

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

### NO IMMIGRATION BENEFITS FOR HAMAS TERRORISTS ACT

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 980, I call up the bill (H.R. 6679) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act with respect to aliens who carried out, participated in, planned, financed, supported, or otherwise facilitated the attacks against Israel, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 980, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary printed in the bill, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-24 is adopted and the bill, as amended, is considered read.

The text of the bill, as amended, is as follows:

H.R. 6679

*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 “No Immigration Benefits for Hamas Terrorists Act”.*

#### SEC. 2. ALIENS WHO CARRIED OUT, PARTICIPATED IN, PLANNED, FINANCED, SUPPORTED, OR OTHERWISE FACILITATED ATTACKS AGAINST ISRAEL.

(a) **PARTICIPANTS IN HAMAS TERRORISM AGAINST ISRAEL.**—Section 212(a)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)(i), in the matter following subclause (IX)—

(A) by inserting “Palestinian Islamic Jihad, or Hamas” after “Palestine Liberation Organization”; and

(B) by inserting “member,” after “representative,”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(H) **PARTICIPANTS IN HAMAS TERRORISM AGAINST ISRAEL.**—Any alien who carried out, participated in, planned, financed, afforded material support to, or otherwise facilitated any of the attacks against Israel initiated by Hamas beginning on October 7, 2023, is inadmissible.”.

(b) **INELIGIBILITY FOR RELIEF.**—Section 241(b)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(b)(3)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(D) **INELIGIBILITY FOR RELIEF.**—Any alien who carried out, participated in, planned, financed, afforded material support to, or otherwise facilitated any of the attacks against Israel initiated by Hamas beginning on October 7, 2023, shall be ineligible for any relief under the immigration laws, including under this section, section 208, and section 2242 of the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999 (and any regulations issued pursuant to such section).”.

(c) **CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**—Section 237(a)(4)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(4)(B)) is amended by striking “subparagraph (B) or (F)” and inserting “subparagraph (B), (F), or (H)”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill, as amended, shall be debatable for 1

hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees.

After 1 hour of debate, it shall be order to consider the further amendment printed in part C of House Report 118-362, if offered by the Member designated in the report, which shall be considered read, shall be separately debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, and shall not be subject to a demand for a division of the question.

The gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BENTZ) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BENTZ).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to insert extraneous material on H.R. 6679.

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

There was no objection.

□ 1330

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

On October 7, 2023, Hamas initiated its brutal, unprovoked terrorist attack on Israel, the deadliest terrorist attack since the State of Israel was formed. There is no place in the United States for people who would commit such acts.

H.R. 6679, the No Immigration Benefits for Hamas Terrorists Act ensures that aliens who carried out, participated in, planned, financed, provided material support to, or otherwise facilitated the attacks on the Israeli people that started on October 7 are inadmissible to and removable from the United States.

It also makes such aliens ineligible for any immigration relief.

Legislation like this is increasingly important because we have an executive who has implemented policies specifically designed to allow bad actors in the United States and to let them stay here.

The Biden administration's policies have thrown every facet of our immigration system into chaos. Since President Biden took office, more than 7 million illegal aliens have been encountered on our southwest border. We are on track to reach 12 million by the end of President Biden's term.

More than 3.3 million have been deliberately released into the United States. Another more than 1.7 million known got-aways successfully evaded Border Patrol agents to enter the country.

Thanks to the Biden administration's open-border policies, the immigration court backlog has ballooned to over 2.5 million cases. In addition, arrests of

criminal aliens have dropped exponentially.

What does all of this mean? Illegal aliens do not face swift immigration consequences.

Open-border policies present grave national security risks for our country and the world.

The FBI Director warned the Judiciary Committee that the open border constitutes a massive security threat.

Post-October 7, Germany, Belgium, and France have already seen lone-wolf terrorist attacks inspired by the Hamas attack on Israel.

Foreign nationals exploit U.S. immigration laws and policy to do us harm.

We learned that lesson on September 11, 2001.

Since October 7, here in the United States, at least one foreign national has already been arrested for plotting an attack against Houston's Jewish community—a Jordanian national who had overstayed his visa several years ago, but then applied for asylum and was issued a work authorization by the Biden administration.

Just this week, we learned that last March, the Biden administration released an Al-Shabaab terrorist into the United States.

It is not farfetched to think that October 7 terrorists would try to come here. It is imperative that Congress ensures that such bad actors will find no refuge in the United States.

