

A resolution (S. Res. 177) designating the week of May 10 through May 16, 2015, as “National Police Week.”

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 177) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the majority and Democratic leaders of the Senate and the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives, pursuant to Section 301 of Public Law 104-1, as amended by Public Law 108-349, and as further amended by Public Law 114-6, announces the joint reappointment of the following individuals as members of the Board of Directors of the Office of Compliance: Barbara L. Camens of the District of Columbia and Roberta L. Holzwarth of Illinois.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 12; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business until 12:30 p.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided in the usual form; further, that the Senate recess from 12:30 p.m. until 2:15 p.m. to allow for the weekly conference meetings; further, that the time from 2:15 p.m. until the cloture vote be equally divided in the usual form; finally, that the mandatory quorum call under rule XXII be waived with respect to the cloture vote.

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

PROGRAM

Mr. McCONNELL. Senators should expect a cloture vote on the motion to proceed to TPA at 2:30 p.m. tomorrow.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous con-

sent that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senator BROWN and Senator MENENDEZ.

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

The Senator from Ohio.

TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, some in this body seem to be on the verge of approving the largest trade deal in our Nation's history with little debate, one rushed hearing, and barely any understanding of what we are signing on to. The last time Congress considered fast-track was 13 years ago; the Senate spent 3 weeks considering that bill.

But some would like to condense consideration of the biggest trade deal we have ever debated—ever debated—and have it done in advance of Memorial Day; the reason—they know that the more we talk about U.S. trade policy, the more the American public does not like it.

Trade promotion authority will give up Congress's authority to amend trade agreements. Not only will this affect the Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement and so-called TTIP, the United States-European Union agreement, it will affect any trade deal until 2021. With TPP and TTIP, 60 percent of the world's GDP is at stake. Millions of American jobs are on the line. This is too important to rush through with little debate and little congressional input.

With the Memorial Day recess approaching, there simply is not enough time to consider fast-track in a manner that allows full debate and consideration of amendments. We do not even know if the Senate will vote on all four bills as a package that we considered in the Finance Committee or just vote on fast-track or some combination of the four. If we voted on fast-track alone, we would be giving new rights to corporations while turning our backs on critical trade enforcement measures and the workers who are left behind by unfair foreign trade. Imagine if just TPA—fast-track—gets to the President's desk; we will have done nothing on enforcement and we will have left out help for workers who have lost their jobs because of what this institution did. Fast-tracking fast-track will prevent us from having serious debates on issues from public health, to the auto industry, to international monetary policy.

During the Finance Committee's consideration of this bill, I filed 88 amendments to the package of four bills, 81 of those to fast-track alone. I offered a number during markup, and I will offer more on the floor. I know Senator MENENDEZ had a very important amendment—and he will be speaking in a moment—in the Finance Committee that was adopted. I know other colleagues have amendments that will be considered. We should debate these amendments to legislation as important as this.

Now the majority leader, who just spoke, wants us to rush this bill through, to fast-track fast-track in the last few days just to get it done, just so the public won't be able to find out what is in it. We owe it to the American people to not rush through something as important as our national trade policy. We owe it to the American people to spend the limited time available on the floor passing a job-creation bill, such as the highway bill, which is set to expire May 31, rather than a provably job-killing trade agreement, as NAFTA was, as PNTR was, as CAFTA was, as South Korea was.

We know the real answer, that this deal amounts to more empty promises. If it were really good for the American worker, why can't the American worker see it? More corporate handouts, more worker sellouts.

As many of my colleagues know, this trade agreement simply doesn't work for us. This is what is wrong with the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

First, with China, there is no guarantee it will not join later. There is no prohibition in this language—as far as we can see, with the limited access to the text—that China can't backdoor into this agreement without a vote of Congress, without any examination from the American public.

Second, what happens to competition? American workers are paid a living wage. In Vietnam, the average wage is \$3 per day. How do we compete with that? With currency. We know China has gamed the currency system year after year after year. They don't play by the same rules as we do.

Corporations shift from democratically elected governments to corporations. We have seen it in tobacco, we have seen it in public health, and we have seen it with minimum wage, where corporations can sue foreign governments. Corporations in one country can sue a government, even if that government has passed a law democratically through a democratic process.

Our trade deals amount to corporate handouts and worker sellouts. People in my State know what has happened since NAFTA. They promised NAFTA would bring millions of jobs. Instead, we have lost 5 million manufacturing jobs in this country since 1994. It is only since the auto rescue in 2010 that we have begun to gain those jobs back.

We know our trade deals were for small business to compete with companies abroad that pay their workers pennies on the dollar. These foreign companies don't have to abide by the same American laws that we do.

With so much to do at home and so much at stake in this deal, we shouldn't be rushing the process of considering fast-track. We should be working on a living wage. We should be working on paid sick and family leave. We should be working on equal pay for equal work. We should be working on investment to infrastructure and innovation. Instead, the majority leader

wants to fast-track, fast-track. He wants to put this trade agreement on the floor as quickly as possible.

This body should deliberate methodically and carefully before we agree to become a rubberstamp for the White House's trade policy. It has not worked for us in the past; it will not work for us in the future. This body should not be rushing to give up our authority on trade.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND TRADE

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise to draw attention to the international plight of human trafficking and its relationship to our Nation's trade agenda.

According to the State Department's Trafficking in Persons Report, "Human trafficking" is about recruiting, harboring, transporting, providing or obtaining a person for compelled labor or commercial sex acts through the use of force, fraud or coercion. It is an unacceptable global scourge that must end and cannot be rewarded by any trade agreement.

