

the upcoming ASEAN summit that the President will attend in November.

I am grateful that the Speaker and the chairman, Chairman ROYCE, support our efforts to engage ASEAN, and I look forward to watching H. Res. 311 pass the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CASTRO), who is the author of this legislation.

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank Ranking Member ENGEL for yielding me this time and also thank Chairman ROYCE for all of his work in this region of the world.

Representative WAGNER and I co-founded the Congressional Caucus on ASEAN, the Association of South East Asian Nations, earlier this year to deepen the United States' and Congress' engagement with Southeast Asia.

H. Res. 311, the resolution we are considering here today, commemorates the 50th anniversary of the founding of ASEAN. It also marks 40 years of relations between the United States and ASEAN.

This measure highlights the work ASEAN has done towards improving stability, prosperity, and peace in Southeast Asia. It also speaks to the importance of continued security cooperation, economic partnership, and cultural engagement between the United States and ASEAN.

ASEAN serves as an example of successful regional cooperation. The nations of Southeast Asia, despite distinct histories, cultures, and religions, have placed their faith in cooperation rather than conflict.

U.S. security interests in Southeast Asia are wide-ranging and supported by many regional partners. Members of ASEAN have worked closely with the United States to address our mutual concerns.

The member states of ASEAN also hold significant economic promise, and our economic relationship underpins much of U.S. engagement in the region.

My home State of Texas, for example, exports over \$13 billion worth of goods to ASEAN countries every year. These exports support over 70,000 Texas jobs and over 500,000 jobs across the United States.

The U.S.-ASEAN relationship is also built on history and cultural exchange. Millions of Americans can trace their family roots to countries of ASEAN, including 400,000 Texans. Language, literature, food, and music link our cultures across the ocean, set roots, and enrich both our societies.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons and many more, it is important that we recognize and commemorate the impact of ASEAN across the years.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. YOHO), the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific.

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, I also want to echo Chairman ROYCE's support of

H. Res. 311, and I want to thank the ranking member, Mr. ENGEL; my colleagues, Mr. CASTRO and Mrs. WAGNER, for bringing this resolution up, recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Association of South East Asian Nations and the 40th anniversary of U.S.-ASEAN ties.

As chairman of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific, the block of 10 ASEAN members, we had a meeting earlier in the year. They said the primary reason ASEAN is successful is because of U.S. involvement. I think that speaks highly of U.S. foreign policy.

The 10 members of ASEAN are some of the most dynamic nations in the world, and Southeast Asia's economic and strategic importance grows every day.

As the chairman noted, ASEAN is our fourth largest trading partner and is the second fastest growing in Asia. With a combined population of over 600 million people and an economy of \$2.5 trillion, the opportunity for U.S. industry is immense. As a security partner, ASEAN also is invaluable, recognizing that for the 50 years the Association of South East Asian Nations, ASEAN, has worked towards stability, prosperity, and peace in Southeast Asia.

The grouping is strategically located astride some of the world's most critical sea lanes and shares the U.S. pursuit of regional stability through rules, order, and peaceful dispute settlements.

This resolution rightly highlights enduring U.S. interests in Southeast Asia and conveys our commitment to stay engaged.

Mr. Speaker, I again thank Representatives Wagner and Castro for introducing this measure. As the founding members of the ASEAN Caucus, their work on this bill underscores the centrality of ASEAN to Congress' foreign policy for Asia.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The Asia Pacific presents the perfect case of what might happen if the United States withdraws from the world. In recent years, our focus there, especially working with ASEAN and its members, has really helped to promote growth and stability in that region of the world, to enhance human rights, and the rule of law.

It is important for us to stay engaged. If we draw back, it is pretty clear that China would be happy to fill the void, and I guarantee the values we consider critical to foreign policy, democracy, justice, and equality would not be part of the agenda in Beijing. We need to stay engaged in Asia and around the world. We need to demonstrate that American leadership is a sure thing.

The resolution before us today will provide much needed reassurance to our partners and friends in Southeast Asia. Even Vietnam works with us. I remember, and others here remember, when we had the Vietnam war. Now we

have so many Vietnam Americans in our country, and they help to really be good citizens and really help to show why it is important for us to keep engaged in that part of the world.

