



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 113th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 160

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, AUGUST 1, 2014

No. 123

Senate

The Senate met at 11 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable TIM KAINE, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

God of our forebears, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band, thank You for the opportunity to live in a nation which seeks "to establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." May each day we strive to contribute to the strength of this land so that the dream of our Framers will become a continuous reality. Use our Senators as they seek to make America a beacon of freedom for our world.

Lord, so often we pray for our lawmakers but neglect to intercede for those who support them, providing wind beneath their wings. Bless all who labor for liberty. Give us traveling mercies during the August recess.

We pray in Your merciful Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, August 1, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable TIM KAINE, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. KAINE thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

CHAPLAIN BARRY BLACK

Mr. REID. Mr. President, may I say, while our good chaplain is still in the Chamber, he has such a way with words. I am so impressed with the prayer this morning, where he recognized the way to get things done—as little as it is. If we could do more, we would get more, with this good staff. So I really appreciate the prayer and the Chaplain.

I extend my appreciation for the hard work of this staff. Everyone in this room works hard, whether they are police officers or enrolling clerks. They do everything. I am really grateful for what they do to help us all look better. I wish we did more so we would look better, but that is the way it is.

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 471.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 471, S.J. Res. 19, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, if any, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 2 p.m. this afternoon. Senators will be permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each during that period of time.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 2772
AND S. 2773

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bills by title for the second time.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2772) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2773) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, for border security, law enforcement, humanitarian assistance, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I object to any further proceedings with respect to these bills.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bills will be placed on the calendar.

NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am satisfied and pleased that we have a number of Senators on the floor wishing to speak. I am going to say just a few brief words, and then we are going to go into a quorum call until the Republican leader comes. He has some things to do here. So we will wait for him.

Mr. President, we find ourselves at the end of this work period having done not a lot. There is a lot of blame to go around, and we could spend all day blaming each other, but the fact is we need to do better.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



Printed on recycled paper.

S5317

I am grateful, though; yesterday we were able to pass the veterans conference report. It wasn't what we passed out of the Senate, but it was OK. It will help. I admire very much the people who were able to get that done.

BERNIE SANDERS worked extremely hard, and I am not sure he could have completed that without the work of the senior Senator from Arizona.

The bill was dead, the conference was really dead, a week ago. But the senior Senator from Arizona weighed in, and with his influence with Democrats and Republicans, it was made possible to move forward and was brought back on track.

I am surprised my friend from Arizona is here. I acknowledge the work that he did. Others worked on it, of course, but without his McCain-like advocacy last Friday and Thursday night, it wouldn't have happened.

Mr. President, I am not only grateful for the conference report we got on the veterans matter but also the highway bill. Now, I think we need a long-term highway bill, and I think we will get one in the near future. The work done by Senator BOXER and others to have a long-term bill because they wanted us to finish something this year didn't come to fruition. We passed it here. But we worked together and have a bill that will allow construction to continue.

In the House, I regret they weren't able to overcome Republican resistance to funding a response to the humanitarian crisis at the border. Again, we could stand here for the next couple hours and affix blame as to whose fault it is. The fact is I don't think it is going to get done.

I watched the House closely. I have heard commentators. It is surprising but I am told that even Charles Krauthammer today said: This is a little unusual. They weren't able to complete their work yesterday and the day before. So what they have done is demanded that President Obama do things on his own, for which they have sued him. That is a little inconsistent. One of the Republican senior House Members was on "Morning Joe" this morning. He said the same thing. But the House appears to be heading from bad to worse as the House Republican majority hunts for votes on border policy.

So let's be clear about what is happening today on the other side of the Capitol.

House Republicans will vote to deport children who have been living in the United States their entire lives, all in a pathetic attempt to appease the tea party. The worse the bill gets the more votes they are getting over there. That is the harsh, wrong-headed idea. If the House does pass a bill, I can't imagine it could be cleared on either side over here.

MAKING CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 220, H.J. Res. 76; that a Reid-McConnell-Mikulski substitute amendment at the desk providing emergency appropriations for the Iron Dome defense system in Israel be agreed to; that the joint resolution, as amended, be read a third time and passed; that the Reid-McConnell-Mikulski title amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to; and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there objection to the request?

Mr. MCCONNELL. Reserving the right to object—

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Let me say to my friend, the majority leader, this is a good example of our being able to put aside partisan considerations and work together to help our good friend Israel.

I particularly want to salute Senator GRAHAM and Senator MCCAIN, who have been absolutely relentless in their efforts to make sure we send this important signal to Israel at a very tough time for them. They are being, in my view, criticized by everyone for pursuing a policy that I am absolutely certain we would pursue if somebody across our border were launching missiles at our civilian population.

I think it is important for us to send a signal that the United States stands behind one of its best friends—if not its best friend—in the world.

I think the Prime Minister of Israel pretty well summed it up when he said: There is no moral equivalency here. Hamas launches missiles on civilians, and Israel warns civilians when it attempts to attack. And Hamas uses its own civilians to protect its missiles. There is no moral equivalency whatsoever.

So as much of the world levels its criticism at Israel, I think it is important for the United States to say: What nonsense to suggest that the Israelis are doing anything that almost any country in the world would have done had its citizens been threatened by a neighbor as Israel has experienced.

So, obviously, I do not object.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I wish to take a moment to thank both leaders for their efforts in bringing about this much-needed—not only the funding but the signal that the Congress will send and the President will sign that we are supporting them.

We all know the latest news is, tragically, that a proposed cease-fire has broken down. Apparently an Israeli soldier has been captured. And all of us know the ramifications of that in the future, the value the Israeli Govern-

ment and people rightfully put on each one of their citizens who serve.

I thank again our majority leader and the Republican leader for coming together on this most important signal. This isn't just about money. It is a signal from the American people and the American taxpayers that we are with the Israelis, because if they do not have Iron Dome, they can't defend themselves. It is that simple. The Iron Dome is the ability to keep innocent civilians and neighborhoods and families from being destroyed by these barges of literally thousands of incoming rockets.

Again, I thank my friend. There has been no one more relentless in this effort than the Senator from South Carolina. I yield for him.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from South Carolina.

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, the time is blurred now. Yesterday, or early this morning, a very bad occurrence happened to the people of Israel. During a cease-fire which they agreed to, an Israeli unit apparently was attacked by a Hamas suicide bomber. After that attack there was a charge against the unit in question, and apparently a soldier has been kidnapped and taken to the tunnels.

It is so appropriate that today, of all days, the Senate speaks in one voice.

I cannot thank Senator REID enough for making this happen. Senator MCCONNELL has worked to make sure it got cleared on our side, and it finally has.

They are running out of Iron Dome missiles to protect themselves. To whom do they turn? To us.

Mr. President, \$225 million is a lot of money, but it is a rounding error in the budget.

It is not only the missiles that matter; it is the message that goes with the missiles: We are with you. Here are the missiles. Use them to defend yourself. We will stand with you on the battlefield. We will stand with you in the court of public opinion, and we are going to push back against the United Nations, which is becoming more and more anti-Israeli. As dysfunctional as the Congress has been, this is one of our finer moments.

We are about to leave here soon with a lot of work undone, but let it be said that we did have the foresight and the ability and, quite frankly, the moral decency to end on a positive note.

You can say a lot about this Congress—and much criticism is deserved—but here is what you cannot say: We left Israel in the lurch. In a bipartisan manner we were there when they needed us the most.

To our friends in Israel: Stay as long as you need to stay. Do whatever you need to do.

To our friends in Palestine: We grieve when children are killed. There is no more innocent person on the planet than a child.

To the Palestinian people: Reject Hamas and seek peace. We are not your

enemy. We stand to help you, but you have to reject a terrorist organization that has the coldest and darkest of hearts, that would kill every Israeli child and put your children at risk. Reject this hateful ideology while you still can.

To our friends in Israel: There is more to come when it comes to standing by your side.

I thank both leaders of the Senate for rising to the occasion.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. I appreciate the words of my three friends.

Mr. President, there are times when partisanship does not exist. I hope everyone will note that last night when we couldn't get this cleared—I, we—there was no finger-pointing. I understand the person objected. He is a fine man. He is a man of principle. But I have faith in this institution and our sticking by our friend. So I am happy to be here today to be a part of this conclusion.

The situation in Israel is grave. We think this Iron Dome protects Israel. It protects a lot of Israel. But Israel does not have enough Iron Domes—plural—to protect them. They need more. But this will certainly be a step in the right direction.

Three thousand rockets have been fired in the last 2½, 3 weeks—3,000. But for this technology that was perfected by the Israelis, they would be in dire straits. There would be a war in the Middle East that we cannot imagine.

Let's be realistic. Are we going to benefit from what they have done? Of course we are. They are sharing this technology with us as we speak.

