

“(7) RULES AND REGULATIONS.—The Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance shall promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary to carry out this subsection, including rules and regulations for submitting and reviewing applications under paragraph (5).

“(8) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated \$13,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022 to carry out this subsection.

“(c) ACCOUNTABILITY.—All grants awarded by the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance under this section shall be subject to the following accountability provisions:

“(1) AUDIT REQUIREMENT.—

“(A) DEFINITION.—In this paragraph, the term ‘unresolved audit finding’ means a finding in the final audit report of the Inspector General of the Department of Justice that the audited grantee has utilized grant funds for an unauthorized expenditure or otherwise unallowable cost that is not closed or resolved within 12 months from the date when the final audit report is issued.

“(B) AUDITS.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this subsection, and in each fiscal year thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of Justice shall conduct audits of recipients of grants under this section to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds by grantees. The Inspector General shall determine the appropriate number of grantees to be audited each year.

“(C) MANDATORY EXCLUSION.—A recipient of grant funds under this section that is found to have an unresolved audit finding shall not be eligible to receive grant funds under this section during the first 2 fiscal years beginning after the end of the 12-month period described in subparagraph (A).

“(D) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this section, the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance shall give priority to eligible applicants that did not have an unresolved audit finding during the 3 fiscal years before submitting an application for a grant under this section.

“(E) REIMBURSEMENT.—If an entity is awarded grant funds under this section during the 2-fiscal-year period during which the entity is barred from receiving grants under subparagraph (C), the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance shall—

“(i) deposit an amount equal to the amount of the grant funds that were improperly awarded to the grantee into the General Fund of the Treasury; and

“(ii) seek to recoup the costs of the repayment to the fund from the grant recipient that was erroneously awarded grant funds.

“(2) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this paragraph and the grant programs under this part, the term ‘nonprofit organization’ means an organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

“(B) PROHIBITION.—The Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance may not award a grant under this section to a nonprofit organization that holds money in offshore accounts for the purpose of avoiding paying the tax described in section 511(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

“(C) DISCLOSURE.—Each nonprofit organization that is awarded a grant under this section and uses the procedures prescribed in regulations to create a rebuttable presumption of reasonableness for the compensation of its officers, directors, trustees, and key employees, shall disclose to the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance, in the application for the grant, the process for determining such compensation, including the

independent persons involved in reviewing and approving such compensation, the comparability data used, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision. Upon request, the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance shall make the information disclosed under this subparagraph available for public inspection.

“(3) CONFERENCE EXPENDITURES.—

“(A) LIMITATION.—No amounts made available to the Department of Justice under this section may be used by the Attorney General, or by any individual or entity awarded discretionary funds through a cooperative agreement under this section, to host or support any expenditure for conferences that uses more than \$20,000 in funds made available by the Department of Justice, unless the head of the relevant agency or department provides prior written authorization that the funds may be expended to host the conference.

“(B) WRITTEN APPROVAL.—Written approval under subparagraph (A) shall include a written estimate of all costs associated with the conference, including the cost of all food, beverages, audio-visual equipment, honoraria for speakers, and entertainment.

“(C) REPORT.—The Deputy Attorney General shall submit an annual report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives on all conference expenditures approved under this paragraph.

“(4) ANNUAL CERTIFICATION.—Beginning in the first fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Attorney General shall submit, to the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, an annual certification—

“(A) indicating whether—

“(i) all audits issued by the Office of the Inspector General under paragraph (1) have been completed and reviewed by the appropriate Assistant Attorney General or Director;

“(ii) all mandatory exclusions required under paragraph (1)(C) have been issued; and

“(iii) all reimbursements required under paragraph (1)(E) have been made; and

“(B) that includes a list of any grant recipients excluded under paragraph (1) from the previous year.

“(d) PREVENTING DUPLICATIVE GRANTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Before the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance awards a grant to an applicant under this section, the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance shall compare potential grant awards with other grants awarded under this section to determine if duplicate grant awards are awarded for the same purpose.

