

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for this. This is a real problem that we have. As a physician, I will tell you, we haven't gotten this right yet.

Again, I am an anesthesiologist, and I have been taking care of patients for 30 years, three decades. What we still find is that we have people who prescribe narcotics and opioids.

We know, by the way, Madam Chair, that if someone is given a 10-day supply of opioids for an outpatient operation, there is a 10 percent chance that they will be addicted 1 year afterward.

Yesterday, my son had an outpatient operation, and he got a prescription for 50 opioid pills. I am sitting there thinking, oh my God, is there an alternative?

We were taught for years that if you go to the emergency room and you have a broken bone, you are going to get sent out with a narcotic prescription. Then they did a study that shows that alternating Tylenol with ibuprofen, acetaminophen with ibuprofen, is just as good as the narcotic.

□ 1015

My God, for decades, we have been giving people narcotics, unaware that we were committing a certain number of them to a terrible life.

And I appreciate the gentleman's passion about it, because we had good news in Maryland yesterday, for the first time, the number of deaths from overdoses went down. But the number of overdoses continues to increase.

We got better at preventing the deaths. Now we have to get better at preventing the addiction and treating the addiction.

Madam Chair, this amendment goes a long way toward that.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Chair, I thank my colleagues for the support. I urge the passage of the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL).

The question was taken; and the Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New Jersey will be postponed.

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PASCRELL) having assumed the chair, Mrs. FLETCHER, Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2740) making appropri-

tions for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 431 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 2740.

Will the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. FLETCHER) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1017

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 2740) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, with Mrs. FLETCHER (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, pursuant to House Resolution 436, further proceedings on amendment No. 2 printed in part B of House Report 116-111 offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL) had been postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 78 OFFERED BY MRS. LESKO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 78 printed in part B of House Report 116-109.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 593, line 22, strike "That" and all that follows through "Provided further," on page 594, line 2.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 431, the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Arizona.

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Chair, my amendment would strike the requirement that at least \$750 million of Global Health Programs shall be made available for so-called family planning, a funding stream that can support domestically-based, nongovernment organizations that support the global abortion industry.

Regard for human life has never been higher. Polling statistics indicate that Americans are as likely to identify as pro-life as they are pro-choice.

A Marist Poll shows that 75 percent of Americans would limit abortion to the first 3 months of pregnancy.

Further, Americans oppose taxpayer funding for abortion in the U.S., 54 percent to 39 percent.

Madam Chair, 75 percent of Americans oppose using tax dollars to fund abortions in foreign countries. That is 75 percent.

Our policies reflect these views through the Hyde amendment, which has protected Federal tax dollars from funding abortions in the United States for the last four decades, and the Helms amendment, passed in 1973, to protect tax dollars from being spent on abortions through U.S. foreign assistance.

Most recently, President Trump has committed to Congress and to the American people that he will veto any legislation that encourages the destruction of innocent human life at any stage.

Our President has also courageously reinstated the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy, which prohibits foreign nongovernment organizations from performing and promoting abortion as long as they are receiving U.S. tax dollars.

However, domestic nongovernment organizations are still using Federal tax dollars to perform and promote abortion abroad.

In the State and Foreign Operations appropriations language, we use the word "family planning" and "reproductive health" to disguise giving grant recipients license to permeate foreign countries with abortion.

Promoting abortion in poor, developing nations undermines our purposes in providing lifesaving assistance and, I believe, disrespects the cultures and, sometimes, the policies of those nations.

It encourages the idea that having fewer children reduces poverty and economic instability instead of promoting real solutions to those problems, like more human rights and liberties and helping women be self-employed.

Stopping domestic nongovernment organizations from using American tax dollars for abortions is consistent with our other policies, like the Hyde and Helms amendments, and the PLGHA that limits government funding for abortions, and is consistent with the views of 75 percent of Americans.

These policies save lives. In the case of my amendment, thousands of children all over the world can be saved.

To be clear, my amendment does not eliminate, nor does it reduce, funding. My amendment aims to ensure that, instead of investing funds in promoting and performing abortions abroad, the valuable dollars that fund our global health programs are vested in reducing maternal and infant mortality, treating birth complications and enabling access to safe blood, nutrition, and antibiotics.

These dollars should be used to provide quality obstetric care and true humanitarian assistance to those in need.

My amendment ensures that our Nation's policies align with the views of the vast majority of the American people. We must not allow this onslaught on children to continue being promoted in foreign nations, and especially not with our tax dollars.

Children are a source of hope, prosperity, and development. They must be treated as such from the very beginning of their lives, here and everywhere.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. PASCRELL). The gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I am shocked that my colleague would propose an amendment that would strike all funding for bilateral family planning.

These services prevent unintended pregnancies, maternal deaths, and abortions; reduce rates of infant and child mortality; empower women to stay in school and join the workforce; create stronger and healthier families; and improve economies.

Aren't these bipartisan policy outcomes that both sides of the aisle should be supporting?

Family planning does exactly what it says: It helps women plan when to have a family.

But, as we sit here today, more than 200 million women around the world still lack access to modern contraceptives.

If we want to build the self-reliance of countries, one of the most cost-effective measures is to increase access to the family planning services that women so desperately seek. Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LEE), a member of the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee.

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Chair, I thank Madam Chair for her leadership and for yielding time.

I rise in strong opposition to this amendment, which would strike the provision in the bill that increases funding for international family planning and reproductive health programs.

Women around the world deserve access to the full range of reproductive healthcare, and the Fiscal Year 2020 State and Foreign Operations bill will help to ensure that.

USAID provides vitally needed family planning funds to overseas health centers. Evidence has shown that USAID family planning programs have had important, real-world effects on the health of women and families worldwide, resulting in fewer unintended births, abortions, and miscarriages.

Funding for our international family planning programs has also helped reduce maternal and infant deaths, a

goal that has strong bipartisan support.

Mr. Chair, I have been around the world, to Africa and to other countries and continents, and have talked with families in villages, women and their spouses with maybe five, six, seven children.

I have visited these villages with Republicans. And their first request to us is to help them with family planning. They know that it is so important in terms of planning the births of their children and in terms of just the stability of the family and the empowerment of women that family planning services be available.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment, and I urge my colleagues to oppose the amendment.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, cutting funds to bilateral family planning programs is simply bad foreign policy. It undermines U.S. Agency for International Development objectives and hurts millions of women and girls.

I strongly urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Arizona will be postponed.

□ 1030

AMENDMENT NO. 79 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 79 printed in part B of House Report 116-109.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 405, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 431, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, let me thank the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS) for their great leadership. But let me thank the gentlewoman from New York again for her overall leadership as chair of the Appropriations Committee, and her ranking member as well.

These are the tools of female genital mutilation. Around the world, there are young girls and women who are fac-

ing this kind of brutal attack. My amendment, which makes a good bill even better, provides \$1 million more to help combat the draconian practice of female genital mutilation, cutting, FGM/C, abroad.

