

Day—to celebrate the community's achievements and to commemorate the sacrifices of their loved ones in support of American troops so many years ago.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1358

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Hmong Veterans’ Service Recognition Act”.

#### SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY FOR INTERMENT IN NATIONAL CEMETERIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2402(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(10) Any individual—

“(A) who—

“(i) was naturalized pursuant to section 2(1) of the Hmong Veterans’ Naturalization Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-207; 8 U.S.C. 1423 note); and

“(ii) at the time of the individual’s death resided in the United States; or

“(B) who—

“(i) the Secretary determines served with a special guerrilla unit or irregular forces operating from a base in Laos in support of the Armed Forces of the United States at any time during the period beginning February 28, 1961, and ending May 7, 1975; and

“(ii) at the time of the individual’s death—

“(I) was a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States; and

“(II) resided in the United States.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to an individual dying on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 179—DESIGNATING MAY 16, 2015, AS “KIDS TO PARKS DAY”

Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. LEE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 179

Whereas the 5th annual Kids to Parks Day will be celebrated on May 16, 2015;

Whereas the goal of Kids to Parks Day is to promote healthy outdoor recreation and environmental stewardship, empower young people, and encourage families to get outdoors and visit the parks and public land of the United States;

Whereas on Kids to Parks Day, individuals from rural and urban areas of the United States can be reintroduced to the splendid national, State, and neighborhood parks located in their communities;

Whereas communities across the United States offer a variety of natural resources and public land, often with free access, to individuals seeking outdoor recreation;

Whereas the people of the United States, young and old, should be encouraged to lead more healthy and active lifestyles;

Whereas Kids to Parks Day is an opportunity for families to take a break from their busy lives and come together for a day of active, wholesome fun; and

Whereas Kids to Parks Day will broaden an appreciation for nature and the outdoors in young people, foster a safe setting for independent play and healthy adventure in neighborhood parks, and facilitate self-reliance while strengthening communities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 16, 2015, as “Kids to Parks Day;”

(2) recognizes the importance of outdoor recreation and the preservation of open spaces to the health and education of the young people of the United States; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1226. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CASEY, Mr. REED, and Mr. PETERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1227. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1228. Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1229. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1230. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1231. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1232. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1233. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1234. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1235. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1236. Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1237. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, supra.

SA 1238. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1239. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1240. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1295, to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Generalized System of Preferences, the preferential duty treatment program for Haiti, and for other purposes.

SA 1241. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 644, to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities, and for other purposes.

SA 1242. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations.

SA 1243. Mr. HATCH (for Mr. FLAKE) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, supra.

SA 1244. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1245. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1246. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1247. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1248. Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 1226.** Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CASEY, Mr. REED, and Mr. PETERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

#### TITLE III—EXPANDING TRADE EXPORTS

#### SEC. 301. REPEAL OF DUPLICATIVE INSPECTION AND GRADING PROGRAM.

(a) FOOD, CONSERVATION, AND ENERGY ACT OF 2008.—Effective June 18, 2008, section 11016 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-246; 122 Stat. 2130) is repealed.

(b) AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 2014.—Effective February 7, 2014, section 12106 of the Agricultural Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-79; 128 Stat. 981) is repealed.

(c) APPLICATION.—The Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) and the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C.

1621 et seq.) shall be applied and administered as if the provisions of law struck by this section had not been enacted.

**SA 1227.** Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 109, add the following:

(C) OUTREACH AND INPUT FROM SMALL BUSINESSES TO TRADE PROMOTION AUTHORITY.—Section 609 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f)(1) Not later than 30 days after the date on which the President submits the notification required under section 5(a) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015, the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration (in this subsection referred to as the ‘Chief Counsel’) shall convene an Interagency Working Group (in this subsection referred to as the ‘Working Group’), which shall consist of an employee from each of the following agencies, as selected by the head of the agency or an official delegated by the head of the agency:

“(A) The Office of the United States Trade Representative.

“(B) The Department of Commerce.

“(C) The Department of Agriculture.

“(D) Any other agency that the Chief Counsel, in consultation with the United States Trade Representative, determines to be relevant with respect to the subject of the trade agreement being negotiated pursuant to section 3(b) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015 (in this subsection referred to as the ‘covered trade agreement’).

“(2) Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Chief Counsel convenes the Working Group under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel shall identify a diverse group of small entities, representatives of small entities, or a combination thereof, to provide to the Working Group the views of small businesses in the manufacturing, services, and agriculture industries on the potential economic effects of the covered trade agreement.

“(3)(A) Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Chief Counsel convenes the Working Group under paragraph (1), the Chief Counsel shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives a report on the economic impacts of the covered trade agreement on small entities, which shall—

“(i) identify the most important priorities, opportunities, and challenges to various industries from the covered trade agreement;

“(ii) assess the impact for new small entities to start exporting, or increase their exports, to markets in the covered trade agreement;

“(iii) analyze the competitive position of industries likely to be significantly affected by the covered trade agreement;

“(iv) identify—

“(I) any State-owned enterprises in each country pertaining to the covered trade agreement that could be pose a threat to small entities; and

“(II) any steps to take to create a level-playing field for those small entities;

“(v) identify any rule of an agency that should be modified to become compliant with the covered trade agreement; and

“(vi) include an overview of the methodology used to develop the report, including the number of small entity participants by industry, how those small entities were selected, and any other factors that the Chief Counsel may determine appropriate.

“(B) To ensure that negotiations for the covered trade agreement are not disrupted, the President may require that the Chief Counsel delay submission of the report under subparagraph (A) until after the negotiations of the covered trade agreement are concluded, provided that the delay allows the Chief Counsel to submit the report to Congress not later than 45 days before the Senate or the House of Representatives acts to approve or disapprove the covered trade agreement.

“(C) The Chief Counsel shall, to the extent practicable, coordinate the submission of the report under this paragraph with the United States International Trade Commission, the United States Trade Representative, other agencies, and trade advisory committees to avoid unnecessary duplication of reporting requirements.”.

(d) STATE TRADE AND EXPORT PROMOTION GRANT PROGRAM.—Section 22 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 652) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (1) as subsection (m); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (k) the following:

“(1) STATE TRADE AND EXPORT PROMOTION GRANT PROGRAM.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘eligible small business concern’ means a business concern that—

“(i) is organized or incorporated in the United States;

“(ii) is operating in the United States;

“(iii) meets—

“(I) the applicable industry-based small business size standard established under section 3; or

“(II) the alternate size standard applicable to the program under section 7(a) of this Act and the loan programs under title V of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 U.S.C. 695 et seq.);

“(iv) has been in business for not less than 1 year, as of the date on which assistance using a grant under this subsection commences;

“(v) is export ready, as determined by the Associate Administrator; and

“(vi) has access to sufficient resources to bear the costs associated with exporting and doing business with foreign purchasers, including the costs of packing, shipping, freight forwarding, and customs brokers;

“(B) the term ‘program’ means the State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program established under paragraph (2);

“(C) the term ‘rural small business concern’ means an eligible small business concern located in a rural area, as that term is defined in section 1393(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

“(D) the term ‘socially and economically disadvantaged small business concern’ has the meaning given that term in section 8(a)(4)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a)(4)(A)); and

“(E) the term ‘State’ means each of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa.