There was a cease-fire that lasted about 2½ hours. It is terribly unfortunate what is going on over there, but, as David Brooks said on "NewsHour"—this conservative columnist said he had never known of a conflict in history where one side says: Kill more of us. It is hard to comprehend. When the Israelis notify someone "there is going to be action taken in this building you are in; would you leave," the leadership in Gaza tells them to stay there, and unfortunately a lot of them do. This is something that is hard for me to comprehend, that something like this goes on.

That little country, that tiny little country is the only democracy in that whole area. That is it.

Netanyahu—if I were in Israel, I may have voted for someone else, but the Israeli people determine who leads that country. I don't know of a bond of friendship that we have or ever had in world history better than this one, and so I will stand by Israel. I will stand by Israel for a lot of personal reasons but certainly for political reasons, and I have no hesitation in declaring to the world that is how I feel.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Hearing no objection to the unanimous consent request, without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 3780) was agreed to, as follows:

Strike all after the first word, and insert: the following sum is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, namely:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
PROCUREMENT
PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for "Procurement, Defense-Wide", \$225,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, which shall be for the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Government of Israel for the procurement of the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats: *Provided*, That such funds shall be transferred immediately only through an exchange of letters to address emergent operations in support of Operation Protective Edge, notwithstanding section 3.1.3.2.1 of the U.S.-Israel Iron Dome Procurement Agreement: *Provided further*, That nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to apply to previously appropriated funds for the procurement of Iron Dome: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

This joint resolution may be cited as the "Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Resolution, 2014".

The joint resolution (H.J. Res. 76), as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

The amendment (No. 3781) was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill making an emergency supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, to provide funding to Israel for the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats."

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved and the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 2 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

Mr. REID. I note the absence of a quorum, please.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO MATT OLSEN

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to the Director of the National Counterterrorism Center Matt Olsen. Matt has announced his intention to leave his position later this year after serving as Director of NCTC for over 3 years. Matt is one of the best and brightest public servants with whom I have had the pleasure to work. I wish to take a couple of minutes to thank him for a job well done.

As vice chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, I have had the opportunity to work very closely with Matt, as he served in a number of key positions in the intelligence community. Regardless of his position, Matt has served with integrity and has provided sound, honest counsel, which has benefited not only me but numerous other Members of this body.

At NCTC Matt has overseen several key initiatives that have enhanced NCTC's ability to discover and prevent terrorist attacks, such as the Pursuit Group that was put in place after the failed attack on Northwest flight 253. Matt has been a strong advocate for NCTC's mission, striving to make sure NCTC has the right people and the right data to get the job done. He has done his part and has kept the Center acutely focused on terrorist threats to the homeland.

I am certainly glad I supported his nomination and can attest that Matt is a man of his word. Before joining NCTC, Matt served as the National Security Agency's general counsel and as an Associate Deputy Attorney General at the Department of Justice. Matt worked on several national security issues at DOJ but quickly became an expert on the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and its implementation. Matt has an excellent perspective of the role of surveillance and keeping this country safe, and I hope he will participate in the public debate on this issue even after his departure from government service.

I would like to say a special thanks to his wife Fern and his three children: Elizabeth, Nate, and Will. Matt has missed many nights and weekends with his family as the Director of NCTC and throughout his public service career. I am sure these sacrifices have been difficult at times, but our Nation is better for it. I know Matt has spent every day of his tenure as Director focusing on how best to neutralize the increasing threat posed by Al Qaeda and its affiliates.

Matt's family should be very proud of his outstanding achievements and his dedicated efforts to protect our national security. I understand Matt plans to return to teaching and spend some well-deserved free time with his family. His presence will be missed at NCTC as well as on the Hill. To Matt and his family, thanks again and best wishes for whatever the future holds.

I yield the floor and 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. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I intend to speak on a couple matters in morning business for 10 minutes.

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

ISRAEL

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, a couple things.

This is a very dark day for our friends in Israel. Apparently, earlier this morning, about an hour and a half after the agreed-upon cease-fire, an Israeli column of soldiers who were trying to decommission a terrorist tunnel, consistent with the terms of the cease-fire, were attacked by a suicide bomber that resulted in some Israeli casualties. That column also was hit by antitank missiles, and a group of Palestinian Hamas fighters engaged the column, resulting in the capture of one Israeli soldier.

For lack of a better way of explaining this, there was a cease-fire. Israel was acting consistent with the terms of the cease-fire, and this was a planned military operation to take advantage of the cease-fire. In the law of war this would be a great breach. At the end of the day Israel is a victim of a group of people called Hamas that lie, cheat, have everything in their being that most of us should condemn.

So what has the Senate done? This could be a very good day for the U.S.-Israeli relationship. To my Democratic and Republican colleagues in the Senate, you have risen to the occasion. I thank the majority leader Senator REID and the minority leader Senator MCCONNELL for bringing up Iron Dome funding. I thank all of my colleagues for allowing the funding to go forward. Senator COBURN was trying to find an offset. He is being consistent in trying to bring our fiscal house in order. He is a very principled man, but he understood the urgency of the matter in Israel and withdrew his objection last night.

To our friends in Israel, the Senate has acted in a unanimous fashion, bipartisan in nature, to appropriate \$225 million to resupply the missiles that you need to defend yourself under the Iron Dome Program. With the missiles comes a message. The message is we are with you. Take as long as you need. Go where you need to go to deal with this terrorist threat called Hamas.

To the Palestinian people, we are not your enemy. We hope one day you will reject Hamas and try to find a peaceful solution to your problems with your Israeli neighbors, and we stand ready to help in that regard.

The Palestinian Authority and Israel have a good working relationship when it comes to the West Bank. Hamas has been in charge of Gaza for several years now, and this cycle of violence repeats itself. You will have a cease-fire. You will have a lull in the violence. One year later you will fight Hamas again. They have fired over 15,000 rockets into Israel. In 2005 Israel withdrew from Gaza, giving land for peace. The land was given, the peace has been unattainable.

So the real root of the problem is Hamas. There is no moral equivalency here. Hamas is trying to kill every Israeli possible. They are firing missiles by the thousands indiscriminately into Israel. They could care less where they land. Thank God for the Iron Dome. The most heinous of all is they have put their own people in harm's way as human shields. As Israel tries to tell people to withdraw from an area because it is coming under attack, Hamas says: Ignore the leaflets. You go to that area.

There is a video where a hospital was occupied by Hamas fighters. Israel gave 2 days' notice to evacuate the hospital. When the hospital was destroyed militarily because it became a command center for Hamas, secondary explosions went on for quite a while. It was also an ammo dump.

So Hamas uses mosques, hospitals, apartment complexes. We found two instances of Hamas rockets being stored in U.N. schools. They are violating every known tenet of the law of war. They are using their own people as human shields in an unprecedented strategic manner.

As to the United Nations, you are about to run afoul of the Congress. The Human Rights Commission issued a resolution that had one sentence condemning the attacks on Israeli civilians. It never mentioned the word "Hamas." It basically accused Israel of being a war criminal.

It passed 27 to 1. We were the lone vote objecting to the resolution, which was so out of sync with reality, and several major nations abstained.

The United Nations is becoming more anti-Israeli as I speak. Anti-Semitism is spreading throughout the world, but let it be said that the Senate in a bipartisan fashion will have no part of this. The United Nations is a force that could be used for the good or it could be a force to make problems worse.

I consider myself, as a Republican, an internationalist. I believe in foreign assistance. I believe in helping people. I believe in leading the world, not having the world run us over. Ronald Reagan is a great role model from my point of view. He said: America makes history. That is our destiny. We shape history; we are not overrun by it. That does not mean we have to become the world's policeman or act as the Lone Ranger. It does mean we have to stay involved in the world. That is my point of view. But it is very hard to maintain that point of view when the United Nations, I believe, is being hijacked in such a fashion.

To the United Nations leadership: You are about to run afoul of the Congress, who wants to be part of the body that wants to shape the world for the better. By your constant condemning of Israel in a disproportionate manner to what is going on, on the ground in Gaza, beware of where you are taking this. To the Human Rights Commission: You have become a joke in the eyes of Congress.

The second thing I hope we can do is pass a resolution that was authored by myself and Senator MENENDEZ this morning. It is cleared on the Republican side. I think we are about there on the Democratic side.

So what have we done? Tactically, the Senate has acted in a fashion to resupply missiles to the Iron Dome Program that is literally under siege. Strategically, we have a partnership agreement pending before the Senate that reaffirms our relationship for years to come as a signal to Israel: Strategically, we will be your partner as far as the eye can see.

So that is pending before the Senate, and I hope we can clear it today. Today, of all days, would be a great time for us to make decisions that reinforce the military capability of the Israelis to defend themselves, recommit ourselves to a strategic partnership.

