

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 concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 601, with a further amendment numbered 808.

Lamar Alexander, John Boozman, Roy Blunt, Thom Tillis, Mike Crapo, John Cornyn, Shelley Moore Capito, Steve Daines, Cory Gardner, Richard Burr, Orrin G. Hatch, Roger F. Wicker, David Perdue, Dan Sullivan, John Barrasso, John Thune.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. 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 concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 601, a bill to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of assistance provided under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to promote quality basic education in developing countries, to better enable such countries to achieve universal access to quality basic education and improved learning outcomes, to eliminate duplication and waste, and for other purposes, with a further amendment, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) is necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 79, nays 18, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 191 Leg.]

YEAS—79

Alexander	Feinstein	Nelson
Baldwin	Franken	Perdue
Barrasso	Gardner	Peters
Bennet	Gillibrand	Portman
Blumenthal	Graham	Reed
Blunt	Grassley	Roberts
Booker	Harris	Rounds
Boozman	Hassan	Sanders
Brown	Hatch	Schatz
Burr	Heinrich	Schumer
Cantwell	Heitkamp	Scott
Capito	Heller	Shaheen
Cardin	Hirono	Shelby
Carper	Hoeben	Stabenow
Casey	Isakson	Tester
Cassidy	Kaine	Thune
Cochran	King	Tillis
Collins	Klobuchar	Udall
Coons	Leahy	Van Hollen
Cornyn	Manchin	Warner
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warren
Cotton	McCaskill	Whitehouse
Crapo	McConnell	Wicker
Cruz	Merkley	Wyden
Donnelly	Murkowski	Young
Duckworth	Murphy	
Durbin	Murray	

NAYS—18

Corker	Ernst	Inhofe
Daines	Fischer	Johnson
Enzi	Flake	Kennedy

Lankford	Moran	Sasse
Lee	Paul	Strange
McCain	Risch	Toomey

NOT VOTING—3

Menendez	Rubio	Sullivan
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The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 79, the nays are 18.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 809 WITHDRAWN

Cloture having been invoked, under the previous order, amendment No. 809 is withdrawn.

VOTE ON MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 808

Under the previous order, the question occurs on agreeing to the motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 601, with a further amendment.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, 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 Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) would have voted “yea.”

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) is necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 80, nays 17, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 192 Leg.]

YEAS—80

Alexander	Feinstein	Nelson
Baldwin	Franken	Perdue
Barrasso	Gardner	Peters
Bennet	Gillibrand	Portman
Blumenthal	Harris	Reed
Blunt	Hassan	Roberts
Booker	Hatch	Rounds
Boozman	Heinrich	Sanders
Brown	Heitkamp	Schatz
Burr	Heller	Schumer
Cantwell	Hirono	Scott
Capito	Hoeben	Shaheen
Cardin	Inhofe	Shelby
Carper	Isakson	Stabenow
Casey	Kaine	Strange
Cassidy	Kennedy	Tester
Cochran	King	Thune
Collins	Klobuchar	Tillis
Coons	Leahy	Udall
Cornyn	Manchin	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Markey	Warner
Cotton	McCaskill	Warren
Crapo	McConnell	Whitehouse
Cruz	Merkley	Wicker
Donnelly	Murkowski	Wyden
Duckworth	Murphy	Young
Durbin	Murray	

NAYS—17

Corker	Graham	Moran
Daines	Grassley	Paul
Enzi	Johnson	Risch
Ernst	Lankford	Sasse
Fischer	Lee	Toomey
Flake	McCain	

NOT VOTING—3

Menendez	Rubio	Sullivan
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The motion was agreed to.
The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 175, H.R. 2810.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 175, H.R. 2810, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 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. Mr. President, 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 senior assistant 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. 175, H.R. 2810, an act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 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, David Perdue, Thom Tillis, Deb Fischer, Roy Blunt, Mike Rounds, Pat Roberts, John Boozman, Tom Cotton, Ben Sasse, Mike Crapo, Lindsey Graham, John Thune, John Cornyn, Roger F. Wicker, Richard Burr, Mitch McConnell.

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

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

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. 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.

The Senator from Oregon.

WILDFIRES IN WESTERN STATES

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, in a few minutes, I am going to start sprinting

to the airport to get home to listen to Oregonians who have been clobbered by several megafires unlike anything we have seen in my home State of Oregon. On top of that, in addition to the megafires, there are numerous other fires.

Just up the road from my hometown of Portland, the Eagle Creek fire has merged with the Indian Creek fire and spread over an area of more than 31,000 acres. What we have seen—again, just staggering in its implications—the fire jumped the Columbia River into Washington State. It is ravaging our iconic Columbia River Gorge. This is a treasure beloved by the millions of people who visit every year and the people of my home State.

Next to me is a shot of the fire which has been burning in the Columbia River Gorge now for days. Although it appears the first sparks of the Eagle Creek fire were ignited by a young man, it is clear the inferno was accelerated by the unusual heat in early September. Now the lives and the homes of Gorge residents are under threat, and a world-renowned treasure in my home State has been devastated.

Sadly, this wildfire devastation this month has rippled across Oregon. The Chetco Bar fire in Southwestern Oregon has consumed more than 167,000 acres—an area bigger than all of Portland. The Umpqua North fire east of Roseburg and the Milli fire in Central Oregon have torn through tens of thousands of acres each.

