

Ash Carter that highlight the U.S. commitment to maintaining the strongest, most capable Armed Forces in the world.

The commitment calls to mind the testimony of Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Paul Selva, earlier this year, before the Senate Armed Services Committee: “I will take umbrage with the notion that our military has been gutted. So I stand here today a person that’s worn this uniform for 35 years. At no time in my career have I been more confident than this in saying we have the most powerful military on the face of the planet.”

Finally, the motion endorses all the necessary military tools to meet the President’s commitment to destroy ISIL in Iraq and Syria. So far, our campaign against ISIL has resulted in their loss of nearly half their territory in Iraq, and nearly a quarter in Syria.

The Director of the Central Intelligence Agency warned that ISIL remains very dangerous and is likely plotting or inspiring more terrorist attacks. We must keep up the pressure on ISIL, using not only our military but all of our intelligence, law enforcement, diplomatic, and financial enforcement tools that our Nation has.

I have concerns that our government can do more to stop the ISIL threat that is not limited to our military campaign. For example, after the tragic shooting in Orlando, the American people heard stories of the labor-intensive effort that is required for the FBI to track the many tips relating to domestic terrorism sent in by the public.

Defeating ISIL will require the use of every tool at the disposal of our government, not just our Armed Forces. We should ask ourselves: if ISIL is squeezed out of Syria and Iraq, where are they going to go? And are we doing enough intelligence, law enforcement, and diplomatic work to catch ISIL terrorists as they cross international borders?

It is my hope that Congress will be able to negotiate an omnibus appropriations bill this fall, and we should reject one-sided solutions that only address one part of the ISIL threat. I hope we can address that issue in the same bipartisan way that I expect the Senate to support these motions made by the Senator from Alaska.

#### ZIKA VIRUS FUNDING BILL

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to talk about the urgent need to provide full funding for our response to the Zika virus. Nearly 5 months ago, on February 22, President Obama submitted a request to Congress for \$1.9 billion in emergency supplemental funding to address the growing Zika epidemic. The request included \$1.509 billion for the Department of Health and Human Services, HHS; \$335 million for the U.S. Agency for International Development, USAID; \$41 million for the Department of State; and support for several other Federal agencies.

The administration’s plan—which has the full weight of the scientific community behind it—represents a coordinated and well-funded, whole-of-government approach to combating the virus with a focus on prevention, treatment, and research.

But instead of listening to the experts, Republicans choose instead to abide by a partisan agenda: offering a Zika conference report that underfunded critical Federal, State, and global response efforts by more than \$800 million, and included poisonous policy riders and pay-fors that gratuitously attacked the Affordable Care Act, the safety of our Nation’s drinking water, and women’s reproductive rights. The Senate rejected the Zika conference report and rightfully so.

The Republican leadership particularly in the House seem to be forgetting that the Zika virus is a mosquito-borne disease that has a real, devastating impacts on women and their babies. There have been over 1,100 travel-associated Zika cases reported in the continental United States, including 31 in my home State of Maryland and 2,474 locally acquired cases across the U.S. territories. Because of Zika, babies are being born in the United States and throughout Central and South America with horrible birth defects. To date, more than 600 pregnant women in the continental U.S. and the territories are being monitored following laboratory evidence of possible Zika virus infection, according to the U.S. Zika Pregnancy Registry.

Without congressional action to fund our response to the Zika epidemic adequately, the efforts to better understand and combat this disease will be derailed. According to Dr. Tony Fauci, the Nation’s leading infectious disease expert and Director of the National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases, NIAID, “The vaccine effort will be blunted if not aborted if we don’t have the funding.”

Dr. Fauci also emphasized that other vital HHS and NIH programs will suffer if the agency is forced to focus funding primarily on vaccine development. The NIAID has already diverted funds from malaria and tuberculosis research to fund Zika efforts. It is unconscionable that the Republican leadership is forcing our public health officials to make these kinds of decisions.

State and local health departments also bear the brunt of the consequences of not fully funding our Zika response efforts. Our Nation’s health departments are on the front lines of combating this disease, working on a grassroots level to expand and enhance prevention efforts, including mosquito surveillance and control; promoting culturally conscious education campaigns to raise public awareness; and equipping our health care workforce with the most medically accurate guidelines to help patients make informed decisions about their health care.

Zika will not simply disappear without adequate funding. Congress must

pass an adequate and clean Zika funding bill. Leaving Washington, DC, for the summer recess without sufficiently funding Zika response efforts is irresponsible and does an incredible disservice to the American people.

Neglecting to pass an appropriate Zika response bill is a failure to expectant mothers who have growing concerns about the lasting impact a mosquito bite this summer could have on the health of their unborn children; it is a failure to the ambitious U.S. athletes who are considering sidelining their dreams of Olympic glory over the fear of contracting the virus; and it is a failure to the millions of Americans who entrust us to do everything in our power to safeguard their health and well-being. Although we should not incite panic about Zika, the seriousness of this problem is too great to be ignored. If we expect to make adequate progress on combating this virus this year—and if we want to protect the health and welfare of all Americans—Congress must pass a clean, well-resourced Zika funding bill without delay.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

Mr. MCCAIN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 85, nays 12, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 132 Leg.]

