

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.

□ 2130

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

assistance” means assistance authorized under—

(A) part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2151 et seq.), except for—

(i) title IV of chapter 2 of such part (relating to the Overseas Private Investment Corporation); and

(ii) chapter 3 of such part (relating to International Organizations and Programs);

(B) chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2346 et seq.; relating to Economic Support Fund);

(C) the Millennium Challenge Act of 2003 (22 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.); and

(D) the Food for Peace Act (7 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.).

SEC. 3. GUIDELINES FOR COVERED UNITED STATES FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) **PURPOSES.**—The purposes of this section are to—

(1) evaluate the performance of covered United States foreign assistance and its contribution to the policies, strategies, projects, program goals, and priorities undertaken by the Federal Government;

(2) support and promote innovative programs to improve effectiveness; and

(3) coordinate the monitoring and evaluation processes of Federal departments and agencies that administer covered United States foreign assistance.

(b) **ESTABLISHMENT OF GUIDELINES.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall set forth guidelines, according to best practices of monitoring and evaluation studies and analyses, for the establishment of measurable goals, performance metrics, and monitoring and evaluation plans that can be applied with reasonable consistency to covered United States foreign assistance.

(c) **OBJECTIVES OF GUIDELINES.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The guidelines established pursuant to subsection (b) shall provide direction to Federal departments and agencies that administer covered United States foreign assistance on—

(A) monitoring the use of resources;

(B) evaluating the outcomes and impacts of covered United States foreign assistance projects and programs; and

(C) applying the findings and conclusions of such evaluations to proposed project and program design.

(2) **OBJECTIVES.**—The guidelines established pursuant to subsection (b) shall provide direction to Federal departments and agencies that administer covered United States foreign assistance on how to—

(A) establish annual monitoring and evaluation objectives and timetables to plan and manage the process of monitoring, evaluating, analyzing progress, and applying learning toward achieving results;

(B) develop specific project monitoring and evaluation plans, including measurable goals and performance metrics, and to identify the resources necessary to conduct such evaluations, which should be covered by program costs;

(C) apply rigorous monitoring and evaluation methodologies to such programs, including through the use of impact evaluations, ex-post evaluations, or other methods, as appropriate, that clearly define program logic, inputs, outputs, intermediate outcomes, and end outcomes;

(D) disseminate guidelines for the development and implementation of monitoring and evaluation programs to all personnel, especially in the field, who are responsible for the design, implementation, and management of covered United States foreign assistance programs;

(E) establish methodologies for the collection of data, including baseline data to serve as a reference point against which progress can be measured;

(F) evaluate, at least once in their lifetime, all programs whose dollar value equals or exceeds the median program size for the relevant office

or bureau or an equivalent calculation to ensure the majority of program resources are evaluated;

(G) conduct impact evaluations on all pilot programs before replicating, or conduct performance evaluations and provide a justification for not conducting an impact evaluation when such an evaluation is deemed inappropriate or impracticable;

(H) develop a clearinghouse capacity for the collection, dissemination, and preservation of knowledge and lessons learned to guide future programs for United States foreign assistance personnel, implementing partners, the donor community, and aid recipient governments;

(I) internally distribute evaluation reports;

(J) publicly report each evaluation, including an executive summary, a description of the evaluation methodology, key findings, appropriate context, including quantitative and qualitative data when available, and recommendations made in the evaluation within 90 days after the completion of the evaluation;

(K) undertake collaborative partnerships and coordinate efforts with the academic community, implementing partners, and national and international institutions, as appropriate, that have expertise in program monitoring, evaluation, and analysis when such partnerships provide needed expertise or significantly improve the evaluation and analysis;

(L) ensure verifiable, reliable, and timely data, including from local beneficiaries and stakeholders, are available to monitoring and evaluation personnel to permit the objective evaluation of the effectiveness of covered United States foreign assistance programs, including an assessment of assumptions and limitations in such evaluations; and

(M) ensure that standards of professional evaluation organizations for monitoring and evaluation efforts are employed, including ensuring the integrity and independence of evaluations, permitting and encouraging the exercise of professional judgment, and providing for quality control and assurance in the monitoring and evaluation process.

(d) **PRESIDENT'S REPORT.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the President shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees that contains a detailed description of the guidelines established pursuant to subsection (b). The report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but it may contain a classified annex.

(e) **COMPTROLLER GENERAL'S REPORT.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall, not later than 18 months after the report required by subsection (d) is submitted to Congress, submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that—

(1) analyzes the guidelines established pursuant to subsection (b); and

(2) assesses the implementation of the guidelines by the agencies, bureaus, and offices that implement covered United States foreign assistance as outlined in the President's budget request.

SEC. 4. INFORMATION ON COVERED UNITED STATES FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS.

(a) **PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION.**—

(1) **UPDATE OF EXISTING WEBSITE.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall update the Department of State's website, “ForeignAssistance.gov”, to make publicly available comprehensive, timely, and comparable information on covered United States foreign assistance programs, including all information required under subsection (b) that is available to the Secretary of State.

(2) **INFORMATION SHARING.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, the head of each Federal department or agency that administers covered United States foreign assistance shall provide the Secretary of State with comprehensive information about the covered United States

foreign assistance programs carried out by such department or agency.

(3) **UPDATES TO WEBSITE.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, the Secretary of State shall publish, on the “ForeignAssistance.gov” website or through a successor online publication, the information provided under subsection (b).

(b) **MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The information described in subsection (a)—

(A) shall be published for each country on a detailed basis, such as award-by-award; or

(B) if assistance is provided on a regional level, shall be published for each such region on a detailed basis, such as award-by-award.

(2) **TYPES OF INFORMATION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—To ensure the transparency, accountability, and effectiveness of covered United States foreign assistance programs, the information described in subsection (a) shall include—

(i) links to all regional, country, and sector assistance strategies, annual budget documents, congressional budget justifications, and evaluations in accordance with section 3(c)(2)(J);

(ii) basic descriptive summaries for covered United States foreign assistance programs and awards under such programs; and

(iii) obligations and expenditures.

(B) **PUBLICATION.**—Each type of information described in subparagraph (A) shall be published or updated on the appropriate website not later than 90 days after the date on which the information is issued.

(C) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this paragraph may be construed to require a Federal department or agency that administers covered United States foreign assistance to provide any information that does not relate to, or is not otherwise required by, the covered United States foreign assistance programs carried out by such department or agency.

(3) **REPORT IN LIEU OF INCLUSION.**—

(A) **HEALTH OR SECURITY OF IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS.**—If the head of a Federal department or agency, in consultation with the Secretary of State, makes a determination that the inclusion of a required item of information online would jeopardize the health or security of an implementing partner or program beneficiary or would require the release of proprietary information of an implementing partner or program beneficiary, the head of the Federal department or agency shall provide such determination in writing to the appropriate congressional committees, including the basis for such determination.

(B) **NATIONAL INTERESTS OF THE UNITED STATES.**—If the Secretary of State makes a determination that the inclusion of a required item of information online would be detrimental to the national interests of the United States, the Secretary of State shall provide such determination, including the basis for such determination, in writing to the appropriate congressional committees.

(C) **FORM.**—Information provided under this paragraph may be provided in classified form, as appropriate.

(4) **FAILURE TO COMPLY.**—If a Federal department or agency fails to comply with the requirements under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a), or subsection (c), with respect to providing information described in subsection (a), and the information is not subject to a determination under subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (3) not to make the information publicly available, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the head of such department or agency, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, shall submit a consolidated report to the appropriate congressional committees that includes, with respect to each required item of information not made publicly available—

(A) a detailed explanation of the reason for not making such information publicly available; and

(B) a description of the department's or agency's plan and timeline for—

(i) making such information publicly available; and

(ii) ensuring that such information is made publicly available in subsequent years.

(C) SCOPE OF INFORMATION.—The online publication required under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum—

(1) in each of the fiscal years 2016 through 2019, provide the information required under subsection (b) for fiscal years 2015 through the current fiscal year; and

(2) for fiscal year 2020 and each fiscal year thereafter, provide the information required under subsection (b) for the immediately preceding 5 fiscal years in a fully searchable form.

(d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development should coordinate the consolidation of processes and data collection and presentation for the Department of State's website, "ForeignAssistance.gov", and the United States Agency for International Development's website, "Explorer.USAID.gov", to the extent that is possible to maximize efficiencies, no later than the end of fiscal year 2018.

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 to include extraneous material on the bill.

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.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 3766, the Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act, and I would like to thank Judge TED POE, chairman of the Subcommittee on Terrorism, Nonproliferation, and Trade, for his years of dedication to this important issue.

Effective U.S. foreign assistance can help advance the diplomatic, economic, and national security interests of the United States, and it can help support the growth of healthier, more stable societies. It can provide alternatives to extremism. It can combat global health threats, foster self-sufficiency, and open new markets to U.S. trade and investment. But it can also be wasted, as it has many times, and that is why making U.S. foreign assistance as efficient and effective as possible has been a central focus of the Foreign Affairs Committee.

This is no easy task. There are more than 20 Federal departments and agencies delivering food aid. Too many of them do not share our interest in transparency, accountability, and results.

Too often, the importance of an agency is measured by the amount of resources it controls and not by its positive impact. Unfortunately, the success of initiatives are too often measured by

"things delivered," like bed nets, instead of "program outcomes," like malaria infections averted and lives saved. As long as our foreign aid agencies and organizations are allowed to operate beyond scrutiny, nothing will change.