“(2) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Associate Administrator shall establish a trade and export promotion grant program, to be known as the ‘State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program’, to make grants to

States to carry out export programs that assist eligible small business concerns in—

“(A) participation in a foreign trade mission;

“(B) a foreign market sales trip;

“(C) a subscription to services provided by the Department of Commerce;

“(D) the payment of website translation fees;

“(E) the design of international marketing media;

“(F) a trade show exhibition;

“(G) participation in training workshops;

“(H) a reverse trade mission;

“(I) procurement of foreign consultancy services (after consultation with the Department of Commerce to avoid duplication); or

“(J) any other export initiative determined appropriate by the Associate Administrator.

“(3) GRANTS.—

“(A) JOINT REVIEW.—In carrying out the program, the Associate Administrator may make a grant to a State to increase the number of eligible small business concerns in the State that export and to increase the value of the exports by eligible small business concerns in the State.

“(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making grants under this subsection, the Associate Administrator may give priority to an application by a State that proposes an export program that—

“(i) focuses on eligible small business concerns as part of an export promotion program;

“(ii) demonstrates intent to promote exports by—

“(I) socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns;

“(II) small business concerns owned or controlled by women; and

“(III) rural small business concerns;

“(iii) promotes exports from a State that is not 1 of the 10 States with the highest percentage of exporters that are eligible small business concerns, based upon the most recent data available from the Department of Commerce; and

“(iv) includes—

“(I) activities which have resulted in the highest return on investment based on the most recent year; and

“(II) the adoption of shared best practices included in the annual report of the Administration.

“(C) LIMITATIONS.—

“(i) SINGLE APPLICATION.—A State may not submit more than 1 application for a grant under the program in any 1 fiscal year.

“(ii) PROPORTION OF AMOUNTS.—The total value of grants made under the program during a fiscal year to the 10 States with the highest percentage of exporters that are eligible small business concerns, based upon the most recent data available from the Department of Commerce, shall be not more than 40 percent of the amounts appropriated for the program for that fiscal year.

“(iii) DURATION.—The Associate Administrator shall award a grant under this program for a period of not more than 2 years.

“(D) APPLICATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A State desiring a grant under the program shall submit an application at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Associate Administrator may establish.

“(ii) CONSULTATION TO REDUCE DUPLICATION.—A State desiring a grant under the program shall—

“(I) before submitting an application under clause (i), consult with applicable trade agencies of the Federal Government on the scope and mission of the activities the State proposes to carry out using the grant, to ensure proper coordination and reduce duplication in services; and

“(II) document the consultation conducted under subclause (I) in the application submitted under clause (i).

“(4) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—The Associate Administrator shall award grants under the program on a competitive basis.

“(5) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of an export program carried out using a grant under the program shall be—

“(A) for a State that has a high export volume, as determined by the Associate Administrator, not more than 65 percent; and

“(B) for a State that does not have a high export volume, as determined by the Associate Administrator, not more than 75 percent.

“(6) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share of the cost of an export program carried out using a grant under the program shall be comprised of not less than 50 percent cash and not more than 50 percent of indirect costs and in-kind contributions, except that no such costs or contributions may be derived from funds from any other Federal program.

“(7) REPORTS.—

“(A) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Associate Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report, which shall include—

“(i) a description of the structure of and procedures for the program;

“(ii) a management plan for the program; and

“(iii) a description of the merit-based review process to be used in the program.

“(B) ANNUAL REPORTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Associate Administrator shall publish on the website of the Administration an annual report regarding the program, which shall include—

“(I) the number and amount of grants made under the program during the preceding year;

“(II) a list of the States receiving a grant under the program during the preceding year, including the activities being performed with each grant;

“(III) the effect of each grant on exports by eligible small business concerns in the State receiving the grant;

“(IV) the total return on investment for each State; and

“(V) a description of best practices by States that showed high returns on investment and significant progress in helping more eligible small business concerns to export.

“(ii) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—On the date on which the Associate Administrator publishes a report under clause (i), the Associate Administrator shall notify the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives that the report has been published.

“(8) REVIEWS BY INSPECTOR GENERAL.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General of the Administration shall conduct a review of—

“(i) the extent to which recipients of grants under the program are measuring the performance of the activities being conducted and the results of the measurements; and

“(ii) the overall management and effectiveness of the program.

“(B) REPORTS.—

“(i) PILOT PROGRAM.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Inspector General of the Administration shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small

Business of the House of Representatives a report regarding the use of amounts made available under the State Trade and Export Promotion Grant Program under section 1207 of the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (15 U.S.C. 649b note).

“(ii) NEW STEP PROGRAM.—Not later than 18 months after the date on which the first grant is awarded under this subsection, the Inspector General of the Administration shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report regarding the review conducted under subparagraph (A).

“(9) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out the program—

“(A) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2016;

“(B) \$35,000,000 for fiscal year 2017;

“(C) \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2018;

“(D) \$45,000,000 for fiscal year 2019; and

“(E) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2020.”.

(e) MEMBERSHIP OF REPRESENTATIVES OF STATE TRADE PROMOTION AGENCIES ON TRADE PROMOTION COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—Section 2312 of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4727) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

“(2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATE TRADE PROMOTION AGENCIES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The TPCC shall also include 1 or more members appointed by the President, after consultation with associations representing State trade promotion agencies, who are representatives of State trade promotion agencies.

“(B) TERM.—A member appointed under subparagraph (A) shall be appointed for a term of 2 years.

“(C) PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

“(i) NO COMPENSATION.—A member of the TPCC appointed under subparagraph (A) shall serve without compensation.

“(ii) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the TPCC appointed under subparagraph (A) shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, while away from the homes or regular place of business of the member in the performance of services for the TPCC.

“(iii) ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of Commerce, or the head of another agency, as appropriate, shall make available to a member of the TPCC appointed under subparagraph (A) administrative services and assistance, including a security clearance, as the member may reasonably require to carry out services for the TPCC.”; and

(2) in subsection (e), in the first sentence, by inserting “(other than members described in subsection (d)(2))” after “Members of the TPCC”.

(f) STATE AND FEDERAL EXPORT PROMOTION COORDINATION WORKING GROUP.—Subtitle C of the Export Enhancement Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4721 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 2313 the following:

“SEC. 2313A. STATE AND FEDERAL EXPORT PROMOTION COORDINATION WORKING GROUP.

“(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States to promote exports as an opportunity for small businesses. In exercising their powers and functions in order to advance that policy, all Federal departments and agencies shall work constructively with State and local agencies engaged in export promotion and export financing activities.

“(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall establish a State and Federal Export Promotion Coordination Working Group (in this section referred to as the ‘Working Group’) as a subcommittee of the Trade Promotion Coordination Committee (in this section referred to as the ‘TPCC’).

“(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Working Group are—

“(1) to identify issues related to the coordination of Federal resources relating to export promotion and export financing with such resources provided by State and local governments;

“(2) to identify ways to improve coordination with respect to export promotion and export financing activities through the strategic plan developed under section 2312(c);

“(3) to develop a strategy for improving coordination of Federal and State resources relating to export promotion and export financing, including methods to eliminate duplication of effort and overlapping functions; and

“(4) to develop a strategic plan for considering and implementing the suggestions of the Working Group as part of the strategic plan developed under section 2312(c).

