

votes to get it passed. I don't believe there are any more excuses.

The way I see it, this is about our national security—that is what this package is—a moral example for the world, and showing people everywhere in every corner of the Earth that when America makes a promise, when America makes a covenant, it will be kept.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Virginia.

Mr. KAINE. Madam President, I had not intended to speak today, but I had the good fortune to be on the floor to hear my colleague from Minnesota describe this urgent amendment, which we do need to take action on. I want to commend her for the work that she has done for our Afghan allies over a number of years. I do believe that if this is offered as an amendment, it will get an overwhelmingly positive vote in this body.

I wanted to just share a little bit about these Afghans in Virginia.

In 2021, when Afghans were coming to the United States at the end of the war, they came to Virginia. Almost all of the Afghans who came to the United States came to Dulles Airport. They were then taken to a facility that was a Dulles conference center, where they were processed. I had the opportunity to see them both at the airport and at the Dulles convention center.

After initial processing, these Afghans were distributed to eight military bases across the United States, and three of those bases were in Virginia: Quantico, Fort Gregg-Adams, and Fort Barfoot. In those months, October and November of 2021, I visited each of the bases to interview the Afghans and hear about their journey but also about their hopes for life in this country. It was tremendously inspiring.

When Afghans would arrive at these bases on a bus from the Dulles conference center, they would be met by our troops standing outside the bus, waving American flags. That was their welcome.

I had a chance to visit with Afghans when I visited Fort Barfoot in southern Virginia. I happened to be there the day before Veterans Day. I went around to all these families, and I said: I am giving a Veterans Day speech tomorrow. What do you want me to tell American troops, veterans, and their families?

Over and over and over again, what I heard from these Afghans was their descriptions of their love and affection for American troops, their love and affection for this country, the perils of the journey to get here but their excitement that they might now be opening a new chapter of free life in the United States.

More Afghans have chosen to settle in Virginia than any other State by raw numbers and certainly per capita. In those years since 2021, I have visited with Afghans all around our Commonwealth. About a year after they ar-

rived, we did a welcome celebration at Mount Vernon. I had a chance to interview so many Afghans who were settling into life in the United States and hear what they were doing.

My colleague from Minnesota described some of the things they are doing to already improve their community. I talked to young activists who were using the internet to try to help family members still in Afghanistan or gain reports about human rights or the treatment of women in Afghanistan or work on community support for Afghan communities around Virginia and around the United States.

Just recently—just recently—I paid an amazing visit to a small city in southern Virginia, Danville, VA. I went there because of another part of this national security package.

In the national security package, there is an investment in something called AUKUS—the United States-Australia-UK cooperative defense agreement in the Indo-Pacific—whereby the United States will help train Aussies to build nuclear subs, sell Virginia-built nuclear subs to Australia during the 2030s but eventually enable Australia to build their own nuclear subs in the 2040s.

The Navy, at my urging as a member of the Armed Services Committee, has helped stand up a training program in Danville. Danville is a great manufacturing city but then lost a lot of manufacturing, tobacco, textile, furniture during the 1990s, but it has fought back strong. Danville is experiencing a renaissance. About a year ago, the Navy opened up a facility in Danville to train the next generation of shipbuilders and sub builders in this Nation. On the Armed Services Committee—as chairman of the Seapower Subcommittee, I wanted to see this innovative program.

It is an 8-week program, five different disciplines. People come from employers all over the United States to train together to help meet the requirements of our own defense and these AUKUS commitments that we have made.

As I walked in each of the five classes and looked at who was there learning, it started to dawn on me: It was youngsters from Danville. It was people from all parts of the United States whose employers had decided they wanted to send them to this training program. It was Aussies, Australian shipbuilders. Those who built the current diesel-powered subs in Australia were sending people to Danville, VA, for 8 weeks so they could learn side by side with their American counterparts. But it was also Afghans. It was Afghans who have been in this country less than 2 years but who have already sacrificed to support the defense of this Nation and who decided when they heard about this opportunity: You know what, why don't I be a shipbuilder? Why don't I be a part of the submarine industrial base?

