

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.

□ 1700

HOUR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and 10 a.m. for legislative business.

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

There was no objection.

UNITED STATES-JORDAN DEFENSE COOPERATION EXTENSION ACT

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2646) to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2646

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 “United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) In December 2011, Congress passed section 7041(b) of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2012 (Public Law 112-74; 125 Stat. 1223), which appropriated funds made available under the heading “Economic Support Fund” to establish an enterprise fund for Jordan.

(2) The intent of an enterprise fund is to attract private investment to help entrepreneurs and small businesses create jobs and to achieve sustainable economic development.

(3) Jordan is an instrumental partner in the fight against terrorism, including as a member of the Global Coalition To Counter ISIS and the Combined Joint Task Force – Operation Inherent Resolve.

(4) In 2014, His Majesty King Abdullah stated that “Jordanians and Americans have been standing shoulder to shoulder against extremism for many years, but to a new level with this coalition against ISIL”.

(5) On February 3, 2015, the United States signed a three-year memorandum of understanding with Jordan, pledging to provide the kingdom with \$1,000,000,000 annually in United States foreign assistance, subject to the approval of Congress.

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Jordan plays a critical role in responding to the overwhelming humanitarian needs created by the conflict in Syria;

(2) Jordan, the United States, and other partners should continue working together to address this humanitarian crisis and promote regional stability, including through support for refugees in Jordan and internally displaced people along the Jordan-Syria bor-

der and the creation of conditions inside Syria that will allow for the secure, dignified, and voluntary return of people displaced by the crisis; and

(3) The Governments of the United States and Jordan should negotiate a new Memorandum of Understanding, for fiscal years 2018 through 2022, to significantly enhance Jordan’s military capacity and local economy.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF UNITED STATES-JORDAN DEFENSE COOPERATION ACT OF 2015.

Section 5(a) of the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015 (22 U.S.C. 2753 note) is amended—

(1) by striking “During the 3-year period” and inserting “During the period”; and

(2) by inserting “and ending on December 31, 2022” after “enactment of this Act”.

SEC. 5. ESTABLISHMENT OF ENTERPRISE FUND FOR JORDAN.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF JORDAN ENTERPRISE FUND.—The President is authorized to establish and operate an enterprise fund to provide assistance to Jordan.

(b) PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS.—The provisions contained in section 201 of the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5421), excluding the provisions of subsections (a), (b), (c), (d)(3), (f), and (j) of that section, shall be deemed to apply with respect to the Jordan Enterprise Fund and to funds made available to the enterprise fund in the same manner and to the same extent as such provisions apply with respect to enterprise funds established pursuant to such section or to funds made available to such established enterprise funds.

(c) OPERATION OF FUND.—

(1) EXPENDITURES.—Funds made available to the Jordan Enterprise Fund shall be expended at the minimum rate necessary to make timely payments for projects and activities.

(2) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 3 percent of the funds made available to the Jordan Enterprise Fund may be obligated or expended for the administrative expenses of the enterprise fund.

(d) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Jordan Enterprise Fund shall be governed by a Board of Directors comprised of private citizens of the United States or Jordan, who—

(A) shall be appointed by the President, in consultation with the chair and ranking member of each of the appropriate congressional committees; and

(B) have pursued international business careers and have demonstrated expertise in international and emerging market investment activities.

(2) MAJORITY MEMBER REQUIREMENT.—The majority of the members of the Board of Directors shall be United States citizens.

(e) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter until the Jordan Enterprise Fund terminates in accordance with subsection (g), the Board of Directors shall—

(1) submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing the administrative expenses of the enterprise fund; and

(2) publish, on an Internet website administered by the enterprise fund, each report submitted pursuant to subsection (b) in accordance with section 201(p) of the Support for East European Democracy (SEED) Act of 1989 (22 U.S.C. 5421(p)).

(f) LIQUIDATION.—Any funds resulting from any liquidation, dissolution, or winding up of the Jordan Enterprise Fund, in whole or in part, shall be returned to the Treasury.

(g) TERMINATION.—The authority of the Jordan Enterprise Fund to provide assistance shall terminate on the earlier of—

(1) the date that is 7 years after the date of the first expenditure of amounts in accordance with subsection (c)(1); or

(2) the date on which the enterprise fund is liquidated in accordance with subsection (f).