“(2) REPORT.—If the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance awards duplicate grants to the same applicant for the same purpose the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

“(A) a list of all duplicate grants awarded, including the total dollar amount of any duplicate grants awarded; and

“(B) the reason the Director of the Bureau of Justice Assistance awarded the duplicate grants.”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 250—CON-DEMNING HORRIFIC ACTS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST BURMA’S ROHINGYA POPULATION AND CALLING ON AUNG SAN SUU KYI TO PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE IN ENDING THIS HUMANITARIAN TRAGEDY

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 250

Whereas the Rohingya are one of Burma’s many ethnic minorities that have lived under military dictatorship for most of the last few decades;

Whereas approximately 1,000,000 Rohingya live predominantly in Burma’s Rakhine State, where they have faced ongoing repression under the Burmese military, including the revocation of their citizenship, killings, and mass rape;

Whereas there is historical animosity between the majority Buddhist population and the minority Rohingya, with many in the Buddhist majority seeing the Rohingya as illegal immigrants from across the border in Bangladesh despite generational roots;

Whereas since 1999, the Department of State has regularly expressed concern over legal, economic, and social discrimination against Burma’s Rohingya population;

Whereas an outbreak of communal violence in the Rakhine State in 2012 saw more than 100,000 displaced, and tens of thousands of Rohingya forced into squalid camps where travel was, and continues to be, restricted;

Whereas the United Nations Special Rapporteur for Human Rights in Burma reported “a long history of discrimination and persecution against the Rohingya”;

Whereas Aung San Suu Kyi spent 15 years under house arrest for her peaceful advocacy of democracy in Burma, and during those years she was awarded the Sakharov human rights prize from the European Parliament, the Nobel Peace Prize, the United States Presidential Medal of Freedom, and the Congressional Gold Medal for her tireless struggle for democracy and human rights;

Whereas in her 2012 Nobel lecture Aung San Suu Kyi made an impassioned appeal to the world—

(1) not to forget those who are suffering “hunger, disease, displacement, joblessness, poverty, injustice, discrimination, prejudice, bigotry” and war; and

(2) that “wherever suffering is ignored, there will be the seeds of conflict, for suffering degrades and embitters and enrages”;

Whereas in a landmark election held in November 2015, Aung San Suu Kyi’s National League for Democracy won a landslide victory in the first national vote since Burma’s nominal transition to civilian authority, after which Aung San Suu Kyi was named State Counsellor, a role created for her that made her the country’s de facto leader;

Whereas in August 2016, Aung San Suu Kyi helped to establish the high-level Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, which is headed by former United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, in order to address the mistreatment of the Rohingya;

Whereas in October 2016, attacks on border police outposts led to reports of horrific human rights abuses against the Rohingya in a brutal military crackdown;

Whereas in December 2016, a letter to the United Nations Security Council, which was

signed by 23 international activists, including more than a dozen fellow Nobel laureates, called out Aung San Suu Kyi for her silence on the treatment of the Rohingya;

Whereas in February 2017, the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights issued a report, finding that crimes against the Rohingya “seems to have been widespread as well as systematic, indicating the very likely commission of crimes against humanity”;

Whereas in March 2017, the United Nations Human Rights Council adopted a resolution creating a Fact-Finding Mission to Myanmar to investigate allegations of human rights abuses against the Rohingya and issue a report by the following year;

Whereas in April 2017, Aung San Suu Kyi denied that ethnic cleansing had taken place against her country’s Rohingya minority despite widespread and reputable reporting of human rights abuses in Rakhine State;

Whereas on August 25, 2017, fighters from the small militant group the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army conducted surprise raids on 30 police stations and an army base in Rakhine State, in which more than 100 people died, including at least 10 policemen and many militants;

Whereas the attack resulted in a brutal and methodical reprisal by the Burmese military on villages, with helicopters firing on civilians, the razing of villages with petrol bombs, and front line troops cutting off families’ escape routes;

Whereas the assault caused more than 140,000 Rohingya to flee for Bangladesh and more than 30,000 Rohingya are estimated to be trapped in conflict zones in western Burma;

Whereas United Nations field work and the delivery of vital supplies of food, water, and medicine were suspended by the Government of Burma due to security concerns, leaving thousands of Rohingya vulnerable amid the deadly outbreak of violence; and

Whereas on August 31, 2017, the United Nations Security Council met to discuss the violence against the Rohingya in Rakhine State:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the violence and displacement inflicted on Burma’s Rohingya civilians;

(2) calls for an immediate halt to all hostilities by Burmese authorities;

(3) condemns the attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army militant group;

(4) urges the Government of Burma to allow—

(A) unrestricted access to the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar; and

(B) the resumption of the delivery of field work and aid from critical humanitarian organizations to help those displaced and injured and to monitor events in Rakhine State;

(5) calls on the Government of Burma to implement the August 2017 recommendations of its Advisory Commission on Rakhine State, including—

(A) to end restrictions on the movement of the Rohingya; and

(B) to provide the Rohingya with citizenship; and

(6) encourages Aung San Suu Kyi to live up to her inspiring words upon receiving the 2012 Nobel Peace Prize with respect to ethnic reconciliation in Burma and to address the historic and brutal repression of the Rohingya in Rakhine State.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 24—PROVIDING FOR A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 601

Mr. MCCONNELL submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 24

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

That in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 601, the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall make the following corrections:

(1) *Amend the long title so as to read:* “Making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes”.

