

REVISION TO BUDGETARY AGGREGATES

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 102 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015)

\$s in millions	2017
Current Spending Aggregates:	
Budget Authority	3,212,350
Outlays	3,219,192

REVISION TO BUDGETARY AGGREGATES—Continued

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 102 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015)

\$s in millions	2017
Adjustments:	
Budget Authority	0
Outlays	508

REVISION TO BUDGETARY AGGREGATES—Continued

(Pursuant to Section 311 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 and Section 102 of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015)

\$s in millions	2017
Revised Spending Aggregates:	
Budget Authority	3,212,350
Outlays	3,219,700

REVISION TO SPENDING ALLOCATION TO THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

(Pursuant to Sections 302 and 314(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974)

\$s in millions	2017
Current Allocation:	
Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority	551,068
Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority	518,531
General Purpose Outlays	1,181,801
Adjustments:	
Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority	0
Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority	0
General Purpose Outlays	508
Revised Allocation:	
Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority	551,068
Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority	518,531
General Purpose Outlays	1,182,309

Memorandum: Detail of Adjustments Made Above

	OCO	Program Integrity	Disaster Relief	Emergency	Total
Revised Security Discretionary Budget Authority	0	0	0	0	0
Revised Nonsecurity Category Discretionary Budget Authority	0	0	0	0	0
General Purpose Outlays	0	0	0	508	508

FRANK R. LAUTENBERG CHEMICAL SAFETY FOR THE 21ST CENTURY BILL

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, the following information is in response to an article entered into the record by Senator BOXER of California earlier today.

The Hearst News article in question was published in the San Francisco Chronicle and implies that the chemical industry drafted S. 697, the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act. This implication is false.

The bill authors, including myself, wrote this bill. Drafts of the bill were circulated to many interested stakeholders throughout the drafting process and returned with comments. This process took over 3 years, and drafts were circulated each step of the way. Reforming the Toxic Substances Control Act was a very involved and transparent process.

Environmental groups, trial lawyers, industry, State officials, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency were consulted at many stages throughout the process.

All of their input is reflected in the bill in various provisions, often the same ones. This is major comprehensive legislation that has received wide bipartisan support.

The New York Times looked into the allegation that the chemical industry wrote the bill. Their lead reporter, Eric Lipton, wrote on March 17: “Lots of players, including enviros, submitted drafts with proposed changes.”

Again, many drafts of this bill were shared by a variety of Senate offices with many stakeholders in a very engaged process over 3 years.

It is disappointing that I must refute this allegation in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, but it is important to get the facts straight when explaining the legislative history of TSCA reform.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

TRUCK DRIVERS’ WORKING HOURS RULE

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise to speak on an amendment I filed last week to the Transportation appropriations bill. The bill passed the Senate last week. I did not offer my amendment for a vote, but it has been willfully mischaracterized by an industry campaign, so I wanted to take a few minutes to explain it.

My amendment, Blumenthal amendment No. 4002, would improve the safety of our roads. America depends on truck drivers to move our goods around; truckers and the trucking industry perform a vital service. But truckers who work too many hours in a week, like any other drivers who spend too much time behind the wheel, get tired and can’t drive safely. So since the Franklin D. Roosevelt administration, there have been limits placed on the number of hours they can work in a week.

In 2003, President Bush raised the limit from 60 hours on duty in a 7-day week, where it had been for decades, to 82 hours in a 7-day week. This increased truck drivers’ fatigue. So in 2013, President Obama sought to make some changes, bringing the limit back down to 70 hours and ensuring that drivers could rest when the body needs it most: at night.

The Obama administration’s rule was based on sound science, thousands of comments, and, most importantly, a prioritization of safety over profits, but it was opposed by many trucking companies, who were accustomed to working their drivers to the max, regardless of the consequences for other drivers on the road.

Over the past few years, in a process I will not describe in detail here, the trucking industry succeeded in gutting the new rule, not through legislation in the Commerce Committee, which has both the jurisdiction and the expertise, but through the appropriations proc-

ess. Language on appropriations bills suspended the rule and required cumbersome studies before it could return.

The bill before us continues this trend, including language to make it clear that the Bush administration rules will return after the study, and it enshrines a statutory cap on truck drivers’ working hours, one that will be extremely difficult to change even in the face of new data or scientific evidence.

This is terrible precedent. It encourages truck drivers to put in nearly double an average work week behind the wheel of an 80,000-pound big rig, the last place in the world we want someone who is falling asleep.

My amendment would let us go back to the rules that existed in 2013, rather than this mess, masquerading as a solution. It would give us the opportunity to debate this issue fully and to put aside the counterproductive language in this appropriations bill.

However, while I am not pushing for a vote on this amendment, it is supported by the ranking member of the Commerce committee, Senator NELSON, and my Commerce colleagues, Senators MARKEY and BOOKER. Unfortunately, due to a campaign of misinformation, it has become controversial. And I believe the underlying measure, including critical funding to fight the Zika virus, must not be delayed.

But I am pushing for a commitment from my colleagues to work with me in conference and, in the long-term, to find a solution. Four thousand people die a year in truck crashes, and countless truck drivers report nodding off behind the wheel. This is something we have a duty to address.●

MEMORIAL DAY

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, as chairman of the Senate Veterans’ Affairs Committee, I proudly wish to recognize the 1 percent of Americans who

serve today in the Armed Forces of the United States. This past weekend, on Armed Forces Day, I had the honor of participating in the grand opening of the Military Family Support Center presented by the Cobb Chamber of Commerce. It remains humbling to me every time I see Georgia communities come together to support our servicemen and servicewomen and their families.