“(d) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary of Commerce shall select the members of the Working Group, who shall include—

“(1) representatives from State trade agencies representing regionally diverse areas; and

“(2) representatives of the departments and agencies that are represented on the TPCC, who are designated by the heads of their respective departments or agencies to advise the head on ways of promoting the exportation of United States goods and services.”.

(g) REPORT ON IMPROVEMENTS TO EXPORT.GOV AS A SINGLE WINDOW FOR EXPORT INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Associate Administrator for International Trade of the Small Business Administration shall, after consultation with the entities specified in paragraph (2), submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes the recommendations of the Associate Administrator for improving the experience provided by the Internet website Export.gov (or a successor website) as—

(A) a comprehensive resource for information about exporting articles from the United States; and

(B) a single website for exporters to submit all information required by the Federal Government with respect to the exportation of articles from the United States.

(2) ENTITIES SPECIFIED.—The entities specified in this paragraph are—

(A) small business concerns (as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)) that are exporters; and

(B) the President’s Export Council, State agencies with responsibility for export promotion or export financing, district export councils, and trade associations.

(3) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(h) SMALL BUSINESS INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON EXPORT FINANCING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Small Business Administration, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Export-Import Bank of the United States, and the Overseas

Private Investment Corporation shall jointly establish a Small Business Inter-Agency Task Force on Export Financing to—

(A) review and improve Federal export finance programs for small business concerns; and

(B) coordinate the activities of the Federal Government to assist small business concerns seeking to export.

(2) **DEFINITION.**—In this subsection, the term “small business concern” has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632).

(i) **AVAILABILITY OF STATE RESOURCES GUIDES ON EXPORT.GOV.**—The Secretary of Commerce shall make available on the Internet website Export.gov (or a successor website) information on the resources relating to export promotion and export financing available in each State—

(1) organized by State; and

(2) including information on State agencies with responsibility for export promotion or export financing and district export councils and trade associations located in the State.

**SA 1228.** Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

### **TITLE III—TARIFF PREFERENCE LEVEL PROGRAMS**

#### **SEC. 301. EXTENSION OF TARIFF PREFERENCE LEVEL PROGRAM FOR NICARAGUA.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall proclaim an extension until December 31, 2024, of the preferential tariff treatment for apparel goods imported from Nicaragua—

(1) described in U.S. Note 15 to subchapter XV of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States; and

(2) provided for under Annex 3.28 of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement and the letters described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 1634(a)(2) of the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2006 (title XIV of Public Law 109-280; 120 Stat. 1167).

(b) **LIMITATION ON APPLICATION OF ONE-FOR-ONE PURCHASING RULE FOR COTTON WOVEN TROUSERS.**—The limitation specified in clause (iv) of paragraph (7)(b) of the letter described in section 1634(a)(2)(A) of the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2006 shall apply with respect to the one-for-one purchasing rule described in paragraph (7)(b) of that letter in each year after the extension pursuant to subsection (a) of the preferential tariff treatment described in that subsection.

(c) **AMENDMENT TO MISCELLANEOUS TRADE AND TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2006.**—Section 1634(c) of the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2006 is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “under Annex 3.28 of the Agreement” and inserting “under the Nicaraguan tariff preference level program”; and

(B) by striking “provided in Annex 3.28 of the Agreement” and inserting “under the Nicaraguan tariff preference level program”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “provided in Annex 3.28 of the Agreement” and inserting “under the Nicaraguan tariff preference level program”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) **NICARAGUAN TARIFF PREFERENCE LEVEL PROGRAM DEFINED.**—In this subsection, the term ‘Nicaraguan tariff preference level program’ means the preferential tariff treatment provided for under Annex 3.28 of the Agreement and extended pursuant to the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015.”.

(d) **RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1514) or any other provision of law, and subject to paragraph (2), any entry of an article to which duty-free treatment or other preferential treatment under the Nicaraguan tariff preference level program would have applied if the entry had been made on December 31, 2014, that was made—

(A) after December 31, 2014, and

(B) before the effective date of the presidential proclamation referred to in subsection (a), shall be liquidated or reliquidated as though such entry occurred after the effective date of the presidential proclamation referred to in subsection (a).

(2) **REQUESTS.**—A liquidation or reliquidation may be made under paragraph (1) with respect to an entry only if a request therefor is filed with U.S. Customs and Border Protection not later than 180 days after the effective date of the presidential proclamation referred to in subsection (a) that contains sufficient information to enable U.S. Customs and Border Protection—

(A) to locate the entry; or

(B) to reconstruct the entry if it cannot be located.

(3) **PAYMENT OF AMOUNTS OWED.**—Any amounts owed by the United States pursuant to the liquidation or reliquidation of an entry of an article under paragraph (1) shall be paid, without interest, not later than 90 days after the date of the liquidation or reliquidation (as the case may be).

(4) **ENTRY DEFINED.**—In this subsection, the term “entry” includes a withdrawal from warehouse for consumption.

#### **SEC. 302. EXTENSION OF TARIFF PREFERENCE LEVEL PROGRAM FOR BAHRAIN.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—U.S. Note 13 to subchapter XIV of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (a)—

(A) by striking “2015” and inserting “2025”; and

(B) by striking “January 1, 2016, through July 31, 2016” and inserting “January 1, 2026, through July 31, 2026”; and

(2) in the matter following paragraph (d), by striking “July 31, 2016” and inserting “July 31, 2026”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after January 1, 2016.

#### **SEC. 303. EXTENSION OF TARIFF PREFERENCE LEVEL PROGRAM FOR MOROCCO.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—U.S. Note 64(b) to subchapter XII of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended—

(1) by striking “shall be as follows:” and all that follows through “As used in this note” and inserting “shall be 10,000,000 SME for each of the calendar years 2016 through 2025. As used in this note”; and

(2) by striking “December 31, 2015” and inserting “December 31, 2025”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after January 1, 2016.

**SA 1229.** Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

### **TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **SEC. 301. EXTENSION OF TARIFF PREFERENCE LEVEL PROGRAM FOR NICARAGUA.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall proclaim an extension until December 31, 2024, of the preferential tariff treatment for apparel goods imported from Nicaragua—

(1) described in U.S. Note 15 to subchapter XV of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States; and

(2) provided for under Annex 3.28 of the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement and the letters described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 1634(a)(2) of the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2006 (title XIV of Public Law 109-280; 120 Stat. 1167).

(b) **LIMITATION ON APPLICATION OF ONE-FOR-ONE PURCHASING RULE FOR COTTON WOVEN TROUSERS.**—The limitation specified in clause (iv) of paragraph (7)(b) of the letter described in section 1634(a)(2)(A) of the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2006 shall apply with respect to the one-for-one purchasing rule described in paragraph (7)(b) of that letter in each year after the extension pursuant to subsection (a) of the preferential tariff treatment described in that subsection.

