

other committee has passed more bipartisan bills than the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, as it should be.

I thank my good friend JOAQUIN CASTRO from Texas.

Of course, Madam Speaker, you are from Texas. We seem to have a trifecta here today from Texas.

But I will say Chairman ENGEL has been a great partner to me, working together as a chairman and ranking member should on a national security committee. We should put the interests of the Nation above partisan politics, and that has been our charge and our duty.

I am, quite frankly, proud to say that is how we have conducted ourselves in this Congress. It is very gratifying, Madam Speaker, to close out this session of Congress, before this very tumultuous election cycle and very divisive time in our politics and our American history, but for me to be able to close this out in a very bipartisan way, that, I think, is what most Americans out there want from their leaders in the Congress.

I thank the gentleman from Texas and the Speaker from Texas for your bipartisan support. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

As the saying goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, and that is undoubtedly true in global health. We have seen firsthand the dangers of a lack of preparedness.

Today's legislation will prepare a coordinated response for future pandemics. I give a special thank you to Mr. CONNOLLY for authoring this important legislation and, of course, I thank Mr. MCCAUL of Texas and the others who have worked in a bipartisan way to get this bill to the floor today.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. JACKSON LEE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2166, 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.

#### ELECTING CERTAIN MEMBERS TO CERTAIN STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. JEFFRIES. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Democratic Caucus, I offer a privileged resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1135

*Resolved*, That the following named Members be, and are hereby, elected to the fol-

lowing standing committees of the House of Representatives:

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES: Ms. Barragán (to rank immediately after Mr. García of Illinois).

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS: Mr. Richmond (to rank immediately after Mr. Horsford).

Mr. JEFFRIES (during the reading). Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

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

There was no objection.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GLOBAL CHILD THRIVE ACT OF 2020

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4864) to develop and implement policies to advance early childhood development, to provide assistance for orphans and other vulnerable children in developing countries, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4864

*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 "Global Child Thrive Act of 2020".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) According to a 2019 report from the United Nations Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation entitled "Levels & Trends in Child Mortality", the annual number of deaths among children younger than 15 years of age dropped by 56 percent between 1990 and 2018, from approximately 14,200,000 to approximately 6,200,000.

(2) According to a 2016 article published in The Lancet entitled "Early childhood development: the foundation of sustainable development"—

(A) an estimated 250,000,000 children in low-income and middle-income countries suffer suboptimal development due to poverty and stunting alone; and

(B) children who do not meet developmental milestones are expected to lose about 25 percent of their average yearly income once they become adults.

(3) According to a report from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), entitled "The State of the World's Children 2016: A fair chance for every child", nearly 250,000,000 of the world's 650,000,000 primary school age children do not master basic literacy and numeracy.

(4) According to a 2018 report from the World Health Organization entitled "Nurturing Care for early childhood development"—

(A) the environment in which a child grows has a profound impact on future learning, behavior, and health; and

(B) a country's economic diversity and growth could be improved by investment in early childhood development.

(5) According to a 2017 UNICEF report entitled "UNICEF's Programme Guidance for Early Childhood Development", nurturing

care, which is key to early childhood development, consists of a core set of interrelated components, including—

(A) behaviors, attitudes, and knowledge about caregiving, including health, hygiene care, and feeding;

(B) stimulation, such as talking, singing, and playing;

(C) responsiveness, such as early bonding, secure attachment, trust, and sensitive communication; and

(D) safety, including routines, protection from violence, abuse, neglect, harm, and environmental pollution.

(6) According to a 2016 report published in The Lancet entitled "Advancing Early Childhood Development: From Science to Scale"—

(A) nurturing care from parents, relatives, and other caregivers and services are formative experiences for young children;

(B) programs promoting nurturing care can improve early childhood development outcomes; and

(C) children who do not receive nurturing care display negative development outcomes, such as greater sensitivity to the effects of stress or behavioral problems, especially children who do not receive nurturing care before their second birthday.

(7) According to the "Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity 2019–2023: A U.S. Government Strategy for International Assistance", children who live without protective family care, in abusive households, on the streets, or in institutions, or who are trafficked, are participating in armed groups, or are being exploited for their labor are more likely to be exposed to violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect.

(8) According to a 2017 UNICEF report entitled "Early Moments Matter for every child", violence, abuse, neglect, and traumatic experiences produce toxic stress that limits neural connectivity in developing brains.

(9) According to a 2014 working paper from the National Scientific Council on the Developing Child at Harvard University entitled "Excessive Stress Disrupts the Architecture of the Developing Brain"—

(A) situations that produce toxic stress increase the production of cortisol in a child's brain, which disrupts its healthy development; and

(B) chronic stress can potentially affect the expression of genes that regulate the stress response across the life course.

(10) According to a 2018 article in the North Carolina Medical Journal entitled "Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs): An Important Element of a Comprehensive Approach to the Opioid Crisis", adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are traumatic or stressful experiences, including emotional, physical, or sexual abuse, domestic violence, household substance abuse, household mental illness, parental separation or divorce, and the incarceration of a household family member.

(11) According to a 2016 report in Development and Psychopathology entitled "Childhood Adversity and Epigenetic Regulation of Glucocorticoid Signaling Genes: Associations in Children and Adults"—

(A) children and adults are at risk of developing psychiatric disorders and other medical conditions if they have had an adverse childhood experience; and

(B) adults who have had numerous ACEs die nearly 20 years earlier, on average, than adults who have not had numerous ACEs.

#### SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the United States Government should continue efforts to reduce child mortality rates and increase attention on prevention efforts and early childhood development programs;