

W.E.B. DuBois and Booker T. Washington on the pathways of African Americans. Certainly, we are well aware of the civil rights movement. Many believe they know their current history, but there are so many different nuances. And I imagine the commission of this particular legislation, this commission would go even far more deeply into African American history.

So let me say that this is a very important legislative initiative. I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) for bringing it forward. And I will say that if this is signed by the President, America will be better for knowing the history of all people, and this commission will certainly be part of telling that very detailed, diverse, and different story of African Americans in the history of the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I ask support of the bill.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

I thank my colleagues for bearing with me while I am a little hoarse in doing this duty here tonight. I had a little bit too much screaming at our 4th of July festivities and parades in Philadelphia and Montgomery County yesterday.

Mr. Speaker, I really admire—and I am not sure if it was done intentionally this way—the wisdom of the chairman and those who scheduled these two resolutions coming in tandem because I think they are both important, and I am enthusiastic about both of them.

It is impossible to tell the story of the United States of America without the enormous contributions and resilience shown by those who are the descendants of slaves who were brought here to our shores against their will.

I am, like many of us, the descendant of immigrants who came here willingly. Though they came here with nothing, at least they came here willingly. And of course that does not represent the entire American experience.

So I think that this is an important resolution. I commend my colleague from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) as well as Senators TIM Kaine and MARK WARNER for their championing of it. I am proud to support this bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, again, let me echo the wide bipartisan support in favor of this bill.

I want to thank our ranking member, Mr. CUMMINGS. I want to thank Mr. BOYLE for his support in championing this through with our committee. And I particularly want to thank BOBBY SCOTT of Virginia, his representation of that area and is a pivotal voice in bringing this bill forward. I am glad to be supportive of this bill, and I would urge my colleagues to also support it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CHAFFETZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4539, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 2115

GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY ACT OF 2016

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1252) to authorize a comprehensive strategic approach for United States foreign assistance to developing countries to reduce global poverty and hunger, achieve food and nutrition security, promote inclusive, sustainable, agricultural economic growth, improve nutritional outcomes, especially for women and children, build resilience among vulnerable populations, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1252

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Global Food Security Act of 2016”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (referred to in this section as the “FAO”), 805,000,000 people worldwide suffer from chronic hunger. Hunger and malnutrition rob people of health and productive lives and stunt the mental and physical development of future generations.

(2) According to the January 2014 “Worldwide Threat Assessment of the US Intelligence Community”—

(A) the “[l]ack of adequate food will be a destabilizing factor in countries important to US national security that do not have the financial or technical abilities to solve their internal food security problems”; and

(B) “[f]ood and nutrition insecurity in weakly governed countries might also provide opportunities for insurgent groups to capitalize on poor conditions, exploit international food aid, and discredit governments for their inability to address basic needs”.

(3) A comprehensive approach to sustainable food and nutrition security should not only respond to emergency food shortages, but should also address malnutrition, resilience to food and nutrition insecurity, building the capacity of poor, rural populations to improve their agricultural productivity and incomes, removing institutional impediments to agricultural development, value chain access and efficiency, including processing and storage, enhancing agribusiness development, access to markets and activities that address the specific needs and barriers facing women and small-scale producers, education, and collaborative research.

SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY OBJECTIVES; SENSE OF CONGRESS.

(a) STATEMENT OF POLICY OBJECTIVES.—It is in the national interest of the United

States to promote global food security, resilience, and nutrition, consistent with national food security investment plans, which is reinforced through programs, activities, and initiatives that—

(1) place food insecure countries on a path toward self-sufficiency and economic freedom through the coordination of United States foreign assistance programs;

(2) accelerate inclusive, agricultural-led economic growth that reduces global poverty, hunger, and malnutrition, particularly among women and children;

(3) increase the productivity, incomes, and livelihoods of small-scale producers, especially women, by working across agricultural value chains, enhancing local capacity to manage agricultural resources effectively and expanding producer access to local and international markets;

(4) build resilience to food shocks among vulnerable populations and households while reducing reliance upon emergency food assistance;

(5) create an enabling environment for agricultural growth and investment, including through the promotion of secure and transparent property rights;

(6) improve the nutritional status of women and children, with a focus on reducing child stunting, including through the promotion of highly nutritious foods, diet diversification, and nutritional behaviors that improve maternal and child health;

