

Fortunately, we in the Congress can play a role. Earlier this year, I reintroduced a piece of legislation called the Vietnam Human Rights Sanctions Act, legislation that would impose travel restrictions and other sanctions on Vietnamese nationals who are complicit in human rights abuses against their fellow people. I intend to offer this legislation, the Vietnam Human Rights Sanctions Act, as an amendment to the national defense authorization bill we will be debating this week.

The United States simply must do more to support the rights of the Vietnamese people and freedom-loving people everywhere. We simply can't give a pass to the Vietnamese regime and a pass to their oppressive government because, frankly, it is a little inconvenient to bring up during the time we are talking about trade and better economic relationships.

This bill is a step forward in the fight for their civil, religious, and political liberties.

ADAM WALSH REAUTHORIZATION BILL

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, shortly the Senate will pass another important piece of legislation, the Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act. This is legislation that will better equip the States to track sex offenders and prevent abuse. Since the new majority took control of this Chamber, the Senate has prioritized bills that protect victims, that make our communities safer. This latest bill fits that model.

For example, I was proud to introduce the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act, which was signed into law by President Obama this last spring. That happened to enjoy a 99-to-0 vote in the Senate, clearly bipartisan legislation directed at helping the victims of human trafficking. I am pleased to report that this law has already begun helping those victims recover and find a path for healing.

In another example, the Senate Judiciary Committee recently approved the Justice for All Reauthorization Act, legislation I introduced with our colleague from Vermont, Senator LEAHY, that will improve the criminal justice system by helping eliminate the backlog of untested rape kits in communities throughout the country and by helping victims find justice faster.

I might add that, thanks to the leadership of Chairman GRASSLEY of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the Judiciary Committee has been as active and as productive as any other time I have been in the Senate.

Finally, earlier this year we joined several of our colleagues to introduce Kari's Law, another bipartisan bill that would ensure that people have the ability to directly call 911 without having to dial an extra number, which happens to be particularly important in hotel rooms and other places. Particularly if a young child picks up a phone and dials 911, as they have been in-

structed, it is important that they be able to get through.

This is a simple change but one that will help law enforcement and emergency personnel reach those who need help as soon as possible. I hope we can move this legislation forward soon.

I am proud of the work the Senate has done in these and other areas this year. I hope this afternoon we can add the Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act to that list.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

ADAM WALSH REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2016

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of S. 2613, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2613) to reauthorize certain programs established by the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

S. 2613

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 "Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE (SOMA) PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION.

Section 126(d) of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16926(d)) is amended to read as follows:

"(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 through 2018, to be available only for—

"(1) the SOMA program; and

"(2) the Jessica Lunsford Address Verification Grant Program established under section 631.".

SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE WITH RESPECT TO VIOLATIONS OF REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.

Section 142(b) of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16941(b)) is amended by striking "such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2007 through 2009" and inserting "to the United States Marshals Service \$61,300,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 through 2018".

SEC. 4. ENSURING SUPERVISION OF RELEASED SEXUALLY DANGEROUS PERSONS.

(a) PROBATION OFFICERS.—Section 3603 of title 18, United States Code, is amended in paragraph (8)(A) by striking "or 4246" and inserting ", 4246, or 4248".

(b) PRETRIAL SERVICES OFFICERS.—Section 3154 of title 18, United States Code, is amended in paragraph (12)(A) by striking "or 4246" and inserting ", 4246, or 4248".

SEC. 5. SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS' RIGHTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part II of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding after chapter 237 the following:

"CHAPTER 238—SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS' RIGHTS

"Sec.

"3772. Sexual assault survivors' rights.

"§ 3772. Sexual assault survivors' rights

"(a) RIGHTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS.—In addition to those rights provided in section 3771, a sexual assault survivor has the following rights:

"(1) The right not to be prevented from, or charged for, receiving a medical forensic examination.

"(2) The right to—

"(A) subject to paragraph (3), have a sexual assault evidence collection kit or its probative contents preserved, without charge, for the duration of the maximum applicable statute of limitations or 20 years, whichever is shorter;

"(B) be informed of any result of a sexual assault evidence collection kit, including a DNA profile match, toxicology report, or other information collected as part of a medical forensic examination, if such disclosure would not impede or compromise an ongoing investigation; and

"(C) be informed in writing of policies governing the collection and preservation of a sexual assault evidence collection kit.