And the third thing we could do is lend our moral voices as a nation by condemning the attack of Hamas against the Israeli defense forces and the capturing of a soldier.

This resolution thoroughly points out the cease-fire breach by Hamas, the preplanned attack on the Israeli column during the cease-fire, the capturing of a soldier. We are condemning this activity as a breach of international law, and we are urging that Hamas return the IDF soldier.

This resolution would give the moral voice of our Nation and the Senate to the cause Israel faces. So if we could, in a dysfunctional Congress—and we deserve a lot of criticism, both parties are to blame—but if we could end the day speaking as one on something that is very important, the survival of our friends in Israel—not being anti-Palestinian but being pro-Israel and pro-peace and being anti-Hamas—I just wish and hope and pray the Palestinian people will reject Hamas and turn in a new direction because in that direction you will find peace and you will find America as a partner.

So let it be said the Senate, in the most turbulent political times, found its way when it came to supporting our friends in Israel by appropriating money to help their military which is under siege, by passing a strategic partnership agreement that reaffirms the relationship, and by lending our voice to what happened today in condemning, in no uncertain terms, the vicious attack and the breach of the cease-fire by Hamas.

If we could do those three things today, it would be the right message, it would send the right message at the right time, and it would solidify this relationship that is so important because the enemies of Israel are our enemies also. Radical Islam has the same desire to kill us and destroy our way of life as they do Israel. At the end of the day we have to understand our fates are tied together.

CRISIS ON THE BORDER

Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, the second issue I would like to talk about is my colleagues in the House are trying to find their way to pass legislation regarding the crisis on the border. They tried yesterday. They failed. They are back at it again.

I thank Speaker BOEHNER, from the Republican point of view, for not leaving town until we have a solution in a Republican-controlled House. It has been hard to find. It is an emotional issue. It is a difficult issue on many levels. The human suffering of the children—everybody is moved by that, as we should be. But we cannot incentivize these three countries in question to keep sending their children here, putting their children at risk, and overrunning our systems. That is not the way to deal with our neighbor.

So the House hopefully will pass legislation reforming the 2008 law that needs to be reformed to make children from Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, that region subject to the same laws as if you came from Mexico, and they are putting money aside to deal with the deportation problem and the humanitarian crisis.

If they can pass a solution to this problem, I am urging the majority leader of the Senate to bring us back in because we should not be gone for 5 weeks with something this important left unresolved. You may not agree with the House, but let's take up their proposal, amend it, vote on it, vote it up or vote it down, take the prior Democratic proposal, allow amendments to be had on both sides of the aisle, and see if we can find common ground on dealing with the border.

The President at one time embraced changes in the 2008 law. That has to be done or we will never solve the problem.

I do not mind spending money in a humanitarian fashion as long as we are spending money to solve the problem, not perpetuate it. So if the House can find its way in offering a solution to the border crisis, I am urging my Democratic colleagues who control this body to act. Let's not be gone for 5 weeks. Bring us all back. See if we can find a solution among ourselves in the Senate, talk to our colleagues in the House and solve the problem.

It is within our power to do so. I know we can get there. I know there are at least five or six Democrats who understand throwing money at the problem without changing the 2008 law gets you nowhere. There are plenty of people on our side who understand a humanitarian crisis does exist. Let's marry these forces and see if we can come up with a bipartisan compromise in the Senate.

The only way you can do that is to be allowed to offer amendments and debate. I cannot think of a problem more dramatic facing the Nation right now in terms of a crisis than what is happening on our border: 50,000 unaccompanied children, the spike in people

coming from Central America after President Obama unilaterally gave amnesty to children already here. No matter how well intentioned, it has created the belief in that part of the world that if you make it to America you can stay.

We want you to understand there is a legal way to get to America. Just do not show up on the doorstep and ask to be taken in. That is not a way for our Nation to have to deal with people wanting to come to this Nation. So I hope we will not be gone for 5 weeks with this problem unaddressed.

If the House can get its act together and pass a solution to the problem, it would be incumbent, in my view, upon the Senate to reconvene, deal with the House proposal, come up with one of our own, and engage the House to solve this problem. Five weeks is a very long time to be away from a problem this important.

As to the August break, contrary to what a lot of people may believe, we do not all go on vacation. We try to take some time for ourselves and our families. But it is a chance to go visit other parts of the world, to get informed on problems that can come here in terms of affecting our national security. Situations over there are going to come here if we do not deal with them responsibly. It is a chance to do things in your State. So people are very busy during August. They try to capture some time for themselves. But at the end of the day, 5 weeks is way too long to be absent from Washington as the crisis on the border gets worse. If the House can find a solution to this problem, I am urging the Democratic-controlled Senate to bring us back, take up their solution, vote it up, vote it down, bring back the Senate bill, allow it to be amended so we can find consensus. Consensus is there if we want to find it.

I appreciate the Presiding Officer's voice on national security. The Presiding Officer has been a stalwart friend of Israel in trying to find a way forward regarding the problems the Ukrainian people face. I hope we can find a solution to our border crisis. But a final thought as to Israel: Today could be a very good day for the U.S.-Israel relationship. It started in the Senate. I hope my House colleagues will pass the Iron Dome legislation that we passed by unanimous consent today. The House needs to get this done so the President can sign this into law.

To my colleagues in the House: Please take up Iron Dome. Let's get this right.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. I ask that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—
S. 2673

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, we all know that our ally Israel is in a fight for survival because a terrorist group, so named by the United States and Europe, is at war with Israel right now. We remember how it all started, with the kidnapping of three Israeli boys and the torture and the deaths, and Hamas praised that. Tragically, there was a revenge killing, and the Israeli Government arrested the Israelis responsible for that and they are going to face justice, while Hamas praises—praises—what happened.

Today I spoke to the Ambassador, and this is what I heard him say—and I haven't fact-checked this, but as I understand it there was a cease-fire in place, all sides agreed everything was clear. Israel was going to be allowed to clear out the tunnels which are being used to open to Hamas the country of Israel, where they go under the ground and they have one objective—to kill Israelis, to torture them, to kidnap them. No country—no country—could ever live with that, no country—not our country.

Imagine if we had 100 rockets a day coming from Mexico or Canada or from the sea, either side. We would never ever sit back for that. We would never sit back if under our great cities we had terrorists building tunnels so they could sneak in suicide bombers to kill our people.

Here we had a cease-fire, and I know the Secretary of State worked hard. Yet and still what happened, even though it was known that Israel was permitted to continue clearing out these tunnels, a suicide bomber blew himself up, killed Israeli soldiers and someone else grabbed and kidnapped—we think—we think—an Israeli soldier. We don't know all the facts on it. This must be condemned.

We have a bill, Senator BLUNT and I, and it has 81 cosponsors on it. It is the Israeli American strategic partnership act, and it will send a strong signal today that we stand with Israel. We want peace. We want justice. We want a good life for the Israelis and the Palestinian people. But you cannot do it when you have a terrorist organization running, in essence, the Gaza Strip.

In this bill Senator BLUNT and I have worked on, there is a visa waiver section, and I want to go over that because I fear we may have objections to this. I am hoping not, I still hope we won't, but in this visa waiver section it does three things: First, it expresses the sense of the Senate that Israel should be designated as a program country under the Visa Waiver Program.

Second, it urges United States engagement with Israel to help it meet the requirements of the waiver program; i.e., when Israelis come over

they pay attention to the time on their visas and they go back to their country when the time is up.

Third, it authorizes but doesn't require the administration to waive a nonimmigrant visa waiver requirement only if Israel meets all the other program requirements.

Here is what is important. There are 38 countries in the Visa Waiver Program. These countries represent some of America's closest allies. In fact, 20 of the current Visa Waiver Program countries are NATO allies. So I want to say clearly to my friend Senator SESSIONS and anyone within the sound of my voice that the provision I hope he will not object to today, the provision gives Israel, the strongest ally of the United States in the Middle East, a chance to join the program. As a member of the Visa Waiver Program, Israeli citizens, many of whom have families in America, would be allowed to visit the United States for up to 90 days without first obtaining a visa. This deepens the ties between our nations.

I want to read some of the countries that have these privileges: Lithuania, Latvia, Hungary, Slovakia, Estonia, the Czech Republic. I was proud to support them, but I am also proud to say that Israel deserves to be on that list. Why shouldn't they have the same opportunity?

When we first wrote our visa waiver provision, there were objections that we didn't have enough flexibility. We changed it and now we have 81 sponsors on this legislation. I would ask, how many pieces of legislation have 81 co-sponsors? You couldn't even get it for a Mother's Day resolution. I mean this is strong. And of all the times for us to object to this United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act, it should not be today.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 492, S. 2673; that the bill be read a third time and passed; and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SESSIONS. Reserving my right to object, I appreciate Senator BOXER's leadership on this issue. She is a great advocate and a strong supporter of Israel, as I am, and have been consistently since I have been in the Senate.

