

S. 2921

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

SECTION 1. LANE A. EVANS VA COMMUNITY BASED OUTPATIENT CLINIC.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The community based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs located at 310 Home Boulevard in Galesburg, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the “Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the community based outpatient clinic referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Lane A. Evans VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 578—SUPPORTING THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES IN ENSURING CHILDREN IN THE WORLD’S POOREST COUNTRIES HAVE ACCESS TO VACCINES AND IMMUNIZATION THROUGH GAVI, THE VACCINE ALLIANCE

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. COONS, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 578

Whereas, prior to 2000, the distribution of, and the resources for, vaccines for children in the developing world were declining, immunization rates were stagnant or decreasing, and nearly 30,000,000 children born in the developing world each year were not fully immunized;

Whereas, prior to 2000, it was common for new life-saving vaccines to take up to 15 years to be introduced in the world’s poorest countries;

Whereas access to routine immunization and vaccines protect children from deadly but preventable disease and contribute to national economic growth and poverty reduction by ensuring people live longer, healthier, and more productive lives;

Whereas, in 2000, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the United States, the United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization, the World Bank, bilateral partners, developing countries, the private sector, including the vaccine industry, civil society, and other partners joined forces to create a public-private partnership called the Global Fund for Children’s Vaccines (now Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance) in order to expand access to new and underused vaccines and support the introduction and scale-up of these vaccines into routine immunization systems in the world’s poorest countries;

Whereas partnership and sustainability are at the core of the Gavi model by requiring eligible countries to contribute financing to some portion of their vaccine costs and directly invest in immunizing their children;

Whereas, by 2012, more than 65 developing countries working with Gavi were co-financing new and underused vaccines and more than 20 countries are projected to graduate between 2016 and 2020, moving toward fully funding their national immunization programs;

Whereas Gavi has transformed the market for vaccines by pooling demand from devel-

oping countries matched with secure, predictable financing to make vaccines more affordable and their supply more reliable, and encouraging research and development of new vaccines;

Whereas, as a result, Gavi has played a critical role in increasing the number of global vaccine manufacturers selling to the world’s poorest countries from 5 in 2001 to 13 in 2014;

Whereas the price for the pneumococcal vaccine, which prevents pneumonia, is now more than 90 percent lower for Gavi-eligible countries than elsewhere, and the price of rotavirus vaccines, which prevents diarrhea, is 67 percent lower in Gavi-eligible countries;

Whereas, with innovative financing mechanisms like the Advance Market Commitment and International Finance Facility for Immunisation (IFFIm), Gavi ensures that appropriate and affordable vaccines are available throughout the developing world;

Whereas Gavi supports the financing and delivery of 11 vaccines, including those against pneumococcal disease and rotavirus, the leading vaccine-preventable causes of pneumonia and diarrhea, which kill more children under the age of five than any other disease;

Whereas Gavi collaborates closely with the Global Polio Eradication Initiative on the final push to end polio, strengthening and bringing the inactivated polio vaccine into routine immunization programs;

Whereas strong immunization systems are critical to ensuring continuous coverage and sustainability of new and routine immunization programs in implementing countries;

Whereas Gavi supports the strengthening of health systems and local civil society organizations to ensure effective immunization and health services;

Whereas, since 2000, with support from the United States, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, implementing countries, donor governments, the private sector, and other donors and partners, Gavi has supported country-led vaccine roll outs in 77 countries to support the immunization of an additional 440,000,000 children and will avert an estimated 6,000,000 deaths in the world’s poorest countries;

Whereas, in 2013, Gavi was ranked the second most transparent aid program in the Aid Transparency Index, behind only the Millennium Challenge Corporation;

Whereas, even with significant contributions by Gavi, only a small percentage of young children worldwide receive all 11 life-saving vaccines universally recommended by the World Health Organization;

Whereas vaccines are widely regarded as one of the “best buys” in global health and recognized as one of the most efficient, cost-effective, and successful health initiatives in history;

Whereas, in 2012, leading experts on health economics ranked childhood immunization as one of the three most cost-effective solutions to advance global health;

Whereas, as one of the initial six donors, the United States has been an important supporter of Gavi and through the generosity of the people of the United States has contributed almost \$1,200,000,000 for the acquisition of life saving vaccines;

Whereas, at Gavi’s first pledging conference in June 2011, the United States increased its support and pledged \$450,000,000 for fiscal years 2012 through 2014 to increase access to new and underused vaccines, including pneumococcal and rotavirus vaccines;

Whereas, in addition to this three-year pledge, the United States contributed an additional \$90,000,000 to Gavi in fiscal year 2011;

Whereas United States investment in Gavi complements and enhances the effectiveness of other bilateral and multilateral United States investments in global health, particularly in child survival;

Whereas Gavi is committed to working with partners, including United States bilateral programs run by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to ensure children in developing nations have access to vaccines and immunizations;