We will underscore the important role ASEAN stands to play, just as it has in the last 50 years. Again, it is important to reassure our partners and friends in Southeast Asia—I mentioned Vietnam, but all the other countries that belong to ASEAN.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support this measure. I thank Chairman ROYCE, I urge all Members to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The first point I would make is I think our ranking member, Mr. ELIOT ENGEL, makes a very strong point about the importance of engagement.

I think, as a second point, U.S.-ASEAN engagement has trended up in recent years. I think it remains strong. I think it has a bright outlook. In 2015, the U.S.-ASEAN relationship was elevated to a strategic partnership, an important step by the U.S.

2016 marked two important firsts: the first U.S.-ASEAN summit at Sunnylands, and the first ever visit of a sitting U.S. President to Laos. As an important economic and security partner, ASEAN shares the U.S. pursuit of regional stability through rules, through order, through the peaceful dispute settlement process, as our ranking member pointed out. This resolution signals our resolve to maintain and deepen our collaboration with our friends and allies in Southeast Asia.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues here to join us in support of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 311, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays. The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1545

WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY ACT OF 2017

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1141) to ensure that the United States promotes the meaningful participation of women in mediation and negotiation processes seeking to prevent, mitigate, or resolve violent conflict.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1141

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 “Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

- (1) Around the world, women remain under-represented in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and post-conflict peace building efforts.
- (2) Women in conflict-affected regions have achieved significant success in—
 - (A) moderating violent extremism;
 - (B) countering terrorism;
 - (C) resolving disputes through nonviolent mediation and negotiation; and
 - (D) stabilizing societies by enhancing the effectiveness of security services, peacekeeping efforts, institutions, and decision-making processes.
- (3) Research suggests that peace negotiations are more likely to succeed and to result in durable peace agreements when women participate in the peace process.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

- (1) the meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention and conflict resolution processes helps to promote more inclusive and democratic societies and is critical to the long-term stability of countries and regions;
- (2) the political participation, and leadership of women in fragile environments, particularly during democratic transitions, is critical to sustaining lasting democratic institutions; and
- (3) the United States should be a global leader in promoting the meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention, management, and resolution, and post-conflict relief and recovery efforts.

SEC. 4. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It shall be the policy of the United States to promote the meaningful participation of women in all aspects of overseas conflict prevention, management, and resolution, and post-conflict relief and recovery efforts, reinforced through diplomatic efforts and programs that—

- (1) integrate the perspectives and interests of affected women into conflict-prevention activities and strategies;
- (2) encourage partner governments to adopt plans to improve the meaningful participation of women in peace and security processes and decision-making institutions;
- (3) promote the physical safety, economic security, and dignity of women and girls;
- (4) support the equal access of women to aid distribution mechanisms and services;
- (5) collect and analyze gender data for the purpose of developing and enhancing early warning systems of conflict and violence;
- (6) adjust policies and programs to improve outcomes in gender equality and the empowerment of women; and
- (7) monitor, analyze, and evaluate the efforts related to each strategy submitted under section 5 and the impact of such efforts.

SEC. 5. UNITED STATES STRATEGY TO PROMOTE THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACE BUILDING.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and again four years thereafter, the President, in consultation with the heads of the relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional

committees and make publicly available a single government-wide strategy, to be known as the Women, Peace, and Security Strategy, that provides a detailed description of how the United States intends to fulfill the policy objectives in section 4. The strategy shall—

- (1) support and be aligned with plans developed by other countries to improve the meaningful participation of women in peace and security processes, conflict prevention, peace building, transitional processes, and decisionmaking institutions; and
 - (2) include specific and measurable goals, benchmarks, performance metrics, time-tables, and monitoring and evaluation plans to ensure the accountability and effectiveness of all policies and initiatives carried out under the strategy.
- (b) SPECIFIC PLANS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.—Each strategy under subsection (a) shall include a specific implementation plan from each of the relevant Federal departments and agencies that describes—
- (1) the anticipated contributions of the department or agency, including technical, financial, and in-kind contributions, to implement the strategy; and
 - (2) the efforts of the department or agency to ensure that the policies and initiatives carried out pursuant to the strategy are designed to achieve maximum impact and long-term sustainability.

