

this legislation, along with the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee to be, Senator RISCH, and Senator GARDNER. It speaks directly to some critical American interests in that part of the world—our security cooperation with key partners, Israel and Jordan, and the ongoing humanitarian and security catastrophe of the Syrian civil war.

First, this legislation recognizes the growing threat Iran, Syria, Hezbollah, Hamas, and other terrorist groups pose to the State of Israel, and it aims to strengthen key elements of our relationship with our closest partner in the Middle East.

It affirms that the United States needs to “walk the walk,” and it authorizes military assistance, cooperative missile defense, as well as loan guarantees.

It encourages closer U.S.-Israel technological cooperation to better address 21st century threats, and it clearly states that it is official U.S. policy to help Israel preserve its qualitative military edge over those who might wish it harm.

The legislation also recognizes the security, economic, and humanitarian challenges the ongoing conflict in Syria poses to the people and Government of Jordan, and it reauthorizes important legislation aimed at deepening our defense cooperation with this important regional partner.

In addition, the bill contains a bipartisan provision from Senators Rubio and Manchin to combat the BDS movement, an aggressive and hostile attempt to delegitimize and economically boycott the State of Israel.

This legislation gives State and local governments across America more flexibility to limit their own business relationships with entities that support this horrible effort to hurt our ally. In effect, this provision allows jurisdictions to boycott the boycotters—let me say that again: “to boycott the boycotters”—and make sure they don’t send taxpayer dollars to companies that embrace this anti-Israel posture.

Now, with respect to the ongoing conflict in Syria, there are, certainly, differing views about the role of the U.S. military with respect to threats emanating from Syria. There is no question that we continue to face serious challenges from al-Qaida and ISIS in Syria, as well as from Iran, Russia, and the Assad regime itself, and I anticipate this body will debate U.S. military strategy toward Syria in the coming weeks, as it conducts oversight over the administration’s, apparently, ongoing review of its Syria policies.

Admittedly, there are no easy solutions in Syria. I hope the administration and Congress will be deliberate and sober as we consider the risks of various approaches to the endgame of the fight against the physical caliphate of ISIS. After all, American lives, critical national security interests, and the future of a turbulent yet critical region are all at stake. The debate is

forthcoming. I imagine it could be contentious.

There should be little debate, however, about the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act, which has overwhelming bipartisan support and the endorsement of the administration.

This bill, which is included in this package, speaks to the human tragedy of the Syrian civil war. It provides non-military tools for responding to the atrocities conducted by the regime of Bashar al-Assad. It will hold accountable those responsible for the torture and murder of countless Syrian civilians and provide more leverage for diplomats to end the conflict through peaceful negotiations that are consistent with the demands of U.N. Security Council Resolution 2254.

Unless the Syrian regime changes course, ends its brutality against the Syrian people, and negotiates a peaceful end to the civil war, the butchers of Damascus will find their key financial institutions and industries sanctioned by the United States.

This bill will not bring back the hundreds of thousands of Syrians who have been murdered or tortured by the regime, but it will be another arrow in the quiver of diplomats who are seeking to end this awful war and stabilize a region of critical importance to the United States and its allies. So I am proud to cosponsor the package of legislation that Senator RUBIO introduced yesterday.

I am clearing the way for the bill, S. 1, to be debated and voted on here on the Senate floor as early as next week, and I look forward to voting to pass this important bill.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

REMEMBERING CHARLES LIN

• Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, it is an honor to remember the selfless and inspirational life of Sifu Charles Lin.

A lifetime master, Sifu Lin began studying the martial arts in his homeland of Taiwan.

He studied under many masters of the martial arts, earning the title “Master” or Sifu.

Sifu Lin moved to New Mexico in 1974 at the age of 23, with only \$200 in his pocket.

For more than 40 years, Sifu Lin taught New Mexicans meditation and self-defense through the martial arts of Ch’i Kung, Tai Chi, and Chuan Kung Fu at Lin’s Martial Arts Academy.

He and his wife also ran the Chinese Culture Center in Albuquerque, a place for the city’s Chinese population to build community, learn Chinese language, and celebrate their culture.

The fireworks, martial arts demonstrations, and dancing dragons in the center’s annual Chinese New Year festival put Chinese culture on display.

My thoughts are with his family during this time of mourning.