#### YEAS—85

Alexander	Enzi	Nelson
Ayotte	Ernst	Perdue
Baldwin	Feinstein	Peters
Barrasso	Fischer	Portman
Bennet	Flake	Reed
Blumenthal	Gardner	Reid
Blunt	Graham	Risch
Booker	Grassley	Roberts
Boozman	Hatch	Rounds
Brown	Heinrich	Rubio
Burr	Heitkamp	Sasse
Cantwell	Hirono	Schumer
Capito	Hoeven	Scott
Cardin	Inhofe	Sessions
Carper	Isakson	Shaheen
Casey	Johnson	Shelby
Cassidy	Kaine	Stabenow
Coats	King	Sullivan
Cochran	Kirk	Tester
Collins	Lankford	Thune
Coons	Manchin	Tillis
Corker	McCain	Toomey
Cornyn	McCaskill	Udall
Cotton	McConnell	Vitter
Crapo	Menendez	Warner
Cruz	Mikulski	Whitehouse
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Donnelly	Murkowski	
Durbin	Murray	

## NAYS—12

Boxer	Markey	Sanders
Gillibrand	Merkley	Schatz
Heller	Murphy	Warren
Leahy	Paul	Wyden

## NOT VOTING—3

Franken	Klobuchar	Lee
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The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

## CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I move to proceed to the motion to reconsider the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 5293.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to H.R. 5293.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. For the information of all Senators, the next and final vote will be cloture on the MILCON-VA-Zika proposal at 2 o'clock. That will be it for the week.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

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. 524, H.R. 5293, an act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Tom Cotton, Shelley Moore Capito, Mike Crapo, Thad Cochran, Jerry Moran, Richard C. Shelby, John Hoeven, Lamar Alexander, Orrin G. Hatch, Daniel Coats, Pat Roberts, John Barrasso, Bill Cassidy, John Thune, John Boozman, John Cornyn.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 5293, an act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close, upon consideration?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. ERNST). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 55, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 133 Leg.]

## YEAS—55

Alexander	Ernst	Paul
Ayotte	Fischer	Perdue
Barrasso	Flake	Portman
Blunt	Gardner	Risch
Boozman	Graham	Roberts
Burr	Grassley	Rounds
Capito	Hatch	Rubio
Cassidy	Heller	Sasse
Coats	Hoeven	Scott
Cochran	Inhofe	Sessions
Collins	Isakson	Shelby
Corker	Johnson	Sullivan
Cornyn	Kirk	Thune
Cotton	Lankford	Tillis
Crapo	Manchin	Toomey
Cruz	McCain	Vitter
Daines	McConnell	Wicker
Donnelly	Moran	
Enzi	Murkowski	

## NAYS—42

Baldwin	Heinrich	Peters
Bennet	Heitkamp	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Reid
Booker	Kaine	Sanders
Boxer	King	Schatz
Brown	Leahy	Schumer
Cantwell	Markey	Shaheen
Cardin	McCaskill	Stabenow
Carper	Menendez	Tester
Casey	Merkley	Udall
Cooms	Mikulski	Warner
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Nelson	Wyden

## NOT VOTING—3

Franken	Klobuchar	Lee
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 55, the nays are 42.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, upon reconsideration, the motion is rejected.

The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. MCCAIN. Madam President, I was about to leave the Chamber, but in light of the results of the last vote, I am compelled—I am compelled to speak out more in disappointment than in rage. Although I think a lot of men and women who are serving in the military who are dependent on what we do for their safety and their livelihood, for pure—pure—partisan and political reasons, we will not be moving forward to consider a bill to train and equip the men and women who are in the military, to give them their pay and benefits and defend this Nation.

How? How do you do that in good conscience? I understand we are in an election year. I understand all that, but how in the world do you refuse to take up legislation that its only purpose is to defend this Nation, which is under assault?

I just came back from spending the Fourth of July with the troops in Afghanistan. They depend on us. They depend on us. We are their elected representatives, and what have we done now? We refuse to move forward with legislation that allows them to defend themselves, and they are in harm's way.

All I can say is that when we see polling data that shows the American

people have a very low opinion of us—I see numbers, 13, 14 percent of the American people approve of Congress—this is validation. This is validation of their absolute disgust with our failure to do the work to protect the Nation. Isn't that our first priority? That has always been mine, to secure the Nation, to make sure we protect ourselves as much as possible. We rely on these young men and women. We rely on them to defend the Nation, and now we will not even act to train, arm, equip, pay, and care for them. That is disgraceful. That is disgraceful.

Yes, this side of the aisle has been guilty of partisan behavior, and I will plead guilty to all that. But how in the world—how in the world do you go back to your home State, as we will tonight and tomorrow, and meet these young men and women who are serving, as is one of the great privileges we have, and look them in the eye—look them in the eye and tell them I voted against legislation which was to arm and train and equip you and protect this Nation. I voted against it because the Democratic leader said, well, he didn't want an amendment that would increase spending on defense—on defense.

Without getting too redundant, I hope maybe we might take the next couple of months before we come back and examine what we are doing and why we can't agree at least on debating and amending and making better—which we can do because that is what the Senate is all about. Can't we do that for them? Do we have to be so divided that we will not even move forward with perhaps one of the most important pieces of legislation this body and this Nation is responsible for?

I hope my friends on the other side of the aisle will examine their conscience.

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

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

## MORNING BUSINESS

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

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

Mr. MORAN. Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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