

public. I personally thank you for your efforts to ensure that the issue is finally resolved in the 111th Congress.

Sincerely yours,

ADRIENNE THOMAS,
Acting Archivist of the United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment of the amendments and third reading of the bill.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill, as amended, pass?

Mr. REID. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) would vote "aye."

Mr. KYL. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) would have voted "aye."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 3, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 202 Leg.]

YEAS—86

Akaka	Dorgan	Lugar
Alexander	Durbin	Martinez
Barrasso	Ensign	McCain
Baucus	Enzi	McCaskill
Bayh	Feinstein	McConnell
Bennet	Gillibrand	Menendez
Bennett	Graham	Merkley
Bingaman	Grassley	Mikulski
Bond	Gregg	Murkowski
Boxer	Harkin	Nelson (NE)
Brown	Hutchison	Nelson (FL)
Brownback	Inhofe	Pryor
Bunning	Inouye	Reed
Burr	Isakson	Reid
Burriss	Johanns	Risch
Cantwell	Johnson	Roberts
Cardin	Kaufman	Schumer
Casey	Kerry	Sessions
Chambliss	Klobuchar	Shelby
Cochran	Kohl	Snowe
Collins	Kyl	Specter
Conrad	Landrieu	Stabenow
Corker	Lautenberg	Tester
Cornyn	Leahy	Thune
Crapo	Levin	Udall (NM)
DeMint	Lieberman	Vitter
Dodd	Lincoln	

Voinovich	Webb	Wicker
Warner	Whitehouse	Wyden

NAYS—3

Coburn	Feingold	Sanders
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NOT VOTING—10

Begich	Hatch	Shaheen
Byrd	Kennedy	Udall (CO)
Carper	Murray	
Hagan	Rockefeller	

The bill (H.R. 2346), as amended, was passed, as follows:

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate insists on its amendment, requests a conference with the House, and the Chair appoints Mr. INOUE, Mr. BYRD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DORGAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. REED, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BOND, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. BENNETT, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Ms. MURKOWSKI conferees on the part of the Senate.

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I come to the Senate floor today to speak about the National Guard and the need for this Federal Government to better equip our Guard and Reserve units. Senate amendment No. 1143, which I offered to the supplemental appropriations bill, would have done just that. Although the Senate did not adopt this sensible measure, I will continue to seek creative ways to support the National Guard and pursue this responsible and reasonable expenditure.

Simply put, my amendment would have appropriated \$2 billion to the National Guard and Reserve equipment account. This money would have come from unobligated funds made available by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. The rescissions would not have applied to amounts relating to the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security, Military Construction, or the Veterans Administration.

In recent years, our National Guard and Reserve forces have faced substantial shortfalls in equipment, and the military budget requests have been insufficient to remedy the problem. Even prior to 9/11, our National Guard and Reserve forces had equipment deficiencies. Since 9/11, due to an especially high operational tempo in the Iraqi and Afghan Theaters of Operations, our National Guard and Reserve equipment is being worn out and exhausted more quickly than anticipated. Combat losses are also contributing to shortfalls. Compounding the problem, in order to provide deployable units, the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve have had to transfer large quantities of their equipment to deploying units, exacerbating shortages in nondeploying units. Also, some National Guard and Reserve units, at the end of their deployments, have had

to leave significant quantities of equipment overseas. If these equipment shortfalls are not remedied, our National Guard and Reserve forces run the risk of further deterioration of readiness levels and capability.

In my estimation, it seemed reasonable to move \$2 billion in unobligated stimulus spending to fund necessary procurement of new National Guard and Reserve equipment, which was tragically overlooked during the stimulus debate. The National Guard and Reserve equipment account is a critical resource for funding procurement of new equipment for our National Guard and Reserve forces. This \$2 billion increase in equipment funding would have provided much-needed modern equipment for our National Guard and Reserve forces, better enabling them to meet mission and readiness requirements. In addition, this funding, which would have to have been spent by the end of fiscal year 2010, would have provided a stimulative effect to the U.S. economy.

New equipment would also directly benefit our Nation's homeland security missions and disaster response efforts, both of which are frequently assigned to National Guard forces. The Guard's ability to carry out these responsibilities depends on the availability of necessary equipment. Much of the equipment that would otherwise be used in these missions remains deployed overseas and is therefore unavailable.

In closing I want to reiterate my commitment to the National Guard and Reserve. Going forward, I will continue to fight to ensure that our Guard and Reserve units have the resources and equipment necessary to complete their missions. They make every American proud, and I am committed to maintaining a healthy and well-equipped National Guard and Reserve for years to come.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators allowed to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

DARFUR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I met briefly this week with the actress and activist Mia Farrow, who has dedicated so much time lately—and even put her own health at risk—to raise awareness of the atrocities in Darfur.

Like Ms. Farrow, my good friend Pam Omidyar—the founder and chair of the Board of Humanity United—has also fasted for more than a month in solidarity with the Darfurian refugees.

Mia Farrow and Pam Omidyar enjoy liberty and wealth. They do not need to do this. But through their actions, they both so generously speak for those the world ignores.

The terrible situation in Darfur deteriorates with each passing day. But we don't hear much about it. It has long since faded from the front pages in the face of everything else going on in our economy and the two wars we wage in the Middle East.

We cannot ignore this crisis. The United States has officially and appropriately recognized that what is happening in Darfur is genocide. For the more than 2.4 million people who have been displaced against their will, we cannot look the other way and cannot stand idly by.

Most of the people of Darfur depend on international aid to survive day-to-day. The United Nations has agreed to send 26,000 peacekeepers to Darfur, but they face an uphill fight—they have struggled to get the resources they need to ensure the safety of those who live in Darfur and to end this crisis.