"(3) The right, if the Government intends to destroy or dispose of a sexual assault evidence collection kit or its probative contents before the expiration of the applicable time period under paragraph (2)(A), to—

"(A) upon written request, receive written notification from the appropriate official with custody not later than 60 days before the date of the intended destruction or disposal; and

"(B) upon written request, be granted further preservation of the kit or its probative contents.

"(4) The right to be informed of the rights under this subsection.

"(b) APPLICABILITY.—Subsections (b) through (f) of section 3771 shall apply to sexual assault survivors.

"(c) DEFINITION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT.—The Attorney General shall by regulation define the term 'sexual assault' for purposes of this section.

"(d) FUNDING.—This section, other than paragraphs (2)(A) and (3)(B) of subsection (a), shall be carried out using funds made available under section 1402(d)(3)(A)(i) of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601(d)(3)(A)(i)). No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section."

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for part II of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"238. Sexual assault survivors' rights 3772".

(c) AMENDMENT TO VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT OF 1984.—Section 1402(d)(3)(A)(i) of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601(d)(3)(A)(i)) is amended by inserting after "section 3771" the following: "or section 3772, as it relates to direct services."

SEC. 6. SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS' NOTIFICATION GRANTS.

The Victims of Crime Act of 1984 is amended by adding after section 1404E (42 U.S.C. 10603e) the following:

"SEC. 1404F. SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVORS' NOTIFICATION GRANTS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may make grants as provided in section 1404(c)(1)(A)

to States to develop and disseminate to entities described in subsection (c)(1) of this section written notice of applicable rights and policies for sexual assault survivors.

“(b) **NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS.**—Each recipient of a grant awarded under subsection (a) shall make its best effort to ensure that each entity described in subsection (c)(1) provides individuals who identify as a survivor of a sexual assault, and who consent to receiving such information, with written notice of applicable rights and policies regarding—

“(1) the right not to be charged fees for or otherwise prevented from pursuing a sexual assault evidence collection kit;

“(2) the right to have a sexual assault medical forensic examination regardless of whether the survivor reports to or cooperates with law enforcement;

“(3) the availability of a sexual assault advocate;

“(4) the availability of protective orders and policies related to their enforcement;

“(5) policies regarding the storage, preservation, and disposal of sexual assault evidence collection kits;

“(6) the process, if any, to request preservation of sexual assault evidence collection kits or the probative evidence from such kits; and

“(7) the availability of victim compensation and restitution.

“(c) **DISSEMINATION OF WRITTEN NOTICE.**—Each recipient of a grant awarded under subsection (a) shall—

“(1) provide the written notice described in subsection (b) to medical centers, hospitals, forensic examiners, sexual assault service providers, State and local law enforcement agencies, and any other State agency or department reasonably likely to serve sexual assault survivors; and

“(2) make the written notice described in subsection (b) publicly available on the Internet website of the attorney general of the State.

“(d) **PROVISION TO PROMOTE COMPLIANCE.**—The Attorney General may provide such technical assistance and guidance as necessary to help recipients meet the requirements of this section.

“(e) **INTEGRATION OF SYSTEMS.**—Any system developed and implemented under this section may be integrated with an existing case management system operated by the recipient of the grant if the system meets the requirements listed in this section.”

SEC. 7. WORKING GROUP.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”), shall establish a joint working group (referred to in this section as the “Working Group”) to develop, coordinate, and disseminate best practices regarding the care and treatment of sexual assault survivors and the preservation of forensic evidence.

(b) **CONSULTATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS.**—The Working Group shall consult with—

(1) stakeholders in law enforcement, prosecution, forensic laboratory, counseling, forensic examiner, medical facility, and medical provider communities; and

(2) representatives of not less than 3 entities with demonstrated expertise in sexual assault prevention, sexual assault advocacy, or representation of sexual assault victims, of which not less than 1 representative shall be a sexual assault victim.

(c) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Working Group shall be composed of governmental or nongovernmental agency heads at the discretion of the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary.

