

have actually had their trafficking in persons rankings downgraded after their trade deals entered into force.

The facts are abundantly clear. Free trade negotiations have never been a successful tool in encouraging other countries to improve their performance on combating human trafficking.

Now, I understand the administration's concerns over the effect of my amendment on the current TPP negotiations. But I hope that as the State Department finalizes the 2015 report, there is no undue influence to move countries around in order to benefit the administration's trade agenda. The integrity of the TIP report is at stake. And rest assured the Congress will provide the appropriate oversight to ensure that integrity. After all, in the State Department's own words, the TIP Report "is the U.S. Government's principal tool to engage foreign governments on human trafficking."

Furthermore, I now understand the administration is reaching out to human rights groups, seeking compromise language that would address the concerns about human trafficking in our trade partners that I and others have spoken of. So I am pleased the administration recognizes the validity of my position as adopted by the Committee on Finance and agrees that it is appropriate to address human trafficking in this trade bill.

Let me close by saying I want to remind my colleagues that the fast track negotiating authority is precisely the point at which Congress lays down the rules, the conditions, and the principles by which the administration is granted our constitutional prerogative to negotiate international trade deals. Any suggestion that the bipartisan statement of negotiating principles of the Senate Committee on Finance is an interference with the administration's prerogatives gets that constitutional relationship backwards. We set the terms. The administration follows those terms in their negotiations. It is not our job to trim our principles to match the deal they have already negotiated.

This goes to the very heart of our congressional duties and to the heart

of our constitutional power over international trade, and I believe it goes to the heart of the debate over fast-track authority itself that we began in the Committee on Finance and will soon engage on here on the Senate Floor as early as tomorrow. Do we set the terms by which our trade powers are delegated to the administration or do they dictate the terms they will accept?

That brings me to the question of the trade bill we may be considering as early as tomorrow. We do not know whether the hard-fought product of the Committee on Finance will be respected. We do not know if a major trade preference package or long-awaited trade enforcement reforms will be included. When we are asked to vote on cloture tomorrow, at least at this point, will we be voting for a blank piece of paper? How can any Member in their right mind vote to move forward when they do not even know what they are moving forward on?

I have asked to see the text, because I want to see, among other things, whether the amendment that was adopted by the Committee on Finance on human trafficking is in there. I am told we don't have it. It is nearly 7 o'clock the evening before we will vote at 2:30 tomorrow. How do Members of the Senate vote in blank on the most significant trade bill we have had in well over a decade? That is not good enough for me, and it should not be good enough for the Senate.

So I hope as we move forward to consider a fast-track bill, my colleagues will bear in mind the importance of protecting the process of the Senate Committee on Finance, just as we have protected the process of every committee that has a bill brought to the Senate Floor. That is why I am asking my colleagues to keep this amendment in the bill and help fight the scourge of modern slavery in the countries we trade with.

The bill reported by the Committee on Finance puts a strong emphasis on our need to match the actions we take on human trafficking at home to those we take in the international arena. And while we may not agree with the specifics of our trade policy, I hope

when the fast-track bill comes to the floor, the Senate will stand together, reaffirming our commitment to holding our trading partners accountable for their lack of action on combating human trafficking.

With that, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:53 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, May 12, 2015, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

JULIUS LLOYD HORWICH, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR LEGISLATION AND CONGRESSIONAL AFFAIRS, DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, VICE GABRIELLA CECILIA GOMEZ.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

GREGORY GUY NADEAU, OF MAINE, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, VICE VICTOR M. MENDEZ, RESIGNED.

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ANN CALVARESI BARR, OF MARYLAND, TO BE INSPECTOR GENERAL, UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, VICE DONALD A. GAMBATESA, RESIGNED.

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT AS THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL OF THE NAVY AND FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHILE SERVING AS THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 5148:

To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. JAMES W. CRAWFORD III

WITHDRAWAL

Executive Message transmitted by the President to the Senate on May 11, 2015 withdrawing from further Senate consideration the following nomination:

KATHERINE SIMONDS DHANANI, OF FLORIDA, A CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE, CLASS OF COUNSELOR, TO BE AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA, WHICH WAS SENT TO THE SENATE ON FEBRUARY 25, 2015.