Congress needs the tools to break down these barriers to effective aid. We need to help U.S. foreign aid agencies and organizations improve coordination, identify duplication, eliminate waste, and learn from experience, and this bill will help.

The Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act will establish tough standards for monitoring and evaluation. It will ensure that many Federal departments and agencies that implement these programs, all of them, coordinate, rather than duplicate, their efforts and then apply the lessons learned. And it will require these agencies to publish foreign assistance data on a consolidated Web site so we can better track investments against results.

This bill is the result of years of consultation and collaboration between Congress, experts, and advocates, and I want to again thank Judge POE as well as Representative CONNOLLY for their steadfast work and leadership in bringing this important measure before us today. I also thank our ranking member, ELIOT ENGEL of New York.

I would urge Members to support this bill and 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 want to again thank our chairman, ED ROYCE, for his leadership on the Foreign Affairs Committee. I want to thank my colleagues who have worked so hard on this bill, Mr. POE of Texas and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia.

We marked up this bill in the Foreign Affairs Committee, and the House approved it last winter. The Senate sent it back to us with a few changes, and now I am pleased that we are taking a final vote on this measure before we send it to the President's desk.

Mr. Speaker, I view foreign assistance as one of our most important foreign policy tools. Whether we are helping a community build a school and train teachers, helping a country improve its power grid, or making it easier for farmers to irrigate their fields and families to get clean water, foreign assistance shows the rest of the world that the United States is eager to be a friend and eager to be a partner. And partnership is good for us as well.

Of course, foreign assistance isn't about handouts. It is about helping build capacity and capabilities. We want to see countries become vibrant and productive. We want to see societies become strong and prosperous. Stronger partners around the world mean better lives for the people in

those countries and greater stability and security for their neighbors and regions and, of course, a greater partnership with the United States of America. That is important to us as well as to the nations we are helping.

At its best, foreign assistance is like planting a seed, nurturing it, and seeing it grow into something strong and self-sufficient. If we are doing it right, it will give us a tremendous bang for our buck.

Foreign policy, foreign assistance is less than 1 percent of the total American budget. Although people think it is 15 percent or even more, it is less than 1 percent. But we don't have a lot to work with because our foreign assistance represents that 1 percent, just a small sliver of the Federal budget, so we need to know that these investments are being put to the best use. We need to take a hard look at the results in order to cut away dead wood and focus on the efforts that are giving us the best outcomes.

The administration has already taken tremendous steps to provide accountability and transparency in our foreign assistance programs. This bill would write many of those steps into law and build on them, requiring measurable goals for foreign aid and requiring strong plans for monitoring and evaluation.

We need to see just what a difference our foreign assistance is making and get a better understanding of the way foreign assistance programs tie into our own national security interests, and they do. We have national security concerns, and foreign aid is one way of addressing those concerns.

So I am glad to support this measure. I am grateful for the hard work of Mr. POE, Mr. CONNOLLY, and Chairman ROYCE.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I again want to thank my colleagues for their work on this measure, and I am pleased that we are getting near the finish line.

Let me just say that, as ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, I often hear the question: Why are we sending tax dollars overseas when we have our share of problems here at home?

It is a fair question, but there are good answers.

The United States isn't an island. Our stability and security are tied to those countries around the world. We see where threats emerge. Often they emerge in places where there is a lack of opportunity, poor access to education, weak justice systems, poor governance.

When we send assistance overseas, we are not just putting cash in people's pockets willy-nilly. We are targeting these areas that we know are tied to making countries more stable. We are looking at the root causes of instability and helping countries overcome those challenges so, hopefully, they can thrive on their own.

But we need to make sure we are using these limited dollars efficiently

and effectively. The administration has taken the groundbreaking measures to track and publicize the effectiveness of our foreign assistance programs. This bill will make those efforts stronger. It will help us and all the American people know exactly what our foreign assistance investments are paying for and that they are paying dividends in the long run.

I want to again stress the partnership because it is a fair question to say: Well, we have pressing needs here at home. Why are we sending money abroad?

We look at the instability of the world. We see terrorism. We see what is happening. The United States has a stake in having partners all around the world. The United States has a stake in making conditions better for people all around the world so that radicalism isn't appealing. People can understand that what we have to offer is just so much better.

This partnership is important. This bill sustains that partnership, so I am glad to support the bill. I urge a "yes" vote.

I thank Chairman ROYCE.

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

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

Smart investments and development can help support growth of healthier, more stable societies, open markets that can generate consumers of U.S. goods. It can create opportunities for people there and for U.S. businesses to grow. But unwise investments can have the exact opposite effect.

