

AMENDMENT NO. 522

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 522 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 523

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 523 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 592

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 592 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 594

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 594 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 687

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 687 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 1763 A bill for the relief of Maria Guadalupe Mendoza Sanchez, Eusebio Sanchez Mejia, and Vianney Esbeydi Sanchez Mendoza; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I offer private immigration relief

legislation to provide an immigrant visa or lawful permanent resident status to Maria Mendoza Sanchez, Eusebio Sanchez, and Vianney Sanchez. The family represents the essence of the American dream. I believe they merit Congress' special consideration for this relief.

In August 2014, my office assisted Maria and Eusebio with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) during their request for a stay of removal. Under the previous administration, ICE found that their case was worthy of a favorable exercise of discretion. This was an acknowledgement that they posed no public safety risk, had no criminal records, and therefore should not be priorities for deportation.

Despite this, in 2017, the Trump administration, told Maria and Eusebio that they were no longer eligible for a stay of removal and that they should prepare for deportation. Mario and Eusebio pled with ICE to reconsider this sudden change in policy and I supported their request—believing it would be senseless and callous to remove them from our Country. However, all possible avenues to delay their deportation were denied by immigration officials.

In August 2017, after living productive lives in this Country for 23 years, Maria and Eusebio were deported back to Mexico. Their deportation was truly heartbreaking for me, their family, and their community. I personally met Maria and Eusebio and can attest that they are the kind of people we should welcome into the United States with open arms. They are hardworking, law-abiding people who have been self-supporting, have paid their taxes, and owned a home in East Oakland.

Prior to her deportation, Maria worked as a registered nurse in a local hospital in Oakland, CA. She provided care to patients afflicted with conditions such as trauma, stroke, and cancer. Her supervisor said that her "genuine compassion, appreciation for her work, and deep knowledge of nursing practices made her an excellent addition to [our hospital]." Another letter of support said that Maria "is a great asset to our hospital, community, and country. She is the epitome of what Americans should be." Maria's bilingual skills made her a strategic asset in assisting patients at work, which serves uninsured, underserved, and low-income populations. Her deportation is a great loss to many of the patients that relied on her critical assistance as they went through medical treatment.

Similar to Maria, Eusebio was a hardworking contributor to their community. He was a truck driver for a San Francisco-based company, and his employer has described him as "very reliable, trustworthy, [a] team player, and exceptional worker." His friends describe him as someone who "is a good person, responsible at work, willing to help when we need assistance."

Together, Eusebio and Maria have raised four children—three of whom are

U.S. citizens. Their oldest daughter, Vianney, age 23, has protection under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA, program. She graduated from the University of California at Santa Cruz with a degree in Psychology. She has aspirations of using her education to work in public service and help her community. She is passionate about doing work that allows her to focus on improving the lives of residents of Oakland and the Bay Area. As a result of Maria and Eusebio's deportation, Vianney will be assuming responsibility of her two younger sisters. I believe that Vianney's determination to make sure her sisters are properly cared for, after dealing with the crushing experience of being separated from her parents, is a testament to her remarkable strength and resilience, and a sign of the kind of values instilled in her by her now deported parents.

The Sanchez's second daughter, Melin, age 21, is a U.S. citizen. She is currently enrolled at the University of California at Santa Cruz, where she is studying molecular cell and developmental biology. She has aspirations of becoming a pediatrician. Maria and Eusebio paid her college tuition and supported her as she studied for the MCAT and volunteered at a hospital. Their deportation leaves Melin's college tuition in peril.

The Sanchez's third daughter, Elizabeth, age 16, is a U.S. citizen and is currently enrolled at the NEA Community Learning Center in Alameda. Elizabeth was diagnosed with a speech delay and learning disabilities at a young age, but with the support of her parents, was able to make great progress and is doing well in school. She needs the support of her parents and continuing to separate her from them will significantly affect her ability to pursue her dreams.

The Sanchez's son, Jesus, age 12, is a U.S. citizen. He was born with a congenital heart disease, which requires continued medical attention. Jesus has accompanied his parents on their return to Mexico. Maria and Eusebio's deportation will have an extraordinary impact on Jesus. He can no longer continue his education in the U.S., the only Country he has ever known. Additionally, Jesus obtained health insurance coverage for his medical condition through his parents. As a result of their deportation, he will lose access to medical care in the U.S.

