

should not get a bill for \$1,000. You call them up and you say: What do you mean? The hospital is listed on my policy. I did what I was supposed to do. I went there. It was an emergency, but I did not go to the closest hospital. I went to the hospital in my policy, and I get a bill for \$4,000.

They say: Oh, that doctor, that radiologist—not to pick on radiologists—that radiologist wasn't covered by your plan.

Well, how am I supposed to know?

We can address that. I guarantee you that there is bipartisan support to do something about that. We might not agree on the details, but that is why, you know, God created the Senate floor. You come down here, you debate, you discuss, and you offer amendments.

There are other examples. Let me say I am cutting this short because we are about to have another vote on a disaster bill. Thank you. Thank you, United States Senate. Thank you, President Trump, for meeting us in the middle.

I am not clairvoyant, but I feel really good about its passing—not good for the Senate as an institution, although I am proud of us today, but good for our farmers and our people in so many States who have been hurt by natural disasters—wildfires and hurricanes. Puerto Rico was hit with two hurricanes right in a row. We are going to do something about that today. I am happy for the Senate, but I am even happier for the American people.

I am going to say it again. We have more in common—our Democratic colleagues and our Republican colleagues—than we don't on certain issues, and I think we would surprise ourselves in what we could achieve if we just try.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 91, H.R. 2157.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 91, H.R. 2157, a bill making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to proceed be agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2157) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the Shelby-Leahy substitute amendment at the desk be agreed to; that Senator SHELBY or his designee be recognized to make a motion to waive any budget points of order; further, that if the motion to waive is agreed to, the bill, as amended, be read a third time and the Senate vote on passage with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 250) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, pursuant to section 904 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and the waiver provisions of the applicable budget resolutions, I move to waive all applicable sections of the act and applicable budget resolutions for purposes of H.R. 2157, as amended, and I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) would have voted "yea."

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 84, nays 9, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 128 Leg.]

YEAS—84

Baldwin	Casey	Ernst
Bennet	Cassidy	Feinstein
Blumenthal	Collins	Fischer
Blunt	Coons	Gardner
Booker	Cornyn	Gillibrand
Boozman	Cortez Masto	Graham
Brown	Cotton	Grassley
Burr	Cramer	Harris
Cantwell	Cruz	Hassan
Cardin	Daines	Hawley
Carper	Duckworth	Heinrich

Hirono	Merkley	Shaheen
Hooven	Murkowski	Shelby
Hyde-Smith	Murphy	Sinema
Inhofe	Murray	Smith
Isakson	Perdue	Stabenow
Johnson	Peters	Sullivan
Jones	Portman	Tester
Kaine	Reed	Thune
Kennedy	Roberts	Tillis
King	Rosen	Udall
Klobuchar	Rubio	Van Hollen
Lankford	Sanders	Warner
Leahy	Sasse	Warren
Manchin	Schatz	Whitehouse
Markey	Schumer	Wicker
McConnell	Scott (FL)	Wyden
Menendez	Scott (SC)	Young

	NAYS—9	
Barrasso	Crapo	Paul
Blackburn	Lee	Risch
Braun	McSally	Romney

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Enzi	Toomey
Capito	Moran	
Durbin	Rounds	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote the yeas are 84, the nays are 9.

Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn having voted in the affirmative, the motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the title of the bill for the third time.

The amendment was ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

Mr. CORNYN. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY).

Further, if present and voting, the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) would have voted "yea" and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) would have voted "yea."

Mr. SCHUMER. I announce that the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 85, nays 8, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 129 Leg.]

YEAS—85

Baldwin	Cantwell	Cotton
Barrasso	Cardin	Cramer
Bennet	Carper	Cruz
Blumenthal	Casey	Daines
Blunt	Cassidy	Duckworth
Booker	Collins	Ernst
Boozman	Coons	Feinstein
Brown	Cornyn	Fischer
Burr	Cortez Masto	Gardner

Gillibrand	Manchin	Scott (SC)
Graham	Markey	Shaheen
Grassley	McConnell	Shelby
Harris	Menendez	Sinema
Hassan	Merkley	Smith
Hawley	Murkowski	Stabenow
Heinrich	Murphy	Sullivan
Hirono	Murray	Tester
Hooven	Perdue	Thune
Hyde-Smith	Peters	Tillis
Inhofe	Portman	Udall
Isakson	Reed	Van Hollen
Johnson	Roberts	Warner
Jones	Rosen	Warren
Kaine	Rubio	Whitehouse
Kennedy	Sanders	Wicker
King	Sasse	Wyden
Klobuchar	Schatz	Young
Lankford	Schumer	
Leahy	Scott (FL)	

NAYS—8

Blackburn	Lee	Risch
Braun	McSally	Romney
Crapo	Paul	

NOT VOTING—7

Alexander	Enzi	Toomey
Capito	Moran	
Durbin	Rounds	

The bill (H.R. 2157), as amended, was passed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their votes. Even though the final vote might be 5 months late, today is a good day for the Congress, for the Senate, for the American people, and for the Nation.

I have said from the beginning—a position I have taken in all of my decades in the Senate—that any disaster supplemental that passes this Chamber cannot pick and choose which American citizens to help in their time of need. We are all Americans. The American community bands together to support one another when disaster strikes, regardless of where we are from, what our politics are, or what our beliefs are. That is the American way, and it is the role of the Congress to make sure that it is done.

