

and foremost concern is for the safety and security of my constituents in western Pennsylvania.

To put it simply, the safety and security of the American people are non-negotiable. Right now we simply do not have the mechanisms in place to ensure that the 10,000 Syrian refugees that the President would have come into this country over the next year and other refugees from terrorist-controlled areas are properly vetted.

FBI Director James Comey has said as much: "If someone has never made a ripple in the pond in Syria in a way that would get their identity or their interest reflected in our database, we can query our database until the cows come home, but there will be nothing show up because we have no record of them."

The Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Homeland Security have said the same. It is both reasonable and prudent to insist that we know exactly who these individuals are before they settle into our towns and cities.

Currently, we have neither the capability nor the capacity to do this. The recent attacks have awakened us to the reality that Islamic State terrorists have the worst of intentions not only for Christians and other religious minorities in their own region, but for the entire Western world. They are not, as the President has claimed, merely a setback. They are acts of war by a terrorist scourge against decency and humanity and freedom and everything that we as Americans stand for.

It comes as no surprise, then, that ISIS has already stated it intends to attack the heart of the United States here in Washington, D.C., and it is not impossible that ISIS terrorists could enter the country by posing as Syrian refugees. In fact, reports indicate that a Syrian passport was found next to the body of 25-year-old Ahmad al-Mohammad, one of the suicide bombers in Paris. He was born in Idlib, a city in northwest Syria, and the Paris prosecutor's office said his fingerprints matched those of a person who traveled through Greece last month.

So the security concerns that the American people are raising are not, as the President and others have suggested, without merit. They are completely legitimate, especially as the number of refugees is set to increase to 85,000 in 2016 and 100,000 in 2017, a significant increase from the average 70,000 per year over the past several years.

The truth is that the American people are an incredibly compassionate and generous people. We have a rich history of assisting people in other nations around the globe when they are suffering from a humanitarian crisis, poverty, oppression, or war. Since September 11, 2001, the United States has resettled 748,000 refugees from around the world. The American people have also assisted innocent Syrian refugees fleeing from violence in search of a bet-

ter life, providing \$4.5 billion in humanitarian aid since the start of the crisis in Syria to help them relocate in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, Egypt, and other nations.

While we desire to assist those who need help around the globe, we have a solemn duty to protect our citizens. The bottom line is we need to put the safety and security of Americans first. The solution I am proposing today is indefinite, but not necessarily permanent. It is the only responsible thing to do under these circumstances.

We need time to review and implement policies that will ensure that those who seek refuge in the United States are properly vetted.

I also urge my colleagues in the Senate to act boldly and promptly to ensure the security concerns of the American people are addressed.

Mr. WALKER. Thank you, Representative ROTHFUS.

Our second People's Night was scheduled weeks ago before the terrorists struck Paris.

I believe it is appropriate this evening to send out our sincerest thoughts and prayers to the Parisian families and others whose lives have been changed forever by these cowardly attacks. Though my heart is heavy, my discontentment with this administration has reached a new level of frustration.

Last year President Obama stated that ISIS was not a serious threat. In fact, many of us remember him referring to them as the JV squad. Just hours before this barbaric attack, the President emphatically expressed that ISIS had been contained and they were no longer expanding.

As a member of the Committee on Homeland Security, I couldn't disagree more. According to the FBI, there are more than 1,000 open investigations that are ISIS or terrorist related. ISIS is a clear and present danger to the American people.

Earlier today, in a joint hearing with the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Homeland Security, General Jack Keane shared these words:

ISIS is the most successful terrorist organization of our time. The world does not believe that our country is serious about taking on ISIS.

The general added:

ISIS is not contained, and they are at war with us, but we are not at war with them.

While President Obama plays down the threat, other world leaders are leading and exhibiting and showing strength. Even the Pope has been warning us that these attacks and others could be the beginning of world war III.

After reviewing the evidence and testimony, I am convinced that it is only by the grace of God and the diligent work of our local, State, and national law enforcement that we haven't been hurt in the same manner that played out just last weekend in Paris. Sadly, President Obama has yet to offer any plan, any strategy, or any solution to slow down these sons from hell.

There is more evidence, continuing evidence of the disastrous Obama doctrine. The words of the President this past weekend sounded more like a spokesperson for the United Nations than America's Commander in Chief.

This is more of the same flawed foreign policy that we have experienced, just like we did in the recent Iran deal. May I remind us that 25 Democrats stood with Republicans, rebuking such a deal. Even more are calling on the President to speak with clarity and with boldness. The American people have grown weary of the constant swag and condescending responses.