(c) COORDINATION.—The President should promote the meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention, in coordination and consultation with international partners, including, as appropriate, multilateral organizations, stakeholders, and other relevant international organizations, particularly in situations in which the direct engagement of the United States Government is not appropriate or advisable.

(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the President, in implementing each strategy submitted under subsection (a), should—

- (1) provide technical assistance, training, and logistical support to female negotiators, mediators, peace builders, and stakeholders;
- (2) address security-related barriers to the meaningful participation of women;
- (3) encourage increased participation of women in existing programs funded by the United States Government that provide training to foreign nationals regarding law enforcement, the rule of law, or professional military education;
- (4) support appropriate local organizations, especially women’s peace building organizations;
- (5) support the training, education, and mobilization of men and boys as partners in support of the meaningful participation of women;
- (6) encourage the development of transitional justice and accountability mechanisms that are inclusive of the experiences and perspectives of women and girls;
- (7) expand and apply gender analysis, as appropriate, to improve program design and targeting; and
- (8) conduct assessments that include the perspectives of women regarding new initiatives in support of peace negotiations, transitional justice and accountability, efforts to counter violent extremism, or security sector reform.

SEC. 6. TRAINING REQUIREMENTS REGARDING THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN CONFLICT PREVENTION AND PEACE BUILDING.

(a) FOREIGN SERVICE.—The Secretary of State, in conjunction with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, shall ensure that all appropriate personnel (including special envoys, members of mediation or negotiation

teams, relevant members of the civil service or Foreign Service, and contractors) responsible for or deploying to countries or regions considered to be at risk of, undergoing, or emerging from violent conflict obtain training, as appropriate, in the following areas, each of which shall include a focus on women and ensuring meaningful participation by women:

- (1) Conflict prevention, mitigation, and resolution.
 - (2) Protecting civilians from violence, exploitation, and trafficking in persons.
 - (3) International human rights law and international humanitarian law.
- (b) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that relevant personnel receive training, as appropriate, in the following areas:
- (1) Training in conflict prevention, peace processes, mitigation, resolution, and security initiatives that specifically addresses the importance of meaningful participation by women.
 - (2) Gender considerations and meaningful participation by women, including training regarding—
 - (A) international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as relevant; and
 - (B) protecting civilians from violence, exploitation, and trafficking in persons.
 - (3) Effective strategies and best practices for ensuring meaningful participation by women.

SEC. 7. CONSULTATION AND COLLABORATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development may establish guidelines or take other steps to ensure overseas United States personnel of the Department of State or the United States Agency for International Development, as the case may be, consult with appropriate stakeholders, including local women, youth, ethnic, and religious minorities, and other politically under-represented or marginalized populations, regarding United States efforts to—

- (1) prevent, mitigate, or resolve violent conflict; and
- (2) enhance the success of mediation and negotiation processes by ensuring the meaningful participation of women.

(b) COLLABORATION AND COORDINATION.—The Secretary of State should work with international, regional, national, and local organizations to increase the meaningful participation of women in international peacekeeping operations, and should promote training that provides international peacekeeping personnel with the substantive knowledge and skills needed to ensure effective physical security and meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention and peace building.

SEC. 8. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

(a) BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the first submission of a strategy required under section 5, the Secretary of State, in conjunction with the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development and the Secretary of Defense, shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on existing, enhanced, or newly established training carried out pursuant to section 6.

(b) REPORT ON WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY STRATEGY.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the submission of each strategy required under section 5, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—

- (1) summarizes and evaluates the implementation of such strategy and the impact of United States diplomatic efforts and foreign assistance programs, projects, and activities to promote the meaningful participation of women;

(2) describes the nature and extent of the coordination among the relevant Federal departments and agencies on the implementation of such strategy;

(3) outlines the monitoring and evaluation tools, mechanisms, and common indicators to assess progress made on the policy objectives set forth in section 4; and

(4) describes the existing, enhanced, or newly established training carried out pursuant to section 6.

