

that we have seen over the last two decades.

Finally, my bill would make it easier for Americans to remember to renew their passports by changing the passport expiration dates to coincide with their birthdays, just like most of us do with our driver's licenses. This simple change in awareness will make it so that many people remember to renew their passports early instead of realizing it at the last second because it is not on an intuitive date, which leads to the surges in applicants in the system and creates those backlogs.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of my colleagues for their work on this legislation, and I urge adoption of this bill.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

The Department of State's passport application processing has shown welcomed improvement. The bipartisan provisions in this bill would help them make even more progress and connect more Americans to a U.S. passport.

By helping the State Department increase access and meet higher demand, I hope we can prove that the government can adapt and work faster.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I hope we can advance further measures to support consular services in a bipartisan fashion, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we need to make passport services more accessible to Americans who don't live in major cities. This bill, H.R. 8234, would actually do that by authorizing new actors like public notaries to serve as passport acceptance agents.

It would also allow more companies to participate in the hand-carry courier program and open up slots for those companies at passport agency offices across the country.

Americans who don't live in major cities shouldn't have to have a harder time getting travel documents than anyone else.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8234, 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.

COORDINATOR FOR AFGHAN RELOCATION EFFORTS AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8368) to establish a Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts in the

Department of State, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8368

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 "Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts Authorization Act of 2024".

SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF COORDINATOR.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State shall appoint a Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts ("Coordinator"), who shall be responsible for—

(1) relocating and resettling eligible Afghan allies and facilitating the departure of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents who request United States assistance to leave Afghanistan, except that the Coordinator shall prioritize the facilitation of such departures before the relocation or resettlement of allies; and

(2) working with other offices of the Department of State, as well as with appropriate counterparts at other Federal departments and agencies, to ensure integrated United States support for such relocation efforts.

(b) AUTHORITIES.—The Coordinator is authorized—

(1) to enter into personal services contracts for a period ending not later than the date described in section 3;

(2) to extend and maintain through such date personal services contracts entered into pursuant to the authority provided by section 2401 of the Afghanistan Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-43);

(3) to hire temporary personnel who are United States citizens, except that to the extent possible the Coordinator should use Foreign Service limited appointments to fill such positions both in the United States and abroad in accordance with section 309 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 3949); and

(4) subject to the availability of appropriations—

(A) to accept, in the form of reimbursement or transfer, amounts from other Federal departments or agencies as appropriate to carry out the duties described in subsection (a); and

(B) to reimburse such other departments or agencies as the Coordinator may determine appropriate to carry out such duties.

(c) DETAILEES AND ASSIGNEES.—Any Federal Government employee may be detailed or assigned to the Office of the Coordinator, with or without reimbursement, consistent with applicable laws and regulations regarding such employee, and such detail or assignment shall be without interruption or loss of status or privilege.

(d) NOTIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO TRANSFERS OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Coordinator shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of each use of the transfer authority made available under subsection (b)(4)(A) not later than 15 days before the completion of such transfer.

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—In this subsection, the term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 3. SUNSET.

This Act and the authorities provided by this Act shall terminate on the date that is

3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN) and the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on this measure.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bipartisan legislation to codify the establishment of the Office of the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts.

When the Biden administration executed its disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021, we left behind thousands of Afghans who had risked their lives to assist the United States' mission in Afghanistan.

The subsequent Taliban takeover put these brave individuals at serious risk, and we have seen many Afghans who worked for the U.S. be targeted in reprisal killings and forced disappearances. It is our duty as Americans to help bring these vulnerable Afghans to safety in the U.S.

The Office of the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts has worked tirelessly in 2021 to support the resettlement of eligible Afghans in the United States. After undergoing the most thorough security vetting processes, CARE assists Afghans as they complete the final stages of the resettlement process, preparing them for their new lives in the United States.

At a time when there is little hope for Afghans to pursue a life of prosperity amidst the brutal Taliban regime's crackdown on human rights and archaic restrictions on women, it is more important than ever that the U.S. fulfill our duty to our Afghan allies and help them come to the United States.

I have been happy to see that CARE has demonstrated increased efficiency in processing Afghan relocation cases, enabling our vetted Afghan partners to come to the United States.

Codifying this office ensures that every eligible, properly vetted Afghan may be moved to the U.S. and establish a new, safe life for their family far from the threat of the Taliban.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to show their support for our Afghan allies and support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 8368. There is one thing I believe unites us on the issue of Afghanistan, and that is unwavering commitment to the Afghan allies who stood by us during our nearly two-decade mission in the country. This bill is about honoring that commitment.

H.R. 8368 formally authorizes the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts, or CARE, which has been leading the essential work of supporting those who risked their lives to assist the United States by helping eligible Afghan applicants and their families relocate to the United States.

