



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 114th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 161

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015

No. 59

Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Immortal God, You are the meaning and mystery of all that is, was, and is to be. Thank You for Your sustaining love and for the opportunities to learn from each other. Thank You for the challenges and difficulties You use to test and refine us.

Lord, give our lawmakers the wisdom to trust the unfolding of Your providence. May they embrace a humility that seeks first to understand, instead of striving first to be understood. Deliver them from a false patriotism that would render unto Caesar what belongs to You. Guide them with Your powerful hand until the potentates of this world acknowledge Your sovereignty and might.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The President pro tempore 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.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HOEVEN). The Democratic leader is recognized.

CHEMICAL WEAPONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, yesterday marked the 100th anniversary of a heinous and violent event that has tragically changed the world. On April 21, 1915, near the beginning of World War I,

the German Army introduced to the world large-scale chemical weapons. That gas swept the battlefield. People died and suffered enduring pain, and those who survived, with rare exception, suffered the rest of their lives.

The Kaiser's army released tons of chlorine gas, nearly devastating the Allied line in Belgium. Europe would never be the same. The world would never be the same.

The use of poisonous gas proliferated during World War I, bringing death and devastation to members of the military and civilians. Following World War I, nations joined to support the Geneva Protocol of 1925, declaring that chemical weapons were so barbaric, so evil that they should be prohibited from use.

The use of chemical weapons has continued. The world will never forget the atrocities perpetrated by Hitler during World War II, as Nazi Germany used chemicals in the genocide of millions of Jews. During the Nazi regime, at the beginning of it, five men—one name started with S, one started with A, one started with R, I, and N—invented sarin gas. The world will not forget the atrocities perpetrated by the Hitler regime during World War II as Nazi Germany used chemicals in the genocide of millions—millions—of Jews.

The Iraq-Iran war of the 1980s was another terrible instance of lethal gasses being deployed as a tool of warfare. In 1988, Saddam Hussein unleashed a chemical arsenal on his own people, killing thousands of Kurds. Those pictures are available to see. The people are indiscriminately lying there—old men, old women, middle aged people, and babies. The world witnessed these events in horror and decided international action was absolutely necessary again. In 1992, the Chemical Weapons Convention was adopted in Geneva. The Chemical Weapons Convention outlaws the production, stockpile, and use of chemical weapons and requires their destruction. I voted for

that ratification with pleasure. I voted for ratification—which was ratified here in the Senate—of the convention to do something more about these chemical weapons.

But in spite of other efforts, the use of chemical weapons endures. One hundred years have passed since that fateful date in Belgium, and the world has yet to end the evil of those poisons. Today, Bashar al-Assad and his regime and forces loyal to him in Syria are responsible for horrific violence that violates basic decency. It violates international laws of war and has shocked the global conscience.

It is no secret that Assad has repeatedly used chemical weapons against the Syrian people and the country over which he dictates. Even after Syria was compelled to accede to the convention—the Chemical Weapons Convention in 2013—there is clear evidence that Assad has continued to reign terror over his own people by using barrel bombs filled with chlorine to indiscriminately wreak havoc.

We are reminded of this all the time. I do not usually watch “60 Minutes.” It is a good program, but I usually have other things to do. But I watched because of the promotion on Sunday evening about something they were going to do on “60 Minutes.” They had graphic pictures that had never been shown before of what this evil person who runs this country of Syria did to his own people.

Sadly, in addition to the use of chemical weapons, the Assad regime has carried out all manner of atrocities throughout the course of the 4-year civil war in Syria. As we speak, about 400,000 Syrians have been killed. He is responsible for the vast majority of those deaths. That does not take into consideration the millions of people who have been displaced.

The regime has committed war crimes and crimes against humanity, including starvation, systematic murder, torture, rape, sexual violence and

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



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enforced disappearance. If there were ever, ever something that is evil, bad, wrong, it is what he has done. The action of the Assad regime has resulted in the deaths—as I indicated—of countless innocent civilians and has sewn discord and disarray across the regime.

Yet Assad has repeatedly lied to the world about using chemical weapons. He loves to get on these shows. The U.S. journalists go over there, and he sits there before us talking all of these lies about what he has not done. There are dead people—hundreds of thousands of them there. There are barrel bombs, cluster bombs. He targets civilians. He starves them, demonstrating again and again what a terrible person he is and someone who cannot be believed about anything he says.

I am going to submit a Senate resolution condemning the actions of the Assad regime and its military forces for these crimes they have carried out against humanity. This legislation will express the Senate support for the referral of these evil acts that Assad has perpetrated and that have also been perpetrated by other Syrian officials and of course by the military leaders to an appropriate international tribunal.

Also, I have to say, it turns my stomach to hear people talk about making a peace deal in Syria and having Assad be a part of that deal. How could we do that? This resolution will make clear the Senate's opposition to any role for Bashar al-Assad in any final settlement of that civil war. I am confident my Senate colleagues will join me in condemning the Assad regime and its unthinkable campaign of evil against its own people.

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

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

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, we will have a busy day of voting today. Senators should expect two rollcall votes at approximately 10:45 a.m. this morning and up to six rollcall votes starting at 2 p.m. to finish the antitrafficking bill. I filed cloture on the Lynch nomination last night, and under the regular order, that cloture vote would occur 1 hour after the Senate convenes tomorrow.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—S. 1035

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1035) to extend authority relating to roving surveillance, access to business records, and individual terrorists as agents of foreign powers under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to further proceedings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING LEGISLATION AND LYNCH NOMINATION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, help is finally on the way for the thousands of enslaved victims who suffer unspeakable abuse in the shadows. These victims often have nowhere safe to sleep. They often have no safe place to turn to. And if they do try to escape, many risk being treated by the justice system like criminals instead of the victims they truly are.

These victims deserve the help the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act would provide. It is a human rights bill that victims groups and advocates have called “the most comprehensive and thoughtful piece of anti-trafficking legislation currently pending” and one that provides unprecedented support to domestic victims of trafficking, who are all too often invisible and underserved.

We are relieved we can finally say that we will pass it today and that the Senate won't violate longstanding bipartisan Hyde precedent in doing so. But let me be as clear as possible. There was never a logically consistent rationale for the filibuster that held up this bill, and the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service explicitly backed up what Republicans have long said when it confirmed that there are no private funds in this bill.

Thankfully, the filibuster is at an end. Today is a new day. Today, we will finally vote to deliver much needed resources for the victims of modern slavery, with Hyde essentially applying to all funds used for health and medical services, just as it was in the original bill. This is nothing new; it is simply a reaffirmation of the status quo.

We know that today's outcome would not have been possible without the Herculean efforts of my colleague Senator CORNYN. He was absolutely determined to see justice for victims, and we really cannot thank him enough. He negotiated across the aisle in good faith. He never gave up, not even in the bleakest hour. And today, the real focus of all our efforts—the victims of trafficking and modern slavery—can see that help is finally on the way.

We thank Senator CORNYN. We thank his negotiating partners from both parties. We thank Chairman GRASSLEY for

his superb work on this important bill in the Judiciary Committee as well. We look forward to this bill's passage in the House and its signature by the President.

Mr. President, once the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act passes in the Senate, we will turn to consideration of the President's nominee to be Attorney General. That is just what I pledged we would do, and that is what we will do.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on one final matter, I believe we are going to be hearing from the chairman of the Finance Committee shortly. Senator HATCH will be on the floor to discuss bipartisan trade promotion authority legislation which is important because we know that trade is the key to supporting high-quality American jobs and exporting more of the things American workers make and exporting more of the things American farmers grow.

Congress is working again, and this bipartisan bill is another sign of that. No legislation will ever be perfect, but Chairman HATCH and Ranking Member WYDEN, along with Chairman RYAN in the House, put together an agreement of which we can all be proud. It protects and enhances Congress's role in the trade-negotiating process, while making sure Presidents of either party will have the ability to negotiate good agreements that can increase growth in our American economy and support many high-quality American jobs. They are marking up that bill today. I wish them the best of luck. We look forward to having it on the floor in the very near future.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2015

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 178, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 178) to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

Pending:

McConnell (for Cornyn) amendment No. 1120, to strengthen the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act by incorporating additional bipartisan amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I wish to say very briefly—I know the distinguished chairman of the Finance Committee is on the floor to speak on an important matter—I would like to express my gratitude to the majority leader for his determination to see this

Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act come to completion in the Senate, which it will this afternoon. It would not have happened without his determination to make it happen.

AMENDMENT NO. 1120 WITHDRAWN

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I withdraw my amendment No. 1120.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The amendment is withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 1124

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I offer amendment No. 1124.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Texas [Mr. CORNYN], for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR, proposes an amendment numbered 1124.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To strengthen the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act by incorporating additional bipartisan amendments)

Strike section 101 and insert the following:

SEC. 101. DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS' FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 201 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 3014. Additional special assessment

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of enactment of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 and ending on September 30, 2019, in addition to the assessment imposed under section 3013, the court shall assess an amount of \$5,000 on any non-indigent person or entity convicted of an offense under—

“(1) chapter 77 (relating to peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons);

“(2) chapter 109A (relating to sexual abuse);

“(3) chapter 110 (relating to sexual exploitation and other abuse of children);

“(4) chapter 117 (relating to transportation for illegal sexual activity and related crimes); or

“(5) section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324) (relating to human smuggling), unless the person induced, assisted, abetted, or aided only an individual who at the time of such action was the alien's spouse, parent, son, or daughter (and no other individual) to enter the United States in violation of law.

“(b) SATISFACTION OF OTHER COURT-ORDERED OBLIGATIONS.—An assessment under subsection (a) shall not be payable until the person subject to the assessment has satisfied all outstanding court-ordered fines, orders of restitution, and any other obligation related to victim-compensation arising from the criminal convictions on which the special assessment is based.

“(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS' FUND.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a fund, to be known as the ‘Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund’ (referred to in this section as the ‘Fund’), to be administered by the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

“(d) TRANSFERS.—In a manner consistent with section 3302(b) of title 31, there shall be transferred to the Fund from the General Fund of the Treasury an amount equal to the amount of the assessments collected under

this section, which shall remain available until expended.

“(e) USE OF FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts in the Fund, in addition to any other amounts available, and without further appropriation, the Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall, for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2019, use amounts available in the Fund to award grants or enhance victims' programming under—

“(A) section 204 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044c);

“(B) subsections (b)(2) and (f) of section 107 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105); and

“(C) section 214(b) of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13002(b)).

“(2) LIMITATION.—Except as provided in subsection (h)(2), none of the amounts in the Fund may be used to provide health care or medical items or services.

“(f) COLLECTION METHOD.—The amount assessed under subsection (a) shall, subject to subsection (b), be collected in the manner that fines are collected in criminal cases.

“(g) DURATION OF OBLIGATION.—Subject to section 3613(b), the obligation to pay an assessment imposed on or after the date of enactment of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 shall not cease until the assessment is paid in full.

“(h) HEALTH OR MEDICAL SERVICES.—

“(1) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—From amounts appropriated under section 10503(b)(1)(E) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 254b-2(b)(1)(E)), as amended by section 221 of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015, there shall be transferred to the Fund an amount equal to the amount transferred under subsection (d) for each fiscal year, except that the amount transferred under this paragraph shall not be less than \$5,000,000 or more than \$30,000,000 in each such fiscal year, and such amounts shall remain available until expended.

“(2) USE OF FUNDS.—The Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall use amounts transferred to the Fund under paragraph (1) to award grants that may be used for the provision of health care or medical items or services to victims of trafficking under—

“(A) sections 202, 203, and 204 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044a, 14044b, and 14044c);

“(B) subsections (b)(2) and (f) of section 107 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105); and

“(C) section 214(b) of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13002(b)).

“(3) GRANTS.—Of the amounts in the Fund used under paragraph (1), not less than \$2,000,000, if such amounts are available in the Fund during the relevant fiscal year, shall be used for grants to provide services for child pornography victims under section 214(b) of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13002(b)).

“(4) APPLICATION OF PROVISION.—The application of the provisions of section 221(c) of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 shall continue to apply to the amounts transferred pursuant to paragraph (1).”

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 201 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3013 the following:

“3014. Additional special assessment.”

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I will be back to speak further on the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, but for

now I yield to my friend and colleague, the chairman of the Finance Committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COTTON). Under the previous order, there will be 1 hour of debate equally divided in the usual form.

The Senator from Utah.

Mr. HATCH. I thank both of my colleagues who have spoken this morning, Senators MCCONNELL and CORNYN.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I wish to take a few minutes this morning to talk once again about Congress's role in advancing our Nation's trade policy. While I know trade policy can be a very contentious topic here in Congress, there are two simple facts that are beyond dispute: No. 1, more than 96 percent of the world's consumers live outside of the United States, and No. 2, in order to be competitive, American businesses need to be able to sell more American-made products and services to those overseas customers. In order to do that, we need to tear down barriers to American exports. At the same time, we should lay down enforceable rules for our trading partners so that we can be sure American workers and job creators are competing on a level playing field.

In order to accomplish these goals and to advance our Nation's interests in the global marketplace, Congress and the administration need to work together. Most people acknowledge this reality. Yet, there are differing views as to what mechanisms should be in place to facilitate cooperation between these two branches of government. In the end, there is only one legislative tool with a proven track record, and that is trade promotion authority, otherwise known as TPA.

For decades—going back as far as FDR—TPA has been a cornerstone of U.S. trade policy. TPA is a compact between the Senate, the House, and the administration. Under this compact, the administration agrees to pursue objectives specified by Congress and to consult with Congress as it negotiates trade agreements. In turn, both the House and the Senate agree to allow for expedited consideration of trade agreements without amendments.

For a number of reasons, this compact is essential for conclusion and passage of strong trade agreements. Put simply, without TPA, our trading partners will not put their best offers on the table because they will have no guarantee that the agreement they reach will be the one Congress actually votes on in the end.

The most recent version of TPA expired 8 years ago. While trade negotiations have continued since that time, without TPA in place, our negotiators have effectively been negotiating with one arm tied behind their backs. We need to renew TPA sooner rather than later in order to give these negotiators the tools they need to reach the best deals possible.

The stakes are very high. Currently, the United States is in the midst of negotiating some of the most ambitious trade agreements in our Nation's history—most notably, the Trans-Pacific Partnership, or TPP. If we want those negotiations to succeed—and I would hope that for the good of our country most of us do want them to succeed—we need to renew TPA.

Last week, I was joined by my colleague Senator WYDEN and Chairman RYAN of the House Ways and Means Committee in introducing the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015. This legislation would renew TPA and promote the advancement of 21st-century trade policies. Later today—in just a little while, in fact—the Senate Finance Committee will be marking up this bill, as well as other important pieces of trade legislation.

It has taken a long time to get here. As you may recall, I, along with the two former chairmen, Senator Baucus and Congressman Camp, introduced a bill to renew TPA early last year. That bill had bipartisan support in Congress and was broadly endorsed by the business community. It also had the support of officials in the Obama administration.

When Republicans took control of the Senate this year and I became the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, I made renewing TPA my top trade priority for this Congress and set out to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle. This legislation we will be marking up today is the result of that hard work, and I am grateful to my colleagues for working with me to get us this far.

Of course, the effort to renew TPA really began a long time before we introduced our bill last year. Indeed, the discussion and debate over a new and improved TPA began even before the last iteration expired in 2007. We have been talking about this for a long time. Now is the time to act.

Over the past few weeks, as we have been preparing to move our legislation forward, some people—including some of my colleagues—have expressed concerns about TPA and trade agreements in general. So I wish to take a few minutes this morning to address some of the specific issues that have been raised.

Constitutional and sovereignty concerns. Some have argued that TPA cedes too much power to the administration and undermines Congress's constitutional authority to make laws.

I know the people have heard the President claiming that TPP—the Trans-Pacific Partnership—will be “the most progressive trade agreement in history,” and they have heard him brag about the labor and environmental standards the administration is shooting for with the agreement. The question inevitably becomes, will President Obama try to use this or other trade agreements to try to advance unilateral changes in U.S. law

and policy? Even though we all know that no trade agreement can go into force without Congress's approval, given this administration's track record on executive overreach, people are right to be concerned about these issues.

Fortunately, our TPA bill addresses these uncertainties. Rather than ceding authority to the executive branch, our bill empowers Congress at every step, from trade negotiations to final approval of the agreement itself.

Our bill makes clear what objectives a trade agreement must reach in order to be approved by Congress. In fact, the bill contains the clearest articulation of trade priorities in our Nation's history. It includes nearly 150 ambitious, high-standard negotiating objectives, including strong rules for intellectual property rights and agricultural trade, as well as protections for U.S. investment.

In addition to setting negotiating objectives, our legislation constrains the administration in a number of ways. For example, it ensures that implementing bills for trade agreements will include—and I am quoting the text of the bill—“only such provisions as are strictly necessary or appropriate to implement” trade agreements.

Additionally, it makes clear that any commitments made by the administration that are not disclosed to Congress before an implementing bill is introduced are not to be considered part of the relevant agreement and will have no force of law.

Our legislation clarifies that trade agreements must be concluded within the TPA timeframe and that any substantial modifications or additions made after that time will not be eligible for approval under TPA procedures.

So while I understand and even sympathize with those who might be suspicious of this administration and its tendency to push the boundaries of its constitutional authority, our TPA bill speaks to these exact concerns.

Furthermore, for those who might be worried that trade agreements could we used to harm U.S. sovereignty, our bill addresses those issues as well.

First, the bill makes clear that any provision of a trade agreement that is inconsistent with Federal or State law will have no effect.

Second, it states specifically that Federal and State laws will prevail in the event of a conflict with the trade agreement.

Third, it affirms that no trade agreement can prevent Congress or the States from changing their laws in the future.

Fourth, it confirms that the administration cannot unilaterally change U.S. law.

As you can see, far from abdicating Congress's power from U.S. trade policy, our TPA bill enhances the role of Congress when it comes to trade agreements.

Immigration. In addition to general concerns about constitutional powers

and U.S. sovereignty, I have heard some express specific concerns that President Obama can use the Trans-Pacific Partnership to enact changes to our immigration laws and that TPA will somehow empower him to do so. These concerns are unfounded for at least two reasons.

First, immigration is completely irrelevant to the objectives of the TPP agreement and administration officials have been clear and unequivocal that no immigration provisions are under negotiation.

Just last week, USTR Michael Froman testified before the Senate Committee on Finance and said:

I can assure you that we are not negotiating anything in TPP that would require any modifications of the U.S. immigration laws or system, any changes to our existing visa system. And, in fact, TPP will explicitly state that it will not require changes in any party's immigration laws or procedures.

Second, even if people don't trust this administration, particularly when it comes to immigration, the provisions of our TPA bill, the ones I just got through talking about, provide greater congressional oversight and authority over trade agreements and prevent this or any future administration from misleading Congress about what is included in any trade agreement.

In other words, if anyone is worried that despite their clear statements to the contrary, the administration will use TPP to advance its immigration agenda, they should support our TPA bill.

Transparency. Another concern I have heard from people both in and out of government is that trade agreements currently under discussion have been negotiated behind closed doors and that by renewing TPA, Congress would be enabling this type of secrecy.

Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, the opposite is true. Our TPA bill goes further than any previous version of TPA to promote transparency both for Members of Congress and the American people.

Under our legislation, any Member of Congress who wants access to the negotiating text will get it, and at any time during the negotiations, Members of Congress will be able to request and receive a briefing from USTR on the status of negotiations.

In addition, the bill will require the administration to publicly release the full text of an agreement at least 60 days before they sign it, giving the American people full access and knowledge of all trade agreements before they are signed and well before they are submitted to Congress for their approval.

In short, any Member of Congress who is concerned about a lack of transparency in trade negotiations should be a cosponsor of the Hatch-Wyden-Ryan TPA bill.

Currency. The last concern I will talk about today deals with currency manipulation. Specifically, I have heard from colleagues that our TPA

bill should include stronger, enforceable standards to prevent our trading partners from engaging in currency manipulation.

Now, make no mistake, I think currency manipulation is a serious issue. Like my colleagues, I am worried the currency policies of a number of countries, including some of our trade partners, continue to have negative consequences on U.S. businesses and workers. I believe Congress should carefully consider ways to address this issue. That is why, for the first time, our TPA bill includes a negotiating objective intended to address currency manipulation.

While I understand some of my colleagues would like that provision to be stronger, this is a very complex issue. Many have expressed valid concerns that by requiring our trade agreements to contain enforceable currency provisions we would be inviting a number of unintended consequences, including challenges to U.S. monetary policy. In addition, most have acknowledged that such provisions would effectively derail the TPP negotiations, harming our farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, and others who so desperately need access to these markets.

It is not just me saying this. Yesterday, I received a letter from Treasury Secretary Lew expressing these very concerns about the possibility of including enhanced currency provisions in TPA. On top of that, 10 former Treasury Secretaries, from both Republican and Democratic administrations, sent a letter to congressional leaders that made similar arguments.

As you can see, there is more than ample reason to doubt the wisdom of inserting stronger currency provisions into TPA. I think it is fair, given Secretary Lew's very clear statements, to assume that President Obama would not sign a TPA bill that included such provisions, and I think it is more than fair to say that even if he would sign such a bill, it would be devastating to our ongoing trade negotiations; thereby, threatening growth and jobs right here at home. That being the case, I hope my colleagues pursuing this route will reconsider their positions.

Once again, we are going to mark up our TPA bill later today. I am excited and pleased for this opportunity. I think we will get a strong bipartisan vote to report the bill and send it to the floor. We have crafted a very good bill, one that I think Members of both parties can support. I know some Members have anxieties and concerns about these issues. We have put the bill together with those types of concerns in mind and, as I think I have demonstrated today, anyone who is truly supportive of trade and of opening foreign markets to U.S. goods and services and wants to create more good jobs right here at home should support our bill.

Since the day we introduced our legislation, letters and statements of support have been pouring in. I will mention just a few.

We have had statements from administration officials, including the President himself, and to say support from the business community has been overwhelming would be a gross understatement. We have letters from virtually every industry—farmers, ranchers, manufacturers, tech companies, health care companies, and I could literally go on and on, but I will not, at least not right now. Instead, today, I will just mention two of the many letters of support we have received from businesses and job creators.

I have a letter from the Trade Benefits America Coalition signed by hundreds of companies and major trade associations expressing their strong support for the Hatch-Wyden-Ryan TPA bill.

I have another letter signed by nearly 300 State and local chambers of commerce, farm bureaus, and manufacturing associations, all expressing their support for the swift renewal of TPA.

Leaders from a number of leading conservative organizations have expressed support as well, including the Conservative Reform Network, the Cato Institute, Americans for Tax Reform, American Enterprise Institute, American Action Forum, Tea Party Express, 60 Plus, American Commitment, American Conservative Union, Americans for Job Security, Center for Individual Freedom, Citizens for Limited Taxation, Competitive Enterprise Institute, Conservative Reform Network, Council for Citizens Against Government Waste, Crossroads GPS, Digital Liberty, Ending Spending, Frontiers of Freedom, Georgia Center Right Coalition, Institute for Liberty, Minnesota Center Right Coalition, National Taxpayers Union, R Street, Rio Grande Foundation, Taxpayer Foundation Alliance, and the Thomas Jefferson Institute for Public Policy.

That is a long list and by no means contains everybody who is for this bill, and it is growing every day. As you can see, TPA is supported across the ideological spectrum.

I suppose this is the best way I can put it: Senator TED CRUZ coauthored an op-ed with Senator Ryan in support of our bill in today's Wall Street Journal. If both TED CRUZ and Barack Obama support our legislation, it is probably safe to say we are onto something.

I appreciate all the support we have received thus far for our TPA bill. It has been gratifying to see, and I look forward to talking more with colleagues about these issues in the coming week.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HATCH. 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. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time during quorum calls before the votes this morning be equally divided.

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

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

THE NEW CONGRESS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, it is over 100 days since the 114th Congress has been in session led by a new majority following the November election. This Chamber can point to significant accomplishments in this short period of time.

Now, none of us is spiking the football or saying that we have done miraculous things, but it is undeniable that we have made discernible, concrete progress on important matters that affect the lives and the quality of life of the American people.

In only 3 weeks into the new Congress, the Senate already had more votes on amendments than the Chamber did in all of last year. What that means is that, on a bipartisan basis, Senators have been able to contribute their ideas on legislation—how to improve it and get votes on it. That was something we promised voters that would change after the last election. In the new Congress and under the new majority leader, Senator MCCONNELL, we have delivered.

Just a few weeks ago, the Senate passed a budget that actually balances in 10 years—something the Chamber has done only once since 2009. More recently, we sent to the President's desk the so-called doc fix, which, more importantly, ensured access to the doctors and hospitals that our seniors need. We also made great strides in providing the American people a final say on the Iran nuclear deal that is being negotiated now by the President's representatives. We have made progress on bipartisan legislation that ensures the United States will get the best deal with our trading partners in pending negotiations—opening up American goods and services to global markets, which is good for our economy. It is good for jobs, and it is good for better wages for hard-working American families.

But I must say, even with all of these accomplishments, I am most proud of the deal we were able to reach this week concerning the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act.

I have noticed one thing since I have been here in Washington; it is that the rich and powerful seem to do pretty well. They are well represented on K Street, and they are not hesitant about letting their needs be known. But one

indicator of the character of a nation is how that nation—our Nation—treats those who are the most vulnerable in our society, those who actually need our help, who do not have lobbyists or other people working on their behalf in the halls of Congress.

So this legislation, I think, actually is a very positive step because it demonstrates that we have not fallen deaf to the cries of those who actually need our help—the victims of human trafficking.

This legislation will be instrumental in helping victims of sexual abuse and trafficking recover from a life in bondage, and it will provide stronger tools for law enforcement officials to track down and punish those who want to keep them in the shadows, who want to continue to make profit from the pain, the anguish, and the involuntary servitude of typically young women between the ages of 12 and 14. And often these young women—these children—are treated as criminals and not as the victims they truly are. With the passage of this bill, we are one step closer to reining it in.

So I thank our colleagues on both sides of the aisle, some of whom are here in the Chamber, for working with us in the spirit of trying to accomplish something important and actually getting it done. I know the distinguished ranking member on the Judiciary Committee, with whom I partnered on a number of important topics, is here, and I thank him for his contribution. And the Senator from Washington, Mrs. MURRAY, has been very important in the negotiation and in getting us to yes.

Finally—and I know time is short, so I will have more to say on this later. But there are literally 200 outside groups—faith-based groups, law enforcement organizations, and other organizations—that worked on the sidelines cheering us, asking us to get this done—groups such as Rights4Girls, Shared Hope International, Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, the End Child Prostitution and Trafficking organization, and the National Association to Protect Children. These groups and hundreds of others across the country have literally been our boots on the ground.

I also think it is important to recognize organizations such as Google Ideas and the McCain Institute, particularly Cindy McCain, who joined me in Houston recently to talk more about this important topic.

So there are a lot of people who contributed to get us to where we are today. We are not done yet. We have some important votes in just a few minutes—a total of 8 votes today—before we complete our work on this legislation, but I think this is a good day. This will be a good day for the Senate and for the victims of human trafficking.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

AMENDMENT NO. 301

(Purpose: To improve the bill)

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment and call up my amendment No. 301.

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

The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. LEAHY] proposes an amendment numbered 301.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of March 16, 2015, under “Text of Amendments.”)

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I appreciate what the Senator from Texas has said. We have worked together. I hope we continue to do this, but before I talk about my substitute, I want to yield the floor to the distinguished Senator from Washington State.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, so many Members helped us get this bill back on a bipartisan path, but I want to thank Senators REID, CORNYN, KLOBUCHAR, FEINSTEIN, MIKULSKI, and LEAHY in particular for their work. I also want to thank all of the staff who have worked extremely hard to get this done, especially Melanie Rainer from my staff.

From the beginning of this debate, Democrats have been very clear that this bill to help survivors should focus squarely on that goal alone. We also felt this conversation was no place for a debate about restrictions on women’s health access. While there are clear differences between the two parties when it comes to women’s health, I know Senator CORNYN and many others agreed with us that an effort to fight back against human trafficking in our country is, without question, no place for gridlock and dysfunction. It should not have taken this long, but I am very pleased that we were able to work together, find common ground, and reach an agreement.

This agreement isn’t perfect. No comprise ever is, and I am sure my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would say the same thing. I believe there is much more we can and must do to protect and strengthen women’s access to comprehensive, high-quality health care.

In the 21st century, there is no reason a woman should be prevented from exercising her constitutionally guaranteed right to make her own choices about her own body. That is something I could not feel more strongly about, and I am going to keep working to not only protect that right but expand and improve access to care for women across the country.

I am very glad, however, that the amendment we are proposing this

morning would provide survivors now with real, dedicated funds and support, including important health services. Critically, this amendment would take away the expansion of restrictions on women’s health that would have occurred under the original legislation. It would ensure that the Hyde language is now not expanded to any new programs under this bill.

I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting this amendment so we can pass this bill to help trafficking survivors, and then move as quickly as possible to confirm our highly qualified nominee for Attorney General.

I thank my colleagues again for their work to reach this compromise. The families and communities we serve rightly expect us to work together to solve problems and not let gridlock and dysfunction get in the way of results. I am very pleased we were able to find that common ground and a path forward for this important legislation. I am very hopeful that now we will be able to continue working together to tackle the many other challenges our country faces.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, my substitute amendment, No. 301, brings together three very important bills that provide a comprehensive approach to preventing human trafficking and help survivors rebuild their lives. First, it includes the Leahy-Collins-Murkowski-Ayotte amendment to protect runaway and homeless youth from trafficking. Second, it includes the Klobuchar-Cornyn bill as reported in February by the Judiciary Committee. The safe harbor bill encourages States to treat victims of trafficking as victims and not—as oftentimes they are treated—as criminals. Finally, it includes the Cornyn-Klobuchar bill, S. 178, but without the divisive language that limits victims’ services, which has held us up so long.

My amendment came about as a response to the request of survivors and the dedicated people who work with them, the people who actually see this day-by-day, for whom it is not a theoretical thing, but is an actual day-by-day crisis. They have urged us to remove the unnecessary and harmful provision which stalled this bill for weeks.

Congress has a long history of passing legislation to address human trafficking. We did so in the Leahy-Crapo Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act, which included the reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act. We consistently have addressed human trafficking legislation without abortion politics being inserted in the discussion. My amendment would return us to the path of the bipartisan bills we passed in years past. Importantly, my amendment is going to make sure we are preventing human trafficking in the first place.

It is one thing to work with children after they become victims. I think we would all agree it is better if we can

help prevent them from becoming victims. The best way to do that is to support runaway and homeless kids. Without a safe place to sleep, these children and teens are exceptionally vulnerable to human traffickers. The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, first passed in 1974, funds tried-and-true programs to help these youth stabilize their lives. When a homeless or runaway teen is looking for a place to stay and there is nothing available, they sometimes resort to desperate measures. They are picked up almost at once by sex traffickers and exploited.

The substitute amendment reauthorizes and strengthens the programs that have worked ever since 1974. It adds training for service providers so we can better identify victims of trafficking and refer them to the appropriate resources. It includes language to prevent discrimination against homeless youth based on their sexual orientation or gender identification.

We found, in the testimony before the Judiciary Committee, a growing number of homeless and runaway youth identify as LGBT. Many of them have actually been thrown out of their homes for who they are. I am a parent; I am a grandparent. I find this heartbreaking to me that any child, any child for whatever reason would be thrown out of their home. We have to ensure that these vulnerable children who have already been rejected do not face rejection again because of how they look or dress or whom they love.

I urge all Senators to support this amendment. This is a moral issue. If we are serious about listening to survivors and responding to their needs and if we are serious about preventing human trafficking and protecting vulnerable children in the first place, this amendment is the strongest option before us.

We should be judged by what we do for the most vulnerable among us. The combination of these three bills should bring us together. I urge the Senate to support this comprehensive substitute.

Several of us in this body, both parties, have had the privilege to serve law enforcement before coming here, as I did. I said many times on this floor that I still have nightmares today, 40 years later, from some of the scenes I saw back then. I could arrest and prosecute these people who harm these youth, but we could never give back to the youth who they were before they were harmed.

Unfortunately, what I have nightmares about happens in so many more places. In the distinguished Presiding Officer's own home State, as well as the home States of every single Member of this body, it is happening today. These are the most vulnerable of our citizens. We as Senators should help protect them.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

REQUEST FOR COMMITTEE ON FINANCE TO MEET

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Finance be allowed to meet during today's session of the Senate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. SANDERS. I object to the unanimous consent request to waive rule XXVI to allow the Finance Committee to pass a fast-track bill that will undermine the American worker.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, let me say to my good friend from Vermont, the Finance Committee is scheduled to deal with the trade promotion authority issue this afternoon. There are over 200 amendments. I would say to my friend, all this objection is going to do will be to require us to recess after the votes on trafficking and stay in session because we are going to finish the bill in the Finance Committee today. I appreciate the Senator's opposition, but I want to make clear to him and to our colleagues that it will not prevent the trade promotion authority bill from being dealt with in Finance today. We will simply go into recess after we finish the trafficking bill and stay in recess, and the committee will work until it reports out the bill.

I understand the Senator's vigorous opposition to it. The Senator has made that quite clear. It is certainly understandable. The Senator has a right to do that. I am just making the point that this particular way to oppose it will not be successful today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, let me say to my friend, the majority leader, I appreciate his position. But as he knows, not only is there massive opposition to this TPP agreement, but there is a lot of concern that the American people have not been involved in the process, that there is not a lot of transparency. What we are trying to do is to make sure this debate takes place out in the public, that the American people have as much time as possible to understand the very significant implications of this trade agreement. I, and I suspect others, will do our best to make that happen.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I understand the position of my friend from Vermont on this. This Finance Committee meeting obviously will be open to the public. There will be many amendments offered, most of them I expect reflecting the views of the Senator from Vermont, but the meeting will go forward. The committee will simply be inconvenienced by the current actions of the Senator from Vermont, but the committee will go forward. The Senate will be in recess, and the committee will meet at the earliest possible time and finish the bill today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent for 30 seconds to speak before the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I want to make clear that the first amendment we will vote on relative to the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act will remove the Hyde amendment which is the longstanding, 39-year consensus that taxpayer funds will not be used to fund abortions. This amendment would completely strip that Hyde amendment, and it would undermine the delicate compromise that has been reached on the important legislation. The next vote we will have will be on that compromise piece of legislation, the Cornyn-Murray-Klobuchar legislation. It would literally cut funding for human trafficking victims as compared to this compromise.

