AMENDMENTS ADOPTED TO THE STATE/FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS BILL FOR FY 2019

Full Committee Markup
House Appropriations Committee
Wednesday, June 20, 2018
AMENDMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019
OFFERED BY MR. ROGERS OF KENTUCKY

IN THE BILL

In the bill, on page 135, insert after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph and renumber subsequent paragraphs accordingly:

"(4) CATEGORICAL ELIGIBILITY.—The Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 1990 (Public Law 101-167) is amended—

“(A) in section 599D (8 U.S.C. 1157 note)—

“(i) in subsection (b)(3), by striking ‘and 2018’ and inserting ‘2018, and 2019’; and

“(ii) in subsection (e), by striking ‘2018’ each place it appears and inserting ‘2019’; and

In the bill, on page 158, after paragraph (2), insert the following new paragraph:

“(3) AUTHORITY.—Funds appropriated by this Act under the heading ‘Economic Support Fund’ for assistance for Iraq may be made available notwithstanding any other provision of law.”

In the bill, on page 243, line 5, insert before “creditors”, the following:

“or multilateral”.

IN THE REPORT

In the report, on page 13, before the heading “Worldwide Security Protection”, insert the following new paragraph:

“Visa processing and training.—The Committee is aware of concerns over capacity and infrastructure issues at United States Government agencies with responsibility for visa processing which have led to processing delays, resulting in lost business opportunities for United States companies and missed public diplomacy exchanges involving foreign legislators and legislative staff invited by United
States Government Executive and Legislative Branch officials. The Committee directs the Secretary of State, after consultation with other appropriate United States Government agencies, to, within applicable law, regulation, and executive action, address the capacity and infrastructure challenges in the visa processing system.”

In the report, on page 85, at the end of the sentence on Libya, insert the following new sentence:

“The Committee notes with concern the occurrence of forced labor and modern day slavery in Libya and expects that assistance be made available to combat these practices.”

In the report, on page 88, strike the second sentence in the paragraph beginning with “Section 7042”, and insert the following:

“The Committee acknowledges that global development, diplomacy and defense are pertinent to protecting United States national security and advancing United States policy toward Africa. The Committee also recognizes that the underlying causes of instability and conflict in the region, including extreme poverty, poor health, food insecurity, and environmental degradation, are critical areas for United States involvement through foreign assistance. The Committee reaffirms that sustainable development, eco-
nomic growth, human rights, and humanitarian assistance
in Africa are important to national security interests of
the United States and remain critical investments in the
prosperity and security throughout the continent.”

In the report, on page 89, after the paragraph on
Burma, insert the following new paragraph:

“The Committee is concerned about the repeated assaults
on freedom of the press in Burma and supports assistance
for programs to strengthen independent media.”

On page 90, after the first paragraph under the
heading “Afghanistan”, insert the following new para-
graph:

“The Committee notes the strategy for United States en-
gagement in Afghanistan required pursuant to the State,
Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations
Act, 2017, includes political settlement with the Taliban
as its ultimate goal. Therefore, no later than 90 days after
the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall sub-
mit to the appropriate congressional committees a report
on progress made to date in achieving such goal and de-
tailed information, in classified form if necessary, on spe-
cific steps to be taken to encourage a political resolution
of the conflict in Afghanistan.”
In the report, on page 93, before the first full paragraph, insert the following new paragraph:

1 "The Committee is concerned about the length of time it has taken in prior years for the Department of State to meet the oversight requirements provided for in this subsection. The Secretary of State is directed to submit the spend plan required by subsection (a)(2) not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, and to take other steps in order to obligate funds in a timely manner, particularly with respect to funds not subject to the requirements of subsection (a)(3)."

In the report, on page 94, after the third full paragraph, insert the following new paragraph:

10 "The Committee notes that in order to incentivize and attract foreign investment, Northern Triangle countries must aggressively combat corruption and impunity and work to create a positive business climate that enforces the rule of law and respects due process. The Committee encourages business groups in the United States and Northern Triangle countries to contribute to these efforts and encourages them to pursue their goals of strengthening the economies through a commitment towards economic growth, entrepreneurship, investments, fighting cor-
1 ruption, job creation, and the reduction of migration, mal-
2 nutrition, and poverty.”
AMENDMENT TO STATE AND FOREIGN OPERATIONS APPROPRIATIONS BILL
OFFERED BY MS. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ OF FLORIDA AND MR. POCAN OF
WISCONSIN

Page 280, following the end of Title VII, add:

"Sec. __. None of the funds made available by this Act, or by any other Act, may be used to prevent a Member of the United States Congress from entering, for the purpose of conducting oversight, any facility in the United States, used for purposes of detaining or otherwise housing foreign national minors."