

In the amendment, strike “2 days” and insert “1 day”.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. I have a cloture motion on the bill that is already at the desk.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on S. 3525, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

Harry Reid, Jon Tester, Kent Conrad, Joe Manchin III, Jeff Bingaman, John D. Rockefeller IV, Benjamin L. Cardin, Ben Nelson, Max Baucus, Jeanne Shaheen, Mark Pryor, Christopher A. Coons, Al Franken, Amy Klobuchar, Jim Webb, Mark R. Warner, Michael F. Bennet.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent mandatory quorum in accordance with rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 419.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] moves to proceed to Calendar No. 419, S. 3254, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribed military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we are going to complete work on this bill, that is the one we had prior to the clerk announcing the Defense authorization bill. We are going to complete the work on the sportsmen's bill before we go home for Thanksgiving. People are going to have an opportunity to vote for that bill, either for it or against it. As I indicated, it is a widely popular bill. If Republicans want to drag it down and kill it as they have a lot of other things, they will have that opportunity to do that. We have more than 20 bills that are important to sportsmen around the country.

As I said a few minutes ago, I cannot imagine why we are still fighting the battles of the last election. We are going to have a vote on cyber security. I spoke to the chairman of the committee a short time ago, Senator LIEBERMAN. He is going to come over tomorrow and give a speech about the importance of this legislation. He and Senator COLLINS have worked so hard

to come up with a bill. They have compromised and compromised and compromised until the point where people are going to have an opportunity to talk on this also. Senator LIEBERMAN is going to talk about how important this bill is to protect our country.

I left the White House an hour or two ago. They believe, the President of the United States believes the cyber security bill is one of the most important issues facing this Congress now—not next Congress, now. I have said on a number of occasions that the Pentagon and the intelligence community believe this legislation is vitally important to the safety and security of our country. So before Thanksgiving we are going to finish the sportsmen's bill. The Republicans can either kill the cyber security bill—they have been following the lead of the Chamber of Commerce, which is an arm of the Republican Party anymore. It is just a front for the Republican Party. They spent huge amounts of money that they get from unknown sources to defeat Democrats. They wasted their money this time. But that is the way it is.

They are opposing this bill for not any logical reason, and then Senators LEVIN and MCCAIN have asked to go to Defense authorization. I think, if this bill is as important as they say it is—and they say it is important—I know how Senator LEVIN and Senator MCCAIN feel about it—it looks like they would clear up some of this stuff that is standing in the way of getting that bill done.

I think it is a bridge too far to complete the Defense authorization bill before we leave, but we need to get on that bill. We are not going to stall around on this and spend weeks on the Defense authorization bill. I have told the two managers of that bill, Senator MCCAIN and Senator LEVIN, that is the case, and that is what we are going to do before Thanksgiving.

I would like to get out of here so we can go home to our States, our families, for Thanksgiving early, but if we have to stay here until the day before Thanksgiving, we are going to do it.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

SPORTSMEN'S ACT OF 2012

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Sportsmen's Act of 2012, which is Senate bill No. 3525. This bill is a set of bipartisan proposals that enjoys overwhelming support in the sportsmen's community, and I was glad to see it clear another procedural hurdle just a short time ago. As the majority leader did, I urge my colleagues to give it final approval as quickly as we possibly can.

I wish to share some of the reasons why I think it is so important to get

this bill to the President's desk. As the name implies, the Sportsmen's Act is focused on helping the Nation's 88 million sports men and women. They want, more than anything, responsible access to Federal lands and the conservation of critical habitat and species and that is exactly what this bill does.

By dedicating 1.5 percent of Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars to improve access for hunting, fishing, and other recreational purposes, sportsmen will be able to make better use of our public lands. By giving the States greater flexibility over the use of Federal dollars to build shooting ranges, sportsmen will have more places to safely sharpen their marksmanship skills and sighting their rifles for the hunting season.

By reauthorizing many critical habitat investment programs—for example, the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act—we are ensuring that sportsmen will have places to continue our proud hunting and fishing heritage.

The benefits of the Sportsmen's Act of 2012 will fall most directly on America's hunters and anglers, but outdoor enthusiasts of all stripes will reap the rewards. By improving the outdoor experience of all Americans, I am hoping future generations will more readily take up our outdoor traditions.

I know my colleague from Colorado will join me in commending Senator TESTER for putting this package together. He has taken ideas from both Democrats and Republicans to create the greatest legislative boon for sportsmen in a generation, and that is why over 50 of the leading sportsmen's groups in our country support his bill.

I am particularly grateful to Senator TESTER for including a bipartisan provision I authored—the Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act. This act will encourage the development of high-quality public shooting ranges by giving the States greater flexibility over Federal dollars they already receive for certain wildlife restoration and hunter education programs.

Since these funds come from an existing excise tax on shooting and archery equipment, this bipartisan proposal doesn't cost our taxpayers a dime and instead simply helps those paying into the system—which are primarily sportsmen—to get a better return on their investment.

Earlier this year, I asked our fellow Coloradans to tell me why they support my efforts and why they would like to see more high-quality shooting ranges, and I wish to close with some of their words.

Donald, from Pagosa Springs, CO, said:

We desperately need a range facility in our area to be able to continue teaching our kids and those who are new to hunting how to safely handle firearms.