(d) **DUTIES.**—The Working Group shall—

(1) develop recommendations for improving the coordination of the dissemination and implementation of best practices and protocols regarding the care and treatment of sexual assault

survivors and the preservation of evidence to hospital administrators, physicians, forensic examiners, and other medical associations and leaders in the medical community;

(2) encourage, where appropriate, the adoption and implementation of best practices and protocols regarding the care and treatment of sexual assault survivors and the preservation of evidence among hospital administrators, physicians, forensic examiners, and other medical associations and leaders in the medical community;

(3) develop recommendations to promote the coordination of the dissemination and implementation of best practices regarding the care and treatment of sexual assault survivors and the preservation of evidence to State attorneys general, United States attorneys, heads of State law enforcement agencies, forensic laboratory directors and managers, and other leaders in the law enforcement community;

(4) develop and implement, where practicable, incentives to encourage the adoption or implementation of best practices regarding the care and treatment of sexual assault survivors and the preservation of evidence among State attorneys general, United States attorneys, heads of State law enforcement agencies, forensic laboratory directors and managers, and other leaders in the law enforcement community;

(5) collect feedback from stakeholders, practitioners, and leadership throughout the Federal and State law enforcement, victim services, forensic science practitioner, and health care communities to inform development of future best practices or clinical guidelines regarding the care and treatment of sexual assault survivors; and

(6) perform other activities, such as activities relating to development, dissemination, outreach, engagement, or training associated with advancing victim-centered care for sexual assault survivors.

(e) **REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Working Group shall submit to the Attorney General, the Secretary, and Congress a report containing the findings and recommended actions of the Working Group.

SEC. 8. CIVIL REMEDY FOR SURVIVORS OF CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

Section 2255(b) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “three years” and inserting “10 years”; and

(2) by inserting “ends” before the period at the end.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Hampshire.

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I rise to discuss the Sexual Assault Survivors' Rights Act. I am very pleased this legislation has been incorporated into the Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act that is before us this afternoon. I thank the chair and ranking member of the Judiciary Committee, Senators GRASSLEY and LEAHY, for their help and support in moving this important legislation forward.

The Sexual Assault Survivors' Rights Act builds on the legacy of the Crime Victims' Rights Act by establishing our Nation's first set of codified, court-enforceable rights to address unique issues faced by sexual assault survivors. These rights, coupled with renewed efforts to educate survivors about available options and resources, will help empower survivors already in the justice system. In addition, this bill will send a powerful message to survivors all across the country: You

do have rights. We do care about you. If you choose to come forward, we are going to be there for you, and we are going to ensure a justice system that treats you with dignity and fairness.

As many of our colleagues know, sexual assault remains one of the most pervasive and complex challenges in our justice system. It affects every segment and demographic of our society, young and old, rich and poor, rural and urban. The immediate physical harm of an attack can result in a lifetime of emotional scars and lingering stigma.

Sexual assault is also one of the most difficult crimes to prosecute. For starters, it is the most underreported crime in our country. The Department of Justice estimates that nearly 70 percent of attacks go unreported and only a small percentage of perpetrators go to prison.

When we ask survivors why other victims don't come forward and press charges, they tell us our justice system seems to be working against them, not for them. They even say the trauma of an attack can be compounded by the disappointment they feel when our legal system puts so many needless obstacles in the path of justice. For survivors, it is too often a grueling and bewildering process. Many feel intimidated and ultimately choose not to go forward. Some who may initially file charges give up before their case is resolved or they simply slip through the cracks. In many States, sexual assault survivors risk having their untested rape kits destroyed, sometimes without their knowledge.

This issue came to the attention of my office when a 24-year-old young woman, Amanda Nguyen, came to my office and told me about her experience with this very issue. She had the tragic circumstance of having been raped in Massachusetts, and despite the State's 20-year statute of limitations for sexual assault, Amanda has had to return to the same police station every 6 months just to make sure her rape kit evidence is not destroyed. That means that every 6 months she has to relive the crime that was committed against her. She has to meet with a different person, reexplain her situation, and hope her evidence is not destroyed. What is worse, if Amanda had not been proactive in figuring out all the relevant policies, her evidence could have been destroyed without her even being notified.

Fortunately, Amanda didn't give up. She decided this was wrong and she was going to do something about it. She visited a number of offices across Capitol Hill, and when she got to ours, we said: You are right. This is wrong. We need to do something about it, and we worked with her and with an organization she started called Rise to put together legislation that could serve as a model for the rest of the country.

