Mr. President, I ask

unanimous consent that the Senate

proceed to the immediate consideration

of S. 3728, introduced earlier

today.

Mr. President, I ask

unanimous consent that the bill be

read a third time and passed, the motion

to reconsider be laid upon the

table, and that any statements relating

to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

Mr. President, the bill

that we just passed, S. 3728, to promote

nuclear nonproliferation in North

Korea was introduced by myself, Senator

BIDEN, and others.

As we all know, earlier this month,

the North Korean regime defied the

international community and launched

seven long and medium-range missiles

into the Sea of Japan. One of the missiles,

the Taepodong-2, has a potential

range of approximately 9,000 miles,

placing the United States well within

reach of attack by North Korea.

Kim Jong Il’s regime took this dangerous

and provocative action despite

repeated warnings not to do so from

the United States, its close neighbors

and participants in the six-party talks,

and many others in the international

community.

The unanimous consent which was

just approved focuses on this issue of

nuclear nonproliferation in North

Korea.

The North Korean missile launches

reminded us yet again of the threat

posed by Kim Jong Il’s regime.

North Korea’s pursuit of nuclear

weapons and its possession of longrange

missiles that could potentially

strike our Nation is a grave threat to

the security of the American people

and to peace and stability in East Asia.

This combination of nuclear weapons

and long range missiles is a threat that

the United States should not tolerate.

Since November 2005, North Korea

has boycotted the six-party talks

aimed at ending the regime’s illicit nuclear

weapons program.

In an effort to revive this diplomatic

track, the People’s Republic of China 2

weeks ago sent a high-level delegation

to Pyongyang to convince North Korea

to return to the six-party talks.

North Korea remained intransigent

and gave no indication of any willingness

to allow diplomatic efforts to succeed.

The U.N. Security Council then decided

to act.

On July 15, the United Nations Security

Council sent a strong, unambiguous,

and unified message to the North

Koreans that their latest provocations

are unacceptable.

The Security Council unanimously

passed Resolution 1695. This resolution

condemned unequivocally the North

Korean missile launches.

In addition, the Security Council demanded

that North Korea reestablish

its moratorium on missile launches. It

also requires all U.N. member states to

do everything they can to prevent the

procurement and transfer of missiles,

missile-related items, materials, goods,

technology, or financial resources to or

from North Korea’s missile and WMD

programs.

As Ambassador Bolton stated:

However, soon afterwards, North

Korea announced that it had no intention

of abiding by the resolution’s requirements—

yet another act of defiance

and brinkmanship.

North Korea’s continued defiance of

the international community leaves

our Nation with no alternative but to

act.

For all these reasons, I rise today to

call up the North Korea Nonproliferation

Act of 2006, which I originally introduced

last week. This legislation

will add North Korea to the list of

countries currently covered by the Iran

and Syria Nonproliferation Act.

Under this bill, the President would

be required to submit a report to Congress

every 6 months listing all foreign

persons believed to have transferred to

or acquired from North Korea materials

that could contribute to the production

of missiles, nuclear weapons,

other weapons of mass destruction, and

certain conventional weapons.

This legislation also authorizes the

President to impose sanctions on all

foreign persons identified on this list.

These sanctions include prohibitions

on U.S. Government procurement from

such persons and the issuance of U.S.

Government export licenses for exports

to such persons.

Ultimately, the bill will lead to U.S.

sanctions on any foreign persons or foreign

companies that transfer missile

and WMD-related items, as well as certain

advanced conventional weapons,

to North Korea, or that buy such items

from North Korea.

The U.S. is already doing this with

respect to transfers of these items to

and from Iran and Syria under the Iran

and Syria Nonproliferation Act. The

time has come for us to treat transfers

of these items to North Korea no less

seriously than we already treat transfers

of these same items to Iran and

Syria.

Of course, no transfers of missile and

WMD-related items to or from North

Korea should be taking place now that

the Security Council has forbidden all

such commerce with that country.

Experience teaches us, however, that

detennined proliferators are likely to

ignore these new U.N. sanctions, which

is why this legislation is so criticaUy

important. It will provide a partial

remedy in such cases, and should deter

violations of the new U.N. sanctions on

North Korea.

The North Korea Nonproliferation

Act of 2006 will reinforce Security

Council Resolution 1695 and demonstrate

that the United States is, indeed,

doing all that it can to stop the

transfer of these dangerous materials

to and from North Korea.

The U.N. Security Council has spoken.

The United States must now step

up its efforts to fulfill its responsibility

to protect the American homeland

from the North Korean threat.

Section 4 of this bill calls on all

other countries to consider measures

similar to the ones that we will adopt

pursuant to this law to reinforce Security

Council Resolution 1695.

I would hope that, in particular,

countries such as Japan that are especially

threatened by North Korea’s provocative

actions will consider taking

steps like those provided for under this

legislation to deter the transfer by others

to or from North Korea of sensitive

items with weapons applications.

These items in the hands of Kim

Jong Il pose a direct threat to the

American people, the people of the region,

and peace and security in East

Asia.

If we are in earnest about protecting

the American homeland, then it’s imperative

that we prevent the North Korean

regime from acquiring these dangerous

materials. I thank the cosponsors

of this bill: Chairman LUGAR, as

well as Senators INOUYE, BROWNBACK,

BIDEN, BUNNING, AKAKA, and DOLE, as

well as the rest of my Senate colleagues

for their support.