I would note for the Senator that the expansion of this program has been problematic for some time. I have been involved with the Visa Waiver Program for quite a number of years. So my concern is not based on Israel, it is based on trying to maintain consistency and effectiveness of the program.

It is not a program that I think is operating effectively. Congress has declared that no more waivers be granted until after this biometric exit system has been completed. I believe our House colleagues are considering a bill

that is very similar to what Senator BOXER and others are supporting but it does not include this provision.

Based on that, I am not able to support this amendment and would object.

Mr. President, if the Senator would allow me, I would say let's pass a bill without that provision in it. Let's get that done today, and I will commit to further research and digging into this to see if there is any legitimate way based on law and consistency and the integrity of the visa waiver system that I could support it. It might be. Israel is an educated country. We have a lot of people who travel back and forth between our countries. It is just so far the State Department has not approved it. The House does not have it in their bill, and I and the Members of the Judiciary Committee who have dealt with these issues for quite a number of years—I have resisted the expansion of this program contrary to the law and State Department policy. Regretfully I have objected.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from California.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I won't be long, but I am so disappointed. I know my friend wants to be helpful, but I have to say that the visa waiver section—I am not being stubborn about this—all it does is it says that Israel should have the same privileges as Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and the Czech Republic.

Of all the days to say no to this bill, with what is going on over there. It hurts my heart. It breaks my heart, because this bill authorizes \$200 million in the value of U.S. weapons sales in Israel to a total of \$1.8 billion. It is a stockpile that is intended to be used by U.S. forces, but in event of emergency, Israel can tap that. And, my God, this is an emergency. It is so critical. In fact, just last week the United States provided Israel with ammunition from the stockpile after Israel requested help to replace its depleted supplies.

We shouldn't be waiting another hour to pass this, and here we are as the clock ticks down and we go off on our break and as my friend knows, this bill doesn't cost one slim dime—not one slim dime—not one penny. It is such a signal to Israel that we stand with her.

It also has an energy section where we help Israel develop her natural gas supplies to become energy independent. It is so sad for me today.

Last night Senator CORKER had an objection. He cleared it. He and I had a real go-to on it. I know we had a bit of a misunderstanding. He backed off. I am so appreciative. Then Senator COBURN had a problem, and he backed off and he said, "No, I kind of like this section." Then Senator LEE had a problem and Senator COBURN talked to Senator LEE and Senator LEE was fine.

We have 81 people on this bill, and 1 Senator this afternoon is holding it hostage because he doesn't like the program. Well, we can all work together on the program, but why single

out Israel because you don't like the program? Let this go.

We can have a colloquy. We can work together, Senator SESSIONS. We can make sure there is no abuse here. We changed this so we would be sure there is no abuse.

I am very saddened at this, and all I can say is that Senator BLUNT and I are coming back with this bill over and over and over again, and one way or the other we will get it done.

I say to my friends in Israel: Take heart. Eighty-one of our Senators are with you on this bill, and only a handful haven't even gone on, and only one—only one—objected. So take heart, because we are with you and we will get this done.

Mr. President, that is the end of my remarks, and I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. REID). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, if it would be more convenient for you to come to the desk, I am happy to sit in the Chair.

Since the Presiding Officer can't answer my question, I will note 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. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. BOXER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES RELATING TO CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES INTENDED TO AFFECT ELECTIONS—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Mr. REID. Madam President, is the motion to proceed to S.J. Res. 19 now pending?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to proceed is pending.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, I have a cloture motion that I ask be reported.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 471, S.J. Res. 19, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to

the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

Harry Reid, Patrick J. Leahy, Tom Udall, Debbie Stabenow, Christopher Murphy, Christopher A. Coons, Charles E. Schumer, John D. Rockefeller IV, Maria Cantwell, Patty Murray, Dianne Feinstein, Bill Nelson, Tom Harkin, Richard J. Durbin, Sheldon Whitehouse, Al Franken, Amy Klobuchar.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed occur on Monday, September 8, when the Senate resumes legislative session following confirmation of the Pryor nomination.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

BORDER CRISIS

Mr. CARPER. Madam President, I wish to express my bitter disappointment in the Senate for refusing to move forward with the President's request for emergency funding to deal with the humanitarian crisis we are facing on our southern border with Texas.

Ordinary working people do not close up shop with urgent work still undone, and neither should we. There is plenty of blame to go around; as I speak, there is a strong chance the House will leave town without taking action on this crisis either. The administration has asked for money, but has yet to speak clearly on what changes it needs in the law governing how we handle child migrants at the border.

As we all know, over the past several months, our Nation has experienced an unprecedented surge in migration from three countries: El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras. People from these countries are fleeing desperate, violent conditions and a large number of them are families, and unaccompanied children—some as young as 4 years old.

The President and Department of Homeland Secretary, DHS, Johnson responded with an all-hands-on-deck effort. The Federal Emergency Management Administration, FEMA, is coordinating the response to the problem. The Department of Defense is providing emergency beds for unaccompanied minors. Immigration and Customs Enforcement has greatly expanded its ability to detain and remove families. We have surged Border Patrol agents, immigration judges, and other

personnel to the border to help process people.

These measures have been working. For example, the amount of time people are detained before they are removed has decreased from over a month to as little as 4 days in recent weeks. Migrant children who were languishing in crowded border patrol stations are being screened and relocated more quickly. But these emergency measures are expensive, and none of the Federal agencies involved have the money they need to sustain the aggressive steps they are taking to deal with this situation. In fact, many agencies have indicated that they will run out of money in a matter of weeks without action—some even in a few days.

So last week, Senator MIKULSKI introduced a bill that would provide \$2.7 billion in order to address the situation and ensure that the agencies charged with securing our borders do not run out of money this summer. More importantly, it would also address some of the underlying root causes of the problem we face.

But here we are, the day before Congress leaves town, and what have we done to address this crisis? The answer is nothing.

The consequences of our inaction will be severe. Let me give you some examples of what will happen if Congress continues to do nothing.

Families apprehended at the border will be released. Why? Because Immigration and Customs Enforcement does not have the money to add the 3,000 detention beds it needs to house families until they can be returned to their countries;

Undocumented migrants scheduled to be deported will stay here. Why? Because ICE won't have the money for transportation.

People currently being detained will have to be released. Why? Because ICE will have to reduce its detention population.

Undocumented immigrants waiting for their immigration court cases to be heard will have to wait longer. Why? Because we are not adding the 40 immigration court judges that the administration requested.

We also will not be able to hire the 82 immigration prosecutors and 100 repatriation personnel that DHS was planning to hire in August. Why? Because we will not be able to afford them.

Health and Human Services will have to cut back on the number of children it can house. This means that children will have to stay at Border Patrol stations longer and agents will be forced to care for children instead of patrolling the border. Why? Because Health and Human Services will not have the money it needs.

I am frankly stunned that we here in Congress do not have a sense of urgency to pass this bill and make sure that this does not happen. I guess my colleagues believe that we can just move money around in order to patch the holes in these agencies' budgets. We are robbing Peter to pay Paul.

Because of Congress' inaction, the administration will be forced to ask for an emergency reprogramming to get the agencies through August. But this reprogramming will also have severe consequences—consequences that I do not think many of our colleagues seem to understand.

Our border security will be reduced. Why? Because CBP will have to cut back on aerial support for Border Patrol agents on the border. When I was in Texas and Arizona last year, I heard frontline agents say again and again that aerial support was the single most important force multiplier that they had available to help them secure the border.

People and commerce trying to get into this country will be forced to longer delays and intrusive screenings at our ports of entry. Why? Because CBP will have to take money that was going to be used to fund sophisticated scanning equipment to pay for caring for unaccompanied children at the border.

The Coast Guard will have to stop doing maintenance on many of our Coast Guard vessels. Why? Because the Coast Guard's funds will be shifted.

FEMA will have less money for disaster response just as folks in coastal states, like Delaware, are gearing up for the height of hurricane season. Why? Because DHS will have to raid its Disaster Relief Fund in order to make ends meet.

This is no way to respond to a crisis—a crisis—that we have been talking and talking and talking about here in the Senate for months!

Finally—and in my mind, most incredibly—we will leave here without doing anything to address the underlying factors that explain why this surge is happening in the first place. The President and Senator MIKULSKI included \$300 million in the supplemental package to address what I believe to be the root causes of this surge: the lack of economic opportunities, jobs, and hope in Central America, combined with increasing violence and insecurity in the region. Make no mistake about it, these funds are an emergency.