Fortunately, the Senate has an opportunity to respond to the issues Amanda raised and so many people have faced across this country. This bill will establish in the Adam Walsh

Reauthorization Act the first set of court-enforceable rights for survivors of sexual assault codified in the U.S. Criminal Code. These rights are specifically designed to address many of the unique challenges faced by survivors of sexual assault. They include common-sense changes, such as ensuring that survivors are not charged for the rape kits, requiring that the relevant evidence be kept for the entire statute of limitations period, the right to be informed of the medical results of a rape forensic examination, and the right to have written notice before a rape kit containing critical evidence is destroyed.

It is important to note that the rights contained in this bill would only apply at the Federal level. However, they are drawn from best practices developed by many States, and we are hopeful they will serve as a model and a catalyst for each of the 50 States to enact or improve their own survivor bill of rights. Already we have heard from several State legislators who intend to introduce bills mirroring the Federal standards in this legislation.

We know the status quo is not acceptable. Currently, inadequate laws work against survivors, against law enforcement, and against prosecutors—serving only the perpetrators who too often remain at large. It is past time for a reform process that ends the silence surrounding sexual assault, brings it out of the shadows, and gives survivors a fair shot at justice. This is exactly what the Sexual Assault Survivors' Rights Act will do.

I am so pleased it has been included in the Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act that is before us today. Again, I thank the Judiciary Committee. I thank Amanda Nguyen and Rise. They have been so critical to getting this legislation included in the Adam Walsh Act, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill when it comes to the floor.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. COATS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today we will vote on the Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act of 2016. Passage of this bipartisan bill will send a strong and clear message to the American people about Congress's steadfast commitment to keeping our children safe from sexual predators and other violent criminals.

Many of us supported the original Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act, which is so named for a 6-year-old boy who was abducted and tragically murdered nearly 35 years ago. Adam Walsh was abducted on July

27, 1981, from a mall in Hollywood, FL. In what is every parent's nightmare, Adam's remains were found 2 weeks later, more than 100 miles from his home.

This year marks the 35th anniversary of his disappearance. In the intervening years, his parents, John and Reve Walsh, have dedicated their lives to protecting children from harm and bringing child predators to justice. John Walsh collaborated on the development of the original Adam Walsh Act, and he has continued to provide invaluable insight regarding the reauthorization bill that is before us today.

This bill is yet another bipartisan measure that the Senate Judiciary Committee reported unanimously in the 114th Congress. Senators HATCH, SCHUMER, and FEINSTEIN, who all co-sponsored an early Senate version of the 2006 Adam Walsh Act, have once again joined as original cosponsors of this legislation. I want to also thank our committee's ranking member, Senator LEAHY, as well as Senator AYOTTE and other Members of this Chamber who have joined as cosponsors or contributed in some way to the bill's success.

As a reminder, the Adam Walsh Act originally was enacted in response to notorious cases involving children who had been targeted by adult criminals, many of them repeat sex offenders. The names Johnny Gosch, Eugene Martin, and Jetseta Gage, for example, still bring heartbreak to all Iowans. Johnny Gosch was a 12-year-old paperboy delivering newspapers in West Des Moines, IA, when he disappeared in 1982. Two years later, 13-year-old Eugene Martin disappeared in Des Moines, IA—also while delivering newspapers. And 10-year-old Jetseta Gage was kidnapped, raped, and murdered by a convicted sex offender in rural Johnson County, IA in 2005.

The original Adam Walsh Act was enacted in response to these and many other cases involving missing children. The 2006 law established numerous programs, but their authorization expired some years ago. Several of these programs, for which Congress continues to provide funding in the annual appropriations process, are the centerpiece of the Adam Walsh Act and are key to its successful implementation. This bill would extend the authorization for these pivotal programs.

First, this bill would reauthorize the sex offender management assistance program. It is estimated that there are more than 700,000 registered sex offenders in the United States. This program helps States to meet national notification and registration standards for these sex offenders. It also helps State and local law enforcement agencies improve their sex offender registry systems and information sharing capabilities.

Second, this bill would extend the Jessica Lunsford Address Verification Grant Program. Who can forget Jessica Lunsford, for whom this program is

named? This 9-year-old Florida girl was abducted and murdered by a registered sex offender who lived nearby. Her story is not unlike that of 10-year-old Jetseta Gage.