Mr. Speaker, how much longer can we afford to wait on a President who stubbornly refuses to identify these devils as radical Islamist extremists? I would hope and pray that all Members of this House would band together, demanding the President deliver a definitive course of action. It is time, Mr. Speaker, for the President to settle up.

I yield back the balance of my time.

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#### REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4038, AMERICAN SECURITY AGAINST FOREIGN ENEMIES ACT OF 2015

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia (during the Special Order of Mr. WALKER), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 114-342) on the resolution (H. Res. 531) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4038) to require that supplemental certifications and background investigations be completed prior to the admission of certain aliens as refugees, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

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#### ISIS CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2015, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) for 30 minutes.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, Will and Ariel Durant, perhaps the most renowned recorders of the history of mankind, wrote shortly after their landmark 40-year multivolume work was completed:

"Civilization is not inherited; it has to be learned and earned by each generation anew; if the transmission should be interrupted . . . civilization would die, and we should be savages again."

It is a warning we must heed. For all of our advancement in self-governance, the rule of law, and the betterment of people's lives, the world stands in crisis. Our actions toward evil, twisted brands of militant Islamic jihadism in the coming months will determine how humanity navigates the coming century. As Will Durant correctly predicts, we must either prevent the death of civilized life or become savages again.

Responding to the Paris attacks, French President Francois Hollande is correct in saying enough is enough. The coalition of willing defenders of humanity is immense. The world looks toward America for our leadership.

“Why? Why does it have to be us?” people ask. It is for the same reason we ask a trusted colleague for counsel, for the same reason a resident asks a neighbor to help him with a heavy lift, for the same reason a parishioner asks his pastor for guidance in times of crisis, for the same reason a citizen asks a policeman for assistance in times of trouble, and for the same reason those attacked ask a soldier to defend them. For the sake of civilization, we must provide it.

American accommodation of ISIS savagery through lethargy must end. Should America remain dispassionate and disconnected, she is at risk of losing her moral compass. Are we really an America today that no longer can be moved by any action, by beheadings, immolations, crucifixions, sexual enslavement, and human suffering in the lands that these savages have forcibly taken? Are we so self-indulged that we somehow think that leaving ISIS alone is a legitimate option for the good of the world?

The President has suggested that ISIS' actions are acts of genocide. On that, we absolutely agree.

□ 2045

Yazidis have been targeted by ISIS in their genocidal fanaticism. One city overrun saw ISIS lining up all males 12 and above in a gymnasium, separated them into groups, and systematically exterminated them.

Young Yazidi girls, whose only crime was being born, have been forced into sodomistic, sexual slavery by a Godless, evil, twisted brand of Islamist jihadist ideology that also conveniently fits rape and child molestation into a twisted, sinister form of ethics.

In Mosul and Palmyra, Christians have been singled out for destruction of life and property by marking their structures with an Arabic N.

Across Iraq and Syria, Chaldean and Assyrian Christians have been slaughtered while we in Congress thump our chest about refugees as Americans call on us to turn a blind eye toward these Syrian refugees that the United Nations has tried to place with willing churches and sponsors here at home.

Have we forgotten that it is the statue of Lady Justice that is blindfolded as she holds up a balanced scale, not the Statue of Liberty who holds the torch?

Lady Liberty is inscribed on our shores with these words:

Keep, ancient lands, your storied pomp, cries she with silent lips. Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed, to me. I lift my lamp beside the golden door.

In the last 3 weeks, more than 400 people have died in three separate attacks as a Russian airliner has been blown from the sky, Lebanese worshippers were blown to bits, and youthful French citizens and tourists were massacred as they ate at cafes and watched a concert.

As the world watched in horror, it has also looked to the United States. Where America leads, nations stand shoulder to shoulder. Where America is absent, tyranny takes its chances and rears its ugly head. But who would have thought America, through constant inaction and listless response, would allow barbarity to prosper?

Since last year, the President has been unable to articulate his strategy to aid our allies in Iraq, Jordan, Turkey, and Israel, as they react to the disintegration of Syria on their borders. More broadly, the President has been unable and possibly unwilling to form the necessary multinational coalitions in the Middle East and elsewhere that are essential to curb barbarism and provide stability within the Sunni Arab populations of Iraq and Syria, where ISIS has filled the void.

