

Upon graduating from Marshall University in 1958, Mike attended WVU School of Law and graduated first in his class. He then spent 20 years as a dedicated lawyer with the firm of Huddleston Bolen in his hometown of Huntington, becoming partner after only 5 short years. In 1981 he entered the banking business and was chairman of the board and CEO of the First Huntington National Bank until his retirement in 2001.

Mike never failed to give back to the Huntington community that he loved, which had rewarded him with so much throughout the years—an education, endless opportunities to make a successful life for himself and his family, and a truly special place he could always call home.

He served as interim president of Marshall University in 1999, donating his entire salary to the university's general scholarship fund. His performance at the university was so highly regarded that the board of trustees voted to remove the word "interim" from his title when listing Marshall's presidents.

Mike woke up every day aspiring to make his community an even better place to work and live and consistently encouraged others to do the same.

Throughout the years he was a great confidant of mine. I enjoyed speaking to Mike on countless occasions on an array of issues, ranging from worldly national and State policies to very localized matters concerning beautiful Cabell County.

Remarkably, despite battling cancer for 1½ years, Mike never stopped working on community projects. He served on countless boards throughout the tri-state area, including those for the Huntington Area Development Council, the Tri-State Airport Authority, and St. Mary's Medical Center, among many others.

Above all, he was a dedicated family man who was truly devoted to his wife Henriella, his three children, and his eight grandchildren. Mike met Henriella in the fifth grade, and he was certain then that he had met the girl of his dreams. He knew even as a youngster that they would spend the rest of their lives together. The two married in 1958, and I think Mike would agree that Henriella always brought out the best in him and made him a better man.

Together, the Perrys moved to Harveys town in 1973, which was the future Heritage Farm Museum and Village. They transported old log structures and began reassembling buildings and accumulating a unique collection of antiques. Today the farm consists of five houses, a zoo, a church, and several buildings that showcase rich Appalachian heritage.

In 2010 both Mike and Henriella were honored with the Donald R. Myers Humanitarian Award, which recognizes individuals who have enriched Appalachia through their extensive leadership and community service endeavors.

Heritage Farm Museum and Village has become a true mainstay within West Virginia and will forever serve as a reminder of a man who lived to make his community and the Mountain State a better place, a man who was an inspiring leader, a selfless friend, a loving husband, father, grandfather, and so much more. He was a friend to all, and I personally will always value his friendship and his guidance, as will everybody who ever came in contact with Mike Perry.

So I say farewell to my dear friend and God bless to the State of West Virginia and the Perry family.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SUL-LIVAN). Without objection, it is so ordered.

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WELCOMING THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL TO THE UNITED STATES FOR HIS ADDRESS TO A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, on Tuesday of next week, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu will make an historic address before the Congress. This is his third address as Prime Minister of Israel. At the invitation of Speaker BOEHNER, he is coming to discuss Iran's nuclear ambitions and the ongoing P5+1 negotiations, as well as the rise of the Islamic State terrorist group and other jihadist groups across the Middle East.

These are obviously serious issues of national security, both for Israel but also for us here in the United States, and Prime Minister Netanyahu and the citizens of Israel have a unique perspective on those issues. In the interest of staying fully informed and aligned with our closest ally in the region, Israel, Congress needs to listen to what Prime Minister Netanyahu has to say, and I look forward to doing so.

I believe the Prime Minister's speech will be both informative and timely, as the Obama administration is reportedly trying to lock down a questionable nuclear deal with the Iranians by the March 24 deadline.

That is why I have introduced S. Res. 76 that welcomes the Prime Minister of Israel to the United States for his address to Congress. This resolution explains just a few of the reasons why the U.S.-Israel alliance is so powerful and so enduring, and it states in part that we welcome the Prime Minister and eagerly await his address before Congress. This resolution reaffirms our commitment to stand with Israel in times of uncertainty, strongly supports Israel's right to self-defense, and finally reaffirms our support and the friendship between our two countries. These sentiments are widely shared in

Congress, but in an increasingly perilous global security environment in which we find ourselves, I think it is important to remind people of how and why the United States stands with Israel.

