending the outbreak. Such assistance shall be provided at levels commensurate both to address the threat posed by the Ebola outbreak and conduct activities necessary for an effective response. Activities to expand and improve access to communities heavily affected by the Ebola outbreak should be prioritized under this section.

The committee-reported amendment, as amended, was agreed to.

The bill (S. 1340), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1340

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 “Ebola Eradication Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The current Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which began in August 2018 in eastern Congo, is the second largest in history and has resulted in over 1,600 cases and 1,000 deaths.

(2) Despite the use of preventive tools and new therapeutics, insecurity and community resistance to response efforts remain major obstacles to ending the current Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the outbreak continues to spread.

(3) Hospitals, health clinics, and Ebola clinics have been repeatedly attacked by armed actors.

(4) On February 28, 2019, Doctors Without Borders suspended its work in Ebola epicenters after two treatment centers were attacked.

(5) On April 19, 2019, Dr. Richard Valery Mouzoko Kiboung, an epidemiologist from Cameroon deployed by the World Health Organization to eastern Congo to help stop the outbreak, was killed in an attack on Butembo University Hospital.

(6) Healthcare workers responding to Ebola have expressed concerns about their ability to continue working on the response given the complex security situation.

(7) If the outbreak is not brought under control, it risks spreading across the border to neighboring countries and endangering millions of people.

(8) The Administration released a November 29, 2018, Presidential Memorandum implementing aid restrictions to most countries on Tier III of the 2018 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report that fully restricted non-humanitarian, non-trade related aid to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

(9) Paragraphs (4) and (5) of section 110(d) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(d)(4) and (5)) authorize the continuation of assistance in Tier III countries if such assistance is determined to be in the national interest of the United States.

(10) Section 110(d)(5)(B) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(d)(5)(B)) states, “The President shall exercise the [waiver] authority under paragraph (4) when necessary to avoid significant adverse effects on vulnerable populations, including women and children.”.

(11) The President has not exercised the waiver authority provided for in section 110(d)(5)(B) of the Trafficking in Victims Protection Act of 2000 in relation to health, education, or community outreach activities essential to the success of the Ebola response in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

(12) It is in the national interest of the United States to help control and end the current Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo before it spreads.

SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION TO ADDRESS THE EBOLA OUTBREAK IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 110 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107), and subject to the availability of appropriations, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall immediately provide assistance, including targeted foreign assistance under chapters 1 and 10 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.; 22 U.S.C. 2293 et seq.) for global health and activities necessary to respond to the threat posed by Ebola, and under chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.), to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, and Burundi to effectively combat the Ebola outbreak that began in August 2018, including water and sanitation infrastructure, global health activities, public messaging and other critical activities necessary for ending the outbreak. Such assistance shall be provided at levels commensurate both to address the threat posed by the Ebola outbreak and conduct activities necessary for an effective response. Activities to expand and improve access to communities heavily affected by the Ebola outbreak should be prioritized under this section.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a report—

(1) describing the actions the Administrator has taken and plans to take under section 3(a) to end the Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo; and

(2) proposing any additional legal authorities required to improve the response to the Ebola outbreak in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo.

NATIONAL KINSHIP CARE MONTH

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 323, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 323) designating September 2019 as “National Kinship Care Month”.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. RUBIO. I further ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 323) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, September 24; 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, morning business be closed, and the Senate proceed to executive session and resume consideration of the Cella nomination under the previous order; and finally, I ask that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Black nomination until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. RUBIO. 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.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:53 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, September, 24, 2019, at 10 a.m.