The Jessica Lunsford program authorizes grants to State and local governments to help fund programs that verify the residences of registered sex offenders. Having accurate information on where sex offenders live is crucial to ensuring that law enforcement can adequately protect the safety of children and keep the public informed.

Third, this bill authorizes continued funding for the U.S. Marshals Service to support local efforts to track down sex offenders who fail to register as such or who later disappear from the system. These fugitive apprehension activities, authorized under the original Adam Walsh Act, continue to be funded by appropriators, but they need to be reauthorized. Extending the authorization signals Congress's continued commitment to ensuring that these activities continue.

Fourth, during the committee markup of this bill, I offered a substitute amendment that incorporates a package of new rights for sexual assault survivors. It was accepted with the unanimous support of our committee members. Several members worked with me on its development, and I appreciate their contributions. I want to especially thank Ms. Amanda Nguyen, a young woman who has bravely spoken out about her experience of sexual assault. Amanda, who founded a non-profit known as RISE, originated the idea for a survivors' rights package and urged me to incorporate such language in this bill.

The package we adopted in the Judiciary Committee includes new rights, under our Federal Criminal Code, for victims of sexual assault offenses. These rights are in addition to those already available to all victims of crime under the Federal Criminal Code. They include the right not to be prevented from or charged for receiving a medical forensic exam. They include the right to have a sexual assault evidence collection kit preserved without charge for the statutory limitations period or 20 years. They include the right to be informed of the results of that kit's analysis, as well as policies governing the kit's collection and preservation. They include the right to notice when the government intends to dispose of a sexual assault evidence collection kit. RISE endorsed these provisions last July.

The bill reported by our committee also clarifies that the Justice Department can make discretionary grants available, under the crime victims fund, to States that agree to notify sexual assault survivors of any applicable rights under state law. The bill calls for the establishment of a Federal working group to disseminate best practices for the care and treatment of sexual assault survivors and for the preservation of forensic evidence. The

bill also would extend the statutory deadline by which child victims of certain human trafficking and child abuse offenses can file suit against their perpetrators.

We also added language to the bill, at the suggestion of the Judicial Conference of the United States, to clarify that courts can supervise sexual offenders after their release from civil confinement. Courts already do this in practice, just as they do with criminal offenders after their release, but this legislation clarifies judges' authority to do so.

Before concluding, I should mention that the Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act not only has the bipartisan support of members of this chamber, but also has the support of groups that advocate for child protection and safety, such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. It has been endorsed by two leading antihuman trafficking organizations, Polaris and Shared Hope International. And as already mentioned, the current version has the support of John Walsh and RISE.

Finally, I want to reiterate that the 35th anniversary of the abduction of and murder of young Adam Walsh will take place in July. It is my hope that we can send this legislation to the President's desk before that date passes. As a father and as a grandfather, I cannot stress enough the importance of making this bill's passage a priority for the 114th Congress.

We cannot bring back Adam Walsh, Jetseta Gage, Jessica Lunsford, or the other innocent children we have lost under such terrible circumstances. But we can do our best to honor their memory and to protect America's present and future children by extending these key programs that were authorized under the original Adam Walsh Act.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, soon the Senate will vote on legislation to reauthorize key elements of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act. I supported this important law when it was first enacted nearly 10 years ago, and I am proud to be a cosponsor of this reauthorization bill.

Both the original legislation and the reauthorization bill we are voting on today bear the name of Adam Walsh, a young boy who was abducted and murdered nearly 35 years ago. Since that tragic day, Adam's father, John, has been a determined and tireless advocate on behalf of missing and exploited children. I have worked with John Walsh and others over the years to protect the most vulnerable among us. As a Senator and former prosecutor—but most importantly, as a father and a grandfather—I take seriously my duty to protect the children of Vermont and every community throughout the country.

The Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act will reauthorize two important programs that assist State and local law enforcement agencies to monitor

and apprehend sex offenders. Specifically, this legislation authorizes the Attorney General to continue providing grants to State and local law enforcement agencies in their efforts to improve sex offender registry systems. The bill also reauthorizes funding for grants to improve information sharing and verification and supports the work of the U.S. Marshals Service in helping State and local law enforcement to locate and apprehend sex offenders who fail to comply with registration requirements.