I am not suggesting that any of this will be a quick or easy fix. It will require a sustained investment—and focus—on the region by the U.S. and also by a number of others. But if we turn our backs on these countries now, I am convinced that we will be back here again 10 years from now dealing with another expensive humanitarian crisis on our border.

But today, we are left empty-handed, and all by our own doing. Again, we have been seeing this humanitarian crisis play out for months now. We have heard the heartbreaking stories of the Central American children and families arriving at our borders.

I believe that we have a moral imperative here to address this crisis with a humane response and one that honors our obligations under U.S. and international law—and is consistent with the

admonition that we should love our neighbors as we love ourselves while taking care of the least of these in society.

We have not even come close to meeting the moral imperative and I am deeply disappointed.

Over the next few weeks and into September, I urge my colleagues in both Chambers to think about “the least of these” that we have left behind today and to work harder to come together and find a compromise to this challenge. I also urge the administration to speak more clearly about what it needs, and to work with us to find a path to get it done.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mrs. HAGAN. Madam President, I was necessarily absent from the Senate on July 31, 2014.

I missed rollcall votes in relation to the motion to waive the Budget Act with respect to S. 2648, the motion to waive the Budget Act with respect to H.R. 3230, adoption of the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 3230, the motion to recede from the Senate amendment to H.R. 5021, and the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jill Pryor, of Georgia, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

Had I been present, I would have voted against the motion to waive the Budget Act with respect to S. 2648. I would have voted in favor of the motion to waive the Budget Act with respect to H.R. 3230, adoption of the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 3230, the motion to recede from the Senate amendment to H.R. 5021, and the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Jill Pryor, of Georgia, to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Eleventh Circuit.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM V. HUFFMAN

• Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing William “Bill” Huffman, the director of Government Relations for Farmers’ Rice Cooperative, who is retiring after a distinguished career that has spanned more than five decades.

Bill Huffman’s roots to rice date back to his childhood. He was raised on his family’s rice farm in Gridley, located in the heart of California’s rice country the Sacramento Valley. Bill later attended Humboldt State University and graduated with a degree in radio/television before going to work for a Sacramento radio station as a farm broadcaster.

Following his career in broadcasting, Bill worked in the government, agricultural, and financial sectors and then joined Farmers’ Rice Cooperative, California’s largest rice marketing firm, representing more than 700 rice growers.

During his 30-year career with Farmers’ Rice, Bill promoted one of the Golden State’s most important crops with pride and skill, advocating for important public policy issues on behalf of California’s rice industry. Each week, growers could depend upon his summary of important local, State, and Federal news impacting the rice industry in “Bill Huffman’s News of the Week” blog. In addition to tirelessly representing Northern California’s rice growers, Bill also helped lead disaster relief efforts to donate rice overseas following the tragic 2004 tsunami in Southeast Asia. In recognition of all of his outstanding accomplishments, Bill was awarded the California Rice Industry Award by the California Cooperative Rice Research Foundation in 2009.

I had the pleasure getting to know Bill well during his time with Farmers’ Rice Cooperative. We worked together to promote California’s high-quality rice, protect important conservation programs, and encourage sustainable rice farming. Bill has been a strong voice for our rice growers, and I wish my friend the best as he enjoys a well-deserved retirement with his wife Sheila, their four children, and three grandchildren.

Thank you.●

REMEMBERING JOHN VASCONCELLOS

• Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of John Vasconcellos, a giant in California politics and government who died on May 24 at the age of 82. John made the personal political and took politics personally. He was a compassionate and caring human being who brought all of his humanity to the job of governance.

John Bernard Vasconcellos, Jr., was born in San Jose, CA in 1932. After graduating with high honors from Bellarmine College Preparatory and Santa Clara University, John spent 2 years in the Army before returning to Santa Clara for law school, where he again graduated at the top of his class.

John became interested in politics while serving on Governor Pat Brown’s reelection campaign staff during Brown’s epic 1962 race against Richard Nixon.

In 1966, John was elected to the California State Assembly, beginning a record 38 years of uninterrupted service in the Legislature.

In the assembly, John was known for his visionary idealism, brilliant intellect, and tough pragmatism. His mastery of budget issues led to his chairmanship of the powerful Ways and Means Committee, where he championed State investment in education. His deep interest in psychology led to the establishment of the California Task Force to Promote Self-Esteem and Personal and Social Responsibility.

When term limits forced John to leave the assembly in 1996, he was

elected to the State senate. As chair of the senate committees on education and aging, he championed new investments in K-12, higher education and long-term care while winning bipartisan praise for his careful fiscal stewardship.

In 2004, term limits ended John’s legislative career, but he did not retire. Joining with a group of friends and supporters, he established the Vasconcellos Legacy Project, VLP, an organization “dedicated to the proposition that positive political change is possible, especially because we human beings are innately inclined toward the good.” Through research and advocacy, the VLP has sought to overcome political polarization and cynicism to create a new “Politics of Trust.”

Throughout his long and distinguished life in politics, John Vasconcellos demanded expected the best from himself, his colleagues, and our democracy. He was one of a kind, and he will be truly missed. I extend my deepest condolences to his loving extended family and many friends and admirers.●

REMEMBERING THEODORE VAN KIRK

• Mr. CASEY. Madam President, Theodore ‘Dutch’ Van Kirk died on July 28, 2014, at the age of 93. A native of Northumberland, PA, he served his country with distinction during a difficult time for our Nation and the world. I ask that the following story from the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, July 30, 2014]

OBITUARY: THEODORE “DUTCH” VAN KIRK/ WWII AIRMAN WHOSE CREW DROPPED ATOMIC BOMB ON JAPAN, FEB. 27, 1921–JULY 28, 2014

(By Joe Smydo)

At first, Theodore “Dutch” VanKirk and the other airmen aboard the Enola Gay feared the atomic bomb they had dropped on Japan was a dud.

But after what seemed like an interminable wait, “there was a bright flash in the air,” Mr. VanKirk recounted in a 2012 book. The B-29 rocked from the shock waves, a white mushroom cloud shot into the sky, and the devastation became clear even from the crew’s vantage point thousands of feet in the air.

“The ground was covered with thick black smoke and dust and dirt,” he said. “It looked like a pot of boiling black oil covering practically the entire city of Hiroshima.”

Mr. VanKirk, 93, a Northumberland, Pa., native and the last surviving member of the crew that dropped the atomic bomb on Hiroshima on Aug. 6, 1945, a secret mission credited with bringing World War II to an end, died Monday in suburban Atlanta. He had experienced vascular difficulties.

Thomas VanKirk of Mt. Lebanon said his father was handpicked by the Enola Gay’s pilot, Paul Tibbets, to serve as navigator on the bombing run. The two had met and served together in England years earlier.

After the war, Mr. VanKirk received bachelor’s and master’s degrees in chemical engineering from Bucknell University and was

posted all over the country during a 35-year career with DuPont.

"Most importantly, he was an outstanding father," Thomas VanKirk, Highmark's chief legal officer, said.

The decision to use the atomic bomb on Japan—another B-29, the Bockscar, bombed Nagasaki three days after Hiroshima—remains controversial because of the lives lost.

However, Donald Goldstein, a military historian, former Air Force officer and retired University of Pittsburgh professor, said the bombings hastened the war's end and spared many other lives that would have been lost during an invasion of Japan.

He said the prevailing sentiment among U.S. military personnel at the time was, "Thank God for the bomb." Mr. Goldstein said bringing the war to a rapid close also helped to forestall Soviet geopolitical ambitions in Japan.

Thomas VanKirk said he initially learned about his father's exploits through newspaper clippings he found during a childhood exploration of his grandmother's attic. In 1995, father and son stood together during the unveiling of an Enola Gay exhibit at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum.

"He had no regrets about dropping the bomb. He believed it was necessary," said Youngstown, N.Y., historian Suzanne Simon Dietz, whose book about Mr. VanKirk, "My True Course," relies on his letters and memoirs.

In 2005, Mr. VanKirk told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, "I just had a job to do." But others considered him a hero and his death a reminder of the passing of the WWII generation.

"A son of Pennsylvania, Theodore 'Dutch' VanKirk helped to save the world from tyranny and then returned home to live the quiet life of a citizen." Gov. Tom Corbett said in a statement. Mr. Corbett said he and his wife, Susan, "send our heartfelt sympathies to his family and the thanks of a grateful state for his service to the cause of freedom."

Mr. VanKirk was born Feb. 27, 1921. He graduated from Northumberland High School, briefly attended Susquehanna University and joined the Army Air Forces cadet program in fall 1941—before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, his son said, because he knew the war was coming and wanted to choose his method of service.

