

plans. Republicans have offered ideas to take action in areas like these.

The underlying bill, which passed unanimously out of committee, will advance a lot of important priorities, such as funding for agencies—like the FBI—to fight terrorism and funding designed to help defend against cyber security threats.

Chairman SHELBY and Ranking Member MIKULSKI worked diligently to advance this bill out of committee and bring it to the floor. Members should work with these bill managers if they have ideas they think will make the bill stronger. I mentioned some of them already.

We have made important progress on appropriations bills so far this year. We can continue that progress this week and take further steps to keep our country safe from terrorism.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Democratic leader is recognized.

MASS SHOOTING IN ORLANDO AND DONALD TRUMP'S RHETORIC

Mr. REID. Madam President, throughout history, in times of crisis and tragedy, the American people look to leaders for one thing: leadership. Americans don't want to hear excuses. We don't want to hear self-congratulations, nor do we want to hear scapegoating. It is a very simple concept: We want our leaders to lead.

In the aftermath of Sunday's shooting at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando, FL, a place of celebration for the LGBT community, Donald Trump proved that he is as terrible a leader as he is a businessman. Trump proved he is not the person to lead our Nation through difficult times or, in fact, anytime. Trump failed the most important of tests for a Presidential candidate: how to respond in a crisis. When our citizens are under attack, how do you respond? Donald Trump failed that test. Trump proved he is not the person to lead our Nation through a crisis. He is not Commander in Chief material—underlined and underscored.

It doesn't matter what the problem has been, Trump has failed. Trump isn't the person we want to have his finger on the nuclear button because he is clearly incapable of that responsibility. That is not just me saying it; even the junior Senator from Florida has questioned whether Trump can be trusted with such an enormous obligation. But the fact that Donald Trump can't be trusted with the nuclear codes hasn't stopped Senator RUBIO or many other Republicans from endorsing Trump for the highest office in the land. There is absolutely no question—none—that Donald Trump is not capable enough or experienced enough to have this high-level responsibility. We expect more from a Commander in Chief.

Here is how Trump responded to Sunday's massacre—classic Trump. Within hours of the shooting, Trump first congratulated himself and then began to immediately denigrate Muslim Americans. Trump then suggested that our President and one of Secretary Clinton's aides may be in league with Islamic terrorists. Let me repeat that. Donald Trump suggested that President Obama and one of Secretary Clinton's aides may be in league with Islamic terrorists. Is that outrageous? Of course it is.

It is outrageous for Donald Trump to suggest that the President of the United States, our Commander in Chief, would support terrorists and the murder of innocent Americans, but yesterday, 1 day after the mass shooting—it is the worst in modern American history—Trump, the standard bearer for the Republican Party, went even further. Trump delivered one of the most un-American speeches ever from a major party nominee—ever. Trump was hateful and vicious. He was Donald Trump. He was everything that Republicans knew him to be when they made him the party's nominee. Donald Trump used his remarks to foment hatred against millions of innocent Americans based solely on what? Their religion. He denigrated Muslim Americans—all 8 million of them. The Republican nominee suggested that all Muslim Americans were complicit in the Orlando shooting, saying that they, Muslim Americans, “know what's going on.” Trump also renewed his call for a ban on all Muslims coming into the United States. The Trump speech was, as one news outlet called it, “a dangerous mix of ignorance and arrogance.”

If you are the parent of a Muslim American, how do you explain his speech to your child? If you are not a Muslim parent, how do you explain Trump's speech to your child? You can't. How do you look your son or daughter in the eye and explain that a man running for President is telling your classmates to be suspicious of you and to doubt your loyalty based purely on your religion? You can't explain it. I can't explain it. It is not possible to explain because this level of hate is not comprehensible. It is incomprehensible that any Presidential nominee would foster and promote systemic bigotry, as Trump often does. It is reprehensible and un-American for the nominee of any major party or any party to declare millions of Americans guilty until proven innocent purely by virtue of their religion.