Female genital mutilation comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for nonmedical purposes.

This practice is rooted in gender inequality and is often linked to other elements of gender-based violence and discrimination, such as child marriage, recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of women and girls.

Unfortunately, this means an estimated 200 million girls and women alive today have been victims already of FGM/C, female genital mutilation, with girls 14 and younger representing 44 million of those who have been cut.

For example, around the world, at least five girls are mutilated, cut. More than 3 million girls are estimated to be at risk.

The impacts of this on the physical health of women and girls can include bleeding, infection, obstetric fistula, complications during childbirth, and death.

I ask my colleagues to think about their children, their girls.

According to UNICEF, FGM/C is reported to occur in all parts of the world, but is most prevalent in parts of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

So I ask my colleagues to support this legislation.

I wish to thank Chairman McGOVERN and Ranking Member COLE of the Rules Committee for making this Jackson Lee Amendment in order.

I thank Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member ROGERS for their hard work in bringing Division D, the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs portion of this omnibus appropriations legislative package, to the floor.

I thank them all for this opportunity to explain the Jackson Lee Amendment, which makes a good bill even better by providing \$1 million more to help combat the draconian practice of Female Genital Mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) abroad.

I have been a dedicated champion against this practice for a long while, even working with former Congressman Joe Crowley of New York to introduce legislation targeted at supporting the elimination of this ludicrous practice of mutilating young women.

Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) comprises all procedures that involve partial or total removal of the external female genitalia, or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.

This practice is rooted in gender inequality and is often linked to other elements of gender-based violence and discrimination, such as child marriage and recognized internationally as a violation of the human rights of women and girls.

Unfortunately, this means an estimated 200 million girls and women alive today have been victims of FGM/C, with girls 14 and younger representing 44 million of those who have been cut.

For example, consider that:

1. Around the world, at least five girls are mutilated/cut every hour.
2. More than 3 million girls are estimated to be at risk of FGM/C annually.
3. The impacts of FGM/C on the physical health of women and girls can include bleeding, infection, obstetric fistula, complications during childbirth and death.

Other significant barriers to combatting the practice of FGM/C include the high concentration in specific regions associated with several cultural traditions, that is not tied to any one religion.

According to UNICEF, FGM/C is reported to occur in all parts of the world, but is most prevalent in parts of Africa, the Middle East, and Asia.

Due to the commonality of this practice many migrants to the U.S. bring the practice of FGM/C with them, increasing the importance of combatting FGM/C abroad.

The United Nations adopted a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals for 2030 that includes a target to eliminate FGM/C and recognizing the abandonment of this harmful practice can be achieved because of a comprehensive movement that involves all public and private stakeholders in society.

With these provisions in place and my amendment increasing the funding for foreign assistance we can ensure Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting (FGM/C), an internationally recognized violation of the human rights of girls and women comes to an end.

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) published a report in 2016 estimating that 513,000 women and girls in the United States were at risk or may have been subjected to FGM/C.

The presence of FGM/C in the United States brings a sobering truth to light, that we still have much work to do here at home to stop our young women and girls from suffering at the hands of this archaic and utterly unnecessary practice.

I am reminded of the story of Hadiatu Jalloh, a 7-year-old from Sierra Leone, who with her mother fled to Houston to seek a life saving operation to rectify complications from the practice of FGM/C from which she suffered for more than a year.

Due to complications from the FGM procedure, little Hadiatu could not stop bleeding, she then underwent two additional non-medical procedures to repair the damage she suffered.

However, the bleeding continued and after the second procedure to stop the bleeding, Hadiatu could not properly urinate and suffered terrible pain.

In her desperate quest for help, Hadiatu's mother Umu took her daughter across the border to Sierra Leone, but still could not find a doctor to treat Hadiatu.

Dr. Hardwick-Smith a world-renowned board certified OBGYN—along with a team led by Houston pediatric urologist Dr. Eric Jones—solved Hadiatu's problem by removing scar tissue during the successful surgery.

Stories such like this remind me of the importance of this work, and how can we cannot afford to ignore any instance of FGM/C.

And that is why earlier we celebrated the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, a multinational effort to bring this practice to an end.

That is why my amendment reprograms funding that will be used by the U.S. Agency

for International Development (USAID) for elimination of FGM/C.

It also directs the U.S. Department of State to emphasize the need to raise awareness among communities at the grassroots level, through diplomatic and multilateral engagement and within humanitarian settings to address the practice of FGM/C.

In short, the Jackson Lee Amendment increases funding to protect young women and girls from mutilation at the most intimate level.

The amount of funds dedicated to these programs reflects the commitment by the international community to the goals of protecting women and girls and truly addressing this problem.

The harmful practice of female genital mutilation undermines the human rights of women and girls by damaging their health, limiting their economic opportunities and girls' access to education, and increases the likelihood of early and forced marriage.

The Jackson Lee Amendment increases funding to expedite the complete and total elimination of FGM/C.

I urge support for the Jackson Lee Amendment.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim time in opposition, although I am not opposed to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, while this amendment does not have a budgetary effect, I would like to thank my colleague for raising such an important issue for millions of women around the world.

For more than 200 million women, female genital mutilation can mean health problems that haunt them for the rest of their lives. The quest for gender equality will not be complete until women are no longer subjected to these practices.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I am reminded of the story of Hadiatu Jalloh, a 7-year-old from Sierra Leone who, with her mother, fled to Houston to seek a lifesaving operation to rectify complications from the practice of female genital mutilation, from which she suffered for more than a year.

This story reads: "The Woman's Hospital of Texas Saves an African Girl's Life. Dr. Susan Hardwick-Smith and Dr. Eric Jones Provide Lifesaving Care to 7-year-old Affected by Female Genital Mutilation," only one of 200 million girls.

This amendment will focus and provide an extra focus and extra resources to have us be reminded to help these young women, girls, across and around the world. Let us give them a life-saving hand up.

I ask my colleagues to support the Jackson Lee amendment, lifesaving, so that more girls do not have to get this singular help from a singular hospital, but they can be helped at home because this dastardly act will be stopped.

Mr. Chair, I include a statement in the RECORD from USAID, and I ask for support of my amendment.

[From the Department of State and USAID] THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE ABANDONMENT OF FEMALE GENITAL MUTILATION/CUTTING

Female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) is a traditional practice that ranges from nicking to total removal of the external female genitalia. UNICEF estimates that at least 120 million girls and women have experienced FGM/C in the 29 countries in Africa and the Middle East where the practice is concentrated. Given present trends, as many as 30 million girls under the age of 15 may still be at risk. However, the data show that FGM/C is becoming less prevalent overall, and the younger generation is less vulnerable to the practice. Though no religion mandates the procedure, FGM/C is practiced across cultures, religions and continents. It is practiced in sub-Saharan Africa, northern Iraq, Malaysia and Indonesia, and new evidence is showing prevalence in other Middle Eastern countries, including Yemen, Iran, Syria, Oman and Saudi Arabia, and parts of South Asia. The practice also can be found in Europe, the United States, Australia and other countries in the West where immigrants bring their cultural traditions with them.