SEC. 9. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Armed Services, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) **RELEVANT FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.**—The term “relevant Federal departments and agencies” means—

(A) the United States Agency for International Development;

(B) the Department of State;

(C) the Department of Defense;

(D) the Department of Homeland Security; and

(E) any other department or agency specified by the President for purposes of this Act.

(3) **STAKEHOLDERS.**—The term “stakeholders” means non-governmental and private sector entities engaged in or affected by conflict prevention and stabilization, peace building, protection, security, transition initiatives, humanitarian response, or related efforts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1141. Now, this is the Women, Peace, and Security Act. This is the Senate companion to the bill H.R. 2484 that the House passed earlier this session. That bill was authored by Representatives KRISTI NOEM and JAN SCHAKOWSKY, and I want to thank them; and I, of course, want to thank, also, Ranking Member ENGEL. I want to thank them collectively for their leadership on this important issue.

I also want to thank Senators CORKER, CARDIN, SHAHEEN, and CAPITO for working so well with us in the Senate.

I want to thank our assistant staff director, Jessica Kelch. I want to

thank her for her essential work on this important legislation.

I am happy to say that, with House passage today, this legislation will go to the President's desk.

As I noted when this bill passed the House in June, this moment is really a culmination of years of bipartisan work by Members of Congress, including JAN SCHAKOWSKY and KRISTI NOEM. It is also the work of prior and current administration officials and the many advocates who want to see better, more sustainable solutions to ending wars, to combating terrorism, and to improving human rights around the world. What we are saying today is that women's participation is essential to confronting these fundamental challenges.

Last Congress, the Foreign Affairs Committee held a hearing, part of its series of women in foreign affairs, where we heard powerful testimony about the importance of including women in the peace processes around the world.

It is an obvious point that many are aware of that, without the participation of women, peace would not have come to Northern Ireland in those discussions nor would the peace have held.

So now it may seem obvious that women should have an opportunity to represent their communities as a matter of right; they make up half the population. And what negotiation or agreement can claim to represent women if their very participation is barred?

But our hearing also emphasized why women's participation in the peace processes is important if we care about the likelihood of the success of that process. Simply put, when women are at the negotiation table, peace is more likely.

Compelling research shows that peace agreements are likely to be reached and are likely to last when women's groups are meaningfully involved. Women peacemakers often press warring parties to move beyond mere power-sharing agreements, which benefit only a small percentage of fighters, to more comprehensive and longer term accords, which benefit the civilian population as a whole, which benefits the next generation of that country.

We have seen this play out. We saw it play out, as I said, in Northern Ireland. We saw it play out in Colombia; we saw it in Rwanda; we saw it in Sri Lanka, where women's groups have pushed for practical solutions to deescalate and resolve the conflict.

In fact, later today, I will be speaking with Liberia's President, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, whom I am proud to call a friend of many, many years. Of course, President Sirleaf and the women of Liberia represent what can be accomplished when women become involved in ending conflict.

After many failed attempts by politicians, combatants, and the international community, it was the women of Liberia who forged an end to one of

West Africa's longest running and most brutal conflicts. We must learn from history.

Efforts to “keep the peace” through policing and peacekeeping missions also benefit from women's participation, which leads to better crime reporting and higher levels of trust within the communities they serve.

And women are essential to confronting one of the greatest national security threats of our time: the spread of violent extremism around the world. When we look at who confronts jihadists and who teaches their children—if they have access to education, they can teach their children—women are truly on the front lines of this fight. They often possess unique insights into their families and communities and are capable of gathering information that men cannot, yet their input is frequently overlooked.

We must acknowledge women as partners in this fight, and that is why the legislation before us today recognizes that it is in our national interest to promote women's participation in resolving violence and conflict.

This concept has been building support for some time: the Bush administration pressed hard for women's participation in peace negotiations and the political process in Iraq, in Afghanistan, and elsewhere; the Obama administration expanded on these programs to require a governmentwide approach to women's inclusion in conflict resolution overseas; and the current administration has said that the State Department's Office of Global Women's Issues will continue to focus on these issues. I am eager to see an Ambassador nominated to lead that office.