Posted to Europe, he served aboard a B-17 bomber, the Red Gremlin, with Mr. Tibbets and bombardier Thomas Ferebee, who also would be part of the Enola Gay crew for the Hiroshima bombing. After nearly 60 bombing runs over Europe and a special mission ferrying Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, Mr. VanKirk returned to the United States and married his high school sweetheart, Mary Jane Young, who died in 1975.

In 1944, at Mr. Tibbets' request, he joined a special group, stationed in Utah, that was preparing for use of the atomic bomb. Mr. VanKirk told his story many times over the years and, Thomas VanKirk said, was still fit enough early this summer to go on a family beach vacation.

Also surviving are another son, Larry VanKirk of Charlotte, N.C.; two daughters, Vicki Triplett of Atlanta and Joanne Gotelli of Sacramento, Calif.; seven grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:41 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 935. An act to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 1:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 3230. An act to improve the access of veterans to medical services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5021. An act to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. REID).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 935. An act to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2772. A bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

S. 2773. A bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, for border security, law enforcement, humanitarian assistance, and for other purposes.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 594. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act relating to Federal research on muscular dystrophy, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 2774. A bill to require all recreational vessels to have and to post passenger capacity limits and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 2775. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt aircraft management services from the ticket tax; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WALSH:

S. 2776. A bill to establish a Carbon Capture and Sequestration Deployment Accel-

eration Fund to promote the establishment of not fewer than 10 commercial-scale carbon capture and sequestration units in the United States during the next 10 years, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MORAN, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. HELLER):

S. Res. 536. A resolution designating September 2014 as "National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 537. A resolution reaffirming support for Israel's right to defend its citizens and ensure the survival of the State of Israel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 654

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 654, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 727

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. WALSH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 727, a bill to improve the examination of depository institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 1507

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1507, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the treatment of general welfare benefits provided by Indian tribes.

S. 2100

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2100, a bill to promote the use of clean cookstoves and fuels to save lives, improve livelihoods, empower women, and protect the environment by creating a thriving global market for clean and efficient household cooking solutions.

S. 2194

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2194, a bill to improve the Federal Pell Grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 2483

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2483, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect more victims of domestic violence by preventing their abusers from possessing or receiving firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 2593

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2593, a bill to amend the FLAME Act of 2009 to provide for additional wildfire suppression activities, to provide for the conduct of certain forest treatment projects, and for other purposes.

S. 2621

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2621, a bill to amend the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act to increase the price of Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps to fund the acquisition of conservation easements for migratory birds, and for other purposes.

S. 2649

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2649, a bill to provide certain legal relief from politically motivated charges by the Government of Egypt.

S. 2685

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2685, a bill to reform the authorities of the Federal Government to require the production of certain business records, conduct electronic surveillance, use pen registers and trap and trace devices, and use other forms of information gathering for foreign intelligence, counterterrorism, and criminal purposes, and for other purposes.

S. 2692

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2692, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to combat campus sexual violence, and for other purposes.

S. 2766

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2766, a bill to combat terrorism and promote reform in the Palestinian Authority and the United Nations, and for other purposes.

S. 2768

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2768, a bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to expand the use of categorical exclusions for hazardous fuel reduction projects.

S. RES. 525

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 525, a resolution designating July

30, 2014, as "National Whistleblower Appreciation Day".

S. RES. 526

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 526, a resolution supporting Israel's right to defend itself against Hamas, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 530

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 530, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the current situation in Iraq and the urgent need to protect religious minorities from persecution from the Sunni Islamist insurgent and terrorist group the Islamic State, formerly known as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), as it expands its control over areas in northwestern Iraq.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 536—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2014 AS "NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MORAN, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. HELLER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 536

Whereas ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all gynecologic cancers;

Whereas ovarian cancer is the 5th leading cause of cancer deaths among women in the United States;

Whereas, in 2014, approximately 21,980 new cases of ovarian cancer will be diagnosed, and 14,270 women will die of ovarian cancer in the United States;

Whereas the mortality rate for ovarian cancer has not significantly decreased since the "War on Cancer" was declared more than 40 years ago;

Whereas 25 percent of women will die within 1 year of diagnosis with ovarian cancer and over 50 percent will die within 5 years;

Whereas while there is the mammogram to detect breast cancer and the Pap smear to detect cervical cancer, there is no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer;

Whereas the lack of an early detection test means that approximately 80 percent of cases of ovarian cancer are detected at an advanced stage;

Whereas all women are at risk for ovarian cancer, and approximately 15 percent of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer have a family history of ovarian cancer, which places them at even higher risk;

Whereas scientists and physicians have uncovered changes in the BRCA genes that some women inherit from their parents, which may make them 30 times more likely to develop ovarian cancer;

Whereas the family history of a woman has been found to play an important role in accurately assessing that woman's risk of developing ovarian cancer and medical experts believe that family history should be taken into consideration during a woman's annual well woman visit;

Whereas many experts in health prevention now recommends genetic testing for young women with a family history of breast and ovarian cancer;

Whereas women who know they are at high risk of breast and ovarian cancer may undertake prophylactic measures to help reduce the risk of developing these diseases;

Whereas the Society of Gynecologic Oncology now recommends that all women diagnosed with ovarian cancer receive counseling and genetic testing;

Whereas many people are unaware that the symptoms of ovarian cancer often include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms, and several other symptoms that are easily confused with other diseases;

Whereas awareness of the symptoms of ovarian cancer by women and health care providers can lead to a quicker diagnosis;

Whereas, in June 2007, the first national consensus statement on ovarian cancer symptoms was developed to provide consistency in describing symptoms to make it easier for women to learn and remember the symptoms; and

Whereas each year during the month of September, the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance and partner members hold a number of events to increase public awareness of ovarian cancer: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2014 as "National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month"; and

(2) supports the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 537—RE-AFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO DEFEND ITS CITIZENS AND ENSURE THE SURVIVAL OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 537

Whereas, on July 17, 2014, the Senate unanimously passed a resolution supporting Israel's right to defend its citizens and ensure the survival of the State of Israel, condemning the actions of Hamas, and calling for the President of the Palestinian Authority to dissolve the unity government arrangement with Hamas;

Whereas, on July 29, 2014, the Senate unanimously passed a resolution condemning Hamas's terrorist actions and use of civilians as human shields and condemning the United Nations Human Right Council's resolution of July 23, 2014;

Whereas, since June 2014, Hamas has fired over 2,500 rockets at Israel;

Whereas Hamas has used a system of tunnels to smuggle weapons and launch attacks on Israel;

Whereas 5,000,000 innocent Israeli civilians are currently living under the threat of indiscriminate rocket attacks from Gaza;

Whereas, since ground operations in Gaza began, the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) have discovered more than 30 tunnels to only provide access to Israeli territory to attack and kidnap Israelis;

Whereas Israel has accepted and implemented numerous ceasefire agreements that Hamas has rejected;

Whereas, on July 26, 2014, Hamas continued to fire rockets into Israel during a 24-hour truce that Hamas had itself proposed;

Whereas Israel embraced the Egyptian-proposed ceasefire agreement, which Hamas resoundingly rejected on July 27, 2014;

Whereas, on August 1, 2014, 90 minutes into a humanitarian ceasefire, Hamas violated a

ceasefire to use one of these tunnels to conduct a suicide attack, killing two Israeli soldiers and kidnapping 2nd Lt. Hadar Goldin, an IDF soldier;

Whereas Israel has a right to defend itself from Hamas's constant barrage of rockets and to destroy the matrix of tunnels Hamas uses to smuggle weapons and Hamas fighters into Israel to carry out terrorist attacks;

Whereas the Government of Israel has taken significant steps to protect civilians in Gaza, including dropping leaflets in Gaza neighborhoods in advance of Israeli military attacks, calling Palestinians on the phone urging them to evacuate certain areas before the military strikes targets, and issuing warnings to civilians in advance of firing on buildings;

Whereas Hamas uses civilians in Gaza as human shields by placing missile launchers next to schools, hospitals, mosques, and private homes;

Whereas Hamas' interior ministry has called on residents of Gaza to ignore IDF warnings to get out of harm's way; and

Whereas any effort to broker a ceasefire agreement that does not eliminate those threats cannot be sustained in the long run and will leave Israel vulnerable to future attacks: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms its support for Israel's right to defend its citizens and ensure the survival of the State of Israel;

(2) condemns Hamas' repeated violation of humanitarian cease fires and its use of suicide bombings;

(3) demands Hamas return the IDF soldier kidnapped on August 1, 2014;

(4) calls on the United Nations Secretary General to immediately condemn all terrorist attacks by Hamas on Israel;

(5) reiterates its call on Hamas to stop using residents of Gaza as human shields;

(6) urges the international community to condemn the unprovoked rocket fire at Israel;

(7) calls on the Palestinian people to reject Hamas and its hateful ideology and to seek peace; and

(8) recognizes that the Government of Israel must be allowed to take actions necessary to remove the present and future threats posed by Hamas' rockets and tunnels and supports the Government of Israel's efforts to deal with the threats posed by Hamas rockets and tunnels.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3780. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HELLER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. NELSON) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 76, making an emergency supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, to provide funding to Israel for the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats.