(c) **AMENDMENT TO MISCELLANEOUS TRADE AND TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2006.**—Section 1634(c) of the Miscellaneous Trade and Technical Corrections Act of 2006 is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “under Annex 3.28 of the Agreement” and inserting “under the Nicaraguan tariff preference level program”; and

(B) by striking “provided in Annex 3.28 of the Agreement” and inserting “under the Nicaraguan tariff preference level program”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “provided in Annex 3.28 of the Agreement” and inserting “under the Nicaraguan tariff preference level program”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) **NICARAGUAN TARIFF PREFERENCE LEVEL PROGRAM DEFINED.**—In this subsection, the term ‘Nicaraguan tariff preference level program’ means the preferential tariff treatment provided for under Annex 3.28 of the Agreement and extended pursuant to the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015.”.

(d) **RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding section 514 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1514) or any other provision of law, and subject to paragraph (2), any entry of an article to which duty-free treatment or other preferential treatment under the Nicaraguan tariff preference level program would have applied if the entry had been made on December 31, 2014, that was made—

(A) after December 31, 2014, and

(B) before the effective date of the presidential proclamation referred to in subsection (a), shall be liquidated or reliquidated as though such entry occurred after the effective date of the presidential proclamation referred to in subsection (a).

(2) **REQUESTS.**—A liquidation or reliquidation may be made under paragraph (1) with respect to an entry only if a request therefor is filed with U.S. Customs and Border Protection not later than 180 days after the effective date of the presidential proclamation referred to in subsection (a) that contains

sufficient information to enable U.S. Customs and Border Protection—

(A) to locate the entry; or

(B) to reconstruct the entry if it cannot be located.

(3) PAYMENT OF AMOUNTS OWED.—Any amounts owed by the United States pursuant to the liquidation or reliquidation of an entry of an article under paragraph (1) shall be paid, without interest, not later than 90 days after the date of the liquidation or reliquidation (as the case may be).

(4) ENTRY DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “entry” includes a withdrawal from warehouse for consumption.

**SA 1230.** Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 105(a), add the following:

(6) OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS.—In determining whether to enter into negotiations with a particular country, the President shall take into account whether the government of that country engages in a consistent pattern of gross violations of internationally recognized human rights.

**SA 1231.** Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 102(b)(14), add at the end the following:

(D) to seek commitments from United States trading partners to strengthen their legal institutions, including by establishing an independent judiciary, ensuring the independence of prosecutors, and ensuring that such institutions are fully funded.

**SA 1232.** Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 102(c)(4), insert before the end period the following: “, including a discussion of those activities that strengthen good governance, rule of law, effective legal regimes, and protections for internationally recognized human rights”.

**SA 1233.** Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 100, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

(7) REQUIREMENT FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, section 103(b)(3) of this Act and the provisions of section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2191) (relating to trade authorities procedures) shall not apply to any bill implementing a trade agreement between the United States and any other country or countries if such trade agreement or implementing legislation contains any provision that would permit, without the approval of Congress—

(i) modifications, amendments, or additions to the provisions of any such agreement or implementing legislation;

(ii) modification of the parties to any such agreement;

(iii) the adoption of an interpretation of any such agreement, if such interpretation affects United States law or policy; or

(iv) the granting of a waiver of any obligation under any such agreement, if such waiver affects United States law or policy.

(B) POINT OF ORDER IN SENATE.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—When the Senate is considering an implementing bill, upon a point of order being made by any Senator against any part of the implementing bill or trade agreement that contains material in violation of subparagraph (A), and the point of order is sustained by the Presiding Officer, the Senate shall cease consideration of the implementing bill under the trade authorities procedures referred to in subparagraph (A).

(ii) WAIVERS AND APPEALS.—

(I) WAIVERS.—Before the Presiding Officer rules on a point of order described in clause (i), any Senator may move to waive the point of order. Such motion to waive shall not be subject to amendment. A point of order described in clause (i) may only be waived by the affirmative vote of 60 Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn.

(II) APPEALS.—After the Presiding Officer rules on a point of order under this subparagraph, any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on the point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled. A ruling of the Presiding Officer on a point of order described in clause (i) is sustained unless a majority of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, vote not to sustain the ruling.

(III) DEBATE.—Debate on a motion to waive under subclause (I) or on an appeal of the ruling of the Presiding Officer under subclause (II) shall be limited to 1 hour. Such time shall be equally divided between, and controlled by, the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader of the Senate, or their designees.

(C) IN GENERAL.—In this paragraph, the term “approval of Congress” means the affirmative vote of both chambers of Congress in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures of each chamber.

**SA 1234.** Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 100, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

(7) LIMITATION ON IMMIGRATION PROVISIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, section 103(b)(3) of this Act and section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2191) (relating to trade authorities procedures) shall not apply to any bill imple-

menting a trade agreement between the United States and any other country if the trade agreement or the implementing bill contains any provision relating to the immigration laws of the United States or the entry of aliens into the United States.

(8) POINT OF ORDER IN SENATE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—When the Senate is considering an implementing bill, upon a point of order being made by any Senator against any part of the implementing bill or trade agreement that contains material in violation of paragraph (7), and the point of order is sustained by the Presiding Officer, the Senate shall cease consideration of the implementing bill under the trade authorities procedures referred to in section 103(b)(3) of this Act or set forth in section 151 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2191).

(B) WAIVERS AND APPEALS.—

(i) WAIVERS.—Before the Presiding Officer rules on a point of order described in subparagraph (A), any Senator may move to waive the point of order and the motion to waive shall not be subject to amendment. A point of order described in subparagraph (A) is waived only by the affirmative vote of 60 Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn.

(ii) APPEALS.—After the Presiding Officer rules on a point of order under this subparagraph, any Senator may appeal the ruling of the Presiding Officer on the point of order as it applies to some or all of the provisions on which the Presiding Officer ruled. A ruling of the Presiding Officer on a point of order described in subparagraph (A) is sustained unless a majority of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, vote not to sustain the ruling.

(iii) DEBATE.—Debate on a motion to waive under clause (i) or on an appeal of the ruling of the Presiding Officer under clause (ii) shall be limited to 1 hour, which shall be equally divided between, and controlled by, the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader of the Senate, or their designees.

**SA 1235.** Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 102(b), add the following:

(21) ENERGY.—The principal negotiating objectives of the United States with respect to trade in natural gas are—

(A) to ensure that energy expenditures by consumers, including households and businesses, in the United States do not increase;

(B) to protect key sectors of the United States economy that are energy intensive and exposed to the effects of trade, such as manufacturing, from price increases or job losses;

(C) to promote the energy security of the United States, including the ability of the United States to reduce its reliance on imported oil; and

(D) to ensure that domestic natural gas supplies are used to meet the future energy needs of the United States, including through use in the transportation, industrial, and electricity sectors of the United States.

**SA 1236.** Mr. MARKEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative

appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 106(b), add the following:

(7) **LIMITATION ON TRADE AUTHORITIES PROCEDURES FOR CERTAIN AGREEMENTS.**—The trade authorities procedures shall not apply to any implementing bill submitted with respect to a trade agreement or trade agreements entered into under section 3(b) if the agreement or agreements allow for national treatment for trade in natural gas.

**SA 1237.** Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; as follows:

At the end of section 2(a), add the following:

(13) to take into account conditions relating to religious freedom of any party to negotiations for a trade agreement with the United States.