(h) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this section, the term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Chairman ROYCE and Ranking Member ENGEL for their support for this measure and for their leadership in helping to bring H.R. 2646, the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act, to the floor today.

I also want to thank my friends and colleagues Nita Lowey, Ted Deutch, Hal Rogers, and Adam Schiff for joining me in introducing this bill.

This is a strong bipartisan bill that underscores the importance of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in helping both of our nations work toward achieving shared goals of security and stability in the Middle East.

It acknowledges what we have all known for many years, and that is that His Majesty and the kingdom are indispensable allies in the fight against radicalism and terror in the region.

Jordan and its military have played important roles in many of our counter-ISIS operations, and in many ways our relationship with Jordan has served as a force multiplier and has allowed the coalition to make all the positive gains that we have made over the past year or so.

But that would have not been possible without a robust foreign military financing—FMF—program that we have in place with our allies in Jordan. That is why in 2015, Mr. Speaker, I introduced and the President signed in 2016 the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act.

This bill authorized the administration to enter into a memorandum of understanding—MOU—with Jordan.

Why?

To increase our military cooperation with Jordan and to provide the kingdom with increased FMF assistance.

It also allowed Jordan to be included in a list of close and trusted allies that are eligible for streamlined and expedited defense sales.

Why is that important?

Because Jordan is on the front lines in the fight against terror and we rely heavily on Jordan's cooperation.

That bill also authorized the administration to increase our economic support for the kingdom. We recognize the great contributions that Jordan has made in response to the Syrian refugee crisis. Since the Assad regime began its campaign of destruction, murdering over half a million people in the process, millions of Syrians have fled their war-torn nation. Hundreds of thousands, if not over a million, Syrians have crossed over the border into Jordan seeking refuge from the fighting. For a country of just a few million in population, an influx of this magnitude would strain the government's already limited resources.

Yet, Jordan recognized the need to provide refuge to those fleeing the murderous Assad regime and its cronies; the Putin regime; and Iran and its proxy, the terror group Hezbollah. We, in return, recognized the strategic importance of Jordan's security and stability. That is why we must ensure that the kingdom does indeed have the resources that it needs, both in the fight against terror but also in support of the larger refugee population.

That memorandum of understanding was signed 3 years ago this week, and it ran through fiscal year 2017. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, Jordan's current and future security and stability are far from guaranteed. Most of the refugees remain, and despite having made great progress in defeating ISIS, the terror threat is far from being eliminated.

That is why I authored this bill before us today, along with this bipartisanship coalition of colleagues, to extend the provisions of the original United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act for another 5-year period through 2022.

We need to enhance Jordan's military capacity and its local economy significantly, and it is my hope that our two governments will soon enter into a renewed memorandum of understanding—MOU—at an increased level that meets the needs of the kingdom.

In addition to extending the provisions of the Defense Cooperation Act, this bill provides for the establishment of a Jordanian Enterprise Fund. An enterprise fund would attract private investment and help entrepreneurs and small businesses create jobs in a way that would foster sustainable economic development in Jordan for the long term and in a self-sustaining fashion.

Mr. Speaker, Jordan's security and Jordan's stability, they are both vital not just for our ally, but they are vital for the region and for our own national security interests. It is vital that we send a strong bipartisanship message of support. I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield the remainder of my time to the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE), our esteemed chairman, and I ask unanimous consent that he be allowed to control that time.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from the Foreign Affairs Committee, Congresswoman ROS-LEHTINEN; as well as my colleague, the ranking member of the Middle East and North Africa Subcommittee, Ted Deutch, for their work on this important piece of legislation.

The United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act would ensure Jordan's continued eligibility for a more streamlined process for accessing defense articles, acknowledging the very difficult challenges that Jordan faces from extremist organizations both within Jordan and on its borders.

The legislation supports a new memorandum of understanding to enhance Jordan's military capacity and economic growth, and it authorizes an enterprise fund that would invest in Jordan's economy.

I am glad that this bill reflects our comprehensive relationship with Amman, which is so vital at this point in history in the region.