The bipartisan legislation before us today builds on these efforts. It will continue to require a governmentwide strategy to promote women's participation, along with specific goals and benchmarks and reporting to Congress in order to gauge progress. And it also requires that appropriate State, USAID, and Defense Department personnel receive training in how to facilitate women's participation in conflict resolution, security initiatives, and efforts to protect civilians from violence and from exploitation.

I urge all Members to support passage today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of this measure, and I am glad we are taking up this bill from our colleagues in the other body, Senators SHAHEEN and CAPITO, and I want to thank our colleagues who have worked so hard on the House version of this bill, Representatives JAN SCHAKOWSKY and Representative NOEM.

JAN SCHAKOWSKY has brought forward a version of this bill for the last few Congresses. The House passed a version of this bill last year, and I am glad we are finally moving a version of it forward.

One of the hallmarks of the Obama administration foreign policy was the National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security. It was based on a wealth of research that showed very clearly, as the chairman said, getting women involved in conflict prevention and resolution leads to more successful outcomes.

Since the launch of this plan, the United States has promoted efforts to enhance the physical and economic security of women around the world. We have sought to break through the barriers that have stopped women from being full participants in peace processes.

This bill would make these policies permanent. It would build on the Obama administration's achievements, making sure State Department, USAID, and Pentagon personnel fully understand just how important it is to get women involved in conflict prevention and resolution. It would also require annual reporting so Congress can stay apprised of these efforts.

Now, we have been working a few years to get this legislation across the finish line, and, frankly, I don't think we can wait another moment. The administration's budget proposal would slash funding for diplomacy and development to dangerous levels, and a current redesign effort at the State Department might strip out initiatives like Women, Peace, and Security. I hope that won't happen. I got assurances today that that won't happen. I hope that is right, but we have to still fight for this.

Congress has a role to play in foreign policy and, by passing this bill, it will be clear that we support efforts to expand opportunity and participation for women around the world.

I am pleased to support this measure. As always, Chairman ROYCE has been a bulwark of helping to push this through. I thank the Members who have worked so hard on it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. SCHAKOWSKY), a leader on this legislation.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Ranking Member ENGEL for yielding to me, and I rise in strong support of the Women, Peace, and Security Act.

I first want to thank my Republican colead on this bill, KRISTI NOEM, for her hard work; and I want to express my gratitude to Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL for their robust support for this legislation.

I want to thank Senator SHAHEEN and Senator CAPITO for their work in the Senate on this, as well as Senators CORKER and CARDIN.

I want to thank the staff who has put in a lot of hours on this, last session and this session, including my staff, Cassandra Varanka.

Around the world, women are disproportionately affected by conflict

and violence. At the same time, women are acting as some of the most effective advocates for peace. Again and again, women have proven their ability to advance peacemaking efforts where others have failed.

Look at Syria. In the town of Zabadani, women have been leading efforts to save their city from violence. Over 470 women signed a public petition, calling for a cease-fire. Their town had been under siege, experiencing daily shelling and barrel bombings. As the formal negotiations between the rebel-controlled local council and the Assad government constantly broke down, the war prevented the town from planting crops.

A group of women peace activists came together to found a group called Damma, and they facilitated negotiations between the local council, the Free Syrian Army, and the Islamic brigades. Where the traditional actors had failed, these women moved through five rounds of negotiations, ultimately achieving a cease-fire. Now, the cease-fire only lasted 40 days, but those 40 days gave the town critical time to plant crops and address its food shortage.

The power of women to advance peace and aid in postconflict reconciliation is not limited to Syria. Women in Liberia played a crucial role in bringing warring parties to the negotiating table, as the chairman said.

When the Government of the Philippines and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front signed a major peace agreement in 2004, women made up 50 percent of the government's negotiating team and 25 percent of the signatories.

In Ireland, women helped ensure that the Good Friday Agreement included social issues, reconciliation measures, and compensation for victims of violence.

Women around the world are actively working to advance peace talks and ensure successful transformation from conflict to peace. Passing the Women, Peace, and Security Act will ensure that the United States actively supports these incredible women as we work toward ending conflict around the world.

When women are involved in the negotiations, peace is more likely to last. In fact, the International Peace Institute found that, with each 5 percent increase in women's participation in the political process, a nation is five times less likely to use violence when faced with international crisis or conflict.