Making matters worse, when the International Criminal Court recently issued a warrant to arrest the President of Sudan—President Bashir—for war crimes and crimes against humanity, he responded by expelling 13 non-governmental organizations that had been distributing food and medicine to the people in Darfur.

Because of its economic investments, China has unique leverage with Sudan. It is important that China uses that influence to help the people of Darfur.

I appreciate the work of Major General Jonathan Scott Gration—the President's special envoy to Sudan—but we must do more to put Darfur at the forefront of our foreign-policy agenda. And we must be clear about our objectives.

The Sudanese government has repeatedly proven untrustworthy at the negotiating table. As the administration and our special envoy develop a new policy, we must consider how we can get Khartoum to change its behavior.

There have been too many people in too many camps for too many years—and the world has been silent for far too long.

We have no excuse to do anything short of all we can do to ensure aid groups are on the ground in Darfur, and that they can do their jobs—to ensure a political process is in place, and that it can work—and to help save the lives of millions.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to recognize the first Honor Flight from Kentucky for the 2009 operational season.

Many members of this body have had the chance to see their constituents at the World War II Memorial because of the noble work Honor Flight does in transporting surviving World War II veterans from around the country to see their memorial free of charge. I am honored to have been invited to participate in previous flights from the Commonwealth, and I regret that my schedule prevented me from attending the one that took place this past weekend. I hope to have the chance once again to visit with Kentucky Honor Flight participants.

On Saturday, May 16, Honor Flight's Bluegrass Chapter arrived in our Nation's Capital with 79 World War II veterans from my home State of Kentucky to see the memorial which they inspired. It is my hope that these veterans felt a sense of pride in seeing their memorial after all, pride is the very same feeling these men and women inspire in their fellow Americans.

In my previous experiences in meeting with the participants of Honor Flight trips, people of all ages have been humbled by the presence of these veterans at the memorial. School children have shook hands with the men and women who served in World War II and thanked them for their service. Others have asked for the privilege of taking a photo with a real-life American hero. Still more, including myself, have shared stories that have been passed down through generations about how World War II affected their family. In watching these interactions, one thing is clear: the sacrifices that these men and women made will never be forgotten.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Kentucky veterans who were here over the weekend for having served to protect our great nation's principles from the enemies of freedom. I ask unanimous consent that the names of the 79 World War II veterans from the Commonwealth be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

WORLD WAR II VETERANS

Allen Courts, Robert Adams, Charles Alessandro, Donald Cobb, Kenneth Gillespie, Guthrie Catlin, Joe Terrell, Donivan Mahuron, George Spaulding, George Schembari, Dale Tinkle, Jack Distler, Walter Pearce, Joseph Crouse, Kathleen Drummond, Clarence Lange, Leroy Lange, Marcus Shearer, Garland Lewis, Gordon Lewis.

Herbert Lewis, William Morris, Dewey Smith, Roy Ricketts, Frank Mellon, Jr., Hugo Becker, Robert Byrum, Carl Kiesler, Nelson Moody, Murrell Ramsey, George Pearl, Chesterfield Pulliam, John Canary, William Grantz, Jack McQuair, William Miller, John Noonan, Irvine Stevens, Joseph Blincoe, Richard Burnett.

Charles Branson, Francis Kindred, Gustave LaFontaine, Carolean MacDonald, Carroll Hackett, Ira Johnston, Billy Turner, William Fender, John Hinkebein, Richard Yann, Edwin Casada, Fitzhugh Roy, Henry Anderson, Marvin Lawson, George Greathouse, Paul Berrier, Sr., Thomas Napier, Thomas Roberts, Ralph Stengel, Chester Sublett.

Frederick Kleinschmidt, James Williams, Elmer Givan, Leslie Powers, Marion Crockett, Edward Goldner, Loren Charley, Edgar Hodges, Joseph Johnson, Alvin Lawyer, Orin Bond, Antonio Martinez, John Eckert, Lee Bumpus, Donald King, Marcus Combs, Norman Miller, Allen Jones, Roy Vance.

CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2009

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I opposed this legislation because it will likely have the unintended consequence of restricting credit to those who need it most. The major economic issue at play is the ability of financial institutions to utilize risk-based pricing to determine how much to charge an individual for credit. Risk-based pricing essentially permits a lender to charge a higher price to individuals who are at a great risk for nonpayment. More sophisticated pricing has also expanded credit to those who otherwise would not be eligible for a credit card.

Financial institutions that offer credit cards face four major risks. One, the lending they provide is not secured by collateral. Two, a creditor has no way of knowing when a cardholder loses his job and the income he would need to repay his debt. Three, a borrower can max out the full amount of his limit without advance notice. And four, unlike other forms of lending, credit cards are relatively more susceptible to fraud.

Since it is impossible for a lender to know when a borrower will default, credit card companies carefully monitor their cardholders' activity. A delinquent payment, exceeding one's credit limit or bouncing a check acts as an early warning sign that help firms identify higher risk cardholders. In order to manage these risks, credit card companies use certain practices to protect themselves from the possibility of default.

Any legislation or regulation that restricts the ability of credit card issuers to adequately price risk could have several unintended consequences. Investors who in the past may have been attracted to the relatively higher returns afforded securitized credit card assets may shift their funds into alternative sources of lending. As a result, credit card companies may increase interest rates on all card holders, increase monthly minimum payments, reduce credit limits or simply issue fewer cards.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, very few people in America today would argue that our health care system is not in need of reform. It is a travesty that in the richest, most powerful country in the world, there are more than 47 million people without health insurance. That is an absolutely shocking number. It represents roughly one in six people who are going without regular trips to the doctor, forgoing needed