Sexual exploitation, forced labor, forced marriage, debt bondage, and the sale and exploitation of children around the world should be a global cry for justice. But as Benjamin Franklin once said: "Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are."

Today, we are all outraged at the violence, the psychological terror, and the greed that drives human trafficking. We are outraged that there are 50 million refugees and displaced people around the world, the largest number since World War II, many of whom are targets of traffickers. We are outraged that 36 million women, children, and men around the world are subjected to involuntary labor or sexual exploitation. We are outraged when we hear that over 5 million of them are children, that forced labor generates about \$150-plus billion in profits annually, the second largest income source for international criminals next to the drug trade.

For the victims of these crimes, the term "modern slavery" more starkly describes what is happening around the world, and it must end.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act requires that the State Department annually publish a Trafficking in Persons Report, known as the TIP Report, which ranks each country based upon the extent of government action to combat trafficking.

Tier 3 in that listing is the worst of these rankings. It indicates that a government does not comply with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act's minimum standards, and it is not making significant efforts to do so. Tier 3 countries are those that have not even taken the most basic steps to address their human trafficking problem and

have not provided protection for trafficking victims.

In the most recent TIP Report published, the State Department ranked 23 countries as tier 3. Countries such as North Korea, Iran, and Cuba have flaunted international legal norms and threatened to upend global security.

I am most disappointed to say that Malaysia—a middle-income country by most standards, a party to the Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations—has the resources and the wherewithal to address human trafficking within its borders but has for years failed to take sufficient action to warrant an upgrade on the TIP Report. So it is unfortunate that the scale of the human trafficking problem in Malaysia is vast, and it is in sectors that will directly benefit from increased trade when TPP trade agreement is concluded.

The State Department's 2014 Trafficking in Persons Report states:

Many migrant workers on agricultural plantations, at construction sites, in textile factories, and in homes as domestic workers throughout Malaysia are exploited and subjected to practices indicative of forced labor, such as restrictions on movement, deceit and fraud in wages, passport confiscation, and imposition of significant debts by recruitment agents or employers.

Most disappointingly, the State Department wrote last year that the Malaysian Government was neglecting the problem. The 2014 TIP Report continues:

Malaysian authorities continued to detain trafficking victims in government facilities for periods of time that sometimes exceeded a year; victims had limited freedom of movement and were not allowed to work outside the facilities. The government provided minimal basic services to those staying in its shelters; NGOs—with no financial support from the government—provided the majority of rehabilitation and counseling services. . . . The government identified 650 potential victims in 2013—significantly fewer than the 1,096 potential victims identified in 2012. It reported fewer investigations (89 compared to 190) and fewer convictions (nine compared to 21) compared to the previous year.

Furthermore, in January, 2013, the Malaysian Government implemented a policy that places the burden of paying immigration and employment authorization fees on foreign workers rather than on employers, increasing the risk of workers falling into debt bondage. And, while nearly a year has passed since the State Department issued its 2014 report—as recently as April 17, this past month—the U.S. Ambassador to Malaysia said the Malaysian Government needs to show greater political will in prosecuting human traffickers and protecting their victims if the country hopes to improve on its current lowest ranking in the TIP Report.

It is precisely to combat crimes such as these that Congress has taken action this year to fight modern slavery. Earlier this year, the Foreign Relations Committee, under the leadership of Chairman CORKER, held an important hearing on human trafficking on February 4. On April 22, Congressman

CHRIS SMITH of New Jersey held a House subcommittee hearing examining the State Department's Trafficking in Persons Report, emphasizing the need to maintain the integrity of the tier ranking system.

On that same day, April 22, the Senate voted 99 to 0 for the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, authored by Senator CORNYN. Later that day, in the Committee on Finance, a bipartisan group of 16 Senators voted for my amendment to prohibit fast-track procedures from applying to any trade agreement with a country ranked as tier 3—the worst ranking.

Congress has never before approved a free-trade agreement, much less fast-tracked one, with any country while it was ranked tier 3, and I do not believe we should start now.

I want to be clear. The amendment I offered and which was adopted with a bipartisan vote in the Committee on Finance is not meant to single out Malaysia or any other country. My antitrafficking provision to the fast track bill is a simple bipartisan statement of our American values. Contrary to the administration's comments, my amendment is not a poison pill. I don't know when trying to fight human trafficking becomes a poison pill. Nothing could be further from the truth.

Senator CORNYN, perhaps the Senate's strongest advocate for victims of human trafficking, voted for my amendment. Senator PORTMAN, the former U.S. Trade Representative, voted for my amendment. Senator WYDEN, the ranking member of the Committee on Finance and coauthor of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act, also voted for my amendment.

In total, 10 members of the Committee on Finance who voted for my amendment also voted for the fast-track bill. I cannot believe we would have seen such a strong bipartisan vote from so many Senators who support fast track if this amendment were truly a poison pill.

Now, the administration has recently said this amendment would remove our ability to use our trade dialogue to encourage countries to take action on human trafficking. But I want the record to reflect the fact that trade negotiations with the United States have not improved most countries' human trafficking performance. It is clear that years of engagement with Malaysia on this issue, even with the carrot of the TPP negotiations hanging before it, have not been enough to generate action from the Malaysian government.

Of the 17 countries the United States has entered into trade agreements with since 2001—the first year of the Trafficking in Persons Report—eight have not improved their trafficking in persons rankings since their trade deals entered into force. So for almost a decade and a half, eight have not improved their rankings since the trade deals entered into force, and three countries