The reasons given for conducting FGM/C, which is generally carried out between infancy and the teen years, encompass beliefs about health, hygiene, women's sexuality, rites of passage to adulthood and community initiation rites. Research has shown that all forms of the practice harm women's health, causing serious pain, trauma and frequently severe physical complications, such as bleeding, infections or even death. Long-term complications may include recurrent infections, infertility, (1) and difficult or dangerous childbirth that can result in the death of the mother and infant. (2)

The U.S. Government has supported FGM/C abandonment efforts since the early 1990s, considering the practice not only a public health concern but also a human rights issue that violates a woman's right to bodily integrity. In September 2000, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) officially incorporated elimination of FGM/C into its development agenda, issuing an official policy and strategy that underscored FGM/C was a serious health and human rights issue. The U.S. Department of State emphasizes the need to raise awareness among communities at the grassroots level, through diplomatic and multilateral engagement and within humanitarian settings to address the practice of FGM/C.

In August 2012, the United States released its first-ever Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally, along with an accompanying Presidential Executive Order directing its implementation. The strategy marshals the United States' capacity and expertise to establish a coordinated, government-wide approach to preventing and responding to gender-based violence (GBV) and includes harmful traditional practices such as FGM/C.

The United States also pursues regional, national and local coordination among international donors, governments and community leaders. U.S. Government agencies are actively engaged with internationally based working groups to address FGM/C, including the Donors Working Group (DWG) on FGM/C,(3) which is composed of key international governmental and intergovernmental organizations and foundations committed to supporting the abandonment of the practice. USAID was a co-founder of the DWG and is

dedicated to expanding and strengthening partnerships and increasing resources for abandonment of this harmful traditional practice. The group has collaboratively issued a Platform for Action that summarizes the collective programmatic approach that focuses on the community approach to social change.

U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS

The State Department's Secretary's Office of Global Women's Issues (S/GWI) funded community-based approaches involving men, boys and all members of society in public awareness and education campaigns. The campaigns emphasized the detrimental consequences of FGM/C on the physical and mental health of girls, their families and the overall community in order to promote long-lasting solutions. S/GWI also worked with the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) to strengthen the reporting of this issue in the Annual Country Reports on Human Rights Practices. In addition to describing whether FGM/C occurred and the type and category of FGM/C most common, we are seeking information on international and governmental efforts being taken to prevent and address FGM/C (especially through educational programs, but also by means of shelters, hotlines and police training).

The Office of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) largely supports efforts in humanitarian settings and among refugees with programs designed to prevent and respond to GBV, which includes FGM/C. These organizations rely on U.S. Government assistance to provide humanitarian assistance to refugees, survivors of conflict, internally displaced persons and stateless persons worldwide. This encompasses a wide variety of assistance, including the provision of protection, shelter, health care, water and sanitation, as well as the prevention of and assistance to survivors of GBV and FGM/C. PRM also supports targeted activities to prevent FGM/C in Somali and Sudanese refugee populations.

USAID supports implementing partners, both from Washington and at the country level, to provide community-based programs in key countries where the practice is prevalent. The Agency's projects have supported targeted programs in Burkina Faso, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guinea, Kenya, Mali and Nigeria, among others that consider cultural sensitivities and are integrated with health, economic, social or democracy and governance programs. USAID programs are community based, involving community and religious leaders as well as women's groups, men and youth to advance the quality and effectiveness of abandonment efforts and to improve conditions that will lead to FGM/C abandonment.

PROJECTS IN-COUNTRY

Egypt—S/GWI supported a project working in the community of Al Darb Al Ahmar in Cairo called Creating Attitudes Favorable to the Elimination of the Practice of FGM/C. Through the dissemination of appropriate and relevant information, coupled with education initiatives and public awareness campaigns, S/GWI supported the Aga Khan Foundation to address and prevent violence against women and girls, including FGM/C, in select Cairo communities. Additionally, the project provided training and capacity building in victim advocacy and mental health for health care providers, community leaders and volunteers.

In 2008, the USAID mission in Egypt incorporated FGM/C into an existing community-level health program, reinforced by select national-level messaging and educational messaging. The program furthered Egypt's ongoing efforts to bring about abandonment of FGM/C, as it involved training staff at

both the Ministry of Health and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to broaden the reach and coordinate with the government's National Council of Childhood and Motherhood to create a coherent national strategy.

Sudan—The Office of the U.S. Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan is funding a program in West Nile State to strengthen the capacity of community leaders and local organizations to effectively and sustainably address FGM/C. The project mobilizes children, women and men in the community to support collective declarations of abandonment of FGM/C. Through intensive trainings, community leaders draw upon preexisting social structures to engage with the wider community and build community ownership to end FGM/C sustainably.

Iraq—In coordination with the DRL, S/GWI is funding a multidimensional program in northern Iraq composed of integrated victim services and a successful educational campaign for village residents and political and religious leaders, leading to the first-of-its-kind declarations of villages being "Female Genital Mutilation Free."

Kenya—PRM provides resources to NGO partners to promote awareness and prevention of FGM/C through community-based institutions and civil society, including men's groups, youth groups, women's groups and religious leaders. Other projects promote social and economic empowerment of women and girls to reduce the risk of exposure to GBV, including FGM/C, while educating participants on the impact of harmful traditional practices, including FGM/C.

USAID conducted studies to better understand the practice of FGM/C among the Somalis in northeastern Kenya to inform the design and implementation of interventions and to clarify the correct Islamic understanding of FGM/C. The research provided crucial evidence that FGM/C is neither a religious practice nor one sanctioned by Islam, which clearly stipulates provisions for the protection of basic human rights, upholds the sanctity of the human body and prohibits any practice that violates these rights or causes harm to the body without justification. The conclusions called on religious scholars to collaborate with medical doctors to make verdicts based on scientific facts and to work with their communities to help delink FGM/C from Islam.

USAID is supporting the launch of the Kenya Centre of Excellence for FGM/C, which will be based at Nairobi University, to create a pan-African center for learning and developing innovative research approaches. The center will also train leaders and champions for working toward the abandonment of FGM/C and welcomes support from the international community and others to join in this effort.

Ethiopia—In northern Ethiopia, the U.S. Government supports an FGM/C awareness-raising program for women and girls living in Shimelba and My'Ayni refugee camps. Specific efforts include coffee discussions with girls, women, boys and men on GBV-related topics and services and a Girls' Wellness Week, which promotes adolescent girls' health through a coming-of-age ceremony without FGM/C.

USAID supported collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the National Committee on Traditional Practices to educate communities on the harmful effects of FGM/C. The program helped women and community leaders to understand the motives of "FGM/C demanders," respond to their concerns and provide them with information on the negative impact of the practice. More than 2,250 people participated in FGM/C abandonment activities; a national Anti-FGM/C Women's Leaders Team was established, and a member of that team drafted a

law against FGM/C that the Ethiopian parliament passed in July 2004.

