

(F) United States membership in NATO remains a vital national security interest of the United States.

(2) STRATEGIC RATIONALE FOR NATO ENLARGEMENT.—The Senate declares that—

(A) the United States and its NATO allies face continued threats to their stability and territorial integrity;

(B) an attack against North Macedonia, or its destabilization arising from external subversion, would threaten the stability of Europe and jeopardize United States national security interests;

(C) North Macedonia, having established a democratic government and having demonstrated a willingness to meet the requirements of membership, including those necessary to contribute to the defense of all NATO members, is in a position to further the principles of the North Atlantic Treaty and to contribute to the security of the North Atlantic area; and

(D) extending NATO membership to North Macedonia will strengthen NATO, enhance stability in Southeast Europe, and advance the interests of the United States and its NATO allies.

(3) SUPPORT FOR NATO'S OPEN DOOR POLICY.—The policy of the United States is to support NATO's Open Door Policy that allows any European country to express its desire to join NATO and demonstrate its ability to meet the obligations of NATO membership.

(4) FUTURE CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP IN NATO.—

(A) SENATE FINDING.—The Senate finds that the United States will not support the accession to the North Atlantic Treaty of, or the invitation to begin accession talks with, any European state (other than North Macedonia), unless—

(i) the President consults with the Senate consistent with Article II, section 2, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States (relating to the advice and consent of the Senate to the making of treaties); and

(ii) the prospective NATO member can fulfill all of the obligations and responsibilities of membership, and the inclusion of such state in NATO would serve the overall political and strategic interests of NATO and the United States.

(B) REQUIREMENT FOR CONSENSUS AND RATIFICATION.—The Senate declares that no action or agreement other than a consensus decision by the full membership of NATO, approved by the national procedures of each NATO member, including, in the case of the United States, the requirements of Article II, section 2, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States (relating to the advice and consent of the Senate to the making of treaties), will constitute a commitment to collective defense and consultations pursuant to Articles 4 and 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty.

(5) INFLUENCE OF NON-NATO MEMBERS ON NATO DECISIONS.—The Senate declares that any country that is not a member of NATO shall have no impact on decisions related to NATO enlargement.

(6) SUPPORT FOR 2014 WALES SUMMIT DEFENSE SPENDING BENCHMARK.—The Senate declares that all NATO members should continue to move towards the guideline outlined in the 2014 Wales Summit Declaration to spend a minimum of 2 percent of their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) on defense and 20 percent of their defense budgets on major equipment, including research and development, by 2024.

(7) SUPPORT FOR NORTH MACEDONIA'S REFORM PROCESS.—The Senate declares that—

(A) North Macedonia has made difficult reforms and taken steps to address corruption, but the United States and other NATO member states should not consider this important

process complete and should continue to urge additional reforms; and

(B) North Macedonia and Greece's conclusion of the Prespa Agreement, which resolved a long-standing bilateral dispute, has made possible the former's invitation to NATO, and the United States and other NATO members should continue to press both nations to persevere in their continued implementation of the Agreement and encourage a strategic partnership between the two nations.

**SEC. 3. CONDITIONS.**

The advice and consent of the Senate under section 1 is subject to the following condition: Prior to the deposit of the instrument of ratification, the President shall certify to the Senate as follows:

(1) The inclusion of North Macedonia in NATO will not have the effect of increasing the overall percentage share of the United States in the common budgets of NATO.

(2) The inclusion of North Macedonia in NATO does not detract from the ability of the United States to meet or to fund its military requirements outside the North Atlantic area.

**SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

In this resolution:

(1) NATO MEMBERS.—The term "NATO members" means all countries that are parties to the North Atlantic Treaty.

(2) NON-NATO MEMBERS.—The term "non-NATO members" means all countries that are not parties to the North Atlantic Treaty.

(3) NORTH ATLANTIC AREA.—The term "North Atlantic area" means the area covered by Article 6 of the North Atlantic Treaty, as applied by the North Atlantic Council.

(4) NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY.—The term "North Atlantic Treaty" means the North Atlantic Treaty, signed at Washington April 4, 1949 (63 Stat. 2241; TIAS 1964), as amended.

(5) UNITED STATES INSTRUMENT OF RATIFICATION.—The term "United States instrument of ratification" means the instrument of ratification of the United States of the Protocol to the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 on the Accession of North Macedonia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the adoption of the resolution of ratification of Treaty Document No. 116-1.

Mr. RISCH. 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 Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 91, nays 2, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 327 Ex.]

YEAS—91

Alexander	Gardner	Portman
Baldwin	Gillibrand	Reed
Barrasso	Graham	Risch
Blackburn	Possible	Roberts
Blumenthal	Hassan	Romney
Blunt	Hawley	Rosen
Boozman	Heinrich	Rounds
Braun	Hirono	Rubio
Brown	Hoeben	Sasse
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Cantwell	Inhofe	Schumer
Capito	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cardin	Jones	Scott (SC)
Carper	Kaine	Shaheen
Casey	Kennedy	Shelby
Cassidy	King	Sinema
Collins	Klobuchar	Smith
Coons	Lankford	Stabenow
Cornyn	Leahy	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Manchin	Tester
Cotton	Markey	Thune
Cramer	McConnell	Tillis
Crapo	McSally	Toomey
Cruz	Menendez	Udall
Daines	Merkley	Van Hollen
Duckworth	Moran	Warner
Durbin	Murkowski	Wicker
Enzi	Murphy	Wyden
Ernst	Murray	Young
Feinstein	Perdue	
Fischer	Peters	

NAYS—2

Lee Paul

NOT VOTING—7

Bennet	Isakson	Whitehouse
Booker	Sanders	
Harris	Warren	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 91, the nays are 2.