I would urge our colleagues to stick with the bipartisan compromise and to vote against the Leahy amendment.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Mexico.

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG SAFER CHEMICALS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, I rise on Earth Day to speak about our children and about chemical safety. We come in contact with thousands of chemicals every day. As I am speaking now, millions of our fellow citizens are buying groceries or going to the hardware store or getting clothes or toys for their children. They assume the government has studied the chemicals in these products and determined they are safe. But that is not the case.

The Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976, or TSCA, is supposed to protect American families, and it doesn't. There are over 84,000 known chemicals in manufactured and commercial products, and hundreds of new ones come on the market every year. How many of those products have been regulated by the EPA? Less than half a dozen.

These are troubling numbers. TSCA has been in existence for almost 40 years, and out of 84,000 chemicals—and counting—less than a dozen are actually regulated. The EPA cannot even regulate asbestos, a known carcinogen. Since losing a court battle in 1991, they have not been able to regulate it. The risks and dangers have been around for decades, but there is no cop on the beat. TSCA has failed.

Some States are trying to fill the gap by regulating a few chemicals, but my home State of New Mexico, and the vast majority of others, have no ability to test chemicals. They don't have a department to write regulations. Without a working Federal law, they have no protection. Even California, which probably has the greatest capacity of all States to test and regulate, has only proposed rules for three chemicals. In 7 years, since California passed a law to regulate chemicals, it has only begun the process on three chemicals.

That is why I and others have worked so hard to find compromise on this issue. That is why I introduced the

Frank R. Lautenberg Safer Chemicals for the 21st Century Act.

I come to the floor today on Earth Day to urge all of my colleagues here to make reforming our broken chemical safety law a priority. We have a moral obligation to protect our kids from dangerous chemicals.

I have been privileged to work with Senator VITTER on this bill. I thank him and our colleagues who have worked with us. This is a true bipartisan effort. We don't always agree on some of the issues, but we have one basic goal here. Reform is overdue. It is 40 years overdue.

All of our landmark environmental laws have been reformed or amended—the Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, the Clean Air Act—but not the Toxic Substances Control Act. It should have been—and it was not for lack of trying.

Our esteemed former colleague, the late Senator Frank Lautenberg led the way for many years, with great determination.

He never gave up. Together we fought the good fight to pass our dream bill, but were never able to make any progress. And he realized we needed to work with all stakeholders. Everyone at the table, including industry. Because he understood, this is not about getting all that we want. This is about getting the American people the protections they need. His effort to reform TSCA was the last major legislation he introduced.

Mr. President, 2 years ago, the New York Times endorsed the Lautenberg-Vitter bill. The Times said—correctly—that previous efforts at reform had gone nowhere, and the bill “deserves to be passed because it would be a significant advance over the current law.”

That was 2 years ago. I was honored to take over as the lead Democrat on the bill. Since then, I have listened to concerns. I reached across the aisle. I brought everyone into the room, or at least tried to. With my Republican colleague, Senator VITTER, we have improved the bill.

I want to talk for a moment about what this bill actually does, and how it moves us forward. Specifically, it does the following:

First, the manufacture of a new chemical cannot begin until EPA approves it. Currently, a new chemical is on the market after 90 days, unless EPA finds unreasonable risk. Our bill gives EPA the time it needs, and keeps these chemicals out of American homes in the meantime.

Second, current TSCA has no requirement for evaluating existing chemicals. None. Our bill does and includes deadlines, even more aggressive than the EPA itself asked for.

Third, we require a stronger safety standard for all chemicals to be evaluated. No longer will EPA be required to choose the “least burdensome” regulation. Its criteria will be safety, science, and public health—never cost or convenience.

Fourth, our bill defines, for the first time, our most vulnerable populations—pregnant women, infants, the elderly, and workers—and explicitly requires that EPA ensure they are protected from chemicals in commerce or manufacturing.

Finally, we limit confidential business information protection for industry. Currently, it is limitless, unless challenged by EPA. We call for a 10-year sunset on confidential business information claims.

Reform takes time. But, it should not take decades. We can't afford to wait any longer. Our children and our communities can't afford to wait for protection from chemicals. Yes, that means compromise. The goal was not a perfect bill. The goal was, and is, real reform.

We have worked to address the issues with the original bill, and we still have work to do. It doesn't do everything I want. Senator VITTER has given a great deal as well. But this is a strong, bipartisan bill. I am confident it can pass the Senate. It will ensure EPA has the authority to keep us safe, something EPA cannot do now.

So, let's be clear. We have a choice. We can continue with a law that has failed. We can continue to leave the American people unprotected. Or we can actually make a difference. We can give the EPA the power it needs to do its job—so that chemicals are tested—so that our homes and workplaces are safe—and so that American families are protected.

I believe the choice is obvious. To those who disagree, I would ask a simple question. Are you willing to live with a failed law another 20 or 40 years? Because we all agree on one thing—TSCA is a failure.

This is the best chance we have, possibly for many years, to pass a law that will protect our kids from dangerous chemicals.

Our bill will make Americans safer. Not just Americans fortunate to live in States with protections. All Americans. No matter where they live.

For those Americans in States with existing safeguards, that won't change. Those safeguards will stay in place. Any regulations in place as of January of this year will remain. And there is a role for States to play—to help with the thousands of chemicals that EPA will not be able to evaluate.

But, let's be clear. The EPA has the largest staff on chemical safety of any country in the world. They should be able to put that staff to good use. To do otherwise is wasted opportunity and continued failure.

This has not been an easy process. But, it is a necessary one. I believe it will result in a good bill. We welcome a healthy debate. We welcome constructive amendments. At the same time, we should not lose sight of the key goal—to actually pass a bill. To reform a law that is not working. To protect our families and communities.

I believe we can do this. And Senator Lautenberg, who was a great environ-

mental champion, he believed we could as well.

Americans trust that when they go to the grocery store, or when they are in their own homes, that the products they reach for are safe. The current system fails that trust. It fails to provide confidence in our regulatory system. And it fails to provide confidence in our consumer products. We cannot let that failure continue. It hurts our economy, and it hurts the American people.

We need solutions, not roadblocks and closed doors. Senator VITTER and I will continue to work with all stakeholders. If we can make this bill better, we will. We all share that goal. But, here's the bottom line: We must work through the remaining challenges. Now is not the time for digging in our heels—and going nowhere. Mr. President, 40 years of that is enough. Now is the time for change.

There is only one essential question before us. Is this reform better than what we have? The answer is yes. Can we make it even better? I hope the answer to that question is yes as well. But, that will require a spirit of cooperation and compromise. That will require that we continue to have everyone at the table.

Critics charge that this is an alliance with the chemical industry. That is false. It is an alliance with the American people. They put their trust in the American government to protect them. That trust has not been met.

It is in everyone's interest—to identify dangerous chemicals, to protect the American public, and restore confidence in the safety of the products made by American companies.

We have a historic opportunity to create a chemical law that works and provide American families with the protections they expect and deserve. Let's work together. Let's make that happen. Let's not wait another 40 years.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

MEDICARE INDEPENDENCE AT HOME MEDICAL PRACTICE DEMONSTRATION IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2015

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 971, and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 971) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an increase in the limit on the length of an agreement under the Medicare independence at home medical practice demonstration program.

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the Wyden amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to, and the bill, as amended, be read a third time.

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

The amendment (No. 1129) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To make a technical correction)

On page 2, line 5, insert “of the Social Security Act” after “1866E(e)(1)”.

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask for a voice vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there any further debate?

If there is no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass?

The bill (S. 971), as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 971

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Independence at Home Medical Practice Demonstration Improvement Act of 2015”.

SEC. 2. INCREASE IN THE LIMIT ON THE LENGTH OF AN AGREEMENT UNDER THE MEDICARE INDEPENDENCE AT HOME MEDICAL PRACTICE DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

Section 1866E(e)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395cc-5(e)(1)) is amended by striking “3-year” and inserting “5-year”.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that 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.

STEVE GLEASON ACT OF 2015

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 984, that the bill be read a third time, and that the Senate vote on passage of the bill with no intervening action or debate.

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

A bill (S. 984) to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiary access to eye tracking accessories for speech generating devices and to remove the rental cap for durable medical equipment under the Medicare Program with respect to speech generating devices.

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

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask for a voice vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Hearing no further debate, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass?

The bill (S. 984) was passed, as follows:

S. 984

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Steve Gleason Act of 2015”.

SEC. 2. PROVIDING MEDICARE BENEFICIARY ACCESS TO EYE TRACKING ACCESSORIES FOR SPEECH GENERATING DEVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1861(n) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(n)) is amended by inserting “and eye tracking and gaze interaction accessories for speech generating devices furnished to individuals with a demonstrated medical need for such accessories” after “appropriate organizations”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to devices furnished on or after January 1, 2016.

SEC. 3. REMOVING THE RENTAL CAP FOR DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT UNDER MEDICARE WITH RESPECT TO SPEECH GENERATING DEVICES.

Section 1834(a)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii), by striking “or” at the end;

(2) in clause (iii), by adding “or” at the end; and

(3) by inserting after clause (iii) the following new clause:

“(iv) in the case of devices furnished on or after October 1, 2015, and before October 1, 2018, which serves as a speech generating device or which is an accessory that is needed for the individual to effectively utilize such a device.”.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be made and laid upon the table.

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

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 144, National Crime Victims’ Rights Week; S. Res. 145, Parkinson’s Awareness Month; S. Res. 146, Assistant Principals Week; and S. Res. 147, Historian Emeritus.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table en bloc.

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

The resolutions were agreed to. The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL—S. 782

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 782 be discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works and be referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL—H.R. 710

Mr. CORNYN. Finally, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that H.R. 710 be discharged from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and be referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

Mr. CORNYN. I yield the floor.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2015—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I understand there are 4 more minutes on this side. Am I correct?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There are 2½ minutes of debate remaining on the Democratic side.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I yield back our time.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 301

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time having been yielded back, under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 301, offered by the Senator from Vermont, Mr. LEAHY.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

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

The result was announced—yeas 43, nays 55, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 156 Leg.]

YEAS—43

Table with 3 columns: Name, Name, Name. Includes Baldwin, Heitkamp, Reed, Bennet, Hirono, Reid, Blumenthal, Kaine, Sanders, Booker, King, Schatz, Boxer, Klobuchar, Schumer, Brown, Leahy, Shaheen, Cantwell, Markey, Stabenow, Cardin, McCaskill, Tester, Carper, Menendez, Udall, Coons, Merkley, Warner, Durbin, Mikulski, Warren, Feinstein, Murphy, Whitehouse, Franken, Murray, Wyden, Gillibrand, Nelson, Heinrich, Peters.

NAYS—55

Table with 3 columns: Name, Name, Name. Includes Alexander, Casey, Cotton, Ayotte, Cassidy, Crapo, Barrasso, Coats, Daines, Blunt, Cochran, Donnelly, Boozman, Collins, Enzi, Burr, Corker, Ernst, Capito, Cornyn, Fischer.

Flake	Lee	Sasse
Gardner	Manchin	Scott
Graham	McCain	Sessions
Grassley	McConnell	Shelby
Hatch	Moran	Sullivan
Heller	Murkowski	Thune
Hoeven	Paul	Tillis
Inhofe	Perdue	Toomey
Isakson	Portman	Vitter
Johnson	Risch	Wicker
Kirk	Roberts	
Lankford	Rounds	

NOT VOTING—2

Cruz Rubio

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is rejected.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1124

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to amendment No. 1124, offered by the Senator from Texas, Mr. CORNYN.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO).

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

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 157 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Alexander	Flake	Murray
Ayotte	Franken	Nelson
Baldwin	Gardner	Paul
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Perdue
Bennet	Graham	Peters
Blumenthal	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hatch	Reed
Booker	Heinrich	Reid
Boozman	Heitkamp	Risch
Boxer	Heller	Roberts
Brown	Hirono	Rounds
Burr	Hoeven	Sanders
Cantwell	Inhofe	Sasse
Capito	Isakson	Schatz
Cardin	Johnson	Schumer
Carper	Kaine	Scott
Casey	King	Sessions
Cassidy	Kirk	Shaheen
Coats	Klobuchar	Shelby
Cochran	Lankford	Stabenow
Collins	Leahy	Sullivan
Coons	Lee	Tester
Corker	Manchin	Thune
Cornyn	Markey	Tillis
Cotton	McCain	Toomey
Crapo	McCaskill	Udall
Daines	McConnell	Vitter
Donnelly	Menendez	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Enzi	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wyden
Fischer	Murphy	

NOT VOTING—2

Cruz Rubio

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is agreed to.

The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise to propound a unanimous consent request to call up an amendment, speak briefly, and then be followed by Senator SANDERS.

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

Under the previous order, the time until 2 p.m. is equally divided in the usual form.

AMENDMENT NO. 1121

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 1121.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from North Carolina [Mr. BURR] proposes an amendment numbered 1121.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To require the Secretary of Defense to inform the Attorney General of persons required to register as sex offenders)

At the end, add the following:

TITLE ____—MILITARY SEX OFFENDER REPORTING

SEC. ____ . SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Military Sex Offender Reporting Act of 2015".

SEC. ____ . REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS RELEASED FROM MILITARY CORRECTIONS FACILITIES OR UPON CONVICTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act is amended by inserting after section 128 (42 U.S.C. 16928) the following:

"SEC. 128A. REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS RELEASED FROM MILITARY CORRECTIONS FACILITIES OR UPON CONVICTION.

"The Secretary of Defense shall provide to the Attorney General the information described in section 114 to be included in the National Sex Offender Registry and the Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website regarding persons—

"(1)(A) released from military corrections facilities; or

"(B) convicted if the sentences adjudged by courts-martial under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), do not include confinement; and

"(2) required to register under this title.".

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 128 the following:

"Sec. 128A. Registration of sex offenders released from military corrections facilities or upon conviction.".

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I wish to speak very briefly on an amendment the Senate will have an opportunity to vote on this afternoon.

Due to the way the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act is currently written, there is a problem with tracking sex offenders convicted in a military justice system. Some of these offenders are exploiting the cracks in that system.

My amendment is, quite honestly, a fix to the problem and will help authorities and the public better track sex offenders in our communities.

To explain, currently, military sex offenders are only required to self-re-

port to a State government after they are released from a military correctional facility.

Under the civilian justice system, sex offenders are registered in the State before they are released. The State then provides the information to the Department of Justice to be included in both the public and the private National Sex Offender Registry, which is where the average citizen can go and see if there is a sex offender in their neighborhood.

A Department of Defense inspector general report issued in August of last year revealed that an estimated 242 of the 1,312 released sex offenders failed to self-report.

In that inspector general's report, they said:

The lack of jurisdiction for DOD to register military sex offenders with the National Sex Offender Registry enables military sex offenders released from military prisons to evade sex offender registration requirements.

I am not sure it can be put any plainer than that.

The Department of Defense tried to correct the problem by working with State authorities and the U.S. Marshals, but underreporting continues today.

Differences in State laws in military reporting procedures enables some criminals to totally evade reporting and detection.

A recent Scripps news report revealed grim examples of the consequences of these cracks in the system.

Consider the recent case of Matthew Carr. The military convicted Matthew Carr for posing as a gynecologist. He preyed on seven women. After spending 7 years incarcerated, he evaded registration upon his release. He assaulted another woman before being apprehended by civilian authorities. This assault was preventable in that community, but the DOD wasn't required to post him as a sex offender.

In another case, a former officer served 5 years for sexually assaulting 3 minors in the cruelest way possible. He evaded registration, and Scripps located this individual living within a mile of a school. It is scary, a pedophile living next to a school—and no one knew he was there.

This amendment requires the Department of Defense to communicate a criminal's information directly to the Attorney General to improve tracking and public notification.

My amendment is based upon a bipartisan bill, S. 409, that I introduced with the support of Senator McCASKILL. That bill already has the support of 15 of our colleagues: Senators AYOTTE, BLUNT, CORNYN, COTTON, CRAPO, FISCHER, RUBIO, SESSIONS, TILLIS, TOOMEY, FEINSTEIN, KING, MIKULSKI, and NELSON.

My amendment costs taxpayers nothing, and it is a commonsense solution to a real problem that exists.

I encourage my colleagues this afternoon, when we have an opportunity to

get back into votes, that they support amendment No. 1121.

I yield the floor to my colleague.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I objected to the unanimous consent request to waive rule XXVI to allow the Finance Committee to pass a fast-track bill because I think it is time we slowed down fast-track.

This trade agreement, I think everybody acknowledges, is of enormous consequence to working people all over this country. We need more transparency. We need to know what is in this legislation, and we need to involve the American people in this discussion.

I must say I am extremely disappointed that on a piece of legislation which involves 40 percent of the world's economy, that is the largest trade agreement in the history of the United States of America, much of the major media has virtually ignored this issue.

Now, you may be for the agreement, you may be against the agreement. I am strongly against it—and I will tell you why in a moment, but I would hope we could all agree this is an enormously important issue that deserves significant discussion on the part of the American people and their elected representatives.

I find it incomprehensible that, to the best of my knowledge, ABC—the ABC television network—has had zero coverage of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, zero; CBS television, zero coverage; NBC, zero coverage. PBS has had three mentions of the TPP. CNN has had zero coverage, FOX television has had four mentions, and MSNBC—mostly because of the excellent work of Ed Schultz—has covered it on 33 occasions, and all of this since January of 2015.

So here we are engaged in a discussion—some people are for it and some people are against it—but how do the American people know what is going on if the major networks are virtually blocking out any serious discussion, any mention of the agreement?

Supporters of the fast-track bill have told us over and over again that unfettered free trade will increase American jobs and increase American wages, but they have been proven dead wrong every single time we have had a trade agreement. In other words, we hear the same rhetoric: vote for NAFTA, vote for CAFTA, vote for the free-trade agreement with China. It is going to increase jobs in America, improve life for the middle class. Yet every single time the rhetoric around these past trade agreements has been proven to be dead wrong.

I was in the House of Representatives in 1993 and 1994 during the debate over NAFTA, the North American Free Trade Agreement. I remember all of those people who supported that agreement telling us how NAFTA was going to open the Mexican economy for products made in the United States of

America and how it was going to create all kinds of good-paying jobs in this country.

On September 19, 1993, President Bill Clinton said the following:

I believe that NAFTA will create 200,000 American jobs in the first two years of its effect. . . . I believe that NAFTA will create a million jobs in the first five years of its impact.

That was President Bill Clinton, who strongly supported that agreement.

But it wasn't only President Clinton who made those claims. The Heritage Foundation, one of the most conservative think tanks in this country, said in 1993: "Virtually all economists agree that NAFTA will produce a net increase of U.S. jobs over the next decade." That is from the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank.

Further, during the debate over NAFTA and the Senate in 1993, the distinguished Senator from Kentucky, MITCH MCCONNELL, who is now the majority leader, said: American firms will not move to Mexico just for lower wages.

That was Senator MCCONNELL. Virtually every major newspaper in America had editorials saying: Support NAFTA—the Washington Post, New York Times, Wall Street Journal. Support NAFTA; it is good for the American worker.

Well, it turns out that NAFTA, which, of course, was supported by every major corporation in America, supported by Wall Street, supported by all of the Big Money interests—well, it turns out that all of those projections regarding NAFTA turned out to be dead wrong.

According to the well-respected economists at the Economic Policy Institute, NAFTA has led to the loss of more than 680,000 jobs—not the creation of 1 million jobs, the loss of 680,000 American jobs.

In 1993, the year before NAFTA was implemented, the United States had a trade surplus with Mexico of more than \$1.6 billion. Last year, the trade deficit with Mexico was \$53 billion.

I quote what the Economic Policy Institute says about NAFTA:

[President] Clinton and his collaborators promised [NAFTA] would bring "good-paying American jobs," a rising trade surplus with Mexico, and a dramatic reduction in illegal immigration. Instead, NAFTA directly cost the United States a net loss of 700,000 jobs. The [trade] surplus with Mexico turned into a chronic deficit. And the economic dislocation in Mexico increased the flow of undocumented workers into the United States.

Further, I quote an article that appeared in the New York Times yesterday:

Mexico has become the most attractive place in North America to build new automobile factories, a shift that has siphoned jobs from the U.S. and Canada. . . . In the past two years, eight automakers have opened or announced new plants or expansions in Mexico. . . . Low labor costs and fewer tariffs are the swing factors.

That was the New York Times yesterday. In other words, despite all of

the rhetoric about how this unfettered free-trade agreement with Mexico was going to create jobs in this country, it turned out—not too surprisingly, I voted against NAFTA—to be exactly the opposite. Those people who told us how great the agreement was going to be were dead wrong.

Why were they wrong? Well, for obvious reasons. When you have workers in low-wage countries, people who are prepared to work for 50 cents an hour, \$1 an hour, \$2 an hour, it doesn't take a Ph.D. in economics to figure out that corporations will shut down in America, move to those countries, pay workers pennies an hour—not have to worry about environmental regulations, not have to worry about, in some cases, trade unions. You don't have to worry about that stuff.

So what would American corporations do? Of course they would go to those countries. That is exactly what they have done.

I talked for a moment about NAFTA. What about permanent normal trade relations with China? I don't think I have to elaborate on the fact that when Americans go shopping and they walk into a department store—just look at the labels. Look at where the products are manufactured. Time after time, the products come from China, China, and China.

As unbelievable as it may sound, back in 1999 and 2000, we were told—this is again what we were told—that permanent normal trade relations with China would open up the huge Chinese market to all kinds of American-made products. The argument was, look, China is the largest country in the world. If we can just have an unfettered free-trade agreement with them, think about all the products manufactured in America that would be sold to the huge population in China.

That was the argument. I think it is important for the American people to hear what the supporters of permanent normal trade relations with China—free trade with China—had to say back then and whether those arguments turned out to be right. In other words, if we are going to look at TPP today and hear what people are saying now, it is important to hear what people said about these other free trade agreements back then.

Here is what President Bill Clinton said about PNTR with China back in 1999:

In opening the economy of China, the agreement will create unprecedented opportunities for American farmers, workers and companies to compete successfully in China's market. . . . This is a hundred-to-nothing deal for America when it comes to the economic consequences.

That was President Bill Clinton.

In addition, this is what the conservative economists at the Cato Institute—a very conservative think tank—wrote back in 1999:

The silliest argument against PNTR is that Chinese imports would overwhelm U.S. industry. In fact, American workers are far

more productive than their Chinese counterparts . . . PNTR would create far more export opportunities for American than Chinese concerns.

In other words, we had a liberal President, President Clinton, saying PNTR—free trade—with China would open up great economic opportunities in America, create new jobs, and raise wages. We had a conservative think tank say exactly the same thing. We had all of corporate America, all of Wall Street, all of the big-money interests saying: Oh boy, what a great opportunity for the United States. We can create all these jobs.

Well, were they right or were they wrong? I think everybody knows—the facts are pretty clear—they were, once again, not wrong, they were dead wrong. The Economic Policy Institute estimated that PNTR with China has led to the net loss of over 2.7 million American jobs. The trade deficit with China has increased from \$83 billion back in 2001 to a recordbreaking \$342 billion in 2014. I note that my Republican colleagues often talk about our national deficit, which is an important issue, but I don't hear much discussion about our huge trade deficit, especially with China, which was at \$342 billion in 2014.

After all of the talk on the floor of the Senate and the floor of the House, after all of the editorials written in the major newspapers throughout our country, after all of the discussion and expositions of Wall Street and the big-money interests, it turned out that the trade agreement with China was an unmitigated disaster for American workers.

PNTR was passed in the year 2000. A couple of years later—and this kind of tells you everything you need to know about unfettered free trade—Jeffrey Immelt, the CEO of General Electric, one of our large corporations, was quoted on this subject at an investor meeting 1 year after China was admitted to the World Trade Organization, and this is what Mr. Immelt said:

When I am talking to GE managers, I talk China, China, China, China, China. You need to be there. You need to change the way people talk about it and how they get there. I am a nut on China. Outsourcing from China is going to grow to \$5 billion. We are building a tech center in China. Every discussion today has to center on China. The cost basis is extremely attractive. You can take an 18 cubic foot refrigerator, make it in China, land it in the United States, and land it for less than we can make an 18 cubic foot refrigerator today ourselves.

What Mr. Immelt was saying is what virtually every major corporation CEO was thinking, and it is not hard to understand why. In China, wages are very, very low. Environmental regulations are almost nonexistent. It is hard to find a trade union to negotiate for workers. Why wouldn't a company shut down in America and run to China? And that is exactly, of course, what they have done.

Before PNTR with China passed, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce told us it

would create jobs. But just a few years later, on July 1, 2004, the Associated Press ran an article with the headline "Chamber of Commerce leader advocates offshoring of jobs." The article quotes Thomas Donohue, the president and CEO, who, by the way, just yesterday was before the Senate Committee on Finance advocating for the Trans-Pacific Partnership. This is what the AP article said back in 2004:

Mr. Donohue urged American companies to send jobs overseas as a way to boost American competitiveness . . . Donohue said that exporting high-paid tech jobs to low-cost countries such as India, China and Russia saves companies money.

So the dirty secret is that of course these guys like these free-trade agreements—not because they are going to create jobs in America. No one seriously believes that. When they are honest about it, they understand and they say that if companies shut down plants in America, throw millions of people onto the streets in this country and move abroad—when they do that, their profits go up. And they are right. I give them credit for that. That is right. That is what unfettered free trade has meant in this country.

And on and on it goes. It is not just Mr. Immelt, the head of General Electric; it is not just Mr. Donohue, the head of the chamber of commerce; it is major corporation after major corporation. It is Wall Street. It is all of the moneyed interests. Before the agreement, they tell us as part of the discussion how many good jobs NAFTA is going to create, how many good jobs free trade with China will create, how many good jobs the Korean trade agreement will create. After the agreement, word comes out: Hey, this is a good opportunity. Shut down in America, go abroad, pay people pennies an hour, and bring your products back into this country.

In 2011, we were told we just had to pass the South Korea Free Trade Agreement because of all the jobs it would create. Same arguments—another free-trade agreement that is going to be great for the American worker. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce told us this free-trade agreement could create some 280,000 jobs in America. Instead, the South Korea Free Trade Agreement has led to the loss of some 60,000 jobs and the trade deficit with our country has gone from \$16.6 billion in 2012 to \$25 billion in 2014.

Now the administration, Wall Street, and the largest corporations in this country are saying: Trust us. Forget about everything we said about all of these other trade agreements. Yeah, maybe we were wrong on NAFTA. Maybe we were wrong on CAFTA. Maybe we were wrong on the China Free Trade Agreement. Maybe we were wrong on the South Korea Free Trade Agreement. But trust us, on the Trans-Pacific Partnership, it is different. This one really, really, really—cross our fingers—really is going to be different.

This one will support about, they say, some 650,000 American jobs. You know, it is one thing to be fooled once. It is another thing to be fooled twice. It is another thing to be fooled three times. But there comes a point where the American people are catching on that one of the reasons why the middle class of this country is disappearing, one of the reasons why most or many of the new jobs being created are low wage and part time, one of the reasons why real inflation-accounted-for wages for American workers has plummeted is because of these disastrous free-trade agreements. So you can fool me once. You can fool me twice. Maybe I am dumb and you can fool me three times. But there does come a limit to how many times you think you can fool the American people.

When we talk about why the middle class of this country has been in decline for the last 40 years, one of the important reasons is that since 2001 we have lost nearly 60,000 factories in this country. Over that same time period, we have lost over 4.7 million manufacturing jobs. In 1970, 25 percent of all jobs in the United States were manufacturing jobs. Today, that number is just 9 percent. In January of 2001, there were 17.1 million manufacturing workers in this country. Today, there are only 12.3 million manufacturing workers.

In my small State of Vermont, we have lost 34 percent of our manufacturing jobs over the past 14 years. In January of 2001, Vermont had 47,000 factory jobs. Last February, it was down to 30,700. And that is true for virtually every State in this country.

Why is this significant? It is significant because historically manufacturing jobs paid the highest wages available to blue-collar workers. If you had a job at a manufacturing plant, if you had a union, the likelihood was that you would earn decent wages, have decent benefits, and you could actually support your family. You earned the wages that enabled you to take good care of your family. With the decline of manufacturing, what has happened is we have seen a huge increase in service industry jobs—McDonald's, Walmart—where wages are low, benefits are nil, and American workers who work there are having a hard time surviving economically. Manufacturing goes down, people lose their jobs, wages go down, and new jobs are being created that pay significantly less than the jobs people used to have.

The fact is that TPP is just a new and easy way for corporations to ship jobs overseas and force Americans to compete with low-wage workers in Vietnam and other countries. The minimum wage in Vietnam is 56 cents an hour. What this trade agreement says to American workers is, you are now competing against people who in some cases will be working for 56 cents an hour. I think that is grossly unfair. We should not force American workers into a race to the bottom.

Let's be clear. The TPP is much more than a free-trade agreement; it is part of a global race to the bottom to boost the profits of large, multinational corporations and Wall Street by outsourcing jobs, undercutting workers' rights, dismantling labor, environmental, health, food safety, and financial laws, and allowing corporations to challenge our laws in international tribunals rather than our own court system.

The TPP is poised to be the largest free-trade agreement in history, encompassing 12 nations that account for roughly 40 percent of the global economy. That is why it has been referred to as "NAFTA on steroids."

Incredibly, while Wall Street, the pharmaceutical industry, and major media companies have full knowledge as to what is in this treaty, the American people and Members of Congress do not. They have been locked out of the process. While the full text of the TPP has not been made public, there have been some leaks of what is included in it, and what I have seen is very disturbing.

It has been estimated by outside experts that the United States would lose more than 130,000 jobs to Vietnam and Japan alone if the TPP goes into effect. But that is just the tip of the iceberg. At a time when corporations have already outsourced over 3 million service sector jobs that were in the United States, the TPP includes rules that will make it even easier for corporate America to outsource call centers, computer programming, engineering, accounting, and medical diagnostic jobs. So these are not just manufacturing jobs; these are all kinds of other jobs which, if they can be done cheaper in other countries, will be sent there.

Under TPP, Vietnamese companies would be able to compete with American companies for Federal contracts funded by U.S. taxpayers, undermining American laws. The TPP will undermine U.S. sovereignty by giving foreign corporations the right to challenge any law in this country that threatens their expected future profits before international tribunals. In other words, if we pass an increase in the minimum wage, under the TPP, Vietnamese companies that invest in America could sue the United States in an international court full of corporate lawyers if they believe it will hurt their profits. By the way, that is what this whole agreement is about—maximizing the investment profits of corporations from the United States and all over the world.

If localities—local governments, state governments, federal governments—stand up and say: You know what, we want to protect health, and we want to protect the environment—if that impinges on the future profits of the corporation, it can take legal action against that local, state, or federal agency. That may sound kind of crazy, but that is exactly what has already happened in Egypt after it signed a free-trade agreement with France. In

2012, a French utility company sued Egypt in an international tribunal for 82 million euros. And what was Egypt's crime? For what were they being sued? They were being sued because they had increased their minimum wage, among other things. The French company saw raising the minimum wage for Egyptian workers—which is very low—as an impingement on their ability to make profits.

Further, large pharmaceutical companies are working hard to ensure that the TPP extends the monopolies for their prescription drugs by extending patents that already can last for 20 years or more. Doctors Without Borders—a heroic organization of doctors who go to some of the most difficult, the poorest, the most dangerous parts of this world to treat people who desperately need medical care—they are very brave people. They wrote that "the TPP agreement is on track to become the most harmful trade pact ever for access to medicines in developing countries." In other words, what the big pharmaceutical industry wants is for countries all over the world to have to pay top dollar for prescription drugs. They want to be able to maintain their patents for as long as possible and prevent those drugs from going generic, where the prices would be significantly lower. The problem is that people in poor countries cannot pay a lot of money for their prescription drugs. So if this agreement goes through and the pharmaceutical industry can force poor countries to pay high prices for prescription drugs, people will suffer and people will die.

After one disastrous trade agreement after another, I think it is time for the American people and their elected officials to reassess how we do trade in America. It is time to say we need trade agreements that work for working people in this country and not just trade agreements that work for the CEOs of large, multinational corporations. It is time to say to corporate America: If you want us to purchase your products, it is time you started manufacturing those products here in the United States and not in low-wage countries all over the world.

The evidence is overwhelming. For decades, our trade policies have been responsible for lowering the standard of living of tens of millions of Americans. People today all over this country are working longer hours for lower wages. Most of the new jobs being created are low-wage jobs, and many of them are part-time jobs.

We need to rebuild our manufacturing sector. To do that, we need a fundamental revision in our trade policies. NAFTA has failed. CAFTA has failed. Permanent normal trade relations with China has failed. The Korea trade agreement has failed. It is basically insane to keep going with the same type of trade policy that has failed and failed and failed.

I hope very much that here in the Senate and in the House we can defeat

this TPP and come back to the table and develop a trade agreement that works for American workers, works for people all over the world, and not continue these disastrous trade agreements.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). The Senator from Montana.

Mr. DAINES. Madam President, I am glad that today the Senate will take the long-overdue step forward and approve the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act—bipartisan legislation that I am proud to be a cosponsor of that will help victims of human trafficking.

Montanans know firsthand the immeasurable damage human trafficking has inflicted on our communities, our schools, and, most of all, the victims of these horrific crimes. We also know the importance of coming together to support the victims of this modern-day slavery.

Too often, victims of human trafficking are underserved and fail to get the resources they so desperately need. This important bill will provide our law enforcement officials and the communities with the necessary tools to help lift these innocent victims out of the shadows.

Montanans understand the importance of cracking down on the perpetrators of these crimes and ensuring that we are serving as an advocate for victims—without letting partisan politics get in the way.