Mali—USAID helped the Ministry of Health develop and pilot a national training curriculum for primary medical providers to increase their capacity to identify, treat or refer FGM/C complications and educate and counsel clients and community members on the negative aspects of the practice. A network of trained providers was created consisting of extension workers from NGOs and community and religious leaders. As a result of their work, the percentage of men and women who said they were in favor of abandoning FGM/C increased from 15 to 62 percent, and the percentage who intended to have FGM/C performed on their daughters decreased from 81 to 33 percent.

Senegal—USAID has supported The Grandmother's Project (GMP), which incorporates FGM/C into a broader girls' and women's health and family planning program to bring about positive changes in community traditions. The approach involves grandmothers and elderly women, a once marginalized group, in social change. The project encourages learning and communal decision-making through open discussions about problems confronting the community. The aim for GMP is to have community members identify their problems and reach consensus on possible solutions that best suit their needs, leading to long-term and lasting change.

West Africa—USAID has supported Tostan, a participatory education program that works village by village to incorporate democracy, problem solving, basic mathematics, literacy and essential health education, including information about FGM/C, into the learning experiences that ultimately empower the entire community. As a result of this multidimensional approach, thousands of villages in West Africa have publicly abandoned FGM/C and other harmful traditional practices upon completion of the Tostan program.

In the United States, in 2012, at the first-ever Zero Tolerance Day event that was held at the U.S. Department of State, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton spoke passionately about creating conditions for ending FGM/C, so all girls can realize their full potential. At that event, organized by USAID and the State Department, a spark was lit among the communities that have worked tirelessly for years toward the abandonment of FGM/C. The event became a catalyst for raising government and donor awareness and was repeated in 2013 when it was hosted by former Ambassador-at-Large for Global Women's Issues Melanne Verveer. Ambassador Verveer led a panel discussion that included Amina Salum Ali, Ambassador of the African Union to the United States; Dr. Nawal Nour, a Sudanese-American from Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston; Bacary Tamba from Tostan, an NGO in Senegal; and Jessie Hexpoor from Hivos, an NGO based in the Netherlands. They each have made, and are continuing to make, extraordinary contributions toward putting an end to FGM/C, and the Ambassador noted, "are a testament to why community-driven, holistic approach is essential to achieving sustainable progress."

The event brought together activists from the NGO community, diplomatic corps and policymakers in the U.S. Government to address ways various stakeholders can work together toward zero tolerance for FGM/C. The event also attracted 1,648 online participants from 30 countries in an interactive virtual discussion.

USAID has commissioned a desk review of interventions, evaluations and reports published since 2000 on ending FGM/C. Based on

this review, as well as key informant interviews with experts, USAID is drafting a report called Ending Female Genital Mutilation/Cutting: Lessons from Ten Years of Progress. The report will review lessons learned, promising approaches and recommendations for the future. By looking back, policymakers and advocates will be better able to move forward decisively to create societies that allow women and girls around the world to achieve their full potential.

Our vision of the way forward has been sharpened by all the work that went on before this decade.

First, the centrality of “social norms”—what communities believe and how they act and expect the members of that community to act—must be addressed.

Second, a wide range of actors play pivotal roles in the abandonment of FGM/C: men; women; grandmothers; boys; girls; and community, health, religious and political leaders.

Third, and perhaps most important, the focus must be on holistic, integrated, multi-sectoral approaches that bring together the advocacy, policy-level work and community-level transformation of social norms.

Ms. JACKSON Lee. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON Lee).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 80 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON LEE

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. RICHMOND). It is now in order to consider amendment No. 80 printed in part B of House Report 116-109.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 599, line 23, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000).”

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 431, the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, this is a very important amendment in the cycle of life, protecting endangered species, which give the joy of life and understanding to the world, to the co-existence of humans and these wonderful species that have given us so much knowledge.

My amendment makes a good bill better by providing a \$1 million focus to combat the transportation of the remains of endangered species, to bring

down the desire to go after these endangered species.

So many of us remember, a few years ago, the brutal killing of Cecil the lion. At that time, I introduced and sought the support of my colleagues as original cosponsors of my legislation, Cecil the Lion Endangered and Threatened Species Act of 2015. This bill sought to strengthen partner countries’ capacity in countering wildlife trafficking and designating major wildlife countries for protection.

The amendment now is offered in the same spirit: to prohibit the taking and transportation of any endangered and threatened species as a trophy to the United States.

Currently, the Endangered Species Act does not protect the majority of wildlife animals killed. At this point, we can choose to make wise decisions that will sustain the global population, or we can ignore the warning signs.

Climate change is not the only threat facing our world. There is also massive extinction of microscopic organisms to more complex insects and animals. More than 90 percent of all organisms that have ever lived on Earth are extinct.

So I ask my colleagues to support the Jackson Lee amendment.

Mr. Chair, I wish to thank Chairman McGovern and Ranking Member COLE of the Rules Committee for making this Jackson Lee Amendment in order.

I thank Chairwoman LOWEY and Ranking Member ROGERS for their hard work in bringing Division D, the State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs portion of this omnibus appropriations legislative package, to the floor.

I thank them all for this opportunity to explain the Jackson Lee Amendment, which makes a good bill even better by providing \$1 million combat the transportation of the remains of endangered species.

A few years ago, in light of the brutal killing of Cecil the Lion, I introduced and sought the support of my colleagues as original co-sponsors of my legislation entitled, Cecil the Lion Endangered and Threatened Species Act of 2015.

That bill sought to strengthen partner countries’ capacity in countering wildlife trafficking and designating major wildlife countries for protection.

This Jackson Lee Amendment is offered in the same spirit—to prohibit the taking and transportation of any endangered or threatened species as a trophy into the United States.

This amendment provides \$1 million to focus efforts on poaching of endangered species on protected preserves.

Hunting endangered species that are on protected preserves should come with an element of greater risk to those who engage in this practice.

The amendment provides additional resources to ensure better coordination and monitoring of incidents like the killing of Cecil the Lion, with a goal of holding people accountable.

Currently, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) does not protect the clear majority of wild animals killed and imported.

Because of this loophole, tens of thousands of wild animals are killed every year by trophy

hunters and transported into the United States.

The conservation of endangered and threatened species is critically important to the sustainability of our biodiversity, ecosystem and the beauty of wildlife as we know it.

Biodiversity and ecosystem balance are essential to sustaining life as we know it on planet earth.

The rate that species are disappearing globally can easily be compared to other mass extinction events in our earth’s history.

Human life requires a health global biodiversity and ecosystem.

At this point we can choose to make wise decisions that will sustain the global population or we can ignore the warning signs.

Climate change is not the only threat facing our world—it is also massive extinction from microscopic organisms to more complex insects and animals.

More than 90 percent of all organisms that have ever lived on Earth are extinct.