**SA 1238.** Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike title II.

**SA 1239.** Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

### **TITLE III—TRADE PREFERENCES FOR NEPAL**

#### **SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the “Nepal Trade Preferences Act”.

#### **SEC. 302. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President may authorize the provision of preferential treatment under this title to articles that are imported directly from Nepal into the customs territory of the United States pursuant to section 703 if the President determines—

(1) that Nepal meets the requirements set forth in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of section 104(a) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3703(a)); and

(2) after taking into account the factors set forth in paragraphs (1) through (7) of subsection (c) of section 502 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2462), that Nepal meets the eligibility requirements of such section 502.

(b) **WITHDRAWAL, SUSPENSION, OR LIMITATION OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT; MANDATORY GRADUATION.**—The provisions of subsections (d) and (e) of section 502 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2462) shall apply with respect to Nepal to the same extent and in the same manner as such provisions apply with respect to beneficiary developing coun-

tries under title V of that Act (19 U.S.C. 2461 et seq.).

#### **SEC. 303. ELIGIBLE ARTICLES.**

(a) **CERTAIN MANUFACTURED AND OTHER ARTICLES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—An article described in paragraph (2) may enter the customs territory of the United States free of duty.

(2) **ARTICLES DESCRIBED.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—An article is described in this paragraph if—

(i) the article is the growth, product, or manufacture of Nepal;

(ii) the article is imported directly from Nepal into the customs territory of the United States;

(iii) the article is described in subparagraphs (B) through (G) of subsection (b)(1) of section 503 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2463);

(iv) the President determines, after receiving the advice of the United States International Trade Commission in accordance with subsection (e) of that section, that the article is not import-sensitive in the context of imports from Nepal; and

(v) subject to subparagraph (C), the sum of the cost or value of the materials produced in, and the direct costs of processing operations performed in, Nepal or the customs territory of the United States is not less than 35 percent of the appraised value of the article at the time it is entered.

(B) **EXCLUSIONS.**—An article shall not be treated as the growth, product, or manufacture of Nepal for purposes of subparagraph (A)(i) by virtue of having merely undergone—

(i) simple combining or packaging operations; or

(ii) mere dilution with water or mere dilution with another substance that does not materially alter the characteristics of the article.

(C) **LIMITATION ON UNITED STATES COST.**—For purposes of subparagraph (A)(v), the cost or value of materials produced in, and the direct costs of processing operations performed in, the customs territory of the United States and attributed to the 35-percent requirement under that subparagraph may not exceed 15 percent of the appraised value of the article at the time it is entered.

(b) **TEXTILE AND APPAREL ARTICLES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A textile or apparel article described in paragraph (2) or (3) may enter the customs territory of the United States free of duty.

(2) **TEXTILE AND APPAREL ARTICLES WHOLLY ASSEMBLED IN NEPAL.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—A textile or apparel article is described in this paragraph if the textile or apparel article is—

(i) wholly assembled in Nepal, without regard to the country of origin of the yarn or fabric used to make the articles; and

(ii) imported directly from Nepal into the customs territory of the United States.

(B) **LIMITATIONS.**—

(i) **LOW VOLUME OF IMPORTS.**—If, during a calendar year, imports of textile and apparel articles described in subparagraph (A) from Nepal are less than 1 percent of the aggregate square meter equivalents of all textile and apparel articles imported into the customs territory of the United States during that calendar year, such imports from Nepal may be increased to an amount that is equal to not more than 1.5 percent of the aggregate square meter equivalents of all textile and apparel articles imported into the customs territory of the United States during that calendar year for the succeeding calendar year.

(ii) **HIGHER VOLUME OF IMPORTS.**—If, during a calendar year, imports of textile and apparel articles described in subparagraph (A)

from Nepal are at least 1 percent of the aggregate square meter equivalents of all textile and apparel articles imported into the customs territory of the United States during that calendar year, such imports from Nepal may be increased by an amount that is equal to not more than  $\frac{1}{3}$  of 1 percent of the aggregate square meter equivalents of all textile and apparel articles imported into the customs territory of the United States during that calendar year for the succeeding calendar year.

(iii) **AGGREGATE COUNTRY LIMIT.**—In no case may the aggregate quantity of textile and apparel articles described in subparagraph (A) imported into the customs territory of the United States from Nepal during a calendar year under this subsection exceed the applicable percentage set forth in paragraph (4)(B) for that calendar year.

(3) **HANDLOOMED, HANDMADE, FOLKLORE ARTICLES AND ETHNIC PRINTED FABRICS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—A textile or apparel article is described in this paragraph if the textile or apparel article is—

(i) imported directly from Nepal into the customs territory of the United States;

(ii) on a list of textile and apparel articles determined by the President, after consultation with the Government of Nepal, to be handloomed, handmade, folklore articles or ethnic printed fabrics of Nepal; and

(iii) certified as a handloomed, handmade, folklore article or an ethnic printed fabric of Nepal by the competent authority of Nepal.

(B) **ETHNIC PRINTED FABRIC.**—For purposes of subparagraph (A), an ethnic printed fabric of Nepal is fabric—

(i) containing a selvedge on both edges and having a width of less than 50 inches;

(ii) classifiable under subheading 5208.52.30 or 5208.52.40 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States;

(iii) of a type that contains designs, symbols, and other characteristics of Nepal—

(I) normally produced for and sold in indigenous markets in Nepal; and

(II) normally sold in Nepal by the piece as opposed to being tailored into garments before being sold in indigenous markets in Nepal;

(iv) printed, including waxed, in Nepal; and

(v) formed in the United States from yarns formed in the United States or formed in Nepal from yarns originating in either the United States or Nepal.

(4) **LIMITATIONS ON BENEFITS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Preferential treatment under this subsection shall be extended in the 1-year period beginning January 1, 2016, and in each of the succeeding 10 1-year periods, to imports of textile and apparel articles from Nepal under this subsection in an amount not to exceed the applicable percentage of the aggregate square meter equivalents of all textile and apparel articles imported into the customs territory of the United States in the most recent 12-month period for which data are available.

(B) **APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.**—For purposes of this paragraph, the term “applicable percentage” means 1.5 percent for the 1-year period beginning January 1, 2016, increased in each of the 10 succeeding 1-year periods by equal increments, so that for the 1-year period beginning January 1, 2025, the applicable percentage does not exceed 3.5 percent.

(5) **SURGE MECHANISM.**—The provisions of subparagraph (B) of section 112(b)(3) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3721(b)(3)) shall apply to textile and apparel articles imported from Nepal to which preferential treatment is extended under this subsection to the same extent and in the same manner that such provisions apply to textile and apparel articles described in such section 112(b)(3) and imported

from a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country.

(6) **SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY RULES; PROTECTIONS AGAINST TRANSSHIPMENT.**—The provisions of subsection (e) of section 112 and section 113 of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (19 U.S.C. 3721 and 3722) shall apply to textile and apparel articles imported from Nepal to which preferential treatment is extended under this subsection to the same extent and in the same manner that such provisions apply to textile and apparel articles imported from beneficiary sub-Saharan countries to which preferential treatment is extended under such section 112.

**SEC. 304. REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**

The President shall monitor, review, and report to Congress, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, on the implementation of this title and on the trade and investment policy of the United States with respect to Nepal.

**SEC. 305. TERMINATION OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT.**

No preferential treatment extended under this title shall remain in effect after December 31, 2025.

**SEC. 306. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The provisions of this title shall take effect on January 1, 2016.

