

against international terrorism". Since the program's inception in 1984, the United States Government has rewarded over 60 people who provided actionable information that, according to the Department of State, prevented international terrorist attacks or helped convict individuals involved in terrorist attacks.

(3) The program has been credited with providing information in several high-profile cases, including the arrest of Ramzi Yousef, who was convicted in the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center, the deaths of Uday and Qusay Hussein, who United States military forces located and killed in Iraq after receiving information about their locations, and the arrests or deaths of several members of the Abu Sayyaf group, believed to be responsible for the kidnappings and deaths of United States citizens and Filipinos in the Philippines.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the rewards program of the Department of State should be expanded in order to—

(1) address the growing threat to important United States interests from transnational criminal activity, such as intellectual property rights piracy, money laundering, trafficking in persons, arms trafficking, and cybercrime; and

(2) target other individuals indicted by international, hybrid, or mixed tribunals for genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity.

### SEC. 3. ENHANCED REWARDS AUTHORITY.

Section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by inserting "serious violations of international humanitarian law, transnational organized crime," after "international narcotics trafficking,";

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "Attorney General" and inserting "heads of other relevant departments or agencies";

(B) in paragraphs (4) and (5), by striking "paragraph (1), (2), or (3)" both places it appears and inserting "paragraph (1), (2), (3), (8), or (9)";

(C) in paragraph (6)—

(i) by inserting "or transnational organized crime group" after "terrorist organization"; and

(ii) by striking "or" at the end;

(D) in paragraph (7)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "including the use by the organization of illicit narcotics production or international narcotics trafficking" and inserting "or transnational organized crime group, including the use by such organization or group of illicit narcotics production or international narcotics trafficking";

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting "or transnational organized crime" after "international terrorism"; and

(iii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting "or transnational organized crime group" after "terrorist organization"; and

(II) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(E) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

"(8) the arrest or conviction in any country of any individual for participating in, primarily outside the United States, transnational organized crime;

"(9) the arrest or conviction in any country of any individual conspiring to participate in or attempting to participate in transnational organized crime; or

"(10) the arrest or conviction in any country, or the transfer to or conviction by an international criminal tribunal (including a hybrid or mixed tribunal), of any foreign national accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide, as defined under the statute of such tribunal.";

(3) in subsection (g), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(3) ADVANCE NOTIFICATION FOR INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL REWARDS.—Not less than 15 days before publicly announcing that a reward may be offered for a particular foreign national accused of war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide, the Secretary of State shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report, which may be submitted in classified form if necessary, setting forth the reasons why the arrest or conviction of such foreign national is in the national interests of the United States.";

and

(4) in subsection (k)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (7) and (8), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraphs:

"(5) TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME.—The term 'transnational organized crime' means—

"(A) racketeering activity (as such term is defined in section 1961 of title 18, United States Code) that involves at least one jurisdiction outside the United States; or

"(B) any other criminal offense punishable by a term of imprisonment of at least four years under Federal, State, or local law that involves at least one jurisdiction outside the United States and that is intended to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.

"(6) TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME GROUP.—The term 'transnational organized crime group' means a group of persons that includes one or more citizens of a foreign country, exists for a period of time, and acts in concert with the aim of engaging in transnational organized crime.".

### SEC. 4. TECHNICAL CORRECTION.

Section 36(e)(1) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708) is amended by striking "The Secretary shall authorize a reward of \$50,000,000 for the capture or death or information leading to the capture or death of Osama bin Laden."

### SEC. 5. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed as authorizing the use of activity precluded under the American Servicemembers' Protection Act of 2002 (title II of Public Law 107-206; 22 U.S.C. 7421 et seq.).

### SEC. 6. FUNDING.

The Secretary of State shall use amounts appropriated or otherwise made available to the Emergencies in the Diplomatic and Consular Services account of the Department of State to pay rewards authorized pursuant to this Act and to carry out other activities related to such rewards authorized under section 36 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act (22 U.S.C. 2708).

Mr. MERKLEY. I further ask the committee-reported substitute amendment be agreed to, the bill as amended be read a third time, and the Senate immediately proceed to a voice vote on passage of the bill as amended.

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

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the bill as amended.

The bill (S. 2318), as amended, was passed.

Mr. MERKLEY. I further ask the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table, without any intervening action or debate and any statement be printed in the RECORD.

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

### DIGNIFIED BURIAL OF VETERANS ACT OF 2012

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Veterans' Affairs Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 3202, and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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. 3202) to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that deceased veterans with no known next of kin can receive a dignified burial, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. MERKLEY. I ask unanimous consent the Murray substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The amendment (No. 3407) was agreed to.

(The text of the amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text Of Amendments.")

The bill (S. 3202), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

### IMPROVING VETERANS ACCESS TO FEDERAL SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. 3698, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3698) to amend title 40, United States Code, to improve veterans service organizations access to federal surplus personal property.

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

Mr. MERKLEY. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 3698) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 3698

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 "Formerly Owned Resources for Veterans to Express Thanks for Service Act of 2012" or the "FOR VETS Act of 2012".

### SEC. 2. VETERANS ACCESS TO FEDERAL EXCESS AND SURPLUS PERSONAL PROPERTY.

Section 549(c)(3) of title 40, United States Code, is amended—