I strongly urge all of my colleagues to come together today and do what is right for the victims of human trafficking and pass the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

AIRPORT SECURITY

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, our Nation's airports are not secure. We were rudely awakened to that fact last December when it was discovered that for a several-month period at the Atlanta Airport, employees of the airport—one in particular—since there was limited, if any, screening of the airport employees coming into the airport, had concocted a scheme with another fellow to transport guns to New York, where they were sold on the streets of Brooklyn.

The police couldn't figure out how in the world they were getting these guns to New York because they kept watching the roads. It was in plain sight. What they were using were the defects in airport security—if you can believe this—to bring guns to the Atlanta Airport. Then once at the airport, the airport employee would go up to the sterile passenger area, where, in the restroom, he would meet a passenger who

came through security with an empty backpack and transfer the guns he had brought onto the airport property to the passenger, who then would take them on the flight from Atlanta to New York.

This went on for several months. This passenger even carried a carbine. When he was arrested in December, he had 16 handguns in his backpack on the airplane. It is a good thing these guys were criminals and not terrorists because you can imagine—this is exactly what we are trying to prevent: weapons getting on airplanes.

Interestingly, when I got into this from the position of having the privilege of being the ranking member of the commerce committee, where we have jurisdiction over aviation, lo and behold, what I discovered in my own State is that two airports had already solved the problem by increasing security. The security we as passengers go through—they have similar security for all airport employees. The first one to do that was Miami International Airport back in 1999 after they discovered a drug-smuggling ring. Instead of having hundreds of entry points into the airport for employees, what they had was boiled down to a handful, where they screen the employees. It was then inaugurated by the Orlando International Airport after 2007 when they discovered a drug-smuggling ring, and Orlando has boiled it down to about five entry points for airline employees. I went through those entry points at both Orlando and Miami, and it is not only what we go through as passengers, but they also have to double-check that the person is who they say they are. They have their badge. The airport employee checks the photograph on the badge with the person, and they swipe the card. In the case of the Orlando Airport, they also have to punch in an identification number.

That seems to have solved the problem at those two huge airports, Orlando and Miami, but what about the other 448 commercial airports in the United States? Are they going to be the victims? Are we, the American traveling public, going to be the victims like they were in Atlanta?

In this age of terrorism, we cannot afford any of those mistakes. We have been after the Department of Homeland Security and TSA to start changing this. The Department of Homeland Security Secretary just announced that they will take immediate steps to increase the screening of airport employees across the country because they indeed understand this is a problem. They are going to have a comprehensive review. They are not saying they are going to require what Orlando and Miami do, but at the end of the day, they are going to have to end up doing that.

We have to simplify the system by boiling down the hundreds of entry points to just a few, and then we have to put up screening devices similar to the ones passengers go through to go into a sterile environment.

I am very grateful to Secretary Johnson for calling on TSA to start this immediate inquiry and to have some action. I hope the increased attention to this matter now will get airports and airport employees more highly sensitized to what had been such a breach at the Atlanta Airport. If we can do this, then it will be another measure we can take to make sure the public is traveling safely.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

UNITED STATES-CANADA RELATIONSHIP

Mr. COTTON. Mr. President, in 1941, in an address delivered at an event in honor of the Canadian Prime Minister, Winston Churchill famously declared, "Canada is the linchpin of the English-speaking world." As with most things, Churchill was able to see deeper truths and recognize Canada for what it really is. Today, I wish to recognize the close and vital relationship between the United States and Canada, our great neighbor to the north. Canada is a critical partner to both America and Arkansas. We ought to find every way to strengthen our relationship and avoid every possible trouble on the horizon.

The bond between the United States and Canada starts with our common heritage and our common way of life, including individuals rights, constitutional democracy, the rule of law, open markets, and the defense of freedom around the world. Canada has stood with the United States in our toughest hours to defend our common way of life. Canadian troops fought alongside our GIs on D-day at Juno Beach, where 1 in every 13 Canadians perished. After the 9/11 attacks, Canada was one of the first countries to join our campaign in Afghanistan, where 158 brave Canadians died on the battlefield—the rough equivalent of 1,400 American troops. As with our own soldiers, we honor their ultimate sacrifice and entrust their families to the tender care of a loving providence.

Canada has also been a willing partner in many other security and humanitarian operations around the globe, including Libya, Haiti, and the NATO-led stabilization force in Bosnia-Herzegovina in the 1990s. Moreover, Canada is part of the Five Eyes intelligence partnership, which has its roots in World War II. This partnership is vital to our national security, helping, for example, to disrupt a 2013 Al Qaeda-associated plot to derail a train traveling between New York and Canada. If successful, this attack could have killed dozens, perhaps even hundreds.

Canada and the United States also share the world's longest border—and

the world's longest peaceful border. Over 300,000 people cross our shared border every day by every mode of transport. Americans too often forget ours is the most secure and mutually beneficial international relationship among nations, taking for granted our peaceful partner to the north. Our success as the global superpower and the ability to protect our interests and global stability depends heavily on our peaceful and productive relationship with Canada. Without it, the New World would not be able to project power into the Old.

Our relationship with Canada is indeed productive, as Canada has remained our best and most important trading partner. Last year, \$759 billion in goods and services moved between Canada and the United States. To put that into perspective, Canada purchased more goods from the United States than did all 28 members of the European Union combined and 2½ times more than did China. These purchases included everything from raw materials to paper produced in Ashdown, rice milled in Stuttgart, and construction hardware manufactured in Blytheville.

Moreover, Canada is the largest supplier of energy to the United States. In January, in fact, the United States imported more oil from Canada than all OPEC countries combined, and Canada produces 97 percent of all U.S. natural gas imports. Of course, these numbers would be even greater if President Obama would finally approve the Keystone XL Pipeline which would also create thousands of high-paying American and Canadian jobs.

Arkansas, like America as a whole, has benefited immensely from our close ties to Canada. Agricultural products, iron and steel produced in Arkansas factories, and countless other products manufactured in the natural state find their way to our friends in the north, providing Arkansas with good customers and good jobs. Indeed, Canada is Arkansas' No. 1 foreign customer and 66,000 Arkansas jobs depend on United States-Canada trade and investment, which totals \$2.3 billion every year.

Some of Arkansas' most recognizable names reflect these Arkansas-Canada ties. Murphy Oil, headquartered in El Dorado, has operated in Canada for over 60 years, producing oil and natural gas through stakes in several projects off the coast of Newfoundland and in Alberta and British Columbia. Walmart has also had a strong presence in Canada for over 20 years. Today, they employ over 90,000 Canadians across nearly 400 retail stores. Tyson and Skippy Peanut Butter are just two of the household names produced in Arkansas that are pantry staples in Canada. With agricultural products making up nearly 20 percent of Arkansas' exports to Canada, Arkansas' ranchers and farmers help round out Canada's pantries and freezers.

Given these warm, longstanding ties to Canada, my team and I have worked

closely with the Canadian Embassy during my time in Congress to promote and strengthen our relationship. Unfortunately, the Obama administration at times has impeded it. The Keystone Pipeline, for instance, is not just good for American jobs but also a critical project for Canada's economy. Yet President Obama dismissed it as mere Canadian oil from Canadian companies—cavalier comments that minimize the pipeline's benefits for American workers, while also manifesting a casual disregard for our close ally's interests.

Now we are seeing this neglect again with country-of-origin labeling requirements for meat products processed in the United States which threaten to disrupt trade between our two countries. These so-called COOL regulations needlessly require different labeling for products born, raised or slaughtered in either country. Today, processors are forced to either operate two production lines to keep their Canadian-born or raised cattle separate from those born and raised in the United States or maintain extensive records on where each head of cattle came from. These regulations unduly burden Canadian producers and American processors while also violating our treaty obligations. Yet they deliver little value to consumers.

Yet, despite multiple adverse rulings from the World Trade Organization, the administration continues to pursue appeals, a process which is expected to end next month. As a result of these trade barriers and WTO rulings, Canada may be forced to impose reciprocal trade barriers on American products. Unfortunately, products already targeted for trade barriers include Arkansas rice, poultry, grains, and beef. If the administration does not relent, nearly \$130 million in Arkansas agricultural trade with Canada will be threatened—more than half our State's annual total.

We should put a stop now to this trade dispute that no one intended and no one wants. I stand ready to work with my fellow Senators and the administration to modify the labeling requirements at the earliest opportunity following a final WTO ruling. It will be good for Arkansas' farmers and ranchers, good for American consumers, and good for the health of the United States-Canada partnership. Let's work together to fix this problem, protect American jobs, and help our neighbor to the north remain our linchpin in the world.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, we have commemorated National Crime Victims' Rights Week every April since 1981. This year it takes place from April 19 through April 25.

This week is dedicated to remembering victims of crime, building awareness, and advocating for victims'

rights. It is also an opportunity to pay tribute to the millions of Americans and thousands of Iowans who fall victim to senseless acts of crime each year.

On Monday I introduced a bipartisan resolution commemorating National Crime Victims' Rights Week, and I am happy that my colleagues have joined me by unanimously passing this resolution this morning.

The theme for this week, "Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims," recognizes the importance of offering the support necessary to help crime survivors heal.

During this week we also remember the contributions of the countless crisis hotline volunteers and staff, victims' rights attorneys, medical professionals, and emergency responders who provide critical assistance to survivors of crime every hour, every day in communities across the United States.

The Judiciary Committee has worked to strengthen Federal laws and direct resources to efforts to prevent crime from occurring in the first place. And, although we still have a way to go to ensure that all crime survivors are treated with appropriate fairness and respect in the criminal justice system, I am proud that we have made important strides toward this goal.

An important issue for many crime victims is restitution. It is an issue that would be addressed by the "Amy and Vicky Child Pornography Victim Restitution Improvement Act," a bill introduced by Senator HATCH that has my strong support.

The Judiciary Committee, of which I serve as chairman, reported this bill on February 5. If enacted, the measure, which passed the full Senate by a vote of 98-0 on February 11, would reverse a Supreme Court decision that limits the amount of restitution that victims of child pornography can recover from any one perpetrator.

It would ensure that victims can recover a minimum amount of damages for certain child pornography offenses, and it also would make any single perpetrator potentially responsible for the full damages that result from an offense involving multiple perpetrators.

Americans also deserve to know that we are doing everything possible to prevent sexual assault, especially in our most acclaimed institutions of society, including college campuses and our Nation's military. In fact, a zero tolerance standard needs to be set at the highest levels of the Federal government.

Take, for example, the lack of accountability within some of our Nation's Federal law enforcement entities. In the last few years, a string of sex scandals involving prostitutes being solicited by public servants working for the FBI, Secret Service and, most recently, the Drug Enforcement Administration reflect an embarrassing lack of ethics and moral code of conduct by Federal agents hired to flush out illicit criminal activity at home and abroad.

It should go without saying that this type of conduct by Federal law enforcement personnel—on or off the clock—cannot be tolerated. This behavior telegraphs the wrong message about acceptable sexual conduct to society and contributes to the demand for the human sex trade around the world.

I supported the enactment of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, and earlier this year I chaired a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on human trafficking, where witnesses discussed the consequences of sex trafficking for both child and adult victims.

The witnesses at this hearing, which took place on February 24, 2015, also testified in support of several measures that would help us further combat the various forms of human trafficking in the United States.

One of these measures is the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act which is now pending on the Senate floor, and of which I am a cosponsor.

It is vitally important that we pass this legislation, which would authorize much needed services to victims of child pornography as well as labor and sex trafficking.

The bill also equips law enforcement with new tools for prosecuting human trafficking offenses and recognizes that the production of child pornography is a form of human trafficking.

Also, earlier this year, I introduced the Combating Human Trafficking Act. Among other things, the bill would clarify that Federal grant resources can be used to meet the housing needs of human trafficking victims and offer training on the effects of sex trafficking to those who offer services to runaway, homeless, and at-risk youth.

I led the Judiciary Committee in supporting the inclusion of this legislation as an amendment to the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act during committee consideration of that bill.

The committee accepted the measure by voice vote on February 26. The committee reported the bill to the Senate floor by a vote of 19-0.

I am grateful we have been able to reach an agreement that will finally allow a vote on this very important legislation, and I look forward to casting my vote in favor of this bill.

Our next challenge should be to address the two broken systems of justice found on our college campuses and within our military institutions. First, a flawed reporting system on college campuses requires a stronger set of tools that would help survivors of sexual assault as well as protect the rights of the accused. That is why I have cosponsored the "Campus Accountability and Safety Act" with Senator MCCASKILL.

It would establish new campus resources and support services for students, including: a requirement that colleges designate a confidential advisor for survivors of sexual violence; new transparency and reporting requirements; coordination between colleges and local law enforcement; and

protections for due process rights of survivors and the accused.

It would also increase financial penalties for colleges found not in compliance with the new standards.

Cases of sexual assault, which too often go unreported on college campuses and in our own communities, require sustained, collective attention by policymakers, law enforcement, advocates, and survivors.

Every student who heads off to a college campus in America deserves to know that there is a system in place to secure justice and due process for the victim and the accused.

Likewise, every young man and woman who serves his or her country in uniform deserves to know that sexual assault is a crime and will be treated and prosecuted as such.

In the last Congress, I cosponsored the bipartisan "Military Justice Improvement Act" with Senator GILLIBRAND.

The bill would empower enlisted soldiers and sailors to come forward and report a sexual crime.

It would create an independent system of justice within the ranks of the military.

It would remove the chain of command from prosecutorial decisions regarding sexual assault.

The fear of retaliation and retribution in the military has been a reality for too many survivors of sexual assault. The current system has created an environment that emboldens predators instead of empowering victims.

Barring access to fair and impartial justice pours salt in the wounds of those who have suffered immeasurable indignity and harm while serving their country in uniform. I will continue working to advance bipartisan measures through Congress to send a clear message. Sexual assault is a crime.

The sooner our culture and systems of justice on college campuses and in the Nation's military work together to deter, prosecute, and stop sexual violence, the safer our society will be for America's sons and daughters growing up in the 21st century.

In closing, crime victims and survivors in the United States deserve our assistance in helping them cope with the often devastating consequences of crime. That is why it is so important that we support the mission and goals of National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

Mr. President, I thank my colleagues for joining me in supporting passage of this resolution.

AMENDMENT NO. 273, AS MODIFIED

Mr. President, for the leader, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment in order to call up amendment No. 273 with the changes that are at the desk.

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

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Iowa [Mr. GRASSLEY], for Mr. KIRK, for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN,

proposes an amendment numbered 273, as modified.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a penalty for knowingly selling advertising that offers certain commercial sex acts)

At the appropriate place, add the following:

SECTION . . . SAVE ACT.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the "Stop Advertising Victims of Exploitation Act of 2015" or the "SAVE Act of 2015".

(b) **ADVERTISING THAT OFFERS CERTAIN COMMERCIAL ACTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1591(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is further amended by inserting "advertisements," after "obtains,".

(2) **MENS REA REQUIREMENT.**—Section 1591(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended in the undesignated matter following paragraph (2), by inserting ", except where the act constituting the violation of paragraph (1) is advertising," after "knowing, or".

(3) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—Section 1591(b) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is further amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting "advertised," after "obtained,"; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting "advertised," after "obtained,".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. President, I am pleased to be able to speak in support of my amendment No. 294 to the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. It is important as part of our duties as stewards of the taxpayer money to ensure that the Federal Government is running as efficiently as possible. This is rooting out waste, duplications, and overlap where we find it in the Federal Government and in these programs.

This amendment simply requires the GAO—the Government Accountability Office—to study the programs and initiatives which are affected by this bill and those which are related to services for trafficking victims and other victims services. In particular, the amendment directs GAO to look for duplication and overlap and requires GAO to issue a report to Congress describing costs associated with them and to make recommendations on how to achieve cost savings.

I do support this legislation. I voted for it when it was considered by the Judiciary Committee. It is incumbent upon us to ensure that other programs that are affected by this legislation are studied to make sure we don't have duplication, that we don't have other programs that are doing the same things. We need to make sure we are good stewards of the taxpayers' money. The GAO has considerable experience of this kind to do this type of analysis.

I look forward to having support for this amendment, and I ask my colleagues to support it.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I come to the Senate floor to thank my colleagues and to ask for their support for our first amendment, Klobuchar amendment No. 296. I understand it is going to be by voice vote, and it is something I have worked on for a long time.

I know everyone has put a lot of effort into this bill—certainly Senator CORNYN and I have—and we are very pleased that it is moving forward. I thank all my colleagues for their work.

This afternoon, I know we will be considering a number of important amendments, and, as I mentioned, one is the safe harbor legislation. I think we have 26 cosponsors on the bill.

Let's first get to why we are doing this bill. The United Nations considers human trafficking to be one of the three largest criminal enterprises in the world. The first is illegal trafficking of drugs, the second is illegal trafficking of guns, and the third is illegal trafficking of humans. It is not just something, as we know, that is happening in faraway lands. It happens in our own backyards. It has happened to 12-year-olds in my own State. As Senator HEITKAMP knows, it happens in the oil patches of North Dakota. That is why this bill and this amendment No. 296, which passed with the bill unanimously through the Judiciary Committee, are so important.

This is about treating the children who are victims of these crimes as victims because that is what they are. Right now, in many States around the country, these kids can still be prosecuted.

In a State such as mine, the State of Minnesota, we have in place a safe harbor law that has been very effective. Why? One, it gives the kids the services they need, whether it is through child protection, whether it is housing, whether it is getting the kind of medical care they need. That is what our bill does. On the other hand, if you just prosecute these kids, do you actually think they are going to turn against the person running the sex ring? Are they going to turn against the pimp? No. They are going to go right back into the hands of the person they were with—the perpetrator—to begin with. In our State, we have had a lot of success with this safe harbor law. We have obtained one of the longest sentences ever—40 years—against someone who was running a sex ring because we give help to the victims of the crime.

As I said, there are 26 of my colleagues across the Senate who have cosponsored the bill. It has been an honor to work on the issue with Samantha Power, the U.S. Ambassador to the

United Nations, and Cindy McCain, wife of our colleague Senator MCCAIN. Senator HEITKAMP, Cindy McCain, and I went down to Mexico to talk with them about the partnership we have in going after these cases.

The amendment has the support of the National Conference of State Legislatures, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the Fraternal Order of Police, Shared Hope International, and the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

As I said, this bill and this amendment simply create an incentive for States across the country to enact a safe harbor law. Fifteen States already have these laws. Another 12 States are making progress in that direction. The House passed a similar bill last year under the leadership of ERIK PAULSEN, one of the Congressmen from Minnesota.

Secondly, in addition to creating an incentive for these States to enact safe harbor laws, the bill also creates a national strategy to combat human trafficking. The national strategy will encourage cooperation and coordination among all the agencies that work on this problem—Federal, State, tribal, and local. That is a major part of the bill, and it wasn't in the House bill. We think it is very important.

The bill also gives sex trafficking victims the right support they need. It qualifies them for job-training programs. The bill allows victims of sex trafficking to participate in the Job Corps program to help them get back on their feet.

Senator CORNYN, who is the lead Republican on this amendment, and I were pleased to include a provision that Senators WHITEHOUSE and SESSIONS have been working on to clarify the authority of the U.S. Marshals Service to assist local law enforcement agencies in locating missing children.

That is what the amendment does. There are incentives for the safe harbor laws we have already seen in 15 States. There is a national sex trafficking strategy, which is something we dearly need as we see an increase in these kinds of crimes. It qualifies victims of these crimes for job-training programs. Finally, there is a provision to make it easier for the U.S. Marshals Service to assist local law enforcement, a measure proposed by Senator WHITEHOUSE and Senator SESSIONS which is included in this amendment and which came through the committee.

I want to end by telling you what this is about. It is about a 12-year-old girl in Rochester who got a text message. The text message said she was invited to a party. The text said to go meet in a parking lot. She went there, and then she was thrown into a car, brought up to the Twin Cities, raped by a man, then sold on craigslist, sold for sex, and raped by two other men. Finally, weeks later, the guy who did this was found, and he is being prosecuted federally.

That is what this is about. These are serious crimes. The average age of a

victim is 12 years old—not even old enough to go to a high school prom, not old enough to get a driver's license.

Again, I thank Senator CORNYN for his work. We worked together on both the bill as well as this amendment we are considering today. This has been a lot of work the last month, but I am so pleased we are advancing this important trafficking bill.

I see that the Senator from Maine is here. She has also been a leader in this area.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Thank you, Mr. President.

First, let me commend Senator CORNYN and Senator KLOBUCHAR for the work they have done on this antitrafficking bill.

This is, in fact, a horrendous crime. Just a few months ago in my home State, in Bangor, a couple was arrested for allegedly trafficking a 13-year-old girl. That is what we are talking about, and that is why this legislation is so important.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of the bill, and I commend Senator CORNYN and Senator KLOBUCHAR and others for working so hard on it.

The antitrafficking bill deals with the law enforcement piece of this horrendous problem. But we also need to pay attention to prevention programs. That is why this afternoon we will vote on a proposal that Senator LEAHY and I, along with Senators HEITKAMP, AYOTTE, MURKOWSKI, and BALDWIN, have put forth to reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act programs, which already have expired. They expired in 2013.

These are absolutely critical programs for preventing homeless youth and runaway youth from ending up in the hands of sex traffickers. The runaway and homeless youth programs are comprised of three programs: the Street Outreach Program, the Basic Center Program, and the Transitional Living Program. They have helped thousands of our homeless youth meet their immediate needs and provided long-term residential services for those who, sadly, cannot be reunited with their families.

The amendment that we are offering complements the underlying bill by addressing prevention, intervention, and recovery service for trafficking victims, particularly among the most vulnerable population—our homeless youth.

According to a 2013 report by the Institute of Medicine and the National Research Council, homelessness is one of the most common risk factors for sex trafficking. Without access to food, shelter, and social supports, homeless young people often turn to what is termed “survival sex;” that is, a way to trade sex for a place to sleep, for food, and for other basic necessities.

Another recent report found that one in four homeless youth are victims of

sex trafficking or engage in survival sex. Our amendment strengthens the existing programs by ensuring that service providers know how to identify trafficking victims and give these youth the support they need. In many cases these services can prevent these homeless and runaway youth from becoming victims in the first place.

In Maine, our homeless shelters are critical partners in the fight to end human trafficking. In Portland, for example, the Preble Street Resource Center has used Runaway and Homeless Youth Act resources to connect youth who need food, shelter, health services, and educational support. The Preble Street Anti-trafficking Coalition is currently helping approximately 50 trafficking victims whose ages range from 14 to 42. They enable them to start new lives.

New Beginnings, a great program in Lewiston, ME, and the Shaw House in Bangor, ME, are other organizations that have successfully leveraged Federal grants from the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program to provide shelter and services to homeless youth in my State. With this kind of support, young people can make their way off the street and away from criminals who will exploit them at a time when they are at their most vulnerable.

There are more than 1.6 million homeless teens in our country—a truly astonishing number. A growing number of these homeless youth identify themselves as LGBT. It is estimated that up to 40 percent of runaway or homeless youth are LGBT. Some of them have been kicked out of their own homes. Others have felt that there has been no place for them in their community. Our amendment would help ensure that those seeking services through the federally funded programs are not denied assistance based on their race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability.

All homeless young people need access to safe beds at night and services during the day so that they never have to choose between selling their bodies and a safe place to sleep. I would like to thank Senator LEAHY and Senator HEITKAMP for being so passionate about this issue. They have worked with me to incorporate important feedback into our amendment, particularly from faith-based organizations.

In fact, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that at the conclusion of my remarks, a letter be printed that I have from numerous faith-based organizations endorsing our amendment. These organizations represent millions of people in all 50 States. They urge us to pass our legislation with that non-discrimination clause intact.

They include, for example: Covenant House International, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, the Interfaith Alliance, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Metropolitan Community Churches, the Methodist Federation for Social Action, the

United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries, and many others that are backing our amendment.

We have clarified that providers can still provide and offer sex-specific shelters and programming. By that, I mean all-girl shelters or all-boy shelters. The nondiscrimination clause is modeled—it is virtually identical to a provision enacted into law during the last Congress through the bipartisan Violence Against Women Act. Nothing, nothing in our amendment alters the ability of faith-based providers to give preference in hiring to people of their same faith.

The stand-alone bill on which our amendment is based was reported out of the Judiciary Committee last Congress by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 15 to 3. It has the support of nearly 270 organizations including, as I mentioned, many faith-based providers that serve homeless youth, other service providers, and antitrafficking groups. They all strongly support the reauthorization of these prevention, intervention, and treatment programs.

Our health care workers in Maine are also tremendous partners in helping to address trafficking crimes and their victims. Saint Joseph Hospital in Bangor has educated its clinicians to identify the signs of human trafficking among their patients. Congress must do more both to provide law enforcement with the tools it needs to pursue sex trafficking, but we cannot forget those prevention and intervention programs that are provided by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program.

By giving homeless youth the support and the services they need, we can help prevent them from becoming trafficked in the first place. These programs have provided lifesaving services and housing for America's homeless and runaway youth for 40 years. They are vital in addressing this serious problem. I urge my colleagues to support the amendment that Senator LEAHY and I, Senator HEITKAMP, Senator AYOTTE, Senator MURKOWSKI, and Senator BALDWIN are offering today. It is so important.

Again, I want to especially thank Senator HEITKAMP for all of her advocacy. She has done tremendous work.

I am very happy to yield the floor for her.

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

MARCH 11, 2015.

DEAR SENATORS: As faith-based organizations representing millions of people in all 50 states across our nation, we are writing today regarding the Runaway Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act. Based on the values of our diverse faith traditions, we are committed to ensuring that all victims of violence have equal access to justice, strong legal protections and can access the lifesaving services they need to move from crisis to stability. We urge you to pass this legislation with the nondiscrimination clause intact. Federal funds should not be used to discriminate.

In times of crisis, victims often turn to their faith communities and leaders for guidance and support. Faith leaders are on the

front lines each day identifying victims, providing refuge, referring victims and their families to programs and services for homeless and trafficked youth, and offering hope and healing. Part of meeting these needs includes respecting the religious liberty of those receiving services.

A study conducted by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services found that 46% of homeless youth had run away from home because of physical abuse and 17% because of sexual abuse. A growing number of homeless youth identify as LGBT, and it is estimated that they comprise up to 40% of the runaway homeless youth (RHY) population. We believe that ALL vulnerable young people should have access to programs designed to stop the cycle of victimization and provide comprehensive solutions. Federal grantees must be prohibited from discriminating against any youth based on their sexual orientation or gender identity.

Thank you for your steadfast commitment to working with faith communities to support vulnerable young people and victims of trafficking. We look forward to working with you to swiftly pass the Runaway Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act.

Sincerely,

Catholics for Choice, Congregation Beit Simchat Torah, Covenant House International, Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, Global Faith and Justice Project, Global Justice Institute, Interfaith Alliance, Jewish Labor Committee Western Region, Methodist Federation for Social Action, Metropolitan Community Churches, National Council of Jewish Women;

National Center for Housing and Child Welfare, Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, Religious Institute, Society for Humanistic Judaism, The General Board of Church and Society, United Methodist Church, The Jewish Federations of North America, T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, Unitarian Universalist Association, Unitarian Universalist Women's Federation, United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries, Women's League for Conservative Judaism.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Ms. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, I want to add my voice to all of the accolades that have been expressed today to Senator CORNYN and Senator KLOBUCHAR for giving a voice to the victims of the most horrific crime that occurs in our country; those are the victims of human trafficking. Without their hard work, without their advocacy, we would not be debating this on the floor of the Senate. So it is so important to acknowledge that work and to advance the cause by working together.

Today, I wish to speak to amendment No. 290, which is the Collins-Leahy runaway and homeless youth amendment. I want to thank Senator COLLINS and Senator LEAHY for being such fierce advocates for runaway and homeless youth. I have had years of experience working with victims and vulnerable youth. I can tell you based on this experience that this amendment is the most critical piece that we are considering today to truly address prevention and early intervention for a population that is the most susceptible to being trafficked; that is the population of runaway and homeless youth.

It is a story I believe is too often told. It is a story of a runaway and

homeless youth engaging in survival sex, being coerced into criminal activity by people offering nothing more than a roof over their head or maybe even a meal. Since 1995, North Dakota has received \$11.5 million in this very critical and important prevention program. How many of these children have we rescued from a life of despair? We will never know.

But I am certain, telling those stories and visiting them in the shelters and in their apartments that are transitory living situations, that they would otherwise be so extraordinarily vulnerable. I have heard firsthand the stories of these homeless and runaway youth. The stories that you hear are literally heartbreaking. With prior physical, mental, and sexual abuse, these runaway and homeless youth have already been devalued. They have already been told that they are not worth what other children are worth. They have substance addictions. They have been shunned by their family or communities for who they are and how they identify. They are the most marginalized children in our country.

Last July, a 13-year-old runaway from Minneapolis was picked up by her traffickers in the Cities and then worked her way across—she was heading off to the oil patch in western North Dakota. She stopped in Fargo-Moorhead to make some money on the way, being trafficked by a man who was selling a 13-year old for sex online through backpage.com. Fargo-Moorhead law enforcement set up a sting and rescued the victim and arrested the trafficker.

Just 2 weeks ago, there was another tragic story of a 14-year old—a 14-year old runaway from Las Vegas. Her parents did not know where she was. She got mixed up in the wrong crowd. She was put in a car and taken to Minot, ND. Her mother, desperate to find her, searched through her email records, found a connection to Backpage, and saw that her daughter was being advertised on Backpage in Minot, ND. She called the local authorities. The local authorities were able to rescue her.

She was rescued with a 16-year-old and returned to Las Vegas. She is now with her mother. The 16-year-old got off the plane and ran—got off the plane and ran. There was no hope for her, no place to return that was welcoming, no mother who searched for her on the Internet and found her.

As we work through these stories, I want you to think about what is the common element, what is the common factor. You look behind these stories, and you will see in these stories of trafficking runaway and homeless youth—runaway and homeless youth—vulnerable, on the street, susceptible to a warm bed, susceptible to a hot meal, susceptible to any kind of love and comfort they can find, only to find out that it might be their worst nightmare.

They are trapped, and where do they go? Where do they go if there is not a program for runaway and homeless

youth? Where do they go if someone is not reaching out a hand? So what has become a common recurring fact of these offenders or these victims is that they have been thrown away or they are runaways.

Forty percent, we estimate, of these children, identify themselves as gay, lesbian, transgender or bisexual youth.

If we pass an amendment that doesn't have protection for this population, that doesn't have protection for these children, what is the message? The message is the message that has been reinforced their entire life, which is that they are not worthy of help, they are not worthy of being treated as all other children are.

So this Senate will reinforce the recurring message that is so tragically identified and so tragically delivered to these children every day.

I urge my colleagues, I beg my colleagues to please recognize the worth of all children. Recognize the vulnerability of this population of children.

Vote with us to support the Leahy-Collins amendment. It is so critical to sending the right message, so critical to giving the right services, but so critical to sending the right message that all children matter and that we in the Senate do not see or discriminate. What we do is we help provide shelter to the most vulnerable among us.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank the Senator from North Dakota for her very, very strong statement.

We sometimes talk about numbers and this and that. It is when you talk about real cases that we understand what we are talking about here. We are going to consider two amendments related to preventing human trafficking of runaway and homeless youth.

Senator CORNYN's amendment speaks to this effort, but it is not a meaningful alternative to the comprehensive amendment that Senator COLLINS and I will offer. Our amendment No. 290, the Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act, has the support of 30 bipartisan cosponsors.

Senator CORNYN has said that no effort to end human trafficking can be complete without addressing the needs of runaway and homeless youth. I agree and that is why amendment No. 290 is so important. In fact, when the Senate Judiciary Committee voted on this legislation last year, it received the vote of almost every single member, including Senator CORNYN.

In our hearings since then, I have listened to the stories of survivors. Some have been in my office and some have been in the offices of other Senators, and they talked about this. So many of them begin the same way. They are a homeless or a runaway teen, scared, desperate for affection and a safe place to sleep, especially if they are somewhere in inclement weather.

Traffickers know this. They prey on that desperation. They know there are

so very few places these children can turn to.

A recent survey found that one in four—now, think of this—homeless youth had been victims of sex trafficking or they have traded sex for survival needs such as food or a place to sleep. Just think of this. They are the age of our children or our grandchildren.

This is a human issue. In fact, a survey found that 50 percent of homeless youth had been solicited for sex by an adult within 48 hours of leaving home. Just think of that—half of these homeless kids were solicited by an adult within the first 2 days of leaving home.

I am talking about kids 12, 13, 14 years old. They have nowhere to go, but we can at least, through this legislation, make sure they have a safe place to turn. That is what our amendment does.

Senator CORNYN's amendment is not a good alternative. The amendment I am offering assures that homeless youth providers are specifically trained to recognize victims of trafficking, address the unique trauma, and refer them to the appropriate care and services.

It also lengthens the time they can stay in shelters or receive services. Look at what happens if they are forced back out of those shelters. How long does it take for traffickers to grab them?

The amendment includes important new efforts to encourage family reunification and allows the person to define the people they consider family. This is particularly important as runaway children are often estranged from their parents.

Senator CORNYN's amendment does not have the crucial nondiscrimination provision that is in my amendment. This language would prevent the discrimination against youth based on their race, their color, their religion, their national origin, their sex, their gender identity, their sexual orientation, or their disability.

It is almost identical to a provision contained in the bipartisan Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, which passed the Senate with 78 votes. It passed the Republican-controlled House overwhelmingly and was signed into law.

You may not like to think about this, but the reason this language is particularly important is because a growing number of these homeless and runaway youth identify as LGBT.

Many, sadly, have been thrown out of their homes precisely for that reason. They have been rejected by their parents. No child should face that kind of isolation or rejection—no matter what.

I am a parent. I am a grandparent. I find it heartbreaking that a child could be turned out of their home and then turned away by a service provider. We shouldn't allow organizations to take Federal funds and then turn their backs against these kids because of their race or their religion or whom

they love. That is why I can't understand why the side-by-side amendment offered had the nondiscrimination protections for these children stripped from it.

