

say that a 1-percent cut would somehow be a disaster, we need to remind them that the money is there. They just have to listen to the people and pull the plug on this kind of crazy spending overseas.

My amendment would move 1 percent of current spending, and it would put that 1 percent of the current spending bill into infrastructure.

Supposedly, Republicans, Democrats, and Independents all agree on infrastructure. Yet we don't allocate more money to it because we are too busy paving roads in Afghanistan. If we did this, it would be about \$12 billion. It is not enough to fix everything in the country. It is a modest sum. This is actually a modest proposal to move over a few billion dollars.

Do you know what it would do? Twelve billion dollars would pave up to 6,200 miles of a new four-lane highway, resurface 20,000 miles of a four-lane highway, and 2,200 miles of a six-lane interstate. It would pay for multiple big-ticket infrastructure projects that are currently stuck without funding. In my State, they have been advocating money for the Brent Spence Bridge across the Ohio River since before I was elected—8 or 9 years of advocating for a bridge for which we can't find the money. We have the money. Quit paving roads in Afghanistan, and let's start building bridges and paving roads here.

This amendment would improve our infrastructure, benefit our communities, eliminate government waste, and help our economy. By cutting 1 percent of the current spending, we will force all of government to do a better job.

There is at least 1 percent waste. There is probably 10 percent waste in government. I am asking to cut 1 percent of waste. Take that money you cut by making government more efficient and put it into infrastructure.

I encourage the Senate to consider this amendment. I think we have very few amendments come forward where people have a chance to vote for infrastructure.

At this point, I move to concur on the House amendment to the Senate amendment—

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Will the Senator suspend?

Mr. PAUL. At this point, I am about ready to do that.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020, AND FURTHER HEALTH EXTENDERS ACT OF 2019

The Presiding Officer laid before the Senate the following message from the House of Representatives:

Resolved, That the House agree to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3055) entitled "An Act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and

Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes," with an amendment to the Senate amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kentucky.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 1250

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3055, with a further amendment numbered 1250.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Kentucky [Mr. PAUL] moves to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3055, with an amendment numbered 1250.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To reduce the amount appropriated by 1 percent and put the savings towards the Highway Trust Fund and certain Environmental Protection Agency Infrastructure Assistance)

At the appropriate place in division A, add the following:

SEC. ____ . REDUCTION IN RATE FOR OPERATIONS.

The Continuing Appropriations Act, 2020 (division A of Public Law 116-59) is further amended by inserting after section 150, as added by section 101 of this division, the following:

"SEC. 151. REDUCTION IN CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS TO PROVIDE SAVINGS FOR THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY INFRASTRUCTURE ASSISTANCE.

"(a) REDUCTION IN CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the rate for operations provided by section 101 is hereby reduced by 1 percent.

"(2) EXCEPTIONS.—The rate for operations shall not be reduced under paragraph (1) for the following:

"(A) Amounts made available from the Highway Trust Fund established by section 9503(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

"(B) Amounts for purposes described in section 147.

"(C) For the Environmental Protection Agency, Infrastructure Assistance, amounts made available for the following:

"(i) The Clean Water State Revolving Funds and the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds.

"(ii) The Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Program Account.

"(iii) The America's Water Infrastructure Act Grant Programs under section 1459A of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-19a).

"(b) TRANSFER OF SAVINGS.—

"(1) DETERMINATION OF SAVINGS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall determine the amount of the reduction in amounts made available under section 101 of this division that is attributable to subsection (a).

"(2) TRANSFER.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer from the General Fund of the Treasury an amount equal to the amount determined under paragraph (1), as follows:

"(A) For the Highway Trust Fund established by section 9503(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 95 percent of such amount.

"(B) For the Clean Water State Revolving Funds and the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, 3 percent of such amount.

"(C) For the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Program Account, 1 percent of such amount.

"(D) For the America's Water Infrastructure Act Grant Programs under section 1459A of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300j-19a), 1 percent of such amount.

"(3) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts transferred under paragraph (2) shall remain available until expended."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

MOTION TO TABLE

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I move to table the Paul amendment, but I just want to say a few words.

This continuing resolution before the Senate holds spending at the fiscal 2019 levels. An arbitrary 1-percent across-the-board cut on top of this—although it sounds good—would be extremely harmful to our agencies, particularly our military.

The Senate handily defeated similar amendments just recently, and I hope we will do this today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I will be brief.

I agree with the distinguished senior Senator from Alabama. The Paul amendment imposes a 1-percent across-the-board cut over last year's funding level to the vast majority of discretionary spending for the duration of the CR.

I hope all Members—Republican and Democratic alike—will oppose it because it would mean arbitrary cuts in defense and other national security programs, cuts to veterans' healthcare, education, childcare, opioid programs, just to name a few. It is a simplistic tool that ignores the complexities of our Federal budget. It is not a way we should govern.

We have the hard work of making hard choices to fund programs each year based on reality. That is what we should do. That is what the American people deserve.