As a combat veteran of Iraq and other places, this has been difficult for me personally to process. In service past, we sacrificed to turn the country around. I watched my American and Iraqi friends die, handled the flesh and blood of infantry combat, performed brutal personal combat to take human life, and watched with agony as the good people of Iraq suffer in absence of effective government.

It is personal because I have lived among the Sunni Arab. I have celebrated their victories, their weddings, their birthdays, and their accomplishments. I have broken bread with them and eaten at their communal bowls. I have mourned as close Sunni Arab friends have died to acts of terror, mourned when Sunni Arab educated, intelligent, and free people have been expunged by ISIS. They do not want this. They have no place to go.

When I lived among them, we told them with conviction and honesty that we would be there for them. They believed us. Then the President ordered us out.

We soldiers and servicemembers who have sacrificed so much in Iraq weep. We defeated Saddam's army, toppled the Baathist Government, captured and brought a world tyrant to justice, fought an insurgency and stood shoulder to shoulder with disenfranchised Sunni Arabs and Sunni Kurds to restore control to Iraq's government. We turned the country around together with a military pause.

Instead of the United States nurturing a nascent Iraqi infrastructure, as we have done in the Philippines, Germany, Japan, and South Korea, to give them a future, the President used that pause for abandonment, both militarily and diplomatically.

Worse, he then used that for political expediency. Where we sacrificed, he

quit. When America became absent, radical, evil Islamic jihadists filled that gap with cruelty, fear, and barbarity before, a nascent government and population had the strength to build trust and hold firm.

Whatever the President's political advantage, whatever the supposed cost saving, whatever the heartfelt conviction of why some believed abandonment was the optimum course of action, it has instead created a political nightmare, transcending nations, and has bled more treasures and lives than any estimates our continued presence might have caused.

Moreover, it has sickened the hearts of world humanity to see civilization taking such punishment from savages when a quiver of options have been available to shoot at the heart of the problem.

America has the capacity, the intelligence, and the goodwill to rally nations, but it cannot be a unitary effort. It must be collective. It cannot be a defensive effort. It must be offensive to blunt further attack.

As President Hollande of France was saying enough is enough, President Obama proceeded to tell America and the world what the attacks on Paris were not and what our actions would not be.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress and the American people need rather to hear from our President what the attack was and what our actions will be to make them stop.

The President, distracted by his ideological efforts, though sincere, on climate, has failed to see that the world is on fire. The people of our great Republic have not failed to see it. They are calling on us to stand with France and say enough is enough.

What should be our immediate action? How about some of this? Cripple Raqqa. It is clear it is the symbolic center of ISIS power. The President's cabinet says: We are worried about collateral damage and civilian casualties.

News flash. The most humane thing we can do to end suffering of hundreds of thousands of people is to cripple what ISIS draws its strength from. Destroy their infrastructure. Hammer their electricity capacity. Drop their transmission lines. Eliminate their cell towers where they draw their communications capacity. Destroy the bridges on their roads of ingress and egress. Hammer their oil refining installations they possess and fund themselves with. We have the ability to rebuild them later, but ISIS would be diminished financially by their loss.

Put a different way, the most humane thing we can do to protect civilians is to disrupt ISIS' immediate ability to advance and recruit. If the U.S. leads, others will stand shoulder to shoulder. We need our President to be that man.

To do these immediate actions on Raqqa, we also need to take the handcuffs off of our military that has already deployed. Weeks to get approval

and missed targets, allowing freedom of movement for ISIS is not a way to win anything.

It is not enough for the Secretary of Defense to merely endorse plans put before him by our military experts. Endorse? That type of equivocation tells our military leaders: We don't have your back.

We need the Secretary of Defense to lead. Don't endorse. Approve them. The Secretary must take the handcuffs off our pilots and special operations forces that are already deployed. Our warriors know what to hit. They can't throw punches with handcuffs.

Another action we can take. World opinion and goodwill is on our side. France has the support of all civilized countries. They will likely have the support of a U.N.-sanctioned effort. They may ask for article V protections under NATO and would likely get it.

So what will America do? Lead. Let's build that coalition. NATO special operations forces, combined with Kurds and Sunni Arabs, can provide the immediate ground capacity. Safe zones where Assad cannot reach them with airstrikes and barrel bombs will give them determinations and hope. Modern civilized allies can provide airpower, logistics, the wealth, and the commitment.

Russia has opened the door with statements from Foreign Minister Lavarov that a stabilized Syrian Government cannot include Assad. We should walk through that door. That solves having to build new governance.