As new species evolve to fit ever changing ecological niches, older species fade away.

But the rate of extinction is far from constant or natural.

At least a handful of times in the last 500 million years, 50 to more than 90 percent of all species on Earth have disappeared in a geological blink of the eye.

Another threat to endangered species are terrorist organizations that pose a threat to our environment and natural wildlife, utilizing the funds from their illicit activity of wildlife poaching to fund their terroristic activities.

Vulnerable species are at the mercy of transnational terrorists groups whose actions place these natural inhabitants of the earth in danger of extinction.

For example, the population of African elephants has decreased from 1.3 million to 400,000, with 22,000 poached in 2012.

Only 3,200 tigers remain in the wild, and these tigers remain in danger of being poached for their skins, bones and body parts.

This supports the efforts of the State Department under the Transnational Organized Crime Rewards Program to dismantle the wildlife trafficking syndicates in the global south from Africa to Asia.

I ask that my colleagues join me in supporting this amendment that in a significant way makes a difference for the safety and security of endangered species.

The food we eat, the water we drink and the air we breathe relies upon biodiversity and balance in ecosystems.

Scientist warn that our planet is now during its sixth mass extinction of plants and animals.

Although extinction is a natural phenomenon, it occurs at a natural “background” rate of about one to five species per year.

Scientists estimate we’re now losing species at up to 1,000 times the background rate, with literally dozens going extinct every day.

It could be a scary future indeed, with as many as 30 to 50 percent of all species possibly heading toward extinction by the year 2050.

I ask my colleagues to support this Jackson Lee Amendment.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I claim time in opposition, although I am not opposed.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, while this amendment does not have a budgetary effect, I thank my colleague for raising such an important issue.

I was pleased to be able to increase the resources available in this bill by \$10 million, for a total of \$100.6 million to combat wildlife trafficking and poaching.

Wildlife trafficking generates more than \$8 billion, annually. I am optimistic that a comprehensive and appropriately resourced approach to address the drivers of trafficking will help us turn the corner.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for her support of my original amendment on female genital mutilation, and I thank her for her support of this amendment.

I just offer to my colleagues a list of the vulnerable endangered species: Giant panda, giant tortoise, giant white shark, greater one-horned rhino, hippopotamus, leatherback turtle, loggerhead turtle, marine iguana, olive ridley turtle, polar bear, savanna elephant, snow leopard, sea turtle—all of these, among many others. The jaguar is now threatened. The white rhino is threatened.

I include in the RECORD the endangered species list I mentioned:

SPECIES DIRECTORY

Common name, Scientific name, Conservation status:

Dugong, *Dugong dugon*, Vulnerable.
Forest Elephant, Vulnerable.
Giant Panda, *Ailuropoda melanoleuca*, Vulnerable.
Giant Tortoise, Vulnerable.
Great White Shark, *Carcharodon carcharias*, Vulnerable.
Greater One-Horned Rhino, *Rhinoceros unicornis*, Vulnerable.
Hippopotamus, *Hippopotamus amphibius*, Vulnerable.
Leatherback Turtle, *Dermochelys coriacea*, Vulnerable.
Loggerhead Turtle, *Caretta caretta*, Vulnerable.
Marine Iguana, *Amblyrhynchus cristatus*, Vulnerable.
Olive Ridley Turtle, *Lepidochelys olivacea*, Vulnerable.
Polar Bear, *Ursus maritimus*, Vulnerable.
Savanna Elephant, *Loxodonta africana africana*, Vulnerable.
Sea Turtle, *Cheloniidae and Dermochelyidae families*, Vulnerable.
Snow Leopard, *Panthera uncia*, Vulnerable.
Southern rockhopper penguin, *Eudyptes chrysocome*, Vulnerable.
Albacore Tuna, *Thunnus alalunga*, Near Threatened.
Beluga, *Delphinapterus leucas*, Near Threatened.
Greater Sage-Grouse, *Centrocercus urophasianus*, Near Threatened.
Jaguar, *Panthera onca*, Near Threatened.
Mountain Plover, *Charadrius montanus*, Near Threatened.
Narwhal, *Monodon monoceros*, Near Threatened.
Plains Bison, *Bison bison bison*, Near Threatened.
White Rhino, *Ceratotherium simum*, Near Threatened.

Yellowfin Tuna, *Thunnus albacares*, Near Threatened.

Arctic Fox, *Vulpes lagopus*, Least Concern.

Arctic Wolf, *Canis lupus arctos*, Least Concern.

Bowhead Whale, *Balaena mysticetus*, Least Concern.

Brown Bear, *ursus arctos*, Least Concern.

Common Bottlenose Dolphin, *Tursiops truncates*, Least Concern.

Gray Whale, *Eschrichtius robustus*, Least Concern.

Macaw, *Ara ararauna*, Least Concern.

Amur Leopard, *Panthera pardus orientalis*, Critically Endangered.

Black Rhino, *Diceros bicornis*, Critically Endangered.

Bornean Orangutan, *Pongo pygmaeus*, Critically Endangered.

Cross River Gorilla, *Gorilla gorilla diehli*, Critically Endangered.

Eastern Lowland Gorilla, *Gorilla beringei graueri*, Critically Endangered.

Hawksbill Turtle, *Eretmochelys imbricata*, Critically Endangered.

Javan Rhino, *Rhinoceros sondaicus*, Critically Endangered.

Malayan Tiger, *Panthera tigris jacksoni*, Critically Endangered.

Orangutan, *Pongo abelii*, *Pongo pygmaeus*, Critically Endangered.

Saola, *Pseudoryx nghetinhensis*, Critically Endangered.

South China Tiger, *Panthera tigris amoyensis*, Critically Endangered.

Sumatran Elephant, *Elephas maximus sumatranus*, Critically Endangered.

Sumatran Orangutan, *Pongo abelii*, Critically Endangered.

Sumatran Rhino, *Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*, Critically Endangered.

Sumatran Tiger, *Panthera tigris sumatrae*, Critically Endangered.

Vaquita, *Phocoena sinus*, Critically Endangered.

Western Lowland Gorilla, *Gorilla gorilla gorilla*, Critically Endangered.

Yangtze Finless Porpoise, *Neophocaena asiaeorientalis* ssp. *asiaeorientalis*, Critically Endangered.

African Wild Dog, *Lycaon pictus*, Endangered.

Amur Tiger, *Panthera tigris tigris*, Endangered.

Asian Elephant, *Elephas maximus indicus*, Endangered.

Bengal Tiger, *Panthera tigris tigris*, Endangered.

Black-footed Ferret, *Mustela nigripes*, Endangered.

Blue Whale, *Balaenoptera musculus*, Endangered.

Bluefin Tuna, *Thunnus Thynnus*, Endangered.

Bonobo, *Pan paniscus*, Endangered.

Borneo Pygmy Elephant, *Elephas maximus borneensis*, Endangered.

Chimpanzee, *Pan troglodytes*, Endangered.

Fin Whale, *Balaenoptera physalus*, Endangered.