**SA 1240.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1295, to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Generalized System of Preferences, the preferential duty treatment program for Haiti, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read:

“An Act to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Generalized System of Preferences, the preferential duty treatment program for Haiti, and for other purposes.”

**SA 1241.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. HATCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill H.R. 644, to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities, and for other purposes; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read:

“An Act to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities, and for other purposes.”

**SA 1242.** Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; as follows:

On page 118, strike lines 19 through 23, and insert the following:

(b) **TRAINING FUNDS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 236(a)(2)(A) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2296(a)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “shall not exceed” and all that follows and inserting “shall not exceed \$575,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2021.”

(2) **OFFSET.**—

(A) **CLARIFICATION OF 6-YEAR STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS IN CASE OF OVERSTATEMENT OF BASIS.**—Subparagraph (B) of Section 6501(e)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(i) by striking “and” at the end of clause (i), by redesignating clause (ii) as clause (iii),

and by inserting after clause (i) the following new clause:

“(ii) An understatement of gross income by reason of an overstatement of unrecovered cost or other basis is an omission from gross income;”, and

(ii) by inserting “(other than in the case of an overstatement of unrecovered cost or other basis)” in clause (iii) (as so redesignated) after “In determining the amount omitted from gross income”, and

(iii) by inserting “AMOUNT OMITTED FROM” after “DETERMINATION OF” in the heading thereof.

(B) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by subparagraph (A) shall apply to—

(i) returns filed after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(ii) returns filed on or before such date if the period specified in section 6501 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (determined without regard to such amendments for assessment of the taxes with respect to which such return relates has not expired as of such date).

**SA 1243.** Mr. HATCH (for Mr. FLAKE) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; as follows:

Strike title II.

**SA 1244.** Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. \_\_\_\_.** **COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGY TO INCREASE UNITED STATES EXPORTS TO AFRICA.**

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall—

(1) establish and implement a comprehensive strategy to increase United States exports to Africa by not less than 200 percent in real dollar value during the 10-year period beginning on such date of enactment; and

(2) submit to Congress a report on the strategy.

**SA 1245.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 102(b), add the following:

(21) **ENERGY NEGOTIATIONS.**—The principal negotiating objectives of the United States with respect to trade in energy products and natural resources, including hydrocarbons such as oil, gas, and coal, and mineral and timber resources, are to obtain competitive opportunities for United States exports of energy products and natural resources in foreign markets substantially equivalent to the competitive opportunities afforded foreign

exports of energy products and natural resources in United States markets and to achieve fairer and more open conditions of trade in energy products and natural resources.

**SA 1246.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of section 102(b), add the following:

(21) **FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS.**—The principal negotiating objectives of the United States with respect to trade in fish, seafood, and shellfish products are to obtain competitive opportunities for United States exports of fish, seafood, and shellfish products in foreign markets substantially equivalent to the competitive opportunities afforded foreign exports of fish, seafood, and shellfish products in United States markets and to achieve fairer and more open conditions of trade in fish, seafood, and shellfish products.

**SA 1247.** Mr. McCONNELL (for Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. McCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 6(b), add at the end the following:

(7) **LIMITATIONS ON PROCEDURES WITH RESPECT TO AGREEMENTS THAT CHANGE IMMIGRATION LAWS.**—The trade authorities procedures shall not apply to any implementing bill submitted with respect to a trade agreement or trade agreements entered into under section 3(b) that makes any changes to the immigration laws of the United States.

**SA 1248.** Ms. CANTWELL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1221 proposed by Mr. HATCH to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

**TITLE III—EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES**

**SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.**

This title may be cited as the “Export-Import Bank Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2015”.

**Subtitle A—Taxpayer Protection Provisions and Increased Accountability**

**SEC. 311. REDUCTION IN AUTHORIZED AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING LOANS, GUARANTEES, AND INSURANCE.**

Section 6(a) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635e(a)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) **APPLICABLE AMOUNT DEFINED.**—In this subsection, the term ‘applicable amount’, for

each of fiscal years 2015 through 2019, means \$135,000,000,000.

“(3) FREEZING OF LENDING CAP IF DEFAULT RATE IS 2 PERCENT OR MORE.—If the rate calculated under section 8(g)(1) is 2 percent or more for a quarter, the Bank may not exceed the amount of loans, guarantees, and insurance outstanding on the last day of that quarter until the rate calculated under section 8(g)(1) is less than 2 percent.”.

#### SEC. 312. INCREASE IN LOSS RESERVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635e) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following:

“(b) RESERVE REQUIREMENT.—The Bank shall build to and hold in reserve, to protect against future losses, an amount that is not less than 5 percent of the aggregate amount of disbursed and outstanding loans, guarantees, and insurance of the Bank.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### SEC. 313. REVIEW OF FRAUD CONTROLS.

Section 17(b) of the Export-Import Bank Reauthorization Act of 2012 (12 U.S.C. 635a-6(b)) is amended to read as follows:

“(b) REVIEW OF FRAUD CONTROLS.—Not later than 4 years after the date of the enactment of the Export-Import Bank Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2015, and every 4 years thereafter, the Comptroller General of the United States shall—

“(1) review the adequacy of the design and effectiveness of the controls used by the Export-Import Bank of the United States to prevent, detect, and investigate fraudulent applications for loans and guarantees and the compliance by the Bank with the controls, including by auditing a sample of Bank transactions; and

“(2) submit a written report regarding the findings of the review and providing such recommendations with respect to the controls described in paragraph (1) as the Comptroller General deems appropriate to—

“(A) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

“(B) the Committee on Financial Services and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.”.

#### SEC. 314. OFFICE OF ETHICS.

Section 3 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635a) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(k) OFFICE OF ETHICS.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an Office of Ethics within the Bank, which shall oversee all ethics issues within the Bank.

“(2) HEAD OF OFFICE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The head of the Office of Ethics shall be the Chief Ethics Officer, who shall report to the Board of Directors.

“(B) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Export-Import Bank Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2015, the Chief Ethics Officer shall be—

“(i) appointed by the President of the Bank from among persons—

“(I) with a background in law who have experience in the fields of law and ethics; and

“(II) who are not serving in a position requiring appointment by the President of the United States before being appointed to be Chief Ethics Officer; and

“(ii) approved by the Board.

“(C) DESIGNATED AGENCY ETHICS OFFICIAL.—The Chief Ethics Officer shall serve as the designated agency ethics official for the

Bank pursuant to the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 101 et seq.).

“(3) DUTIES.—The Office of Ethics has jurisdiction over all employees of, and ethics matters relating to, the Bank. With respect to employees of the Bank, the Office of Ethics shall—

“(A) recommend administrative actions to establish or enforce standards of official conduct;

“(B) refer to the Office of the Inspector General of the Bank alleged violations of—

“(i) the standards of ethical conduct applicable to employees of the Bank under parts 2635 and 6201 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations;

“(ii) the standards of ethical conduct established by the Chief Ethics Officer; and

“(iii) any other laws, rules, or regulations governing the performance of official duties or the discharge of official responsibilities that are applicable to employees of the Bank;

“(C) report to appropriate Federal or State authorities substantial evidence of a violation of any law applicable to the performance of official duties that may have been disclosed to the Office of Ethics; and

“(D) render advisory opinions regarding the propriety of any current or proposed conduct of an employee or contractor of the Bank, and issue general guidance on such matters as necessary.”.

