

who work hard every day in some part of agriculture and the food industry, the riskiest business in the world. Nobody else has to worry for their products or services, about whether it is going to rain or not today or be too hot or too cold. There are folks who do that every single day. Because of them we have the safest, most affordable food supply in the world.

On behalf of all of them, I truly thank my committee, our committee that has worked incredibly well together. As I said, we have had tremendous leadership shown as we have moved to this process to go to conference. I could thank every member of our committee, but I do believe I need to, one more time, indicate that Senator HOEVEN and Senator CHAMBLISS have been invaluable in this process. Senator HOEVEN was spending a lot of time tonight, as everyone else was getting on airplanes, to help be able to get to this point.

I certainly could go down the list. I hate to always not mention someone I may have missed because we certainly had a strong committee presence and a desire to continue to do great work in the Senate on the issue of supporting farmers and ranchers. This is a very important step as we move forward in what I am very confident, despite the twists and turns, will result in a bipartisan farm bill.

I commend, despite terrific odds and challenges, the chairman in the House and ranking member in the House for their efforts. I am confident that working together we will be able to get this done for the American people.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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 Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING, AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Mr. REID. Madam President, what is the matter before the Senate?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to proceed to S. 1243.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. REID. Madam President, I have a cloture motion 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 the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 99, S. 1243, a bill making appropriations for the Department

of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes.

Mark Begich, Barbara A. Mikulski, Patty Murray, Mark R. Warner, Tom Udall, Martin Heinrich, Angus S. King Jr., Sheldon Whitehouse, Elizabeth Warren, Dianne Feinstein, Patrick J. Leahy, Tom Harkin, Jack Reed, Richard J. Durbin, Richard Blumenthal, Mary L. Landrieu, Jeff Merkley, Harry Reid.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum required under rule XXII be waived; that the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed occur at 12 noon on Tuesday, July 23; that if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time be yielded back and the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to proceed; that if the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 99, S. 1243, is adopted, the text of H.R. 2610, as reported by the House Appropriations Committee, be deemed House-passed text for the purposes of rule XVI.

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

MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

CONSULTATION REQUEST

Mr. COBURN. Madam President, I ask consent that the following letter be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

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

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, July 18, 2013.

Hon. MITCH McCONNELL,
Senate Minority Leader, U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR McCONNELL: I request that I be consulted before the Senate enters into any unanimous consent agreements or time limitations regarding S. 162, the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Act of 2013.

I support the goals of this legislation and believe incarcerated offenders suffering from mental illness should have access to treatment. However, I believe the responsibility to address this issue, as it relates to inmates in state and local prisons and jails, lies with the state and local governments that manage these correctional systems. Furthermore, while I do not believe this issue is the responsibility of the federal government; if Congress does act, we can and must do so in a fiscally responsible manner. My concerns are included in, but not limited to, those outlined in this letter.

While this bill is well-intentioned, it authorizes \$40 million per year for five years, costing the American people at least \$200 million dollars without corresponding offsets. Furthermore, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has not yet scored the legislation. This bill authorizes new permissible

purposes for the existing grant program including, among others, funding for veterans' treatment courts, correctional facility programs, and state and local law enforcement academy training. Expansion of services through additional permissible purposes or new grant programs, however, requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to carry out additional responsibilities. Thus, even if the legislation may be implemented by existing DOJ staff, it is not free of future administrative expenses or costs the CBO may identify that would result in a score beyond the bill's stated funding authorization.

It is irresponsible for Congress to jeopardize the future standard of living of our children by borrowing from future generations. The U.S. national debt is now over \$16.7 trillion. That means almost \$53,000 in debt for each man, woman and child in the United States. A year ago, the national debt was \$15.9 trillion. Despite pledges to control spending, Washington adds billions to the national debt every single day. In just one year, our national debt has grown by \$800 billion or 5%.

In addition to these fiscal concerns, there are several problems specific to this legislation. First, while I recognize both our federal and state criminal justice systems must accommodate mentally ill offenders, which is a difficult and costly task, it is not the responsibility of the federal government to provide funding to treat this population of offenders within state and local prison systems.

In fact, states face a much larger challenge than the federal government, as they incarcerate the vast majority of inmates in this country. According to the Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), of the 1.59 million total inmate population in 2011, 1.38 million are incarcerated in state facilities compared to 216,362 in the federal system. As a result, states also care for the largest population of mentally ill offenders. The most recent BJS data notes 56 percent of state inmates and 64 percent of jail inmates displayed a mental health problem compared with 45 percent of federal inmates. Furthermore, BJS found only 8.9% of federal inmates displayed both a history and symptoms of mental health problems, while over 17% of state and local inmates experienced those problems. Thus, although states have an awesome responsibility in this area, they also have a great opportunity to lead by way of experience and example. Many have done so by developing and funding their own innovative ideas to enhance programs for and treatment of mentally ill inmates.

In September 2009, the Senate Judiciary Committee, Subcommittee on Human Rights held a hearing entitled, "Human Rights at Home: Mental Illness in U.S. Prisons and Jails," in which we heard testimony from representatives of two state prison systems and a state court judge who outlined the different challenges faced by their states. These states and others have taken action to address their mentally ill prison populations, but often each tackles the problem with a different approach. For example, from 2003–2007, New York legislators and governors engaged in a battle over reforming the state's policies on this issue, and in 2007, Oklahoma established a program to provide inmates with serious mental illness a comprehensive plan for release, including access to support services and medication. The program set up two intensive care coordination teams in Oklahoma City and Tulsa to help state inmates close to release obtain access to community mental health centers, among other services.

There is significant diversity within the inmate population both among states and between state and federal prison systems, Oklahoma and New York incarcerate different types of inmates with different mental