Galápagos Penguin, *Spheniscus mendiculus*, Endangered.

Ganges River Dolphin, *Platanista gangetica gangetica*, Endangered.

Green Turtle, *Chelonia mydas*, Endangered.

Hector's Dolphin, *Cephalorhynchus hectori*, Endangered.

Humphead Wrasse, *Cheilinus undulatus*, Endangered.

Indian Elephant, *Elephas maximus indicus*, Endangered.

Indochinese Tiger, *Panthera tigris corbettii*, Endangered.

Indus River Dolphin, *Platanista minor*, Endangered.

Irrawaddy Dolphin, *Orcaella brevirostris*, Endangered.

Mountain Gorilla, *Gorilla beringei beringei*, Endangered.

North Atlantic Right Whale, *Eubalaena glacialis*, Endangered.

Red Panda, *Ailurus fulgens*, Endangered.

Sea Lions, *Zalophus wollebaeki*, Endangered.

Sei Whale, *Balaenoptera borealis*, Endangered.

Sri Lankan Elephant, *Elephas maximus maximus*, Endangered.

Tiger, *Panthera tigris*, Endangered.

Whale, *Balaenoptera Balaena*, *Eschrichtius*, and *Eubalaen*, Endangered.

Whale Shark, *Rhincodon typus*, Endangered.

African Elephant, *Loxodonta africana*, Vulnerable.

Bigeye Tuna, *Thunnus obesus*, Vulnerable.

Black Spider Monkey, *Ateles paniscus*, Vulnerable.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. I believe we can do better, and I would ask my colleagues to do better by supporting the Jackson Lee amendment.

For example, the population of African elephants has decreased from 1.3 million to 400,000, with 22,000 poached in 2012. Working with my amendment, working with this legislation, we can have a greater focus on ensuring the protection of endangered species.

Mr. Chair, I ask support for the Jackson Lee amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 81 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 81 printed in part B of House Report 116-109.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise as the designee of the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER), and I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of division D (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ___. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to any Federal department or agency by this Act may be used to make assessed or voluntary contributions on behalf of the United States to or for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, or the Green Climate Fund.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 431, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer Congressman LUETKEMEYER's

amendment to ensure the United Nations climate change organizations are no longer used as an international slush fund for ineffective climate change research and projects.

Unfortunately, many of the United Nations climate change organizations operate with little oversight or accountability, while being financed, in part, by the American taxpayer.

Unelected bureaucrats and foreign leaders across the globe should not have greater control over U.S. policy than our citizens and elected officials, especially when we are paying for it.

The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or IPCC, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, or UNFCCC, and the Green Climate Fund, GCF, have been surrounded in controversy since their inception.

The IPCC, which is broadly represented as the top authority on climate matters, was under fire when emails were publicly released from a university in England that showed that leading global scientists—that 95 percent, they are always quoting—intentionally manipulated climate data and suppressed legitimate arguments in peer-reviewed journals.

Further, while the IPCC supposedly issues assessments based upon so-called independent surveys of published research, some of the most influential conclusions summarized in its report have neither been based upon truly independent research nor properly vetted through accepted peer-reviewed processes.

The United Nations Green Climate Fund, which, unfortunately, received \$1 billion in taxpayer funding thanks to the Obama administration, has not approved a new project since 2017, causing the executive director of the fund to resign.

According to the Green Climate Fund former co-chair, 30 percent—yes, 30 percent—of the funds pledged are never going to materialize.

Despite its stated goal of supporting developing countries to pursue renewable energy sources, the Green Climate Fund's pledges that do materialize are going to wealthy nations with little to no effect on emissions.

Let me give a couple of examples.

One project to install a solar plant in Kazakhstan directly benefited Chinese construction companies instead of investing in Kazakhstan's companies. Directly investing in one of our economic rivals, China, is definitely the best use of taxpayer funds.

Worse yet, the fund proposed a \$9.8 million investment in the wealthy kingdom of Bahrain's oil sector. How is this pursuing renewables in developing countries?

Many former and current members of the United Nations climate change organizations acknowledge they have made little to no progress and don't see the organization being successful in the future.

□ 1045

This amendment is not about climate change, but about the proper stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

Our constituents should not have to foot the bill for organizations that have no track record of success and have a proven history of funding corruption and bad science to advance a radical climate change agenda.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I yield my self such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, most of us, even my friends across the aisle, agree that climate change is a real global threat. Our military also believes this.

Prohibiting United States contributions to the multilaterals that combat climate change is a shortsighted, harmful policy that does not prepare our country to face this threat.

I cannot emphasize enough that climate change is exacerbating the root causes of conflict. We will see an increasing demand on our humanitarian and other resources if we don't address it now.

We cannot afford to stand idly by while others address climate change, nor will we simply avoid its impact. We already feel its effects. This is precisely why we should not be alienating multilateral partners who want to join us in the fight.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS).

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chair, as Members may recall, during the climate negotiations leading up to the Paris conference, participants called for a Green Climate Fund that would collect \$100 billion a year by 2020. Although Congress has yet to appropriate a single dollar specifically allocated for the Green Climate Fund, the U.S. contributed over \$800 million under the Obama administration through the Economic Support Fund.

However, a July 2018 report by Transparency International concluded that funding allocated from the Green Climate Fund was extremely vulnerable to fraud, embezzlement, and rigged bidding since corruption risk of processes in infrastructure-related procurement is extremely high.

Mr. Chair, I urge Members to support the amendment, and I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, in times of crisis, we seek to join forces with multilateral partners to help mitigate and recover from damage, and our approach to combating climate change should be no different.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, once again, throwing money into the wind when it has no accountability is foolhardy. We have seen these over and over. Good process builds good policy is good politics.

We want to see outcomes, and what we are not seeing from this is outcomes.

Mr. Chair, I ask everybody to join in.

This isn't about climate change. This is about accountability. We need to see results, not just throwing money to the wind.

Mr. Chair, I ask everybody to vote for this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 82 OFFERED BY MR. GRIJALVA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 82 printed in part B of House Report 116-109.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 393, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$4,000,000)”.

Page 393, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$4,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 431, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Chairman, my amendment will direct \$4 million within the International Boundary and Water Commission to clarify the responsibility for the maintenance of the International Outfall Interceptor, the IOI. This is in addition to, and separate from, the funding that currently exists for the long-overdue repairs of the IOI.

I think it is important to put some historical context into this amendment.

The amendment seeks to clarify responsibility, the responsibility of the community, the city of Nogales and the county of Santa Cruz, that make up the two major jurisdictions in that area most affected by the need for this amendment. It is an infrastructure issue; it is an interceptor.

In 1944, the United States and Mexico entered into an agreement in which waste treatment was going to occur in the United States for Nogales, Sonora in Mexico.

As time went by, since 1944, we now find that the waste coming from Mexico, 92 percent of the effort that the wastewater facility has to undertake is in Santa Cruz County and in Nogales.