SA 3781. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Ms. MIKULSKI) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 76, *supra*.

SA 3782. Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3780. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HELLER, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. NELSON) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 76, making an emergency supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, to provide funding to Israel for the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats; as follows:

Strike all after the first word, and insert: the following sum is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes, namely:

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROCUREMENT PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for "Procurement, Defense-Wide", \$225,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2015, which shall be for the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Government of Israel for the procurement of the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats: *Provided*, That such funds shall be transferred immediately only through an exchange of letters to address emergent operations in support of Operation Protective Edge, notwithstanding section 3.1.3.2.1 of the U.S.-Israel Iron Dome Procurement Agreement: *Provided further*, That nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to apply to previously appropriated funds for the procurement of Iron Dome: *Provided further*, That such amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

This joint resolution may be cited as the "Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Resolution, 2014".

SA 3781. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Ms. MIKULSKI) proposed an amendment to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 76, making an emergency supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, to provide funding to Israel for the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill making an emergency supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, to provide funding to Israel for the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats."

SA 3782. Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mr. BLUNT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 650, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

TITLE XVIII—UNITED STATES—ISRAEL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

SEC. 1801. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "United States-Israel Strategic Partnership Act of 2014".

SEC. 1802. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The people and the Governments of the United States and of Israel share a deep and unbreakable bond, forged by over 60 years of shared interests and shared values.

(2) Today, the people and Governments of the United States and of Israel are facing a dynamic and rapidly changing security environment in the Middle East and North Africa, necessitating deeper cooperation on a range of defense, security, and intelligence matters.

(3) From Gaza, Hamas continues to deny Israel's right to exist and persists in firing rockets indiscriminately at population centers in Israel.

(4) Hezbollah—with support from Iran—continues to stockpile rockets and may be seeking to exploit the tragic and volatile security situation within Syria.

(5) The Government of Iran continues to pose a grave threat to the region and the world at large with its reckless pursuit of nuclear weapons.

(6) Given these challenges, it is imperative that the United States continues to deepen cooperation with allies like Israel in pursuit of shared policy objectives.

SEC. 1803. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States—

(1) to reaffirm the unwavering support of the people and the Government of the United States for the security of Israel as a Jewish state;

(2) to reaffirm the principles and objectives enshrined in the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-150) and ensure its implementation to the fullest extent;

(3) to reaffirm the importance of the 2007 United States-Israel Memorandum of Understanding on United States assistance to Israel and the semi-annual Strategic Dialogue between the United States and Israel;

(4) to pursue every opportunity to deepen cooperation with Israel on a range of critical issues including defense, homeland security, energy, and cybersecurity;

(5) to continue to provide Israel with robust security assistance, including for the procurement of the Iron Dome Missile Defense System; and

(6) to support the Government of Israel in its ongoing efforts to reach a negotiated political settlement with the Palestinian people that results in two states living side-by-side in peace and security.

SEC. 1804. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON ISRAEL AS A MAJOR STRATEGIC PARTNER.

It is the sense of Congress that Israel is a major strategic partner of the United States.

SEC. 1805. EXTENSION OF WAR RESERVES STOCKPILE AUTHORITY.

(a) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005.—Section 12001(d) of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-287; 118 Stat. 1011) is amended by striking "more than 10 years after" and inserting "more than 11 years after".

(b) FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.—Section 514(b)(2)(A) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321h(b)(2)(A)) is amended by striking "and 2014" and inserting ", 2014, and 2015".

SEC. 1806. ELIGIBILITY OF ISRAEL FOR THE STRATEGIC TRADE AUTHORIZATION EXCEPTION TO CERTAIN EXPORT CONTROL LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that Israel—

(1) has adopted high standards in the field of export controls;

(2) has declared its unilateral adherence to the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Australia Group, and the Nuclear Suppliers Group; and

(3) is a party to—

(A) the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons which may be Deemed to be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, signed at Geneva October 10, 1980;

(B) the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva June 17, 1925; and

(C) the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, adopted at Vienna on October 26, 1979.

(b) **ELIGIBILITY FOR STRATEGIC TRADE AUTHORIZATION EXCEPTION.**—The President, consistent with the commitments of the United States under international arrangements, shall take steps so that Israel may be included in the list of countries eligible for the strategic trade authorization exception under section 740.20(c)(1) of title 15, Code of Federal Regulations, to the requirement for a license for the export, reexport, or in-country transfer of an item subject to controls under the Export Administration Regulations.

SEC. 1807. UNITED STATES-ISRAEL COOPERATION ON ENERGY, WATER, HOMELAND SECURITY, AGRICULTURE, AND ALTERNATIVE FUEL TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President is authorized, subject to existing law—

(1) to undertake activities in cooperation with Israel; and

(2) to provide assistance promoting cooperation in the fields of energy, water, agriculture, and alternative fuel technologies.

(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—In carrying out subsection (a), the President is authorized, subject to existing requirements of law and any applicable agreements or understandings between the United States and Israel—

(1) to share and exchange with Israel research, technology, intelligence, information, equipment, and personnel, including through sales, leases, or exchanges in kind, that the President determines will advance the national security interests of the United States and are consistent with the Strategic Dialogue and pertinent provisions of law; and

(2) to enhance scientific cooperation between Israel and the United States.

(c) **COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PILOT PROGRAMS.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Director of the Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency and with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, is authorized, subject to existing law, to enter into cooperative research pilot programs with Israel to enhance Israel's capabilities in—

- (1) border, maritime, and aviation security;
- (2) explosives detection; and
- (3) emergency services.

SEC. 1808. REPORT ON INCREASED UNITED STATES-ISRAEL COOPERATION ON CYBERSECURITY.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress a report, in a classified format or including a classified annex, as appropriate, on the feasibility and advisability of expanding United States-Israeli cooperation on cyber issues, including sharing and advancing technologies related to the prevention of cybercrimes.

SEC. 1809. VISA WAIVER PROGRAM.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the Sense of Congress that the Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State, should designate the State of Israel as a program country under the Visa Waiver Program when the Government of Israel—

(1) is in compliance with all the requirements of the program specified in section 217 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187), except for the low non-immigrant visa refusal rate requirement under subsection (c)(2)(A) of such section; and

(2) has met the conditions for a waiver of such requirement set forth in subsection (c).

(b) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State, should take steps to engage with representatives of the Government of Israel on—

(1) the extent to which Israel satisfies the requirements specified in section 217 of such Act for inclusion in the Visa Waiver Program;

(2) additional steps that may be required in order for Israel to qualify for consideration for inclusion in such program.

(c) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of State, is authorized to waive the low non-immigrant visa refusal rate requirements under paragraphs (2)(A) and (3)(B) of section 217(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187(c)) for the State of Israel if—

(1) the Government of Israel has complied with all other requirements of the Visa Waiver Program, including extending the reciprocal privileges described in section 217(a)(2)(A) of such Act to citizens and nationals of the United States without regard to the race, religion, national origin, or ethnicity of any such citizen or national;

(2) the percentage of nationals of Israel who were refused a nonimmigrant visitor visa during the previous fiscal year is not more than 10 percent of the total number of nonimmigrant visitor visas for nationals of Israel which were granted or refused during that fiscal year.

(d) **SAVINGS PROVISION.**—Nothing in this section may be construed to exempt the State of Israel from all requirements to which other program countries are subject under section 217 of the Immigration and Nationality Act except for requirements relating to low nonimmigrant visa refusal rates under paragraphs (2)(A) and (3)(B) of section 217(c) of such Act.

SEC. 1810. STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 4 OF THE UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ENHANCED SECURITY COOPERATION ACT OF 2012.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall, to the extent practicable and in an appropriate manner, provide an update to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate, and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives on current and future efforts undertaken by the President to fulfill the objectives of section 4 of the United States-Israel Enhanced Security Cooperation Act (22 U.S.C. 8603).

SEC. 1811. IMPROVED REPORTING ON ENHANCING ISRAEL'S QUALITATIVE MILITARY EDGE AND SECURITY POSTURE.

(a) **BIENNIAL ASSESSMENT REEVALUATIONS.**—Section 201(c) of the Naval Vessel Transfer Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 2776 note) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(3) **BIENNIAL UPDATES.**—Two years after the date on which each quadrennial report is transmitted to Congress, the President shall—

“(A) reevaluate the assessment required under subsection (a); and

“(B) inform and consult with the appropriate congressional committees on the results of the reevaluation conducted pursuant to subparagraph (A).”.