Despite the strong evidence in favor of women's political participation, women remain underrepresented in conflict prevention, conflict resolution, and postconflict peace building efforts around the world. We need to change that.

This legislation establishes women's participation as a critical element of U.S. foreign policy. It would encourage the United States to assist women mediators and negotiators by addressing barriers to their equal and secure participation in peace processes.

□ 1600

It would institute comprehensive training modules on the protection, rights, and specific needs of women in conflict, and require the administration to evaluate the impact of U.S. foreign assistance on women's meaningful participation.

In addition, the Women, Peace, and Security Act would require the administration to report to Congress its strategy to promote women's participation in conflict prevention and resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COLLINS of New York). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. It would empower Congress to exercise oversight of that strategy's implementation.

As countries around the world are struggling with conflict, the United States should be empowering anyone and everyone who can help achieve lasting peace.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all of my colleagues to support the Women, Peace, and Security Act.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I will close now since there are no further speakers on either side.

I want to start again by thanking Chairman ED ROYCE for all of his work and for all of his collaboration working together with us; as well as Representatives SCHAKOWSKY and NOEM, who worked very closely together, for their really hard work and really good work.

Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons I always support a strong investment in development and diplomacy is that we get such a good bang for our buck. Diplomacy and development efforts help to build stability. They defuse crises, they prevent conflicts, they help lay the groundwork for a more secure and more prosperous world.

History and research have shown us that when women are involved in these processes, they work even better. So it is smart policy. It is not a matter of being condescending. It is a matter of smart policy.

Think about the alternatives, about when we don't have diplomacy to help spread peace. Conflicts grow into wars—sometimes wars that American men and women will be required to fight. Populations are driven from their homes, triggering humanitarian crises. And the cost of dealing with these problems down the road is far higher than the cost of investing in diplomacy and development right now.

So this legislation is a piece of that puzzle. It isn't the whole thing, but it is an important piece. It is an important part of making sure American diplomacy can succeed, and I am glad to support it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote. I thank Chairman ROYCE for his hard

work, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, whether we are talking about Liberia, or Northern Ireland, or anywhere else where this world is in conflict, we have watched women play pivotal roles in advocating before governments, or before combatants, or in front of politicians, to bring an end to conflict.

In recent years, we have seen armed conflicts flare around the world, producing the largest number of refugees that we have ever seen on record. Efforts to negotiate an end to these conflicts are more important than they have ever been. We know that when women are included in these discussions, we are more likely to see an enduring peace as a result.

As a witness at our hearing on women's participation explained to us, including women is not only the right thing to do, it is the smart thing to do. The legislation before us today will strengthen U.S. efforts to promote the inclusion of women in peace negotiations in order to create more sustainable agreements and more stable partners for the United States and for our allies.

Again, I want to thank Representatives NOEM and SCHAKOWSKY and the bill's Senate sponsors for their bipartisan work on this measure; and, as always, Ranking Member ENGEL, for his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1141.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NAISMITH MEMORIAL BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1235) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of the 60th Anniversary of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1235

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 "Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame Commemorative Coin Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds the following:

(1) On December 21, 1891, a young physical education instructor named James Naismith,

introduced the game of "basket ball" to his physical education class, in Springfield, Massachusetts.

(2) In 1959, the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame was founded and dedicated to the game's creator Dr. James Naismith, in Springfield, MA, "The Birthplace of Basketball" and became the first and only museum to honor the game at all levels around the world.

(3) The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame honors players who have achieved greatness, exemplary coaches, referees and other major contributors to the sport of basketball. The Inaugural Hall of Fame Class of 1959 had seventeen honorees who were inducted, including Dr. James Naismith, George Mikan, Forrest C. Allen, Angelo Luisetti, Original Celtics and First Team.

(4) The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame is recognized throughout the world as the premier institution entrusted with recording and disseminating the history of the game of basketball and recognizing and honoring the achievements of its greatest players, coaches, and contributors.

(5) The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame provides an entertaining, enriching experience and is known for its educational outreach programs and celebrates and promotes positive core values demonstrated by basketball's hallowed heroes and its founder.

(6) Basketball is one of America's national treasures; with its fast pace which reflects the freedom of expression and the modern experience of life in the 21st century.