These are frightening times, and I understand that, and Trump's fear and paranoia are making us feel less safe. Trump is fanning the flames of violence and menace. There have already been reports of threats and obscenities being yelled at Muslims in Florida, Chicago, Seattle, and all across the country. Mosques all around the country have been threatened. Donald Trump's rhetoric has been encouraging this scary behavior.

What we have seen from Trump in the 2 days since the Orlando shooting is rank and reckless, but no one should be surprised—this is vintage Donald Trump.

Contrast Donald Trump's actions with the response from our Nation's Muslim communities. Muslim leaders all over America were some of the first to condemn this attack and rally in support of the LGBT community, and the Muslim community has taken part in the blood drive to help victims of the attack, as they always step forward.

But while Americans within the Muslim and LGBT communities are trying to unite Americans in the aftermath of Sunday's shooting, Donald Trump is doing just the opposite. He is doing what he is so good at doing—dividing. Then, in the wake of this awful massacre, Trump tried to cast himself as a friend of the LGBT community. How about that? But it didn't take minutes for a spokesman from the Human Rights Campaign, the Nation's largest gay rights group, to state that Trump is “no friend” of the community. What does this say about the Republican Party, that they are endorsing this vile man? It doesn't say much. What does it say about Republican Senators who are backing Trump for President? Not much. What does it say about the Senate Republican leadership, about the Senate Republican leader, who is supporting Trump? Not much. Every time the senior Senator from Kentucky reaffirms his commitment to support Trump he is validating Trump's behavior. He is giving credence to Donald Trump's rabid anti-everything speech—his un-American stance against Muslims, women, Latinos, Blacks, people with disabilities, immigrants, veterans, and others.

If the Senators I have mentioned accept this kind of rhetoric as part of our political dialogue, they are all guilty of normalizing hatred. Senate Republicans are doing just that. When the leader of a major party is promoting unhinged conspiracy theories and calling for hatred against his fellow Americans based solely on their religion, we are in dangerous and uncharted waters. We must make clear that Donald Trump does not speak for us. I am trying to do that. We must stand arm in arm with our Muslim allies around the world who have been victims of terrorism, who say to the radicals: not in my name, not in my name. Remember, Muslims around the world are helping us defeat the terrorists. Who has suffered so much because of this crazy brand of hatred? Who has suffered more than anyone else? Muslims. We don't know how many are dead in Iraq following the invasion—half a million? We know there are at least 300,000 in Syria—Muslims. We must stand arm in arm with our Muslim allies in the world who are victims of this terrorism.

Any Republican who cherishes the American values of religious freedom

and tolerance should immediately do the same and say: not in my name. Republican Senators should say: not in my name. Republicans must do what they haven't had the courage to do—stand up to Trump and say: No more, stop it. He is not a leader. He is unfit to be our President and unfit to stand for the values on which this great country was founded.

As for the Republican leader in the Senate, Senator MCCONNELL should be the first to condemn Trump's hateful rhetoric and reject his Presidential candidacy. Let's hope the senior Senator from Kentucky can bring himself to do just that and do it soon.

Madam President, what is the business of the day?

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 2943, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2943) 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.

Pending:

McCain amendment No. 4607, to amend the provision on share-in-savings contracts.

Reed (for Reid) amendment No. 4603 (to amendment No. 4607), to change the enactment date.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the time until 11 a.m. will be equally divided between the two managers or their designees.

The Senator from Rhode Island.

AMENDMENT NO. 4603 WITHDRAWN

Mr. REED. Madam President, I withdraw amendment No. 4603.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The amendment is withdrawn.

The Senator from Florida.

AMENDMENT NO. 4670 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4607

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I call up amendment No. 4670.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Florida [Mr. NELSON] proposes an amendment numbered 4670 to amendment No. 4607.

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To improve the amendment)

On page 1, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 829B. COMPETITIVE PROCUREMENT AND PHASE OUT OF ROCKET ENGINES FROM THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN THE EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE PROGRAM FOR SPACE LAUNCH OF NATIONAL SECURITY SATELLITES.