Maria, Eusebio, and Vianney have become respected members of their community in California. This is exemplified in the overwhelming support they received to shield them from deportation. Separating this family is not what our country stands for. Maria and Eusebio want nothing more than to continue to provide for their children and continue contributing to this great country they called home. Their deportation has greatly affected their ability to do so.

I believe that Maria and Eusebio's deportation has been a tremendous loss

for their children and community. In addition, I believe Vianney needs further protection. This family warrants our compassion, and I will keep fighting for them.

I ask my colleagues to support this private bill.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 774. Ms. BALDWIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 775. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 776. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. PAUL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 777. Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 778. Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 779. Mr. GARDNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 780. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 781. Mr. TILLIS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 782. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 783. Mr. SCHATZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 784. Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 785. Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 786. Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 787. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. GRASSLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1107, to amend title 28, United States Code, to authorize the appointment of additional bankruptcy judges, and for other purposes.

SA 788. Mr. DAINES submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and

for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 774. Ms. BALDWIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . REPORT ON THE GLOBAL FOOD SYSTEM AND VULNERABILITIES RELEVANT TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MISSIONS.

(a) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the heads of such components of the Department of Defense as the Secretary considers appropriate, submit to the congressional defense committees an assessment of Department of Defense policies and operational plans for addressing the national security implications of global food system vulnerabilities.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(1) An evaluation of vulnerabilities in the global food system that may affect the national security of the United States and the Department of Defense roles, missions, and capabilities in addressing such vulnerabilities, including information technology, data management, and surveillance capabilities for detection and assessment of food system shocks with the potential to result in the deployment of the Armed Forces or directly affect bilateral security interests with allies or partners.

(2) A characterization of how Department of Defense strategy, policies, and plans, including the Unified Command Plan, defense planning scenarios, operational plans, theater cooperation plans, and other relevant planning documents and procedures, account for food system vulnerabilities as precursors to and components of protracted major state conflicts, civil wars, insurgencies, or terrorism.

(3) An evaluation of United States interests, including the interests of allies and strategic partners, and potential United States military operations, including thresholds for ordering such operations, in regions where food system instability represents an urgent and growing threat, including due to the presence of destabilizing non-state actors who may weaponize access to food.

(4) An identification of opportunities to initiate or further develop cooperative military to military relationships to build partner capacity to avoid, minimize, or control global and regional food system shocks.

SA 775. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

SEC. ____ . FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION FOR PROCUREMENT OF GROUND MOBILITY VEHICLE OF THE ARMY.

The Secretary of the Army shall initiate a full and open competition during fiscal year 2018 for the procurement of a commercially available off-the-shelf Ground Mobility Vehicle that meets Army Airborne Infantry Brigade Combat Team requirements.

SA 776. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. PAUL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title XV, add the following:

SEC. ____ . REPORT ON BUDGET REQUESTS FOR FUNDING FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FOR OVERSEAS CONTINGENCY OPERATIONS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) In a January 18, 2017 report issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) on the Department of Defense's Overseas Contingency Operations, the GAO found that the criteria developed in 2010 by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) in collaboration with the Department of Defense (DoD) for determining whether items belonged in the base budget or in OCO were outdated.

(2) The GAO also found that these outdated criteria did not address the full scope of activities included in DoD's fiscal year 2017 OCO budget request.

(3) According to the GAO, DoD officials agree that updated guidance is not needed but noted that OMB deferred the decision to update criteria until the new administration was in place in 2017.

(4) The GAO also found that, without reevaluating and revising the criteria, decision makers may be hindered in their ability to set priorities and make funding trade-offs.

(5) In response to these findings, the GAO recommends that DOD, in collaboration with OMB, reevaluate and revise the criteria for determining what can be included in DOD's OCO budget requests; and that DOD develop a complete and reliable estimate of enduring OCO costs to report in future budget requests.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than December 31, 2017, the Secretary of Defense shall, with the concurrence of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, submit to the congressional defense committees a report setting forth the following:

(1) The criteria used by the Department of Defense to determine whether funds requested for the Department for a fiscal year for purposes of the budget of the President for the fiscal year (as submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code) are to be requested as funds for the Department for programs, activities, and operations for the fiscal year for overseas contingency operations.

(2) A current estimate of the recurring annual costs of the Department for programs, activities, and operations for overseas contingency operations.

SA 777. Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him