(7) Since its opening in 1959, the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame is home to the largest collection of basketball memorabilia in the world, including more than 30,000 three-dimensional objects, 800,000 photographs, and 1.5 million documents.

(8) The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame welcomes more than 6,000,000 visitors interested in discovering the rich history of the game through its stories, its personalities, and its most celebrated moments.

(9) The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame reaches over seven million Americans through its educational programs, events, exhibits, social media, and its interactive website.

(10) The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame's customized educational programs use basketball to teach young students around the world the important lessons on a variety of topics including: financial literacy, mathematics, civil rights, leadership of character, women's and men's history, and geography.

(11) The Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame will lead the celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Basketball and will partner with a select group of constituents including the National Basketball Association, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and USA Basketball in commemorating the game throughout the 2019-2020 basketball season.

SEC. 3. COIN SPECIFICATIONS.

(a) DENOMINATIONS.—In recognition and celebration of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, the Secretary of the Treasury (hereafter in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall mint and issue the following coins:

(1) \$5 GOLD COINS.—Not more than 50,000 \$5 coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 8.359 grams;

(B) be struck on a planchet having a diameter of 0.850 inches; and

(C) contain 90 percent gold and 10 percent alloy.

(2) \$1 SILVER COINS.—Not more than 400,000 \$1 coins, which shall—

(A) weigh 26.73 grams;

(B) be struck on a planchet having a diameter of 1.500 inches; and

(C) contain not less than 90 percent silver.

(3) HALF-DOLLAR CLAD COINS.—Not more than 750,000 half-dollar coins which shall—

(A) weigh 11.34 grams;

(B) be struck on a planchet having a diameter of 1.205 inches; and

(C) be minted to the specifications for half-dollar coins contained in section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code.

(b) LEGAL TENDER.—The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, as provided in section 5103 of title 31, United States Code.

(c) NUMISMATIC ITEMS.—For purposes of sections 5134 and 5136 of title 31, United States Code, all coins minted under this Act shall be considered to be numismatic items.

(d) DOME SHAPE.—The coins minted under this Act shall be in the shape of a dome.

SEC. 4. DESIGN OF COINS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The design for the coins minted under this Act shall be—

(1) selected by the Secretary after consultation with the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(2) reviewed by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee.

(b) DESIGNATIONS AND INSCRIPTIONS.—On each coin minted under this Act there shall be—

(1) a designation of the value of the coin;

(2) an inscription of the year "2020"; and

(3) inscriptions of the words "Liberty", "In God We Trust", "United States of America", and "E Pluribus Unum".

(c) SELECTION AND APPROVAL PROCESS FOR OVERSE DESIGN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall hold a competition to determine the design of the common obverse of the coins minted under this Act, with such design being emblematic of the game of basketball.

(2) SELECTION AND APPROVAL.—Proposals for the design of coins minted under this Act may be submitted in accordance with the design selection and approval process developed by the Secretary in the sole discretion of the Secretary.

(3) PROPOSALS.—As part of the competition described in this subsection, the Secretary may accept proposals from artists, engravers and other employees of the United States Mint, other Government employees, and members of the general public.

(4) COMPENSATION.—The Secretary shall determine compensation for the winning design under this subsection, which shall be not less than \$5,000. The Secretary shall take into account this compensation amount when determining the sale price described in section 6(a).

(d) REVERSE DESIGN.—The design on the common reverse of the coins minted under this Act shall depict a basketball.

SEC. 5. ISSUANCE OF COINS.

(a) QUALITY OF COINS.—Coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

(b) PERIOD FOR ISSUANCE.—The Secretary may issue coins minted under this Act only during the 1-year period beginning on January 1, 2020.

SEC. 6. SALE OF COINS.

(a) SALE PRICE.—The coins issued under this Act shall be sold by the Secretary at a price equal to the sum of—

(1) the face value of the coins;

(2) the surcharge provided in section 7(a) with respect to such coins; and

(3) the cost of designing and issuing the coins (including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, winning design compensation, overhead expenses, marketing, and shipping).

(b) BULK SALES.—The Secretary shall make bulk sales of the coins issued under this Act at a reasonable discount.