

The bill (H.R. 209), as amended, was passed.

TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I want to speak for a few minutes on a conference report, a bill we have been working on all year, including a couple of other provisions that have now been added. We are ready to move forward with it. That is what the vote will address tomorrow.

I have put forward this bill on sex trafficking with Senator WELLSTONE. He and I don't get together on too many bills, so when we do, it is a bit noteworthy. We come from different perspectives, different viewpoints. I think we both have good hearts but our heads take us in different directions. But on this subject of stopping sex trafficking, we don't disagree. We have worked together all year to get this bill through which challenges this practice known as sex trafficking.

Throughout the world, globalization has a dark side. We are seeing increasing numbers of young women, even girls, being trafficked from poorer countries to richer countries into the prostitution business. They have been tricked, forced, coerced and defrauded into working as prostitutes against their will. There are about 700,000 women and girls, according to our Government's estimates, being moved each year from poorer countries to richer countries into the prostitution business. Our Government estimates that approximately 50,000 women and children are trafficked annually into the United States, primarily from Asia and Central America.

This is clearly a terrible practice. Many of these are young girls who are tricked and deceived into forced prostitution believe they are going to a different country for another purpose. For example, those trafficked to the United States are promised a job as a dish washer, or a factory worker. Something that pays better than the job opportunities available in their own, typically poorer, countries. However, once the victims get here, there is no decent job waiting for them. Instead, the trafficker will take their papers and passport so that they have no legal identification. Then they are given false papers, if any. This begins to prepare them for their new life of forced prostitution, making it very difficult to track down and rescue the young woman or girl who has been trapped. There is a point very early in this process where the trafficker says something like the following to his victim, "You are mine and you will do what I say. You will work in this brothel as a prostitute and you have no choice." At this point, she had become a slave in one of the most degrading fashions imaginable.

Senator WELLSTONE and I heard testimony to this effect. We have had two

hearings in the Foreign Relations Committee on this subject of trafficking. At both hearings, we had victims testify to such experiences. At one hearing, we had three women who had been trafficked—all had been tricked into traveling to another country believing a good job was waiting on the other side, and once they got there, they were forced into prostitution. This is what they were subjected to. One young woman said that once she was moved into the United States, she was subjected to 30 clients a day, six days a week. If she refused, she was beaten without mercy. It is a dark, dark business.

In January of this year I was in Nepal. I met with a number of girls who had returned from India, where they were forced to work in the brothels in Bombay. These were young girls, frequently from villages, not particularly knowledgeable in the ways of the world. They were young and very innocent when the trafficker had taken them away. The trafficker had told one girl's parents, "I can get her a job in a rug factory in Bombay." The family was poor, they needed income, and they believed him. So they agreed, and gave their daughter away to the trader who forced her into prostitution against her will. And she had no choice.

I met girls who had been trafficked at age 11, 12, and 13. The girls I saw in Nepal, in Katmandu, had returned from this devastating life. Some had escaped by running away, though many cannot since they are in chains or are locked away. Others were thrown out by the brothel because they had contracted AIDS or TB. When they returned at the age of 16, 17, or 18, two-thirds of them had AIDS and were waiting to die, having no proper medicine.

As I stood there with the woman who runs this place of restoration for these young women, she pointed around the room whispering: She is dying, she is dying, she is dying. These were girls of 17 years old, 16 years old, or younger. They were people who had had their youth stolen from them, were deceived or forced into this practice, and then, finally, received a death sentence of AIDS. I saw that. I talked with these survivors of trafficking. Once you see that, you know you have to try to help to stop this. This is wrong, and this terrible practice is increasing. It is happening to 700,000 women and children, girls, each year worldwide.

PAUL WELLSTONE and I worked very hard together. We have a bill that has gone through the Senate by unanimous consent which is the most comprehensive bill to combat this practice of sex trafficking. Among other provisions, this bill substantially increases the penalty for trafficking, while protecting those victims who have been forced into this awful practice. Presently, the victims of trafficking are treated almost as badly as their enslaver, but this bill changes that. Instead, this bill promotes the coopera-

tion of the victims to testify against those who have forced them into trafficking. This will help to bust open the trafficking rings, which we are going very little of these day. It also promotes awareness programs so that people can protect their children and themselves from being tricked into forced prostitution.

I support the increasing globalization of the trade community, but we also have to recognize the problems associated with globalization. Trafficking may be among the worst of those problems. The United States can be a leader in starting to combat this practice, thus giving back to young girls all over the world their childhood instead of a death sentence.

Associated with this trafficking bill is a bill that Senator BIDEN has worked very aggressively on, the Violence Against Women Act. This is a reauthorization of that bill. These two bills are being paired, along with other measures. Senator BIDEN has spoken passionately and frequently on the need to deal with domestic violence in the United States, a very dark and pervasive tragedy in America.

It recently passed in the House of Representatives as a stand alone bill, with only 3 dissenting votes. It is up for reauthorization. VAWA will help those women who are suffering from some form of domestic violence. It is a good piece of legislation and these two bills belong together.

Also associated with this bill is an Internet Alcohol provision, as well as a provision dealing with terrorism, put forward by Senator MACK. It is non-controversial. Also, in includes a bill entitled, Amy's Law, sponsored by Congressman SALMON in the House, and by Senator SANTORUM here in the Senate. It ultimately promotes tougher prison sentences for people who have been convicted of sex crimes such as rape.

In summary, the two lead bills in this package separately address sex trafficking and violence against women and children. I plead with my colleagues to vote for this package. It will be up tomorrow morning. This package challenges brutal practices suffered by some of the most defenseless and battered in our society and worldwide. It will assist people in some of the most violent and crushing situations, both here and abroad. It will help so many.