H.R. 6679 does just that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, on October 7, 2023, Hamas committed a horrific assault on innocent civilians in Israel, murdering 1,200 people, including 32 Americans, killing the most Jewish people in a single day since the Holocaust.

Even now, Hamas continues to hold innocent men, women, and children in captivity. Not a day goes by that I don't think of the hostages:

Of Kfir Bibas, who turned 1 in captivity, and his family, whose lives Hamas has used as a tool of psychological torture;

Of U.S. citizens, like Hersh Goldberg-Polin, whose arm was blown off at the Nova music festival, and Keith Siegel, whose wife was released while he remains in Gaza;

Of peace activists, like Oded Lifshitz, who spent so much his life helping Palestinians get access to lifesaving healthcare;

Of the young women, like Noa Argamani and Agam Berger, who Hamas has used to torment and taunt their parents.

Every day since October 7 has been a nightmare from which we have been unable to wake up. It has been far too much suffering, too many lives have been lost, on both sides of the conflict.

H.R. 6679 has an important goal, ensuring that no one involved with the planning or commission of the October

7 attacks can enter the United States or receive any immigration benefits.

Our current laws already achieve this goal, however. Hamas has been designated as a terrorist organization by the State Department since 1997.

Under the Immigration and Nationality Act, or the INA, any noncitizen who has engaged in terrorist activity, provided material support to terrorists, or is a member of a terrorist organization, or a group that endorses or espouses terrorist activity is inadmissible to the United States.

Furthermore, the national security-related bars in the INA are very broad. To bar an individual, the Secretary of Homeland Security merely needs “reasonable grounds to believe” that the applicant presents a risk to national security or is otherwise seeking to engage in “any unlawful activity” in the United States.

This authority already applies to those who engage in or endorse terrorist activity, as well as those who provide material support to groups that take up arms against government forces. This is an extraordinarily broad provision that has barred even those who are forced to help armed groups.

As such, this bill is largely redundant to current law. I certainly support the aim of this legislation. No individual who is involved in these heinous attacks should find refuge in the United States.

That is why I intend to support the bill, and I urge my colleagues to do the same. But I do have some concerns about the drafting of this bill.

For decades, when Congress wishes to prevent specific bad actors from entering the United States or accessing an immigration benefit, we have used bipartisan visa sanctions legislation. That approach would have the same effect: the majority is attempting to achieve with this bill.

Today, however, the majority has chosen to directly amend the INA to impose visa sanctions. This is beyond bizarre.

Even after the September 11 attacks, we overhauled whole swaths of our immigration system, including creating the Department of Homeland Security, but we did not amend the INA to bar the people involved in the planning and commission of those attacks from entering into the United States. We used visa sanctions.

During markup, I asked the majority to work with us to improve the legislation and ensure there were no unintended consequences.

Unfortunately, they ignored our request. By not working with us, I worry that the majority signals an unseriousness about this issue that ensures that this bill will not become law.

Despite these concerns, I will vote “yes” on the legislation, and I urge everyone else to do so.

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

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I am prepared to

close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, as I said, no member of Hamas or anyone associated with the horrific attacks of October 7 should be allowed to enter this country. Although that is already the law, I support the goal of making sure this is crystal clear.

Though I have concerns about how this legislation was drafted and whether it would achieve its stated goal, I will support this bill with the hope that we can further improve it as it moves through the legislative process. I plan to vote “yes,” and I urge everyone else to vote “yes.”

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

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, many of my Democrat colleagues joined with us during the Judiciary Committee markup to report H.R. 6679 favorably.

I hope many more Democrats join with Republicans today to send a message that if you engage in terrorist attacks against our Israeli friends, you are not welcome here.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate on the bill has expired.

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. ROSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 1 printed in part C of House Report 118-362.

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I have an amendment at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Add at the end the following:

(d) REPORT REQUIRED ON PARTICIPANTS IN HAMAS TERRORISM AGAINST ISRAEL.—Beginning not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and each year thereafter, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report to Congress, including the number of aliens who were—

(1) found to be inadmissible under section 212(a)(3)(H) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(H)); and

(2) described in section 212(a)(3)(H) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(H)) and found to be removable pursuant to section 237(a)(4)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(4)(B)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 980, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my amendment to H.R. 6679, the No Immigration Benefits for Hamas Terrorists Act. My amendment simply requires an annual report to Congress from the Secretary of Homeland Security on the number of individuals found to be inadmissible or deportable as a result of the underlying bill.