Two-thirds of Senators present, a quorum being present, have voted in the affirmative. The resolution of the ratification of the protocol of the North Atlantic Treaty of the Republic of North Macedonia is agreed to.

The Senator from Indiana.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess following the cloture vote on the Bremberg nomination until 2:15 p.m. and that if cloture is invoked, the postcloture time expire at 2:45 p.m. and the Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination; finally, that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Andrew P. Bremberg, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, with the rank of Ambassador.

Mitch McConnell, Rick Scott, Roger F. Wicker, Tim Scott, John Hoeven, Deb

Fischer, Thom Tillis, Cindy Hyde-Smith, Steve Daines, James M. Inhofe, Lindsey Graham, John Boozman, Mike Crapo, James E. Risch, Richard Burr, Shelley Moore Capito, Jerry Moran.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Andrew P. Bremberg, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, with the rank of Ambassador, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 328 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Alexander	Fischer	Portman
Barrasso	Gardner	Risch
Blackburn	Graham	Roberts
Blunt	Grassley	Romney
Boozman	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Hoeven	Rubio
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Capito	Inhofe	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Johnson	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Kennedy	Shelby
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	McConnell	Tillis
Cruz	McSally	Toomey
Daines	Moran	Wicker
Enzi	Paul	Young
Ernst	Perdue	

NAYS—43

Baldwin	Heinrich	Reed
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rosen
Brown	Jones	Schatz
Cantwell	Kaine	Schumer
Cardin	King	Shaheen
Carper	Klobuchar	Sinema
Casey	Leahy	Smith
Collins	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Tester
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Udall
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Murkowski	Warner
Feinstein	Murphy	Wyden
Gillibrand	Murray	
Hassan	Peters	

NOT VOTING—7

Bennet	Isakson	Whitehouse
Booker	Sanders	
Harris	Warren	

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 43.

The motion is agreed to.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Andrew P. Bremberg, of Virginia, to be Representative of the United States of America to the Office of the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva, with the rank of Ambassador.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:19 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mrs. CAPITO).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. SHELBY. Madam President, this afternoon, I rise to urge my colleagues here in the U.S. Senate to support the pending cloture motion on H.R. 3055 so we can get the appropriations process moving. It is already day 22 of the current fiscal year. The entire Federal Government, as you know, is now operating under a continuing resolution, and in less than a month, that continuing resolution will expire.

By this time last year, Congress had already funded 75 percent of the government, including America's military. It was the first time in 10 years that Congress had funded the military on time. That success paid huge dividends for our country and for our men and women in uniform. Now, they face an uncertain future. The prospect of serial continuing resolutions or, worse, another government shutdown casts a dark shadow over our previous success. Such uncertainty also wreaks havoc on every Federal agency's abilities to plan, and it is acute when it comes to the military.

As our military leaders seek to ensure that planning and operations keep pace with activities and challenges around the globe, they are faced with the hard reality that Congress is not keeping pace with our own duties here. Congress' failure to do its own job makes that of the military all the more difficult in this troubled world. I believe that is unacceptable.

Nonetheless, we have hit a stalemate in the appropriations process lately. The clock is ticking on the continuing resolution, as I said, and we have to break through the logjam. I hope we can do it today. The only way to do that is through bipartisan cooperation, as the Presiding Officer knows, as a member of the Appropriations Committee and chair of a very important subcommittee.

The vice chairman of the Appropriations Subcommittee, my good friend, Senator LEAHY, a Democrat from

Vermont, suggested that the Senate proceed first to a package of domestic spending bills to try to break the stalemate. This is what we are trying to do today. In an effort to demonstrate good faith and get off the dime, that is what we are hopefully going to do later today.

I want to take a minute to thank Senator LEAHY for proposing a path forward out of our stall. I would also just like to emphasize to all my colleagues that this path leads to success if it ends with Congress funding the entire government, not just part of it. We have a lot of work to do, but we can do it. We have also before us the opportunity to get it done, so this is where we pick up today.

Last month, the Appropriations Committee, as the Chair knows, reported 10 bills to the full Senate. If we are able to proceed to H.R. 3055, it is my intention here on the floor to offer a substitute amendment that includes four of these bills that we passed out of the committee, each of which passed unanimously in a bipartisan way. What are those bills, and what do they fund? The Commerce Department, the Justice Department, Science bill—we call it Commerce, Justice, and Science—the Agriculture bill, the Interior bill, and the Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development bill.

I want to take a minute to thank the chairs of these subcommittees for their diligence in producing balanced bills: Senator MORAN, Senator HOEVEN, Senator MURKOWSKI, and Senator COLLINS. I also want to thank their respective ranking members, the Democrats, for their bipartisan cooperation here: Senator SHAHEEN, Senator MERKLEY, Senator UDALL, and Senator REED.

Together, these four measures before us today account for nearly one-third—one-third—of all nondefense discretionary spending. Consistent with the bipartisan budget agreement, they contain no new poison pills, and I would caution my colleagues on both sides of the aisle against pursuing poison pill amendments if we are able to proceed today. If we are to make any progress on the 2020 appropriations bills, I think we must be true to our commitment, enshrined in terms of the budget agreement, to refrain from such provisions to move the process.

I would also like to move this package through regular order so we can return quickly to a second package that the majority leader spoke to us at lunch today about that funds the military and many more other agencies. There is simply no excuse for further delay.

With all that we ask for our military, with all the challenges it already faces, with all the additional uncertainties that stopgap funding creates, and with all that has been said recently about the need to support our allies and counter our adversaries around the world, I hope that our colleagues will not say to our men and women in uniform: We will get to you later.