

as amended by section 3282, or that are otherwise suspected or determined to have been compromised by identity fraud or other misuse, shall be blocked from use for such system purposes unless the individual using such number is able to establish, through secure and fair additional security procedures, that the individual is the legitimate holder of the number.

(b) **ALLOWING SUSPENSION OF USE OF CERTAIN SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NUMBERS.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Security, shall establish a program which shall provide a reliable, secure method by which victims of identity fraud and other individuals may suspend or limit the use of their social security account number or other identifying information for purposes of the employment eligibility verification system established under section 274A(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a(d)), as amended by section 3282. The Secretary may implement the program on a limited pilot program basis before making it fully available to all individuals.

(c) **ALLOWING PARENTS TO PREVENT THEFT OF THEIR CHILD'S IDENTITY.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Commissioner of Social Security, shall establish a program which shall provide a reliable, secure method by which parents or legal guardians may suspend or limit the use of the social security account number or other identifying information of a minor under their care for the purposes of the employment eligibility verification system established under 274A(d) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a(d)), as amended by section 3282. The Secretary may implement the program on a limited pilot program basis before making it fully available to all individuals.

SEC. 3291. USE OF EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION PHOTO TOOL.

An employer who uses the photo matching tool used as part of the E-Verify System shall match the photo tool photograph to both the photograph on the identity or employment eligibility document provided by the employee and to the face of the employee submitting the document for employment verification purposes.

SEC. 3292. IDENTITY AUTHENTICATION EMPLOYMENT ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION PILOT PROGRAMS.

Not later than 24 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with the Commissioner of Social Security and the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, shall establish by regulation not less than 2 Identity Authentication Employment Eligibility Verification pilot programs, each using a separate and distinct technology (the "Authentication Pilots"). The purpose of the Authentication Pilots shall be to provide for identity authentication and employment eligibility verification with respect to enrolled new employees which shall be available to any employer that elects to participate in either of the Authentication Pilots. Any participating employer may cancel the employer's participation in the Authentication Pilot after one year after electing to participate without prejudice to future participation. The Secretary shall report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate the Secretary's findings on the Authentication Pilots, including the authentication technologies chosen, not later than 12 months after commencement of the Authentication Pilots.

SEC. 3293. INSPECTOR GENERAL AUDITS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act,

the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration shall complete audits of the following categories in order to uncover evidence of individuals who are not authorized to work in the United States:

(1) Workers who dispute wages reported on their social security account number when they believe someone else has used such number and name to report wages.

(2) Children's social security account numbers used for work purposes.

(3) Employers whose workers present significant numbers of mismatched social security account numbers or names for wage reporting.

(b) **SUBMISSION.**—The Inspector General of the Social Security Administration shall submit the audits completed under subsection (a) to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate for review of the evidence of individuals who are not authorized to work in the United States. The Chairmen of those Committees shall then determine information to be shared with the Secretary of Homeland Security so that such Secretary can investigate the unauthorized employment demonstrated by such evidence.

SEC. 3294. AGRICULTURE WORKFORCE STUDY.

Not later than 36 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate, a report that includes the following:

(1) The number of individuals in the agricultural workforce.

(2) The number of United States citizens in the agricultural workforce.

(3) The number of aliens in the agricultural workforce who are authorized to work in the United States.

(4) The number of aliens in the agricultural workforce who are not authorized to work in the United States.

(5) Wage growth in each of the previous ten years, disaggregated by agricultural sector.

(6) The percentage of total agricultural industry costs represented by agricultural labor during each of the last ten years.

(7) The percentage of agricultural costs invested in mechanization during each of the last ten years.

(8) Recommendations, other than a path to legal status for aliens not authorized to work in the United States, for ensuring United States agricultural employers have a workforce sufficient to cover industry needs, including recommendations to—

(A) increase investments in mechanization;

(B) increase the domestic workforce; and

(C) reform the H-2A program.

SEC. 3295. SENSE OF CONGRESS ON FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION.

It is the sense of Congress that in implementing the E-Verify Program, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure any adverse impact on the Nation's agricultural workforce, operations, and food security are considered and addressed.

SEC. 3296. REPEALING REGULATIONS.

The rules relating to "Temporary Agricultural Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in the United States" (87 Fed. Reg. 61660 (Oct. 12, 2022)) and to "Adverse Effect Wage Rate Methodology for the Temporary Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in Non-Range Occupations in the United States" (88 Fed. Reg. 12760 (Feb. 28, 2023)) shall have no force or effect, may not be reissued in substantially the same form, and any new rules that are substantially the same as such rules may not be issued.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I have three requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet in executive session during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 10 a.m.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 11 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, December 7, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct an executive business meeting.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Eleanor Skelly, a detailee to the Senate Judiciary Committee, be granted floor privileges until December 16, 2023.

