

ObamaCare. Then he walks out there a few hours later, standing by the famous Ohio clock, and says, cyber security, we should do it. It will take a lot longer to do than the time we have. If cloture is not invoked today, it is for reasons I have just enumerated but principally because of the Chamber of Commerce. They are opposed to the initial bill because it was mandatory that these companies do something to protect America from these attacks from bad people.

So Senators LIEBERMAN and COLLINS, the two managers of this bill from the Homeland Security Committee, said: OK. We don't think this is the right thing to do, but we will not make the provisions mandatory anymore. That is still not good enough for the Chamber of Commerce. A voluntary alternative is still something opposed by the Chamber of Commerce.

I have and numerous other people have come to the floor and talked about how important this bill is. The bill that is before this body now that we are going to vote cloture on would be a wonderful step forward. No, it doesn't do everything everyone wants, but it is a good bill. It is to protect our country. The leaders of the security of this Nation, including General Patraeus, General Dempsey, and the people working in NSA say this bill is more important than Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and North Korea. But the Chamber of Commerce has now interjected themselves in the security of this Nation. They think they know more than Patraeus, Dempsey, and all the leaders of this country. They are telling the Republicans to vote against this, believing they will get something better later on. Maybe they will, but right now here is what we have. I think it sends a very bad message to the country that Republicans are not willing to support this legislation.

To show how serious the Republicans are to get this bill done, they filed an amendment on a right-to-work law and they filed an amendment on repealing Dodd-Frank. That is just some of the beginning volleys they shot over here. My friend, the Senior Senator from Arizona, steps in and says: We are working on a list.

So I am disappointed, perplexed, and somewhat confused about how the Republicans want to proceed. It is obvious—it is obvious—until they get a signoff from the chamber of commerce that nothing will happen on one of the most important security interests this country has faced in generations.

So I would suggest that the Republican leader, rather than trying to denigrate this legislation that has been done with the best interests of the country at heart—including one of his most valued Senators, Ms. COLLINS—do a conference call with the chamber of commerce. Have them come down here and tell them what they want, and maybe, with what the chamber of commerce wants, we can work something out, because they are ruling the place now as far as this legislation goes.

The chamber of commerce, I will repeat, for the first time that I am aware of in the history of this country, has now become the protector of our Nation's security interests. That says it all, Mr. President.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY AMENDMENT ACT

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of S. 3326, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill, (S. 3326), to amend the African Growth and Opportunity Act to extend the third-country fabric program and to add South Sudan to the list of countries eligible for designation under that Act, to make technical corrections to the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States relating to the textile and apparel rules of origin for the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement, to approve the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, first of all, I wish to say I appreciate the leadership for working to ensure a vote on this package. This package was slowed down not because anybody is truly opposed to what we are trying to do, but the package was slowed down because of the way we are paying for it. We are going to see that coming over from the House as well. It is not a Republican or a Democratic problem; it is a problem of all of us because there is going to be an emergency farm bill, a disaster bill, coming over that is going to spend almost \$400 million, and it is paid for over 5 years. That has to stop. It has to stop.

Right now, in this country, every man, woman, and child is on the hook for \$53,000 of debt. So the typical American family is on the hook for 212,000 bucks right now because of what we have done. So my objection was not with the AGOA package, it is not with Myanmar, it is not with any of that. Those are great policy things. My objection is we are addicted to not fulfilling our responsibilities and delaying.

So this is a very simple, straightforward message and amendment that does two things: One, it recognizes the recommendation of the Obama administration in terms of duplication and the need for consolidation. That is how we are eventually going to get out of the hole. We have \$130 trillion in unfunded liabilities, and we have \$16 trillion in debt. It was a good recommendation. We totally ignored it. We have ignored it. Nothing has hap-

pened on what they have recommended. There have been no hearings on what the Obama administration recommended in terms of combining some of the departments at OMB.

So this is just a step toward trying to meet in the middle with what the Obama administration has recommended and us actually paying the \$200 million in costs over 2 years, with \$200 million worth of savings in 2 years.

The bill, as it presently stands, takes 10 years to pay for \$200 million. We have a \$3.7 trillion budget—or CR—and we can't find—it is less than one-hundredth of 1 percent, and we can't find it. So what this does is delay the cost—the payment—for this bill over a period of years, all the way out to 2023. No family who is broke gets to operate that way—and we are. Nobody who has maxed out their credit cards gets to do that, and we have maxed them out. So what we are saying is there is a ton of money that is available that we can use.

We have had three amendments on this floor that everybody who is going to be in opposition to this have voted for to eliminate duplication. The vast majority of my colleagues on the other side have voted for it, and the vast majority of my colleagues on my side have voted for it. So we are going to use that same skill where we know there is waste and we know there is inefficiency. We have tons of GAO reports, tons of IG, and tons of oversight of the Homeland Security Committee in the Senate that shows where the duplication is. All we are asking is, let's pay for it. Let's pay for it.

This place is so manipulated, I couldn't get a score until yesterday because somebody was telling them don't give him a score. Then when we changed the amendment, all of a sudden, because we want to know what the amendment says, CBO says: Well, wait a minute. That might not work. The fact is CBO didn't read our amendment right, and they know they didn't. So OMB was consulted. They said this amendment is implementable, and it fits with what the President was recommending in terms of consolidation of programs.

So what it says is let's make this a start today. Let's actually start paying for things in the years in which we are going to spend the money, and let's not kick the can down the road. Let's not charge it to our kids because the history is we take 10 years to pay for something, we come back next year and we will change it. We will change it. So what was paid for this year all of a sudden is not paid for anymore, and it is smoke and mirrors for the American people.

So this is very straightforward. It is a clean pay-for. It uses two mechanisms to get there which have been scored that will accomplish it.

I fully support the AGOA. I am sorry we got delayed. I am actually sorry it took—because there has already been