(7) demonstrably meet, align with and leverage broader United States strategies and investments in trade, economic growth, national security, science and technology, agriculture research and extension, maternal and child health, nutrition, and water, sanitation, and hygiene;

(8) continue to strengthen partnerships between United States-based universities, including land-grant colleges, and universities and institutions in target countries and communities that build agricultural capacity; and

(9) ensure the effective use of United States taxpayer dollars to further these objectives.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Congress that the President, in providing assistance to implement the Global Food Security Strategy, should—

(1) coordinate, through a whole-of-government approach, the efforts of relevant Federal departments and agencies to implement the Global Food Security Strategy;

(2) seek to fully utilize the unique capabilities of each relevant Federal department and agency while collaborating with and leveraging the contributions of other key stakeholders; and

(3) utilize open and streamlined solicitations to allow for the participation of a wide range of implementing partners through the most appropriate procurement mechanisms, which may include grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other instruments as necessary and appropriate.

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives;

(E) the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives; and

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) **FEED THE FUTURE INNOVATION LABS.**—The term “Feed the Future Innovation Labs” means research partnerships led by United States universities that advance solutions to reduce global hunger, poverty, and malnutrition.

(3) **FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY.**—The term “food and nutrition security” means access to, and availability, utilization, and stability of, sufficient food to meet caloric and nutritional needs for an active and healthy life.

(4) **GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.**—The term “Global Food Security Strategy” means the strategy developed and implemented pursuant to section 5(a).

(5) **KEY STAKEHOLDERS.**—The term “key stakeholders” means actors engaged in efforts to advance global food security programs and objectives, including—

(A) relevant Federal departments and agencies;

(B) national and local governments in target countries;

(C) other bilateral donors;

(D) international and regional organizations;

(E) international, regional, and local financial institutions;

(F) international, regional, and local private voluntary, nongovernmental, faith-based, and civil society organizations;

(G) the private sector, including agribusinesses and relevant commodities groups;

(H) agricultural producers, including farmer organizations, cooperatives, small-scale producers, and women; and

(I) agricultural research and academic institutions, including land-grant universities and extension services.

(6) **MALNUTRITION.**—The term “malnutrition” means poor nutritional status caused by nutritional deficiency or excess.

(7) **RELEVANT FEDERAL DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES.**—The term “relevant Federal departments and agencies” means the United States Agency for International Development, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Commerce, the Department of State, the Department of the Treasury, the Millennium Challenge Corporation, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, the Peace Corps, the Office of the United States Trade Representative, the United States African Development Foundation, the United States Geological Survey, and any other department or agency specified by the President for purposes of this section.

(8) **RESILIENCE.**—The term “resilience” means the ability of people, households, communities, countries, and systems to mitigate, adapt to, and recover from shocks and stresses to food security in a manner that reduces chronic vulnerability and facilitates inclusive growth.

(9) **SMALL-SCALE PRODUCER.**—The term “small-scale producer” means farmers, pastoralists, foresters, and fishers that have a low asset base and limited resources, including land, capital, skills and labor, and, in the case of farmers, typically farm on fewer than 5 hectares of land.

(10) **STUNTING.**—The term “stunting” refers to a condition that—

(A) is measured by a height-to-age ratio that is more than 2 standard deviations below the median for the population;

(B) manifests in children who are younger than 2 years of age;

(C) is a process that can continue in children after they reach 2 years of age, resulting in an individual being “stunted”;

(D) is a sign of chronic malnutrition; and

(E) can lead to long-term poor health, delayed motor development, impaired cognitive function, and decreased immunity.

(11) **SUSTAINABLE.**—The term “sustainable” means the ability of a target country, com-

munity, implementing partner, or intended beneficiary to maintain, over time, the programs authorized and outcomes achieved pursuant to this Act.

(12) **TARGET COUNTRY.**—The term “target country” means a developing country that is selected to participate in agriculture and nutrition security programs under the Global Food Security Strategy pursuant to the selection criteria described in section 5(a)(2), including criteria such as the potential for agriculture-led economic growth, government commitment to agricultural investment and policy reform, opportunities for partnerships and regional synergies, the level of need, and resource availability.

SEC. 5. COMPREHENSIVE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.