Whereas, in June 2012, the United States Government, together with the Governments of Ethiopia and India as well as UNICEF, mobilized the world around the goal of ending preventable child deaths by 2035;

Whereas access to immunizations is a key component of reaching that goal;

Whereas, in May 2014, at the World Economic Forum meeting in Abuja, Nigeria, African leaders pledged to increase investment in their countries’ immunization programs by endorsing the Immunise Africa 2020 leaders declaration;

Whereas, on May 20, 2014, Gavi called on donors to support an ambitious plan to immunize an additional 300,000,000 children against potentially fatal diseases and save an additional 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 lives between 2016 and 2020;

Whereas Gavi needs donors to invest an additional \$7,500,000,000 to support immunization programs in developing countries from 2016 to 2020;

Whereas, at the same time, implementing countries are expected to co-finance an additional \$1,200,000,000, an increase from almost \$500,000,000 in 2011 through 2015; and

Whereas, with this support from donors and the global vaccine community, Gavi can reach its 1,000,000,000th child with critical vaccines by the early 2020s, nearly double the number of lives saved since its founding, and unlock between \$80,000,000,000 and \$100,000,000,000 in economic benefits through health care savings and productivity gains: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the United Nations Children’s Emergency Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization, the World Bank, civil society, the private sector, faith-based organizations, the international community, and implementing countries on the progress that has been made on reducing child mortality through the increased availability and distribution of vaccines;

(2) affirms the continued support of the people and Government of the United States for the purchase of vaccines for the world’s poorest countries through Gavi as a cost-effective, efficient means to reduce child mortality and as a critical component of meeting the United States goal to end preventable maternal and child deaths;

(3) supports the ideals and goals of Gavi to—

(A) accelerate equitable uptake and coverage of vaccines;

(B) improve the effectiveness and efficiency of immunization delivery;

(C) improve sustainability of national immunization programs; and

(D) shape markets for vaccines and other immunization products;

(4) upholds that the United States is a critical donor in its work with other donors to perform diplomatic outreach in seeking additional funding for Gavi in order to leverage its commitment;

(5) recognizes that the United States, in addition to being an important donor, is a critical technical partner to Gavi, and the impact of United States investments to Gavi

is leveraged by providing direct technical assistance to implementing countries and global bodies;

(6) encourages the continued use of United States Agency for International Development (USAID) maternal and child health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) global immunization resources to strengthen local public health capacity to introduce and sustain new and underutilized vaccines, that are supported by Gavi, through routine immunization systems; and

(7) encourages continued commitment and investment by the United States Government and international donors, through Gavi, to the global effort to ensure that children in developing nations have access to vaccines and immunizations.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3941. Mr. HEINRICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 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 3941. Mr. HEINRICH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2410, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2015 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 XXXI of division C, add the following:

SEC. 3117. REPORT ON ENTREPRENEURIAL IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the entrepreneurial impact of technology transfer at the laboratories of the National Nuclear Security Administration.

(b) BASIS OF REPORT.—The report under subsection (a) shall be based on an evaluation of quantitative performance metrics, including—

(1) the number of licenses granted to small businesses;

(2) the number of start-up businesses created;

(3) the number of cooperative research and development agreements and collaborations involving small businesses and the total number of businesses involved in those agreements and collaborations;

(4) the period of time required for execution of a license; and

(5) the number of jobs created.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the ses-

sion of the Senate on November 13, 2014, at 11 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 13, 2014, at 3 p.m., room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 13, 2014, at 11:00 a.m., in room SD-406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled, "Hearing on the nominations of Virginia T. Lodge and Ronald A. Walter to be Members of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Valley Authority."

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 13, 2014, at 3:30 p.m., room SD-430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Hearing on the nominations of P. David Lopez to serve as General Counsel and Charlotte Burrows to serve as a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission."

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 13, 2014, at 11 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Nominations."

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on November 13, 2014, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 13, 2014, at 2:30 p.m.

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

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 4

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand H.R. 4 is at the desk and due for a second reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4) to make revisions to Federal law to improve the conditions necessary for economic growth and job creation, and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings at this time on this legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 2

Mr. REID. There is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2) to remove Federal Government obstacles to the production of more domestic energy; to ensure transport of that energy reliably to businesses, consumers, and other end users; to lower the cost of energy to consumers; to enable manufacturers and other businesses to access domestically produced energy affordably and reliably in order to create and sustain more secure and well-paying American jobs; and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. I ask for a second reading in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, but I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

NOMINATION REFERRAL

Mr. REID. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the nomination of Sarah R. Saldana, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security, reported by the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on Wednesday, November 12, 2014, now be referred to the Judiciary Committee no later than December 4, 2014; that if the Committee on the Judiciary has not reported by that date, then it be automatically discharged and placed on the Executive Calendar.

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

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair announces, on behalf of the President pro tempore, pursuant to Public Law 110-315, the appointment of the following individual to be a member of the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity: Dr. Paul LeBlanc of New Hampshire.