Mr. Speaker, the October 7 Hamas terrorist attacks on the State of Israel were a barbaric atrocity that claimed the lives of over 1,000 people. Hundreds of individuals were further taken hostage, and many were severely injured.

In addition to condemning this act of brutality and supporting our ally Israel as it fights to eliminate Hamas, it is imperative that the United States imposes the absolute strictest possible immigration barriers to those who participated or otherwise facilitated the October 7, 2023, terrorist attacks on Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to thank my colleague, Mr. MCCLINTOCK of California, for introducing this vitally important piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, my amendment is a commonsense pro-transparency measure, designed to help inform Congress on the number of individuals who are declared inadmissible or deportable as a result of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I claim the time in opposition, although I do not oppose the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from New York is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I support the gentleman's amendment, and I think it helps improve the underlying bill.

I wish the majority had worked with us on this legislation to make it a visa sanctions bill. If they had, this amendment would not be needed because we would already have the data this amendment requires to be reported.

However, given our concerns related to the drafting of this legislation and the potential for unintended consequences, I welcome this amendment so that Congress can unequivocally confirm that the number of people impacted by this bill is minimum.

The Congressional Budget Office has already said this bill has no budgetary impact because it essentially restates current law. This amendment will help confirm the accuracy of that analysis.

Mr. Speaker, I therefore support it, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, it is important that Congress receive continuous feedback on how effective the laws that we pass have become.

By requiring an annual report to Congress on the number of individuals found to be inadmissible or deportable as a result of this legislation, we will ensure that this body is continuously well informed on how effective this bill is at keeping terrorists out of the country.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to vote “yes” on my amendment and “yes” on the underlying bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, for the reasons I stated a few minutes ago, I support this amendment. I urge everyone to vote for it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the previous question is ordered on the bill and on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROSE).

The amendment was agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. NADLER. 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 question will be postponed.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 43 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1601

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mrs. CAMMACK) at 4 o'clock and 1 minute p.m.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

Amendment No. 1 on H.R. 6678;

Passage of H.R. 6678, if ordered;

Passage of H.R. 6679; and

The motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2754, if ordered.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

#### AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. D'ESPOSITO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the question on amendment No. 1 to H.R. 6678 printed in part B of House Report 118-362 offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO).

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 267, nays 158, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 26]

#### YEAS—267

Aderholt	Garcia, Mike	Molinaro
Alford	Gimenez	Moolenaar
Allen	Golden (ME)	Mooney
Allred	Gonzales, Tony	Moore (AL)
Amodei	Good (VA)	Moore (UT)
Armstrong	Gooden (TX)	Moran
Arrington	Gosar	Moskowitz
Babin	Gottheimer	Mrvan
Bacon	Granger	Murphy
Baird	Graves (LA)	Nehls
Balderson	Graves (MO)	Newhouse
Banks	Green (TN)	Nickel
Barr	Greene (GA)	Norman
Bean (FL)	Griffith	Nunn (IA)
Bentz	Grothman	Obenolte
Bergman	Guest	Ogles
Bice	Guthrie	Owens
Biggs	Hageman	Palmer
Bilirakis	Harder (CA)	Panetta
Bishop (NC)	Harris	Pappas
Boebert	Harshbarger	Peltola
Bost	Hayes	Pence
Boyle (PA)	Hern	Perez
Brecheen	Higgins (LA)	Perry
Buchanan	Hill	Pfluger
Buck	Hinson	Posey
Bucshon	Horsford	Reschenthaler
Budzinski	Houchin	Rodgers (WA)
Burchett	Houlahan	Rogers (AL)
Burgess	Hoyle (OR)	Rose
Burlison	Hudson	Rosendale
Calvert	Huizenga	Rouzer
Cammack	Hunt	Roy
Caraveo	Issa	Rutherford
Carey	Jackson (NC)	Ryan
Carl	Jackson (TX)	Salazar
Carter (GA)	James	Salinas
Carter (TX)	Johnson (SD)	Schneider
Cartwright	Jordan	Scholten
Chavez-DeRemer	Joyce (OH)	Schrier
Ciscomani	Joyce (PA)	Schweikert
Cline	Kaptur	Scott, Austin
Cloud	Kean (NJ)	Self
Clyde	Kelly (MS)	Sessions
Cole	Kelly (PA)	Sherrill
Collins	Kiggans (VA)	Simpson
Comer	Kildee	Slotkin
Courtney	Kiley	Smith (MO)
Craig	Kim (CA)	Smith (NE)
Crane	Kuster	Smith (NJ)
Crawford	Kustoff	Smucker
Crenshaw	LaHood	Sorensen
Cuellar	LaLota	Soto
Curtis	LaMalfa	Spanberger
D'Esposito	Lamborn	Spartz
Davids (KS)	Landsman	Stanton
Davidson	Langworthy	Stauber
Davis (NC)	Latta	Steel
De La Cruz	LaTurner	Stefanik
Deluzio	Lawler	Steil
DesJarlais	Lee (FL)	Steube
Diaz-Balart	Lee (NV)	Strong
Donalds	Lesko	Sykes
Duarte	Letlow	Tenney
Duncan	Levin	Thompson (PA)
Dunn (FL)	Loudermilk	Tiffany
Edwards	Lucas	Timmons
Ellzey	Luetkemeyer	Titus
Emmer	Luna	Turner
Estes	Luttrell	Valadao
Ezell	Lynch	Van Drew
Fallon	Mace	Van Dуйne
Feenstra	Magaziner	Van Orden
Ferguson	Malliotakis	Vasquez
Finstad	Maloy	Wagner
Fischbach	Mann	Walberg
Fitzgerald	Massie	Waltz
Fitzpatrick	Mast	Weber (TX)
Fleischmann	McCaul	Webster (FL)
Flood	McClain	Wenstrup
Foster	McClintock	Westerman
Fox	McCormick	Wild
Franklin, Scott	McHenry	Williams (NY)
Fry	Meuser	Williams (TX)
Fulcher	Miller (IL)	Wilson (SC)
Gaetz	Miller (OH)	Wittman
Gallagher	Miller (WV)	Womack
Gallego	Miller-Meeks	Yakym
Garbarino	Mills	Zinke