(b) **CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR MAJOR DEFENSE EQUIPMENT.**—Section 36(h) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2776(h)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) **REQUIREMENTS WITH RESPECT TO DETERMINATION FOR MAJOR DEFENSE EQUIPMENT.**—A determination under paragraph (1) relating to the sale or export of major defense equipment shall include—

“(A) a detailed explanation of Israel's capacity to address the improved capabilities provided by such sale or export;

“(B) a detailed evaluation of—

“(i) how such sale or export alters the strategic and tactical balance in the region, including relative capabilities; and

“(ii) Israel's capacity to respond to the improved regional capabilities provided by such sale or export;

“(C) an identification of any specific new capacity, capabilities, or training that Israel may require to address the regional or country-specific capabilities provided by such sale or export; and

“(D) a description of any additional United States security assurances to Israel made, or requested to be made, in connection with, or as a result of, such sale or export.”.

SEC. 1812. UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ENERGY COOPERATION.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—Section 917(a) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “renewable” and inserting “covered”;

(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking “possible many” and inserting “possible—

“(A) many”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“and

“(B) significant contributions to the development of renewable energy and energy efficiency through the established programs of the United States-Israel Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation and the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation;”;

(3) in paragraph (6)—

(A) by striking “renewable” and inserting “covered”; and

(B) by striking “and” at the end;

(4) in paragraph (7)—

(A) by striking “renewable” and inserting “covered”; and

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

(5) by adding at the end the following:

“(8) United States-Israel energy cooperation and the development of natural resources by Israel are in the strategic interest of the United States;

“(9) Israel is a strategic partner of the United States in water technology;

“(10) the United States can play a role in assisting Israel with regional safety and security issues;

“(11) the National Science Foundation of the United States, to the extent consistent with the National Science Foundation's mission, should collaborate with the Israel Science Foundation and the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation;

“(12) the United States and Israel should strive to develop more robust academic cooperation in—

“(A) energy innovation technology and engineering;

“(B) water science;

“(C) technology transfer; and

“(D) analysis of emerging geopolitical implications, crises and threats from foreign natural resource and energy acquisitions, and the development of domestic resources as a response;

“(13) the United States supports the goals of the Alternative Fuels Administration of Israel with respect to expanding the use of alternative fuels;

“(14) the United States strongly urges open dialogue and continued mechanisms for regular engagement and encourages further cooperation between applicable departments, agencies, ministries, institutions of higher education, and the private sector of the United States and Israel on energy security issues, including—

“(A) identifying policy priorities associated with the development of natural resources of Israel;

“(B) discussing and sharing best practices to secure cyber energy infrastructure and other energy security matters;

“(C) leveraging natural gas to positively impact regional stability;

“(D) issues relating to the energy-water nexus, including improving energy efficiency and the overall performance of water technologies through research and development in water desalination, wastewater treatment and reclamation, water treatment in gas and oil production processes, and other water treatment refiners;

“(E) technical and environmental management of deep-water exploration and production;

“(F) emergency response and coastal protection and restoration;

“(G) academic outreach and engagement;

“(H) private sector and business development engagement;

“(I) regulatory consultations;

“(J) leveraging alternative transportation fuels and technologies; and

“(K) any other areas determined appropriate by the United States and Israel;

“(15) the United States—

“(A) acknowledges the achievements and importance of the Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation and the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation; and

“(B) supports continued multiyear funding to ensure the continuity of the programs of the foundations specified in subparagraph (A); and

“(16) the United States and Israel have a shared interest in addressing immediate, near-term, and long-term energy, energy poverty, energy independence, and environmental challenges facing the United States and Israel, respectively.”

(b) GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 917(b) of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “renewable energy or energy efficiency” and inserting “covered energy”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(H) natural gas energy, including conventional and unconventional natural gas technologies and other associated technologies, and natural gas projects conducted by or in conjunction with the United States-Israel Binational Science Foundation and the United States-Israel Binational Industrial Research and Development Foundation; and

“(I) improvement of energy efficiency and the overall performance of water technologies through research and development in water desalination, wastewater treatment

and reclamation, and other water treatment refiners.”; and

(3) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking “energy efficiency or renewable” and inserting “covered”.

(c) INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS; REGIONAL ENERGY COOPERATION.—

(1) INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—Section 917 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17337) is amended—

(A) by striking subsection (d);

(B) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (e);

(C) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

“(c) INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, subject to the availability of appropriations, may enter into cooperative agreements supporting and enhancing dialogue and planning involving international partnerships between the Department, including National Laboratories of the Department, and the Government of Israel and its ministries, offices, and institutions.

“(2) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Secretary may not pay more than 50 percent of Federal share of the costs of implementing cooperative agreements entered into pursuant to paragraph (1).

“(3) ANNUAL REPORTS.—If the Secretary enters into agreements authorized by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall submit an annual report to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives that describes—

“(A) actions taken to implement such agreements; and

“(B) any projects undertaken pursuant to such agreements.

“(d) UNITED STATES-ISRAEL ENERGY CENTER.—The Secretary may establish a joint United States-Israel Energy Center in the United States leveraging the experience, knowledge, and expertise of institutions of higher education and entities in the private sector, among others, in offshore energy development to further dialogue and collaboration to develop more robust academic cooperation in energy innovation technology and engineering, water science, technology transfer, and analysis of emerging geopolitical implications, crises and threats from foreign natural resource and energy acquisitions, and the development of domestic resources as a response.”; and

(D) in subsection (e), as redesignated, by striking “the date that is 7 years after the date of enactment of this Act” and inserting “September 30, 2024”.

(2) CONSTRUCTIVE REGIONAL ENERGY COOPERATION.—The Secretary of State shall continue the ongoing diplomacy efforts of the Secretary of State in—

(A) engaging and supporting the energy security of Israel; and

(B) promoting constructive regional energy cooperation in the Eastern Mediterranean.

TREASURY RELIANCE ON STATE EXAMINATIONS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Banking Committee be discharged from further action on H.R. 4386 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 (H.R. 4386) to allow the Secretary of the Treasury to rely on State examinations for certain financial institutions, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and there be no intervening action or debate.

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

The bill (H.R. 4386) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

AFGHAN SPECIAL IMMIGRANT VISAS

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 5195, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The clerk will report the bill by title. The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5195) to provide additional visas for the Afghan Special Immigrant Visa Program, and for other purposes.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the bill be considered read a third time and the Senate proceed to vote on passage of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (H.R. 5195) was passed.

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

THE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar Nos. 507 to 511, all post office naming bills.

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the bills be read a third time and passed and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table en bloc, with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bills.

SPECIALIST CHRISTOPHER SCOTT POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 606) to designate the facility of the United States Postal

Service located at 815 County Road 23 in Tyrone, New York, as the "Specialist Christopher Scott Post Office Building" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

JAMES "JIM" KOHNEN POST
OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 1671) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the "James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

VINCENT R. SOMBROTTO POST
OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 2291) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 450 Lexington Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Vincent R. Sombrotto Post Office" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SERGEANT BRETT E. GORNEWICZ
MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 3472) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 13127 Broadway Street in Alden, New York, as the "Sergeant Brett E. Gornewicz Memorial Post Office" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SPECIALIST RYAN P. JAYNE POST
OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3765) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 198 Baker Street in Corning, New York, as the "Specialist Ryan P. Jayne Post Office Building" was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 536. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A resolution (S. Res. 536) designating September 2014 as "National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month."

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be made and laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 536) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to. (The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

SIGNING AUTHORITY

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that during the adjournment or recess of the Senate from Friday, August 1, through Monday, September 8, the majority leader and Senators ROCKEFELLER, REED, LEVIN, COONS, and CARDIN be authorized to sign duly enrolled bills or joint resolutions.

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

Mr. REID. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREE-
MENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding the previous order, following the vote on confirmation of the Pryor nomination, on September 8, 2014, the Senate proceed to executive session and consider Calendar Nos. 910, 911, 908, and 909; that there be 2 minutes for debate equally divided between the two leaders or their designees prior to each vote; that upon the use or yielding

back of that time the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; that any rollcall votes, following the first in the series, be 10 minutes in length; that if any nomination is confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to the nomination; that any statements related to the nomination be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 5,
2014

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 11 a.m. on Tuesday, August 5, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, there be a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. REID. Madam President, there will be no rollcall votes on Tuesday. The next rollcall vote will occur at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 8. And when I say Tuesday, that is this Tuesday coming up a few days from now.

RECESS UNTIL TUESDAY, AUGUST
5, 2014, AT 11 A.M.

Mr. REID. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it recess under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 2:39 p.m., recessed until Tuesday, August 5, 2014, at 11 a.m.