Watching Afghans sit next to Australians standing next to kids from

Danville, VA, to train, to build, and to manufacture the most complicated items that are built on the planet so that they could defend this country and defend freedom around the world—these are not only people who have sacrificed for us; these are people who are already becoming good citizens in this country, contributing to the Nation, contributing to their communities. They don't deserve to be held in a legal limbo, where every day they question what their status will be tomorrow.

That is why supporting the Afghan Adjustment Act, as negotiated into an amendment on this bill, might be one of the very best pieces of this bill. It is my deep hope that we can get this done before we leave here, and pass the supplemental.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Minnesota.

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. 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. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Madam President, for the information of Senators, the Senate will gavel back into session tomorrow, Sunday, February 11, at noon. At around 1 o'clock, we will hold the cloture vote on the substitute amendment, which has the text of the supplemental. We still hope our Republican colleagues can work with us to reach an agreement on a reasonable list of amendments so we can speed this process up.

Again, as I have already made clear, we will keep working on this bill until the job is done.

MORNING BUSINESS

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

AMENDMENT NO. 1543

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1543 intended to be proposed to H.R. 815, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1571

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms.

COLLINS) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1571 intended to be proposed to H.R. 815, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1576

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1576 intended to be proposed to H.R. 815, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1596. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1597. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1598. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1599. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1600. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1601. Ms. BUTLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1602. Ms. BUTLER (for herself and Mr. WELCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1603. Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. LEE, and Mr. HOEVEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1604. Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Ms. WARREN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1605. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1606. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1607. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1596. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for assistance to Gaza.

SA 1597. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. EXEMPTION OF ALIENS WORKING AS FISH PROCESSORS FROM THE NUMERICAL LIMITATION ON H-2B NON-IMMIGRANT VISAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 214(g)(10) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)(10)) is amended—

(1) by striking “The numerical limitations of paragraph (1)(B)” and inserting “(A) The numerical limitation under paragraph (1)(B)”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(B)(i) The numerical limitation under paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply to any non-immigrant alien issued a visa or otherwise provided status under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) who is employed (or has received an offer of employment)—

“(I) as a fish roe processor, a fish roe technician, or a supervisor of fish roe processing; or

“(II) as a fish processor.

“(ii) As used in clause (i)—

“(I) the term ‘fish’ means fresh or salt-water finfish, mollusks, crustaceans, and all other forms of aquatic animal life, including the roe of such animals, other than marine mammals and birds; and

“(II) the term ‘processor’ means any person engaged in the processing of fish, includ-

ing handling, storing, preparing, heading, eviscerating, shucking, freezing, changing into different market forms, manufacturing, preserving, packing, labeling, dockside unloading, holding, and all other processing activities.”.

(b) REPEAL.—Section 14006 of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2005 (Public Law 108-287) is repealed.

SA 1598. Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 51, strike lines 10 through 16, and insert the following:

SEC. 614. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this division and division B of this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs may be made available for a contribution, grant, or other payment to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency in Gaza, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the limitation on assistance under subsection (a) shall no longer apply if the President certifies that—

(A) the United Nations Office of Internal Oversight Services has completed an investigation into allegations of wrongdoing by certain United Nations Relief and Works Agency employees; and

(B) the United Nations has taken appropriate remedial action.

(2) NOTIFICATION.—Upon making a certification under paragraph (1), the President shall promptly notify the appropriate congressional committees in writing.

SA 1599. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1388 proposed by Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER) to the bill H.R. 815, to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements relating to the eligibility of veterans to receive reimbursement for emergency treatment furnished through the Veterans Community Care program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 31, after line 21, add the following:

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$1,090,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027, to increase drug interdiction and processing capabilities at land borders of the United States, of which \$960,000,000 shall be for technology improvements and upgrades, and all may include the procurement and deployment of large-scale, small-scale, and handheld non-intrusive inspection scanning systems at ports of entry along the land borders of the United States and upgrades to the