I urge all Senators to support my bipartisan amendment.

I thank Senators COLLINS and HEITKAMP for their steadfast and very strong support. We have to support the efforts of dedicated service providers. They make these programs work. We have to protect these kids. The most important thing is not being in a position where the only time we can act or is after someone has been trafficked. Let's prevent them from being trafficked in the first place.

Prevention will cost money, but it is going to save lives, and it is going to prevent the far more costly effects of human trafficking. This is smart money—we ought to be able and ready to invest in our children. We have to include the Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act in our efforts to prevent more of our kids from becoming victims.

I have said it so many times on this floor that I almost grow weary of hearing myself saying it. I have prosecuted some of these cases. And it was nowhere near the problem, when I was a prosecutor, that it is today throughout this country.

I still have nightmares from what we saw. This Senator hopes that someday, under this legislation, if we work hard enough, none of us will have these nightmares.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, the question really comes down to this: Do we want provider services to homeless and runaway youth to be able to turn away at the door a 13-year-old girl simply because of her sexual orientation? That is what this comes down to, and I think the answer is no if that provider is receiving Federal funds. It shouldn't matter, and we should be willing to stand and say that we want to help all youth stay out of the clutches of these truly evil sex traffickers. That is what this is about.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

AMENDMENT NO. 290

(Purpose: To reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act)

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment to call up amendment No. 290.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Vermont [Mr. LEAHY], for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BOOKER, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR, proposes an amendment numbered 290.

Mr. LEAHY. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The amendment is printed in the RECORD of March 11, 2015, under "Text of Amendments.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I will speak briefly in support of the remarks of the Senator from Maine and the Senator from Vermont.

The Cornyn approach on runaway and homeless youth excludes language that would prohibit discrimination against the recipients of these services because of their sexual orientation. How can we have reached that point in the Senate?

Haven't we engaged in a national debate that centered on Indiana and other States? Haven't we decided in America that, regardless, we aren't going to allow discrimination against people because of sexual orientation? Sadly, this Cornyn amendment excludes language that prohibits discrimination against LGBT youth.

Secondly, to fund a less than \$1 billion a year program, the Senator from Texas is eliminating a \$10 billion health prevention fund, which serves 50 States to deal with infectious disease and serious health issues.

This is, sadly, an effort to attack ObamaCare, and it shouldn't be done in this important legislation. We have wasted 4 weeks on an extraneous issue. Let us stick to the basic issue before us.

Defeat the Cornyn amendment and support the amendment being offered by Senator COLLINS and Senator LEAHY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

AMENDMENT NO. 1127

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment and call up my amendment No. 1127.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Texas [Mr. CORNYN] proposes an amendment numbered 1127.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, and for other purposes)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH ACT REAUTHORIZATION.

(a) REAUTHORIZATION.—Section 388(a) of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5751(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "for fiscal year 2009," and all that follows through the period and inserting "for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020.";

(2) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking "such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013." and inserting "\$2,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020.";

(3) in paragraph (4), by striking "for fiscal year 2009" and all that follows through the period and inserting "for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020.".

(b) OFFSET; REPEALING PREVENTION AND PUBLIC HEALTH FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 4002 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 300u-11) is repealed.

(2) RESCISSION OF UNOBLIGATED FUNDS.—Of the funds made available under such section 4002, the unobligated balances are rescinded.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection takes effect on October 1, 2015.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, if I could just say in the next 30 seconds or so that the first amendment we will vote on reauthorizes the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, which is something that we all support, which permits treatment of victims of human trafficking without discrimination. It also happens to be paid for, something that the Leahy amendment is not.

Right now, most faith-based organizations, such as Catholic Charities, treat all victims of human trafficking without regard to sexual orientation, gender issues, and the like—as I am proud to say they should.

But there is nothing—we have been told that the various faith-based organizations worry that the Federal Government is basically going to intervene and tell them whom they can hire and what their administration and implementation practices must be. That is why almost uniformly, faith-based organizations that would be eligible for the grants to help the victims of human trafficking say that this would render this administration of this victims trafficking fund legislation unworkable.

I ask my colleagues to support the Cornyn amendment, to vote against the Leahy amendment, and let's get this done.

I yield the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, is there any time remaining on this amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. There is 1 minute remaining in opposition.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, in opposition to the Cornyn amendment, let me say this. Up to forty percent of the overall homeless youth population identify as LGBT, and many have reported that they have been subjected to service denial and discrimination by staff and providers based on their sexual orientation. The Leahy-Collins alternative expressly prohibits discrimination against youth because of their sexual orientation. That should be the gold standard.

Defeat the Cornyn amendment and vote for the bipartisan Collins-Leahy amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 1127, offered by the Senator from Texas.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY).

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

The result was announced—yeas 45, nays 53, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 158 Leg.]

YEAS—45

Alexander	Fischer	Paul
Barrasso	Gardner	Perdue
Blunt	Graham	Risch
Boozman	Grassley	Roberts
Burr	Hatch	Rounds
Cassidy	Heller	Rubio
Coats	Hoeven	Sasse
Cochran	Inhofe	Scott
Corker	Isakson	Sessions
Cornyn	Johnson	Sullivan
Cotton	Lankford	Thune
Crapo	Lee	Tillis
Daines	McCain	Toomey
Enzi	McConnell	Vitter
Ernst	Moran	Wicker

NAYS—53

Ayotte	Franken	Murray
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Nelson
Bennet	Heinrich	Peters
Blumenthal	Heitkamp	Portman
Booker	Hirono	Reed
Boxer	Kaine	Reid
Brown	King	Sanders
Cantwell	Kirk	Schatz
Capito	Klobuchar	Schumer
Cardin	Leahy	Shaheen
Carper	Manchin	Stabenow
Casey	Markey	Tester
Collins	McCaskill	Udall
Coons	Menendez	Warner
Donnelly	Merkley	Warren
Durbin	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wyden
Flake	Murphy	

NOT VOTING—2

Cruz
Shelby

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is rejected.

AMENDMENT NO. 290

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there is now 2 minutes of debate prior to a vote on amendment No. 290, offered by the Senator from Vermont, Mr. LEAHY.

The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, my bipartisan amendment to prevent human trafficking includes important language to prohibit discrimination against homeless children.

The language should be familiar to most Senators here. It is nearly identical to what we voted for overwhelmingly as part of the Violence Against Women Act reauthorization 2 years

ago. It shouldn't be controversial. We should reaffirm our commitment to nondiscrimination. All children—all children—deserve our protection. We should not be picking and choosing, saying: This child deserves protection, this one doesn't. They all deserve our protection.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I urge a "no" vote on the Leahy amendment.

I agree with the senior Senator from Vermont that all victims of human trafficking should be treated with the dignity they deserve without regard to sexual orientation or any discrimination. That is what the Cornyn amendment we just voted on would do.

What we are told by faith-based organizations that provide many of these services is that the Leahy language would make rendition of those services difficult, if not impossible. There is some debate whether it would also intrude on hiring practices and whether people could actually be hired in faith-based organizations if they didn't agree with some of the services that are rendered here.

Finally, the Leahy amendment would authorize \$115 million of spending that it is not paid for and thus would increase the deficit. A number of organizations, such as the Conference of Catholic Bishops, the National Religious Broadcasters, National Association of Evangelicals, among other religious organizations, urge a "no" vote on the Leahy amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, how much time is left?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Fifteen seconds.

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, the question before us is very clear: If you believe runaway and homeless youth should receive services that are federally funded without regard to their sexual orientation, you should vote yes on this amendment. The Cornyn amendment does not prohibit discrimination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I ask that all votes be kept to 10 minutes.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 290, offered by the Senator from Vermont.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll. The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ).

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

The result was announced—yeas 56, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 159 Leg.]

YEAS—56

Ayotte	Heinrich	Paul
Baldwin	Heitkamp	Peters
Bennet	Heller	Portman
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reed
Booker	Kaine	Reid
Boxer	King	Sanders
Brown	Kirk	Schatz
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Schumer
Capito	Leahy	Shaheen
Cardin	Manchin	Stabenow
Carper	Markey	Sullivan
Casey	McCaskill	Tester
Collins	Menendez	Toomey
Coons	Merkley	Udall
Donnelly	Mikulski	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Warren
Feinstein	Murphy	Whitehouse
Franken	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Nelson	

NAYS—43

Alexander	Fischer	Perdue
Barrasso	Flake	Risch
Blunt	Gardner	Roberts
Boozman	Graham	Rounds
Burr	Grassley	Rubio
Cassidy	Hatch	Sasse
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Cochran	Inhofe	Sessions
Corker	Isakson	Shelby
Cornyn	Johnson	Thune
Cotton	Lankford	Tillis
Crapo	Lee	Vitter
Daines	McCain	Wicker
Enzi	McConnell	
Ernst	Moran	

NOT VOTING—1

Cruz

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is rejected.

The Senator from Ohio.

AMENDMENT NO. 311

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to set aside the pending amendment in order to call up Brown amendment No. 311.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Ohio [Mr. BROWN] for himself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Ms. BALDWIN, proposes an amendment numbered 311.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To direct the Attorney General to increase the amount provided under certain formula grants to States that have in place laws that terminate the parental rights of men who father children through rape)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE ____—RAPE SURVIVOR CHILD CUSTODY

SEC. ____ 01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the "Rape Survivor Child Custody Act".

SEC. ____ 02. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) COVERED FORMULA GRANT.—The term "covered formula grant" means a grant under—

(A) part T of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg et seq.) (commonly referred to as the "STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program"); or

(B) section 41601 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043g) (commonly referred to as the "Sexual Assault Services Program").

(2) TERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "termination" means, when used with respect to parental rights, a complete and final termination of the parent's right to custody of, guardianship of, visitation with, access to, and inheritance from a child.

(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require a State, in order to receive an increase in the amount provided to the State under the covered formula grants under this title, to have in place a law that terminates any obligation of a person who fathered a child through rape to support the child.

SEC. ____ 03. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Men who father children through rape should be prohibited from visiting or having custody of those children.

(2) Thousands of rape-related pregnancies occur annually in the United States.

(3) A substantial number of women choose to raise their child conceived through rape and, as a result, may face custody battles with their rapists.

(4) Rape is one of the most under-prosecuted serious crimes, with estimates of criminal conviction occurring in less than 5 percent of rapes.

(5) The clear and convincing evidence standard is the most common standard for termination of parental rights among the 50 States, territories, and the District of Columbia.

(6) The Supreme Court established that the clear and convincing evidence standard satisfies due process for allegations to terminate or restrict parental rights in *Santosky v. Kramer* (455 U.S. 745 (1982)).

(7) Currently only 10 States have statutes allowing rape survivors to petition for the termination of parental rights of the rapist based on clear and convincing evidence that the child was conceived through rape.

(8) A rapist pursuing parental or custody rights causes the survivor to have continued interaction with the rapist, which can have traumatic psychological effects on the survivor, and can make it more difficult for her to recover.

(9) These traumatic effects on the mother can severely negatively impact her ability to raise a healthy child.

(10) Rapists may use the threat of pursuing custody or parental rights to coerce survivors into not prosecuting rape, or otherwise harass, intimidate, or manipulate them.

SEC. ____ 04. INCREASED FUNDING FOR FORMULA GRANTS AUTHORIZED.

The Attorney General shall increase the amount provided to a State under the covered formula grants in accordance with this title if the State has in place a law that allows the mother of any child that was conceived through rape to seek court-ordered termination of the parental rights of her rapist with regard to that child, which the court is authorized to grant upon clear and convincing evidence of rape.

SEC. ____ 05. APPLICATION.

A State seeking an increase in the amount provided to the State under the covered formula grants shall include in the application of the State for each covered formula grant such information as the Attorney General may reasonably require, including information about the law described in section ____ 04.

SEC. 06. GRANT INCREASE.

The amount of the increase provided to a State under the covered formula grants under this title shall be equal to not more than 10 percent of the average of the total amount of funding provided to the State under the covered formula grants under the 3 most recent awards to the State.

SEC. 07. PERIOD OF INCREASE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Attorney General shall provide an increase in the amount provided to a State under the covered formula grants under this title for a 2-year period.

(b) **LIMIT.**—The Attorney General may not provide an increase in the amount provided to a State under the covered formula grants under this title more than 4 times.

SEC. 08. ALLOCATION OF INCREASED FORMULA GRANT FUNDS.

The Attorney General shall allocate an increase in the amount provided to a State under the covered formula grants under this title such that—

(1) 25 percent the amount of the increase is provided under the program described in section 02(1)(A); and

(2) 75 percent the amount of the increase is provided under the program described in section 02(1)(B).

SEC. 09. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** Under the previous order, there will be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on amendment No. 311, offered by the Senator from Ohio, Mr. **BROWN.** The Senator from Ohio.

Mr. **BROWN.** Madam President, women who give birth to a child conceived through rape can often face intimidation from attackers who—believe it or not—pursue parental rights.

I was first moved to introduce this bill following the case of Ariel Castro in Cleveland. He was on trial for kidnapping, raping, and holding prisoner three women for a decade and then he asked the judge for parental rights to visit the 6-year-old daughter who was conceived through his rape.

Madam President, the Brown-Ayotte-Shaheen-Gillibrand-Baldwin amendment helps protect rape survivors by encouraging States to pass laws allowing women to petition for the termination of their attacker's parental rights if there is clear and convincing evidence that the child was conceived through the rape.

Madam President, I yield 1 minute to my colleague from New Hampshire.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** The Senator from New Hampshire.

Ms. **AYOTTE.** Madam President, I thank Senator **BROWN.** This is a very important amendment.

If you are for supporting victims, protecting life and children and against rapists, vote for this amendment. Unfortunately, rapists too often try to manipulate their victims by claiming custodial rights over children, and we need to stand with victims on this issue and allow States to be incentivized to allow victims to terminate their parental rights should they choose to have a child and to raise that child without having the threat of a rapist over their shoulder.

I ask for support on this amendment, and I thank all of my colleagues. This is a commonsense bill, and I thank Senator **BROWN** for his leadership.

I ask for the yeas and nays.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 311, offered by the Senator from Ohio.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. **CORNYN.** The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. **CRUZ**).

The **PRESIDING OFFICER** (Mr. **TOOMEY**). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 99, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 160 Leg.]

YEAS—99

Alexander	Flake	Murray
Ayotte	Franken	Nelson
Baldwin	Gardner	Paul
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Perdue
Bennet	Graham	Peters
Blumenthal	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hatch	Reed
Booker	Heinrich	Reid
Boozman	Heitkamp	Risch
Boxer	Heller	Roberts
Brown	Hirono	Rounds
Burr	Hoeben	Rubio
Cantwell	Inhofe	Sanders
Capito	Isakson	Sasse
Cardin	Johnson	Schatz
Carper	Kaine	Schumer
Casey	King	Scott
Cassidy	Kirk	Sessions
Coats	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cochran	Lankford	Shelby
Collins	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Lee	Sullivan
Corker	Manchin	Tester
Cornyn	Markey	Thune
Cotton	McCain	Tillis
Crapo	McCaskill	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Udall
Donnelly	Menendez	Vitter
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Enzi	Mikulski	Warren
Ernst	Moran	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Murphy	Wyden

NOT VOTING—1

Cruz

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1121

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on amendment No. 1121, offered by the Senator from North Carolina, Mr. **BURR.**

Mr. **BURR.** Mr. President, we yield back all time.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** Is there objection?

Without objection, all time is yielded back.

Mr. **BURR.** I ask for the yeas and nays.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 1121, offered by the Senator from North Carolina.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. **CORNYN.** The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. **CRUZ**).

Mr. **DURBIN.** I announce that the Senator from Vermont (Mr. **SANDERS**) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 161 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Alexander	Flake	Murray
Ayotte	Franken	Nelson
Baldwin	Gardner	Paul
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Perdue
Bennet	Graham	Peters
Blumenthal	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hatch	Reed
Booker	Heinrich	Reid
Boozman	Heitkamp	Risch
Boxer	Heller	Roberts
Brown	Hirono	Rounds
Burr	Hoeben	Rubio
Cantwell	Inhofe	Sasse
Capito	Isakson	Schatz
Cardin	Johnson	Schumer
Carper	Kaine	Scott
Casey	King	Sessions
Cassidy	Kirk	Shaheen
Coats	Klobuchar	Shelby
Cochran	Lankford	Stabenow
Collins	Leahy	Sullivan
Coons	Lee	Tester
Corker	Manchin	Thune
Cornyn	Markey	Tillis
Cotton	McCain	Toomey
Crapo	McCaskill	Udall
Daines	McConnell	Vitter
Donnelly	Menendez	Warner
Durbin	Merkley	Warren
Enzi	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Ernst	Moran	Wicker
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wyden
Fischer	Murphy	

NOT VOTING—2

Cruz
Sanders

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment is agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 273, AS MODIFIED

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** Under the previous order, there will now be 2 minutes of debate equally divided prior to a vote on amendment No. 273, as modified, offered by the Senator from Illinois, Mr. **KIRK.**

The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. **KIRK.** Mr. President, I rise to speak on amendment No. 273. It stands for the principle that freedom on the Internet is not the freedom to enslave others.

I want to make sure this country stands for the principles under the 13th Amendment that we enshrined with Lincoln's victory in the Civil War, and I urge all Members to adopt this amendment by a strong, substantial vote to pass the SAVE Act to make sure that providers of human traffic services do not have freedom to advertise on the Internet.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield back.

The **PRESIDING OFFICER.** The Senator from California.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, as the Democratic sponsor of this amendment, I would like to thank the distinguished Senator from Illinois for his leadership on this issue. The fact is, this amendment is essentially the same as the House stand-alone bill that passed unanimously.

Members, it is a fact that approximately 76 percent of sex trafficking of underage girls takes place on the Internet—76 percent.

We know at least 19 Web sites that post ads for commercial sex acts with children. They are paid for so doing.

The amendment essentially does two things. It adds the word “advertises” as one of the sex trafficking offense verbs. Second, it clarifies that only the “knowing” intent and not the “reckless disregard of the fact” intent applies to the new offense.

We have checked with the Department of Justice. We believe it meets constitutional standards. We believe it is necessary and is long overdue. I urge an “aye” vote of all Members.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 273, as modified, offered by the Senator from Illinois.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll. The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ).

The result was announced—yeas 97, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 162 Leg.]

YEAS—97

Alexander	Franken	Nelson
Ayotte	Gardner	Paul
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Perdue
Barrasso	Graham	Peters
Bennet	Grassley	Portman
Blumenthal	Hatch	Reed
Blunt	Heinrich	Reid
Booker	Heitkamp	Risch
Boozman	Heller	Roberts
Boxer	Hirono	Rounds
Brown	Hoeben	Rubio
Burr	Inhofe	Sanders
Capito	Isakson	Sasse
Cardin	Johnson	Schatz
Carper	Kaine	Schumer
Casey	King	Scott
Cassidy	Kirk	Sessions
Coats	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cochran	Lankford	Shelby
Collins	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Lee	Sullivan
Corker	Manchin	Tester
Cornyn	Markey	Thune
Cotton	McCain	Tillis
Crapo	McCaskill	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Udall
Donnelly	Menendez	Vitter
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Enzi	Mikulski	Warren
Ernst	Moran	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Murphy	
Flake	Murray	

NAYS—2

Cantwell Wyden

NOT VOTING—1

Cruz

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order requiring 60 votes

for the adoption of this amendment, the amendment, as modified, is agreed to.

The majority whip.

AMENDMENTS NOS. 296; 299, AS MODIFIED; 279; 1126; 294; 308; 1128; 310; 312; 1122; AND 303

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I call up the following amendments en bloc: Klobuchar No. 296; Hoeven No. 299, as modified; Sullivan No. 279; Wicker No. 1126; Flake No. 294; Cassidy No. 308; Portman No. 1128; Brown No. 310; Brown No. 312; Heller No. 1122; and Shaheen No. 303.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the amendments en bloc.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Texas [Mr. CORNYN], for others, proposes amendments numbered 296; 299, as modified; 279; 1126; 294; 308; 1128; 310; 312; 1122; and 303.

The amendments are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 296

(Purpose: To stop exploitation through trafficking)

At the end of the bill, add the following:

TITLE IV—STOPPING EXPLOITATION THROUGH TRAFFICKING

SEC. 401. SAFE HARBOR INCENTIVES.

Part Q of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 1701(c), by striking “where feasible” and all that follows, and inserting the following: “where feasible, to an application—

“(1) for hiring and rehiring additional career law enforcement officers that involves a non-Federal contribution exceeding the 25 percent minimum under subsection (g); or

“(2) from an applicant in a State that has in effect a law that—

“(A) treats a minor who has engaged in, or has attempted to engage in, a commercial sex act as a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons;

“(B) discourages or prohibits the charging or prosecution of an individual described in subparagraph (A) for a prostitution or sex trafficking offense, based on the conduct described in subparagraph (A); and

“(C) encourages the diversion of an individual described in subparagraph (A) to appropriate service providers, including child welfare services, victim treatment programs, child advocacy centers, rape crisis centers, or other social services.”; and

(2) in section 1709, by inserting at the end the following:

“(5) ‘commercial sex act’ has the meaning given the term in section 103 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

“(6) ‘minor’ means an individual who has not attained the age of 18 years.

“(7) ‘severe form of trafficking in persons’ has the meaning given the term in section 103 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).”.

SEC. 402. REPORT ON RESTITUTION PAID IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN TRAFFICKING OFFENSES.

Section 105(d)(7)(Q) of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(d)(7)(Q)) is amended—

(1) by inserting after “1590,” the following: “1591.”;

(2) by striking “and 1594” and inserting “1594, 2251, 2251A, 2421, 2422, and 2423”;

(3) in clause (iv), by striking “and” at the end;

(4) in clause (v), by striking “and” at the end; and

(5) by inserting after clause (v) the following:

“(vi) the number of individuals required by a court order to pay restitution in connection with a violation of each offense under title 18, United States Code, the amount of restitution required to be paid under each such order, and the amount of restitution actually paid pursuant to each such order; and

“(vii) the age, gender, race, country of origin, country of citizenship, and description of the role in the offense of individuals convicted under each offense; and”.

SEC. 403. NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE.

Section 107(b)(1)(B) of the Victims of Crime Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) by striking “Subject” and inserting the following:

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE.—Beginning in fiscal year 2017, and in each fiscal year thereafter, of amounts made available for grants under paragraph (2), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall make grants for a national communication system to assist victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons in communicating with service providers. The Secretary shall give priority to grant applicants that have experience in providing telephone services to victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons.”.

SEC. 404. JOB CORPS ELIGIBILITY.

Section 144(a)(3) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3194(a)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(F) A victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)). Notwithstanding paragraph (2), an individual described in this subparagraph shall not be required to demonstrate eligibility under such paragraph.”.

SEC. 405. CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITY OF THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE.

Section 566(e)(1) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

“(D) assist State, local, and other Federal law enforcement agencies, upon the request of such an agency, in locating and recovering missing children.”.

SEC. 406. ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL STRATEGY TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall implement and maintain a National Strategy for Combating Human Trafficking (referred to in this section as the “National Strategy”) in accordance with this section.

(b) REQUIRED CONTENTS OF NATIONAL STRATEGY.—The National Strategy shall include the following:

(1) Integrated Federal, State, local, and tribal efforts to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases, including—

(A) the development by each United States attorney, in consultation with State, local, and tribal government agencies, of a district-specific strategic plan to coordinate the identification of victims and the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes;

(B) the appointment of not fewer than 1 assistant United States attorney in each district dedicated to the prosecution of human trafficking cases or responsible for implementing the National Strategy;

(C) the participation in any Federal, State, local, or tribal human trafficking task force operating in the district of the United States attorney; and

(D) any other efforts intended to enhance the level of coordination and cooperation, as determined by the Attorney General.

(2) Case coordination within the Department of Justice, including specific integration, coordination, and collaboration, as appropriate, on human trafficking investigations between and among the United States attorneys, the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit, the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(3) Annual budget priorities and Federal efforts dedicated to preventing and combating human trafficking, including resources dedicated to the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit, the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and all other entities that receive Federal support that have a goal or mission to combat the exploitation of adults and children.

(4) An ongoing assessment of the future trends, challenges, and opportunities, including new investigative strategies, techniques, and technologies, that will enhance Federal, State, local, and tribal efforts to combat human trafficking.

(5) Encouragement of cooperation, coordination, and mutual support between private sector and other entities and organizations and Federal agencies to combat human trafficking, including the involvement of State, local, and tribal government agencies to the extent Federal programs are involved.

AMENDMENT NO. 299, AS MODIFIED

(Purpose: To ensure that eligible entities that have only recently begun collecting data on child human trafficking are not precluded from being awarded certain grants)

On page 60, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

“(4) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES SOLICITING DATA ON CHILD HUMAN TRAFFICKING.—No eligible entity shall be disadvantaged in being awarded a grant under subsection (a) on the grounds that the eligible entity has only recently begun soliciting data on child human trafficking.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 279

(Purpose: To require the Attorney General of the United States to grant certain requests by State attorneys general to cross designate State and local attorneys to prosecute individuals for sex trafficking)

At the end, add the following:

SEC. ____ . TRANSPORTATION FOR ILLEGAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY AND RELATED CRIMES.

Chapter 117 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking section 2421 and inserting the following:

“§ 2421. Transportation generally

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever knowingly transports any individual in interstate or foreign commerce, or in any Territory or Possession of the United States, with intent that such individual engage in prostitution, or in any sexual activity for which any person can be charged with a criminal offense, or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

“(b) REQUESTS TO PROSECUTE VIOLATIONS BY STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall grant a request by a State attorney

general that a State or local attorney be cross designated to prosecute a violation of this section unless the Attorney General determines that granting the request would undermine the administration of justice.

“(2) REASON FOR DENIAL.—If the Attorney General denies a request under paragraph (1), the Attorney General shall submit to the State attorney general a detailed reason for the denial not later than 60 days after the date on which a request is received.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1126

(Purpose: To direct the Attorney General to create a publicly accessible database for trafficking victims advocates that contains information about services for trafficking survivors)

At the end of title I, add the following:

SEC. 118. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH TO TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS.

The Attorney General shall make available, on the website of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, a database for trafficking victim advocates, crisis hotline personnel, foster parents, law enforcement personnel, and crime survivors that contains information on—

- (1) counseling and hotline resources;
- (2) housing resources;
- (3) legal assistance; and
- (4) other services for trafficking survivors.

SEC. 119. EXPANDED STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR CIVIL ACTIONS BY CHILD TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS.

Section 1595(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “not later than 10 years after the cause of action arose.” and inserting “not later than the later of—

“(1) 10 years after the cause of action arose; or

“(2) 10 years after the victim reaches 18 years of age, if the victim was a minor at the time of the alleged offense.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 294

(Purpose: To require a GAO study on the programs authorized by the bill)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . GAO STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on each program or initiative authorized under this Act and the following statutes and evaluate whether any program or initiative is duplicative:

- (1) Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-164; 119 Stat. 3558).
- (2) Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.).
- (3) Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13001 et seq.).
- (4) Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.).
- (5) Missing Children’s Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.).

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report on the study conducted under subsection (a), which shall include—

- (1) a description of the cost of any duplicative program or initiative studied under subsection (a); and
- (2) recommendations on how to achieve cost savings with respect to each duplicative program or initiative studied under subsection (a).

AMENDMENT NO. 308

(Purpose: To provide for the development and dissemination of evidence-based best practices for health care professionals to recognize victims of a severe form of trafficking and respond to such individuals appropriately, and for other purposes)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE ____ —TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE

SEC. ____ 01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Trafficking Awareness Training for Health Care Act of 2015”.

SEC. ____ 02. DEVELOPMENT OF BEST PRACTICES.
(a) GRANT OR CONTRACT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BEST PRACTICES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, and in consultation with the Administration on Children and Families and other agencies with experience in serving victims of human trafficking, shall award, on a competitive basis, a grant or contract to an eligible entity to train health care professionals to recognize and respond to victims of a severe form of trafficking.

(2) DEVELOPMENT OF EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES.—An entity receiving a grant under paragraph (1) shall develop evidence-based best practices for health care professionals to recognize and respond to victims of a severe form of trafficking, including—

(A) consultation with law enforcement officials, social service providers, health professionals, experts in the field of human trafficking, and other experts, as appropriate, to inform the development of such best practices;

(B) the identification of any existing best practices or tools for health professionals to recognize potential victims of a severe form of trafficking; and

(C) the development of educational materials to train health care professionals on the best practices developed under this subsection.

(3) REQUIREMENTS.—Best practices developed under this subsection shall address—

- (A) risk factors and indicators to recognize victims of a severe form of trafficking;
- (B) patient safety and security;
- (C) the management of medical records of patients who are victims of a severe form of trafficking;
- (D) public and private social services available for rescue, food, clothing, and shelter referrals;
- (E) the hotlines for reporting human trafficking maintained by the National Human Trafficking Resource Center and the Department of Homeland Security;
- (F) validated assessment tools for the identification of victims of a severe form of trafficking; and
- (G) referral options and procedures for sharing information on human trafficking with a patient and making referrals for legal and social services as appropriate.

(4) PILOT PROGRAM.—An entity receiving a grant under paragraph (1) shall design and implement a pilot program to test the best practices and educational materials identified or developed with respect to the recognition of victims of human trafficking by health professionals at health care sites located near an established anti-human trafficking task force initiative in each of the 10 administrative regions of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(5) ANALYSIS AND REPORT.—Not later than 24 months after the date on which an entity

implements a pilot program under paragraph (4), the entity shall—

(A) analyze the results of the pilot programs, including through an assessment of—

(i) changes in the skills, knowledge, and attitude of health care professionals resulting from the implementation of the program;

(ii) the number of victims of a severe form of trafficking who were identified under the program;

(iii) of those victims identified, the number who received information or referrals for services offered; and

(iv) of those victims who received such information or referrals—

(I) the number who participated in follow up services; and

(II) the type of follow up services received;

(B) determine, using the results of the analysis conducted under subparagraph (A), the extent to which the best practices developed under this subsection are evidence-based; and

(C) submit to the Secretary of Health and Human Services a report concerning the pilot program and the analysis of the pilot program under subparagraph (A), including an identification of the best practices that were identified as effective and those that require further review.

(b) DISSEMINATION.—Not later than 30 months after date on which a grant is awarded to an eligible entity under subsection (a), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

(1) collaborate with appropriate professional associations and health care professional schools to disseminate best practices identified or developed under subsection (a) for purposes of recognizing potential victims of a severe form of trafficking; and

(2) post on the public website of the Department of Health and Human Services the best practices that are identified by the as effective under subsection (a)(5).

SEC. 03. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) The term “eligible entity” means an accredited school of medicine or nursing with experience in the study or treatment of victims of a severe form of trafficking.

(2) The term “eligible site” means a health center that is receiving assistance under section 330, 399Z-1, or 1001 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b, 280h-5, and 300).

(3) The term “health care professional” means a person employed by a health care provider who provides to patients information (including information not related to medical treatment), scheduling, services, or referrals.

(4) The term “HIPAA privacy and security law” has the meaning given to such term in section 3009 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300jj-19).

(5) The term “victim of a severe form of trafficking” has the meaning given to such term in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

SEC. 04. NO ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title, and this title shall be carried out using amounts otherwise available for such purpose.

AMENDMENT NO. 1128

(Purpose: To amend the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act to enable State child protective services systems to improve the identification and assessment of child victims of sex trafficking, and for other purposes)

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE IV—BETTER RESPONSE FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Ensuring a Better Response for Victims of Child Sex Trafficking”.

SEC. 402. CAPTA AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments to the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) made by this section shall take effect 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) STATE PLANS.—Section 106 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)(B)—

(A) in clause (xxii), by striking “and” at the end; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(xxiv) provisions and procedures requiring identification and assessment of all reports involving children known or suspected to be victims of sex trafficking (as defined in section 103(10) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102 (10)); and

“(xxv) provisions and procedures for training child protective services workers about identifying, assessing, and providing comprehensive services for children who are sex trafficking victims, including efforts to coordinate with State law enforcement, juvenile justice, and social service agencies such as runaway and homeless youth shelters to serve this population;”;

(2) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following:

“(17) The number of children determined to be victims described in subsection (b)(2)(B)(xxiv).”.

(c) SPECIAL RULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 111 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106g) is amended—

(A) by striking “For purposes” and inserting the following:

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) SPECIAL RULE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 3(2) and subsection (a)(4), a child shall be considered a victim of ‘child abuse and neglect’ and of ‘sexual abuse’ if the child is identified, by a State or local agency employee of the State or locality involved, as being a victim of sex trafficking (as defined in paragraph (10) of section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)) or a victim of severe forms of trafficking in persons described in paragraph (9)(A) of that section.

“(2) STATE OPTION.—Notwithstanding the definition of ‘child’ in section 3(1), a State may elect to define that term for purposes of the application of paragraph (1) to section 3(2) and subsection (a)(4) as a person who has not attained the age of 24.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3(2) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended by inserting “(including sexual abuse as determined under section 111)” after “sexual abuse or exploitation”.

