

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.

(2) The potential for new areas of collaboration and mutual assistance between the United States and Ukraine in addressing shared cyber challenges, including cybercrime, critical infrastructure protection, and resilience against botnets and other automated, distributed threats.

(3) NATO's efforts to help Ukraine develop technical capabilities to counter cyber threats.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) 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 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, we are here to talk about Ukraine and the U.S.-Ukraine cyber cooperation. Ukraine, of course, is on the front lines of digital combat as we have learned. Few countries have endured as great a level of cyber invasion and aggression as has Ukraine at the hands of Russia and at the hands of other malicious actors as well.

I led a delegation of four Democrats and four Republicans into the east, into Dnipropetrovsk in the Donbass region, and we had an opportunity to hear about what is being done to try to tear that country apart.

This is in addition to the invasion in the east, the occupation of the east. This is the farthest east one can go in Ukraine today, and you can see the struggle that everyday people are having with the disinformation campaign launched against them relentlessly. As President Poroshenko said, "Cyberspace has turned into another battlefield for state independence," and that is so true for Ukraine.

Their struggle to defend their independence and their territorial integrity from Russian aggression extends far beyond the armed conflict of the occupation of its territory. In 2014, hackers targeted Ukraine's electoral infrastructure just days before its presidential election. The following year, a malicious cyber intrusion shut down the country's electric grid, turning off the lights and turning off the heat in the dead of winter.

Ukraine's critical infrastructure, including its national railway system, its major stock exchanges, and its busiest airport, have been repeatedly targeted by sophisticated cyber attacks.

Most of these continuing assaults have been identified by experts as Russian in origin. By working with the government in Kiev, we can better pre-

pare ourselves as well as our friends in partner countries against similar aggression, including combating Russian disinformation efforts that rely heavily on disseminating propaganda. That propaganda poses as legitimate news.

So this bill will enhance our cooperation with Ukraine in addressing shared cyber challenges, including cybercrime and the protection of critical infrastructure.

Modern society requires an internet worldwide that is open, that is reliable, that is secure, which can only be ensured if all those who seek to preserve it join forces to defeat those who wish to destroy it.

Mr. Speaker, 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 thank the gentleman for bringing up my bipartisan bill, and I especially want to thank the chairman of our committee, Mr. ROYCE of California, for his action and moving on our bipartisan piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I believe cybersecurity is the national security challenge of our time. Cyber warfare is inexpensive to carry out and easy for adversaries to hide behind, making it especially damaging, difficult to detect, and impossible for the victim to quickly respond.

In January, the CIA attributed to Russian military hackers a cyber attack that crippled computers in Ukraine last year. This attack wiped data from the computers of banks, energy firms, senior government officials, and an airport. The virus went on to affect computer systems in Denmark, India, and even here in the United States.

For years, Putin has been using Ukraine as a field test for these cyber attacks. Ukraine, after all, is on the front line for these nation self-directed cyber attacks, and they are potential harbingers of attacks on the United States.

By assisting Ukraine, we can learn best practices to best defend ourselves. For these reasons, I introduced H.R. 1997 with my Republican colleague from Pennsylvania, Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick, which encourages cooperation between the United States and our ally Ukraine on matters of cybersecurity and requires a report from the State Department on best practices to protect ourselves—to the benefit of both nations.

□ 1730

In Ukraine, it is no coincidence that cyber attacks against itself increased when the Ukrainian people self-organized to demand an open and democratic society in 2014 contrary to Putin's interests.

Days before the 2014 Presidential election, hackers infiltrated Ukraine's Central Election Commission with a series of attacks that disabled the website in an attempt to sow distrust in the outcome of the election of President Poroshenko.

In December of 2015, hackers remotely shut down power at three regional electricity distribution companies, creating a power outage affecting more than 200,000 people. We can only imagine what it must feel like to lose electricity and heat during the winter in Ukraine.

Cyber attacks, unfortunately, have only continued since. Ukraine's next Presidential election is just next year. Our own elections are right around the corner later this year, and, of course, the Presidential election is in 2020.

Both the United States and Ukraine have clear interests in strengthening our cyber defenses. Moreover, our cooperation toward this goal will send a strong and important signal of Western support for Ukraine at a time when it is literally fighting to protect its own democracy.