(a) **STRATEGY.**—The President shall coordinate the development and implementation of a United States whole-of-government strategy to accomplish the policy objectives set forth in section 3(a), which shall—

(1) set specific and measurable goals, benchmarks, timetables, performance metrics, and monitoring and evaluation plans that reflect international best practices relating to transparency, accountability, food and nutrition security, and agriculture-led economic growth, consistent with the policy objectives described in section 3(a);

(2) establish clear and transparent selection criteria for target countries, communities, regions, and intended beneficiaries of assistance;

(3) describe the methodology and criteria for the selection of target countries;

(4) support and be aligned with country-owned agriculture, nutrition, and food security policy and investment plans developed with input from key stakeholders, as appropriate;

(5) support inclusive agricultural value chain development, with small-scale producers, especially women, gaining greater access to the inputs, skills, resource management capacity, networking, bargaining power, financing, and market linkages needed to sustain their long-term economic prosperity;

(6) support improvement of the nutritional status of women and children, particularly during the critical first 1,000-day window until a child reaches 2 years of age and with a focus on reducing child stunting, through nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive programs, including related water, sanitation, and hygiene programs;

(7) facilitate communication and collaboration, as appropriate, among local stakeholders in support of a multi-sectoral approach to food and nutrition security, to include analysis of the multiple underlying causes of malnutrition, including lack of access to safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene;

(8) support the long-term success of programs by building the capacity of local organizations and institutions in target countries and communities;

(9) integrate resilience and nutrition strategies into food security programs, such that chronically vulnerable populations are better able to build safety nets, secure livelihoods, access markets, and access opportunities for longer-term economic growth;

(10) develop community and producer resilience to natural disasters, emergencies, and natural occurrences that adversely impact agricultural yield;

(11) harness science, technology, and innovation, including the research and extension activities supported by relevant Federal Departments and agencies and Feed the Future Innovation Labs, or any successor entities;

(12) integrate agricultural development activities among food insecure populations liv-

ing in proximity to designated national parks or wildlife areas into wildlife conservation efforts, as necessary and appropriate;

(13) leverage resources and expertise through partnerships with the private sector, farm organizations, cooperatives, civil society, faith-based organizations, and agricultural research and academic institutions;

(14) strengthen and expand collaboration between United States universities, including public, private, and land-grant universities, with higher education institutions in target countries to increase their effectiveness and relevance to promote agricultural development and innovation through the creation of human capital, innovation, and cutting edge science in the agricultural sector;

(15) seek to ensure that target countries and communities respect and promote land tenure rights of local communities, particularly those of women and small-scale producers;

(16) include criteria and methodologies for graduating target countries and communities from assistance provided to implement the Global Food Security Strategy as such countries and communities meet the progress benchmarks identified pursuant to section 8(b)(4); and

(17) demonstrably support the United States national security and economic interest in the countries where assistance is being provided.

(b) **COORDINATION.**—The President shall coordinate, through a whole-of-government approach, the efforts of relevant Federal departments and agencies in the implementation of the Global Food Security Strategy by—

(1) establishing monitoring and evaluation systems, coherence, and coordination across relevant Federal departments and agencies;

(2) establishing linkages with other initiatives and strategies of relevant Federal departments and agencies; and

(3) establishing platforms for regular consultation and collaboration with key stakeholders and the appropriate congressional committees.

(c) **STRATEGY SUBMISSION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than October 1, 2016, the President, in consultation with the head of each relevant Federal department and agency, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees the Global Food Security Strategy required under this section, including a detailed description of how the United States intends to advance the objectives set forth in section 3(a) and the agency-specific plans described in paragraph (2).

(2) **AGENCY-SPECIFIC PLANS.**—The Global Food Security Strategy shall include specific implementation plans from each relevant Federal department and agency that describes—

(A) the anticipated contributions of the department or agency, including technical, financial, and in-kind contributions, to implement the Global Food Security Strategy; and

(B) the efforts of the department or agency to ensure that the activities and programs carried out pursuant to the strategy are designed to achieve maximum impact and long-term sustainability.

SEC. 6. ASSISTANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY.

(a) **FOOD SHORTAGES.**—The President is authorized to carry out activities pursuant to section 103, section 103A, title XII of chapter 2 of part I, and chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151a, 2151a–1, 2220a et seq., and 2346 et seq.) to prevent or address food shortages notwithstanding any other provision of law.

(b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development \$1,000,600,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 and 2018 to carry out those portions of the Global Food Security Strategy that relate to the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development, respectively.