I am glad to stand on the Senate floor today, and I am glad to be here with my dear friend, the senior Senator from Alabama and the chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Senator SHELBY, to support what is a bipartisan, bicameral disaster supplemental appropriations bill.

Think of what we have done. This bill will provide long overdue aid to the people of California, Georgia, Florida, Nebraska, Iowa, North Carolina, South Carolina, Hawaii, Texas, Missouri, Alabama, and Puerto Rico just to name a few. Some of these people—they are all American citizens—have been trying to put their lives back together for nearly 2 years—since August of 2017.

It provides \$19.1 billion to help communities in these States and Territories to rebuild stronger than they were before. It includes more than \$2.4 billion in community development block grants, more than \$1.6 billion for the Federal Highway Administration to rebuild roads and bridges, and more than \$3 billion to support our Nation's farmers who lost their crops and livestock in the storms. It also provides

more than \$3 billion to rebuild our military's storm-damaged infrastructure.

It has been no secret that how to help the American citizens of Puerto Rico has been at the heart of our dispute on disaster aid, but I am pleased to report that the bill provides much needed assistance to these Americans, including \$605 million for the Nutrition Assistance Program, and \$304 million in community development block grants to help the island meet the FEMA match requirements.

One thing that we learned when Tropical Storm Irene struck Vermont is that you have rebuild better than you were so you are stronger when you face the next storm. We have included language that requires FEMA to rebuild the island stronger and better than it was before to help mitigate the damage of a future storm. We did this in certain areas in Vermont, and it made all the difference in the world.

This supplemental will unlock billions of dollars that Congress had previously appropriated for Puerto Rico and other communities across the country that the Trump administration has held back in the Treasury.

We reached this agreement because the Republicans and the Democrats came together across the aisle. It is a strong bipartisan agreement. It reflects that we are one Nation in times of need and that all Americans can count on each other. I was happy to see the strong support from the Senators here, but our work is not yet done.

Now we have to address the humanitarian crisis at our southern border. We have to help those who are fleeing from violence and persecution in their own countries. The President has requested \$4.5 billion. Some of this money is badly needed. There is no dispute about that, and I will support the part that is badly needed.

Everyone in this Chamber knows these are difficult issues that are often made more difficult given the President's rhetoric and extreme policies. Difficult issues take time. Let's lower the rhetoric, and let's do as we have done here—work together. We have been working day and night to strike a compromise on the President's request. We are close, but we are not there yet. Even as of late, late last night, we were still working on that. When we return, I hope we can negotiate a bipartisan agreement to provide additional humanitarian assistance.

To reach this agreement today, many of the Senators—and I mentioned, of course, Senator SHELBY, my friend, as chairman—and I, as vice chairman, worked together. So did many others, but none of us could do it without the dedicated staff that was involved. I could go home at 9 o'clock and 10 o'clock at night, but they were still there. I am talking about both the Democratic staff and the Republican staff. So I asked my Appropriations chief of staff, Chuck Kieffer, to give me a list.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD at the end of my remarks the list of names of both the Democratic staff and the Republican staff who worked so hard on this.

I said on a personal basis earlier that I remember when Tropical Storm Irene hit Vermont and how totally discouraged I was by the damage. Yet, within hours, I had texts and emails from Senators in this body—Republicans and Democrats alike. They said: When we were hit by a tornado, by flooding, by an earthquake—whatever it might have been—Vermont stood with us, and we will stand with Vermont.

That is what we are as the United States of America. The Senate did what it should do today. The Senate acted as the conscience of the Nation. We stood together to help all Americans.

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

LIST SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD BY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRMAN LEAHY OF STAFF FOR H.R. 2157, THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Charles E. Kieffer, Chanda Betourney, Jess Berry, Jay Tilton, Hannah Chauvin, Dianne Nellor, Jean Toal Eisen, Erik Raven, Doug Clapp, Ellen Murray, Scott Nance, Chip Walgren, Drenan Dudley, Reeves Hart, Rachael Taylor, Alex Keenan, Jason McMahon, Tim Rieser, Dabney Hegg, Christina Monroe, Catie Finley, Shannon Hines, Jonathan Graffeo, David Adkins, Carlisle Clarke, Hamilton Bloom, Brian Potts, Tyler Owens, Andrew Newton, Adam Telle, Erny Lesofski, Laura Friedel, Sarah Boliek, Patrick Magnuson, Paul Grove, Clare Doherty.

Mr. LEAHY. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. Scott of Florida). Without objection, it is so ordered.

DISASTER RELIEF

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, all week, Chairman SHELBY and a number of our colleagues worked tirelessly to get a supplemental funding agreement for disaster relief over the finish line. He has prepared one thoughtful, good-faith compromise after another.

In fact, this has been going on for months now: compromise offer after compromise offer from Republicans—constant engagement and good-faith work. So I am pleased that, today, all of this hard work has at long last paid off. Thanks to the efforts from a number of our colleagues and thanks to the leadership of President Trump and his administration—and, I might add, the occupant of the Chair, who has been extremely persistent in this effort over the last weeks and months—the Senate has now passed a compromise solution