I mention that because of how we have to transport the waste from Nogales, Mexico, to the United States for treatment under the treaty that Mexico and the U.S. signed is 8.5 miles of pipes are needed to transport this waste.

Over the last decades, and the people of those communities can attest to this, there is almost daily occurrences and seasonal occurrences during the rainy season of damage to this pipeline.

The infrastructure is as old as the treaty. The infrastructure and pipes are in dire need of repair. It has been identified by people through the State and Federal Government as an urgency, a public health risk. When there is discharge of waste into the drainage areas, into the streams, into the river, it creates an extraordinary public health risk for the people of Santa Cruz and Nogales, Arizona.

In 2017, the Governor of Arizona set to commence the disaster declaration process for the State of Arizona to secure Federal assistance to remedy and prevent raw sewage exposure to these Arizona residents.

My amendment seeks to clarify that very important issue of responsibility.

This is a treaty, an international treaty, sanctioned by the State Department that was established in 1944 that deals with an infrastructure that is falling apart and exposes issues of security for the area, it is on the border. There are issues of public health, and issues of liability for the county of Santa Cruz and the city of Nogales, a fiscal responsibility that they cannot undertake and a responsibility to repair that they cannot undertake.

Because it is a treaty and it needs to be treated as a responsibility of the Federal Government, my amendment seeks to address that issue.

This ongoing international issue that impacts the safety and the well-being of these communities across southern Arizona has been addressed in the past. Senators and Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle of the Arizona delegation have collaborated to remedy the situation.

Mr. Chair, I would like at this point to thank Senator MCSALLY for bringing the companion legislation in the Senate. I also want to thank the chair of the committee and her staff for their work on the bill.

Mr. Chair, I appreciate the opportunity to speak on this amendment. I would urge my colleagues to support it, and we can finally begin to find a solution to the public health threat to the residents of the area, to security issues underlying the whole tunnel system and pipe system in Nogales, and establish the responsibility and accountability for transporting this waste from Mexico to be treated in the

United States that was established by treaty, placing it squarely where the responsibility belongs, and that is with the Federal Government in the enactment of this treaty.

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

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment, even though I am not opposed to it.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, we have no objection to this amendment.

The amendment deals with issues under the jurisdiction of the United States International Boundary and Water Commission, which is one of several such commissions funded under this act.

The IBWC's mission is to provide binational solutions to issues that arise during the application of United States-Mexico treaties regarding the boundary demarcation, national ownership of waters, sanitation, water quality, and flood control in the entire region, in the border region.

This amendment addresses a long-running problem involving a pipeline, the International Outfall Interceptor, it is called, that transports sewage from both sides of the border to the Nogales International Wastewater Treatment Plant. That plant is co-owned by the IBWC and the city of Nogales.

Mr. Chairman, we can all understand the desire to enjoy clean, safe water, and we have no objection to this amendment.

Mr. Chair, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chair, I want to applaud the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA), but I also want to highlight that there is a further issue that we need to address.

Not only is there a pipeline problem, but there is a floodplain problem that needs to have some jurisdiction and some changes and involvement.

We have become the victims in regard to when floods run. We see our infrastructure on this side of that international border being destroyed.

Mr. Chair, this is a golden opportunity to highlight an opportunity that is a joint venture between the two countries that we can actually see some camaraderie to actually facilitate change.

Mr. Chair, I applaud the gentleman for bringing this up, and I look forward to seeing us remedy this continuing problem.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. LOWEY), the chairwoman of the full committee.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Chair, while this amendment does not have a budgetary effect, I would like to thank the gentleman for raising such an important issue.

The International Outfall Interceptor pipeline is long overdue for repair. When wastewater leaks from the pipeline, it poses a severe public health risk and a threat to southern Arizona's regional economy and drinking water.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to support the amendment.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GRIJALVA).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 83 OFFERED BY MR. GOSAR

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 83 printed in part B of House Report 116-109.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of division D (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 431, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, my amendment is straightforward. It would prevent any funds in this bill from being used for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is responsible for some of the worst multinational agreements we have signed onto.

These agreements are technically implausible and have unrealistic emission goals in order to appease environmental extremists. This includes the flawed Paris Agreement, for example.

Americans for Tax Reform estimates the Paris Agreement will cost the U.S. an estimated 6.5 million jobs by 2040 and reduce our GDP by over \$2.5 trillion.

□ 1100

NERA Consulting estimates those numbers are even higher and that the

Paris Agreement will cost the U.S. an estimated 31.6 million jobs by 2040 and reduce the GDP by over \$3 trillion.

In June of 2017, President Trump announced he will withdraw the United States from the Paris Agreement, stating: “The Paris Climate Accord is the latest example of Washington entering into an agreement that disadvantages the United States to the exclusive benefit of other countries, leaving American workers. . . . and taxpayers to absorb the cost in terms of lost jobs, lower wages, shuttered factories, and vastly diminished economic production.”

The U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change has also become a mechanism for executive overreach. For example, when President Obama signed us up in the Paris Agreement, he did not consult Congress in any way. This was a direct assault on Congress’ constitutional duty to approve any treaty signed on to by the United States.

Fortunately, there is an alternative. Mr. Chairman, the best way to improve our environment and ensure our economic prosperity is to allow energy innovations in this country, not by sending millions of dollars to some transnational organization.

We have new innovations being implemented in our energy sector as we speak, every day. From carbon sequestration coal plants in Texas, to the shale revolution in the Midwest, to solar facilities in my home State of Arizona, locally driven solutions are creating thousands of jobs and benefiting our environment.

It is a simple concept. The people who depend upon our energy resources to provide security for their families and communities understand those resources best. States and municipalities are best suited to deal with local issues than are the distant out-of-touch Washington and U.N. bureaucrats.

The facts are clear: The U.S. has had one of the largest absolute decreases in carbon emissions of any country in the world. From 2005 to 2017, the U.S. cut 862 million tons of carbon, a 14 percent decline. Over the same period, global emissions increased by 26 percent. China increased its emissions by 4 billion tons, and India increased its carbon dioxide emissions by 1.3 billion tons, a 70 percent increase.

America’s energy renaissance is the backbone of our economy. It is a story of freedom, prosperity, and opportunity. The story of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is a much different one, one that is characterized by a one-size-fits-all policy that gives special preferences to some of the world’s worst polluters, like China and India.

This isn’t a partisan issue. This is about doing what is right for America and protecting freedom and opportunity for our children and grandchildren. I urge all Members on both sides of the aisle to support my amendment.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change brings together critical multilateral partners so the United States does not have to combat climate change alone. By supporting the UNFCCC, we are signaling to the world that we are committed and serious about combating this threat.

The United States has been a party to the UNFCCC since 1992. As chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee, I will never support efforts that jeopardize our treaty-based obligations, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

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

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, once again, we hear the same lame excuse over and over again, that doing the same thing over and over, we are going to get a different result. Well, that doesn’t work anymore.