I plead with my colleagues in these last hours when people can put up roadblocks to bills. I plead with my colleagues to say that they will not block this bill which will help so many people who are brutalized, including by sex trafficking. I plead with my colleagues, let's move this package on through. This will clear through the House by a large vote. It is something we can do for the women and children in this country as well as worldwide. It is a sensible package. It has been worked out by both sides of the political spectrum, through both parties. So, please, let's do this.

This is something we can all be very proud of passing as we go home. We can

proudly say that we tried to do something, as we read increasing stories of forced sex trafficking worldwide. We can say we didn't look away by passing this bill.

Everybody is not going to like everything in these bills. But these two lead issues are so critical and important, and time is so short for us to get these through. Let's not wait until next session as increasingly more and more girls are being tricked into this practice of forced sex trafficking.

The United States can step up awareness and advocacy, and as we do, governments around the world will do the same. The U.S. has to speak first, however, and this is the bill to do the speaking. Let's do it now.

As we vote on this tomorrow morning, I ask my colleagues to vote yes on these very important pieces of legislation to help children, to help women. These are vital pieces of legislation of which we can all be proud.

Mr. President, I understand there may be some more items, so 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. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

MAKING TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS TO TITLE X OF THE ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 1992

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate now proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2641, which is at the desk.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2641) to make technical corrections to title X of the Energy Policy Act of 1992.

Without objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BROWNBACK. I ask unanimous consent the bill be read the third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 2641) was read the third time and passed.

RYAN WHITE CARE ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2000

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Chair lay before the Senate a message from the House of Representatives to accompany S. 2311.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Resolved, That the bill from the Senate (S. 2311) entitled "An Act to revise and extend the Ryan White CARE Act programs under title XXVI of the Public Health Service Act, to improve access to health care and the quality of care under such programs, and to provide for the development of increased capacity to provide health care and related support services to individuals and families with HIV disease, and for other purposes", do pass with amendments.

Mr. BROWNBACK. I ask unanimous consent the Senate agree to the amendments of the House of Representatives.

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

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure that the Senate is moving to pass the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources and Emergency Act Amendments of 2000, a measure that will reauthorize a national program providing primary health care services to people living with HIV and AIDS. I especially want to commend Senators HATCH and KENNEDY for the leadership they have provided since the inauguration of the legislation establishing the Ryan White programs over a decade ago. I also want to commend Senator FRIST whose medical expertise played a critical role in key provisions of the bill and continues to be an invaluable resource to our efforts on the range of health issues that come before the Senate. I want to recognize Senator DODD for his unwavering support for this legislation and people living with HIV and AIDS. Finally, I want to acknowledge Senator ENZI's recognition of the growing burden that AIDS and HIV have placed on rural communities throughout the country and the need to address those gaps in services.

It is also important that we recognize the dedicated efforts of our colleagues in the House of Representatives. Chairman BLILEY supported this bill through its passage and provided critical guidance through the negotiations. Representatives BILIRAKIS, COBURN, and WAXMAN have demonstrated time and time again their commitment to people living with AIDS and each has worked diligently to find a compromise to ensure the continued services for people with HIV/AIDS. Representatives BROWN and DINGELL have also played important roles in shepherding this bill through the legislative process.

Since its inception in 1990, the Ryan White program has enjoyed broad bipartisan support. During the last reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act in 1996, the measure garnered a vote of 97 to 3 on its final passage. As evidence that strong bipartisan support continues, I am happy to report that this reauthorization bill was passed unanimously by this Chamber in June of this year. The bipartisan support for this important legislation underlines the critical need for the assistance this Act provides across the Nation.

With this reauthorization, we mark the ten years through which the Ryan White CARE Act has provided needed

health care and support services to HIV positive people around the country. Titles I and II have provided much needed relief to cities and states hardest hit by this disease, while Titles III and IV have had a direct role in providing healthcare services to underserved communities. Ryan White program dollars provide the foundation of care so necessary in fighting this epidemic and have allowed States and communities around the country to successfully address the needs of people affected by HIV disease.

In recent months a number General Accounting Office studies have shown that the CARE Act is providing services and support to people with HIV who are most in need and most deserving of our help. The GAO found that CARE Act funds are reaching the infected groups that have typically been underserved, including the poor, the uninsured, women, and ethnic minorities. These groups form a majority of CARE Act clients and are being served by the CARE Act in higher proportions than their representation in the AIDS population. The GAO also found that CARE Act funds support a wide array of primary care and support services, including the provision of powerful therapeutic regimens for people with HIV/AIDS that have dramatically reduced AIDS diagnoses and deaths.

Previous efforts to improve this legislation have led to incredible reductions in the number of HIV infected babies being born each year and, equally important, to increased outreach, counseling, voluntary testing, and treatment services being provided to women with HIV infection. Between 1993 and 1998, perinatal-acquired AIDS cases declined 74 percent in the U.S. In this bill, I have continued to support efforts to reach women in need of care for their HIV disease and have included provisions to ensure that women, infants and children receive resources in accordance with the prevalence of the infection among them.

The AIDS Drug Assistance Program has been another critical success. This program has provided people with HIV and AIDS access to newly developed, highly effective therapeutics. Because of these drugs, people are maintaining their health and living longer. The AIDS death rate and the number of new AIDS cases have been dramatically reduced. From 1996 to 1998, deaths from AIDS dropped 54 percent while new AIDS cases have been reduced by 27 percent. In this reauthorization bill we have improved access for underserved and poor communities and increased support for services that help maximize the impact of these therapies.

Despite our great success, the Ryan White program remains as vital to the public health of this Nation as it was in 1990 and in 1996. While the rate of decline in new AIDS cases and deaths is leveling off, HIV infection rates continue to rise in many areas; becoming increasingly prevalent in rural and underserved urban areas; and also among