I support increased investment in our Nation's infrastructure. I would be happy to work with Senator PAUL to ensure these programs receive the resources they require.

I hope he might be able to get some support from the Trump administration, which has consistently proposed cutting resources to improve our Nation's infrastructure. I hope he might be able to get that kind of support, but funding it through an across-the-board cut on all other programs, including veterans healthcare, national security, and education programs is irresponsible. It is not the answer.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alabama.

Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I move to table the Paul amendment and 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 Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 73, nays 20, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 363 Leg.]

YEAS—73

Alexander	Hassan	Reed
Baldwin	Hawley	Roberts
Bennet	Heinrich	Rosen
Blumenthal	Hirono	Rounds
Blunt	Hoeven	Rubio
Boozman	Hyde-Smith	Schatz
Brown	Inhofe	Schumer
Burr	Isakson	Scott (FL)
Cantwell	Johnson	Shaheen
Capito	Jones	Shelby
Cardin	Kaine	Sinema
Carper	King	Smith
Casey	Leahy	Stabenow
Collins	Manchin	Tester
Coons	Markey	Thune
Cortez Masto	McConnell	Toomey
Cramer	Menendez	Udall
Duckworth	Merkley	Van Hollen
Durbin	Moran	Warner
Enzi	Murkowski	Whitehouse
Feinstein	Murphy	Wicker
Gardner	Murray	Wyden
Gillibrand	Perdue	Young
Graham	Peters	
Grassley	Portman	

NAYS—20

Barrasso	Ernst	Risch
Blackburn	Fischer	Romney
Braun	Kennedy	Sasse
Cornyn	Lankford	Scott (SC)
Crapo	Lee	Sullivan
Cruz	McSally	Tillis
Daines	Paul	

NOT VOTING—7

Booker	Harris	Warren
Cassidy	Klobuchar	
Cotton	Sanders	

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the votes following the first vote in this series be 10 minutes in length.

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

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. MCCONNELL. I move to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3055.

CLOTURE MOTION

I send a cloture motion to the desk for the motion to concur.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The bill 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 motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3055, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Re-

lated Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Roy Blunt, Jerry Moran, Richard C. Shelby, Lamar Alexander, Susan M. Collins, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Boozman, Lisa Murkowski, Rob Portman, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, Chuck Grassley, Tom Cotton, Pat Roberts.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum call be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. 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 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 motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3055, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes.

Mitch McConnell, Roy Blunt, Jerry Moran, Richard C. Shelby, Lamar Alexander, Susan M. Collins, John Barrasso, Cindy Hyde-Smith, John Boozman, Lisa Murkowski, Rob Portman, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, Chuck Grassley, Tom Cotton, Pat Roberts.

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 motion to concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 3055, a bill making appropriations to the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rules.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 75, nays 19, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 364 Leg.]

YEAS—75

Alexander	Brown	Collins
Baldwin	Burr	Coons
Barrasso	Cantwell	Cornyn
Bennet	Capito	Cortez Masto
Blumenthal	Cardin	Cotton
Blunt	Carper	Cramer
Boozman	Casey	Crapo

Duckworth	Lankford	Schatz
Durbin	Leahy	Schumer
Feinstein	Manchin	Scott (SC)
Gardner	Markey	Shaheen
Gillibrand	McConnell	Shelby
Graham	McSally	Sinema
Grassley	Menendez	Smith
Hassan	Merkley	Stabenow
Heinrich	Moran	Sullivan
Hirono	Murkowski	Tester
Hoeven	Murphy	Thune
Hyde-Smith	Murray	Udall
Isakson	Peters	Van Hollen
Johnson	Portman	Warner
Jones	Reed	Whitehouse
Kaine	Roberts	Wicker
Kennedy	Rosen	Wyden
King	Rubio	Young

NAYS—19

Blackburn	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Inhofe	Sasse
Cruz	Lee	Scott (FL)
Daines	Paul	Tillis
Enzi	Perdue	Toomey
Ernst	Risch	
Fischer	Romney	

NOT VOTING—6

Booker	Harris	Sanders
Cassidy	Klobuchar	Warren

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 75, the nays are 19.

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

Under the previous order, all postcloture time is yielded back.

The question is on agreeing to the motion to concur.

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, 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 Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY).

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 74, nays 20, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 365 Leg.]