Trust is a series of promises kept. Why don’t we set by example? And that is exactly what we are proposing here.

The United States, by our technology, by our innovation, has shown the way in regards to combating climate change. That is exactly the way that we ought to handle it, not by some failed multinational bureaucracy that uses the United States as a slush fund.

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

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, the United States must remain committed to our global partners because climate change just cannot be fought alone.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Chairman, once again, doing the same thing over and over again and expecting a different result is insanity. Once again, we have seen the ineptness of the United Nations in regard to this. We have seen the misuse of money to developed nations like China and India, and we allow them to continue to pollute when we set the example.

I like the idea of setting the example for everybody else to follow. We are the innovators. We are the leaders. We ought to establish that. I ask everybody to vote for this amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further pro-

ceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 84 OFFERED BY MS. SPEIER

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 84 printed in part B of House Report 116-109.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 414, line 11, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$40,000,000) (reduced by \$40,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 431, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Chairman, I rise with great enthusiasm this morning to support an amendment that would designate \$40 million from the assistance for Europe and Eurasia fund to Armenian democracy assistance. This amendment is cosponsored by the other Democratic chairs of the Caucus on Armenian Issues here in Congress.

In the last year, Armenia has undergone a breathtaking transformation from a stagnant autocracy to a very vibrant democracy. The images of Armenia’s Velvet Revolution bring a smile to my face every time I think of it, having people dancing in the streets, having a blockade, but a blockade of small toys by children in the town square.

The amazing part of all of this is that this democracy occurred with not one drop of blood being shed. So it is very important, at this point in time, that we do everything in our power to support this new democracy.

Since the revolution, Armenia has held fair and free democratic elections that swept Nikol Pashinyan to power. Recently, his government signed an agreement with the United States providing up to \$60 million, over 2 to 3 years, to promote economic growth and good governance in Armenia.

Although these efforts are welcome, they are not enough. Armenia has a rare and potentially fleeting window of opportunity to consolidate and build upon its democratic gains. Fundamental changes to its constitution, electoral code, and governance institutions cannot be achieved by repackaging existing aid under a new header.

Armenia has earned a clear signal that the United States supports its democratic transformation and resources will be brought to them to carry out that transformation. This amendment would provide \$40 million in 1 year to supercharge Armenia’s democratic progress. Armenia would continue to lead the process, but the U.S. expertise and assistance would serve as a true catalyst.

This particular fund is filled with over \$700 million. We are already giving \$250 million to Ukraine, over \$50

million to Moldova, and \$83 million to Georgia; so a \$40 million commitment to a country that, on its own, has delivered democracy is a small gift. I urge that we support that.

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

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. LOWEY. Will the gentlewoman yield?

Ms. SPEIER. I yield to the gentlewoman from New York.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, while this amendment does not have a budgetary effect, I would like to thank my friend for raising such an important issue.

The progress made in Armenia's transition to democracy and the Velvet Revolution is a refreshing development at a time when so many other countries are headed in the opposite direction. This account funds critical programs to counter Russian aggression and influence in Europe and Eurasia and support to key partners like Ukraine and Georgia. I am prepared to work to provide the necessary resources to encourage continued progress in Armenia, and I am willing to accept the amendment.

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman and leader of our Appropriations Committee for her support, and I am grateful beyond words.

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

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chairman, the funding directed in this amendment is a significant increase above current levels. It could result in funds being cut from important partners in Europe facing Russian aggression. For this reason, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from California will be postponed.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chairman, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER).

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman from New York for yielding.

I rise to engage in a colloquy with the chairwoman of the State-Foreign

Operations Appropriations Subcommittee. I rise today to discuss the immense value to the American taxpayer and Congress provided by the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

Since 2002, the U.S. Government has spent over \$126 billion—that is a building the Afghan security forces, promoting good governance, and conducting development assistance. Created in the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act, the SIGAR, as we refer to it, has helped to oversee the effectiveness of these programs and guarded against waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement.

The SIGAR has alerted Congress to programs stymied by corruption, flawed leadership, and poor design, while also providing implementing agencies with lessons learned that have improved their efforts. I believe that SIGAR provides immense value to the American public and that their efforts should continue so long as the United States continues to allocate significant sums of money to the Afghan reconstruction.

I want to ask the chairwoman to clarify that no language in the bill's House report should be construed as creating an end date for the SIGAR.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I thank my friend for bringing this issue to our attention.

The committee takes seriously oversight of taxpayer dollars. I concur with the gentlewoman's remarks. The SIGAR continues to serve American taxpayers by reporting on instances of waste, fraud, and abuse in Afghanistan.

The language included in the House report was not intended to suggest that the committee expects or is directing SIGAR to cease operations by September 30, 2021. Rather, the requirement in the House report is for SIGAR to provide a plan on its future state considering the administration's proposing drawdown in Afghanistan.

We must protect American taxpayer funds from waste, fraud, and abuse. I look forward to working with SIGAR on effectively achieving this important mission as the U.S. engagement with Afghanistan continues to evolve.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The Committee will rise informally.

The Speaker pro tempore (Ms. SPEIER) assumed the chair.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Mr. Brian Pate, one of his secretaries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Committee will resume its sitting.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

The Committee resumed its sitting.

□ 1115

AMENDMENT NO. 85 OFFERED BY MR. MEADOWS

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. RICHMOND). It is now in order to consider amendment No. 85 printed in part B of House Report 116-109.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 560, line 13, after the dollar amount insert "(increased by \$33,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 431, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MEADOWS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Chair, this amendment withholds an additional \$33 million from Pakistan, in addition to the \$33 million that is currently being withheld. This seems like it should not be necessary, but, indeed, it is.

Dr. Shakil Afridi has been in prison for his role in helping the United States Government locate Osama bin Laden. The message, Mr. Chair, needs to be clear that imprisonment, in violation of human rights, of this fine doctor needs to cease.

Mr. Chair, you probably find the same thing back home in your State as I do in mine. Many of my constituents question why we are sending money to Pakistan anyway, let alone if they are going to violate the human rights of someone who has helped bring justice to a terrorist.

In prison since 2011, Dr. Afridi was almost entirely restricted. He was prevented from meeting with his lawyers. Indeed, his previous lawyer was murdered. Dr. Afridi has been tortured, reportedly. He has been described as now looking like a skeleton.

Mr. Chair, this body needs to stand unanimously together and send a clear message to the Pakistani Government that we will not tolerate this kind of behavior and this violation of human rights. We need to stand with his wife, and we need to stand for freedom.

We appreciate the support of Freedom House in supporting this amendment.

Mr. Chair, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. ROGERS), someone I fondly refer to as "Mr. Chairman," who has been a leader on so many of these issues.

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding the time.

Mr. Chair, I rise in support of this amendment.

This amendment would double the amount withheld from assistance to Pakistan until Dr. Shakil Afridi has been released from prison and cleared of all charges relating to assistance provided to the U.S. in locating Osama bin Laden.