I could go on. The point is, my home State is getting pounded by these fires, and the West is getting pounded by these fires. The skies glow orange at night as the flames burn on. Families wake up to ash on their windshields. Schools are closed, and people have been warned to stay indoors because it is not safe to breathe the hazardous air.

On the Air Quality Index map from the Environmental Protection Agency—which I have here—you can see the effects of the nightmare which has settled in over most of Oregon, Idaho, Washington, and large parts of Montana. As I speak, there are a million and a half acres ablaze across Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, Montana, Colorado, Wyoming, Nevada, and Utah. One-third of these burning acres are in my home State alone. This year is virtually guaranteed to be the worst fire season in history in terms of the total area burnt.

I served as chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee for a time, chaired the Forestry Subcommittee. I have sat in so many committee hearings and heard again and again about the dangers these fires pose to our States. The fact is, the fires are getting hotter, they have gotten bigger, they have gotten tougher to fight, and this is a years-long pattern in the West. It gets hot. It gets dry. There have been inadequate efforts to go in there and thin out the dead and dying material. Then we have a light-

ning strike in our part of the world, and then all of a sudden, we have an inferno on our hands.

This time, as I indicated, it seems as if some of the problem was due to that set of firecrackers, but this is a years-long pattern in the West. Frankly, the same warming trends that have worsened the fires seem to have added fuel to storms that developed in the Gulf of Mexico and over the Atlantic.

My seatmate, Senator NELSON, has been telling us about what his region is faced with. The victims of all these disasters and the communities that will continue to face these growing threats need the government to come up with smarter policies to try to prevent as much of this as possible. That is why I wanted to wrap up my remarks by way of talking about the bizarre way the Federal Government budgets for fighting fire.

In the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, I have led a bipartisan effort for years now. Senator MIKE CRAPO, the senior Senator from Idaho, and I had 260 groups—forestry groups, scientists, environmentalists—join us in the effort. What has happened over the years is the Federal Government has shorted prevention, and then, because of the conditions being hot and dry and lightning strikes or what have you, we have a big fire, and then the Federal Government, to put the fire out, borrows from the prevention fund, and the problem gets worse. That is what we call fire-borrowing. The reason I call it bizarre is that the idea of ripping off prevention, which we need most, defies common sense.

We have a dangerous, worsening cycle known as fire-borrowing. Shoddy budgeting today leads to bigger fires tomorrow, and it needs to stop.

I remember not long ago—because this does so much damage to natural resources policy—the distinguished minority leader of the Senate, Senator SCHUMER, signed on to our bill. We all wondered, well, what is the situation in New York? It turned out they had a problem with a bug and a baseball bat, and the natural resource agencies had trouble dealing with that challenge because so much of the funds had been frittered away with this broken system of fighting fire.

That is why I have now called on the President to include a funding fix in any request for an upcoming disaster aid package. Several of my western colleagues and I—Senators from both sides of the aisle—are calling on Leaders MCCONNELL and SCHUMER today to include a fix in any disaster aid package that comes before this body.

As I said, this battle has gone on for years. I think I mentioned to my friend from New Mexico that this issue with respect to fire-borrowing has been the longest running battle since the Trojan War. It has gone on and on and each year wastes more and more money on a broken system of funding the fight against wildfires.

Senator CRAPO has been an instrumental partner in this effort. He also

has a proposal that in effect builds on what we have been working on for years in the Banking Committee. I support that proposal as well.

I want it understood that there is a lot that has to be dealt with here in the Senate. There have been some horrible disasters—Houston and now the South, with what Senator NELSON is going to wrestle with this weekend. We have a lot to do. But when we are talking about western communities getting hit by a wrecking ball, which is exactly what these mega-fires do, I want it understood that we western Senators, Democrats and Republicans, are going to be teaming up to make sure, as we said in our letter today to Leaders MCCONNELL and SCHUMER, that a fire fix that is based on common sense, sensible practices to try to prevent fires to the greatest extent possible, has to be a focus of priority business in the Senate. Too many western communities—the kind I am going to see this weekend—are faced with destroyed homes, businesses, lost recreation dollars, lost timber revenue, cleanup costs, and forest and range land restoration efforts.

The West cannot wait any longer for Congress to break this dangerous cycle that defies common sense, shortchanges wildfire prevention, and does it year after year. What western Senators are going to do is work together in a bipartisan way, which is what you have to do when your constituents are faced with these kinds of problems. I can tell you, in Oregon or Montana or Idaho, when you have one of these mega-fires, nobody is sitting around waiting to hear about just the Democratic approach or the Republican approach; they want to know what the Federal Government is going to do to help these hard-hit western communities.

It is absolutely essential that the Senate act soon. I have urged the President of the United States, who campaigned as a champion for these communities and the workers who live in them—I have said: Mr. President, do not ignore the West.

Democratic and Republican Senators, given all the promises that have been made over the years, are going to insist that with fires of this magnitude—we have seen plenty of fires in the past, but we haven't seen the kind of thing I have just described that isn't very far from my hometown and across the State—given the urgency of the situation, western Senators of both political parties are making it clear to Leaders MCCONNELL and SCHUMER and the President of the United States that we need the Federal Government to act, and we need it to act now.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

DACA

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, we had promises from the White House that the President would treat DACA recipients with great heart. I don't believe it