Syria has survived civil wars before. She can again. Old structures can have new leaders with new coalitions that provide voice to all Syrians once ISIS is expunged.

In Iraq, we must find a place for the Sunni Arab and Sunni Kurd to have self-determination without having to turn to ISIS. The fighters exist. But they won't fight to be enslaved by draconian Shia Arab governance in Baghdad. That gives them no future. With Raqqa squeezed in Syria, we must build the coalition to restore Mosul and Baiji.

Then the disenfranchised Sunni Arab and Sunni Kurd must have a place at the table both in Syria and Iraq in post-conflict rebuilding. This will not be possible while savages run free and civilized nations do nothing.

America needs to build the coalition on an ISIS-first policy. Then we can settle into the less barbaric and less threatening future. We have a window. Do we have a President that will lead?

Here are some immediate short-term measures.

Launch cyberattacks on ISIS recruiting Web sites. While interceptive communications is important and we want to track their movements and intentions, we cannot confuse that with allowing ISIS propaganda to reach into our free communities to turn misguided youth into neighborhood attackers.

Intercept what we must, but attack what draws recruitment and copycat

actions in the first place. We cannot be just defensive in this area. Part of reducing homegrown terrorists is to cut off the juice from ISIS abroad. They should not have a free hand in our free speech.

Now let's talk about counter-messaging. Here is what every American can do to help. American news stations and newsprint can join the fight by not putting ISIS-produced videos and imagery on networks as B-roll on our newscasts and in articles in our newspapers. Why should we promote their propaganda?

Replace it rather with cross-hairs and explosions of their defeat or show rather the world their acts of barbarity and the human suffering they have created for their own people. Use that for B-roll.

America must stop aiding and abetting these evil savages that use our free press, our laws, and our protections to destroy ours. Americans, write your local stations and ask them to please stop.

Mr. Speaker, I want to shift my focus now to the refugee crisis.

While I have tried to focus my comments on actions that we should take to eliminate ISIS, one action we should not take is to become like them. America is a lamp that lights the horizon of civilized and free mankind.

The Statue of Liberty cannot have a stiff arm. Her arm must continue to keep the torch burning brightly. If we use our passions, anger, and fear to snuff out her flame by xenophobic and knee-jerk policy, the enemy wins. We have played into their hands, period.

Here are some Syrian refugee facts you may not know. Despite a long-established, multilayered system to vet and bring refugees into the United States—I have worked with the International Organization for Migration on deployed battlefields, and I have worked with the UNHCR in their efforts to help place refugees—despite a long-established system, despite biometric and biographic screening, despite intelligence vetting with the National Counterterrorism Center, the FBI's Terrorist Screening Center, and the Departments of State, Defense, and Homeland Security, added to the fact that Syrian refugees receive additional screening to national security concerns—and most of them are women and children—coupled with the fact that only a total of 1,900 Syrians have entered this country in the last 4 years, most of them women and children, Americans across the country now are calling on Lady Liberty to drop her torch and give the stiff arm, with perhaps even another gesture.

□ 2100

I want you to listen carefully to these statements by Members of Congress in response to a refugee bill—not an illegal immigration bill or permanent residents, but refugees, a refugee bill. Listen to these comments by Members of Congress about people fleeing for their lives.

Fighting immigration is “the best vote-getting argument . . . The politician can beat his breast and proclaim his loyalty to America.”

“He can tell the unemployed man that he is out of work because some alien has a job.”

Here is another one:

Congress must “protect the youth of America from this foreign invasion.”

And how about this one?

“American children have first claim to America's charity.”

There are many more, but these quotes were from 1939. The refugee bill was not for Muslim and Christian Syrians or Iraqi Muslims, Christians and Yazidis; it was for German Jews. While it was true that Germany was, indeed, a threat, the refugees were not. They were 20,000 children.

Not only did that bill of 1939 not pass, but that Congress, with the same speech and rhetoric that I have been hearing in recent days in this august Chamber, Mr. Speaker, passed hurdle after hurdle in 1939 to make it more difficult for refugees to enter. They were, unfortunately, successful.

Mr. Speaker, America protects her liberty and defends her shores not by punishing those who would be free; she does it by guarding liberty with her life.

Americans need to sacrifice and wake up. We must not become them. They win if we give up who we are, and even more so, without a fight.

We guard our way of life by vigilance. We must be watchful. We have to have each others' back and be alert to dangers around us. We must speak up when we see something unusual. By maintaining who we are amidst the threat, amidst the hatred, amidst the trials, we win.