#### SEC. 315. CHIEF RISK OFFICER.

Section 3 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635a), as amended by section 314, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(1) CHIEF RISK OFFICER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—There shall be a Chief Risk Officer of the Bank, who shall—

“(A) oversee all issues relating to risk within the Bank; and

“(B) report to the President of the Bank.

“(2) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Export-Import Bank Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2015, the Chief Risk Officer shall be—

“(A) appointed by the President of the Bank from among persons—

“(i) with a demonstrated ability in the general management of, and knowledge of and extensive practical experience in, financial risk evaluation practices in large governmental or business entities; and

“(ii) who are not serving in a position requiring appointment by the President of the United States before being appointed to be Chief Risk Officer; and

“(B) approved by the Board.

“(3) DUTIES.—The duties of the Chief Risk Officer are—

“(A) to be responsible for all matters related to managing and mitigating all risk to which the Bank is exposed, including the programs and operations of the Bank;

“(B) to establish policies and processes for risk oversight, the monitoring of management compliance with risk limits, and the management of risk exposures and risk controls across the Bank;

“(C) to be responsible for the planning and execution of all Bank risk management activities, including policies, reporting, and systems to achieve strategic risk objectives;

“(D) to develop an integrated risk management program that includes identifying, prioritizing, measuring, monitoring, and managing internal control and operating risks and other identified risks;

“(E) to ensure that the process for risk assessment and underwriting for individual transactions considers how each such transaction considers the effect of the transaction on the concentration of exposure in the overall portfolio of the Bank, taking into ac-

count fees, collateralization, and historic default rates; and

“(F) to review the adequacy of the use by the Bank of qualitative metrics to assess the risk of default under various scenarios.”.

#### SEC. 316. RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635a), as amended by sections 214 and 215, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(m) RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a management committee to be known as the ‘Risk Management Committee’.

“(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The membership of the Risk Management Committee shall be the members of the Board of Directors, with the President and First Vice President of the Bank serving as ex officio members.

“(3) DUTIES.—The duties of the Risk Management Committee shall be—

“(A) to oversee, in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the Bank—

“(i) periodic stress testing on the entire Bank portfolio, reflecting different market, industry, and macroeconomic scenarios, and consistent with common practices of commercial and multilateral development banks; and

“(ii) the monitoring of industry, geographic, and obligor exposure levels; and

“(B) to review all required reports on the default rate of the Bank before submission to Congress under section 8(g).”.

(b) TERMINATION OF AUDIT COMMITTEE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States shall revise the bylaws of the Bank to terminate the Audit Committee established by section 7 of the bylaws.

#### SEC. 317. INDEPENDENT AUDIT OF BANK PORTFOLIO.

(a) AUDIT.—The Inspector General of the Export-Import Bank of the United States shall conduct an audit or evaluation of the portfolio risk management procedures of the Bank, including a review of the implementation by the Bank of the duties assigned to the Chief Risk Officer under section 3(l) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended by section 315.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than every 3 years thereafter, the Inspector General shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a written report containing all findings and determinations made in carrying out subsection (a).

#### SEC. 318. PILOT PROGRAM FOR REINSURANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any provision of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635 et seq.), the Export-Import Bank of the United States (in this section referred to as the “Bank”) may establish a pilot program under which the Bank may enter into contracts and other arrangements to share risks associated with the provision of guarantees, insurance, or credit, or the participation in the extension of credit, by the Bank under that Act.

(b) LIMITATIONS ON AMOUNT OF RISK-SHARING.—

(1) PER CONTRACT OR OTHER ARRANGEMENT.—The aggregate amount of liability the Bank may transfer through risk-sharing pursuant to a contract or other arrangement entered into under subsection (a) may not exceed \$1,000,000,000.

(2) PER YEAR.—The aggregate amount of liability the Bank may transfer through risk-sharing during a fiscal year pursuant to contracts or other arrangements entered into

under subsection (a) during that fiscal year may not exceed \$10,000,000,000.

(c) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter through 2019, the Bank shall submit to Congress a written report that contains a detailed analysis of the use of the pilot program carried out under subsection (a) during the year preceding the submission of the report.

(d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect, impede, or revoke any authority of the Bank.

(e) TERMINATION.—The pilot program carried out under subsection (a) shall terminate on September 30, 2019.

#### **Subtitle B—Promotion of Small Business Exports**

### **SEC. 321. INCREASE IN SMALL BUSINESS LENDING REQUIREMENTS.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2(b)(1)(E)(v) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635(b)(1)(E)(v)) is amended by striking “20 percent” and inserting “25 percent”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2016 and each fiscal year thereafter.

### **SEC. 322. REPORT ON PROGRAMS FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635g) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(k) REPORT ON PROGRAMS FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESSES.—The Bank shall include in its annual report to Congress under subsection (a) a report on the programs of the Bank for United States businesses with less than \$250,000,000 in annual sales.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to the report of the Export-Import Bank of the United States submitted to Congress under section 8 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635g) for the first year that begins after the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### **Subtitle C—Modernization of Operations**

### **SEC. 331. ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS AND DOCUMENTS.**

Section 2(b)(1) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635(b)(1)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(M) Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Export-Import Bank Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2015, the Bank shall implement policies—

“(i) to accept electronic documents with respect to transactions whenever possible, including copies of bills of lading, certifications, and compliance documents, in such manner so as not to undermine any potential civil or criminal enforcement related to the transactions; and

“(ii) to accept electronic payments in all of its programs.”.

### **SEC. 332. REAUTHORIZATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UPDATING.**

Section 3(j) of the Export-Import Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635a(j)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “2012, 2013, and 2014” and inserting “2015 through 2019”;

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “(I) the funds” and inserting “(i) the funds”; and

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking “2012, 2013, and 2014” and inserting “2015 through 2019”.

#### **Subtitle D—General Provisions**

### **SEC. 341. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635f) is amended by striking “2014” and inserting “2019”.

(b) DUAL-USE EXPORTS.—Section 1(c) of Public Law 103-428 (12 U.S.C. 635 note) is

amended by striking “September 30, 2014” and inserting “the date on which the authority of the Export-Import Bank of the United States expires under section 7 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635f)”.

(c) SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Section 2(b)(9)(B)(iii) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635(b)(9)(B)(iii)) is amended by striking “September 30, 2014” and inserting “the date on which the authority of the Bank expires under section 7”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the earlier of the date of the enactment of this Act or June 30, 2015.

### **SEC. 342. CERTAIN UPDATED LOAN TERMS AND AMOUNTS.**

(a) LOAN TERMS FOR MEDIUM-TERM FINANCING.—Section 2(a)(2)(A) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) with principal amounts of not more than \$25,000,000; and”.

(b) COMPETITIVE OPPORTUNITIES RELATING TO INSURANCE.—Section 2(d)(2) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635(d)(2)) is amended by striking “\$10,000,000” and inserting “\$25,000,000”.

(c) EXPORT AMOUNTS FOR SMALL BUSINESS LOANS.—Section 3(g)(3) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635a(g)(3)) is amended by striking “\$10,000,000” and inserting “\$25,000,000”.

