

to be a leader in supporting the Treaty on the Nonproliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) and the global non-proliferation regime to reap the benefits the NPT and such regime bring to United States and international security.”.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**PARTNERING AND LEVERAGING ASSISTANCE TO STOP TRASH FOR INTERNATIONAL CLEANER SEAS ACT**

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4636) to authorize the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to prioritize and advance efforts to improve waste management systems and prevent and reduce plastic waste and marine debris, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4636

*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 “Partnering and Leveraging Assistance to Stop Trash for International Cleaner Seas Act” or the “PLASTICS Act”.

**SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

Congress finds the following:

(1) Eight million metric tons of plastic enter the ocean every year. Marine debris damages the health of marine life, impedes local economic development, and threatens health systems. Ten river systems carry an estimated 90 percent of the river-based plastic waste that ends up in the ocean.

(2) Mismanaged plastic waste has the highest risk of contaminating rivers and oceans. China contributes the largest share of this mismanaged waste, followed by Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Thailand, Egypt, Nigeria, and South Africa. The United States is the world’s second-largest producer and consumer of plastics products, and the top exporter of plastic scrap.

(3) Most marine debris, particularly plastics, enters the oceans from land-based sources, mainly in developing countries, that lack the capacity to adequately manage waste and prevent dumping.

(4) During the Our Ocean Conference in October 2018, the United States announced assistance to prevent marine debris from entering the ocean through development of waste management systems and reduce plastics in marine protected areas in the Indo-Pacific.

(5) During the June 2019 G20 Summit in Osaka, Japan, the United States joined other G20 members in endorsing the “Osaka Blue Ocean Vision” to reduce additional pollution by marine plastic litter to zero by 2050 and the G20 Implementation Framework for Actions on Marine Plastic Litter, which outlines a commitment to prevent and reduce plastic debris in the oceans through waste management and clean-up efforts to remove marine plastic debris and prioritizes efforts to advance innovative solutions and international cooperation to support such initiatives.

**SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.**

It is the policy of the United States to consult, partner, and coordinate with the gov-

ernments of foreign countries, international organizations, private and civil society entities, and other stakeholders in a concerted effort to—

(1) prevent and reduce marine debris and plastic waste, including through reduced consumption, greater transparency in global trade of plastic waste, and support for integrated waste management systems in developing countries;

(2) advance innovative market-based solutions and catalyze private capital to prevent and reduce marine debris and plastic waste, support integrated waste management systems, and improve market demand for recycled material;

(3) build the capacity of national and subnational governments in other countries to develop and implement integrated waste management systems, measure and report progress in reducing plastic waste, and prevent plastic waste from entering rivers and oceans;

(4) support local economic development through programs that assist community members, particularly women, youth, and marginalized populations, to derive economic benefit from waste products and participation in waste management systems; and

(5) engage in international and regional cooperation to prevent and reduce marine debris and plastic waste, share best practices, and empower national and subnational governments, local communities, civil society, and the private sector to engage in such efforts.

**SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

It is the sense of Congress that, in pursuing the policy described in section 3, the President should direct United States representatives to appropriate international bodies to use the voice, vote, and influence of the United States to advocate support for the following:

(1) Efforts to improve transparency in global trade of plastic waste, improve plastic waste regulation to ensure the safety of humans and the environment, strengthen integrated waste management systems, and prevent, reduce, reuse, and recycle plastic waste, to the extent practical.

(2) Collaborative approaches to establish measurable targets and objectives, with related action plans, for reducing marine debris and plastic waste from all sources and sharing best practices in waste prevention and management systems to prevent plastic waste.

**SEC. 5. UNITED STATES SUPPORT TO IMPROVE WASTE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND PREVENT AND REDUCE MARINE DEBRIS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, in coordination with the heads of relevant Federal departments and agencies, are authorized to prioritize and advance ongoing global efforts to—

(1) prevent and reduce marine debris and plastic waste, including through reduced consumption, greater transparency in global trade of plastic waste, and support for integrated waste management systems in developing countries;

(2) advance innovative market-based solutions and catalyze private capital to prevent and reduce marine debris and plastic waste, support integrated waste management systems, and improve market demand for recycled material;

(3) build the capacity of national and subnational governments in other countries to develop and implement integrated waste management systems, measure and report progress in reducing plastic waste, and pre-

vent plastic waste from entering rivers and oceans; and

(4) support local economic development through programs that assist community members, particularly women, youth, and marginalized populations, to derive economic benefit from waste products and participation in waste management systems.

(b) COORDINATION WITH PRIVATE SECTOR.—The Secretary and the Administrator, in coordination with the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation and the Chief Executive Officer of the Millennium Challenge Corporation and in consultation with the heads of relevant Federal departments and agencies, are authorized and encouraged to work with entities in the private sector and with nongovernmental organizations to leverage sources of public and private capital to complement the efforts described in subsection (a), including by financing infrastructure investments, supporting capacity-building activities, and entering into cost-sharing, cost-matching, and other cooperative agreements to support and finance such efforts.

(c) MONITORING AND EVALUATION.—The Secretary and the Administrator shall establish monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, including measurable goals, objectives, and benchmarks, to ensure the effective use of United States foreign assistance to achieve the objectives described in paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (a).

(d) DOMESTIC RESOURCE MOBILIZATION.—In carrying out the authority under subsection (a), the Secretary and the Administrator, in coordination with the heads of relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall seek to provide technical assistance to mobilize the domestic resources of recipient countries in order to increase cost-sharing, self-reliance, and host country ownership of waste prevention and management programs.

(e) COST LIMITATION.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act.

(f) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Administrator, in consultation with the heads of relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall jointly submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on ongoing programs and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to carry out the authority under subsection (a) that includes a description of—

(1) the monitoring and evaluation plans and indicators used to measure performance of assistance programs, in accordance with subsection (d);

(2) best practices and lessons learned in implementing the efforts authorized under subsection (a);

(3) the extent to which recipient countries have demonstrated a commitment and willingness to cooperate to advance the efforts described in subsection (a) and to dedicate resources to support waste prevention and management initiatives;

(4) the extent to which host country governments and other governments in the region are investing resources to advance initiatives to prevent or reduce marine debris and plastic waste and develop integrated waste management systems; and

(5) the extent to which other funding sources, including through private sector investment, have been identified to advance waste prevention and management initiatives.

(g) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

**SEC. 6. PLASTIC WASTE REDUCTION INITIATIVE.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation is authorized to establish, in coordination with relevant Federal departments and agencies and incorporating any existing programs of the Corporation for such purposes, an initiative to pursue investment opportunities to address plastic waste pollution and support improved, integrated waste management systems in developing countries, including by catalyzing global public and private-sector investments to prevent and reduce marine debris and plastic waste in such countries.

(b) **REFERENCE.**—The initiative established under subsection (a) may be referred to as the “Plastic Waste Reduction Initiative”.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. **ESPAILLAT**) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. **MCCAUL**) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

**GENERAL LEAVE**

Mr. **ESPAILLAT**. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4636.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. **ESPAILLAT**. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. **MCCAUL**), the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, for his hard work on this measure, which I am pleased to support.

This bill aims to address a growing problem we all see around the world: plastic waste and other debris in our oceans.

Products made from plastic are a part of everyday life. In the morning, we brush our teeth with a plastic toothbrush and wash our hair with shampoo from a plastic bottle. We drink water from a plastic cup, eat snacks out of plastic containers, and consume meals with plastic utensils. We drive cars with plastic components and do our work on plastic keyboards. At the end of the day, when we throw plastic away, we don't often think about where it ends up.

Well, every day, more than 8 million metric tons of it end up in the ocean, leading to a host of problems. It damages the health of marine life, chokes off economic development, and harms the environment.

Most marine debris enters the ocean from land-based sources, mainly in developing countries that aren't able to manage waste and prevent dumping.

This legislation will advance efforts to work with national governments and local communities to develop integrated waste management systems to effectively prevent and reduce plastic waste.

It encourages Federal departments and agencies to work with the private sector and nongovernmental organizations, aiming to leverage public and private capital in concert with American assistance programs.

It supports local economic development initiatives to assist community members—particularly women, young people, and marginalized populations—to realize the economic benefits to be gained in scaling up waste management systems.

It also urges U.S. leadership in international and regional efforts to prevent and reduce marine debris and plastic waste. This legislation supports the commitment that the United States made at both the 2018 Our Ocean Conference and the 2019 G20 Summit to achieve measurable benchmarks in preventing marine debris from entering the ocean and reduce plastic pollution.

The United States is one of the world's largest producer and consumer of plastic products, and the top exporter of plastic scrap. So we have a critical role to play in addressing this particular issue. This legislation puts us on the right track to remedy this rapidly growing problem.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. **MCCAUL**. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York and Chairman **ENGEL** for their support.

Mr. Speaker, over 8 million metric tons of plastic enters the oceans each year. That is the equivalent of a garbage truck full of plastic being dumped out every single minute.

According to the United Nations Environment Program, if no change is enacted, our oceans could contain more plastic bags than fish by 2050.

Mismanaged plastic waste in our oceans and communities can take centuries to decompose. That threatens economic development, hurts marine life, and threatens health systems around the world. Reversing the trend of increased plastic waste in our oceans will require a coordinated global response.

It is important to note that just 10 river systems carry an estimated 90 percent of river-based plastic waste to the ocean. China contributes the largest share of this mismanaged waste, followed by developing countries, such as Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam.

That is why Chairman **ENGEL** and I introduced the **PLASTICS** Act. This legislation elevates the United States to a leadership role in international efforts to reduce and safely manage plastic waste.

The **PLASTICS** Act will allow America to do more to help build the capacity of developing countries to manage their waste. And it will help prevent more waste from spilling into the ocean on the scale that it is today.

The **PLASTICS** Act elevates ongoing efforts by USAID, and it prioritizes new partnerships between the private sector and the U.S. Development Finance Corporation. This will allow us to leverage additional financing for companies putting these waste management practices into place in the Indo-Pacific and elsewhere.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that yesterday the United States Development Finance Corporation announced its Ocean Plastics Initiative, based on this bill, and it is exactly what this bill calls for. This initiative aims to catalyze \$2.5 billion in the private sector infrastructure investments aimed at reducing plastic waste and marine debris.

By elevating the role of women and marginalized populations in these initiatives, we can spur economic development and opportunity across the globe. Our work to combat plastic waste is an investment in the health of our oceans and our communities, not just for ourselves, but also for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. **ESPAILLAT**. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. **JACKSON LEE**).

Ms. **JACKSON LEE**. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for his leadership, and I also rise in enthusiastic support for the **PLASTICS** Act of Mr. **MCCAUL** and Mr. **ENGEL**.

Texas is a Gulf State. Before we even get to the ocean, we can see the impact of plastic even in our area. To hear the stark report that more plastic than fish in 2050, I ask the question: What do we leave for our children?

I think this legislation has a very important and strategic point to combine public and private partnership, to acknowledge the devastation of plastic, and to be able, in essence, to save the Earth.

Mr. Speaker, for a moment, I want to allude also to the nonproliferation legislation that we just discussed and to join in support of the dire conditions and dire straits that the Nation and the world will be in if we allow the proliferation of nuclear abilities.

It is very important that we contain those nuclear abilities. We have been on the floor today discussing Russia and its poisoning of dissidents, its intrusion into its neighbors. And we understand that the reckless use of nuclear materials really pose a danger to our children and our children's children. It is for that reason that I believe that we must continue fighting for nuclear nonproliferation.

As a member of the European Parliamentary Exchange and many other groups discussing this, I believe this is an important and ongoing responsibility, along with the **PLASTICS** Act, it is intended to make our world safer and better for all. That is a commitment that we, as the Members of the United States Congress, should take extremely seriously, and I think it will be we who will stand in the gap to show

the world what America's true values really are. We care about the environment and we care to keep the world safe from nuclear proliferation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I thank the sponsor and the cosponsor of the legislation.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close if the gentleman from New York has no further speakers.

Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, as my colleagues and I have been speaking on this bill for the last 10 minutes, over 300,000 pounds of plastic has entered our oceans. It is amazing to think about that, just in the 10 minutes we have been speaking here today.

Reversing this trend and preventing plastic from choking our oceans will require this coordinated global response that is both practical, innovative, measurable, and, quite frankly, it is the right thing to do for our future generations.

With the PLASTICS Act, we will be taking a huge large step in that direction. We have a duty to protect future generations from the repercussions of today's waste. I also strongly support ongoing efforts to ensure final passage of Save Our Seas 2.0 Act, which includes components of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their great bipartisan work. I also thank my dear chairman, ELIOT ENGEL, and the gentleman from New York. Chairman ENGEL has been a dear friend of mine in this Congress. We are going to be sad to see him go, but I know he has bright aspirations for his future, and we look forward to celebrating with him. And one way we can celebrate this is by passing the PLASTICS Act.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I thank the manager and the sponsor of this legislation for their kind courtesies.