For more than three decades, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, NCMEC, has served as a national clearinghouse on issues related to missing and exploited children. I know that the center works closely with the marshals and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies, and the Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act will help further our support for these collaborative efforts. NCMEC has played a vital role in these efforts, which is why last Congress, I helped lead the fight to reauthorize NCMEC, so that it could continue its important work.

The bill also includes an important set of provisions authored by Senator SHAHEEN to protect the rights of sexual assault survivors, particularly with regard to sexual assault and rape kits. I want to thank and applaud Senator SHAHEEN for her hard work and leadership on the Sexual Assault Survivors Rights Act. As an original cosponsor of her bill, I supported the inclusion of her important measure as part of this bill.

I encourage all Senators to support this bill. I hope that the House will take it up and promptly pass it so that it can be signed into law by the President. There is no need to delay any longer our support for the Federal, State, and local enforcement agencies that work tirelessly to protect the children of our community. But once this bill become law, our job does not end there. It is not sufficient to just pay lip service to this issue and allow Congress to pat itself on the back for passing an authorization bill. Just as we have seen with our efforts to combat the opioid abuse epidemic, a bill that authorizes programs is important and worthy of support, but ultimately an empty promise if it is not backed up with the actual Federal resources that Congress authorizes. I will keep fighting to ensure that Congress puts its money where its mouth is and provides the funding that is necessary to support these important efforts. I will continue fighting to improve our laws so that we protect the most vulnerable in all of our communities.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I support the "Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act of 2016," an important bill crafted to protect—and support—victims of sex crimes. I am proud to be an original cosponsor of this bipartisan legislation introduced by Senators GRASSLEY and SCHUMER.

The bill reauthorizes important programs that assist States in managing sex offenders and reauthorizes the U.S. Marshals Service efforts to locate and apprehend these offenders. The bill also protects the rights of sexual assault survivors. For example, it includes provisions to ensure sexual assault survivors are notified of their rights, such as the right to have a sexual assault medical forensic examination.

For many years, Senator Jon Kyl of Arizona and I pushed to provide victims of crime with basic protections in the criminal justice system. Those efforts culminated with the passage of the Crime Victims' Rights Act of 2004.

This bill similarly recognizes the rights of victims of sexual assault—an important step forward.

Finally, the bill includes a provision that I authored, along with Senator CORNYN, to extend the time for minor victims of sex crimes to pursue justice against their perpetrators.

Across this country, those who were sexually exploited as children are courageously coming forward, many years after the abuse took place.

My office has heard from a number of victims from California who—in the height of their innocence as children—were subjected to untold abuse and sexual exploitation. Many of these victims were not able to come forward until many years later—after they had reached adulthood.

To address this, I authored language to extend the statute of limitations for minor victims of Federal sex crimes. Specifically, section 8 of the bill extends the civil statute of limitations until the age of 28 to allow minor victims of sex offenses, including sexual abuse and child pornography, to sue their perpetrators.

This brings the statute of limitations in line with a similar law that provides a remedy for victims of sex trafficking. This provision is one step in the right direction, but we must do more to reform the statute of limitations for minor victims of Federal sex offenses.

Indeed, Senator CORNYN and I recently introduced legislation called the Extending Justice for Sex Crime Victims Act of 2016. This bill would clarify the law so that the civil statute of limitations for Federal sex crime victims begins to run 10 years after the later of when the victim actually discovers the injury or the violation, or when the victim turns 28 years old. This is important because victims of sex crimes are sometimes abused even before they can remember or understand the abuse—some as young as 3 years old.

I am hopeful that the Senate will take up and pass the bill I have introduced separately with Senator CORNYN to address this issue.

I am pleased to support the Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act of 2016 today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Hearing none, it is so ordered.

HONORING WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

Mrs. ERNST. Mr. President, I am pleased to report that last week, bipartisan legislation to restore the rights of the Women Airforce Service Pilots, or WASP, to have their ashes inurned at Arlington National Cemetery was signed into law.

I was proud to have led the Senate's effort, with Senator MIKULSKI, to honor this group of revolutionary women who courageously served our country. I thank Congresswomen MARTHA MCSALLY and SUSAN DAVIS for their leadership and for spearheading this bill in the House.