A majority of Senators have cosponsored this resolution, and I believe today it is time for the Senate to pass it, to reaffirm there will be no daylight between the United States and Israel when it comes to common issues of national security.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 76.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 76) welcoming the Prime Minister of Israel to the United States for his address to a joint session of Congress.

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

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Cornyn amendment be agreed to, the resolution, as amended, be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the Cornyn amendment to the title be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The amendment (No. 262) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To make a technical correction)

On page 3, line 4, strike "joint session" and insert "joint meeting".

The resolution (S. Res. 76), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

S. RES. 76

Whereas, since its founding in 1948, Israel has been a strong and steadfast ally to the United States in the Middle East, a region characterized by instability and violence;

Whereas the United States-Israel relationship is built on mutual respect for common values, including a commitment to democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, free-market principles, and ethnic and religious diversity;

Whereas the strong cultural, religious, and political ties shared by the United States and Israel help form a bond between our countries that should never be broken;

Whereas Israel continues to serve as a shining model of democratic values by regularly holding free and fair elections, promoting the free exchange of ideas, and vigorously exercising a form of democratic government that is fully representative of its citizens;

Whereas nations such as Iran and Syria, as well as designated foreign terrorist organizations such as Hezbollah and Hamas, refuse to recognize Israel's right to exist, continually call for its destruction, and have repeatedly attacked Israel either directly or through proxies;

Whereas, in particular, the Government of Iran's ongoing pursuit of nuclear weapons poses a tremendous threat both to the United States and Israel;

Whereas the negotiations between the so-called P5+1 countries and Iran over its illicit nuclear weapons program are entering a key phase, and Congress has heard the perspectives, both publicly and privately, of a number of close allies involved in the negotiations; and

Whereas the United States is committed to ensuring that Israel, as a strong and trusted ally, maintains its qualitative military edge: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) warmly welcomes the Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, on his visit to the United States, which provides a timely opportunity to reinforce the United States-Israel relationship;

(2) eagerly awaits the address of Prime Minister Netanyahu before a joint meeting of the United States Congress;

(3) reaffirms its commitment to stand with Israel during times of uncertainty;

(4) continues to strongly support Israel's right to defend itself from threats to its very survival; and

(5) reaffirms its unequivocal and bipartisan support for the friendship between the people and Governments of the United States and Israel.

The amendment (No. 263) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: "A resolution welcoming the Prime Minister of Israel to the United States for his address to a joint meeting of Congress."

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I yield back all time on the motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 240) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 255

(Purpose: in the nature of a substitute)

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL], for Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mrs. SHAHEEN, proposes an amendment numbered 255.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

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

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 256 TO AMENDMENT NO. 255

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a second degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 256 to amendment No. 255.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This act shall become effective 1 day after enactment.

AMENDMENT NO. 257

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have an amendment to the text proposed to be stricken.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 257 to the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 255.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This act shall become effective 6 days after enactment.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 258 TO AMENDMENT NO. 257

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a second degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 258 to amendment No. 257.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "6 days" and insert "5 days".

MOTION TO COMMIT WITH AMENDMENT NO. 259

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a motion to commit H.R. 240 with instructions, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] moves to commit the bill to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report back forthwith with an amendment numbered 259.

The amendment is as follows:

At the end, add the following:

This act shall become effective 4 days after enactment.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on that motion.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 260

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have an amendment to the instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 260 to the instructions of the motion to commit H.R. 240.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "4 days" and insert "3 days".

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask for the yeas and nays on that amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 261 TO AMENDMENT NO. 260

Mr. MCCONNELL. I have a second degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. MCCONNELL] proposes an amendment numbered 261 to amendment No. 260.

The amendment is as follows:

In the amendment, strike "3 days" and insert "2 days".

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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 senior assistant 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, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on H.R. 240, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015.

Mitch McConnell, Orrin G. Hatch, Susan M. Collins, Lindsey Graham, Daniel Coats, Thad Cochran, Roger F. Wicker, John Barrasso, Jeff Flake, John McCain, Mark Kirk, Kelly Ayotte, Lamar Alexander, Lisa Murkowski, Bob Corker, John Cornyn.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum under rule XXII be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?