(c) **MONITORING AND EVALUATION.**—The President shall seek to ensure that assistance to implement the Global Food Security Strategy is provided under established parameters for a rigorous accountability system to monitor and evaluate progress and impact of the strategy, including by reporting to the appropriate congressional committees and the public on an annual basis.

SEC. 7. EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the crisis in Syria, which is characterized by acts of terrorism and atrocities directed against civilians, including mass murder, forced displacement, aerial bombardment, ethnic and religious persecution, torture, kidnapping, rape and sexual enslavement, has triggered one of the most profound humanitarian crises of this century and poses a direct threat to regional security and the national security interests of the United States;

(2) it is in the national security interests of the United States to respond to the needs of displaced Syrian persons and the communities hosting such persons, including with food assistance; and

(3) after four years of conflict in Syria and the onset of other major humanitarian emergencies where, like Syria, the provision of certain United States humanitarian assistance has been particularly challenging, including the 2013 super-typhoon in the Philippines, the 2014 outbreak of Ebola in west Africa, the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, ongoing humanitarian disasters in Yemen and South Sudan, and the threat of a major El Nino event in 2016, United States international disaster assistance has become severely stressed.

(b) **STATEMENT OF POLICY.**—It shall be the policy of the United States, in coordination with other donors, regional governments, international organizations, and international financial institutions, to fully leverage, enhance, and expand the impact and reach of available United States humanitarian resources, including for food assistance, to mitigate the effects of manmade and natural disasters by utilizing innovative new approaches to delivering aid that support affected persons and the communities hosting them, build resilience and early recovery, and reduce opportunities for waste, fraud, and abuse.

(c) **AMENDMENTS TO THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961.**—

(1) Section 491 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2292) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (c) as subsection (d); and

(B) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsection:

“(c) **EMERGENCY FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to the limitations in section 492, and notwithstanding any other provision of this or any other Act, the President is authorized to make available emergency food assistance, including in the form of funds, transfers, vouchers, and agricultural commodities (including products derived from agricultural commodities) acquired through local or regional procurement, to meet emergency food needs arising from manmade and natural disasters.

“(2) **DESIGNATION.**—Funds made available under this subsection shall be known as the ‘International Disaster Assistance – Emergency Food Security Program’.”.

(2) Section 492 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2292a) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “\$25,000,000 for the fiscal year 1986 and \$25,000,000 for the fiscal year 1987.” and inserting “\$2,794,184,000 for each of fiscal years 2017 and 2018, of which up to \$1,257,382,000 should be made available to carry out section 491(c).”; and

(B) by inserting after subsection (b) the following new subsections:

“(c) **AMOUNTS IN ADDITION TO OTHER AMOUNTS.**—Amounts authorized to be appropriated pursuant to the authorizations of appropriations under section 491(c) are in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes.

“(d) **FLEXIBILITY.**—

“(1) **UNITED STATES POLICY.**—It is the policy of the United States that the funds made available to carry out section 491 are intended to provide the President with the greatest possible flexibility to address disaster-related needs as they arise and to prepare for and reduce the impact of natural and man-made disasters.

“(2) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that any amendments to applicable legal provisions contained in this Act are not intended to limit such authorities.

“(e) **REPORT.**—Not later than March 1 of each fiscal year, the President shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report that describes the activities undertaken by the President over the course of the prior fiscal year pursuant to section 491(c), including the amounts of assistance provided, intended beneficiaries, monitoring and evaluation strategies, anticipated outcomes, and, as practicable, actual outcomes.”.

SEC. 8. REPORTS.

(a) **GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION REPORTS.**—Not later than 1 year and 2 years after the date of the submission of the strategy required under section 5(c), the President shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees reports that describe the status of the implementation of the Global Food Security Strategy for 2017 and 2018, which shall—

(1) contain a summary of the Global Food Security Strategy as an appendix;

(2) identify any substantial changes made in the Global Food Security Strategy during the preceding calendar year;

(3) describe the progress made in implementing the Global Food Security Strategy;

(4) identify the indicators used to establish benchmarks and measure results over time, as well as the mechanisms for reporting such results in an open and transparent manner;

(5) describe related strategies and benchmarks for graduating target countries and communities from assistance provided under the Global Food Security Strategy over time, including by building resilience, reducing risk, and enhancing the sustainability of outcomes from United States investments in agriculture and nutrition security;

(6) indicate how findings from monitoring and evaluation were incorporated into program design and budget decisions;