Patrick Henry did not say, “Give me safety or give me death,” but, rather, “Give me liberty,” implying that he was willing to lose his life to defend that liberty.

We have defended our way of life, Mr. Speaker, for 240 years. Now we as Americans must defend it again.

We must defend it when the critic sitting on the couch in his underwear eating his bag of cheese puffs is pecking out hatred and vitriol on some social media.

We must defend it and have courage when voters are caught up with sincere passion, demanding security that also might kill our liberty.

We must defend it with our warriors who have worked hard to keep the fight off our shores by being vigilant and aware at home and while looking after their families who don't have them to protect them.

We will always have threats, but liberty, when lost, takes generations, if ever, to regain.

I am asking all Americans tonight to pray for our President. How much time, really, have we spent on our knees at home for our leaders? How much counsel have we sought from the Almighty?

It is God who has given us the spark of freedom. It is He we must turn to. He will take us and guide us in times of crisis, if we only ask Him and humble ourselves and seek His face as a nation.

Mr. Speaker, we would not even have that nation without the aid of France. Lady Liberty would not even stand on our shores without the generosity of France. And now, as civilization faces peril and trial, we must stand the test,

shoulder to shoulder with France, this Congress, our people, our way of life.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

SENATE ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The Speaker announced his signature to an enrolled bill of the Senate of the following title:

S. 799. An act to address problems related to prenatal opioid use.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday, November 19, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the third quarter of 2015, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2015

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>

HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return.

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY, Chairman, Oct. 29, 2015.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2015

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>
Maureen Holohan	7/16	7/17	Portugal		145.10						
		7/17	Italy		1,272.79						
		7/20	Romania		444.25						
Commercial airfare									6,978.60		
Taxi & Train									201.86		
Sarah Young	7/16	7/17	Portugal		145.10						
		7/17	Italy		1,272.79						
		7/20	Romania		444.25						
Commercial airfare									6,978.60		
Taxi & Train									237.64		
Matt Washington	7/16	7/17	Portugal		145.10						
		7/17	Italy		1,272.79						
		7/20	Romania		444.25						
Commercial airfare									6,978.60		
Taxi & Train									154.75		
Donna Shahbaz	7/16	7/17	Belgium		281.00						
		7/17	France		1,690.26						
		7/22	Switzerland		926.06						
Commercial airfare									2,203.90		
Taxi & Train									486.12		
Loraine Heckenberg	7/16	7/17	Belgium		281.00						
		7/17	France		1,690.26						
		7/22	Switzerland		926.06						
Commercial airfare									2,203.90		
Taxi & Train									771.81		
Perry Yates	7/16	7/17	Belgium		281.00						
		7/17	France		1,690.26						
		7/22	Switzerland		926.06						
Commercial airfare									2,203.90		
Taxi & Train									475.90		
Taujaja Berguam	7/16	7/17	Belgium		281.00						
		7/17	France		1,690.26						
		7/22	Switzerland		926.06						
Commercial airfare									2,203.90		
Taxi & Train									388.07		
Collin Lee	7/14	7/19	Korea		1,628.65						
Commercial airfare									11,097.30		
Taxi									98.94		
Cornell Teague	7/14	7/19	Korea		1,628.65						
Commercial airfare									11,097.30		
Taxi									80.19		
Paul Terry	7/14	7/19	Korea		1,628.65						
Commercial airfare									11,097.65		
Taxi									7.21		
Hon. Harold Rogers	7/31	8/5	Austria		1,621.42						
	8/5	8/7	Switzerland		1,483.33						
	8/7	8/9	Portugal		543.00						
Delegation Costs*									2,401.71		
Hon. Rodney Frelinghuysen	7/31	8/5	Austria		1,621.42						
	8/5	8/7	Switzerland		1,483.33						
	8/7	8/9	Portugal		543.00						
Delegation Costs*									2,401.71		
Hon. Steve Womack	7/31	8/5	Austria		1,621.42						
	8/5	8/7	Switzerland		1,483.33						
	8/7	8/8	Spain		333.68						
Delegation Costs*									1,281.71		
Hon. David Young	7/31	8/5	Austria		1,621.42						
	8/5	8/7	Switzerland		1,483.33						
	8/7	8/9	Portugal		543.00						
Delegation Costs*									2,401.71		
Hon. Lucille Roybal-Allard	7/31	8/5	Austria		1,621.42						
	8/5	8/7	Switzerland		1,483.33						