(d) CONSIDERATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS.—Section 11(a)(1)(A) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (12 U.S.C. 635i-5(a)(1)(A)) is amended by striking “\$10,000,000 or more” and inserting the following: “\$25,000,000 (or, if less than \$25,000,000, the threshold established pursuant to international agreements, including the Common Approaches for Officially Supported Export Credits and Environmental and Social Due Diligence, as adopted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Council on June 28, 2012, and the risk-management framework adopted by financial institutions for determining, assessing, and managing environmental and social risk in projects (commonly referred to as the ‘Equator Principles’) or more”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to fiscal year 2016 and each fiscal year thereafter.

#### **Subtitle E—Other Matters**

### **SEC. 351. PROHIBITION ON DISCRIMINATION BASED ON INDUSTRY.**

Section 2 of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945 (6 U.S.C. 635 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(k) PROHIBITION ON DISCRIMINATION BASED ON INDUSTRY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this Act, the Bank may not—

“(A) deny an application for financing based solely on the industry, sector, or business that the application concerns; or

“(B) promulgate or implement policies that discriminate against an application based solely on the industry, sector, or business that the application concerns.

“(2) APPLICABILITY.—The prohibitions under paragraph (1) apply only to applications for financing by the Bank for projects concerning the exploration, development, production, or export of energy sources and the generation or transmission of electrical power, or combined heat and power, regardless of the energy source involved.”.

### **SEC. 352. NEGOTIATIONS TO END EXPORT CREDIT FINANCING.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 11 of the Export-Import Bank Reauthorization Act of 2012 (12 U.S.C. 635a-5) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Secretary of the Treasury (in this section referred to as the ‘Secretary’)” and inserting “President”; and

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “(OECD)” and inserting “(in this section referred to as the ‘OECD’)”; and

(ii) by striking “ultimate goal of eliminating” and inserting “possible goal of eliminating, before the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of the Export-Import Bank Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2015,”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “Secretary” each place it appears and inserting “President”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) REPORT ON STRATEGY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Export-Import Bank Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2015, the President shall submit to Congress a proposal, and a strategy for achieving the proposal, that the United States Government will pursue with other major exporting countries, including OECD members and non-OECD members, to eliminate over a period of not more than 10 years subsidized export-financing programs, tied aid, export credits, and all other forms of government-supported export subsidies.

“(d) NEGOTIATIONS WITH NON-OECD MEMBERS.—The President shall initiate and pursue negotiations with countries that are not OECD members to bring those countries into a multilateral agreement establishing rules and limitations on officially supported export credits.

“(e) ANNUAL REPORTS ON PROGRESS OF NEGOTIATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the Export-Import Bank Reform and Reauthorization Act of 2015, and annually thereafter through calendar year 2019, the President shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives a report on the progress of any negotiations described in subsection (d).”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) shall apply with respect to reports required to be submitted under section 11(b) of the Export-Import Bank Reauthorization Act of 2012 (12 U.S.C. 635a-5(b)) after the date of the enactment of this Act.

### **SEC. 353. STUDY OF FINANCING FOR INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS.**

(a) ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY USE OF BANK PRODUCTS.—The Export-Import Bank of the United States (in this section referred to as the “Bank”) shall conduct a study of the extent to which the products offered by the Bank are available and used by companies that export information and communications technology services and related goods.

(b) ELEMENTS.—In conducting the study required by subsection (a), the Bank shall examine the following:

(1) The number of jobs in the United States that are supported by the export of information and communications technology services and related goods, and the degree to which access to financing will increase exports of such services and related goods.

(2) The reduction in the financing by the Bank of exports of information and communications technology services from 2003 through 2014.

(3) The activities of foreign export credit agencies to facilitate the export of information and communications technology services and related goods.

(4) Specific proposals for how the Bank could provide additional financing for the exportation of information and communications technology services and related goods through risk-sharing with other export credit agencies and other third parties.

(5) Proposals for new products the Bank could offer to provide financing for exports of information and communications technology services and related goods, including—

(A) the extent to which the Bank is authorized to offer new products;

(B) the extent to which the Bank would need additional authority to offer new products to meet the needs of the information and communications technology industry;

(C) specific proposals for changes in law that would enable the Bank to provide increased financing for exports of information and communications technology services and related goods in compliance with the credit and risk standards of the Bank;

(D) specific proposals that would enable the Bank to provide increased outreach to the information and communications technology industry about the products the Bank offers; and

(E) specific proposals for changes in law that would enable the Bank to provide the financing to build information and communications technology infrastructure, in compliance with the credit and risk standards of the Bank, to allow for market access opportunities for United States information and communications technology companies to provide services on the infrastructure being financed by the Bank.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Bank shall submit to Congress a report that contains the results of the study required by subsection (a).

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 14, 2015, at 10 a.m., in room SD-106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Regulatory Issues Impacting End-Users and Market Liquidity.”

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

##### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 14, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. CRAPO. 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 May 14, 2015, at 10 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 14, 2015, at 10 a.m., in room SD-215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “A Pathway to Improving Care for Medicare Patients with Chronic Conditions.”

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

##### SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 14, 2015, at 2:30 p.m.

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

##### SUBCOMMITTEE ON EAST ASIA, THE PACIFIC, AND INTERNATIONAL CYBERSECURITY POLICY

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 14, 2015, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Cybersecurity: Setting the Rules for Responsible Global Cyber Behavior.”

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

##### JOINT COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS ON THE LIBRARY

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 14, 2015, at 3:40 p.m.

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

##### JOINT COMMITTEE ON PRINTING

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Joint Committee on Printing be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on May 14, 2015, at 3:50 p.m.

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

#### IRS BUREAUCRACY REDUCTION AND JUDICIAL REVIEW ACT

##### AMERICA GIVES MORE ACT OF 2015

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding the passage of H.R. 1295 and H.R. 644, the title amendments, Nos. 1240 and 1241, be agreed to.

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

The amendment (No. 1240) was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read:

“An act to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act, the Generalized System of Preferences, the preferential duty treatment program for Haiti, and for other purposes.”

The amendment (No. 1241) was agreed to, as follows:

Amend the title so as to read:

“An act to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities, and for other purposes.”

#### RELATING TO PROVISIONS OF THE BORDER PATROL AGENT PAY REFORM ACT OF 2014

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1356, introduced earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1356) to clarify that certain provisions of the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014 will not take effect until after the Director of the Office of Personnel Management promulgates and makes effective regulations relating to such provisions.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (S. 1356) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 1356

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

##### SECTION 1. EFFECTIVE DATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2 of the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-277) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(i) EFFECTIVE DATES.—Subsections (b), (c), (d), and (g), and the amendments made by such subsections, shall take effect on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2016, except that—

“(1) any provision in section 5550(b) of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (b), relating to administering elections and making advance assignments to a regular tour of duty, shall be applicable before such effective date to the extent determined necessary by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management; and

“(2) the Director of the Office of Personnel Management may issue such regulations as may be necessary before such effective date.”.

(b) RETROACTIVE APPLICATION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall be deemed to have been enacted on the date of the enactment of the Border Patrol Agent Pay Reform Act of 2014.

#### KIDS TO PARKS DAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 179.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 179) designating May 16, 2015, as “Kids to Parks Day.”

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

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon