

Feinstein	Lee	Rubio
Fischer	Manchin	Sanders
Flake	Markey	Sasse
Franken	McCain	Schatz
Gardner	McCaskill	Schumer
Gillibrand	McConnell	Scott
Graham	Menendez	Sessions
Grassley	Merkley	Shaheen
Hatch	Mikulski	Shelby
Heinrich	Moran	Stabenow
Heitkamp	Murkowski	Sullivan
Heller	Murphy	Tester
Hirono	Murray	Thune
Hoeven	Nelson	Tillis
Inhofe	Paul	Toomey
Isakson	Perdue	Udall
Johnson	Peters	Vitter
Kaine	Portman	Warner
King	Reed	Warren
Kirk	Reid	Whitehouse
Klobuchar	Risch	Wicker
Lankford	Roberts	Wyden
Leahy	Rounds	

NAYS—1

Cotton

NOT VOTING—1

Boxer

The bill (H.R. 1191), as amended, was passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the title amendment to H.R. 1191, which is at the desk, be considered and agreed to.

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

The amendment (No. 1220) was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the title)

Amend the title so as to read: "A bill to provide for congressional review and oversight of agreements relating to Iran's nuclear program, and for other purposes."

Mr. CORKER. I yield the floor.

ENSURING TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS THE RIGHT TO APPEAL ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Thank you, Mr. President.

IRAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT REVIEW ACT

Before my colleagues leave the floor, let me just offer my congratulations to the Senator from Tennessee and the Senator from Maryland, who have shepherded this important piece of legislation, the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act, across the Senate floor.

I think we are all reminded every time we take up some consensus legislation and find all the traps and obstacles to passage that this is not an easy process. But it was not designed to be easy. It was designed to force consensus before a bill actually is passed into law. Thanks to the patience and the tenacity of our colleague from Tennessee and our colleague from Maryland, we have done that today, and I thank them very much for that.

This legislation guarantees that Congress will have the opportunity and the time to scrutinize any agreement reached between the administration and the P5+1 nations with regard to Iran's nuclear program. This is to my

mind the single greatest threat—not only to regional peace but to world peace—and that is the prospect of an Iranian nuclear program, a nuclear weapon.

This bill prohibits the President from lifting sanctions that Congress has worked on for so long during this period of time. That is another important feature. But the most important part of this is the fact that Congress will have the right to vote for or against any change in the status quo when it comes to Iran. This bill will serve as a congressional check if there is a bad deal with Iran, and it will allow the American people through their elected representatives to consider carefully whether this potential agreement is a good one.

I have been amazed to read in the newspaper and to see on TV that the President has negotiated a deal. When one asks to read the deal, you find out there is no deal. There is a so-called framework. But if a deal is reached between our negotiating team negotiating with Iran and the P5+1 countries, then Congress will have an opportunity—and through us the American people will have the opportunity—to read it and to understand it. We will have the opportunity then to debate it, and as I said, we will have the opportunity then to vote up or down on this deal once a deal is struck, if a deal is struck.

But I wonder sometimes about the naivete of the administration when it comes to negotiating with the world's foremost State sponsor of international terror. This is a regime that has been killing Americans—mainly by proxy—since the early 1980s. Of course we should not and we cannot trust Iran to do the right thing. It makes it even more necessary for Congress to put all aspects of any deal under a microscope, as we will.

While the President has been negotiating this vague and convoluted framework, the Iranian regime has done nothing to earn the trust of the American people or our allies. Just the opposite is true. Iran has only proven that it is untrustworthy and that it will stop at nothing to further its influence throughout the Middle East at the expense of the United States and our allies.

You don't have to look any further than the New York Times to find a relevant example of Iran's doublespeak—speaking out of both sides of its mouth. Just last month in a New York Times op-ed, Iran's Foreign Minister argued that the United States and the P5+1 countries should reach a final agreement in order to promote the stability and security of the region.

The Foreign Minister, Mohammad Zarif, wrote of the need for "a regional dialogue" to "promote understanding . . . on a broad spectrum of issues," among them, "ensuring freedom of navigation and the free flow of oil and other resources. . . ."

Well, this very article proves that to think we can negotiate with Iran in

good faith is pure fiction. Just this past week, it was reported that U.S. Navy warships have had to accompany British and American commercial vessels through the Strait of Hormuz, an international shipping lane that links the Indian Ocean and the Persian Gulf, after the Iranian navy seized a commercial vessel last week.

Reports of another naval scuffle between the United States and Iran was reported yesterday just off the coast of Yemen. Is this how Iran has been working to ensure freedom of navigation in this region?

Well, of course this is just one example of Iran's most recent deceptive tactics. This is the kind of regime that has been, as I said, on our State Department's list as the lead State for sponsorship of terrorism since 1984.

Now the Obama administration seeks to cut a deal with the regime, a country that publicly admits wanting to destroy Israel and to build its empire and influence in places such as war-torn Syria and Iraq. The Obama administration's framework does nothing to hold Iran accountable for its proxy wars or for this type of regional adventurism. Even more concerning, this ambiguous understanding that the President released last month would abandon longstanding U.S. policy of preventing a nuclear-armed Iran and replace it with a feeble plan to contain it.

I remember, as the Presiding Officer no doubt remembers, Prime Minister Netanyahu was just here a few weeks ago. He said that rather than prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon, this framework would pave the path toward a nuclear Iran. The deal also forces the American people to trust the Iranian leadership with threshold nuclear capabilities, without allowing for adequate inspections of all of Iran's nuclear sites by international agencies, both civilian and military. This is unacceptable and dangerous. It also underscores why this legislation that we just passed is so important.

This legislation is vitally important because it is a congressional backstop against an Iranian regime that is well known for its lies and international deception. Guaranteeing the time and the opportunity for Congress to scrutinize this misguided deal is essential. Providing the American people with the kind of transparency they deserve to understand what has been negotiated on their behalf is absolutely critical.

America's elected representatives must be able to get every and any detail on this emerging deal. That is one reason why I think this legislation is so important. We need the time and space to review it. This bill provides for that. It gives us an opportunity to understand its terms and debate its implications.

I am encouraged by the vote we just had, a near unanimous vote on this legislation. This is important because this President has shown a predisposition

to try to go it alone, not only in foreign affairs and national security matters but on immigration, health care, and the like.

It is past time for Congress to stand up and tell the President that he cannot act alone. Our Constitution contemplates three coequal branches of government, and Congress on behalf of the American people cannot be frozen out of the debate and the decision-making when it comes to something as important as an Iranian nuclear negotiation.

I see another Senator ready to speak. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from South Carolina.

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER AND SOLVING PROBLEMS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, today is the National Day of Prayer. It is a day where we as a nation have an opportunity simply to get on our knees and ask God for Divine intervention and ask the Lord for help.

Our Nation is, indeed, an amazing nation, a great nation, a nation with a destiny. I think it is important for us to take the time to remind ourselves, as part of the foundation of this very Nation, that there is a foundation of faith.

As I think about that foundation of faith and the need for prayer, it is hard not to remember that the last year has proven to be a difficult time for low-income communities and minority communities throughout this country. It is time for us to have a national conversation about solving some of the problems that we see arising in communities around the Nation. Whether those communities are in Ferguson or Baltimore, Ohio or Oklahoma or in my hometown of North Charleston, SC, finding solutions is critical.

I believe that a part of the puzzle includes body cameras to be worn by our officers. Body cameras are simply not a fantasy but a part of a larger puzzle to provide solutions to communities that are distressed. I know firsthand that the solutions in my Opportunity Agenda work.

As a kid growing up in a single parent household, I drifted in the wrong direction. I struggled in school. I had a difficult time. I was a hopeless kid in a challenging situation. I will state that as I look around the Nation, many of the challenges we see today are kids just like me, growing up in places like where I grew up, looking for hope, looking for leadership.

I believe that embedded in my Opportunity Agenda we have some of the solutions that can help heal and restore as well as direct and instruct these communities into places of hope and opportunity. I believe that too often we see impoverished communities and distressed communities as high-risk communities. I prefer to see them as high-potential communities, communities where greatness breeds and lives. We just need to find an avenue to harness the potential and move forward.

I am hopeful that as we focus on the issues that are embedded in the Opportunity Agenda—issues such as education, and I mean a quality education in every ZIP Code in America and that we should have high-performing schools in those ZIP Codes. That includes school choice, whether it is charter or virtual or home schools or public schools. We need to have a serious and robust conversation about school choice.

Work skills are so important. In so many of these communities the unemployment rate is over 30 percent—a 30-percent unemployment rate. We can challenge those statistics by looking at the work skills and also by looking at apprenticeship programs, where you can earn and learn at the exact same time. We are breathing new hope into these communities. I also think that when we think about the future, we must think about the chance to save the future of so many of these young kids who may be losing hope in our country, who may be losing hope in their communities, and perhaps losing hope in themselves.

We have a chance to make a difference in this next generation.

I thank Senator GRASSLEY, our chairman of the Judiciary Committee, along with Senator GRAHAM, our subcommittee chair, for agreeing to hold a hearing on the use of body cameras in the next few weeks. I believe the hearing on body cameras will produce important information on how we can deal with some of the challenges in some of our distressed communities.

I believe we can find ways to restore hope and create opportunities for every single child in America.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASIDY). 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.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

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

CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNUAL SEÑORAS OF EXCELLENCE AND SEÑORES OF DISTINCTION AWARDS GALA

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 10th Annual Señoras of Excellence and Señores of Distinction Awards Gala hosted by the Foundation for Excellence and Distinction in Las Vegas, NV.

The Foundation for Excellence and Distinction was created by Sandy and

Roger Peltyn with the sole purpose of raising funds to award scholarships for young Nevada students pursuing excellence in higher education. Over the last 10 years, the Foundation has awarded more than 700 scholarships through local charities, including the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, UNLV, Foundation, Nevada State College, Nevada Hospital Association, the Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach at UNLV, College of Southern Nevada, Puerto Rican Association Scholarship Fund, HEART for children with AUTISM, Latin Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Fund, City Impact Center, and Miss Nevada Scholarship Organization. These scholarships would have not been possible without the support of the people of Nevada and the immeasurable contributions and collaboration from Karen Cashman and Ellie Hirschfield.

The foundation has recognized many strong señoras and señores throughout the community for their work to encourage the success of future generations. A Señora of Excellence can best be described as a woman who is confident in her beliefs, loyal to family and friends, accepts victories and disappointments with grace, and rises above life's challenges. A Señor of Distinction is a man who bases his life on principles, raises spirits, never lets people down, and makes sacrifices for future generations without expecting to receive anything in return.

We pay tribute to this year's award recipients and the previous honorees of the Señoras of Excellence and Señores of Distinction, Lifetime Achievement, Corporation of Distinction, and Humanitarian of the Year awards. This year, my dear friend Wayne Newton is the recipient of the Humanitarian of the Year award. I am grateful for his commitment to supporting education and his fierce advocacy for improving the lives of our Nation's service men and women.

I thank the foundation for their continued leadership and commitment to youth education and congratulate this year's award recipients. I wish the foundation continued success in the years to come.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH IRAN

Mr. TILLIS. Mr. President, we have reached a tipping point in President Obama's quest for a "legacy". Ukraine is on fire; Senior Chinese generals openly boast of their desire to settle millennial scores with their neighbors; Al Qaeda is stronger than ever; ISIS is massacring Christians with a genocidal savagery the likes of which we have not seen since World War II; and Israel feels abandoned. American foreign policy is rudderless, bringing to mind Lewis Carroll's comment from Alice Through the Looking Glass, "If you don't know where you are going any road can take you there."