

combat-related restrictions. Finally, I want to commend the Senate Armed Services Committee for authorizing veterans to participate in the Transition Assistance Program for 1 year after their discharge so that they can be better prepared to lead a productive civilian life.

On another crucial personnel matter, however, I am deeply disappointed that the Senate defeated my amendment to prevent an across-the-board cut to the Defense civilian workforce that could lead to an additional 36,000 government job losses in the coming years. These cuts—on top of cuts that already will occur—would be made without consideration to required workload, mission, or funding as currently required by law. The Senate version of NDAA, if unchanged, will force an arbitrary, sequestration-type of cut in the DOD's civilian workforce, injuring the defense industrial base and undermining economic recovery. There is a better way to make judicious personnel decisions in the Department of Defense than the bill's section 341. I hope the NDAA conferees will heed the administration's deep concerns with regard to section 341, which the House NDAA—H.R. 4310—does not include.

A bill this large and complex won't please everybody entirely. I have just outlined some of the provisions I support and some of the provisions I don't support. I will vote to pass NDAA to advance it to conference. H.R. 4310, like S. 3254, has good and bad provisions, in my estimation. For instance, it contains provisions that further restrict the transfer of Guantanamo detainees into the United States or foreign countries, and it limits the administration's ability to implement the New START Treaty or to set U.S. nuclear weapon policy to further nuclear force reduction. But, on the other hand, it doesn't contain section 341. I hope the legislation the conferees report will be something I can support.

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I will be very brief. I feel so grateful and so proud that the tradition of our committee and this Senate has been maintained on our 51st consecutive Defense authorization bill, a bill that is so vitally important to the Nation. I am grateful to all of our colleagues for working on a bipartisan basis through the normal and open legislative process to produce this bill. I am grateful to stand here with my partner, Senator MCCAIN—we worked together on this bill—to all of the members of the committee, to our staff and the floor and cloakroom staff. We passed over 100 amendments. It was a process that allowed us to be just as accommodating as we humanly could.

One person I wish to single out as someone who has worked for the committee for 41 years—this will be her last year—is Chris Cowart. She is our chief clerk, and I would like to take an additional 2 seconds to mention her name as a symbol of the staff for whom we are so grateful.

I don't know if Senator MCCAIN is here, but I know that I speak for him about our staffs and about our colleagues on the committee.

I yield the floor.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall it pass?

Mr. BAUCUS. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) is necessarily absent.

Mr. KYL. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK).

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASEY). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yes 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 221 Leg.]

YEAS—98

Akaka	Franken	Mikulski
Alexander	Gillibrand	Moran
Ayotte	Graham	Murkowski
Barrasso	Grassley	Murray
Baucus	Hagan	Nelson (NE)
Begich	Harkin	Nelson (FL)
Bennet	Hatch	Paul
Bingaman	Heller	Portman
Blumenthal	Hoeven	Pryor
Blunt	Hutchinson	Reed
Boozman	Inhofe	Reid
Boxer	Inouye	Risch
Brown (MA)	Isakson	Roberts
Brown (OH)	Johanns	Rubio
Burr	Johnson (SD)	Sanders
Cantwell	Johnson (WI)	Schumer
Cardin	Kerry	Sessions
Carper	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Casey	Kohl	Shelby
Chambliss	Kyl	Snowe
Coats	Landrieu	Stabenow
Coburn	Lautenberg	Tester
Cochran	Leahy	Thune
Collins	Lee	Toomey
Conrad	Levin	Udall (CO)
Coons	Lieberman	Udall (NM)
Corker	Lugar	Vitter
Cornyn	Manchin	Warner
Crapo	McCain	Webb
DeMint	McCaskey	Whitehouse
Durbin	McConnell	Wicker
Enzi	Menendez	Wyden
Feinstein	Merkley	

NOT VOTING—2

Kirk Rockefeller

The bill (S. 3254), as amended, was passed.

(The bill will be printed in a future edition of the RECORD.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Committee on Armed Services is discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4310, and the Senate will proceed to the consideration of the measure, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4310) 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 prescribe

military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, all after the enacting clause is stricken, and the text of S. 3254 as passed is inserted in lieu thereof.

The clerk will read the title of the bill for the third time.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, H.R. 4310, as amended, is passed, and the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table.

Under the previous order, the Senate insists on its amendment, requests a conference with the House, and the Chair appoints the following conferees:

Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. REED of Rhode Island, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. WEBB, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. VITTER.

RUSSIA AND MOLDOVA JACKSON-VANIK REPEAL ACT OF 2012—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I now move to proceed to calendar No. 552, H.R. 6156, which is the Russia-Moldova trade agreement.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to calendar No. 552, H.R. 6156, an act to authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to products of the Russian Federation and Moldova and to require reports on the compliance of the Russian Federation with its obligations as a member of the World Trade Organization, and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I wish to thank the chairman for his patience in allowing this legislation to be completed. I would note that there were 145 amendments and many recorded votes and good debate and discussion over very important issues.

I also wish to say thank you to the majority leader.

I wish to note the good work of the staff, showing again that work release programs can be successful.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if I could say a word, I was looking for an opportunity to express my appreciation to the two managers of this bill.

This has been hard, but they have done an excellent job. There is nothing

more important we do here than make sure that our fighting men and women have the resources to do what they need to do for our country, and there are no two better managers that we could have on this bill than these two fine Senators. I appreciate very much their hard work.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, while the leader is here, I would add my thanks to the majority leader. This could not have happened without the willingness of the majority leader to take a little bit of risk at this time of year with so few days left.