(3) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Paragraph (5)(C) of subsection (a), as so designated, of section 111 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106g) is amended by striking “inhumane;” and inserting “inhumane.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 310

(Purpose: To allow grants under the victim-centered child human trafficking deterrence block grant program to be used for assisting law enforcement agencies in finding homeless and runaway youth)

On page 57, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

“(3) activities of law enforcement agencies to find homeless and runaway youth, including salaries and associated expenses for retired Federal law enforcement officers assisting the law enforcement agencies in finding homeless and runaway youth; and

AMENDMENT NO. 312

(Purpose: To amend the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 to expand the training for Federal Government personnel related to trafficking in persons, and for other purposes)

At the end of title II, add the following:

Subtitle D—Expanded Training

SEC. 231. EXPANDED TRAINING RELATING TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

Section 105(c)(4) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(c)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking “Appropriate personnel” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Appropriate personnel”;

(2) in subparagraph (A), as redesignated, by inserting “, including members of the Service (as such term is defined in section 103 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3903))” after “Department of State”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) TRAINING COMPONENTS.—Training under this paragraph shall include—

“(i) a distance learning course on trafficking-in-persons issues and the Department of State’s obligations under this Act, which shall be designed for embassy reporting officers, regional bureaus’ trafficking-in-persons coordinators, and their superiors;

“(ii) specific trafficking-in-persons briefings for all ambassadors and deputy chiefs of mission before such individuals depart for their posts; and

“(iii) at least annual reminders to all personnel referred to in clauses (i) and (ii), including appropriate personnel from other Federal departments and agencies, at each diplomatic or consular post of the Department of State located outside the United States of—

“(I) key problems, threats, methods, and warning signs of trafficking in persons specific to the country or jurisdiction in which each such post is located; and

“(II) appropriate procedures to report information that any such personnel may acquire about possible cases of trafficking in persons.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 1122

(Purpose: To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to train Department of Homeland Security personnel how to effectively deter, detect, disrupt, and prevent human trafficking during the course of their primary roles and responsibilities)

At the end of the bill, add the following:

TITLE IV—ANTI-TRAFFICKING TRAINING FOR DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PERSONNEL

SEC. 401. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of Homeland Security.

(2) HUMAN TRAFFICKING.—The term “human trafficking” means an act or practice described in paragraph (9) or (10) of section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

SEC. 402. TRAINING FOR DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TO IDENTIFY HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall implement a program to—

(1) train and periodically retrain relevant Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and other Department personnel that the Secretary considers appropriate, with respect to how to effectively deter, detect, and disrupt human trafficking, and, where appropriate, interdict a suspected perpetrator of human trafficking, during the course of their primary roles and responsibilities; and

(2) ensure that the personnel referred to in paragraph (1) regularly receive current information on matters related to the detection of human trafficking, including information that becomes available outside of the Department's initial or periodic retraining schedule, to the extent relevant to their official duties and consistent with applicable information and privacy laws.

(b) TRAINING DESCRIBED.—The training referred to in subsection (a) may be conducted through in-class or virtual learning capabilities, and shall include—

(1) methods for identifying suspected victims of human trafficking and, where appropriate, perpetrators of human trafficking;

(2) for appropriate personnel, methods to approach a suspected victim of human trafficking, where appropriate, in a manner that is sensitive to the suspected victim and is not likely to alert a suspected perpetrator of human trafficking;

(3) training that is most appropriate for a particular location or environment in which the personnel receiving such training perform their official duties;

(4) other topics determined by the Secretary to be appropriate; and

(5) a post-training evaluation for personnel receiving the training.

(c) TRAINING CURRICULUM REVIEW.—The Secretary shall annually reassess the training program established under subsection (a) to ensure it is consistent with current techniques, patterns, and trends associated with human trafficking.

SEC. 403. CERTIFICATION AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall certify to Congress that all personnel referred to in section 402(a) have successfully completed the training required under that section.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall report to Congress with respect to the overall effectiveness of the program required by this title, the number of cases reported by Department personnel in which human trafficking was suspected, and, of those cases, the number of cases that were confirmed cases of human trafficking.

SEC. 404. ASSISTANCE TO NON-FEDERAL ENTITIES.

The Secretary may provide training curricula to any State, local, or tribal government or private organization to assist the government or organization in establishing a program of training to identify human trafficking, upon request from the government or organization.

SEC. 405. EXPANDED USE OF DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS' FUND.

Section 3014(e)(1) of title 18, United States Code, as added by section 101 of this Act, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following: “(D) section 106 of the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 17616).”.

AMENDMENT NO. 303

(Purpose: To aid human trafficking victims' recovery and rehabilitation)

At the end, add the following:

TITLE —HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS RELIEF AND EMPOWERMENT ACT

SECTION 01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Human Trafficking Survivors Relief and Empowerment Act of 2015”.

SEC. 02. PROTECTIONS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS.

Section 1701(c) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd(c)) is amended by striking “where feasible” and all that follows, and inserting the following: “where feasible, to an application—

“(1) for hiring and rehiring additional career law enforcement officers that involves a non-Federal contribution exceeding the 25 percent minimum under subsection (g); or

“(2) from an applicant in a State that has in effect a law—

“(A) that—

“(i) provides a process by which an individual who is a human trafficking survivor can move to vacate any arrest or conviction records for a non-violent offense committed as a direct result of human trafficking, including prostitution or lewdness;

“(ii) establishes a rebuttable presumption that any arrest or conviction of an individual for an offense associated with human trafficking is a result of being trafficked, if the individual—

“(I) is a person granted nonimmigrant status pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(T)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(T)(i));

“(II) is the subject of a certification by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 107(b)(1)(E) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(1)(E)); or

“(III) has other similar documentation of trafficking, which has been issued by a Federal, State, or local agency; and

“(iii) protects the identity of individuals who are human trafficking survivors in public and court records; and

“(B) that does not require an individual who is a human trafficking survivor to provide official documentation as described in subclause (I), (II), or (III) of subparagraph (A)(ii) in order to receive protection under the law.”.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Senators SULLIVAN, CASSIDY, WICKER, KLOBUCHAR, and PORTMAN each be recognized to speak for 1 minute.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Alaska.

AMENDMENT NO. 279

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I rise in support of amendment No. 279, the Mann Act cooperation amendment. This is a simple amendment with strong bipartisan support.

I appreciate the cosponsors, Senators MURKOWSKI, AYOTTE, HEITKAMP, and GILLIBRAND.

What this amendment will do, it will increase prosecutions of human trafficking without an increase in cost. It allows and encourages Federal prosecutors to work with State officials to prosecute Mann Act violations and increases transparency.

The key goal of this amendment is to enable the resources and cooperation between State and Federal prosecutors to ensure all cases of human trafficking are pursued and victims have justice.

I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Mississippi.

AMENDMENT NO. 1126

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I rise in strong support of the underlying bill. I thank the leadership on both sides for coming to a bipartisan agreement, and I thank the leadership for agreeing to take the Wicker amendment by a voice vote.

My amendment does two things. Simply, it extends the statute of limitations to allow child victims to file civil lawsuits against perpetrators up to 10 years after they reach the age of 18, rather than 10 years after the cause of action arises. Secondly, my amendment creates a Department of Justice data base for education and outreach. Trafficking is a complex issue, and it will take a comprehensive approach to facility adequate support for victims.

That is what the Wicker amendment does.

I urge an “aye” vote when we take it by voice.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio.

AMENDMENT NO. 1128

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise to express strong support for the underlying bill and also my appreciation to the managers of the bill for including the en bloc amendments. One I offered is entitled the “Ensuring a Better Response for Victims of Child Sex Trafficking,” part of a larger bill we passed last year.

This one ensures all children who are sex-trafficked will be classified as child abuse victims for purposes of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act.

Currently, sex trafficking of a minor is not considered child abuse unless a parent or caregiver was directly involved in the child's exploitation. This amendment clarifies that a child victim of sex trafficking is a victim of child abuse and, therefore, can be eligible for the services as they recover.

Over the past couple of days, we have made some great progress, including putting aside partisan divides in coming together to combat human trafficking, a heinous criminal industry that all of us want to stop.

I am proud my bringing missing children home legislation with Senator SCHUMER, as well as my Combat Human Trafficking Act with Senator FEINSTEIN is on the floor and have been included in the underlying bill. We have made a lot of progress, and we are a few steps closer to actually ending trafficking for once and for all.

I particularly congratulate Senator CORNYN and Senator KLOBUCHAR for their hard work in bringing this to the floor and doing something important to fight human trafficking.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

AMENDMENT NO. 296

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I am speaking in favor of the Klobuchar-Cornyn amendment No. 296. This is a very important policy amendment.

It basically encourages States across the country—we already have 15 States doing this—not to prosecute victims of sex trafficking and to treat them as victims—not as criminals—so they don't end up in jail.

It also sets forth a national sex-trafficking strategy. It also qualifies these victims for job training programs. Then, finally, it includes a very important bill that Senator WHITEHOUSE and Senator SESSIONS had that helps Federal marshals to track down victims of sex trafficking.

I thank my coauthor and all 26 co-sponsors of this amendment. Senator CORNYN—I know we will talk later about the underlying bill, but this is a bipartisan effort from beginning to end and a very important policy bill.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

AMENDMENT NO. 308

Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I rise in favor of the Cassidy-Peters amendment.

I am a physician who has been working in a public hospital for 30 years. I am aware the following is true: 90 percent of victims in a recent survey saw a nurse or doctor or other health care professional while being held captive.

If those health care workers had the training and tools to identify the signs and symptoms of those being trafficked, they can make the appropriate referral and help them escape that terrible existence.

This amendment will provide for the development of best practices to enable health care workers to recognize and assist victims of human trafficking.

If passed today, this will help women and children in Louisiana, Michigan, and across the Nation rebuild their lives.

I thank Senator PETERS for joining this effort, and I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan amendment.

Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of my time.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 296

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to the Klobuchar amendment No. 296.

The amendment (No. 296) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 299, AS MODIFIED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Hoeven amendment No. 299, as modified.

The amendment (No. 299), as modified, was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 279

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Sullivan amendment No. 279.

The amendment (No. 279) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1126

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Wicker amendment No. 1126.

The amendment (No. 1126) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 294

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Flake amendment No. 294.

The amendment (No. 294) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 308

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Cassidy amendment No. 308.

The amendment (No. 308) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1128

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Portman amendment No. 1128.

The amendment (No. 1128) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 310

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Brown amendment No. 310.

The amendment (No. 310) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 312

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Brown amendment No. 312.

The amendment (No. 312) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 1122

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Heller amendment No. 1122.

The amendment (No. 1122) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 303

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the Shaheen amendment No. 303.

The amendment (No. 303) was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate majority whip.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senator from Minnesota and I be permitted to speak for up to 1 minute each prior to the vote on final passage.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I first of all want to thank Senator CORNYN. We have been working on these bills for over 1 year. I want to thank Senator LEAHY and Senator GRASSLEY for their leadership on the Judiciary Committee, Senator MURRAY for her work in negotiating this agreement and working with us, as well as so many other people who have been involved in working on this bill.

Through the last month, I think every so often people have forgotten what this really is about. This is about victims of sex trafficking, with an average age of 12 years old—not even old enough to get their own driver's li-

cense, not even old enough to go to a high school prom. Yet this is happening all over the country, from the oil patches of North Dakota to the suburbs of Minneapolis.

What this bill does and what this Senate is doing today is saying we want to be there in our country for these victims. We are going to pay for services. We are actually going to change some policies so that when we go to the rest of the world and look at something that is now the third biggest international criminal enterprise in the world, when we look at what Boko Haram is doing in Nigeria and in other countries, we can hold our heads up high and say that in the Senate we are finally doing something about this and our country is united across party lines against this practice.

Again, I thank Senator CORNYN for what he has done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, Winston Churchill supposedly once said: The Americans always do the right thing after they exhaust every other possibility. And you might say the same thing about the Senate when it comes to the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. This has been a long strange journey here to final passage, but here we are. And we have kept our focus all along on the victims—typically, a girl of 12 to 14 years old who has been sex trafficked and who has been treated as a common object and enslaved.

This is a terrible, heinous crime, but one that most of us don't see because it operates outside of our vision and our experience. We are throwing a lifeline to these victims of human trafficking by providing them real resources to help them—to help first to rescue them and then to help them heal.

This is a good day for the Senate because we are doing the right thing for people who have no voice. We are their voice, and we are going to get this done in a way that provides them some real help.

I want to thank all of our colleagues here on a bipartisan basis. It was a rocky trip here. But we got here. That is what counts, because we are providing necessary and needed help for these victims of human trafficking.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the committee-reported substitute amendment, as amended, to S. 178 is agreed to.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ).

The result was announced—yeas 99, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 163 Leg.]

YEAS—99

Alexander	Flake	Murray
Ayotte	Franken	Nelson
Baldwin	Gardner	Paul
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Perdue
Bennet	Graham	Peters
Blumenthal	Grassley	Portman
Blunt	Hatch	Reed
Booker	Heinrich	Reid
Boozman	Heitkamp	Risch
Boxer	Heller	Roberts
Brown	Hirono	Rounds
Burr	Hoeven	Rubio
Cantwell	Inhofe	Sanders
Capito	Isakson	Sasse
Cardin	Johnson	Schatz
Carper	Kaine	Schumer
Casey	King	Scott
Cassidy	Kirk	Sessions
Coats	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cochran	Lankford	Shelby
Collins	Leahy	Stabenow
Coons	Lee	Sullivan
Corker	Manchin	Tester
Cornyn	Markey	Thune
Cotton	McCain	Tillis
Crapo	McCaskill	Toomey
Daines	McConnell	Udall
Donnelly	Menendez	Vitter
Durbin	Merkley	Warner
Enzi	Mikulski	Warren
Ernst	Moran	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murkowski	Wicker
Fischer	Murphy	Wyden

NOT VOTING—1

Cruz

The bill (S. 178), as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 178

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

Sec. 101. Domestic Trafficking Victims’ Fund.

Sec. 102. Clarifying the benefits and protections offered to domestic victims of human trafficking.

Sec. 103. Victim-centered child human trafficking deterrence block grant program.

Sec. 104. Direct services for victims of child pornography.

Sec. 105. Increasing compensation and restitution for trafficking victims.

Sec. 106. Streamlining human trafficking investigations.

Sec. 107. Enhancing human trafficking reporting.

Sec. 108. Reducing demand for sex trafficking.

Sec. 109. Sense of Congress.

Sec. 110. Using existing task forces and components to target offenders who exploit children.

Sec. 111. Targeting child predators.

Sec. 112. Monitoring all human traffickers as violent criminals.

Sec. 113. Crime victims’ rights.

Sec. 114. Combat Human Trafficking Act.

Sec. 115. Survivors of Human Trafficking Empowerment Act.

Sec. 116. Bringing Missing Children Home Act.

Sec. 117. Grant accountability.

Sec. 118. SAVE Act.

Sec. 119. Education and outreach to trafficking survivors.

Sec. 120. Expanded statute of limitations for civil actions by child trafficking survivors.

Sec. 121. GAO study and report.

TITLE II—COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Subtitle A—Enhancing Services for Runaway and Homeless Victims of Youth Trafficking

Sec. 201. Amendments to the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act.

Subtitle B—Improving the Response to Victims of Child Sex Trafficking

Sec. 211. Response to victims of child sex trafficking.

Subtitle C—Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking

Sec. 221. Victim of trafficking defined.

Sec. 222. Interagency task force report on child trafficking primary prevention.

Sec. 223. GAO Report on intervention.

Sec. 224. Provision of housing permitted to protect and assist in the recovery of victims of trafficking.

Subtitle D—Expanded Training

Sec. 231. Expanded training relating to trafficking in persons.

TITLE III—HERO ACT

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. HERO Act.

Sec. 303. Transportation for illegal sexual activity and related crimes.

TITLE IV—RAPE SURVIVOR CHILD CUSTODY

Sec. 401. Short title.

Sec. 402. Definitions.

Sec. 403. Findings.

Sec. 404. Increased funding for formula grants authorized.

Sec. 405. Application.

Sec. 406. Grant increase.

Sec. 407. Period of increase.

Sec. 408. Allocation of increased formula grant funds.

Sec. 409. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE V—MILITARY SEX OFFENDER REPORTING

Sec. 501. Short title.

Sec. 502. Registration of sex offenders released from military corrections facilities or upon conviction.

TITLE VI—STOPPING EXPLOITATION THROUGH TRAFFICKING

Sec. 601. Safe Harbor Incentives.

Sec. 602. Report on restitution paid in connection with certain trafficking offenses.

Sec. 603. National human trafficking hotline.

Sec. 604. Job corps eligibility.

Sec. 605. Clarification of authority of the United States Marshals Service.

Sec. 606. Establishing a national strategy to combat human trafficking.

TITLE VII—TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE

Sec. 701. Short title.

Sec. 702. Development of best practices.

Sec. 703. Definitions.

Sec. 704. No additional authorization of appropriations.

TITLE VIII—BETTER RESPONSE FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

Sec. 801. Short title.

Sec. 802. CAPTA amendments.

TITLE IX—ANTI-TRAFFICKING TRAINING FOR DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PERSONNEL

Sec. 901. Definitions.

Sec. 902. Training for Department personnel to identify human trafficking.

Sec. 903. Certification and report to Congress.

Sec. 904. Assistance to non-Federal entities.

Sec. 905. Expanded use of Domestic Trafficking Victims’ Fund.

TITLE X—HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS RELIEF AND EMPOWERMENT ACT

Sec. 1001. Short title.

Sec. 1002. Protections for human trafficking survivors.

TITLE I—JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING

SEC. 101. DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS’ FUND.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Chapter 201 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“§ 3014. Additional special assessment

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Beginning on the date of enactment of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 and ending on September 30, 2019, in addition to the assessment imposed under section 3013, the court shall assess an amount of \$5,000 on any non-indigent person or entity convicted of an offense under—

“(1) chapter 77 (relating to peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons);

“(2) chapter 109A (relating to sexual abuse);

“(3) chapter 110 (relating to sexual exploitation and other abuse of children);

“(4) chapter 117 (relating to transportation for illegal sexual activity and related crimes); or

“(5) section 274 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324) (relating to human smuggling), unless the person induced, assisted, abetted, or aided only an individual who at the time of such action was the alien’s spouse, parent, son, or daughter (and no other individual) to enter the United States in violation of law.

“(b) **SATISFACTION OF OTHER COURT-ORDERED OBLIGATIONS.**—An assessment under subsection (a) shall not be payable until the person subject to the assessment has satisfied all outstanding court-ordered fines, orders of restitution, and any other obligation related to victim-compensation arising from the criminal convictions on which the special assessment is based.

“(c) **ESTABLISHMENT OF DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS’ FUND.**—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a fund, to be known as the ‘Domestic Trafficking Victims’ Fund’ (referred to in this section as the ‘Fund’), to be administered by the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

“(d) **TRANSFERS.**—In a manner consistent with section 3302(b) of title 31, there shall be transferred to the Fund from the General Fund of the Treasury an amount equal to the amount of the assessments collected under this section, which shall remain available until expended.

“(e) **USE OF FUNDS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—From amounts in the Fund, in addition to any other amounts available, and without further appropriation, the Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall, for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2019, use amounts available in the Fund to award grants or enhance victims’ programming under—

“(A) section 204 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044c);

“(B) subsections (b)(2) and (f) of section 107 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105); and

“(C) section 214(b) of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13002(b)).

“(2) LIMITATION.—Except as provided in subsection (h)(2), none of the amounts in the Fund may be used to provide health care or medical items or services.

“(f) COLLECTION METHOD.—The amount assessed under subsection (a) shall, subject to subsection (b), be collected in the manner that fines are collected in criminal cases.

“(g) DURATION OF OBLIGATION.—Subject to section 3613(b), the obligation to pay an assessment imposed on or after the date of enactment of the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015 shall not cease until the assessment is paid in full.

“(h) HEALTH OR MEDICAL SERVICES.—

“(1) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—From amounts appropriated under section 10503(b)(1)(E) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42 U.S.C. 254b-2(b)(1)(E)), as amended by section 221 of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015, there shall be transferred to the Fund an amount equal to the amount transferred under subsection (d) for each fiscal year, except that the amount transferred under this paragraph shall not be less than \$5,000,000 or more than \$30,000,000 in each such fiscal year, and such amounts shall remain available until expended.

“(2) USE OF FUNDS.—The Attorney General, in coordination with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall use amounts transferred to the Fund under paragraph (1) to award grants that may be used for the provision of health care or medical items or services to victims of trafficking under—

“(A) sections 202, 203, and 204 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044a, 14044b, and 14044c);

“(B) subsections (b)(2) and (f) of section 107 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105); and

“(C) section 214(b) of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13002(b)).

“(3) GRANTS.—Of the amounts in the Fund used under paragraph (1), not less than \$2,000,000, if such amounts are available in the Fund during the relevant fiscal year, shall be used for grants to provide services for child pornography victims under section 214(b) of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13002(b)).

“(4) APPLICATION OF PROVISION.—The application of the provisions of section 221(c) of the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015 shall continue to apply to the amounts transferred pursuant to paragraph (1).”

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 201 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 3013 the following:

“3014. Additional special assessment.”.

SEC. 102. CLARIFYING THE BENEFITS AND PROTECTIONS OFFERED TO DOMESTIC VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

Section 107(b)(1) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (F) and (G) as subparagraphs (G) and (H), respectively;

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

“(F) NO REQUIREMENT OF OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION FOR UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS.—Nothing in this section may be construed to require United States citizens or lawful permanent residents who are victims of severe forms of trafficking to obtain an official certification

from the Secretary of Health and Human Services in order to access any of the specialized services described in this subsection or any other Federal benefits and protections to which they are otherwise entitled.”; and

(3) in subparagraph (H), as redesignated, by striking “subparagraph (F)” and inserting “subparagraph (G)”.

SEC. 103. VICTIM-CENTERED CHILD HUMAN TRAFFICKING DETERRENCE BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 203 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044b) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 203. VICTIM-CENTERED CHILD HUMAN TRAFFICKING DETERRENCE BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM.

“(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General may award block grants to an eligible entity to develop, improve, or expand domestic child human trafficking deterrence programs that assist law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judicial officials, and qualified victims’ services organizations in collaborating to rescue and restore the lives of victims, while investigating and prosecuting offenses involving child human trafficking.

“(b) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Grants awarded under subsection (a) may be used for—

“(1) the establishment or enhancement of specialized training programs for law enforcement officers, first responders, health care officials, child welfare officials, juvenile justice personnel, prosecutors, and judicial personnel to—

“(A) identify victims and acts of child human trafficking;

“(B) address the unique needs of child victims of human trafficking;

“(C) facilitate the rescue of child victims of human trafficking;

“(D) investigate and prosecute acts of human trafficking, including the soliciting, patronizing, or purchasing of commercial sex acts from children, as well as training to build cases against complex criminal networks involved in child human trafficking; and

“(E) utilize, implement, and provide education on safe harbor laws enacted by States, aimed at preventing the criminalization and prosecution of child sex trafficking victims for prostitution offenses, and other laws aimed at the investigation and prosecution of child human trafficking;

“(2) the establishment or enhancement of dedicated anti-trafficking law enforcement units and task forces to investigate child human trafficking offenses and to rescue victims, including—

“(A) funding salaries, in whole or in part, for law enforcement officers, including patrol officers, detectives, and investigators, except that the percentage of the salary of the law enforcement officer paid for by funds from a grant awarded under this section shall not be more than the percentage of the officer’s time on duty that is dedicated to working on cases involving child human trafficking;

“(B) investigation expenses for cases involving child human trafficking, including—

“(i) wire taps;

“(ii) consultants with expertise specific to cases involving child human trafficking;

“(iii) travel; and

“(iv) other technical assistance expenditures;

“(C) dedicated anti-trafficking prosecution units, including the funding of salaries for State and local prosecutors, including assisting in paying trial expenses for prosecution of child human trafficking offenders, except that the percentage of the total salary of a

State or local prosecutor that is paid using an award under this section shall be not more than the percentage of the total number of hours worked by the prosecutor that is spent working on cases involving child human trafficking;

“(D) the establishment of child human trafficking victim witness safety, assistance, and relocation programs that encourage cooperation with law enforcement investigations of crimes of child human trafficking by leveraging existing resources and delivering child human trafficking victims’ services through coordination with—

“(i) child advocacy centers;

“(ii) social service agencies;

“(iii) State governmental health service agencies;

“(iv) housing agencies;

“(v) legal services agencies; and

“(vi) nongovernmental organizations and shelter service providers with substantial experience in delivering wrap-around services to victims of child human trafficking; and

“(E) the establishment or enhancement of other necessary victim assistance programs or personnel, such as victim or child advocates, child-protective services, child forensic interviews, or other necessary service providers;

“(3) activities of law enforcement agencies to find homeless and runaway youth, including salaries and associated expenses for retired Federal law enforcement officers assisting the law enforcement agencies in finding homeless and runaway youth; and

“(4) the establishment or enhancement of problem solving court programs for trafficking victims that include—

“(A) mandatory and regular training requirements for judicial officials involved in the administration or operation of the court program described under this paragraph;

“(B) continuing judicial supervision of victims of child human trafficking, including case worker or child welfare supervision in collaboration with judicial officers, who have been identified by a law enforcement or judicial officer as a potential victim of child human trafficking, regardless of whether the victim has been charged with a crime related to human trafficking;

“(C) the development of a specialized and individualized, court-ordered treatment program for identified victims of child human trafficking, including—

“(i) State-administered outpatient treatment;

“(ii) life skills training;

“(iii) housing placement;

“(iv) vocational training;

“(v) education;

“(vi) family support services; and

“(vii) job placement;

“(D) centralized case management involving the consolidation of all of each child human trafficking victim’s cases and offenses, and the coordination of all trafficking victim treatment programs and social services;

“(E) regular and mandatory court appearances by the victim during the duration of the treatment program for purposes of ensuring compliance and effectiveness;

“(F) the ultimate dismissal of relevant non-violent criminal charges against the victim, where such victim successfully complies with the terms of the court-ordered treatment program; and

“(G) collaborative efforts with child advocacy centers, child welfare agencies, shelters, and nongovernmental organizations with substantial experience in delivering wrap-around services to victims of child human trafficking to provide services to victims and encourage cooperation with law enforcement.

“(c) APPLICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible entity shall submit an application to the Attorney General for a grant under this section in such form and manner as the Attorney General may require.

“(2) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—An application submitted under this subsection shall—

“(A) describe the activities for which assistance under this section is sought;

“(B) include a detailed plan for the use of funds awarded under the grant;

“(C) provide such additional information and assurances as the Attorney General determines to be necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of this section; and

“(D) disclose—

“(i) any other grant funding from the Department of Justice or from any other Federal department or agency for purposes similar to those described in subsection (b) for which the eligible entity has applied, and which application is pending on the date of the submission of an application under this section; and

“(ii) any other such grant funding that the eligible entity has received during the 5-year period ending on the date of the submission of an application under this section.

“(3) PREFERENCE.—In reviewing applications submitted in accordance with paragraphs (1) and (2), the Attorney General shall give preference to grant applications if—

“(A) the application includes a plan to use awarded funds to engage in all activities described under paragraphs (1) through (3) of subsection (b); or

“(B) the application includes a plan by the State or unit of local government to continue funding of all activities funded by the award after the expiration of the award.

“(4) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES SOLICITING DATA ON CHILD HUMAN TRAFFICKING.—No eligible entity shall be disadvantaged in being awarded a grant under subsection (a) on the grounds that the eligible entity has only recently begun soliciting data on child human trafficking.

“(d) DURATION AND RENEWAL OF AWARD.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A grant under this section shall expire 3 years after the date of award of the grant.

“(2) RENEWAL.—A grant under this section shall be renewable not more than 2 times and for a period of not greater than 2 years.

“(e) EVALUATION.—The Attorney General shall—

“(1) enter into a contract with a non-governmental organization, including an academic or nonprofit organization, that has experience with issues related to child human trafficking and evaluation of grant programs to conduct periodic evaluations of grants made under this section to determine the impact and effectiveness of programs funded with grants awarded under this section;

“(2) instruct the Inspector General of the Department of Justice to review evaluations issued under paragraph (1) to determine the methodological and statistical validity of the evaluations; and

“(3) submit the results of any evaluation conducted pursuant to paragraph (1) to—

“(A) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate; and

“(B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives.

“(f) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—An eligible entity awarded funds under this section that is found to have used grant funds for any unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost shall not be eligible for any grant funds awarded under the block grant for 2 fiscal years following the year in which the unauthorized expenditure or unallowable cost is reported.

“(g) COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENT.—An eligible entity shall not be eligible to receive a grant under this section if within the 5 fiscal years before submitting an application for a grant under this section, the grantee has been found to have violated the terms or conditions of a Government grant program by utilizing grant funds for unauthorized expenditures or otherwise unallowable costs.

“(h) ADMINISTRATIVE CAP.—The cost of administering the grants authorized by this section shall not exceed 5 percent of the total amount expended to carry out this section.

“(i) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of a program funded by a grant awarded under this section shall be—

“(1) 70 percent in the first year;

“(2) 60 percent in the second year; and

“(3) 50 percent in the third year, and in all subsequent years.

“(j) AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING; FULLY OFFSET.—For purposes of carrying out this section, the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, is authorized to award not more than \$7,000,000 of the funds available in the Domestic Trafficking Victims' Fund, established under section 3014 of title 18, United States Code, for each of fiscal years 2016 through 2020.

“(k) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘child’ means a person under the age of 18;

“(2) the term ‘child advocacy center’ means a center created under subtitle A of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13001 et seq.);

“(3) the term ‘child human trafficking’ means 1 or more severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)) involving a victim who is a child; and

“(4) the term ‘eligible entity’ means a State or unit of local government that—

“(A) has significant criminal activity involving child human trafficking;

“(B) has demonstrated cooperation between Federal, State, local, and, where applicable, tribal law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and social service providers in addressing child human trafficking;

“(C) has developed a workable, multi-disciplinary plan to combat child human trafficking, including—

“(i) the establishment of a shelter for victims of child human trafficking, through existing or new facilities;

“(ii) the provision of trauma-informed, gender-responsive rehabilitative care to victims of child human trafficking;

“(iii) the provision of specialized training for law enforcement officers and social service providers for all forms of human trafficking, with a focus on domestic child human trafficking;

“(iv) prevention, deterrence, and prosecution of offenses involving child human trafficking, including soliciting, patronizing, or purchasing human acts with children;

“(v) cooperation or referral agreements with organizations providing outreach or other related services to runaway and homeless youth;

“(vi) law enforcement protocols or procedures to screen all individuals arrested for prostitution, whether adult or child, for victimization by sex trafficking and by other crimes, such as sexual assault and domestic violence; and

“(vii) cooperation or referral agreements with State child welfare agencies and child advocacy centers; and

“(D) provides an assurance that, under the plan under subparagraph (C), a victim of child human trafficking shall not be required to collaborate with law enforcement officers

to have access to any shelter or services provided with a grant under this section.

“(l) GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY; SPECIALIZED VICTIMS' SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—No grant funds under this section may be awarded or transferred to any entity unless such entity has demonstrated substantial experience providing services to victims of human trafficking or related populations (such as runaway and homeless youth), or employs staff specialized in the treatment of human trafficking victims.”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (22 U.S.C. 7101 note) is amended by striking the item relating to section 203 and inserting the following:

“Sec. 203. Victim-centered child human trafficking deterrence block grant program.”.

SEC. 104. DIRECT SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY.

The Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 212(5) (42 U.S.C. 13001a(5)), by inserting “, including human trafficking and the production of child pornography” before the semicolon at the end; and

(2) in section 214 (42 U.S.C. 13002)—

(A) by redesignating subsections (b), (c), and (d) as subsections (c), (d), and (e), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) DIRECT SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY.—The Administrator, in coordination with the Director and with the Director of the Office of Victims of Crime, may make grants to develop and implement specialized programs to identify and provide direct services to victims of child pornography.”.

SEC. 105. INCREASING COMPENSATION AND RESTITUTION FOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS.

(a) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 18.—Section 1594 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “that was used or” and inserting “that was involved in, used, or”; and

(ii) by inserting “, and any property traceable to such property” after “such violation”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, or any property traceable to such property” after “such violation”;

(2) in subsection (e)(1)(A)—

(A) by striking “used or” and inserting “involved in, used, or”; and

(B) by inserting “, and any property traceable to such property” after “any violation of this chapter”;

(3) by redesignating subsection (f) as subsection (g); and

(4) by inserting after subsection (e) the following:

“(f) TRANSFER OF FORFEITED ASSETS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Attorney General shall transfer assets forfeited pursuant to this section, or the proceeds derived from the sale thereof, to satisfy victim restitution orders arising from violations of this chapter.

“(2) PRIORITY.—Transfers pursuant to paragraph (1) shall have priority over any other claims to the assets or their proceeds.

“(3) USE OF NONFORFEITED ASSETS.—Transfers pursuant to paragraph (1) shall not reduce or otherwise mitigate the obligation of a person convicted of a violation of this chapter to satisfy the full amount of a restitution order through the use of nonforfeited assets or to reimburse the Attorney General for the value of assets or proceeds transferred under this subsection through the use of nonforfeited assets.”.

(b) AMENDMENT TO TITLE 28.—Section 524(c)(1)(B) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by inserting “chapter 77 of title 18,” after “criminal drug laws of the United States or of”.

(c) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 31.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 97 of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(A) by redesignating section 9703 (as added by section 638(b)(1) of the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Act, 1993 (Public Law 102-393; 106 Stat. 1779)) as section 9705; and

(B) in section 9705(a), as redesignated—

(i) in paragraph (1)—

(I) in subparagraph (I)—

(aa) by striking “payment” and inserting “Payment”; and

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

(II) in subparagraph (J), by striking “payment” and inserting “Payment”; and

(i) in paragraph (2)—

(I) in subparagraph (B)—

(aa) in clause (iii)—

(AA) in subclause (I), by striking “or” and inserting “of”; and

(BB) in subclause (III), by striking “and” at the end;

(bb) in clause (iv), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(cc) by inserting after clause (iv) the following:

“(v) United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement with respect to a violation of chapter 77 of title 18 (relating to human trafficking);”;

(II) in subparagraph (G), by adding “and” at the end; and

(III) in subparagraph (H), by striking “; and” and inserting a period.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) CROSS REFERENCES.—

(i) TITLE 28.—Section 524(c) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(I) in paragraph (4)(C), by striking “section 9703(g)(4)(A)(ii)” and inserting “section 9705(g)(4)(A)”;

(II) in paragraph (10), by striking “section 9703(p)” and inserting “section 9705(o)”;

(III) in paragraph (11), by striking “section 9703” and inserting “section 9705”.

(ii) TITLE 31.—Title 31, United States Code, is amended—

(I) in section 312(d), by striking “section 9703” and inserting “section 9705”; and

(II) in section 5340(1), by striking “section 9703(p)(1)” and inserting “section 9705(o)”.