By providing a clear bipartisan mandate, along with the authorities that the State Department has requested, this legislation sends a strong message of support for CARE's mission that can't simply be waved away. It demonstrates that Congress stands firmly behind the creative, tenacious efforts by the CARE office to relocate and protect our deserving Afghan partners.

These are individuals who risked everything to support our mission. They served as interpreters, guides, and partners in some of the most dangerous conditions imaginable. To turn our backs on them now would be unconscionable.

Let's remember that our commitment is not just a matter of policy or party, but it is a matter of principle. This bill is a step in the right direction, but it cannot be the final word on our support for our Afghan allies, particularly since Congress will need to continue to act to ensure Afghan special immigrant visas remain available and CARE's work is appropriately resourced during the period authorized by this bill. There are bipartisan bills we can bring to the floor in this Congress to accomplish exactly that.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this bill introduced by Representative TITUS, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same so that we can continue to uphold our promises to those who stood by us in Afghanistan.

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

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

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS), an esteemed member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the author of this measure.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I acknowledge and thank my Republican colleague from Indiana (Mr. BAIRD) for joining me on this bipartisan legislation to establish the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts Authorization Act, H.R. 8368.

Over the course of our 20-year mission in Afghanistan, more than 300,000 Afghans worked shoulder to shoulder with U.S. servicemembers, diplomats, and aid workers. They provided valuable support for nearly 800,000 U.S. troops who rotated through Afghanistan. They served primarily as trans-

lators, guides, and informal advisers to U.S. personnel on the ground.

These are, in every sense of the word, our valued allies. They stood with us through difficult conditions, advancing U.S. interests.

In August 2021, the U.S. conducted an historic and heroic evacuation that carried 70,000 Afghans to safety along with tens of thousands of U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents, as well as citizens from other countries.

Since July 2021, the State Department has worked around the clock to relocate U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents from Afghanistan who wanted to depart and who were eligible Afghan allies who worked with us.

Secretary Blinken has made this a top priority for the Department and has said that there is no deadline for this important work. He underscores the commitment that the Biden administration has to this effort and the promise of Operation Enduring Welcome.

In 2022, to solidify these relocation efforts, the State Department established a specialized office called the Coordinator for Afghan Relocation Efforts, appropriately known as CARE.

CARE serves as the hub for a whole-of-government priority, working closely with various Federal departments and agencies, international partners, veterans groups, former diplomats, government officials, and NGOs to ensure the safe and efficient relocation of individuals who have qualified to immigrate to the U.S., either as special immigrants or refugees, during the 20-year U.S. mission to Afghanistan.

The Afghan Special Immigrant Visa program, also stood up by Congress and relying on our regular reauthorization of additional visa numbers to meet demand, long faced challenges and processing delays, but the situation changed dramatically early in 2021, when the Biden administration ramped up resources to clear an SIV processing backlog that had accumulated in the prior administration.

Working together, Congress and the administration have prioritized and streamlined the Afghan SIV program to meet evolving demand and uphold our moral obligation.

In fiscal year 2023, the administration issued the most SIVs in a single year since the start of the program in 2009. In the most recent report, the Department issued 1,894 SIVs, ensuring that almost 8,000 additional Afghan allies and their families had a pathway to safety.

Similarly, the State Department has announced the establishment of a new P-2 category for refugees, in addition to the P-1 referrals, to expand available pathways for persecuted Afghans. As a result, we have welcomed more than 130,000 Afghans to safety.

The CARE program has been the linchpin of this work, serving as a valuable conduit for all of the different organizations I mentioned and Afghans

themselves as they navigate a pathway to their new home. The work, however, is not codified in statute. It exists across a number of agencies and programs.

Congress should be unambiguous here. We support this work. We want to see the job continue, and we should do so by authorizing it as a new agency.

That is what this bill would do. It would authorize the CARE office in the State Department for 3 years and grant it important authorities to continue this work as an identified legislative priority for the State Department.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, to acknowledge the obligation that we have, our moral obligation to help those who helped us so much, and to fulfill our promise to all of those who stood with us.

I thank Ranking Member MEEKS and Chairman MCCAUL of the Foreign Affairs Committee for their support in helping move this bill to the floor, and I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of it.

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

Mr. Speaker, for over 20 years, our Afghan allies risked everything to support the U.S. mission, and we must not turn our backs on them now. The CARE office deserves a clear, bipartisan mandate. I hope my colleagues will join me and support this important bill.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, this administration failed the Afghan people by abandoning them to the Taliban rule. It is our responsibility as Americans to remedy this failure. I am proud to support this bipartisan legislation today, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in voting for this legislation.

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 Guam (Mr. MOYLAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8368, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. MOYLAN. 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.

AFFIRMING THE NATURE AND IMPORTANCE OF THE SUPPORT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC MINORITY SURVIVORS OF GENOCIDE IN IRAQ

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the