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

HONORING THE LIFE OF FIRST LADY ROSALYNN CARTER

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 492, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 492) honoring the life of First Lady Rosalynn Carter.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 492) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, pursuant to the provisions of

Public Law 117-263, on behalf of the ranking member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, appoints the following individual to serve as member of the Commission on Reform and Modernization of the Department of State: the Honorable Stephen Biegun of Michigan.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL MONDAY,
DECEMBER 11, 2023 AT 3 P.M.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 3 p.m. on Monday, December 11; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Federico nomination postcloture; further, that all postcloture debate time on the Federico nomination be considered expired at 5:30 p.m. and that upon disposition of the nomination, the Senate resume consideration of the Coker nomination; finally, that if any nominations are confirmed during Monday's session, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

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

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order, following the remarks of Senators LEE, SULLIVAN, and GILLIBRAND.

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

Mr. DURBIN. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Utah.

DEFUND ACT

Mr. LEE. Mr. President, in the words of a Simon and Garfunkel song, they sing of a dream in which "the world had all agreed to put an end to war." And they reached this agreement, apparently, just by signing a single piece of paper.

This dream is just a dream, of course. That is not how things are brought about. That is not how lasting peace occurs. But the dream echoes the stated aspirations that led to the creation and, eventually, the perpetuation of the United Nations. But as history unfolded, the stark reality has not lived up to those lofty aspirations.

We have witnessed failure upon failure, and yet the 20th-century notion of a collective world peace still lingers in the minds of the American foreign pol-

icy establishment. It is a notion that believes that, somehow, U.S. participation and leadership within the United Nations is a foundational pillar of our security and our strength.

A glance at the world today, however, reveals the harsh truth: Enduring global peace remains just a dream. While the corridors of the United Nations were designed for diplomacy, it now serves as a place where America's adversaries—people who trample on diplomatic principles and even human dignity itself, to say nothing of national sovereignty—sponsor initiatives that fly in the face of our foundational principles and values.

Just last November, we saw Iran, known for its support of terrorist groups and its systemic targeting of Jewish people, chairing a U.N. human rights event—actually chairing it. Russia and China, nations that challenge our interests and undermine our values at every turn, hold permanent seats on the U.N. Security Council. China, for its part, also continues to enjoy the benefits of developing nation status, exploiting U.N. programs and other monetary benefits for questionable gain.

Now, the United States, as the U.N.'s largest funder, ends up tacitly supporting these things through its funding. The largest contributor to the U.N.'s budget is the United States. The Biden administration continues to fund, indirectly, groups like Hamas through the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, known for its anti-Semitic indoctrination.

Similarly, the previous administration halted funding for the United Nations Population Fund due to its support for coercive abortion practices in China.

The bloated bureaucracy of the U.N. epitomizes the very foreign entanglements that our Founding Fathers warned against. The global security environment of today underscores the urgency of reasserting American sovereignty.

The DEFUND Act, which I have introduced this week in the Senate, seeks to end U.S. participation in the United Nations system, ensuring that any future attempts to rejoin would require Senate approval.

Now, detractors argue that U.S. involvement is essential for our security and that absence from the U.N. would somehow diminish our soft power, forcing us to rely solely on military might.

These are misleading distractions. The current U.N. system itself erodes American soft power and compels us to conform our national interest to the whims of the so-called rules-based international order.

This fearmongering overlooks the proven value of bilateral relationships, which are the true bedrock of international diplomacy.

At the U.N.'s inception in 1945, President Truman presented a choice between "international chaos" and the "establishment of a world organization

for . . . peace." Yet, despite the U.N.'s existence, chaos abounds, adversaries leverage their U.N. positions, and the goal of peace is overshadowed by the ambition for supranational governance.

The true hope for a peaceful world lies not in such global institutions but in the strength of our national sovereignty and the use of that strength to forge and continue to foster bilateral relationships around the world.

As William Shakespeare said, "What win I, if I gain the thing I seek?" One must truly ask: What does the United Nations seek? Is it truly peace? I think not. Its actions speak for themselves.

Since 1945, the United States has slowly surrendered national sovereignty to the U.N. under the guise of customary international law and under this broad aspirational goal of somehow bringing peace and harmony through this international organization, an international organization that is, itself, utterly untethered from the electoral politics of any country. They very much operate as an island unto themselves once they enter the halls of the U.N.

Now, we in the United States finance a very significant portion of the U.N., much of it voluntarily, with no obligation to do so. Our generosity has been misused to empower terrorists; foment hate; facilitate coercive practices abroad; and in many, many ways, undermine our values.

The DEFUND Act aims to restore American independence from the U.N.'s bureaucracy. It will repeal the foundational Participation Act within the U.N., the U.N. Participation Act of 1945; terminate our contributions and participation in peacekeeping operations; and strip U.N. personnel of diplomatic immunity within the United States. It will also remove the United States from the World Health Organization and prohibit reentry into the U.N. system without the Senate's advice and consent.

It is time that we face reality. The U.N. has long since ceased to be an effective or responsible steward of our resources. It is time for America to lead through strength and sovereignty, not through subservience to an organization that no longer serves our interests—much less the interests of a realizable, lasting peace.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

CHINA

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I am going to pose a simple question here related to this guy. That is the dictator of China, Xi Jinping. Imagine if a Chinese financial institution, one of their banks, one of their private equity funds—they have a lot of them. Imagine if a Chinese financial institution started to invest in the United States in big technologies that would make the U.S. military much stronger. What do you think would happen to those executives in China? They are taking