(iii) TITLE 39.—Section 2003(e)(1) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking “section 9703(p)” and inserting “section 9705(o)”.

(B) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections for chapter 97 of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“9701. Fees and charges for Government services and things of value.

“9702. Investment of trust funds.

“9703. Managerial accountability and flexibility.

“9704. Pilot projects for managerial accountability and flexibility.

“9705. Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund.”.

SEC. 106. STREAMLINING HUMAN TRAFFICKING INVESTIGATIONS.

Section 2516 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (a), by inserting a comma after “weapons”;

(B) in subparagraph (c)—

(i) by inserting “section 1581 (peonage), section 1584 (involuntary servitude), section 1589 (forced labor), section 1590 (trafficking with respect to peonage, slavery, involun-

tary servitude, or forced labor),” before “section 1591”;

(ii) by inserting “section 1592 (unlawful conduct with respect to documents in furtherance of trafficking, peonage, slavery, involuntary servitude, or forced labor),” before “section 1751”;

(iii) by inserting a comma after “virus”;

(iv) by striking “, section” and inserting a comma;

(v) by striking “or” after “misuse of passports,”; and

(vi) by inserting “or” before “section 555”;

(C) in subparagraph (j), by striking “pipeline,” and inserting “pipeline,”; and

(D) in subparagraph (p), by striking “documents, section 1028A (relating to aggravated identity theft)” and inserting “documents), section 1028A (relating to aggravated identity theft)”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by inserting “human trafficking, child sexual exploitation, child pornography production,” after “kidnapping”.

SEC. 107. ENHANCING HUMAN TRAFFICKING REPORTING.

Section 505 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3755) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(i) PART 1 VIOLENT CRIMES TO INCLUDE HUMAN TRAFFICKING.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘part 1 violent crimes’ shall include severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)).”.

SEC. 108. REDUCING DEMAND FOR SEX TRAFFICKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1591 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “or maintains” and inserting “maintains, patronizes, or solicits”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “or obtained” and inserting “obtained, patronized, or solicited”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “or obtained” and inserting “obtained, patronized, or solicited”; and

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking “or maintained” and inserting “, maintained, patronized, or solicited”; and

(B) by striking “knew that the person” and inserting “knew, or recklessly disregarded the fact, that the person”.

(b) DEFINITION AMENDED.—Section 103(10) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(10)) is amended by striking “or obtaining” and inserting “obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting”.

(c) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the amendments made by this section is to clarify the range of conduct punished as sex trafficking.

SEC. 109. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) section 1591 of title 18, United States Code, defines a sex trafficker as a person who “knowingly . . . recruits, entices, harbors, transports, provides, obtains, or maintains by any means a person . . . knowing, or in reckless disregard of the fact, that means of force, threats of force, fraud, coercion . . . or any combination of such means will be used to cause the person to engage in a commercial sex act, or that the person has not attained the age of 18 years and will be caused to engage in a commercial sex act”;

(2) while use of the word “obtains” in section 1591, United States Code, has been interpreted, prior to the date of enactment of this Act, to encompass those who purchase illicit sexual acts from trafficking victims, some confusion persists;

(3) in *United States vs. Jungers*, 702 F.3d 1066 (8th Cir. 2013), the United States Court

of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit ruled that section 1591 of title 18, United States Code, applied to persons who purchase illicit sexual acts with trafficking victims after the United States District Court for the District of South Dakota erroneously granted motions to acquit these buyers in two separate cases; and

(4) section 108 of this title amends section 1591 of title 18, United States Code, to add the words “solicits or patronizes” to the sex trafficking statute making absolutely clear for judges, juries, prosecutors, and law enforcement officials that criminals who purchase sexual acts from human trafficking victims may be arrested, prosecuted, and convicted as sex trafficking offenders when this is merited by the facts of a particular case.

SEC. 110. USING EXISTING TASK FORCES AND COMPONENTS TO TARGET OFFENDERS WHO EXPLOIT CHILDREN.

Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall ensure that—

(1) all task forces and working groups within the Innocence Lost National Initiative engage in activities, programs, or operations to increase the investigative capabilities of State and local law enforcement officers in the detection, investigation, and prosecution of persons who patronize, or solicit children for sex; and

(2) all components and task forces with jurisdiction to detect, investigate, and prosecute cases of child labor trafficking engage in activities, programs, or operations to increase the capacity of such components to deter and punish child labor trafficking.

SEC. 111. TARGETING CHILD PREDATORS.

(a) CLARIFYING THAT CHILD PORNOGRAPHY PRODUCERS ARE HUMAN TRAFFICKERS.—Section 2423(f) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “means (1) a” and inserting the following: “means—

“(1) a”;

(2) by striking “United States; or (2) any” and inserting the following: “United States; “(2) any”; and

(3) by striking the period at the end and inserting the following: “; or

“(3) production of child pornography (as defined in section 2256(8)).”.

(b) HOLDING SEX TRAFFICKERS ACCOUNTABLE.—Section 2423(g) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “a preponderance of the evidence” and inserting “clear and convincing evidence”.

SEC. 112. MONITORING ALL HUMAN TRAFFICKERS AS VIOLENT CRIMINALS.

Section 3156(a)(4)(C) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting “77,” after “chapter”.

SEC. 113. CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3771 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following:

“(9) The right to be informed in a timely manner of any plea bargain or deferred prosecution agreement.

“(10) The right to be informed of the rights under this section and the services described in section 503(c) of the Victims’ Rights and Restitution Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 10607(c)) and provided contact information for the Office of the Victims’ Rights Ombudsman of the Department of Justice.”;

(2) in subsection (d)(3), in the fifth sentence, by inserting “, unless the litigants, with the approval of the court, have stipulated to a different time period for consideration” before the period; and

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking “this chapter, the term” and inserting the following: “this chapter:

“(1) COURT OF APPEALS.—The term ‘court of appeals’ means—

“(A) the United States court of appeals for the judicial district in which a defendant is being prosecuted; or

“(B) for a prosecution in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, the District of Columbia Court of Appeals.

“(2) CRIME VICTIM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term”;

(B) by striking “In the case” and inserting the following:

“(B) MINORS AND CERTAIN OTHER VICTIMS.—In the case”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) DISTRICT COURT; COURT.—The terms ‘district court’ and ‘court’ include the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.”

(b) CRIME VICTIMS FUND.—Section 1402(d)(3)(A)(i) of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601(d)(3)(A)(i)) is amended by inserting “section” before “3771”.

(c) APPELLATE REVIEW OF PETITIONS RELATING TO CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3771(d)(3) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a)(2) of this section, is amended by inserting after the fifth sentence the following: “In deciding such application, the court of appeals shall apply ordinary standards of appellate review.”

(2) APPLICATION.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to any petition for a writ of mandamus filed under section 3771(d)(3) of title 18, United States Code, that is pending on the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 114. COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACT.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Combat Human Trafficking Act of 2015”.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) COMMERCIAL SEX ACT; SEVERE FORMS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS; STATE; TASK FORCE.—The terms “commercial sex act”, “severe forms of trafficking in persons”, “State”, and “Task Force” have the meanings given those terms in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

(2) COVERED OFFENDER.—The term “covered offender” means an individual who obtains, patronizes, or solicits a commercial sex act involving a person subject to severe forms of trafficking in persons.

(3) COVERED OFFENSE.—The term “covered offense” means the provision, obtaining, patronizing, or soliciting of a commercial sex act involving a person subject to severe forms of trafficking in persons.

(4) FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.—The term “Federal law enforcement officer” has the meaning given the term in section 115 of title 18, United States Code.

(5) LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.—The term “local law enforcement officer” means any officer, agent, or employee of a unit of local government authorized by law or by a local government agency to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of any violation of criminal law.

(6) STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.—The term “State law enforcement officer” means any officer, agent, or employee of a State authorized by law or by a State government agency to engage in or supervise the prevention, detection, investigation, or prosecution of any violation of criminal law.

(c) DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TRAINING AND POLICY FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, PROSECUTORS, AND JUDGES.—

(1) TRAINING.—

(A) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—The Attorney General shall ensure that each anti-human trafficking program operated by the Department of Justice, including each anti-

human trafficking training program for Federal, State, or local law enforcement officers, includes technical training on—

(i) effective methods for investigating and prosecuting covered offenders; and

(ii) facilitating the provision of physical and mental health services by health care providers to persons subject to severe forms of trafficking in persons.

(B) FEDERAL PROSECUTORS.—The Attorney General shall ensure that each anti-human trafficking program operated by the Department of Justice for United States attorneys or other Federal prosecutors includes training on seeking restitution for offenses under chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, to ensure that each United States attorney or other Federal prosecutor, upon obtaining a conviction for such an offense, requests a specific amount of restitution for each victim of the offense without regard to whether the victim requests restitution.

(C) JUDGES.—The Federal Judicial Center shall provide training to judges relating to the application of section 1593 of title 18, United States Code, with respect to ordering restitution for victims of offenses under chapter 77 of such title.

(2) POLICY FOR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS.—The Attorney General shall ensure that Federal law enforcement officers are engaged in activities, programs, or operations involving the detection, investigation, and prosecution of covered offenders.

(d) MINIMUM PERIOD OF SUPERVISED RELEASE FOR CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT COMMERCIAL CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING.—Section 3583(k) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting “1594(c),” after “1591.”

(e) BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS REPORT ON STATE ENFORCEMENT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING PROHIBITIONS.—The Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics shall—

(1) prepare an annual report on—

(A) the rates of—

(i) arrest of individuals by State law enforcement officers for a covered offense;

(ii) prosecution (including specific charges) of individuals in State court systems for a covered offense; and

(iii) conviction of individuals in State court systems for a covered offense; and

(B) sentences imposed on individuals convicted in State court systems for a covered offense; and

(2) submit the annual report prepared under paragraph (1) to—

(A) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives;

(B) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

(C) the Task Force;

(D) the Senior Policy Operating Group established under section 105(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(g)); and

(E) the Attorney General.

SEC. 115. SURVIVORS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING EMPOWERMENT ACT.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Survivors of Human Trafficking Empowerment Act”.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the United States Advisory Council on Human Trafficking (referred to in this section as the “Council”), which shall provide advice and recommendations to the Senior Policy Operating Group established under section 105(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(g)) (referred to in this section as the “Group”) and the President’s Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking established under section 105(a) of such Act (referred to in this section as the “Task Force”).

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) COMPOSITION.—The Council shall be composed of not less than 8 and not more

than 14 individuals who are survivors of human trafficking.

(2) REPRESENTATION OF SURVIVORS.—To the extent practicable, members of the Council shall be survivors of trafficking, who shall accurately reflect the diverse backgrounds of survivors of trafficking, including—

(A) survivors of sex trafficking and survivors of labor trafficking; and

(B) survivors who are United States citizens and survivors who are aliens lawfully present in the United States.

(3) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall appoint the members of the Council.

(4) TERM; REAPPOINTMENT.—Each member of the Council shall serve for a term of 2 years and may be reappointed by the President to serve 1 additional 2-year term.

(d) FUNCTIONS.—The Council shall—

(1) be a nongovernmental advisory body to the Group;

(2) meet, at its own discretion or at the request of the Group, not less frequently than annually to review Federal Government policy and programs intended to combat human trafficking, including programs relating to the provision of services for victims and serve as a point of contact for Federal agencies reaching out to human trafficking survivors for input on programming and policies relating to human trafficking in the United States;

(3) formulate assessments and recommendations to ensure that policy and programming efforts of the Federal Government conform, to the extent practicable, to the best practices in the field of human trafficking prevention; and

(4) meet with the Group not less frequently than annually, and not later than 45 days before a meeting with the Task Force, to formally present the findings and recommendations of the Council.

(e) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and each year thereafter until the date described in subsection (h), the Council shall submit a report that contains the findings derived from the reviews conducted pursuant to subsection (d)(2) to—

(1) the chair of the Task Force;

(2) the members of the Group;

(3) the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Homeland Security, Appropriations, and the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

(4) the Committees on Foreign Relations, Appropriations, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Judiciary of the Senate.

(f) EMPLOYEE STATUS.—Members of the Council—

(1) shall not be considered employees of the Federal Government for any purpose; and

(2) shall not receive compensation other than reimbursement of travel expenses and per diem allowance in accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(g) NONAPPLICABILITY OF FACA.—The Council shall not be subject to the requirements under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.).

(h) SUNSET.—The Council shall terminate on September 30, 2020.

SEC. 116. BRINGING MISSING CHILDREN HOME ACT.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Bringing Missing Children Home Act”.

(b) CRIME CONTROL ACT AMENDMENTS.—Section 3702 of the Crime Control Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 5780) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (B) and (C) as subparagraphs (C) and (D), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following:

“(B) a recent photograph of the child, if available;”;

(3) in paragraph (4)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting “paragraph (3)”;

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “60 days” and inserting “30 days”; and

(ii) by inserting “and a photograph taken during the previous 180 days” after “dental records”;

(C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(D) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D);

(E) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) notify the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children of each report received relating to a child reported missing from a foster care family home or childcare institution;”;

(F) in subparagraph (D), as redesignated—

(i) by inserting “State and local child welfare systems and” before “the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(G) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) grant permission to the National Crime Information Center Terminal Contractor for the State to update the missing person record in the National Crime Information Center computer networks with additional information learned during the investigation relating to the missing person.”.

SEC. 117. GRANT ACCOUNTABILITY.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “covered grant” means a grant awarded by the Attorney General under section 203 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 14044b), as amended by section 103.

(b) ACCOUNTABILITY.—All covered grants shall be subject to the following accountability provisions:

(1) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act, and in each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of a covered grant to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The Inspector General shall determine the appropriate number of grantees to be audited each year.

(B) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term “unresolved audit finding” means a finding in the final audit report of the Inspector General that the audited grantee has utilized grant funds for an unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost that is not closed or resolved within 12 months from the date when the final audit report is issued.

(C) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipient of a covered grant that is found to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be eligible to receive a covered grant during the following 2 fiscal years.

(D) PRIORITY.—In awarding covered grants the Attorney General shall give priority to eligible entities that did not have an unresolved audit finding during the 3 fiscal years prior to submitting an application for a covered grant.

(E) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an entity is awarded a covered grant during the 2-fiscal-year period in which the entity is barred from receiving grants under subparagraph (C), the Attorney General shall—

(i) deposit an amount equal to the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the grantee into the General Fund of the Treasury; and

(ii) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment to the fund from the grant recipient that was erroneously awarded grant funds.

(2) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this paragraph and covered grants, the term “non-profit organization” means an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

(B) PROHIBITION.—The Attorney General may not award a covered grant to a non-profit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(C) DISCLOSURE.—Each nonprofit organization that is awarded a covered grant and uses the procedures prescribed in regulations to create a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness for the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees and key employees, shall disclose to the Attorney General, in the application for the grant, the process for determining such compensation, including the independent persons involved in reviewing and approving such compensation, the comparability data used, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision. Upon request, the Attorney General shall make the information disclosed under this subsection available for public inspection.

(3) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.—

(A) LIMITATION.—No amounts transferred to the Department of Justice under this title, or the amendments made by this title, may be used by the Attorney General, or by any individual or organization awarded discretionary funds through a cooperative agreement under this title, or the amendments made by this title, to host or support any expenditure for conferences that uses more than \$20,000 in Department funds, unless the Deputy Attorney General or such Assistant Attorney Generals, Directors, or principal deputies as the Deputy Attorney General may designate, provides prior written authorization that the funds may be expended to host a conference.

(B) WRITTEN APPROVAL.—Written approval under subparagraph (A) shall include a written estimate of all costs associated with the conference, including the cost of all food and beverages, audiovisual equipment, honoraria for speakers, and any entertainment.

(C) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on all approved conference expenditures referenced in this paragraph.

(D) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this title, the Attorney General shall submit, to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, an annual certification that—

(i) all audits issued by the Office of the Inspector General under paragraph (1) have been completed and reviewed by the appropriate Assistant Attorney General or Director;

(ii) all mandatory exclusions required under paragraph (1)(C) have been issued;

(iii) all reimbursements required under paragraph (1)(E) have been made; and

(iv) includes a list of any grant recipients excluded under paragraph (1) from the previous year.

(4) PROHIBITION ON LOBBYING ACTIVITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts awarded under this title, or any amendments made by this title, may not be utilized by any grant recipient to—

(i) lobby any representative of the Department of Justice regarding the award of grant funding; or

(ii) lobby any representative of a Federal, State, local, or tribal government regarding the award of grant funding.

(B) PENALTY.—If the Attorney General determines that any recipient of a covered grant has violated subparagraph (A), the Attorney General shall—

(i) require the grant recipient to repay the grant in full; and

(ii) prohibit the grant recipient from receiving another covered grant for not less than 5 years.

SEC. 118. SAVE ACT.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Stop Advertising Victims of Exploitation Act of 2015” or the “SAVE Act of 2015”.

(b) ADVERTISING THAT OFFERS CERTAIN COMMERCIAL ACTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 1591(a)(1) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is further amended by inserting “advertisements,” after “obtains,”.

(2) MENS REA REQUIREMENT.—Section 1591(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended in the undesignated matter following paragraph (2), by inserting “, except where the act constituting the violation of paragraph (1) is advertising,” after “knowing, or”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 1591(b) of title 18, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is further amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “advertised,” after “obtained,”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “advertised,” after “obtained,”.

SEC. 119. EDUCATION AND OUTREACH TO TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS.

The Attorney General shall make available, on the website of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, a database for trafficking victim advocates, crisis hotline personnel, foster parents, law enforcement personnel, and crime survivors that contains information on—

- (1) counseling and hotline resources;
- (2) housing resources;
- (3) legal assistance; and
- (4) other services for trafficking survivors.

SEC. 120. EXPANDED STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS FOR CIVIL ACTIONS BY CHILD TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS.

Section 1595(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking “not later than 10 years after the cause of action arose.” and inserting “not later than the later of—

“(1) 10 years after the cause of action arose; or

“(2) 10 years after the victim reaches 18 years of age, if the victim was a minor at the time of the alleged offense.”.

SEC. 121. GAO STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study on each program or initiative authorized under this Act and the following statutes and evaluate whether any program or initiative is duplicative:

(1) Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-164; 119 Stat. 3558).

(2) Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7101 et seq.).

(3) Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13001 et seq.).

(4) Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.).

(5) Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5771 et seq.).

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report on the study conducted under subsection (a), which shall include—

(1) a description of the cost of any duplicative program or initiative studied under subsection (a); and

(2) recommendations on how to achieve cost savings with respect to each duplicative program or initiative studied under subsection (a).

TITLE II—COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Subtitle A—Enhancing Services for Runaway and Homeless Victims of Youth Trafficking

SEC. 201. AMENDMENTS TO THE RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH ACT.

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5701 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 343(b)(5) (42 U.S.C. 5714-23(b)(5))—

(A) in subparagraph (A) by inserting “, severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103(9) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9))), and sex trafficking (as defined in section 103(10) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 7102(10)))” before the semicolon at the end;

(B) in subparagraph (B) by inserting “, severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103(9) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9))), or sex trafficking (as defined in section 103(10) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 7102(10)))” after “assault”; and

(C) in subparagraph (C) by inserting “, including such youth who are victims of trafficking (as defined in section 103(15) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(15)))” before the semicolon at the end; and

(2) in section 351(a) (42 U.S.C. 5714-41(a)) by striking “or sexual exploitation” and inserting “sexual exploitation, severe forms of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103(9) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102(9))), or sex trafficking (as defined in section 103(10) of such Act (22 U.S.C. 7102(10)))”.

Subtitle B—Improving the Response to Victims of Child Sex Trafficking

SEC. 211. RESPONSE TO VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING.

Section 404(b)(1)(P)(iii) of the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5773(b)(1)(P)(iii)) is amended by striking “child prostitution” and inserting “child sex trafficking, including child prostitution”.

Subtitle C—Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking

SEC. 221. VICTIM OF TRAFFICKING DEFINED.

In this subtitle, the term “victim of trafficking” has the meaning given such term in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

SEC. 222. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE REPORT ON CHILD TRAFFICKING PRIMARY PREVENTION.

(a) REVIEW.—The Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking, established under section 105 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103), shall conduct a review that, with regard to trafficking in persons in the United States—

(1) in consultation with nongovernmental organizations that the Task Force determines appropriate, surveys and catalogs the

activities of the Federal Government and State governments—

(A) to deter individuals from committing trafficking offenses; and

(B) to prevent children from becoming victims of trafficking;

(2) surveys academic literature on—

(A) deterring individuals from committing trafficking offenses;

(B) preventing children from becoming victims of trafficking;

(C) the commercial sexual exploitation of children; and

(D) other similar topics that the Task Force determines to be appropriate;

(3) identifies best practices and effective strategies—

(A) to deter individuals from committing trafficking offenses; and

(B) to prevent children from becoming victims of trafficking; and

(4) identifies current gaps in research and data that would be helpful in formulating effective strategies—

(A) to deter individuals from committing trafficking offenses; and

(B) to prevent children from becoming victims of trafficking.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Interagency Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking shall provide to Congress, and make publicly available in electronic format, a report on the review conducted pursuant to subparagraph (a).

SEC. 223. GAO REPORT ON INTERVENTION.

On the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to Congress that includes information on—

(1) the efforts of Federal and select State law enforcement agencies to combat human trafficking in the United States; and

(2) each Federal grant program, a purpose of which is to combat human trafficking or assist victims of trafficking, as specified in an authorizing statute or in a guidance document issued by the agency carrying out the grant program.

SEC. 224. PROVISION OF HOUSING PERMITTED TO PROTECT AND ASSIST IN THE RECOVERY OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING.

Section 107(b)(2)(A) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “, including programs that provide housing to victims of trafficking” before the period at the end.

Subtitle D—Expanded Training

SEC. 231. EXPANDED TRAINING RELATING TO TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS.

Section 105(c)(4) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(c)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking “Appropriate personnel” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Appropriate personnel”;

(2) in subparagraph (A), as redesignated, by inserting “, including members of the Service (as such term is defined in section 103 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3903))” after “Department of State”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) TRAINING COMPONENTS.—Training under this paragraph shall include—

“(i) a distance learning course on trafficking-in-persons issues and the Department of State's obligations under this Act, which shall be designed for embassy reporting officers, regional bureaus' trafficking-in-persons coordinators, and their superiors;

“(ii) specific trafficking-in-persons briefings for all ambassadors and deputy chiefs of mission before such individuals depart for their posts; and

“(iii) at least annual reminders to all personnel referred to in clauses (i) and (ii), including appropriate personnel from other Federal departments and agencies, at each diplomatic or consular post of the Department of State located outside the United States of—

“(I) key problems, threats, methods, and warning signs of trafficking in persons specific to the country or jurisdiction in which each such post is located; and

“(II) appropriate procedures to report information that any such personnel may acquire about possible cases of trafficking in persons.”.

TITLE III—HERO ACT

SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Human Exploitation Rescue Operations Act of 2015” or the “HERO Act of 2015”.

SEC. 302. HERO ACT.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The illegal market for the production and distribution of child abuse imagery is a growing threat to children in the United States. International demand for this material creates a powerful incentive for the rape, abuse, and torture of children within the United States.

(2) The targeting of United States children by international criminal networks is a threat to the homeland security of the United States. This threat must be fought with trained personnel and highly specialized counter-child-exploitation strategies and technologies.

(3) The United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement of the Department of Homeland Security serves a critical national security role in protecting the United States from the growing international threat of child exploitation and human trafficking.

(4) The Cyber Crimes Center of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement is a vital national resource in the effort to combat international child exploitation, providing advanced expertise and assistance in investigations, computer forensics, and victim identification.

(5) The returning military heroes of the United States possess unique and valuable skills that can assist law enforcement in combating global sexual and child exploitation, and the Department of Homeland Security should use this national resource to the maximum extent possible.

(6) Through the Human Exploitation Rescue Operative (HERO) Child Rescue Corps program, the returning military heroes of the United States are trained and hired to investigate crimes of child exploitation in order to target predators and rescue children from sexual abuse and slavery.

(b) CYBER CRIMES CENTER, CHILD EXPLOITATION INVESTIGATIONS UNIT, AND COMPUTER FORENSICS UNIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle H of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 451 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 890A. CYBER CRIMES CENTER, CHILD EXPLOITATION INVESTIGATIONS UNIT, COMPUTER FORENSICS UNIT, AND CYBER CRIMES UNIT.

“(a) CYBER CRIMES CENTER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall operate, within United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, a Cyber Crimes Center (referred to in this section as the ‘Center’).

“(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Center shall be to provide investigative assistance, training, and equipment to support United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement's domestic and international investigations of cyber-related crimes.

“(b) CHILD EXPLOITATION INVESTIGATIONS UNIT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall operate, within the Center, a Child Exploitation Investigations Unit (referred to in this subsection as the ‘CEIU’).

“(2) FUNCTIONS.—The CEIU—

“(A) shall coordinate all United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement child exploitation initiatives, including investigations into—

- “(i) child exploitation;
- “(ii) child pornography;
- “(iii) child victim identification;
- “(iv) traveling child sex offenders; and
- “(v) forced child labor, including the sexual exploitation of minors;

“(B) shall, among other things, focus on—

- “(i) child exploitation prevention;
- “(ii) investigative capacity building;
- “(iii) enforcement operations; and
- “(iv) training for Federal, State, local, tribal, and foreign law enforcement agency personnel, upon request;

“(C) shall provide training, technical expertise, support, or coordination of child exploitation investigations, as needed, to cooperating law enforcement agencies and personnel;

“(D) shall provide psychological support and counseling services for United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel engaged in child exploitation prevention initiatives, including making available other existing services to assist employees who are exposed to child exploitation material during investigations;

“(E) is authorized to collaborate with the Department of Defense and the National Association to Protect Children for the purpose of the recruiting, training, equipping and hiring of wounded, ill, and injured veterans and transitioning service members, through the Human Exploitation Rescue Operative (HERO) Child Rescue Corps program; and

“(F) shall collaborate with other governmental, nongovernmental, and nonprofit entities approved by the Secretary for the sponsorship of, and participation in, outreach and training activities.

“(3) DATA COLLECTION.—The CEIU shall collect and maintain data concerning—

“(A) the total number of suspects identified by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement;

“(B) the number of arrests by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement, disaggregated by type, including—

“(i) the number of victims identified through investigations carried out by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and

“(ii) the number of suspects arrested who were in positions of trust or authority over children;

“(C) the number of cases opened for investigation by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement; and

“(D) the number of cases resulting in a Federal, State, foreign, or military prosecution.

“(4) AVAILABILITY OF DATA TO CONGRESS.—In addition to submitting the reports required under paragraph (7), the CEIU shall make the data collected and maintained under paragraph (3) available to the committees of Congress described in paragraph (7).

“(5) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The CEIU is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements to accomplish the functions set forth in paragraphs (2) and (3).

“(6) ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to accept monies and in-kind donations from the Virtual Global Taskforce, national laboratories, Federal agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and educational institutions to create and expand public awareness cam-

paigns in support of the functions of the CEIU.

“(B) EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION.—Gifts authorized under subparagraph (A) shall not be subject to the Federal Acquisition Regulation for competition when the services provided by the entities referred to in such subparagraph are donated or of minimal cost to the Department.

“(7) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the HERO Act of 2015, and annually for the following 4 years, the CEIU shall—

“(A) submit a report containing a summary of the data collected pursuant to paragraph (3) during the previous year to—

- “(i) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;
- “(ii) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate;

“(iii) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

“(iv) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives;

“(v) the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives; and

“(vi) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

“(B) make a copy of each report submitted under subparagraph (A) publicly available on the website of the Department.

“(c) COMPUTER FORENSICS UNIT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall operate, within the Center, a Computer Forensics Unit (referred to in this subsection as the ‘CFU’).

“(2) FUNCTIONS.—The CFU—

“(A) shall provide training and technical support in digital forensics to—

“(i) United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel; and

“(ii) Federal, State, local, tribal, military, and foreign law enforcement agency personnel engaged in the investigation of crimes within their respective jurisdictions, upon request and subject to the availability of funds;

“(B) shall provide computer hardware, software, and forensic licenses for all computer forensics personnel within United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement;

“(C) shall participate in research and development in the area of digital forensics, in coordination with appropriate components of the Department; and

“(D) is authorized to collaborate with the Department of Defense and the National Association to Protect Children for the purpose of recruiting, training, equipping, and hiring wounded, ill, and injured veterans and transitioning service members, through the Human Exploitation Rescue Operative (HERO) Child Rescue Corps program.

“(3) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The CFU is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements to accomplish the functions set forth in paragraph (2).

“(4) ACCEPTANCE OF GIFTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to accept monies and in-kind donations from the Virtual Global Task Force, national laboratories, Federal agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and educational institutions to create and expand public awareness campaigns in support of the functions of the CFU.

“(B) EXEMPTION FROM FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGULATION.—Gifts authorized under subparagraph (A) shall not be subject to the Federal Acquisition Regulation for competition when the services provided by the entities referred to in such subparagraph are donated or of minimal cost to the Department.

“(d) CYBER CRIMES UNIT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall operate, within the Center, a Cyber Crimes

Unit (referred to in this subsection as the ‘CCU’).

“(2) FUNCTIONS.—The CCU—

“(A) shall oversee the cyber security strategy and cyber-related operations and programs for United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement;

“(B) shall enhance United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s ability to combat criminal enterprises operating on or through the Internet, with specific focus in the areas of—

- “(i) cyber economic crime;
- “(ii) digital theft of intellectual property;
- “(iii) illicit e-commerce (including hidden marketplaces);

“(iv) Internet-facilitated proliferation of arms and strategic technology; and

“(v) cyber-enabled smuggling and money laundering;

“(C) shall provide training and technical support in cyber investigations to—

“(i) United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement personnel; and

“(ii) Federal, State, local, tribal, military, and foreign law enforcement agency personnel engaged in the investigation of crimes within their respective jurisdictions, upon request and subject to the availability of funds;

“(D) shall participate in research and development in the area of cyber investigations, in coordination with appropriate components of the Department; and

“(E) is authorized to recruit participants of the Human Exploitation Rescue Operative (HERO) Child Rescue Corps program for investigative and forensic positions in support of the functions of the CCU.

“(3) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The CCU is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements to accomplish the functions set forth in paragraph (2).

“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.”.

(2) TABLE OF CONTENTS AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 note) is amended by adding after the item relating to section 890 the following:

“Sec. 890A. Cyber crimes center, child exploitation investigations unit, computer forensics unit, and cyber crimes unit.”.

(c) HERO CORPS HIRING.—It is the sense of Congress that Homeland Security Investigations of the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement should hire, recruit, train, and equip wounded, ill, or injured military veterans (as defined in section 101, title 38, United States Code) who are affiliated with the HERO Child Rescue Corps program for investigative, intelligence, analyst, and forensic positions.

(d) INVESTIGATING CHILD EXPLOITATION.—Section 307(b)(3) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 187(b)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) conduct research and development for the purpose of advancing technology for the investigation of child exploitation crimes, including child victim identification, trafficking in persons, and child pornography, and for advanced forensics.”.

SEC. 303. TRANSPORTATION FOR ILLEGAL SEXUAL ACTIVITY AND RELATED CRIMES.

Chapter 117 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking section 2421 and inserting the following:

“§ 2421. Transportation generally

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever knowingly transports any individual in interstate or foreign commerce, or in any Territory or Possession of the United States, with intent that such individual engage in prostitution, or in any sexual activity for which any person can be charged with a criminal offense, or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 10 years, or both.

“(b) REQUESTS TO PROSECUTE VIOLATIONS BY STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall grant a request by a State attorney general that a State or local attorney be cross designated to prosecute a violation of this section unless the Attorney General determines that granting the request would undermine the administration of justice.

“(2) REASON FOR DENIAL.—If the Attorney General denies a request under paragraph (1), the Attorney General shall submit to the State attorney general a detailed reason for the denial not later than 60 days after the date on which a request is received.”.

TITLE IV—RAPE SURVIVOR CHILD CUSTODY**SEC. 401. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the “Rape Survivor Child Custody Act”.

SEC. 402. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) COVERED FORMULA GRANT.—The term “covered formula grant” means a grant under—

(A) part T of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796gg et seq.) (commonly referred to as the “STOP Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program”); or

(B) section 41601 of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14043g) (commonly referred to as the “Sexual Assault Services Program”).

(2) TERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “termination” means, when used with respect to parental rights, a complete and final termination of the parent’s right to custody of, guardianship of, visitation with, access to, and inheritance from a child.

(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to require a State, in order to receive an increase in the amount provided to the State under the covered formula grants under this title, to have in place a law that terminates any obligation of a person who fathered a child through rape to support the child.

SEC. 403. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Men who father children through rape should be prohibited from visiting or having custody of those children.

(2) Thousands of rape-related pregnancies occur annually in the United States.

(3) A substantial number of women choose to raise their child conceived through rape and, as a result, may face custody battles with their rapists.

(4) Rape is one of the most under-prosecuted serious crimes, with estimates of criminal conviction occurring in less than 5 percent of rapes.

(5) The clear and convincing evidence standard is the most common standard for termination of parental rights among the 50 States, territories, and the District of Columbia.

(6) The Supreme Court established that the clear and convincing evidence standard satisfies due process for allegations to terminate or restrict parental rights in *Santosky v. Kramer* (455 U.S. 745 (1982)).

(7) Currently only 10 States have statutes allowing rape survivors to petition for the

termination of parental rights of the rapist based on clear and convincing evidence that the child was conceived through rape.

(8) A rapist pursuing parental or custody rights causes the survivor to have continued interaction with the rapist, which can have traumatic psychological effects on the survivor, and can make it more difficult for her to recover.

(9) These traumatic effects on the mother can severely negatively impact her ability to raise a healthy child.

(10) Rapists may use the threat of pursuing custody or parental rights to coerce survivors into not prosecuting rape, or otherwise harass, intimidate, or manipulate them.

SEC. 404. INCREASED FUNDING FOR FORMULA GRANTS AUTHORIZED.