(7) contain a transparent, open, and detailed accounting of spending by relevant Federal departments and agencies to implement the Global Food Security Strategy, including, for each Federal department and agency, the statutory source of spending, amounts spent, implementing partners and

targeted beneficiaries, and activities supported to the extent practicable and appropriate;

(8) describe how the Global Food Security Strategy leverages other United States food security and development assistance programs on the continuum from emergency food aid through sustainable, agriculture-led economic growth and eventual self-sufficiency;

(9) describe the contributions of the Global Food Security Strategy to, and assess the impact of, broader international food and nutrition security assistance programs, including progress in the promotion of land tenure rights, creating economic opportunities for women and small-scale producers, and stimulating agriculture-led economic growth in target countries and communities;

(10) assess efforts to coordinate United States international food security and nutrition programs, activities, and initiatives with key stakeholders;

(11) assess United States Government-facilitated private investment in related sectors and the impact of private sector investment in target countries and communities;

(12) identify any United States legal or regulatory impediments that could obstruct the effective implementation of the programming referred to in paragraphs (8) and (9);

(13) contain a clear gender analysis of programming, to inform project-level activities, that includes established disaggregated gender indicators to better analyze outcomes for food productivity, income growth, control of assets, equity in access to inputs, jobs and markets, and nutrition; and

(14) incorporate a plan for regularly reviewing and updating strategies, partnerships, and programs and sharing lessons learned with a wide range of stakeholders in an open, transparent manner.

(b) **GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY CROSSCUT REPORT.**—Not later than 120 days after the President submits the budget to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report including—

(1) an interagency budget crosscut report that—

(A) displays the budget proposed, including any planned interagency or intra-agency transfer, for each of the principal Federal agencies that carries out global food security activities in the upcoming fiscal year, separately reporting the amount of planned funding to be provided under existing laws pertaining to the global food security strategy to the extent available; and

(B) to the extent available, identifies all assistance and research expenditures at the account level in each of the five prior fiscal years by the Federal Government and United States multilateral commitments using Federal funds for global food security strategy activities;

(2) to the extent available, a detailed accounting of all assistance funding received and obligated by the principal Federal agencies identified in the report and United States multilateral commitments using Federal funds, for global food security activities during the current fiscal year; and

(3) a breakout of the proposed budget for the current and budget years by agency, categorizing expenditures by type of funding, including research, resiliency, and other food security activities to the extent that such information is available.

(c) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.**—The information referred to in subsections (a) and (b) shall be made available on the public website of the United States Agency for International Development in an open,

machine readable format, in a timely manner.

SEC. 9. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

(a) **EFFECT ON OTHER PROGRAMS.**—Nothing in the Global Food Security Strategy or this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed to supersede or otherwise affect the authority of the relevant Federal departments and agencies to carry out programs specified in subsection (b), in the manner provided, and subject to the terms and conditions, of those programs, including, but not limited to, the terms, conditions, and requirements relating to the procurement and transportation of food assistance furnished pursuant to such programs.

(b) **PROGRAMS DESCRIBED.**—The programs referred to in subsection (a) are the following:

(1) The Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.).

(2) The Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o).

(3) Section 416(b) of the Agriculture Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431).

(4) McGovern-Dole Food for Education Program (7 U.S.C. 1736o-1).

(5) Local and Regional Procurement Program (7 U.S.C. 1726c).

(6) Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Act (7 U.S.C. 1736f-1).

(7) Any other food and nutrition security and emergency and non-emergency food assistance program of the Department of Agriculture.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Global Food Security Act.

The Global Food Security Act, led by Representatives SMITH and MCCOLLUM, establishes very clear priorities for and enhances the transparency of existing, yet unauthorized, food security and disaster assistance programs.

What this does is it authorizes, for the first time in 30 years, International Disaster Assistance, the essential humanitarian account that provides everything from tents and sheeting to water and medicine for people afflicted by conflict and hit by natural disasters around the globe.

It authorizes, for the first time, the Emergency Food Security Program, which is the flexible, efficient, and effective food aid program that helps refugees when and where they need it most so they won't be forced to seek refuge in Europe or beyond.

Finally, with an eye toward the future, it advances policies which will improve food security, stimulate economic growth, and better enable people

to grow their own way out of poverty so they will no longer have to depend upon U.S. foreign assistance. It does this without increasing spending, Mr. Speaker.

