

IRS. It is time to stop politicking. Senate Democrats' opposition here against this live unanimous consent proves to the American people and Israel that this was never about the IRS cuts being used as a pay-for. It was never about tax cheats or millionaires. It is about using our ally, Israel, as a pawn in their underlying mission to send another blank check to Ukraine, and it is about a handful of pro-Iranian and pro-Palestinian votes in swing States. It is that simple.

Again, I call on my Democratic colleagues to do the right thing. Drop the political posturing and let's secure a gigantic bipartisan victory for Israel in their time of need.

I yield the floor.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I ask for the immediate consideration of S. 3168, the Israel Supplemental Appropriations Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mrs. MURRAY. The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Is it my understanding the Senator is asking unanimous consent to proceed to consideration of the bill?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. That is the Chair's understanding.

Mrs. MURRAY. Madam President, let me just say, reserving the right to object, Iran's attacks over the weekend underscore the precarious moment that we find ourselves in and the urgent need for Congress to act decisively to confront the many challenges we and our allies face.

Of course, the surest and fastest way to do that is to pass the carefully negotiated comprehensive national security supplemental that the Senate actually cleared in an overwhelming bipartisan vote over 2 months ago. There is urgency for aiding all of our allies facing grave threats. We cannot afford half steps or half measures like this one, because for months now, Ukraine has been desperately waiting for more aid and counting how many bullets they have left, how many missiles, and how many Iranian-made drones they can still intercept, and how much longer they can hold out if we don't keep our word.

At a time like this, we simply cannot settle for a bill that helps one ally and ignores all the rest. Ukraine hasn't just been calling for aid for months. Many House Republicans, including the Speaker, have been saying for months: We will not abandon them. This bill would leave Ukraine in the dust. It would ignore the threat that the Chinese Government poses in the Indo-Pacific, and it would fail to take action to address the dire humanitarian crisis we are seeing around the world, which will lead to more instability.

Not on my watch.

Let me make this simple. If we want a safer world with strong American leadership, then we cannot send the message that America only keeps some of its promises to some of its allies

some of the time. Otherwise, how are our partners supposed to trust us? Why would our adversaries take us seriously?

How do my colleagues offering this bill plan to answer all of the allies who come knocking after something like this asking: Are we a priority like Israel or a bargaining chip like Ukraine?

That is not a rhetorical question. How do you plan to answer them?

We cannot tell the world that we forget some of our allies in their time of need; that partnering with us might mean getting left behind. And that means we cannot ignore the reality that Israel is not the only ally of ours in the middle of a brutal conflict facing grave threats. The people of Ukraine are fighting and dying for their homeland as we speak. They are literally running out of bullets fighting off Putin's bloody invasion. Are we going to pretend, with the whole world watching, that we do not hear their cries for help?

That is not an acceptable outcome, especially when, right now, we already have a comprehensive bipartisan bill to support all of our allies and address the many threats we face across the globe. The Speaker has said many times he wants us to get aid to Ukraine. Well, all he has to do is prove he is serious and put that bill up for a vote. That is it. Further delaying, including by going back to the drawing board and sending something back to the Senate will waste more time that we simply do not have.

So the Speaker needs to put the bipartisan national security supplemental up for a vote because, unlike the bill before us right now, the bipartisan Senate bill stands by all of our allies. It leaves no one behind. It includes support for Israel and Ukraine; and, importantly, it includes badly needed humanitarian aid and absolutely essential investments to support our allies in the Indo-Pacific and deter aggression by the Chinese Government.

We have to do better than half steps. We just have to. We cannot settle for a bill like the one that is proposed here tonight that would shamefully tell the world we don't stand by all of our allies—a bill that would leave every partner we have asking whether we are going to treat them like a true ally or like an afterthought. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam President, I appreciate that my colleague talked about half steps because the inconsistency of this administration to our allies is an issue. Our allies don't know if they are our allies. They don't see us as being there for them; and our enemies do not fear us.

Iran, for the first time ever, has attacked Israel. I gave you those numbers just a few minutes ago—170 drones, 30 cruise missiles, 120 ballistic missiles. After Hamas attacked Israel

on October 7, they told us they don't intend to stop. They are continuing over and over.

Israel has been very specific in telling us what they need: \$4 billion to replenish the Iron Dome, \$1.2 billion to help Israel counter mortar threats, \$3.3 billion to support military operations in the region. They are very specific about that.

When you look at the axis of evil—Russia, China, Iran, North Korea—of course, the threats are growing every day. Why are they growing? Because the Biden administration is practicing appeasement—appeasement.

There is agreement in supporting Israel. I continue to say it is time for us to support Israel, our greatest ally in the region, the only Jewish State. Let's make certain that they have what they need to defend themselves.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 6126

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Kansas.