The Attorney General shall increase the amount provided to a State under the covered formula grants in accordance with this title if the State has in place a law that allows the mother of any child that was conceived through rape to seek court-ordered termination of the parental rights of her rapist with regard to that child, which the court is authorized to grant upon clear and convincing evidence of rape.

SEC. 405. APPLICATION.

A State seeking an increase in the amount provided to the State under the covered formula grants shall include in the application of the State for each covered formula grant such information as the Attorney General may reasonably require, including information about the law described in section 404.

SEC. 406. GRANT INCREASE.

The amount of the increase provided to a State under the covered formula grants under this title shall be equal to not more than 10 percent of the average of the total amount of funding provided to the State under the covered formula grants under the 3 most recent awards to the State.

SEC. 407. PERIOD OF INCREASE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall provide an increase in the amount provided to a State under the covered formula grants under this title for a 2-year period.

(b) LIMIT.—The Attorney General may not provide an increase in the amount provided to a State under the covered formula grants under this title more than 4 times.

SEC. 408. ALLOCATION OF INCREASED FORMULA GRANT FUNDS.

The Attorney General shall allocate an increase in the amount provided to a State under the covered formula grants under this title such that—

(1) 25 percent the amount of the increase is provided under the program described in section 402(1)(A); and

(2) 75 percent the amount of the increase is provided under the program described in section 402(1)(B).

SEC. 409. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019.

TITLE V—MILITARY SEX OFFENDER REPORTING**SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the “Military Sex Offender Reporting Act of 2015”.

SEC. 502. REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS RELEASED FROM MILITARY CORRECTIONS FACILITIES OR UPON CONVICTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act is amended by inserting after section 128 (42 U.S.C. 16928) the following:

“SEC. 128A. REGISTRATION OF SEX OFFENDERS RELEASED FROM MILITARY CORRECTIONS FACILITIES OR UPON CONVICTION.

“The Secretary of Defense shall provide to the Attorney General the information de-

scribed in section 114 to be included in the National Sex Offender Registry and the Dru Sjodin National Sex Offender Public Website regarding persons—

“(1)(A) released from military corrections facilities; or

“(B) convicted if the sentences adjudged by courts-martial under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), do not include confinement; and

“(2) required to register under this title.”.

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of contents of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 128 the following:

“Sec. 128A. Registration of sex offenders released from military corrections facilities or upon conviction.”.

TITLE VI—STOPPING EXPLOITATION THROUGH TRAFFICKING**SEC. 601. SAFE HARBOR INCENTIVES.**

Part Q of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 1701(c), by striking “where feasible” and all that follows, and inserting the following: “where feasible, to an application—

“(1) for hiring and rehiring additional career law enforcement officers that involves a non-Federal contribution exceeding the 25 percent minimum under subsection (g); or

“(2) from an applicant in a State that has in effect a law that—

“(A) treats a minor who has engaged in, or has attempted to engage in, a commercial sex act as a victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons;

“(B) discourages or prohibits the charging or prosecution of an individual described in subparagraph (A) for a prostitution or sex trafficking offense, based on the conduct described in subparagraph (A); and

“(C) encourages the diversion of an individual described in subparagraph (A) to appropriate service providers, including child welfare services, victim treatment programs, child advocacy centers, rape crisis centers, or other social services.”; and

(2) in section 1709, by inserting at the end the following:

“(5) ‘commercial sex act’ has the meaning given the term in section 103 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

“(6) ‘minor’ means an individual who has not attained the age of 18 years.

“(7) ‘severe form of trafficking in persons’ has the meaning given the term in section 103 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).”.

SEC. 602. REPORT ON RESTITUTION PAID IN CONNECTION WITH CERTAIN TRAFFICKING OFFENSES.

Section 105(d)(7)(Q) of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7103(d)(7)(Q)) is amended—

(1) by inserting after “1590,” the following: “1591.”;

(2) by striking “and 1594” and inserting “1594, 2251, 2251A, 2421, 2422, and 2423”;

(3) in clause (iv), by striking “and” at the end;

(4) in clause (v), by striking “and” at the end; and

(5) by inserting after clause (v) the following:

“(vi) the number of individuals required by a court order to pay restitution in connection with a violation of each offense under title 18, United States Code, the amount of restitution required to be paid under each such order, and the amount of restitution actually paid pursuant to each such order; and

“(vii) the age, gender, race, country of origin, country of citizenship, and description of the role in the offense of individuals convicted under each offense; and”.

SEC. 603. NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE.

Section 107(b)(1)(B) of the Victims of Crime Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) by striking “Subject” and inserting the following:

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING HOTLINE.—Beginning in fiscal year 2017, and in each fiscal year thereafter, of amounts made available for grants under paragraph (2), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall make grants for a national communication system to assist victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons in communicating with service providers. The Secretary shall give priority to grant applicants that have experience in providing telephone services to victims of severe forms of trafficking in persons.”.

SEC. 604. JOB CORPUS ELIGIBILITY.

Section 144(a)(3) of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3194(a)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(F) A victim of a severe form of trafficking in persons (as defined in section 103 of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)). Notwithstanding paragraph (2), an individual described in this subparagraph shall not be required to demonstrate eligibility under such paragraph.”.

SEC. 605. CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITY OF THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE.

Section 566(e)(1) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

“(D) assist State, local, and other Federal law enforcement agencies, upon the request of such an agency, in locating and recovering missing children.”.

SEC. 606. ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL STRATEGY TO COMBAT HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall implement and maintain a National Strategy for Combating Human Trafficking (referred to in this section as the “National Strategy”) in accordance with this section.

(b) REQUIRED CONTENTS OF NATIONAL STRATEGY.—The National Strategy shall include the following:

(1) Integrated Federal, State, local, and tribal efforts to investigate and prosecute human trafficking cases, including—

(A) the development by each United States attorney, in consultation with State, local, and tribal government agencies, of a district-specific strategic plan to coordinate the identification of victims and the investigation and prosecution of human trafficking crimes;

(B) the appointment of not fewer than 1 assistant United States attorney in each district dedicated to the prosecution of human trafficking cases or responsible for implementing the National Strategy;

(C) the participation in any Federal, State, local, or tribal human trafficking task force operating in the district of the United States attorney; and

(D) any other efforts intended to enhance the level of coordination and cooperation, as determined by the Attorney General.

(2) Case coordination within the Department of Justice, including specific integra-

tion, coordination, and collaboration, as appropriate, on human trafficking investigations between and among the United States attorneys, the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit, the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

(3) Annual budget priorities and Federal efforts dedicated to preventing and combating human trafficking, including resources dedicated to the Human Trafficking Prosecution Unit, the Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and all other entities that receive Federal support that have a goal or mission to combat the exploitation of adults and children.

(4) An ongoing assessment of the future trends, challenges, and opportunities, including new investigative strategies, techniques, and technologies, that will enhance Federal, State, local, and tribal efforts to combat human trafficking.

(5) Encouragement of cooperation, coordination, and mutual support between private sector and other entities and organizations and Federal agencies to combat human trafficking, including the involvement of State, local, and tribal government agencies to the extent Federal programs are involved.

TITLE VII—TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE

SEC. 701. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Trafficking Awareness Training for Health Care Act of 2015”.

SEC. 702. DEVELOPMENT OF BEST PRACTICES.

(a) GRANT OR CONTRACT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF BEST PRACTICES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services acting through the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration, and in consultation with the Administration on Children and Families and other agencies with experience in serving victims of human trafficking, shall award, on a competitive basis, a grant or contract to an eligible entity to train health care professionals to recognize and respond to victims of a severe form of trafficking.

(2) DEVELOPMENT OF EVIDENCE-BASED BEST PRACTICES.—An entity receiving a grant under paragraph (1) shall develop evidence-based best practices for health care professionals to recognize and respond to victims of a severe form of trafficking, including—

(A) consultation with law enforcement officials, social service providers, health professionals, experts in the field of human trafficking, and other experts, as appropriate, to inform the development of such best practices;

(B) the identification of any existing best practices or tools for health professionals to recognize potential victims of a severe form of trafficking; and

(C) the development of educational materials to train health care professionals on the best practices developed under this subsection.

(3) REQUIREMENTS.—Best practices developed under this subsection shall address—

(A) risk factors and indicators to recognize victims of a severe form of trafficking;

(B) patient safety and security;

(C) the management of medical records of patients who are victims of a severe form of trafficking;

(D) public and private social services available for rescue, food, clothing, and shelter referrals;

(E) the hotlines for reporting human trafficking maintained by the National Human Trafficking Resource Center and the Department of Homeland Security;

(F) validated assessment tools for the identification of victims of a severe form of trafficking; and

(G) referral options and procedures for sharing information on human trafficking with a patient and making referrals for legal and social services as appropriate.

(4) PILOT PROGRAM.—An entity receiving a grant under paragraph (1) shall design and implement a pilot program to test the best practices and educational materials identified or developed with respect to the recognition of victims of human trafficking by health professionals at health care sites located near an established anti-human trafficking task force initiative in each of the 10 administrative regions of the Department of Health and Human Services.

(5) ANALYSIS AND REPORT.—Not later than 24 months after the date on which an entity implements a pilot program under paragraph (4), the entity shall—

(A) analyze the results of the pilot programs, including through an assessment of—

(i) changes in the skills, knowledge, and attitude of health care professionals resulting from the implementation of the program;

(ii) the number of victims of a severe form of trafficking who were identified under the program;

(iii) of those victims identified, the number who received information or referrals for services offered; and

(iv) of those victims who received such information or referrals—

(I) the number who participated in follow up services; and

(II) the type of follow up services received;

(B) determine, using the results of the analysis conducted under subparagraph (A), the extent to which the best practices developed under this subsection are evidence-based; and

(C) submit to the Secretary of Health and Human Services a report concerning the pilot program and the analysis of the pilot program under subparagraph (A), including an identification of the best practices that were identified as effective and those that require further review.

(b) DISSEMINATION.—Not later than 30 months after date on which a grant is awarded to an eligible entity under subsection (a), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

(1) collaborate with appropriate professional associations and health care professional schools to disseminate best practices identified or developed under subsection (a) for purposes of recognizing potential victims of a severe form of trafficking; and

(2) post on the public website of the Department of Health and Human Services the best practices that are identified by the as effective under subsection (a)(5).

SEC. 703. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) The term “eligible entity” means an accredited school of medicine or nursing with experience in the study or treatment of victims of a severe form of trafficking.

(2) The term “eligible site” means a health center that is receiving assistance under section 330, 399Z-1, or 1001 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b, 280h-5, and 300).

(3) The term “health care professional” means a person employed by a health care provider who provides to patients information (including information not related to medical treatment), scheduling, services, or referrals.

(4) The term “HIPAA privacy and security law” has the meaning given to such term in section 3009 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-19).

(5) The term “victim of a severe form of trafficking” has the meaning given to such

term in section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

SEC. 704. NO ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title, and this title shall be carried out using amounts otherwise available for such purpose.

TITLE VIII—BETTER RESPONSE FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

SEC. 801. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Ensuring a Better Response for Victims of Child Sex Trafficking”.

SEC. 802. CAPTA AMENDMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments to the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 et seq.) made by this section shall take effect 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) STATE PLANS.—Section 106 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)(B)—

(A) in clause (xxii), by striking “and” at the end; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(xxiv) provisions and procedures requiring identification and assessment of all reports involving children known or suspected to be victims of sex trafficking (as defined in section 103(10) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102 (10))); and

“(xxv) provisions and procedures for training child protective services workers about identifying, assessing, and providing comprehensive services for children who are sex trafficking victims, including efforts to coordinate with State law enforcement, juvenile justice, and social service agencies such as runaway and homeless youth shelters to serve this population;”;

(2) in subsection (d), by adding at the end the following:

“(17) The number of children determined to be victims described in subsection (b)(2)(B)(xxiv).”.

(c) SPECIAL RULE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 111 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106g) is amended—

(A) by striking “For purposes” and inserting the following:

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) SPECIAL RULE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of section 3(2) and subsection (a)(4), a child shall be considered a victim of ‘child abuse and neglect’ and of ‘sexual abuse’ if the child is identified, by a State or local agency employee of the State or locality involved, as being a victim of sex trafficking (as defined in paragraph (10) of section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102)) or a victim of severe forms of trafficking in persons described in paragraph (9)(A) of that section.

“(2) STATE OPTION.—Notwithstanding the definition of ‘child’ in section 3(1), a State may elect to define that term for purposes of the application of paragraph (1) to section 3(2) and subsection (a)(4) as a person who has not attained the age of 24.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 3(2) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5101 note) is amended by inserting “(including sexual abuse as determined under section 111)” after “sexual abuse or exploitation”.

(3) TECHNICAL CORRECTION.—Paragraph (5)(C) of subsection (a), as so designated, of section 111 of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106g) is amended by striking “inhumane;” and inserting “inhumane.”.

TITLE IX—ANTI-TRAFFICKING TRAINING FOR DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PERSONNEL

SEC. 901. DEFINITIONS.

In this title:

(1) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of Homeland Security.

(2) HUMAN TRAFFICKING.—The term “human trafficking” means an act or practice described in paragraph (9) or (10) of section 103 of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7102).

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Homeland Security.

SEC. 902. TRAINING FOR DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL TO IDENTIFY HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall implement a program to—

(1) train and periodically retrain relevant Transportation Security Administration, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and other Department personnel that the Secretary considers appropriate, with respect to how to effectively deter, detect, and disrupt human trafficking, and, where appropriate, interdict a suspected perpetrator of human trafficking, during the course of their primary roles and responsibilities; and

(2) ensure that the personnel referred to in paragraph (1) regularly receive current information on matters related to the detection of human trafficking, including information that becomes available outside of the Department’s initial or periodic retraining schedule, to the extent relevant to their official duties and consistent with applicable information and privacy laws.

(b) TRAINING DESCRIBED.—The training referred to in subsection (a) may be conducted through in-class or virtual learning capabilities, and shall include—

(1) methods for identifying suspected victims of human trafficking and, where appropriate, perpetrators of human trafficking;

(2) for appropriate personnel, methods to approach a suspected victim of human trafficking, where appropriate, in a manner that is sensitive to the suspected victim and is not likely to alert a suspected perpetrator of human trafficking;

(3) training that is most appropriate for a particular location or environment in which the personnel receiving such training perform their official duties;

(4) other topics determined by the Secretary to be appropriate; and

(5) a post-training evaluation for personnel receiving the training.

(c) TRAINING CURRICULUM REVIEW.—The Secretary shall annually reassess the training program established under subsection (a) to ensure it is consistent with current techniques, patterns, and trends associated with human trafficking.

SEC. 903. CERTIFICATION AND REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) CERTIFICATION.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall certify to Congress that all personnel referred to in section 402(a) have successfully completed the training required under that section.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall report to Congress with respect to the overall effectiveness of the program required by this title, the number of cases reported by Department personnel in which human trafficking was suspected, and, of those cases, the number of cases that were confirmed cases of human trafficking.

SEC. 904. ASSISTANCE TO NON-FEDERAL ENTITIES.

The Secretary may provide training curricula to any State, local, or tribal government or private organization to assist the government or organization in establishing a program of training to identify human trafficking, upon request from the government or organization.

SEC. 905. EXPANDED USE OF DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS’ FUND.

Section 3014(e)(1) of title 18, United States Code, as added by section 101 of this Act, is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) section 106 of the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2008 (42 U.S.C. 17616).”.

TITLE X—HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS RELIEF AND EMPOWERMENT ACT

SEC. 1001. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Human Trafficking Survivors Relief and Empowerment Act of 2015”.

SEC. 1002. PROTECTIONS FOR HUMAN TRAFFICKING SURVIVORS.

Section 1701(c) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd(c)) is amended by striking “where feasible” and all that follows, and inserting the following: “where feasible, to an application—

“(1) for hiring and rehiring additional career law enforcement officers that involves a non-Federal contribution exceeding the 25 percent minimum under subsection (g); or

“(2) from an applicant in a State that has in effect a law—

“(A) that—

“(i) provides a process by which an individual who is a human trafficking survivor can move to vacate any arrest or conviction records for a non-violent offense committed as a direct result of human trafficking, including prostitution or lewdness;

“(ii) establishes a rebuttable presumption that any arrest or conviction of an individual for an offense associated with human trafficking is a result of being trafficked, if the individual—

“(I) is a person granted nonimmigrant status pursuant to section 101(a)(15)(T)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(T)(i));

“(II) is the subject of a certification by the Secretary of Health and Human Services under section 107(b)(1)(E) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7105(b)(1)(E)); or

“(III) has other similar documentation of trafficking, which has been issued by a Federal, State, or local agency; and

“(iii) protects the identity of individuals who are human trafficking survivors in public and court records; and

“(B) that does not require an individual who is a human trafficking survivor to provide official documentation as described in subclause (I), (II), or (III) of subparagraph (A)(ii) in order to receive protection under the law.”.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. GARDNER). The majority leader.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING ACT

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on an amendment that I was pleased to include in the human trafficking legislation that was passed earlier today. The amendment was based on the Human Trafficking Survivors Relief and Empowerment Act, which I introduced several weeks ago.

It has a simple purpose. It provides an incentive for States to enact laws that allow human trafficking survivors to clear their criminal records of prostitution and other low-level, non-violent crimes that they can reasonably demonstrate were the result of being trafficked.

Many States, including my home State of New Hampshire, have vacatur laws in place. However, we need to ensure that survivors of human trafficking have access to these types of protections no matter where they are rescued, or what State they were forced to commit crimes in.

When I first introduced this legislation, I shared the story of a young woman named Katie featured in a recent NPR story on vacatur laws. In the story, she spoke about her heart-breaking experience as a trafficking victim.

Katie talked about being raped at age 11, and at age 13 being forced into commercial sex.

She talked about having her skull cracked and ribs broken, and about the regular beatings that resulted in bruises and black eyes. She talked about 7 years of the worst kinds of physical and emotional torture, and being transported nearly 1,400 miles from her home.

But Katie also talked about her recovery—about rebuilding a life with her family and young son, about working hard to make a better life.

According to Katie, one of the most important things we can do for these survivors, these brave young men and women, is to give them the tools to start over.

As Katie told NPR, “I’m not ever going to forget what I’ve done, but at the same time, I don’t want it thrown in my face every time I’m trying to seek employment.”

Survivors of human trafficking are victims of a crime. Yet often it is the victims who are arrested, detained, prosecuted, and convicted.

Records of these crimes, can follow survivors for life. These records limit access to safe housing and good jobs. They can even bar access to car loans and educational opportunities. They leave trafficking survivors with few options, and in some cases drive individuals back to engaging in commercial sex.

Vacatur laws help victims start fresh. They are a critical part of recov-

ery and should be available in every State, and my amendment will help us achieve that goal.

I will close by sharing comments that Katie’s mom recently sent to my office. It think it clearly demonstrates what is possible when survivors are given the time and support they need to recover.

She wrote:

As a mother and as a woman watching all those years, being totally overwhelmed by hopelessness AND helplessness, I can see a positive . . . I think the 11 year old girl I lost is coming back to me . . . as a woman—a little battle weary but stronger and happier and filled with so much hope.

We want this kind of new beginning for every victim of trafficking. And that is exactly what this provision will help accomplish. I want to thank my colleagues for their support, and hope this bill will move quickly through the House and to the President for signature into law.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Armenian genocide, widely recognized as the first genocide of the 20th century.

April 24, 1915 marked the beginning of a horrific period in our world’s history and for the Armenian people. On this day, agents of the Ottoman Empire rounded up and executed Armenian community leaders, poets, and intellectuals. What ensued was the systematic extermination of 1.5 million Armenian men, women and children at the hands of the Ottoman Turkish government. From 1915 to 1923, the world witnessed the attempted destruction of the Armenian people for no reason other than their very existence.

Unfortunately, the events surrounding the Armenian genocide are fraught with denial. But the case is simple. When Raphael Lemkin coined the term “genocide” in the 1940s, he had what happened to the Armenians in mind as a definitive example.

Those who perished experienced some of the worst aspects of humanity. But the campaign to exterminate the Armenian people failed. And those who survived embodied the best qualities of the human spirit: hope, resilience, perseverance, and love. Some survivors made their way to America, and many of them built their new lives in Michigan. They have created thriving communities, built businesses, raised families, and contributed to the fabric of what makes the State of Michigan so great. Their descendants carry on these values, and the richness of their culture is part of what gives vibrancy to our State.

The Armenians in Michigan boast a community of well over 20,000. It is the largest in the Midwest, and I am proud to represent them. To commemorate the 100th anniversary, Michigan’s Armenian community has organized a

number of events, lectures, art exhibits, concerts, and vigils to remember the victims of the genocide, to educate their communities, and to look to the future. I applaud their efforts to preserve their culture and identity.

Over the last century, the Armenians of Michigan erected churches, established community centers, and built a day school. They also founded educational centers such as the Armenian Research Center at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. International language and linguistics courses at Wayne State University are located in Manoogian Hall, which was named after the notable Detroit-Armenian philanthropist and businessman Alex Manoogian. These are just part of the Armenian community’s contributions to Michigan.

While Armenians have found prosperity in their new home, they have not forgotten those who did not live to see what the future held for their people. Many of Michigan’s Armenian community members have written books and recorded accounts of what happened to their families in 1915 in an effort to shed light and increase awareness. These stories will carry on for generations, and remind us all that if we do not recognize the atrocities of the past we risk blinding ourselves to the atrocities that could still occur today.

Charging toward a peaceful future requires making peace with the past. Denial does not serve our American values. Denial minimizes the great tragedy that fell upon the victims, the survivors, and their descendants. Over 40 States have affirmed the Armenian genocide, including Michigan. I have called on, and will continue to call on, the President to formally recognize that the atrocities committed against the Armenian people were in fact genocide.

Recognition of the Armenian genocide is long overdue. A crime like this casts a long shadow. This shadow can be conquered only by light—the light of truth that comes from fully acknowledging the full scale of the horror that the Armenians endured.

EARTH DAY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today is Earth Day, and on Earth Day it is important for all of us to reflect not only on how human activity impacts the environment but also how those impacts on the environment affect people.

Unfortunately, one of the impacts of climate change that is increasingly being documented by the military and intelligence communities is that climate change is a threat to our national security. This threat takes many forms. Perhaps the simplest manifestation is the threat of sea level rise on the Pentagon’s 700 costal facilities. Naval Station Norfolk in Virginia is the largest naval base in the world, but the station and the surrounding community is being inundated by coastal

flooding from sea level rise. Norfolk is experiencing high tides 1½ feet higher than it did a century ago. This has already caused the naval base to have to abandon some piers, but perhaps the real worry is how flooding could prevent sailors from reaching the base during a weather event. One local minister quipped to the Washington Post that the local church that is now up for sale faced the prospect of putting “the tide chart on their Web site” so people would know whether they could get to church.

Norfolk and the Navy are exploring various solutions, including a costly flood gate proposal, but the reality is that Naval Station Norfolk and U.S. Navy infrastructure around the world is at threat around the world, and in a time of tightening budgets, that can have real impacts on military readiness.

A similar problem exists in my home State, in Annapolis, home to the U.S. Naval Academy. NOAA’s 2014 “Sea Level Rise and Nuisance Flood Frequency Changes Around the United States” found that “Annapolis and Baltimore, Maryland, lead the list with an increase in number of flood days of more than 920 percent since 1960.” NOAA goes on to conclude that sea level rise in the waters of the Chesapeake Bay is the cause of these “nuisance flooding” events.

On Monday, I visited the Patuxent River Naval Air Station in Southern Maryland on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. I raised the issue of how sea level rise is expected to affect the important work this installation does to ensure our Navy’s defense preparedness and aircraft testing and what sort of preparation and mitigation work they were doing to meet these imminent challenges.

Critical to the function of Pax River’s operations is that the base be located at sea level, so if sea level is changing, even by just a few feet, they have to account for these changes and essentially raise the base. Fortunately, the Navy is already putting a lot of thought into this issue; however, the infrastructure adaptation and mitigation projects that are essential to keeping our military prepared are coming at the expense of the taxpayer.

Climate change is also a threat to national security because it can serve as a threat multiplier. For as long as there have been humans, there has been conflict over resources, especially when those resources are scarce and essential. Many national security and defense experts have commented on how climate change’s impacts on food production, freshwater resources, and the destruction of critical infrastructure is contributing to political instability in a number of countries, particularly in developing countries where political leadership is already tenuous.

As former colonel and current Department of Defense consultant Pete Newell put it, “As a precursor to conflict, lack of access to basic human

needs is a major driver and it’s only getting worse.”

Prolonged drought and other serious environmental disasters are also made more likely in a warming world, and these kinds of conditions can overwhelm governments and cause government collapse.

The potential of conflict, radicalism, and terrorism are heightened when states fail.

Former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Michael Mullin, was quoted in the DOD’s 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review:

The scarcity of and potential competition for resources . . . compounded by the influx of refugees . . . creates conditions of hopelessness that could lead to failed states and make populations vulnerable to radicalization.

CNA Corporation’s Military Advisory Board issued a 2014 report titled “National Security and the Accelerating Risks of Climate Change” calling for political leadership to address the causes and impacts of climate change:

The national security risks of projected climate change are as serious as any challenges we have faced . . . Political posturing and budgetary woes cannot be allowed to inhibit discussion and debate over what so many believe to be a salient national security concern for our nation.

Scholars at U.C. Santa Barbara and Columbia University have shown how Syria is an example of how climate change can help create conditions that lead to conflict. The ongoing tragedy of ISIS cannot be explained by any one single cause, but studies are pointing to climate change as an important factor.

Between 2006 and 2010, Syria experienced its worst drought in decades. Reportedly this caused crop failure on 60 percent of Syria’s arable land and the country lost 80 percent of its head of cattle.

Rural farmers had nowhere to go but to Syria’s cities. Syria’s Government, which was already dealing with 1 million displaced people from Iraq, was overwhelmed by an influx of 1 million people internally displaced by drought.

As we know all too well from recent history, failed states and the chaotic conditions within them are breeding grounds of terrorism and radicalism such as that practiced by ISIS.

Climate change helped create stresses on the Syrian Government it could not handle, and its collapse has helped lead to the emergence of ISIS.

Leaders and experts attribute other global conflicts to climate change. Ban Ki-moon holds that violence in Darfur was sparked by a decline in rainfall that devastated cattle herds. Others believe that the 2011 Arab spring relates to heat waves that forced cereal-exporting countries to take grain off the global market.

A severe drought in the Horn of Africa has starved off tens of thousands of Somalis, and many more are on the brink of starvation in crowded refugee camps nearby. This displacement and desperation can only compound other

crises and issues, such as civil conflict, fragile societies, and underdevelopment.

Many Pacific Island nations, such as Kiribati and Tuvalu, are being swallowed up by the ocean.

While no single extreme weather event can be attributed to climate change, and the Earth has certainly experienced hurricanes and cyclones since the dawn of time, what is worth noting is the trend in increased intensity and frequency of extreme weather events is clear. Since 2000, there have been 18 category 5 hurricanes and cyclones—18 storms in the last 14 years. The previous 18 category 5 storms occurred over a 39-year period from 1961 to 2000. In other words, the phenomenon is becoming a more common occurrence in our world.

Last month, Cyclone Pam quite literally leveled the island nation of Vanuatu in the South Pacific. An overwhelming majority of the island’s structures were destroyed. As the days went on and the media began to lose focus on the humanitarian crisis that was unfolding, access to food and freshwater became increasingly difficult for the people of Vanuatu. Foreign aid has slowly made its way to the stricken people of Vanuatu. The World Health Organization has noted a rise in illnesses related to lack of access to safe drinking water and exposure to mosquito-borne diseases.

We must remain mindful of the pace and quality of recovery efforts in Vanuatu. Cyclone Pam has created a situation that could very easily destabilize the government if conditions on the ground in Vanuatu do not continue to improve.

Extremist organizations feed on instability and chaos, and if the people of Vanuatu feel their government is not adequately addressing their needs in a timely fashion, concerned nations need to be vigilant of what forces may take hold.

As climate change worsens, more countries may become vulnerable to its effects. Lack of food, water, and living space is displacing and killing people.

To protect our national security, we need to listen to the Department of Defense and an emerging group of scholars who are showing the connections between climate change and conflict. That means heeding the warnings of humanitarian need, providing adequate aid to maintain stability during crises, and helping vulnerable countries build resilient infrastructure. But most fundamentally it means we need to fight climate change. Global warming pollution is harming our planet, harming nature, and endangering wildlife.

But Earth Day is not just about the Earth; it is also about the people inhabit it. Let’s remember the most severe human impacts of climate, its impacts on our national security, and avert the worst affects of global warming.

Let’s do justice to Earth Day and make fighting climate change a true national priority.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE SAINTS JOHN NEUMANN AND MARIA GORETTI HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the Saints John Neumann and Maria Goretti High School girls varsity basketball team from Philadelphia, PA. After an undefeated 2014–2015 season, the Neumann-Goretti Lady Saints achieved the No. 1 rank in the Nation and were named the national champions of all high school basketball teams. This remarkable achievement demonstrates the fortitude and talent of the team, its leadership and the school.

Under head coach Andrea Peterson, the Lady-Saints dominated their regular season, securing their playoff berth when they earned their second consecutive Philadelphia Catholic League Championship. The Lady-Saints continued their streak, winning the PIAA District XII AA City Championship and earning a top seed in the Pennsylvania State tournament.

After earning wins with large margins in all four rounds of the Pennsylvania State tournament, the Neumann-Goretti team entered the State championship game against the Seton-La-Salle Rebels of Pittsburgh. Dominating the game with a score of 79–34, the Lady Saints earned the Pennsylvania State championship title. This monumental season resulted in national recognition by USA TODAY, ESPN, CBS MaxPreps, and Blue Star Media. The team was also named team of the year for the Philadelphia and Southeastern Pennsylvania region by the Philadelphia Inquirer.

I am proud to join the city of Philadelphia in celebrating the performance of senior players Ciani Cryor, Sianni Martin, A.J. Timbers, Christina Aborowa, Melanie Schoofield, Kaschae Harris, and honorary team member Amanda Brett. I also congratulate returning players Felicia Aiyeotan, Erica Brown, Minika Glenn, Jabria Ingram, Alisha Kebbe, Jada Russell, Kamiah Smalls, Jaylen Durrett, Shayla Green, Daijah Parmley, and Chyna Wooten. I wish all of these players well as they continue their academic careers.

The Neumann-Goretti Lady-Saints, Head Coach Peterson, Assistant Coach Kat Scanlan, Ms. Letty Santarelli and the entire Saints John Neumann and Maria Goretti High School should take great pride in this achievement. Their accomplishments are celebrated by the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I wish the team and the community every success in their future endeavors.●

JOB CORPS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the Job Corps program, which trains our Nation's young people to see and create a viable

future. This year, they celebrate their 50th anniversary. In my State, Alaska, our Job Corps Center is now 20 years old. In that time, it has graduated over 5,000 students. At any of Alaska's hospitals, businesses, government offices, native corporations, contractors, electrical or telecom companies, nursing facilities, accounting firms, banks, water plants, and prestigious restaurants, you will always find successfully employed Alaska Job Corps graduates. These former students are now taxpayers and so proud of their achievements. I stand with them, as their proud Senator. These alumni look favorably upon their time at Alaska's Job Corps Center as a time that made an enormous difference in their lives; oftentimes the difference between safety and danger, success and failure, and wealth and poverty. This program works. It has a heart that never stops beating the supportive drumbeat of success and training for our young people.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:22 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S.535. An act to promote energy efficiency.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 471. An act to improve enforcement efforts related to prescription drug diversion and abuse, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 21. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the Greater Washington Soap Box Derby.

H. Con. Res. 25. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the National Peace Officers Memorial Service and the National Honor Guard and Pipe Band Exhibition.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 471. An act to improve enforcement efforts related to prescription drug diversion and abuse, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following bill was discharged from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, and referred as indicated:

S. 782. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a bison management plan for Grand Canyon National Park; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

The following bill was discharged from the Committee on Homeland Se-

curity and Governmental Affairs, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 710. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to prepare a comprehensive security assessment of the transportation security card program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1035. A bill to extend authority relating to roving surveillance, access to business records, and individual terrorists as agents of foreign powers under the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 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. GARDNER (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HELLER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ENZI, Mr. LEE, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 1036. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to provide certain Western States assistance in the development of statewide conservation and management plans for the protection and recovery of sage-grouse species, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. RISCH:

S. 1037. A bill to expand the provisions for termination of mandatory purchase requirements under the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RISCH:

S. 1038. A bill to clarify that no express or implied warranty is provided by reason of a disclosure relating to voluntary participation in the Energy Star program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RISCH:

S. 1039. A bill to require certain agencies to conduct assessments of data centers and develop data center consolidation and optimization plans to achieve energy cost savings; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 1040. A bill to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the National Academy of Sciences to study the vehicle handling requirements proposed by the Commission for recreational off-highway vehicles and to prohibit the adoption of any such requirements until the completion of the study, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 1041. A bill to eliminate certain subsidies for fossil-fuel production; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. REED):

S. 1042. A bill to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to permanently prohibit the conduct of offshore drilling on the

outer Continental Shelf in the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and North Atlantic planning areas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 1043. A bill to ensure that transportation and infrastructure projects carried out using Federal financial assistance are constructed with steel, iron, and manufactured goods that are produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 1044. A bill to enhance consumer access to electricity information and allow for the adoption of innovative products and services to help consumers manage their energy usage; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 1045. A bill to protect 10th Amendment rights by providing special standing for State government officials to challenge proposed regulations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 1046. A bill to accelerate the adoption of smart building technologies in the private sector and key Federal agencies; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ALEXANDER:

S. 1047. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to review rulemaking proceedings of other Federal agencies for the potential to cause an adverse effect on the cost, time, or difficulty of complying with energy efficiency regulations, guidelines, or standards; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ALEXANDER:

S. 1048. A bill to remove the authority of the Secretary of Energy to amend or issue new energy efficiency standards for ceiling fans; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 1049. A bill to allow the financing by United States persons of sales of agricultural commodities to Cuba; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 1050. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 by establishing a program to support the modernization, renovation, or repair of career and technical education facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 1051. A bill to include county and municipal correctional facilities among medical facilities that qualify for designation as health professional shortage areas for purposes of the National Health Service Corps; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FRANKEN:

S. 1052. A bill to require a study on the impact of State and local performance benchmarking and disclosure policies for commercial and multifamily buildings, to provide for competitive awards to utilities, States, and units of local government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FRANKEN:

S. 1053. A bill to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to promote alternative fueled vehicle fleets and infrastructure; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 1054. A bill to improve the productivity and energy efficiency of the manufacturing sector by directing the Secretary of Energy, in coordination with the National Academies and other appropriate Federal agencies, to develop a national smart manufacturing plan and to provide assistance to small- and medium-sized manufacturers in implementing smart manufacturing programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FRANKEN:

S. 1055. A bill to require the Administrator of General Services and the Secretary of Energy to set goals for deep energy retrofits in Federal buildings; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KAINE, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1056. A bill to eliminate racial profiling by law enforcement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1057. A bill to promote geothermal energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. KING):

S. 1058. A bill to promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1059. A bill to provide Dreamer students with access to student financial aid; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1060. A bill to improve the Federal Pell Grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1061. A bill to improve the Federal Pell Grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. REED, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1062. A bill to improve the Federal Pell Grant program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FRANKEN:

S. 1063. A bill to amend title VI of the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal energy efficiency resource standard for electricity and natural gas suppliers, 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 Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. VITTER):

S. Res. 144. A resolution supporting the mission and goals of 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which include increasing public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of, and services available to assist, victims and survivors of crime

in the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. Res. 145. A resolution supporting the designation of April 2015, as "Parkinson's Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. PERDUE, and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. Res. 146. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of April 13 through April 17, 2015, as "National Assistant Principals Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. REID):

S. Res. 147. A resolution designating Donald A. Ritchie as Historian Emeritus of the United States Senate; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 142

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 142, a bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a rule to require child safety packaging for liquid nicotine containers, and for other purposes.