The legislation before us is the product of more than 3 years of careful deliberation and inclusive negotiations. The Foreign Affairs Committee has held multiple hearings on food security. We marked and reported not one, but two earlier versions, H.R. 5656 and H.R. 1567. The House passed each of these bills with broad bipartisan support. I want to thank our ranking member, Mr. ELIOT ENGEL of New York, for his assistance in all of this work.

This bill, S. 1252, maintains all of the provisions the House previously approved, while filling a critical gap. By adding International Disaster Assistance and the Emergency Food Security Program, S. 1252 brings the bill full cycle and enables Congress to conduct effective oversight of the full range of international food security programs from disaster to resilience, to development, to trade. At the same time, it adds even more transparency requirements so that we can eliminate duplication and we can eliminate the waste.

So I want to thank Mr. SMITH also for his leadership on this important legislation, and I urge Members to help get it to the President's desk without further delay.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this measure. I am very proud that we are about to take our final step on the Global Food Security Act and send it to the President's desk.

I want to thank Representatives SMITH and MCCOLLUM for their hard work on this issue here in the House, as well as Senators CASEY and CORKER for steering this effort in the other body. I also want to thank our chairman, ED ROYCE, as always, for his leadership. This is another great example of bipartisan, commonsense cooperation on foreign policy issues.

Mr. Speaker, nearly 800 million people around the world live without the certainty that their families will have enough to eat. When children don't make it to the age of 5, half the time it is because of malnutrition. That is just heartbreaking. There is more than enough food on this planet to feed everyone. The idea that so many are starving is simply unconscionable.

It is also a major roadblock for countries and communities. Underfed populations are less productive and more vulnerable to disease. Without reliable access to food, it is much harder for a country to achieve stability and prosperity. So we have an interest—and a moral obligation—in trying to tackle this problem as part of our foreign policy.

This bill places a special priority on foreign assistance programs that aim

to reduce global poverty and hunger. It also authorizes a robust investment in the Obama administration's signature Feed the Future initiative as well as other State Department and USAID efforts dealing with global hunger.

This bill has moved forward with tremendous bipartisan support, and I am glad to cast one final vote for it today. I support this bill. I urge my colleagues to do the same. I thank Chairman ROYCE once again.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield 8 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY), chairman of the Committee on Agriculture, for the purpose of a colloquy.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

The rule of construction under section 9 affirms that nothing in this act, or amendments made by this act, will supersede or otherwise affect the authority of a relevant Federal department or agency to carry out a number of vital international food aid programs, including Food for Peace, Food for Progress, USDA's Local and Regional Food Aid Procurement Program, the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust Program, the McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, or any other emergency or non-emergency food aid program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Is it the gentleman from California's understanding that this rule of construction applies equally to all parts of the bill, including section 7, which authorizes an Emergency Food Security Program, or EFSP?

I yield to the gentleman from California for his response.

Mr. ROYCE. That is correct. The rule of construction under section 9 of the Global Food Security Act—which was carefully negotiated with the chairman of the House and Senate Committees on Agriculture, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations—applies equally to all parts of the bill. This includes section 7, which authorizes the existing International Disaster Assistance-funded Emergency Food Security Program.

Mr. CONAWAY. Reclaiming my time, is it also the gentleman's understanding that the "notwithstanding authority" granted to the Emergency Food Security Program will not in any way affect the existing requirements under the Food for Peace Act, including requirements relating to the purchase and shipment of U.S. agriculture commodities under this act?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. ROYCE. Correct. The committee has conferred with the Government Accountability Office and received its confirmation that "notwithstanding authority" cannot migrate to other provisions of law.

For example, funds provided to carry out the Food for Peace Act are subject

to the requirements of the Food for Peace Act and funds provided to carry out the International Disaster Assistance/Emergency Food Security Program are subject to the requirements of the Foreign Assistance Act. Neither the funds nor the authorities for these programs are interchangeable.

Mr. CONAWAY. Reclaiming my time, does the committee chairman agree that the Food for Peace program, which is wholly separate from the bill we are debating on the floor today, is vital to U.S. efforts to respond to emergencies and alleviate global hunger? Does the gentleman also agree that the provision of U.S. agriculture commodities through the Food for Peace program has saved millions of lives, and that the U.S. agriculture commodities must remain a significant part of U.S. international food aid programs?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. ROYCE. Yes. Through the Food for Peace program, the United States has reached more than a billion people around the globe in times of need, reducing poverty and improving food security in the process. American farmers are rightfully proud of this legacy. Unfortunately, ever-growing world crises have stressed our international food aid, leading us to look to new approaches that will help us stretch our food aid dollars further and, ultimately, save more lives.