The lessons Sifu Lin imparted on all of his students will not be forgotten.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:02 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 21. An act making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 1. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 1. Concurrent resolution regarding consent to assemble outside the seat of government.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1. A bill to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriation of funds to Israel, to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and to halt the wholesale slaughter of the Syrian people, and for other purposes.

S. 21. A bill making continuing appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event an appropriations act expires prior to the enactment of a new appropriations act.

S. 24. A bill to provide for compensation of Federal and other government employees affected by lapses in appropriations.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 21. An act making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

S. 28. A bill to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and for other purposes.

The following joint resolution was read the first time:

H.J. Res. 1. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2019, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 28. A bill to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 29. A bill to establish the Office of Critical Technologies and Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S.J. Res. 2. A joint resolution disapproving the President's proposal to take an action relating to the application of certain sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. HYDE-SMITH:

S.J. Res. 3. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to balancing the budget; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 20

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 20, a bill to amend the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 to require the disclosure of certain tax returns by Presidents and certain candidates for the office of the President, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

January 3, 2019

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. WICKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. JONES, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. 21. A bill making continuing appropriations for Coast Guard pay in the event an appropriations act expires prior to the enactment of a new appropriations act; read the first time.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 21

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 "Pay Our Coast Guard Act".

SEC. 2. CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE COAST GUARD.

There are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for any period during which interim or full-year appropriations for the Coast Guard are not in effect—

(1) such sums as are necessary to provide pay and allowances to members of the Coast Guard (as described in section 1 of title 14, United States Code), including the reserve component thereof, who perform active service or inactive-duty training during such period;

(2) such sums as are necessary to provide pay and allowances to civilian employees of the Coast Guard;

(3) such sums as are necessary to provide pay and allowances to contractors of the Coast Guard;

(4) such sums as are necessary for—

(A) the payment of a death gratuity under sections 1475-1477 and 1489 of title 10, United States Code, with respect to members of the Coast Guard;

(B) the payment or reimbursement of authorized funeral travel and travel related to the dignified transfer of remains and unit memorial services under section 481f of title 37, United States Code, with respect to members of the Coast Guard; and

(C) the temporary continuation of a basic allowance of housing for dependents of members of the Coast Guard dying on active duty, as authorized by section 403(l) of title 37, United States Code; and

(5) such sums as are necessary to provide for Coast Guard retired pay, including such payments as are described in the provision regarding Coast Guard retired pay in title II of division F of the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2018 (P.L. 115-141; 132 Stat. 348).

SEC. 3. TERMINATION.

Appropriations and funds made available and authority granted pursuant to this Act shall be available until whichever of the following first occurs:

(1) The enactment into law of an appropriation (including a continuing appropriation) for any purpose for which amounts are made available in section 2.

(2) The enactment into law of the applicable regular or continuing appropriations resolution or other Act without any appropriation for such purpose.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 28. A bill to reauthorize the United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Act of 2015, and for other purposes; read the first time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 28

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "United States-Jordan Defense Cooperation Extension Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

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

(2) Jordan, the United States, and other partners should continue working together to address this humanitarian crisis and promote regional stability, including through support for refugees in Jordan and internally displaced people along the Jordan-Syria border and the creation of conditions inside Syria that will allow for the secure, dignified, and voluntary return of people displaced by the crisis.

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

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

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

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

SEC. 5. REPORT ON ESTABLISHING AN ENTERPRISE FUND FOR JORDAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the establishment of the United States Development Finance Corporation, the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a detailed report assessing the costs and benefits of the United States Development Finance Corporation establishing a Jordan Enterprise Fund.

(b) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this section, the term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S.J. Res. 2. A joint resolution disapproving the President's proposal to take an action relating to the application of certain sanctions with respect to the Russian Federation; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, on December 19, as Congress was preparing to leave for the holidays, the Treasury Department notified Congress of its intent to terminate within 30 days a set of Russia sanctions imposed on En+ Group plc ("En+"), UC Rusal plc ("Rusal"), and JSC EuroSibEnergo ("ESE"). Each of these firms were sanctioned because they were owned or controlled by Oleg Deripaska, a notorious Russian oligarch and trusted agent of Vladimir Putin. As Treasury noted when it sanctioned him: "Deripaska has been investigated for money laundering, and accused of threatening the lives of business rivals, illegally wiretapping a government official, and taking part in extortion and racketeering. There are also allegations that Deripaska bribed a government official, ordered the murder of a businessman, and had links to a Russian organized crime group."