

differed between the swine flu and the coronavirus.

At one time, we were completely helpless before the ravages of natural disasters, such as infectious diseases, but our history is one of great innovation and perseverance. We will survive this pandemic. What government does to mitigate the calamity should be short-lived, temporary, and cause as little distortion to the free market economy as possible.

The history of pandemics indicates a strong likelihood that the peak of infections and mortality could pass in a few weeks to a few months. Congress should remain calm and try not to explode the debt in our response.

The public should know that Congress has already enacted reforms that will free up millions of industrial masks to be used by our doctors and nurses. Thoughtful sequestration and quarantining is in place and helping. In addition, I have introduced legislation to allow our university labs and advanced private labs to be able to develop additional testing for coronavirus and possible cures by removing redtape at the FDA.

I do worry, though, that as we go further into debt, we may reach a point where our debt is so large that we are unable to manage the next pandemic. We should never forget fiscal responsibility, even in a crisis. We should pay for any new Federal funding by taking that money from areas of the budget where it is not being wisely used. My amendment does just that.

My amendment says that if you want to apply for money from the government through the child tax credit program—this is money the government gives to people—then you have to be a legitimate person and you have to have a Social Security number. We have been talking about this reform for a decade now, and we never seem to be able to get it passed. It has nothing to do with not liking immigrants; it has to do with saying taxpayer money shouldn't go to nonpeople. You should have to be a person to get taxpayer money. It just says you have to have a Social Security number. People estimate this will save \$26 billion. That goes a long way toward paying for this bill.

I think we should also end the war in Afghanistan. We are spending \$50 billion a year on that war. And it is mostly not to fight war. It is to build stuff for them. It is to build infrastructure for them. We have a lot of problems with infrastructure in our own country without spending \$50 billion a year in Afghanistan.

If we have a true emergency now, it is our job to prioritize, to take that money from where it is not being spent wisely and spend it on something we need at the moment.

My bill also allows the President to look throughout the budget and transfer money from any other wasteful areas. If you look at our budget, it is loaded with waste. Nobody ever culls

the waste, and then we have an emergency, and they say: Let's just borrow more money. Instead, what we should do is we should actually take money that is unwisely spent and move it over to account for this emergency.

What I am offering is a very reasonable proposal. We simply pay for this emergency bill by taking money from other areas of waste in the budget.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 6201; further, that the only amendments in order be amendments to be offered by Senators PAUL, JOHNSON, and MURRAY or their designees, the text of which are at the desk; further, that at 12:10 p.m., the Senate vote on the Paul amendment subject to a 60-affirmative vote threshold for adoption; further, that following the disposition of the Paul amendment, the time until 2 p.m. be equally divided between the two leaders or their designees and that at 2 p.m., the Senate vote on the Murray and Johnson amendments, in the order listed, with a 60-affirmative-vote threshold for adoption of each; further, that upon disposition of these amendments, the bill as amended, if amended, be read a third time and the Senate vote on passage of the bill with a 60-affirmative-vote threshold for passage; finally, that if passed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and that all votes be 30 minutes in length.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FAMILIES FIRST CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE ACT

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6201) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

AMENDMENT NO. 1556

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I call up my amendment No. 1556 and ask that be it reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the amendment by number.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] proposes an amendment numbered 1556.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require a social security number for purposes of the child tax credit, to provide the President the authority to transfer funds as necessary, and to terminate United States military operations and reconstruction activities in Afghanistan)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIREMENT FOR CHILD TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 24(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(1) SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER REQUIRED.—No credit shall be allowed under this section to a taxpayer with respect to any qualifying child unless the taxpayer includes the social security number of such child on the return of tax for the taxable year. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘social security number’ means a social security number issued to an individual by the Social Security Administration, but only if the social security number is issued—

“(A) to a citizen of the United States or pursuant to subclause (I) (or that portion of subclause (III) that relates to subclause (I)) of section 205(c)(2)(B)(i) of the Social Security Act, and

“(B) before the due date for such return.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (h) of section 24 of such Code is amended—

(A) by striking “paragraph (7)” in paragraph (4)(C) and inserting “subsection (e)(1)”,

(B) by striking paragraph (7), and

(C) by striking “(2) through (7)” in paragraph (1) and inserting “(2) through (6)”.

(2) Section 6213(g)(2)(I) of such Code is amended by striking “TIN” and inserting “social security number”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. ____ . TRANSFER AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President may transfer, as necessary and without limitation, amounts from any account in the Treasury to any other account in the Treasury being used for the purpose of combating, addressing, or ameliorating the coronavirus pandemic.

(b) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—The President shall submit to Congress, on each of the following dates, a notification detailing each transfer made under subsection (a) during the time period preceding the notification:

- (1) July 1, 2020.
- (2) October 1, 2020.
- (3) January 1, 2021.

(c) EXPIRATION.—The transfer authority in subsection (a) shall expire on December 31, 2020.

SEC. ____ . TERMINATION OF UNITED STATES MILITARY OPERATIONS AND RECONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES IN AFGHANISTAN.

(a) TERMINATION.—Military operations of the United States Armed Forces and reconstruction activities of the United States Government in Afghanistan are hereby terminated.

(b) DEADLINE FOR COMPLETE CESSATION.—Not later than December 31, 2020—

- (1) all United States Armed Forces shall be removed from Afghanistan; and
- (2) all reconstruction activities of the United States Government in Afghanistan shall be wound up.