Senator MCCAIN and I told the majority leader that we thought we could do it in 3 days, and I want you to know that we did it in 3 days. We don't count half days. If we counted half days, it took us more than 3 days, I must confess to the majority leader. But, nonetheless, the majority leader was willing to let us start down this road. And we did it in a unanimous way. I think it is only the second time in 51 years that there has been a unanimous vote on a Defense authorization bill, and it is because of the willingness and determination of our leadership that we proceed with this bill and that we allow the kind of process to occur that we did and to take the time we did, and I am very grateful.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I took no risk, because Senator LEVIN from Michigan and Senator MCCAIN from Arizona said, We will finish the bill in 3 days. So I had no risk because I knew that is what they would do. We may have spilled over a few hours, but basically they held to their agreement.

Mr. MCCAIN. Again, I thank the majority leader and my friend from Michigan.

I do want to thank our staff who worked many long hours, long after we had shut down regular business. They continued to work through a total of 392 amendments that were filed on this legislation. I appreciate the hard work and the cooperative spirit that enabled us not only to dispose of the amendments, but also I heard no complaint from any Member that their amendment did not get the consideration they felt it deserved. I think that is pretty remarkable, and I thank them.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Connecticut.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I want to join in thanking the chairman of the Armed Services Committee, Senator LEVIN, and the distinguished ranking member, Senator MCCAIN, for the extraordinary bipartisan work they have done on this measure, and also the accommodation and consideration they have given to all of us who have proposed amendments, as well as to their staff and the majority leader.

On behalf of Connecticut, which produces many of the key products that are affected by this bill, such as the Joint Strike Fighter, our submarines, and the Sikorsky helicopter, we have a

great deal of pride in the support that the U.S. Senate has given today to our national defense and the production of these products.

ANIMAL FIGHTING SPECTATOR PROHIBITION ACT

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 1947, and that the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1947) to prohibit attendance of an animal fighting venture, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. I ask unanimous consent that the Blumenthal amendment, which is at the desk, be agreed to and that the bill, as amended, be read a third time.

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

The amendment (No. 3309) was agreed to, as follows:

On page 2, line 21, insert "knowingly" before "cause".

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I recognize that the hour is late. I wish to take a very brief moment to thank my colleagues, beginning with Senator KIRK and Senator BROWN—my distinguished colleagues from Illinois and Massachusetts—who have done such great work on this measure over many months, as well as Senator CANTWELL of Washington and other colleagues who have cosponsored this measure, including Senators COLLINS, FEINSTEIN, GILLIBRAND, KERRY, LANDRIEU, MERKLEY, MIKULSKI, MURRAY, VITTER, and WYDEN. They are all tireless advocates for animals.

This bill is about ending animal fighting which, plainly and simply, is a blood sport. It is cruel and inhumane. It leaves animals scarred and disabled. And, it is associated with many other criminal activities. People who attend animal fights are often also engaged in drug dealing, extortion, assault, and a variety of other crimes, and the enabling activity is animal fighting.

That is why this bill increases the penalties for knowingly attending an animal fight with a child and, indeed, makes it a crime to knowingly attend an animal fight. These stricter penalties are contingent upon a purposeful support for this cruel and inhumane sport.

Very simply, this legislation provides new tools to law enforcement for eliminating not only animal fighting, but also the activities that may be attendant to them.

Animal fighting is a Federal matter, and it requires a Federal response. This is particularly important because an

animal fighting ring often involves players from many different States. Under current law, a county sheriff or a local prosecutor simply lacks the authority to root out, apprehend, and effectively prosecute such an operation.

This bill has the support of many law enforcement organizations whom I thank, including the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association and Fraternal Order of Police. County sheriffs from across the country have also signed on as supporters, along with the American Veterinary Medical Association and the Humane Society of the United States. I hope it will have support from this Chamber.

Mr. President, I ask for a voice vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

If not, the question is on passage of the bill.

The bill (S. 1947), as amended, was passed, as follows:

S. 1947

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Animal Fighting Spectator Prohibition Act of 2011".

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON ATTENDING AN ANIMAL FIGHT OR CAUSING A MINOR TO ATTEND AN ANIMAL FIGHT.

Section 26 of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2156) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the heading, by striking "SPONSORING OR EXHIBITING AN ANIMAL IN" and inserting "SPONSORING OR EXHIBITING AN ANIMAL IN, ATTENDING, OR CAUSING A MINOR TO ATTEND";

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the heading, by striking "IN GENERAL" and inserting "SPONSORING OR EXHIBITING"; and

(ii) by striking "paragraph (2)" and inserting "paragraph (3)";

(C) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

"(2) ATTENDING OR CAUSING A MINOR TO ATTEND.—It shall be unlawful for any person to—

"(A) knowingly attend an animal fighting venture; or

"(B) knowingly cause a minor to attend an animal fighting venture."; and

(2) in subsection (g), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) the term 'minor' means a person under the age of 18 years old."

SEC. 3. ENFORCEMENT OF ANIMAL FIGHTING PROHIBITIONS.

Section 49 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking "Whoever" and inserting "(a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever";

(2) in subsection (a), as designated by paragraph (1) of this section, by striking "subsection (a)," and inserting "subsection (a)(1)."; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

"(b) ATTENDING AN ANIMAL FIGHTING VENTURE.—Whoever violates subsection (a)(2)(A) of section 26 of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2156) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both, for each violation.

"(c) CAUSING A MINOR TO ATTEND AN ANIMAL FIGHTING VENTURE.—Whoever violates