□ 1715

The legislation acknowledges the key role Jordan plays as a partner against ISIS, or Daesh, and as a home to thousands of Iraqi, Syrian, and Palestinian refugees.

I would like to note the important work that Jordan does in facilitating cross-border assistance to Syria, preventing further destabilization. Jordan also plays a critical role in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, and I hope that Jordan and Israel are able to soon return to the normal level of diplomatic cooperation.

The bottom line is this: it is in our national security interest to work with Jordan on the security threats facing the region, as well as opportunities for economic growth within Jordan. This bill will help advance both of those goals.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

We are here, really, to reaffirm a very important commitment that we have to one of our closest partners in the Middle East, and that is Jordan. I think all of us agree that, over the generations, it has been astounding the way Jordan has always offered safe haven and refuge through the generations to others.

This bill gives us an opportunity to continue that close working relation-

ship that we have with Jordan because, as we know, Jordan is locked—has been locked—in a struggle with ISIS, or Daesh, as they call it in that part of the world. They have been involved on the battlefield, and this bill addresses both the military and economic elements of the close relationship we have with Jordan.

As they valiantly fight ISIS, Jordanians have struggled to absorb, most recently, more than 1 million Syrian refugees; and they are doing this, obviously, while coping with a tough economy, with an overburdened infrastructure, and with high unemployment for their youth. I have been to some of the schools in Jordan to see the Jordanians as they once again reach out a hand of friendship to help those who are in this predicament.

Although Jordan has successfully worked with the Millennium Challenge Corporation and the World Bank to address some of the economic challenges, it really has not been enough to create the level of vital economic growth needed in the circumstances that Jordan is in.

Economic opportunity and prosperity in Jordan are one element of our bulwark against extremist groups, against the Iranian regime, the IRGC, who seek to spread chaos and destruction, and as ISIS seeks to spread death.

In addition to supporting existing efforts, including regional water and energy projects that bring needed resources and will bring increased cooperation between neighbors, this bill calls for the establishment of an enterprise fund for Jordan. This is a measure previously authorized, previously funded by this body, and this fund will help create economic opportunity through private-public partnership, through investments in small and medium enterprises, and it will also create market development in Jordan.

Although not a familiar measure to many, enterprise funds have already been very successful in Tunisia, and we have seen that. We have seen that success.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank our colleagues for their support for this measure for our ally and friend, Jordan, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to go ahead and close now and just reiterate what I said earlier. This is such important legislation and really achieves both goals on the security front as well as the economic front.

Mr. Speaker, I urge its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

In closing, I would like to thank my colleagues. I would like to thank the ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. ENGEL, but I would also like to thank Mr. Eagle over there, BRENDAN BOYLE, and I would

like to thank ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN as well.

Jordan, of course, is a key partner in our struggle against ISIS and against the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps and other destabilizing actors in the Middle East. This bill supports our joint efforts on the battlefield and will help Jordan achieve much-needed economic growth.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and, once again, extend the arm of friendship to our closest partner, Jordan.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) be allowed to reclaim his unused time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman.

We have one of the two main sponsors for the bill who has just joined us and wants the opportunity to speak.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH).

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Pennsylvania, and I greatly appreciate the chairman for his unanimous consent request.

I want to thank Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN for her tremendous leadership in helping advance H.R. 2646, the United States Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act. This bill is important because our partnership with Jordan is important, and I want to quickly explain why my constituents back home believe that this is important.

Those good-news headlines that we have read about, U.S. military success against ISIS, are, in part, thanks to Jordan. Jordan is a key partner in the international coalition to defeat ISIS and has fought airstrikes right alongside us. Just last week, the U.S. finished delivery of Black Hawk helicopters to Amman that are used to take terrorists off the battlefield, helping to keep both our nations safer.

The bill before us today ensures that Jordan continues to get this critical military assistance, but it does more than that. It also ensures that Jordan gets the economic support it needs to care for over 1 million Syrian refugees now living in Jordan as a result of the war next door. This influx has taken a huge toll on Jordan's resources.

Today, we are helping ease that burden with emergency services, education, and access to clean water. In fact, Chairman ROS-LEHTINEN and I had an opportunity just a few years ago to see firsthand a USAID project: a wastewater treatment facility that, today, is providing access to clean water for millions of Jordanians.