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam President:

As Israel is under attack from Iran, we stand with Israel and its people, and the United States will do everything we can to support Israel's defense against Iran.

Now, I have said similar things to that, but that is actually a quote from the Democratic Senate majority leader CHUCK SCHUMER:

As Israel is under attack from Iran, we stand with Israel and its people and the United States will do everything we can to support Israel's defense against Iran.

The majority leader said basically the same thing several months ago on the Nation's Mall when he said he wouldn't sleep until we help the people of Israel.

It has been almost 200 days since Iran-backed Hamas terrorists invaded Israel and brutally killed innocent civilians—women, senior citizens, and children—since that horrific day on October 7. I called for aid to our ally Israel, with no strings attached, on this floor four times.

Sadly, Democrats have blocked our efforts every single time. Every time we come to the floor to have this debate, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have stood on this floor and lectured us on why the bipartisan House-passed, stand-alone Israel legislation that maintains the spending levels requested by President Biden is somehow unreasonable.

Well, what is unreasonable to me and to most Americans across this country is this body's reluctance to help our ally Israel in their time of need following not just one but now two unprecedented attacks on Israel's sovereign soil. Unreasonable is the Biden administration coming out today admitting that they are yet again holding Israel funds hostage. And why? That is a question I get back home: Why? I will tell you why.

Because they are, again, using this crisis as a lever to secure more money for Ukraine. And they object to protect their members who are pro-Iran, who are pro-Hamas, from a tough vote, as they call it.

Over the weekend, everybody has now seen that Israel was attacked—this time by the head of the snake, Iran; not its proxies, but the head of the snake, Iran. Iran, the nation that harbors terrorists who scream and shout out: Death to America. Iran, who time and time again has shown us they hate Americans, they hate Israel. Iran, a terrorist, authoritarian, evil regime that cannot be trusted launched more than 120 ballistic missiles, 30 cruise missiles, and 170 one-way suicide drones at Israel on Saturday night.

Thankfully, through the strength and resolve of the Israeli people and with military help from the United States, British forces, Jordan, and many others who successfully neutralized these attacks, Israel was hardly scathed, let alone defeated.

I want to just take a moment and pause, though, and also say thanks to all those American soldiers who put their lives on the line to protect one of our long-term, most valued allies in the Middle East—the people of Israel. And, of course, not just our soldiers but the soldiers of our many other allies there. These unprecedented attacks on Israel and ever-increasing aggression by Iran cannot be ignored by weak pacifist U.S. policies with no redlines any longer.

Instead, we must stand with our decades-long friend with whom we share a strategic alliance based upon shared democratic values, security interests, and cultural and religious values.

We must help Israel in its time of need. A friend in need is a friend indeed.

Today, we are here once again offering an olive branch to pass the bipartisan House-passed Israel aid bill that could be signed by the President tonight. The House has passed it. We could pass it and the President could sign it tonight and get that aid to Israel.

It is time to show where America stands. Is it with Iran and Hamas, or is it with Israel? It has to be one or the other; you can't choose both. As for me and my family and my colleagues, we choose Israel. Time and time again, I see Members, even the Democratic majority leader this weekend, say they stand with Israel. My message today to my colleagues is that actions speak louder than words. We are tired of hearing the pro-Israeli lip service while simultaneously blocking every effort to help Israel in its time of need. History will not forget this. Let's do the right thing.

As in legislative session, notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the

immediate consideration of Calendar No. 241, H.R. 6126; I further ask the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mrs. MURRAY. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that all time on the Maglona nomination be deemed expired, and that at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 16, the Senate vote on confirmation, and that if the nomination is 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. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

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

PROHIBITING THE USE OF FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT, ADMINISTER, OR ENFORCE CERTAIN RULES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY—MOTION TO PROCEED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the pending business. The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 350, S. 4072, a bill to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce certain rules of the Environmental Protection Agency.

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

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—H.R. 7888

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7888) to reform the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

Mr. SCHUMER. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the

bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard. The bill will be read for a second time on the next legislative day.

MORNING BUSINESS

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 382. An act to take certain land in the State of Washington into trust for the benefit of the Puyallup Tribe of the Puyallup Reservation, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 524. An act to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to create an exemption for certain shoreline borrow sites.

H.R. 2560. An act to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the Sea Turtle Rescue Assistance Grant Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6011. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to notify applicants of the completion status of right-of-way applications under section 501 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and section 28 of the Mineral Leasing Act.

At 7:13 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 7888. An act to reform the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

(Legislative Day April 10, 2024)

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 7888. An act to reform the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to adjourn until 9:04 p.m. today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to adjourn until 9:04 p.m.

The motion was agreed to.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 9:03 p.m., adjourned until Monday, April 15, 2024, at 9:04 p.m.