

just one example, we must have no stigma—none—about wearing a mask when we leave our homes and come near other people. Wearing simple face coverings is not about protecting ourselves; it is about protecting everyone we encounter.

In fact, the more we hate the pain and suffering that accompanied the strict stay-home guidelines a few months ago, the happier we should be to take responsible, small steps every day to ensure our country can stay on offense against the virus.

Now, the Senate should take pride in the degree to which our historic response has helped the country get where we are. All of the health leaders and professionals I meet continue to be glad for the CARES Act, the historic bipartisan legislation that Senate Republicans wrote and then negotiated across the aisle.

We sent historic resources to hospitals and health providers to help them do their healing work and to fight this new invader. That was in addition to the historic relief we provided to households and small businesses, which economists across the political spectrum say saved millions of jobs and prevented an economic freefall.

In May and June, while the Democrat-led House has been mostly absent, the Senate has kept right on leading. In addition to legislating on other important subjects, we have continued to work all angles of the pandemic.

By the end of this week, I believe our committees will have held more than 40 hearings on key aspects of the crisis so this institution can continue to learn and inform any future work.

As I have been saying for weeks, a number of us are putting together strong legal protections for healthcare professionals, K-12 schools, colleges and universities, and employers so that our recovery is not promptly swamped by a second epidemic of frivolous lawsuits.

While the Democratic House slapped together an absurd multitrillion-dollar wish list that even the mainstream media panned immediately, the Senate has continued with our substantive, serious, facts-first approach. That is the winning formula that built the historically successful CARES Act, and that is the formula we will replicate in any future recovery legislation down the road.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on a completely different matter, on Thursday I noted that in recent weeks the Air Force has scrambled jets to intercept intrusions by Russian military aircraft near U.S. airspace in Alaska.

Well, on Saturday it happened again. According to the Defense Department, Russian reconnaissance planes entered the Alaska Air Defense Identification Zone and lingered for 8 hours. Obvi-

ously, this is just the latest in a series of escalations from Putin's regime.

Meanwhile, China has resumed its submarine intrusions into Japanese contiguous zones and picked deadly fights with India at high altitude.

North Korea State media has stepped up its unhinged, anti-American rhetoric, reportedly declaring over the weekend that nuclear war was "the only option left."

And Iran has issued a warrant for the arrest of the President of the United States because we took the mullahs' top terrorist off the battlefield back in January.

Our adversaries are as intent as ever on undermining peace; disrupting commerce; and threatening American citizens, our interests, and our allies wherever and whenever possible.

So this year's National Defense Authorization Act is as urgent and important as it has been for 60 consecutive years. Thanks to Chairman INHOFE and Ranking Member REED, the legislation we will consider is already the product of exhaustive bipartisan effort.

It includes 229 bipartisan amendments adopted by our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee. It may include more amendments before we finish with it here on the floor.

But the primary missions of the legislation are already clear. On the homefront, it will increase pay for servicemembers; reform the military housing and healthcare systems; and increase transparency in Pentagon budgeting, hiring, and acquisition.

Around the world, it will make clear our commitments to our allies in Europe and the Pacific, invest in key technologies from biotechnology to hypersonics, and make sure that our men and women in uniform have the tools to remain the greatest fighting force in world history.

I am grateful to our committee colleagues for giving the Senate the opportunity to set strong priorities for our national defense. Our job now is to follow their example, work together in a bipartisan way, and pass the NDAA on behalf of our men and women in uniform and the Nation they protect.

EMERGENCY AID FOR RETURNING AMERICANS AFFECTED BY CORONAVIRUS ACT

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 4091.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4091) to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to provide authority for fiscal year 2020 for increased payments for temporary assistance to United States citizens returned from foreign countries, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to proceeding to the measure?

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

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time.

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

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I know of no further debate on the bill.

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

The bill (S. 4091) was passed, as follows:

S. 4091

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 "Emergency Aid for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act".

SEC. 2. INCREASE IN AGGREGATE PAYMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1113(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1313(d)) is amended by striking "fiscal years 2017 and 2018" and all that follows through the period and inserting "fiscal year 2020, the total amount of such assistance provided during such fiscal year shall not exceed \$10,000,000."

(b) EMERGENCY DESIGNATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amounts provided by the amendment made by this section are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4(g) of the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (2 U.S.C. 933(g)).

(2) DESIGNATION IN SENATE.—In the Senate, this section and the amendment made by this section are designated as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 4112(a) of H. Con. Res. 71 (115th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2018.

SEC. 3. LIMIT ON DIRECT CONTACT WITH REPATRIATED INDIVIDUALS DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY PERIOD.

During the emergency period described in section 1135(g)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-5(g)(1)(B)), in providing temporary assistance under section 1113 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1313), no employee of the Administration for Children and Families of the Department of Health and Human Services shall have direct, in-person contact with an individual specified in section 1113(a)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1313(a)(1)), except in the case of a uniformed member of the Regular Corps or the Ready Reserve Corps of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service (as described in section 203 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 204)) in an active duty status who, as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, has—

(1) received appropriate training on infection prevention and control; and

(2) access to appropriate personal protective equipment.

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.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

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