This is the right thing to do both for America's strategic interests and for American values. Jordan's stability is vital to regional stability. Our com-

mitment to an enduring strategic partnership with Jordan is critical to our mission of defeating ISIS, caring for the victims of war, and pursuing end-of-conflict agreements throughout the Middle East.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again thank my colleagues for their bipartisan support of this piece of legislation, and I urge all of us to vote "yes" for H.R. 2646.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE of California. 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, H.R. 2646, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

UKRAINE CYBERSECURITY COOPERATION ACT OF 2017

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1997) to encourage United States-Ukraine cybersecurity cooperation and require a report regarding such cooperation, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1997

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 "Ukraine Cybersecurity Cooperation Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States established diplomatic relations with Ukraine in 1992, following Ukraine's independence from the Soviet Union.

(2) The United States attaches great importance to the success of Ukraine's transition to a modern democratic country with a flourishing market economy.

(3) In an effort to undermine democracy in Ukraine, hackers targeted the country's voting infrastructure just days before its 2014 presidential election.

(4) In December 2015, a malicious cyber intrusion into Ukrainian electric utility companies resulted in widespread power outages.

(5) As a result of the December 2015 cyber incident, the United States sent an interagency team to Ukraine, including representatives from the Department of Energy, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the North American Electric Reliability Corporation, to help with the investigation and to assess the vulnerability of Ukraine's infrastructure to cyber intrusion. The visit was followed up by another interagency delegation to Ukraine in March 2016 and a May 2016 United States-Ukrainian tabletop exercise on mitigating attacks against Ukraine's infrastructure.

(6) In response to an escalating series of cyber attacks on the country's critical infra-

structure – including its national railway system, its major stock exchanges, and its busiest airport – President Petro Poroshenko declared that "Cyberspace has turned into another battlefield for state independence."

(7) In May 2017, Ukraine cited activities on Russian social media platforms, including pro-Russian propaganda and offensive cyber operations, as threats to Ukrainian national security.

(8) Following the June 2017 Petya malware event – a global cyber incident that primarily affected Ukraine – the Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) said "the cyber attacks we have seen. . . very much highlight the importance of the support, the help NATO provides . . . gives . . . or provides to Ukraine to strengthen its cyber defenses, technical and other kinds of support. We will continue to do that and it's an important part of our cooperation with Ukraine."

(9) In September 2017, the United States and Ukraine conducted the first United States-Ukraine Bilateral Cyber Dialogue in Kyiv, during which both sides affirmed their commitment to an internet that is open, interoperable, reliable, and secure, and the United States announced \$5 million in new cyber assistance to strengthen Ukraine's ability to prevent, mitigate, and respond to cyber attacks.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY.

It is the policy of the United States to—

(1) reaffirm the United States-Ukraine Charter on Strategic Partnership, which highlights the importance of the bilateral relationship and outlines enhanced cooperation in the areas of defense, security, economics and trade, energy security, democracy, and cultural exchanges;

(2) support continued cooperation between NATO and Ukraine;

(3) support Ukraine's political and economic reforms;

(4) reaffirm the commitment of the United States to the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances;

(5) assist Ukraine's efforts to enhance its cybersecurity capabilities; and

(6) improve Ukraine's ability to respond to Russian-supported disinformation and propaganda efforts in cyberspace, including through social media and other outlets.

SEC. 4. UNITED STATES CYBERSECURITY COOPERATION WITH UKRAINE.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State should take the following actions, commensurate with United States interests, to assist Ukraine to improve its cybersecurity:

(1) Provide Ukraine such support as may be necessary to secure government computer networks from malicious cyber intrusions, particularly such networks that defend the critical infrastructure of Ukraine.

(2) Provide Ukraine support in reducing reliance on Russian information and communications technology.

(3) Assist Ukraine to build its capacity, expand cybersecurity information sharing, and cooperate on international cyberspace efforts.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report on United States cybersecurity cooperation with Ukraine. Such report shall also include information relating to the following:

(1) United States efforts to strengthen Ukraine's ability to prevent, mitigate, and respond to cyber incidents, including through training, education, technical assistance, capacity building, and cybersecurity risk management strategies.