This bill will give us the tools we need to make our foreign aid programs more smart and wise, and I strongly support this bill. I urge its adoption.

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

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Senate Amendment to the Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act of 2016 (H.R. 3766).

I want to thank my friend, Judge TED POE of Texas, for working with me to introduce and advance this bill.

I also want to thank Chairman ED ROYCE and Ranking Member ELIOT ENGEL of the House Foreign Affairs Committee for previously marking up this measure in Committee and bringing it to the Floor today.

And finally, I want to thank our colleagues in the Senate, including Senators CARDIN, RUBIO, and LEAHY for working with us to strengthen the bill and shepherd it through the Senate.

The Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act is a project that I have worked on with Judge POE for several years now, and in December 2015 this bill passed in the House by voice vote.

The bill directs the President to establish monitoring and evaluation or M&E guidelines for the federal agencies charged with implementing foreign assistance programs abroad.

The guidelines will require M&E plans as part of the project development process, and agencies will be encouraged to incorporate the findings of project evaluations and impact studies into subsequent foreign assistance programs.

This feedback loop will include measurable goals, performance metrics, and a clearing house for lessons learned on U.S.-led aid projects.

Additionally, the legislation requires that the documents and reports created under this M&E regime be made available to the public on foreignassistance.gov.

This administration has developed an encouraging record on foreign aid transparency. The Foreign Assistance Dashboard created in 2010 demonstrated a promising inclination towards disclosure that we should hope to enshrine in law.

This measure will strengthen and codify those transparency best practices to ensure that they exist as agency policy under future Administrations that might not be as accommodating of the aid community's demand for this information.

Aid programs that are held accountable for their performance and results can be made more effective, and their impact on communities and countries abroad can be more easily demonstrated.

Perhaps with more information, we can dispel the commonly held belief that 26 percent of the federal budget is spent on foreign aid when the actual amount is less than 1 percent.

I am hopeful that this bill will help foreign assistance operations become more focused and efficacious.

It is time to apply a data driven approach to constructing an assistance operation that has the support of Congress and a well-informed public.

We cannot ignore the increasingly important role diplomacy and development play in meeting our most pressing security challenges and demonstrating American leadership in global affairs.

It is an act of political malpractice that this vital part of the federal budget is so misunderstood and that the direct link between our national security and stability and prosperity abroad is so underappreciated.

I urge my colleagues to join the Modernizing Foreign Assistance Network, the Professional Services Council, the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, and several other well-regarded members of the foreign assistance community in supporting this bipartisan legislation and foster greater understanding of our vital investments abroad.

I would like to close by thanking, once again, Judge POE for his leadership on the issue of foreign aid effectiveness.

I think his advocacy is motivated by a shared belief that our foreign assistance dollars have the potential to create a path to prosperity in the most poverty stricken areas of the world, and nurture the promise of democracy in the face of even the most repressive authoritarian regimes.

I look forward to working with Judge POE to ensure that those common goals are advanced by the implementation of this legislation.

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 concur in the Senate amendments to the bill, H.R. 3766.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate amendments were concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BRAGGING ON SIMONE MANUEL

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, Members of Congress love to brag. Texans like me brag the most.

Today, I am going to brag about a young lady from my hometown of Sugar Land, Texas. She is a Bulldog from Austin High School. Her name is Simone Manuel. If you don't know that name today, you will after this summer's Olympics in Rio de Janeiro.

Simone swims fast, really fast, water-on-fire fast. In fact, she recently swam so fast she is swimming in three events at the Olympics: the 50-meter freestyle, the 100-meter freestyle, and the 4-by-100-meter freestyle relay.

Texas women love precious metal. They are okay with bronze, they like silver, and they love gold.

Good luck, Simone. Bring home some precious metal to Sugar Land, Texas. Sugar Land loves you.

ROULETTE TOWNSHIP BICENTENNIAL

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 200th anniversary of the founding of Roulette Township, Potter County.

The township was founded on January 29, 1816, in honor of John Sigmund Roulet. Roulet was an associate of John Keating, one of the original settlers of Potter County. Today, the community's name is spelled a bit differently due to an early error by the Post Office Department.

Today, the township is home to more than 1,300 people. Later this week, members of the community will kick off a 2-day celebration, starting on Friday, in honor of the township's bicentennial and its history.

The celebration will start with a 5K walk for the fight against domestic violence, and it will continue with an ice cream social and bingo. On Saturday, a prayer service is planned, followed by a barbecue, with a parade planned for Saturday afternoon. A hymn sing is planned for Sunday, along with a "Walk Down Memory Lane," with signs placed highlighting the long history of Roulette Township.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to see the residents of Roulette Township honoring their history with this week's celebration, making sure that the region's past is not forgotten.