On the heels of Pearl Harbor, these trailblazing women bucked the status quo and made tremendous sacrifices for this Nation. They joined a groundbreaking flight training program for women, flying noncombat service missions for the Army Air Force to free their male counterparts for combat duty overseas. The WASP willingly put their lives on the line for this country during a time of war. This work wasn't easy and certainly contained peril. In fact, 38 WASP died in service to our great country during World War II. Their sacrifice and love for this Nation deserves to be celebrated and always remembered.

Iowa was at one time or another home to at least 25 courageous WASP. While they were eventually granted veteran status in 1977, it was not until 2002 that the Army allowed these women to have their ashes placed in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors. In 2015 that honor was inexplicably and wrongly revoked by the Army.

With less than 100 WASP still living, time was short to do what was right and honor these women for their selfless sacrifice and service to our Nation. They were role models for women in the military, like me, and proved their strength and fortitude in the missions they carried out.

I want to take this time to honor these extraordinary women and thank them for their remarkable military service. As Memorial Day approaches, I am grateful that we can restore a basic honor to them and their families through this law.

Thank you, Mr. President.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 469, S. 2943.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 469, S. 2943, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 469, S. 2943, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

John McCain, Thad Cochran, Lindsey Graham, Joni Ernst, James M. Inhofe, Tom Cotton, Kelly Ayotte, Richard Burr, Cory Gardner, Jeff Sessions, Thom Tillis, Mike Rounds, Dan Sullivan, Orrin G. Hatch, Tim Scott, John Cornyn, Mitch McConnell.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

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

The Senator from Arizona is recognized.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I am sure that all of our colleagues made note of the latest tragedy, which is most likely a terrorist attack, and that is the airliner that disappeared, and now they are finding pieces of that airliner. We don't know positively what happened, but it has all the earmarks of a terrorist attack.

I know that many of my colleagues know that the Director of National Intelligence, General Clapper, testified before our committee and said that there are most likely going to be additional attacks in Europe and in the United States, either the type that took place in San Bernardino or attacks that—Mr. Baghdadi has sent his people into the refugee flow to commit attacks on the United States of America.

We just finished up a couple weeks ago—a few days ago a defense authorization bill. That bill is a very large bill, and it contains reforms and changes in the way we do business. It changes a whole lot of things. It also

takes care of the men and women who are serving in the military. It provides them with greater capability to fight this virus of radical terrorist Islam, which is threatening the United States of America in a way that has been unprecedented in 70 years.

We are subject to attacks like San Bernardino, like what we just saw with the airliner, which is most likely—I am not positive, but it has all the earmarks. I have seen enough to know that this is most likely a terrorist attack. Meanwhile, ISIS is metastasizing Libya. It is committing attacks in Baghdad which are killing hundreds of people. We see the terrible atrocities committed by ISIS or Daesh—which ever one you call it—all over the world, in Africa and other parts.

So we need this legislation. We need this legislation for the men and women who are serving. The former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Dempsey, said that what we are doing now puts us on the "ragged edge" of being able to defend this Nation. The Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps said the same thing. The Chief of Staff of the United States Army said: "We are putting the men and women in the military at greater risk." Those are his exact words. "We are putting the men and women in the military at greater risk."

So what are we doing here? We are not moving forward with the bill. For some reason, the majority leader is having to file cloture, and then we wait a number of days, and then we take up the bill, and then maybe we don't finish the bill while we go into recess. Don't we owe the men and women in the military better than that? Shouldn't we take up this bill and dispense with it, do a conference with the House and send it to the President's desk so that the President of the United States will sign it and the men and women in the military will be better equipped, better trained, better able to defend themselves and this Nation, or are we going to go through some kind of foolishness of having the majority leader having to file cloture and then we wait 48 hours? It is being totally divorced from the reality of what is happening in the world. Just a few days ago, a brave young SEAL was killed in Syria, a young man named Keating. I happen to know his family very well.

The President of the United States still will not say we are in combat, but the fact is, we are dramatically increasing our presence, both in Syria and Iraq and now Libya. These men and women need equipment to fight with. They need to have a military that is the best we can provide them with. So why shouldn't we do it now? Why should we wait a couple of days? There is no justification for not moving to this bill right now.

I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration—the immediate consideration—of Calendar No. 469, S. 2943, the National Defense Authorization Act.