

Unsurprisingly, the Iranian regime is reportedly involved in violently suppressing peaceful protests in Lebanon, Iraq, Syria, and, of course, Iran itself. The mullahs are showing the same fear as the Chinese Communist Party. They are afraid of citizens demanding reform and speaking up for basic freedoms. The United States should stand with the protesters.

The administration should use the tools at its disposal to expose corruption and foreign interference in these nations, impose consequences for violent crackdowns on peaceful protests, and work with the Lebanese and Iraqi leaders who are committed to doing right by their people.

AMENDMENT NO. 1121

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, for the information of the Senate, in the managers' package of amendments that was announced last night, amendment No. 1121 was misidentified as a Murkowski amendment. It is actually an amendment by Senator WHITEHOUSE that Senator MURKOWSKI cosponsored.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Duly noted.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2755

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2755) to require a report on the plan to secure the enduring defeat of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

Mr. McCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will re-

sume consideration of H.R. 3055, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3055) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Shelby amendment No. 948, in the nature of a substitute.

McConnell (for Shelby) amendment No. 950, to make a technical correction.

AMENDMENT NOS. 953, 1023, 1037, 1088, AS MODIFIED, 1099, 1121, 1133, 1143, 1149, 1161, 1163, 1217, 1223, 1224, 951, 1077, 1094, 1129, 1146, 1150, 1234, 1025, 1079, 1081, 1151, 1159, 1160, 1162, 1182, 1193, 1199, 1211, 1215, 1220, 1227, 956, 1002, 1005, 1010, 1061, 1062, 1114, 1130, 1214, AND 1235 EN BLOC TO AMENDMENT NO. 948

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to the order of yesterday, the 45 amendments listed in the order are considered and agreed to en bloc and the motions to reconsider are considered made and laid upon the table.

The amendments (Nos. 953, 1023, 1037, 1088 As Modified, 1099, 1121, 1133, 1143, 1149, 1161, 1163, 1217, 1223, 1224, 951, 1077, 1094, 1129, 1146, 1150, 1234, 1025, 1079, 1081, 1151, 1159, 1160, 1162, 1182, 1193, 1199, 1211, 1215, 1220, 1227, 956, 1002, 1005, 1010, 1061, 1062, 1114, 1130, 1214, 1235) to Amendment No. 948 were agreed to en bloc as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 953

(Purpose: To provide for the availability of funds for Agricultural Research Service research facilities to provide public access)

On page 129, line 4, strike the period at the end and insert “: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading may be used to provide public access to a river at a research facility of the Agricultural Research Service.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1023

(Purpose: To amend provisions relating to the rental assistance program of the Rural Housing Service)

On page 155, line 10, insert after “one-year period:” the following: “*Provided further*, that upon request by an owner of a project financed by an existing loan under section 514 or 515 of the Act, the Secretary may renew the rental assistance agreement for a period of 20 years or until the term of such loan has expired, subject to annual appropriations:”.

On page 156, line 4, strike “third proviso” and insert “fourth proviso”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1037

(Purpose: To require a study on the economic and environmental impacts of importing orchids in growing media)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to Congress a report that describes the economic and environmental impacts of importing orchids in growing media.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The report under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of—
(A) the economic impact of importing orchids in growing media on a State-by-State basis, with data collected from local growers; and
(B) any incidents of pests detected on orchids imported with growing media; and

(2) an analysis with respect to the additional resources that are necessary to pre-

vent and mitigate the introduction of pests resulting from importing orchids in growing media.

AMENDMENT NO. 1088, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To provide appropriations for centers of excellence at 1890 Institutions, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) There is appropriated \$3,000,000 to carry out section 1673(d) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 5926(d)).

(b) The amount made available under the heading “OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY” in title I for necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary shall be reduced by \$3,000,000, which shall be derived by reducing the amount provided under that heading for Departmental Administration by \$3,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1099

(Purpose: To increase the appropriation for the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount made available under the heading “EXTENSION ACTIVITIES” under the heading “NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE” under the heading “AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS” in title I shall be increased by \$5,000,000, which shall be used by increasing by that amount the amount specified for the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network in the table titled “National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Extension Activities” in the report accompanying this Act.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount made available for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer under the heading “OFFICE OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER” under the heading “AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS” in title I shall be reduced by \$5,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1121

(Purpose: To set aside funding for the ocean agriculture working group)

On page 122, line 19, insert “: *Provided further*, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$3,000,000 shall be made available to the Office of the Secretary to carry out the duties of the working group established under section 770 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2019 (Public Law 116-6; 133 Stat. 89)” before the period at the end.

AMENDMENT NO. 1133

(Purpose: To provide funding for the new beginning for Tribal students program, with an offset)

At the appropriate place in title VII of division B, insert the following:

SEC. 7 _____. (a) There is appropriated \$5,000,000 to carry out section 1450 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3222e).

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount provided under the heading “AGRICULTURE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES” under the heading “AGRICULTURAL PROGRAMS” in title I shall be reduced by \$5,000,000.

AMENDMENT NO. 1143

(Purpose: To increase the appropriation for rural decentralized water systems)

On page 164, line 21, strike “\$1,500,000” and insert “\$3,000,000”.