From Gary, in Aurora, CO:

These ranges are not just a place to shoot. I cannot stress this enough as we are seeing more and more clubs closing down: We need more places to teach, enjoy and relax with fellow shooters.

So in the spirit of those Coloradans, I urge my colleagues to support the Sportsmen's Act of 2012 and put these bipartisan, commonsense proposals to work for America's sportsmen as soon as possible.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, Iowa has lost another native son fighting for our liberty on foreign soil. I am sad to announce that on Monday, November 5, just as our Nation was preparing to cast our ballots in the election, PFC Brandon Buttry of Shenandoah, IA, gave his life defending our freedom. He was only 19 years old but had felt a calling to join the military since he was a young child. I thank God for such patriots as Brandon Buttry. Without such brave and selfless Americans in each new generation, our liberty and way of life could not have been sustained.

My prayers go out to his parents, Don and Pam, his many brothers and sisters, and all those who knew and loved Brandon. He is described as having a mischievous smile and a twinkle in his eye as well as a slight contrarian streak. By all accounts, he was liked by all who knew him, and I know he will be missed very deeply in his community.

I understand he had an interest in American history, and his love of his country is evident from his deep desire to serve. He has now given the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of his fellow countrymen, and his name will be immortalized alongside all those other American patriots who have laid down their lives in the name of freedom.

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I rise to commend the members of the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division from Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, AK, upon the completion of their deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

I had the chance to be there in person when part of the brigade arrived at Fort Richardson. It was great to see our soldiers reunited with their families after so long apart. I was glad to be there last year when the 4/25 deployed, and I am pleased to offer my best wishes now as we celebrate their return home.

The 4/25 accomplished incredible things during its time in Afghanistan. Each and every member of the brigade—all 3,500 Spartans—carried the fight to those who would do our Nation harm. In doing so, they have made the world a safer place for those who love freedom and democracy.

However, those victories were not without sacrifice. During this deployment, eight brave Spartans were killed in action—PFC Nathan T. Davis, PFC Vincent J. Ellis, SSG Thomas K. Fogarty, SSG Carl E. Hammar, CPL Ethan J. Martin, PFC Richard L. McNulty III, SGT Brian L. Walker, and SPC Jeffrey L. White. We will never forget them.

I would also like to recognize the families of the 4/25. As we all know, our soldiers simply could not do their jobs without the support of their loved ones. You are the ones who wrote letters and emails, sent care packages, and kept things running smoothly back home.

When a soldier raises their right hand and swears in, their family joins the Army, too. Thank you all for your service.

As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, I commend the 4th Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, for their dedication, commitment and sacrifice. We owe them a debt of gratitude that can never fully be repaid.

To both the Spartans and their families, thank you again for everything you do. God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.●

RECOGNIZING OUR NATION'S VETERANS

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor John V. Klobofski, a veteran of World War II. It is my honor to share the story of John's military service because no story of heroism should ever fall through the cracks.

John was born in Cleveland, MT, in 1919. After graduating from Chinook High School, he enlisted in the National Guard, where he served for 3 years.

He then attended classes at Northern Montana College and worked for the Weather Bureau in Havre.

John reenlisted in 1940 and was assigned to the 41st Infantry Division, made up of guardsmen from across the West. As a member of the 163rd Infantry Regiment, John was a part of the campaign to capture New Guinea, which was then under Japanese control. Dubbed Operation Persecution, his unit landed ashore at Aitape on April 22, 1944. Within a number of days, the unit had captured and secured two

airfields, and supplies were being delivered to the island.

Because of how quickly they were able to seize these airfields, John's unit was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation.

But fighting continued in the region for several days and many men, including John, were killed. SSG John Klobofski died on April 30, 1944.

On October 16, 2012, in the presence of his family, it was my great honor to finally present to John's family his Bronze Star Medal, a Purple Heart, and a Presidential Unit Citation.

It was also my honor to present an American Defense Service Medal, an Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with Two Bronze Stars, a World War II Victory Medal, and a Combat Infantryman Badge First Award.

These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism. Sacrifice. And dedication to service.

These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.

Mr. President, today I also wish to honor Alan R. Shennum, a veteran of the Vietnam war. It is my honor to share the story of Alan's military service because no story of heroism should ever fall through the cracks.

Alan was born in Helena, MT, in 1946. After graduating from high school, he enlisted in the Army and trained at Fort Wolters in Texas before attending flight school at Hunter Army Airfield in Georgia.

Alan was sent to Vietnam in September of 1968, where he flew helicopters as part of the Fourth Army Division.

In October of 1968, Alan was wounded while flying a combat operation. Because his injuries were not severe, he returned to duty and flew over 30 missions in all. Warrant Officer Alan Shennum retired from service in 1971 but never received his medals.

On October 17, 2012, in the presence of his family, it was my great honor to finally present to Alan the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Aviator Badge, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Vietnam Service Medal.

It was also my honor to present an Air Medal with 32 Oak Leaf Clusters, a Vietnam Campaign Medal, and two Overseas Service Bars.

These decorations are small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism. Sacrifice. And dedication to service.

These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I also wish to commend the members of B Company, 1st Battalion, Airborne, 143rd Infantry Regiment of the Alaska Army National Guard upon the completion of their deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

I had the chance to be there in person when the company deployed, and I am pleased to offer my best wishes now as we celebrate their safe return home.