#### NAYS—158

Adams	Frankel, Lois	Neal
Aguilar	Frost	Neguse
Amo	Garamendi	Ocasio-Cortez
Auchincloss	Garcia (IL)	Omar
Balint	Garcia (TX)	Pallone
Barragan	Garcia, Robert	Pascarell
Beatty	Goldman (NY)	Payne
Bera	Gomez	Pelosi
Beyer	Gonzalez,	Peters
Bishop (GA)	Vicente	Pettersen
Blumenauer	Green, Al (TX)	Pingree
Blunt Rochester	Grijalva	Pocan
Bonamici	Higgins (NY)	Porter
Bowman	Himes	Pressley
Brown	Hoyer	Quigley
Brownley	Huffman	Ramirez
Bush	Ivey	Raskin
Carbajal	Jackson (IL)	Ross
Cardenas	Jackson Lee	Ruiz
Carson	Jacobs	Ruppersberger
Carter (LA)	Jayapal	Sánchez
Casas	Jeffries	Sarbanes
Case	Johnson (GA)	Scanlon
Casten	Kamlager-Dove	Schakowsky
Castor (FL)	Keating	Schiff
Castro (TX)	Kelly (IL)	Scott (VA)
Cherfilus-	Khanna	Scott, David
McCormick	Kilmer	Sewell
Chu	Kim (NJ)	Sherman
Clark (MA)	Krishnamoorthi	Smith (WA)
Clarke (NY)	Larsen (WA)	Stansbury
Cleaver	Larson (CT)	Stevens
Clyburn	Lee (CA)	Strickland
Cohen	Lee (PA)	Swalwell
Connolly	Leger Fernandez	Takano
Correa	Lieu	Thamendar
Costa	Lofgren	Thompson (CA)
Crockett	Manning	Thompson (MS)
Crow	Matsui	Tlaib
Davis (IL)	McBath	Tokuda
Dean (PA)	McClellan	Tonko
DeGette	McCollum	Torres (CA)
DeLauro	McGarvey	Torres (NY)
DeBene	McGovern	Trahan
DeSaulnier	Meeks	Trone
Dingell	Menendez	Underwood
Doggett	Meng	Vargas
Escobar	Mfume	Veasey
Eshoo	Moore (WI)	Velázquez
Espallat	Moulton	Wasserman
Evans	Mullin	Schultz
Fletcher	Nadler	Watson Coleman
Foushee	Napolitano	Williams (GA)
		Wilson (FL)

#### NOT VOTING—6

Morelle	Phillips	Scalise
Norcross	Rogers (KY)	Wexton

□ 1634

Messrs. VEASEY, THOMPSON of Mississippi, TONKO, Mses. MCCOLLUM, WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and Mr. PAYNE changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. LEVIN, DUNCAN, and SOTO changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.