S. 165

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 165, a bill to extend and enhance prohibitions and limitations with respect to the transfer or release of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and for other purposes.

S. 178

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

S. 182

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 182, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to prohibit Federal education mandates, and for other purposes.

S. 258

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 258, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove the 96-hour physician certification requirement for inpatient critical access hospital services.

S. 314

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 314, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services.

S. 483

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Louisiana

(Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 483, a bill to improve enforcement efforts related to prescription drug diversion and abuse, and for other purposes.

S. 498

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 498, a bill to allow reciprocity for the carrying of certain concealed firearms.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions.

S. 615

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 615, a bill to provide for congressional review and oversight of agreements relating to Iran's nuclear program, and for other purposes.

S. 681

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

S. 682

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 682, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage originator and a high-cost mortgage.

S. 744

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 744, a bill to rescind certain Federal funds identified by States as unwanted and use the funds to reduce the Federal debt.

S. 898

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 898, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of optometrists in the National Health Service Corps scholarship and loan repayment programs, and for other purposes.

S. 922

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 922, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the treatment of foreign corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 925

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) and the Senator from

Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 925, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to convene a panel of citizens to make a recommendation to the Secretary regarding the likeness of a woman on the twenty dollar bill, and for other purposes.

S. 930

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 930, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory.

S. 957

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 957, a bill to increase access to capital for veteran entrepreneurs to help create jobs.

S. 966

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) were added as cosponsors of S. 966, a bill to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration.

S. 967

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 967, a bill to require the Small Business Administration to make information relating to lenders making covered loans publicly available, and for other purposes.

S. 997

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 997, a bill to extend the authorization for the major medical facility project to replace the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Aurora, Colorado, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into an agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers to manage the construction of such project, to transfer the authority to carry out future major medical facility projects of the Department from the Secretary to the Army Corps of Engineers, and for other purposes.

S. 1000

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1000, a bill to strengthen resources for entrepreneurs by improving the SCORE program, and for other purposes.

S. 1001

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1001, a bill to establish authorization levels for general business loans for fiscal years 2015 and 2016.

S. 1016

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr.

SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1016, a bill to preserve freedom and choice in health care.

S. RES. 140

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 140, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

AMENDMENT NO. 290

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 290 proposed to S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 1049. A bill to allow the financing by United States persons of sales of agricultural commodities to Cuba; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Ms. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, I am proud to introduce today with my friend from Arkansas, Senator BOOZMAN, a bill which will increase our agricultural producer's competitiveness and exports into Cuba, a nation just 90 miles off our southern coast. This timely bill would make relatively simple changes to our country's burdensome regulations and help make our agricultural exporters more competitive at a time in which expanding sales and supporting prices is incredibly important.

When people think of Cuba, they don't usually think of North Dakota, but they should. When I traveled to Cuba with Senators TESTER and SANDERS last year, I saw first-hand just how compatible North Dakota's agricultural production is with the diet of the Cuban people. There are incredible export opportunities for North Dakota's pulse producers, along with exports of soybean products, corn, wheat, barley, beef, and more. Unfortunately, under current regulations, our government is preventing North Dakota's producers from competing in a market in which we should hold majority market share.

Yesterday, the Agriculture Committee held a hearing on opportunities and challenges for agricultural trade with Cuba. Aside from lifting the Cuba embargo altogether, the number one barrier we heard about was the fact that our exporters are prohibited from offering credit for sales into Cuba. Meanwhile, our competitors from Canada, Brazil, Vietnam, and Europe, are offering credit and pushing our farmers

out of a market in which we should be dominant.

The Agricultural Export Expansion Act would remove that barrier and put our producers on a more level playing field with our competitors. It modifies a provision of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act to allow for exporters and banks to offer private credit for agricultural exports to Cuba. Let me be clear: this bill does not allow for involvement from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's export credit guarantee program or the Export-Import Bank, and no taxpayer dollars will be at risk if Cuba were to default on a deal. This bill simply allows the market and private industry to dictate the terms of sale, weighing all of the risks and benefits, like they do with every other country in the world.

With the current low commodity prices, we should be doing everything we can to support our agricultural producers, and to me this just makes sense. Even if Cuba were to buy all of their wheat from Kansas and soybeans from Arkansas, a bushel sold is a bushel sold, and all of our producers will benefit.

This bill is also good for the people of Cuba. Making trade more efficient and affordable will allow us to provide food to Cuba's population. Given our proximity and our agricultural industry's incredible diversity, we can support both the people of Cuba and our producers by removing this one unnecessary regulation. I hope our colleagues will join us in this important effort to help our producers be more competitive into this natural market.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 1051. A bill to include county and municipal correctional facilities among medical facilities that qualify for designation as health professional shortage areas for purposes of the National Health Service Corps; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1051

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "National Health Service Corps Expansion Act of 2015".

SEC. 2. MEDICAL FACILITIES.

Section 332(a)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254e(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting "(including care provided by a city or county health department to inmates of a county or municipal jail)" after "county health department"; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking "State correctional institution" and inserting "State, county, or municipal correctional institution".

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1057. A bill to promote geothermal energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today on the 45th anniversary of Earth Day, I am proud to introduce a pair of bills, S. 1057 and S. 1058, to promote clean energy and fight climate change.

The first bill is the Geothermal Energy Opportunities Act, or GEO Act for short. Clean, low-carbon geothermal energy can play a starring role in the fight against climate change, and this legislation encourages the development of the geothermal resource in a number of important ways.

The GEO Act helps prospective geothermal developers explore for and develop geothermal resources through a public-private grant program. As part of the partnership, developers report their findings, contributing to a nationwide map of geothermal potential that will reduce the risk and drive down the cost of geothermal energy for the future.

In many cases, Federal lands already under production for oil and gas also have a geothermal resource, and the GEO Act allows for the oil and gas leaseholders to coproduce such geothermal energy without going through an additional competitive lease process. It also fully incorporates the bipartisan Geothermal Production Expansion Act that I introduced with a number of my colleagues earlier this year. That provision would streamline the Federal geothermal leasing program to prevent speculative bidders from unproductively driving up the price of leases for developers of geothermal "hot spots" that extend into lands directly adjacent to their existing geothermal lease.

The Bureau of Land Management, which manages geothermal projects on Federal land under lease agreements, estimates about 250 million acres of Federal land contains geothermal power potential. Geothermal energy projects that are producing geothermal power under the BLM's management make up about half of the total geothermal generating capacity in the United States. The GEO Act takes important steps to speed the development of this tremendous clean energy potential on public lands.

I am also introducing the Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Act of 2015, along with my colleagues Senators MERKLEY, SCHATZ, and KING, to spur development of renewable electricity from the water power in oceans, rivers, and lakes. This bill reauthorizes the Department of Energy's marine renewable energy programs, including the national marine renewable energy research, development and demonstration centers around the country, one of which is run by Oregon State University in my home state. The Department of Energy estimates that there is enough potential energy in these non-traditional forms of hydropower to one day power millions of homes.

These two pieces of legislation will each promote the production of clean, domestic energy resources and in doing so help the United States lead the world in the fight against climate change. I strongly urge my colleagues to support both of them.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1057

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Geothermal Energy Opportunities Act" or the "GEO Act".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL GOALS FOR PRODUCTION AND SITE IDENTIFICATION.

It is the sense of Congress that, not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) the Secretary of the Interior should seek to have approved more than 15,000 megawatts of new geothermal energy capacity on public land across a geographically diverse set of States using the full range of available technologies; and

(2) the Director of the Geological Survey and the Secretary of Energy should identify sites capable of producing a total of 50,000 megawatts of geothermal power, using the full range of available technologies.

SEC. 3. PRIORITY AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT ON FEDERAL LAND.

The Director of the Bureau of Land Management, in consultation with other appropriate Federal officials, shall—

(1) identify high priority areas for new geothermal development; and

(2) take any actions the Director determines necessary to facilitate that development, consistent with applicable laws.

SEC. 4. FACILITATION OF COPRODUCTION OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY ON OIL AND GAS LEASES.

Section 4(b) of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(4) LAND SUBJECT TO OIL AND GAS LEASE.—Land under an oil and gas lease issued pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) or the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) that is subject to an approved application for permit to drill and from which oil and gas production is occurring may be available for noncompetitive leasing under this section to the holder of the oil and gas lease—

"(A) on a determination that—

"(i) geothermal energy will be produced from a well producing or capable of producing oil and gas; and

"(ii) national energy security will be improved by the issuance of such a lease; and

"(B) to provide for the coproduction of geothermal energy with oil and gas.".

SEC. 5. COST-SHARED EXPLORATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To promote the goals described in section 2, the Secretary of Energy may conduct a federally funded program of cost-shared drilling with industry partners—

(1) to explore and document new geothermal resources in the United States; and

(2) to develop improved tools and methods for geothermal resource identification and extraction, with the goal of achieving material reductions in the cost of exploration with a corresponding increase in the likelihood of drilling success.

(b) GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out the program described in subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy may award cost-share grants on a competitive and merit basis to eligible applicants to support exploration drilling and related activities.

(2) PROJECT CRITERIA.—In selecting applicants to receive grants under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Energy shall—

(A) give preference to applicants proposing projects located in a variety of geologic and geographic settings with previously unexplored, underexplored, or unproven geothermal resources; and

(B) consider—

(i) the potential that the unproven geothermal resources would be explored and developed under the proposed project;

(ii) the expertise and experience of an applicant in developing geothermal resources; and

(iii) the contribution the proposed project would make toward meeting the goals described in section 2.

(C) DATA SHARING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Data from all exploratory wells that are carried out under the program described in subsection (a) shall be provided to the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior for—

(A) use in mapping national geothermal resources; and

(B) other purposes, including—

(i) subsurface geologic data;

(ii) metadata;

(iii) borehole temperature data; and

(iv) inclusion in the National Geothermal Data System of the Department of Energy.

(2) SHARING OF CONFIDENTIAL DATA.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, confidential data from all exploratory wells that are carried out under the program described in subsection (a) shall be provided to the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior for the purposes described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1), to be available for a period of time to be determined by the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 6. USE OF GEOTHERMAL LEASE REVENUES.

(a) AMOUNTS DEPOSITED.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning in the first full fiscal year after the date of enactment of this Act, any amounts received by the United States as rentals, royalties, and other payments required under leases pursuant to the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) (excluding funds required to be paid to State and county governments) and from new geothermal leases issued after the date of enactment of this Act shall be deposited into a separate account in the Treasury.

(b) USE OF DEPOSITS.—Amounts deposited under subsection (a) shall be available to the Secretary of Energy for expenditure, without further appropriation or fiscal year limitation, to carry out section 5.

(c) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—To promote the goals described in section 2, the Secretary of Energy may authorize the expenditure or transfer of any funds that are necessary to other cooperating Federal agencies.

SEC. 7. NONCOMPETITIVE LEASING OF ADJOINING AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES.

Section 4(b) of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003(b)) (as amended by section 4) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) ADJOINING LAND.—

“(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

“(i) FAIR MARKET VALUE PER ACRE.—The term ‘fair market value per acre’ means a dollar amount per acre that—

“(I) except as provided in this clause, shall be equal to the market value per acre (tak-

ing into account the determination under subparagraph (B)(iii) regarding a valid discovery on the adjoining land), as determined by the Secretary under regulations issued under this paragraph;

“(II) shall be determined by the Secretary with respect to a lease under this paragraph, by not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date the Secretary receives an application for the lease; and

“(III) shall be not less than the greater of—

“(aa) 4 times the median amount paid per acre for all land leased under this Act during the preceding year; or

“(bb) \$50.

“(i) INDUSTRY STANDARDS.—The term ‘industry standards’ means the standards by which a qualified geothermal professional assesses whether downhole or flowing temperature measurements with indications of permeability are sufficient to produce energy from geothermal resources, as determined through flow or injection testing or measurement of lost circulation while drilling.

“(ii) QUALIFIED FEDERAL LAND.—The term ‘qualified Federal land’ means land that is otherwise available for leasing under this Act.

“(iv) QUALIFIED GEOTHERMAL PROFESSIONAL.—The term ‘qualified geothermal professional’ means an individual who is an engineer or geoscientist in good professional standing with at least 5 years of experience in geothermal exploration, development, or project assessment.

“(v) QUALIFIED LESSEE.—The term ‘qualified lessee’ means a person that is eligible to hold a geothermal lease under this Act (including applicable regulations).

“(vi) VALID DISCOVERY.—The term ‘valid discovery’ means a discovery of a geothermal resource by a new or existing slim hole or production well, that exhibits downhole or flowing temperature measurements with indications of permeability that are sufficient to meet industry standards.

“(B) AUTHORITY.—An area of qualified Federal land that adjoins other land for which a qualified lessee holds a legal right to develop geothermal resources may be available for a noncompetitive lease under this section to the qualified lessee at the fair market value per acre, if—

“(i) the area of qualified Federal land—

“(I) consists of not less than 1 acre and not more than 640 acres; and

“(II) is not already leased under this Act or nominated to be leased under subsection (a);

“(ii) the qualified lessee has not previously received a noncompetitive lease under this paragraph in connection with the valid discovery for which data has been submitted under clause (iii)(I); and

“(iii) sufficient geological and other technical data prepared by a qualified geothermal professional has been submitted by the qualified lessee to the applicable Federal land management agency that would lead individuals who are experienced in the subject matter to believe that—

“(I) there is a valid discovery of geothermal resources on the land for which the qualified lessee holds the legal right to develop geothermal resources; and

“(II) that thermal feature extends into the adjoining areas.

“(C) DETERMINATION OF FAIR MARKET VALUE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

“(I) publish a notice of any request to lease land under this paragraph;

“(II) determine fair market value for purposes of this paragraph in accordance with procedures for making those determinations that are established by regulations issued by the Secretary;

“(III) provide to a qualified lessee and publish, with an opportunity for public comment

for a period of 30 days, any proposed determination under this subparagraph of the fair market value of an area that the qualified lessee seeks to lease under this paragraph; and

“(IV) provide to the qualified lessee and any adversely affected party the opportunity to appeal the final determination of fair market value in an administrative proceeding before the applicable Federal land management agency, in accordance with applicable law (including regulations).

“(ii) LIMITATION ON NOMINATION.—After publication of a notice of request to lease land under this paragraph, the Secretary may not accept under subsection (a) any nomination of the land for leasing unless the request has been denied or withdrawn.

“(iii) ANNUAL RENTAL.—For purposes of section 5(a)(3), a lease awarded under this paragraph shall be considered a lease awarded in a competitive lease sale.

“(D) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of the Geothermal Energy Opportunities Act, the Secretary shall issue regulations to carry out this paragraph.”

SEC. 8. LARGE-SCALE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY.

Title VI of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 is amended by inserting after section 616 (42 U.S.C. 17195) the following:

“SEC. 616A. LARGE-SCALE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY.

“(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

“(1) the Geothermal Technologies Program of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department has included a focus on direct use of geothermal energy in the low-temperature geothermal energy subprogram (including in the development of a research and development plan for the program);

“(2) the Building Technologies Program of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department—

“(A) is focused on the energy demand and energy efficiency of buildings; and

“(B) includes geothermal heat pumps as a component technology in the residential and commercial deployment activities of the program; and

“(3) geothermal heat pumps and direct use of geothermal energy, especially in large-scale applications, can make a significant contribution to the use of renewable energy but are underrepresented in research, development, demonstration, and commercialization.

“(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

“(1) to improve the components, processes, and systems used for geothermal heat pumps and the direct use of geothermal energy; and

“(2) to increase the energy efficiency, lower the cost, increase the use, and improve and demonstrate the applicability of geothermal heat pumps to, and the direct use of geothermal energy in, large buildings, commercial districts, residential communities, and large municipal, agricultural, or industrial projects.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) DIRECT USE OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY.—The term ‘direct use of geothermal energy’ means systems that use water that is at a temperature between approximately 38 degrees Celsius and 149 degrees Celsius directly or through a heat exchanger to provide—

“(A) heating to buildings; or

“(B) heat required for industrial processes, agriculture, aquaculture, and other facilities.

“(2) GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP.—The term ‘geothermal heat pump’ means a system that provides heating and cooling by exchanging heat from shallow ground or surface water using—

“(A) a closed loop system, which transfers heat by way of buried or immersed pipes that contain a mix of water and working fluid; or

“(B) an open loop system, which circulates ground or surface water directly into the building and returns the water to the same aquifer or surface water source.

“(3) LARGE-SCALE APPLICATION.—The term ‘large-scale application’ means an application for space or process heating or cooling for large entities with a name-plate capacity, expected resource, or rating of 10 or more megawatts, such as a large building, commercial district, residential community, or a large municipal, agricultural, or industrial project.

“(4) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Energy, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

“(d) PROGRAM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program of research, development, and demonstration for geothermal heat pumps and the direct use of geothermal energy.

“(2) AREAS.—The program may include research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of—

“(A) geothermal ground loop efficiency improvements through more efficient heat transfer fluids;

“(B) geothermal ground loop efficiency improvements through more efficient thermal grouts for wells and trenches;

“(C) geothermal ground loop installation cost reduction through—

“(i) improved drilling methods;

“(ii) improvements in drilling equipment;

“(iii) improvements in design methodology and energy analysis procedures; and

“(iv) improved methods for determination of ground thermal properties and ground temperatures;

“(D) installing geothermal ground loops near the foundation walls of new construction to take advantage of existing structures;

“(E) using gray or black wastewater as a method of heat exchange;

“(F) improving geothermal heat pump system economics through integration of geothermal systems with other building systems, including providing hot and cold water and rejecting or circulating industrial process heat through refrigeration heat rejection and waste heat recovery;

“(G) advanced geothermal systems using variable pumping rates to increase efficiency;

“(H) geothermal heat pump efficiency improvements;

“(I) use of hot water found in mines and mine shafts and other surface waters as the heat exchange medium;

“(J) heating of districts, neighborhoods, communities, large commercial or public buildings (including office, retail, educational, government, and institutional buildings and multifamily residential buildings and campuses), and industrial and manufacturing facilities;

“(K) geothermal system integration with solar thermal water heating or cool roofs and solar-regenerated desiccants to balance loads and use building hot water to store geothermal energy;

“(L) use of hot water coproduced from oil and gas recovery;

“(M) use of water sources at a temperature of less than 150 degrees Celsius for direct use;

“(N) system integration of direct use with geothermal electricity production; and

“(O) coproduction of heat and power, including on-site use.

“(3) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall identify

and mitigate potential environmental impacts in accordance with section 614(c).

“(e) GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants available to State and local governments, institutions of higher education, nonprofit entities, utilities, and for-profit companies (including manufacturers of heat-pump and direct-use components and systems) to promote the development of geothermal heat pumps and the direct use of geothermal energy.

“(2) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to proposals that apply to large buildings (including office, retail, educational, government, institutional, and multifamily residential buildings and campuses and industrial and manufacturing facilities), commercial districts, and residential communities.

“(3) NATIONAL SOLICITATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall conduct a national solicitation for applications for grants under this section.

“(f) REPORTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives a report on progress made and results obtained under this section to develop geothermal heat pumps and direct use of geothermal energy.

“(2) AREAS.—Each of the reports required under this subsection shall include—

“(A) an analysis of progress made in each of the areas described in subsection (d)(2); and

“(B)(i) a description of any relevant recommendations made during a review of the program; and

“(ii) any plans to address the recommendations under clause (i).”

SEC. 9. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Energy shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the progress made towards achieving the goals described in section 2.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act such sums as are necessary.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. KING):

S. 1058. A bill to promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1058

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Act of 2015”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF MARINE AND HYDROKINETIC RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Section 632 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17211) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking “electrical”.

SEC. 3. MARINE AND HYDROKINETIC RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

Section 633 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17212) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 633. MARINE AND HYDROKINETIC RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

“The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, shall carry out a program of research, development, demonstration, and commercial application to accelerate the introduction of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy production into the United States energy supply, giving priority to fostering accelerated research, development, and commercialization of technology, including programs—

“(1) to assist technology development to improve the components, processes, and systems used for power generation from marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy resources;

“(2) to establish critical testing infrastructure necessary—

“(A) to cost effectively and efficiently test and prove marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy devices; and

“(B) to accelerate the technological readiness and commercialization of those devices;

“(3) to support efforts to increase the efficiency of energy conversion, lower the cost, increase the use, improve the reliability, and demonstrate the applicability of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies by participating in demonstration projects;

“(4) to investigate variability issues and the efficient and reliable integration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy with the utility grid;

“(5) to identify and study critical short- and long-term needs to create a sustainable marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy supply chain based in the United States;

“(6) to increase the reliability and survivability of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies;

“(7) to verify the performance, reliability, maintainability, and cost of new marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy device designs and system components in an operating environment;

“(8) to coordinate and avoid duplication of activities across programs of the Department and other applicable Federal agencies, including National Laboratories and to coordinate public-private collaboration in all programs under this section;

“(9) to identify opportunities for joint research and development programs and development of economies of scale between—

“(A) marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies; and

“(B) other renewable energy and fossil energy programs, offshore oil and gas production activities, and activities of the Department of Defense; and

“(10) to support in-water technology development with international partners using existing cooperative procedures (including memoranda of understanding)—

“(A) to allow cooperative funding and other support of value to be exchanged and leveraged; and

“(B) to encourage the participation of international research centers and companies within the United States and the participation of United States research centers and companies in international projects.”

SEC. 4. NATIONAL MARINE RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION CENTERS.

Section 634 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17213) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) PURPOSES.—A Center (in coordination with the Department and National Laboratories) shall—

“(1) advance research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies;

“(2) support in-water testing and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, including facilities capable of testing—

“(A) marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy systems of various technology readiness levels and scales;

“(B) a variety of technologies in multiple test berths at a single location; and

“(C) arrays of technology devices; and

“(3) serve as information clearinghouses for the marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy industry by collecting and disseminating information on best practices in all areas relating to developing and managing marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy resources and energy systems.”

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 636 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17215) is amended by striking “2008 through 2012” and inserting “2016 through 2019”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 144—SUPPORTING THE MISSION AND GOALS OF 2015 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS WEEK, WHICH INCLUDE INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE RIGHTS, NEEDS, AND CONCERNS OF, AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO ASSIST, VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. VITTER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 144

Whereas in 2013, there were more than 6,000,000 victims and survivors of violent crime and nearly 17,000,000 victims and survivors of property crime in the United States;

Whereas a just society acknowledges the impact of crime on individuals, families, schools, and communities by protecting the rights of crime victims and survivors and ensuring that resources and services are available to help rebuild the lives of the victims and survivors;

Whereas despite impressive accomplishments between 1974 and 2015 in increasing the rights of, and services available to, crime victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors, many challenges remain to ensure that all crime victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors, are—

(1) treated with dignity, fairness, and respect;

(2) offered support and services regardless of whether the victims and survivors report crimes committed against them; and

(3) recognized as key participants within the criminal, juvenile, Federal, tribal, and

civil justice systems in the United States when the victims and survivors report crimes;

Whereas crime victims and survivors in the United States, and the families of the victims and survivors, need and deserve support and assistance to help cope with the often devastating consequences of crime;

Whereas during each year between 1984 and 2014, communities across the United States have joined Congress and the Department of Justice in commemorating National Crime Victims’ Rights Week to celebrate a shared vision of a comprehensive and collaborative response that identifies and addresses the many needs of crime victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors;

Whereas Congress and the President agree on the need for a renewed commitment to serving all victims and survivors of crime in the 21st century;

Whereas the theme of 2015 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, celebrated during the week of April 19 through April 25, 2015, is “Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.” and highlights the many challenges that confront crime victim assistance, justice, and public safety;

Whereas engaging communities in victim assistance is essential to promoting individual and public safety;

Whereas the United States must empower crime victims and survivors by protecting their legal rights and by providing them with quality, comprehensive services to help them in the aftermath of crime; and

Whereas the people of the United States recognize and appreciate the continued importance of—

(1) promoting the rights of, and services for, crime victims and survivors; and

(2) honoring crime victims and survivors and individuals who provide services for the victims and survivors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the mission and goals of 2015 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, which include increasing individual and public awareness of—

(A) the impact of crime on victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors;

(B) the challenges to achieving justice for victims and survivors of crime, and the families of the victims and survivors; and

(C) the many solutions to meet such challenges; and

(2) recognizes that crime victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors, should be treated with dignity, fairness, and respect.

SENATE RESOLUTION 145—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2015, AS “PARKINSON’S AWARENESS MONTH”

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 145

Whereas Parkinson’s disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disease and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States;

Whereas there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson’s disease, but the disease affects an estimated 500,000 to 1,500,000 individuals in the United States;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parkinson’s disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas every day Parkinson’s disease greatly impacts millions of individuals in the United States who are caregivers, family members, and friends of individuals with Parkinson’s disease;

Whereas the economic burden of Parkinson’s disease is an estimated \$14,400,000,000 each year, including indirect costs to patients and family members of \$6,300,000,000 each year;

Whereas although research suggests that the cause of Parkinson’s disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, the exact cause and exact progression of the disease remain unknown;

Whereas an objective test or biomarker for diagnosing Parkinson’s disease does not exist;

Whereas a cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of Parkinson’s disease does not exist;

Whereas the symptoms of Parkinson’s disease vary from person to person and include tremors, slowness of movement, rigidity, difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking, cognitive impairment, dementia, mood disorders, and a variety of other non-motor symptoms;

Whereas volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life for individuals with Parkinson’s disease and the families of those individuals; and

Whereas developing more effective treatments for Parkinson’s disease and providing access to quality care to individuals with Parkinson’s disease requires increased research, education, and community support services: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2015, as “Parkinson’s Awareness Month”;

(2) supports the goals and ideals of “Parkinson’s Awareness Month”;

(3) continues to support research to develop more effective treatments for Parkinson’s disease and to ultimately find a cure for the disease;

(4) recognizes the individuals with Parkinson’s disease who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals in the United States working to improve the quality of life for individuals with Parkinson’s disease and the families of those individuals.

SENATE RESOLUTION 146—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF APRIL 13 THROUGH APRIL 17, 2015, AS “NATIONAL ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS WEEK”

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. PERDUE, and Ms. MIKULSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 146

Whereas the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NAASP), the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), and the American Federation of School Administrators (AFSA) have designated the week of April 13 through April 17, 2015, as “National Assistant Principals Week”;

Whereas an assistant principal, as a member of the school administration, interacts with many sectors of the school community, including support staff, instructional staff, students, and parents;

Whereas assistant principals are responsible for establishing a positive learning environment and building strong relationships between school and community;

Whereas assistant principals play a pivotal role in the instructional leadership of their schools by supervising student instruction, mentoring teachers, recognizing the achievements of staff, encouraging collaboration among staff, ensuring the implementation of best practices, monitoring student achievement and progress, facilitating and modeling data-driven decision-making to inform instruction, and guiding the direction of targeted intervention and school improvement;

Whereas the day-to-day logistical operations of schools require assistant principals to monitor and address facility needs, attendance, transportation issues, and scheduling challenges, as well as supervise extra- and co-curricular events;

Whereas assistant principals are entrusted with maintaining an inviting, safe, and orderly school environment that supports the growth and achievement of each and every student by nurturing positive peer relationships, recognizing student achievement, mediating conflicts, analyzing behavior patterns, providing interventions, and, when necessary, taking disciplinary actions;

Whereas since its establishment in 2004, the NASSP National Assistant Principal of the Year Program recognizes outstanding middle and high school assistant principals who demonstrate success in leadership, curriculum, and personalization; and

Whereas the week of April 13 through April 17, 2015, is an appropriate week to designate as National Assistant Principals Week: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of April 13 through April 17, 2015, as “National Assistant Principals Week”;

(2) honors the contributions of assistant principals to the success of students in the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe National Assistant Principals Week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness of the role played by assistant principals in school leadership and ensuring that every child has access to a high-quality education.

SENATE RESOLUTION 147—DESIGNATING DONALD A. RITCHIE AS HISTORIAN EMERITUS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. REID) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 147

Whereas Donald A. Ritchie will retire from the United States Senate after serving with distinction, first as Associate Historian from 1976 to 2009, and then as Senate Historian from 2009 to 2015;

Whereas Donald A. Ritchie has dedicated his Senate service to preserving, protecting, and promoting the history of the Senate and its members;

Whereas Donald A. Ritchie has produced or guided production of numerous publications detailing the rich institutional history of the Senate;

Whereas Donald A. Ritchie has been instrumental in preserving, organizing, and making available to scholars the vast archival holdings of the Senate and its members;

Whereas Donald A. Ritchie has assisted in the Senate's commemoration of events of historical significance and in the development of exhibitions and educational pro-

grams on the history of the Senate and the Capitol;

Whereas Donald A. Ritchie has guided the Senate's comprehensive Oral History Project to capture and preserve the institutional memory of Senators, Senate officers, and Senate staff;

Whereas Donald A. Ritchie has upheld the high standards and traditions of the Senate, and has performed his duties in a professional and nonpartisan manner; and

Whereas Donald A. Ritchie has earned the respect and esteem of the United States Senate; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That, effective June 1, 2015, as a token of the appreciation of the Senate for his long and faithful service, Donald A. Ritchie is hereby designated as Historian Emeritus of the United States Senate.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1129. Mr. CORNYN (for Mr. WYDEN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 971, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an increase in the limit on the length of an agreement under the Medicare independence at home medical practice demonstration program.

SA 1130. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1131. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1129. Mr. CORNYN (for Mr. WYDEN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 971, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an increase in the limit on the length of an agreement under the Medicare independence at home medical practice demonstration program; as follows:

On page 2, line 5, insert “of the Social Security Act” after “1866E(e)(1)”.

SA 1130. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 32, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

“(7) LIMITATION ON ACTIONS BASED ON DETENTION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the President may not waive, suspend, reduce, provide relief from, or otherwise limit the application of statutory sanctions with respect to Iran under any provision of law or refrain from applying any such sanctions pursuant to an agreement described in subsection (a) until the Government of Iran releases to the United States the following United States citizens:

“(A) Saeed Abedini of Idaho, who has been detained in Iran on charges related to his religious beliefs since September 2012.

“(B) Amir Hekmati of Michigan, who has been imprisoned in Iran on false espionage charges since August 2011.

“(C) Jason Rezaian of California, who, as an Iranian government credentialed reporter for the Washington Post, has been unjustly held in Iran on vague charges since July 2014.

“(D) Robert Levinson of Florida, who was abducted on Kish Island in March 2007.

SA 1131. Mr. RISCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 32, between lines 7 and 8, insert the following:

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“(C) Jason Rezaian of California, who, as an Iranian government credentialed reporter for the Washington Post, has been unjustly held in Iran on vague charges since July 2014.

“(D) Robert Levinson of Florida, who was abducted on Kish Island in March 2007.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 22, 2015, at 10 a.m., in room SR-253 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “Weathering the Storm: How Can We Better Communicate Weather to Enhance Commerce and Safety?”

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 22, 2015, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on

Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 22, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Nomination hearing for Vanessa Sutherland to be a Member and Chairperson of the Chemical Safety Board."

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 22, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "State Department Reauthorization: Ensuring Effective U.S. Diplomacy within a Responsible Budget."

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 22, 2015, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Securing the Border: Understanding Threats and Strategies for the Northern Border."

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 22, 2015, in room SD-628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 22, 2015, at 2:30 p.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 22, 2015, at 2:30 p.m.

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

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR NO. 21

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that notwithstanding rule XXII, when the Senate resumes consideration of the Lynch nomination on Thursday, April 23, there be 2 hours of debate equally divided in the usual form prior to the vote on the motion to invoke cloture; that if cloture is invoked, there be up to 2 hours of postcloture debate equally divided between the two leaders; and that following the use or yielding back of that time, the Senate vote on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2015

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate convenes on Thursday, April 23, following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, 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 leader remarks, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Lynch nomination under the previous order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. SANDERS. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. SANDERS. Reserving the right to object. Sorry.

I withdraw the objection.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, April 23.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is nondebatable.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 4:34 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, April 23, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.