

failed, and it always has to do with the fact that people tend to pile on. They get desperate. It is hard for us to reform the immigration code. When somebody suggests 1 reform, others suggest 10 more, and, before long, it chokes the horse. You can't move forward with it.

This one is focused on a very simple concept, that regardless of how many visas we issue, regardless of how many green cards we issue, there are a lot of ways to allocate the number that we have. Let's start with the number we have and figure out whatever reasons ought to influence that decision. Among them should not be the country in which you were born.

Imagine two hypothetical would-be employment-based green card recipients who are otherwise eligible. Immigrant A and B are identical in all respects—in their employment qualifications, their education, proficiency in English, and every meaningful characteristic except one. Immigrant A happens to be born in Luxembourg and immigrant B happens to have been born in India. Because India has a large population and Luxembourg has a small population, the immigrant from India is going to be discriminated against.

It is senseless and based on a bygone era in which immigration policy didn't make sense by today's standards. We ought to be able to get around that.

I agree with Mr. DURBIN that we should pass this right now. There is no reason not to.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

AMENDMENT NO. 1729

Mr. INHOFE. I call up amendment No. 1729 and ask that it be reported by number.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. INHOFE] proposes an amendment numbered 1729 to amendment No. 2301.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To increase funding for the study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention relating to perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substance contamination in drinking water)

At the end of subtitle B of title III, add the following:

SEC. 3 . . . INCREASE IN FUNDING FOR STUDY BY CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION RELATING TO PERFLUOROALKYL AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCE CONTAMINATION IN DRINKING WATER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) INCREASE.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by this Act for fiscal year 2021 for Operation and Maintenance, Defense Wide for SAG 4GTN for the study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention under section 316(a)(2)(B)(ii) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91; 131 Stat. 1350) is hereby increased by \$5,000,000.

(2) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by this Act for fiscal year 2021 for Operation and Maintenance, Army for

SAG 421, Servicewide Transportation is hereby reduced by \$5,000,000.

(b) INCREASE IN TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—Section 316(a)(2)(B)(ii) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91; 131 Stat. 1350), as amended by section 315(a) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232; 132 Stat. 1713), is amended by striking “\$10,000,000” and inserting “\$15,000,000”.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the 60-affirmative vote threshold with respect to the Shaheen amendment No. 1729 be vitiated.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. INHOFE. For the information of all Senators, it is my understanding that we should be able to adopt the amendment by voice vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 1729) was agreed to.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 2244

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 96, nays 4, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 134 Leg.]

YEAS—96

Alexander	Fischer	Perdue
Baldwin	Gardner	Peters
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Portman
Bennet	Graham	Reed
Blackburn	Grassley	Risch
Blumenthal	Harris	Roberts
Blunt	Hassan	Romney
Booker	Hawley	Rosen
Boozman	Heinrich	Rounds
Braun	Hirono	Rubio
Brown	Hoeven	Sanders
Burr	Hyde-Smith	Sasse
Cantwell	Inhofe	Schatz
Capito	Johnson	Schumer
Cardin	Jones	Scott (FL)
Carper	Kaine	Scott (SC)
Casey	Kennedy	Shaheen
Cassidy	King	Sinema
Collins	Klobuchar	Smith
Coons	Lankford	Stabenow
Cornyn	Leahy	Sullivan
Cortez Masto	Loeffler	Tester
Cotton	Manchin	Thune
Cramer	Markey	Tillis
Crapo	McConnell	Udall
Cruz	McSally	Van Hollen
Daines	Menendez	Warner
Duckworth	Merkley	Warren
Durbin	Moran	Whitehouse
Enzi	Murkowski	Wicker
Ernst	Murphy	Wyden
Feinstein	Murray	Young

NAYS—4

Lee
Paul
Shelby
Toomey

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASSIDY). On this vote, the yeas are 96, the nays are 4.

Under the previous order requiring 60 votes for the adoption of the amendment, the amendment is agreed to.

The Senator from Oklahoma.

S. 4049

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, right now, we are in the middle of what I have referred to several times as what I consider to be the most significant bill of the year, the National Defense Authorization Act—one that you can almost be sure will pass. This will be the 60th consecutive year it has passed. That is a pretty good indication it is going to pass.

That comes with problems, however. People know that a bill is going to pass, so you get a lot of pieces of legislation that had not been able to get passed, and it may be a whole year, and it becomes a part of this bill. It is more than just the Defense authorization bill, but it is the most significant one.

Before we even came to the floor, we did something that we have been working on now—at least I know personally—for 4 years, and that is to put ourselves in a position where just in case we find ourselves where we can't get amendments—all it takes is one person to object, and there will be no amendments if this happens. We decided to go ahead and put this bill together and do it in such a way that the Members are actually drafting the bill. We have 700 Member items.

You might remember that back in January, we started talking about this, saying: If you want to have an amendment in the Defense authorization bill, even though it is not going to become effective until a year from December, you better get down there and do it because now is the time you can get that done. Well, we ended up with 700 Member items, and that was before we even got to the floor, and then more were added. We added another 140 amendments after that.

You can say that this bill was passed by you—I am talking about the Members, Democrats and Republicans—in the Chamber because these items all came out of it. We didn't do it the way it used to be done. We kind of eased into this, but it has worked very well. I commend Liz and John for the work they do in holding everyone together in making this a reality.

Where we are right now is, we have had a lot of our Members coming to the floor. My staff and I are continuing to work on the inclusion of additional amendments. If you will recall, 2 weeks ago, when we took a break for the Fourth of July, we agreed upon some legislation, some amendments that would be a part of this. They are all structured right now. We have already passed two—actually, passed four today. We have another bunch of amendments, including a managers' package. It was hotlined today, just today. We don't have the results of that yet. People may have objected to it, and I am just not aware—apparently, there have been some objections. I don't know what the count is. We will