Anyone who opens a newspaper today or turns on the TV knows that we live in a world of unknown and dangerous threats. Despite this, nearly 2.1 million Americans have voluntarily raised their right hands and sworn to defend our Nation against all enemies, foreign and domestic. What makes these men and women unique is that, despite these global threats, they choose to rise to the challenge. They come from all walks of life. From coast to coast, every Main Street, farm, or even next door, our selfless warriors voluntarily walk away from the comforts of home to join the most elite force on this planet. They endure long hours in the field, countless months away from their families while downrange, and some even come face to face with those who wish to do us harm. These courageous Americans are deployed in more than 150 countries around the world. From humanitarian missions to coalition force partnerships to counterterrorism operations, there is no mission, no challenge they cannot rise to meet.

Our world is becoming increasingly unstable. With threats rising from old foes to new ones in familiar places, there is simply no shortage of challenges our country faces in terms of national security. While the unknown threatens global peace, one constant known is the courage and dedication of America's Armed Forces. I am constantly reminded that we are the land of the free because of the brave.

Now, this coming Monday gives us all a moment to stop and pay respect to the approximately 1.3 million Americans who have given their lives in the defense of our great Nation. From the Revolutionary War to the Civil War, from World War I to World War II, from Korea to Vietnam, and from Iraq to Afghanistan, brave men and women have answered the call to defend our homeland and protect the helpless around the world in the name of peace. Those of us who are fortunate to work in this grand Capitol Building need not look any farther than across the river, on the other side of the National Mall, where the "gardens of stone" at Arlington National Cemetery offer a sobering reminder of the price of freedom.

While Americans enjoy the long weekend with family and barbecues, I would encourage everyone to take a moment to remember the true meaning of the holiday: to honor the servicemembers who have paid the ultimate price.

I also want to take a moment to honor and thank those families who

President Lincoln once said "have laid such a costly sacrifice upon the altar of freedom." The strength of these families to persevere is like no other, and their support to our goals of peace and freedom is simply humbling.

Memorial Day—and every day—I am again honored and reminded that we are the land of the free because of the brave.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, Americans live free, secure, and stable lives thanks to generations of men and women in uniform who were willing to sacrifice their own lives. We must never forget the tremendous debt we owe those brave Americans. It is in large part because of them that America serves as a beacon of hope, freedom, and equality to all the world.

This Monday, we will celebrate Memorial Day, a national day of solemn remembrance and gratitude as we honor the men and women who have died defending our Nation. We honor each and every American who has made the ultimate sacrifice on battlefields from Lexington, Concord, and Bunker Hill to Fort McHenry; from Shiloh, Antietam, and Gettysburg to Belleau Wood and the Somme; from Pearl Harbor, Bastogne, and Iwo Jima to Inchon, Bloody Ridge, and the Chosin Reservoir; from Ia Drang, Khe Sanh, and Hamburger Hill to Umm Qasr, Nasiriyah, Fallujah, and Kabul. We salute the centuries-old legacy of selflessness and sacrifice that defines our Nation. We are forever indebted to our warfighters and their families. On Memorial Day, we pause to reflect, to remember, to pay respect, to give thanks. And we say a prayer for all the men and women currently serving in harm's way and look forward to the day when they may return home safely to be with their families and friends.

Memorial Day is not only a day for looking backward. It is also a day for looking forward. Those men and women who lie buried gave their lives so that we could live in peace. Their dream and the dream of every American serving in the field of battle is that someday no more Americans will be called upon to give their lives for their country, that someday war will end and the world will be truly free. What better way, then, to honor their memory than to do everything we can to seek peace?

On this day of remembrance, I hope that all Americans remember the dream of those who committed the greatest sacrifice and pursue peace in all our endeavors. As President Lincoln put it so eloquently nearly 153 years ago, let us dedicate ourselves "to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. HELSINKI COMMISSION

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, on June 3, 1976, U.S. President Gerald Ford signed into law a bill establishing the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, more commonly known as the U.S. Helsinki Commission.

I bring this 40th anniversary next week to my colleagues' attention today because the commission has played a particularly significant role in U.S. foreign policy.

First, the commission provided the U.S. Congress with a direct role in the policymaking process. Members and staff of the commission have been integrated into official U.S. delegations to meetings and conferences of what is historically known as the Helsinki Process. The Helsinki Process started as an ongoing multilateral conference on security and cooperation in Europe that is manifested today in the 57-country, Vienna-based Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, or OSCE.

As elected officials, our ideas reflecting the interests of concerned American citizens are better represented in U.S. diplomacy as a result of the commission. There is no other country that has a comparable body, reflecting the singular role of our legislature as a separate branch of government in the conduct of foreign policy. The commission's long-term commitment to this effort has resulted in a valuable institutional memory and expertise in European policy possessed by few others in the U.S. foreign affairs community.

Second, the commission was part of a larger effort since the late 1970s to enhance consideration of human rights as an element in U.S. foreign policy decisionmaking. Representatives Millicent Fenwick of New Jersey and Dante Fascell of Florida created the commission as a vehicle to ensure that human rights violations raised by dissident groups in the Soviet Union and the Communist countries of Eastern Europe were no longer ignored in U.S. policy.

In keeping with the Helsinki Final Act's comprehensive definition of security—which includes respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as a principle guiding relations between states—we have reviewed the records of all participating countries, including our own and those of our friends and allies.

From its Cold War origins, the Helsinki Commission adapted well to changing circumstances, new challenges, and new opportunities. It has done much to ensure U.S. support for democratic development in East-Central Europe and continues to push for greater respect for human rights in Russia and the countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia.

The Commission has participated in the debates of the 1990s on how the United States should respond to conflicts in the Balkans, particularly Bosnia and Kosovo and elsewhere, and it