YEAS—74

Alexander	Duckworth	Markey
Baldwin	Durbin	McConnell
Barrasso	Feinstein	McSally
Bennet	Gardner	Menendez
Blumenthal	Gillibrand	Merkley
Blunt	Graham	Moran
Boozman	Grassley	Murkowski
Brown	Hassan	Murphy
Burr	Heinrich	Murray
Cantwell	Hirono	Peters
Capito	Hoeven	Portman
Cardin	Hyde-Smith	Reed
Carper	Isakson	Roberts
Casey	Johnson	Rosen
Collins	Jones	Rubio
Coons	Kaine	Schatz
Cornyn	Kennedy	Schumer
Cortez Masto	King	Shaheen
Cotton	Lankford	Shelby
Cramer	Leahy	Sinema
Crapo	Manchin	Smith

Stabenow	Udall	Wicker
Sullivan	Van Hollen	Wyden
Tester	Warner	Young
Thune	Whitehouse	

NAYS—20

Blackburn	Hawley	Rounds
Braun	Inhofe	Sasse
Cruz	Lee	Scott (FL)
Daines	Paul	Scott (SC)
Enzi	Perdue	Tillis
Ernst	Risch	Toomey
Fischer	Romney	

NOT VOTING—6

Booker	Harris	Sanders
Cassidy	Klobuchar	Warren

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

DIRECTING THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE A CORRECTION IN THE ENROLLMENT OF H.R. 3055

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H. Con. Res. 75, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 75) directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 3055.

There being no objection, the senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (H. Con. Res. 75) was agreed to.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 386.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert M. Duncan, of Kentucky, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2025. (Reappointment)

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

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 Robert M. Duncan, of Kentucky, to be a Governor of the United States Postal Service for a term expiring December 8, 2025. (Reappointment)

Kevin Cramer, David Perdue, Ben Sasse, Rob Portman, Johnny Isakson, John Thune, Mike Rounds, Roy Blunt, Mitch McConnell, Chuck Grassley, John Boozman, Tom Cotton, Pat Roberts, Richard Burr, Rick Scott, James E. Risch, Shelley Moore Capito.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. RES. 150

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I come to the floor again with respect to S. Res. 150, which I introduced with Senator CRUZ, to recognize the Armenian Genocide. I am glad that he is with me today in a call for unanimous consent on this resolution. We are proud to report that we have 28 sponsors on this important resolution.

Last month, the House of Representatives passed a version of this resolution by a vote of 405-11—405-11. That sent a strong bipartisan message of dedication to the truth—dedication to historical fact, dedication to a principle held by so many in Congress—that genocide is genocide.

As a country, we should do whatever we can to prevent future genocides, but when it happens, we have an obligation as a country to call it what it is. If not, we operate without the facts outside of reality. We aren't being honest to ourselves and to the world. This resolution gives us that reckoning and sets the record straight, a record that so many administrations over the years have sought to obscure. These administrations, Republican and Democrat, have dug their heads into the sand, despite the words of U.S. diplomats who were there at the time, who saw the genocide with their own eyes.

Let me just share a couple of examples. Henry Morgenthau, the U.S. Ambassador to Turkey, from 1913 to 1916, wrote in his memoir that, "When the Turkish authorities gave the order for these deportations, they were merely giving the death warrant to a whole race; they understood this well, and in their conversations with me, they made no particular attempt to conceal this fact. I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this. The great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant when compared to the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915." This was Henry Morgenthau Ambassador's quote.

On June 5, 1915, the United States Consul in Aleppo, Jesse Jackson, wrote, "There is a living stream of Armenians pouring into Aleppo from the surrounding towns and villages, the principal ones being Marash, Zeitoun, Hasanbeyli, Osmania, Baghtche, Adana, Dortyol, Hadjin.

"The Ottoman Government has been appealed to by various prominent people and even those in authority to put an end to these conditions, under the representations that it can only lead to the greatest blame and reproach, but all to no avail. It is without doubt a carefully planned scheme to thoroughly extinguish the Armenian race."

On July 24, 1915, in a report to Ambassador Morgenthau, the U.S. Consul in Harput, Leslie Davis, stated, "Any doubt that may have been expressed in previous reports as to the Government's intention in sending away the Armenians have been removed. It has been no secret that the plan was to destroy the Armenian race as a race. Everything was apparently planned months ago."

And, finally, on October 1, 1916, a telegram to the Secretary of State Robert Lansing, the U.S. Charge d'Affaires Hoffman Philip wrote, "The department is in receipt of ample details demonstrating the horrors of the anti-Armenian campaign. For many months past I felt that the most efficacious method for dealing with the situation from an international standpoint would be to flatly threaten to withdraw our Diplomatic Representative from a country where such barbarous methods are not only tolerated but actually carried out by order of the existing Government."

Finally, Abram Elkus, who served as the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire from 1916 to 1917, telegraphed the Secretary of State at the time on October 17, 1916, stating "In order to avoid opprobrium of the civilized world, which the continuation of massacres [of the Armenians] would arouse, Turkish officials have now adopted and are executing the unchecked policy of extermination through starvation, exhaustion, and brutality of treatment hardly surpassed even in Turkish history."

American officials, those with the most credible and legitimate understanding of what took place, made these statements. They are part of the historical record, and they mark one of the prouder moments in the history of the State Department and our diplomacy.

Finally, there are 27 countries in the world that have already recognized the Armenian genocide. Eleven of them are NATO countries: Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, and Slovakia. None of them have ruptured their relationship with Turkey. None of them have ended their relationship with Turkey as it relates to recognizing the Armenian genocide as a historical fact.