(2) *Insert before the first section 1 immediately following the enacting clause the following:*

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Continuing Appropriations Act, 2018 and Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2017”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. References.

DIVISION A—REINFORCING EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY IN DEVELOPMENT ACT

DIVISION B—SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR DISASTER RELIEF REQUIREMENTS ACT, 2017

DIVISION C—TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF PUBLIC DEBT RELIEF

DIVISION D—CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2018

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as expressly provided otherwise, any reference to “this Act” contained in any division of this Act shall be treated as referring only to the provisions of that division.

DIVISION A—REINFORCING EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY IN DEVELOPMENT ACT

(3) *In section 3, strike subparagraph (B) of section 105(c)(4) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by such section 3, and all that follows through the end of such section 3, and insert the following:*

“(B) such assistance can produce a substantial, measurable impact on children and educational systems; and

“(C) there is the greatest opportunity to reduce childhood and adolescence exposure to or engagement in violent extremism or extremist ideologies.”.

(4) *Insert after section 3 the following:*

SEC. 4. COMPREHENSIVE INTEGRATED UNITED STATES STRATEGY TO PROMOTE BASIC EDUCATION.

(a) **STRATEGY REQUIRED.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a comprehensive United States strategy to be carried out during the following five fiscal years to promote quality basic education in partner countries by—

(1) seeking to equitably expand access to basic education for all children, particularly marginalized children and vulnerable groups; and

(2) measurably improving the quality of basic education and learning outcomes.

(b) **REQUIREMENT TO CONSULT.**—In developing the strategy required under subsection (a), the President shall consult with—

(1) the appropriate congressional committees;

(2) relevant Executive branch agencies and officials;

(3) partner country governments; and

(4) local and international nongovernmental organizations, including faith-based organizations and organizations representing students, teachers, and parents, and other development partners engaged in basic education assistance programs in developing countries.

(c) **PUBLIC COMMENT.**—The President shall provide an opportunity for public comment on the strategy required under subsection (a).

(d) **ELEMENTS.**—The strategy required under subsection (a)—

(1) shall be developed and implemented consistent with the principles set forth in section 105(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as added by section 3; and

(2) shall seek—

(A) to prioritize assistance provided under this subsection to countries that are partners of the United States and whose populations are most in need of improved basic education, as determined by indicators such as literacy and numeracy rates;

(B) to build the capacity of relevant actors in partner countries, including in government and in civil society, to develop and implement national education plans that measurably improve basic education;

(C) to identify and replicate successful interventions that improve access to and quality of basic education in conflict settings and in partner countries;

(D) to project general levels of resources needed to achieve stated program objectives;

(E) to develop means to track implementation in partner countries and ensure that such countries are expending appropriate domestic resources and instituting any relevant legal, regulatory, or institutional reforms needed to achieve stated program objectives;

(F) to leverage United States capabilities, including through technical assistance, training, and research; and

(G) to improve coordination and reduce duplication among relevant Executive branch agencies and officials, other donors, multilateral institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and governments in partner countries.

SEC. 5. IMPROVING COORDINATION AND OVERSIGHT.

(a) **SENIOR COORDINATOR OF UNITED STATES INTERNATIONAL BASIC EDUCATION ASSISTANCE.**—There is established within the United States Agency for International Development a Senior Coordinator of United States International Basic Education Assistance (referred to in this section as the “Senior Coordinator”). The Senior Coordinator shall be appointed by the President, shall be a current USAID employee serving in a career or noncareer position in the Senior Executive Service or at the level of a Deputy Assistant Administrator or higher, and shall serve concurrently as the Senior Coordinator.

(b) **DUTIES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Senior Coordinator shall have primary responsibility for the oversight and coordination of all resources and activities of the United States Government relating to the promotion of international basic education programs and activities.

(2) **SPECIFIC DUTIES.**—The Senior Coordinator shall—

(A) facilitate program and policy coordination of international basic education programs and activities among relevant Executive branch agencies and officials, partner governments, multilateral institutions, the private sector, and nongovernmental and civil society organizations;