Mr. Speaker, it is never too late to say "thank you," and I wanted to just not forget to thank Chairman ENGEL for the years of commitment to these issues and to his service on the Foreign Affairs and the Energy and Commerce Committees.

I know this list of legislative initiatives has had the impact of our manager, the distinguished gentleman from New York, and certainly all of the friends and the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee. But I think it is appropriate, having known Mr. ENGEL for a very long time, that he is a true believer in democracy, he is a believer in the international responsibilities of the United States, and he is also one who recognizes transition of government in the right way. He is transitioning, and he is doing it with dignity and respect.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express to him my deepest respect for his service to not only the United States Congress and his family's sacrifice, but to the United States of America. We thank him for that service. It is my desire to have that in the RECORD at this time. I thank him on behalf of this Nation.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is a great example of how America can lead in finding solutions to environmental challenges such as this one, a grave challenge to the world, and helps to create jobs and builds prosperity.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support it, and I am grateful that Mr. MCCAUL and all the bill's cosponsors have put this forward.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4636, 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.

#### AMERICAN VALUES AND SECURITY IN INTERNATIONAL ATHLETICS ACT

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8405) to direct the Department of State to ensure persons representing the United States in international athletic competitions in certain countries are appropriately informed, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8405

*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 "American Values and Security in International Athletics Act".

##### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In 2017, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) revised its Host City Contract to require host countries to "protect and respect human rights and ensure any violation of human rights is remedied in a manner consistent with international agreements, laws, and regulations applicable in the Host Country and in a manner consistent with all internationally recognised human rights standards and principles, including the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, applicable in the Host Country".

(2) The Olympic Charter states the goal of Olympism is "to place sport at the service of the harmonious development of humankind, with a view to promoting a peaceful society concerned with the preservation of human dignity".

(3) The IOC set up an advisory committee on human rights in December 2018, and IOC

President Thomas Bach said, "Promoting humanistic values in sport has been a core feature of the IOC since its beginning. Our mission, to put sport at the service of humanity, goes hand-in-hand with human rights, which is part of our DNA."

(4) In the report, "The Cybersecurity of Olympic Sports: New Opportunities, New Risks", the UC Berkeley Center for Long-Term Cybersecurity listed the "hacking and release of sensitive athletic data" as one of the four significant categories of cyberattacks on major sporting events.

(5) According to the State Department's 2019 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, the People's Republic of China's Ministry of Public Security employs "tens of millions of surveillance cameras" to monitor the general public, as well as "political dissidents, religious leaders and adherents, Tibetans, and Uyghurs".

(6) The People's Republic of China (PRC) Government's extensive use of artificial intelligence surveillance technology, including facial and voice pattern recognition technology, poses grave humanitarian, privacy, and security concerns. PRC authorities have used surveillance technology to monitor, control, and repress an estimated 1.8 million Uyghurs and other Muslim minorities in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. PRC State media has confirmed that "voice, image, position and behavior recognition technologies" will be used in the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics.

#### SEC. 3. HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS FOR AMERICAN ATHLETIC DELEGATIONS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that individuals representing the United States at international athletic competitions in foreign countries should have the opportunity to be informed about human rights and security concerns in such countries and how best to safeguard their personal security and privacy.

(b) IN GENERAL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall devise and implement a strategy for disseminating briefing materials, including information described in subsection (c), to individuals representing the United States at international athletic competitions in a covered country.

(2) TIMING AND FORM OF MATERIALS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The briefing materials referred to in paragraph (1) shall be offered not later than 180 days prior to the commencement of an international athletic competition in a covered country.

(B) FORM OF DELIVERY.—Briefing materials related to the human rights record of covered countries may be delivered electronically or disseminated in person, as appropriate.

(C) SPECIAL CONSIDERATION.—Information briefing materials related to personal security risks may be offered electronically, in written format, by video teleconference, or prerecorded video.

(3) CONSULTATIONS.—In devising and implementing the strategy required under paragraph (1), the Secretary of State shall consult with the following:

(A) The Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations in the Senate, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) Leading human rights nongovernmental organizations and relevant subject-matter experts in determining the content of the briefings required under this subsection.

(C) The United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and the national governing bodies of amateur sports that play a role in determining which individuals represent the United States in international