The Global Food Security Act authorizes one of these approaches—the International Disaster Assistance/Emergency Food Security Program—to provide electronic transfers, vouchers, and locally procured food to help desperate people meet their needs in the wake of disasters or war.

This program is meant to complement, not replace, time-tested approaches to delivering food aid, including the Food for Peace program. Like the gentleman from Texas, I have had an opportunity to see how the Emergency Food Security Program works in places like Jordan, where humanitarian organizations are working to meet the needs of Syrian refugees.

While the world may be changing rapidly, one thing will never change: the American farmer will always play a significant role in promoting food security at home and abroad. U.S. agricultural commodities will always be in demand and will always remain a part of the Food for Peace program. While the two of us may differ on the specific degree to which they should be, I have no doubt that this principle will be reflected in the next farm bill.

In the meantime, I would like to thank the gentleman from Texas for his continued leadership on this issue, including his efforts to ensure that the vast expertise and experience of the U.S. agriculture community will be fully leveraged through the Global Food Security Act. I look forward to continuing our close collaboration on these important matters, and I appreciate his support for this important legislation.

Mr. CONAWAY. Reclaiming my time, I appreciate the gentleman from California for his continued work on this important matter, particularly his recognition of the crucial role that the Agriculture Committee must play in any global food security strategy.

As he rightly points out, programs like EFSP should be used in tandem with the time-tested Food for Peace program. It should not serve as a step towards eliminating the donation of U.S. commodities abroad.

I look forward to closely monitoring the progress of this strategy and developing a better understanding of how our foreign assistance dollars are being used.

I thank the gentleman for his extended colloquy and patience with the Committee on Agriculture's concerns with the bill. I thank him for that consideration and I look forward to supporting this bill.

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I am reminded of the proverb, "If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, you feed him for the rest of his life."

That is the aim of our food assistance efforts. We want to help populations to feed themselves. We want to get at the root causes of poverty and malnutrition. We want to help build strong, sustainable communities that contribute to stability and prosperity in their countries, across regions, and around the world.

We need to invest in the initiatives that have made a difference. That is what we are doing here by authorizing strong support for Feed the Future and working to ramp up other foreign assistance efforts focusing on food aid.

This is a good bill. This is Congress at its best. This is bipartisanship at its best. I am glad we are sending it to the President's desk. This was done, really, as a collaborative effort by both sides of the aisle. I thank my colleagues again for their good work on this, and I urge a "yes" vote.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the link between conflict and hunger is undeniable. Mr. ENGEL and I recently traveled to Sub-Saharan Africa to a drought-stricken region, Ethiopia, where more than 10.2 million people are on the verge of what I would designate as "starvation," yet no one really used that word or used the word "famine" because of the concern that it might provoke a coup.

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But the reality is that this is the situation on the ground. And at the same time, massive humanitarian disasters in Syria and Yemen, in South Sudan, have sparked these massive refugee flows. They threaten regional security. All told, there are currently 800 million people suffering from chronic hunger,

and over 60 million people displaced by conflict, who desperately need our help.

It is in our national security and economic interest to help address these needs, to meet humanitarian needs while supporting the growth of healthier, more stable societies through cost-effective programs that promote agriculture-led economic growth, that open markets for U.S. investment and trade, that promote food and nutrition security, and, ultimately, that break the cycle of dependence on aid. The Global Food Security Act can help.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. ROYCE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 1252.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. MASSIE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

FOREIGN AID TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2015

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendments to the bill (H.R. 3766) to direct the President to establish guidelines for United States foreign development and economic assistance programs, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the Senate amendments is as follows:

Senate amendments:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.*—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) *the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate;*

(B) *the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;*

(C) *the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives; and*

(D) *the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.*

(2) *EVALUATION.*—The term "evaluation" means, with respect to a covered United States foreign assistance program, the systematic collection and analysis of information about the characteristics and outcomes of the program, including projects conducted under such program, as a basis for—

(A) *making judgments and evaluations regarding the program;*

(B) *improving program effectiveness; and*

(C) *informing decisions about current and future programming.*

(3) *COVERED UNITED STATES FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.*—The term "covered United States foreign