We must stand strong with the people of Ukraine and our NATO allies and come together in furtherance of our cybersecurity defenses. This bill is a reasonable first step to do just that, and it is obviously very timely.

I thank Chairman ROYCE again, as well as Ranking Member ENGEL for their hard work and support for this bill, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it. It is time we address this vital issue.

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

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK), who is an esteemed member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. And besides Brendan Boyle here, he is another big Philly Eagles fan.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman so much for all the work he does on the committee and for bringing the bill to the floor. I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) for all of his work on this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my full support for H.R. 1997, the U.S.-Ukraine Cybersecurity Cooperation Act.

During my career as an FBI agent, I was assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Kiev, Ukraine, where I worked closely with our Ukrainian counterparts on a whole host of issues to include cybersecurity.

Mr. Speaker, one thing is clear: we must strengthen our relationship with Ukraine wherever possible and by whatever means possible. They have acted as a steadfast ally to the United States against a hostile Russia.

Further, there should be no doubt that cybersecurity and cyber warfare are the rising threats of our time. We have seen plenty of occasions where bad actors—state-sponsored or otherwise—have executed cyber attacks against private companies, government entities, and the very institutions upon which our Nation was founded. These attacks will only continue to increase both in sophistication and frequency as we continue into the 21st century.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge my colleagues, Democratic and Republican alike, to support this crucial and necessary piece of legislation both for the United States and Ukraine, and for all our allies.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH), who is someone who grew up a strong Philadelphia sports fan.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from the Philadelphia area who has introduced this important piece of legislation with Mr. FITZPATRICK, another fine Representative from the Philadelphia sports-loving area, which gives me the opportunity on the House floor to claim my Pennsylvania roots and to congratulate the Philadelphia Eagles.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the U.S.-Ukraine Cybersecurity Cooperation Act introduced by Mr. BOYLE and Mr. FITZPATRICK. I thank Chairman ROYCE for his ongoing leadership on this issue.

The director of the CIA, Mike Pompeo, said last week that he has every expectation that Russia will again try to meddle in our elections. That should concern us. It should also concern us that the President has decided to ignore Congress and not impose sanctions against Russia.

But Russia's attacks on the United States follow a playbook that they have used in their own region, most recently against Ukraine.

In addition to rampant disinformation campaigns and political interference, Russia has launched numerous cyber attacks against Ukraine, including knocking out large swaths of its electrical grid in massive attacks. Those capabilities could one day be used against us here at home.

That is why the U.S.-Ukraine Cybersecurity Cooperation Act is so important. The United States has an interest both in defending Ukraine from Russian aggression and in securing our own defenses. Helping Ukraine actually teaches us best practices for hardening our own defenses against potential Russian attacks on our critical infrastructure.

That is why I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1997, the U.S.-Ukraine Cybersecurity Cooperation Act.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Let me say one thing that strikes me and saddens me. When I hold townhalls or meetings with constituent groups, usually some variation of this comment will be made: Why don't you guys get along? Why don't you do something?

Actually, I then tell them about our work on the Foreign Affairs Committee. I tell them that, under the leadership of Ed Royce and Eliot Engel as well as the other members of the committee from both sides of the aisle, a lot of work does get done and a real spirit of cooperation prevails in our

committee meetings. I think that this piece of legislation is an example of that.

This is an important issue. We are standing up for Ukraine, but as I mentioned earlier, we are also doing what is clearly in the best interests of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, at the risk of sounding immodest, I urge passage of my legislation, legislation that I have worked on very hard with BRIAN FITZPATRICK.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to also recognize and thank my colleagues, especially Mr. BOYLE and Mr. FITZPATRICK, one Democratic and one Republican, both from Philadelphia, the sponsors of this bipartisan legislation. I want to thank Mr. BOYLE for his work on this important bill because I think the threat to Ukraine and cyberspace is not isolated. It shouldn't be ignored. I think that when we talk to the researchers, they have warned that the attacks on Ukraine by state and by nonstate actors might be a test run for even larger additional attacks in the future on the United States and on our NATO allies.