(a) INEFFECTIVENESS OF SUPERSEDED REQUIREMENTS.—Sections 1036 and 1037 shall have no force or effect, and the amendments proposed to be made by section 1037 shall not be made.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Any competition for a contract for the provision of launch services for the evolved expendable launch vehicle program shall be open for award to all certified providers of evolved expendable launch vehicle-class systems.

(c) AWARD OF CONTRACTS.—In awarding a contract under subsection (b), the Secretary of Defense—

(1) subject to paragraph (2) and subsection (d), and notwithstanding any other provision of law, may, during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2022, award the contract to a provider of launch services that intends to use any certified launch vehicle in its inventory without regard to the country of origin of the rocket engine that will be used on that launch vehicle; and

(2) may only award contracts utilizing an engine designed or manufactured in the Russian Federation for phase 1(a) and phase 2 evolved expendable launch vehicle procurements.

(d) LIMITATION.—The total number of rocket engines designed or manufactured in the Russian Federation and used on launch vehicles for the evolved expendable launch vehicle program shall not exceed 18.

Mr. NELSON. Madam President, I want to thank the leaders of our Armed Services Committee for working out what had been a difficult situation going forward with regard to assured access to space over a 6-year period starting in fiscal year 2017 and going through fiscal year 2022. We have been able to work this out, and that is the subject of the amendment I have just called up.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, does that complete the work on the amendment?

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The amendment is the pending business.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I just want to say to the Senator from Florida that I thank him for his intermediary work and his effort to reach this compromise. He brings unique credentials to this issue, given his experience up in space. Although some have argued that he has never returned, I don't agree with that assessment. But seriously, I thank the Senator from Florida for his intermediary work, without whom this compromise would not have been achieved.

I know the Senator from Florida shares my commitment to freeing this Nation from dependency on the use of Russian rocket engines which then provide an economic boost—in some cases billions of dollars—to Vladimir Putin and his cronies. So I just want to make a special note of appreciation to the Senator from Florida.

Mr. NELSON. If the Senator will yield, I just wish to thank him for his

comments. Indeed, some folks wish that I were still in orbit, and I understand that.

I want the Senator to know that I have great affection and great respect for the chairman of our committee and for him and for the Senator from Alabama to be reasonable in finding an accommodation about this so that this country would have assured access to space. Certainly, the Senator from Illinois, as the ranking member of that Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, likewise, has also been in the mix. I am very grateful that this issue is behind us and we can move on.

I might note that there is one technical change we will have to make in the conference committee. It is technical in nature, but it is necessary to get the language right.

I thank the chairman of our committee.

Mr. DURBIN. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. NELSON. The Senator from Arizona has the floor.

Mr. DURBIN. If I could ask for the floor for 2 minutes, I thank the Senator from Florida for his leadership on this issue. It has been a contentious, hotly debated, and in some ways divisive issue between appropriations and authorization committees in the Senate. When Senator NELSON told me he was willing to step up and try to be that bridge over troubled waters, I welcomed his entry into that conversation.

I thank him, Senator GARDNER, Senator BENNET, Senator COCHRAN, Senator SHELBY, Senator MCCAIN, and all who have engaged in this. We have come to the right place, where we are going to be promoting competition, which is good for taxpayers, and we are also going to do it in a way that protects our national security interests.

I thank the Senator from Florida for his leadership on this issue.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, the vote is scheduled for 11 o'clock this morning, and we will be voting on the Defense authorization bill. Unfortunately, we have a situation on the objections of a Senator or Senators that their amendment is not allowed because of the objections of another Senator. In other words, we now have a situation where there are Senators in the Senate for whom it is either their way or the highway, and if they are not having an amendment that is agreed to, then they will object to other Senators' amendments no matter whether those amendments have any validity or any support.

There are a number of them, but there is one that particularly bothers me, which will probably cost the lives of some brave men—mostly men but maybe some women—who assisted us as interpreters in Afghanistan. They are on the list. The Senator from South Carolina pointed out the night letters that go to the interpreters that they are going to be killed—they and their families—for cooperating with