While we must bolster our own capabilities, we should also cooperate with our friends and partners such as Ukraine because we have got to be sharing best practices; we have got to improve joint capabilities; and we have got to provide that mutual assistance to prevent, mitigate, and respond to those international cyber attacks.

This legislation is going to enhance that effort. And in so doing, it is going to strengthen our ability to protect our own country from those who seek to do us harm.

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

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the bipartisan Ukraine Cybersecurity Cooperation Act of 2017. Let me first thank the hard work of Representative BRIAN FITZPATRICK, fellow Ukraine Caucus chair and Representative BRENDAN BOYLE, as well as Chairman ED ROYCE and the Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL for their support.

As we know all too well, Russian aggression towards Ukraine is not a new threat. Russia's hostile behavior continues to threaten Ukraine's freedom and destabilize its critical infrastructure and institutions. Since Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014, over 10,000 people have been killed and two million people have been uprooted, internally displaced. Ukraine finds herself on the front lines of hybrid war and an assault on her sovereignty—this time in the form of cyber warfare.

We as Americans have also been attacked by this insidious form of hybrid warfare. It is our duty to help other nations resist threat to liberty. To this day, the fallout of Russian interference in our sacred electoral process continues to plague our political landscape. At least 21 states, including Ohio, reported Russian hacking attempts in the 2016 election.

Experts in the intelligence and defense communities have all warned that this threat is not going away. In fact, cybersecurity threats tested in Ukraine will likely be turned on the U.S. in elections this year.

By supporting this bill, we provide Ukraine with critical upgraded safeguards she needs to protect herself, her institutions, and her liberty. Upgrading Ukraine's current technological infrastructure grants her freedom from Russian technology. It gives her the ability to share sensitive information on an international level. And, we will strengthen our own cybersecurity through lessons learned from increased cooperation with Ukraine.

Ukraine and her people have every right to sovereignty and self-determination as they seek a more democratic future. It is paramount that the United States uphold our longstanding commitments to our allies, as hybrid threats loom. This measure will provide the citizens of Ukraine with the support they need to defend themselves. That's why I strongly support this measure, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1997—the Ukraine Cybersecurity Cooperation Act—offered by our Foreign Affairs Committee colleague from Pennsylvania, BRENDAN BOYLE.

This bill focuses on how the U.S. and Ukraine can work together to address cyber threats and how the U.S. can help improve Ukraine's domestic cybersecurity capabilities.

But it also serves as a reminder to this body, and especially to this administration, that we need to work to improve our own cybersecurity defenses and we need to hold those who target us accountable.

Mr. Speaker, the events in Ukraine that spurred the necessity for Mr. BOYLE's bill were a harbinger of things to come for the United States.

Ahead of the 2014 Presidential elections in Ukraine, Russian or pro-Russian elements hacked into Ukraine's Central Election Commission in a series of attacks in an attempt to undermine the results and stir up unrest throughout the country.

Then in December 2015, Putin-backed hackers attacked Ukraine's infrastructure, compromising three energy distribution companies, leaving nearly a quarter of a million people without electricity for several hours.

Imagine being without electricity during this period, when the daily average high temperature in Ukraine in December is below freezing.

Those were not the last of the attacks against Ukraine orchestrated by Putin.

But they were, perhaps, practice runs for what Putin had planned for the U.S. and others.

Because true to form, Putin then targeted the U.S. electoral system in 2016 the same way he targeted Ukraine's in 2014.

This is not in dispute—yet for whatever reason, we were ill prepared to prevent it, and the administration has been deficient in our response to hold this meddling accountable.

So while I fully support this measure and I urge my colleagues to do the same, I also urge my colleagues and the administration to take action against the totality of Russia's illicit activity aimed at us and our like-minded allies.

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. 1997, 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, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

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

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

#### WAR CRIMES REWARDS EXPANSION ACT

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3851) to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to provide for rewards for the arrest or conviction of certain foreign nationals who have committed genocide or war crimes, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3851

*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 “War Crimes Rewards Expansion Act”.

#### SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF STATE REWARDS PROGRAM.

Paragraph (10) of section 36(b) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(b)) is amended by striking “defined under the statute of such tribunal.” and inserting the following: “defined—

“(A) under the statute of such country or tribunal, as the case may be; or

“(B) under United States law;”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE) 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 days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material in the RECORD on this measure.

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, let me just start by thanking the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) who is very engaged on this issue; and my ranking member on the Foreign Affairs Committee as well, ELIOT ENGEL. They introduced this bill together.

For the last 33 years, the Department of State War Crimes Rewards Program has authorized the Secretary of State to offer rewards for the arrest or the conviction of certain dangerous individuals. Originally drafted to be used against international terrorists, this successful program has been expanded over the years to include the use against others who threaten our safety and our security. So this now includes drug traffickers, war criminals, and perpetrators of genocide, some of those efforts I had authored years ago.

But in 2012, we expanded it further to transnational organized crime. At that time, my subcommittee held a hearing where the State Department testified that one captured target, a narco terrorist, told DEA agents that he could no longer trust anyone in his organization after a reward was offered on his head.

What he said was: I felt like a hunted man.

Exactly. That is the rationale behind that program, and that is why we expanded it then with my legislation and why we expand it today with the legislation of VIRGINIA FOXX and ELIOT ENGEL, because our goal here is to turn the table on these dangerous criminals and help ensure that they have no safe haven from justice.

The bill before us today clarifies these authorities. The current statute authorized rewards for the arrest or conviction of foreign nationals for war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide. Many people often think of those things in connection with international tribunals. But the U.S. also has domestic statutes on the books that criminalize war crimes and criminalize genocide. This bill makes clear that the State Department's rewards can be used in connection with the prosecution of foreign nationals in U.S. courts for those crimes, as well to make sure that inducement is there.

Tragically, these authorities continue to be necessary and we know continue to be important. We live in a world where crimes against humanity are perpetrated. We have seen two declared genocides in as many decades. One in Darfur in 2004. I remember seeing firsthand a young boy who had his hand amputated by the Janjaweed and by ISIS in 2016. Any of us can pick up our iPhone and see the results of that kind of terror. We also see tragic ethnic cleansing against the Rohingya right now in Burma.

So I again want to thank Congresswoman FOXX and Mr. ENGEL for their work on the bill. It deserves our support.

Mr. Speaker, 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 rise in support of this bill.

I would like to recognize Congresswoman VIRGINIA FOXX and Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL, along with Con-

gressmen RANDY HULTGREN and JAMES MCGOVERN, for their work on this bipartisan piece of legislation.

The War Crimes Rewards Expansion Act would clarify the War Crimes Rewards Program. This program is an important tool for bringing to justice the perpetrators of war crimes, crimes against humanity, and genocide.

Under current law, the United States uses the program to pay rewards for the arrest or conviction of foreign nationals who commit some of the most heinous acts. In the past, bounties have helped find fugitives from the former Yugoslavia to Rwanda.

The statute providing authorization for this program specifies that rewards can be paid to individuals who furnish information leading to arrests or convictions for war crimes, crimes against humanity, or genocide, as those terms are defined under the statutes of international tribunals.

H.R. 3851 clarifies that the Secretary of State can also choose to pay rewards for arrests and convictions that take place under the laws of the United States as well as other individual countries.

□ 1745

Under certain circumstances, prosecutions will have the greatest impact when they take place in domestic courts within the societies in which those crimes occur. Doing so can help ensure the parties understand the law, witnesses have access to the trials, and public awareness is maximized. The clarification provided in this bill will help build on the program's success, providing the State Department with clear authority to use rewards for a wide range of prosecutions, when appropriate.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of bipartisan legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX), chairwoman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce and the author of this bill.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman ROYCE very much for his help on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to speak in support of the War Crimes Rewards Expansion Act, introduced by my good friend ELIOT ENGEL and me. It is another excellent example today of bipartisanship here in the House.

As Chairman ROYCE said, this bill expands and reforms the War Crimes Rewards Program, which provides bounties for perpetrators of the world's worst human rights abusers.

The current program authorizes these rewards only for the purposes of prosecutions in international tribunals. While experts can attest to the necessity of international tribunals or mixed court tribunals in limited circumstances, the program fails to offer