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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Our guest chaplain is Rajan Zed, President of the Universal Society of Hinduism from Reno, NV.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Om. We meditate on the transcendental glory of the Deity Supreme, who is inside the heart of the Earth, inside the life of the sky, and inside the soul of Heaven. May He stimulate and illuminate our minds.

Lead us from the unreal to the real.
Lead us from darkness to light.

Lead us from death to immortality.

Strive constantly to serve the welfare of the world; by devotion to selfless one attains the supreme goal of life. Do your work with the welfare of others always in mind.

May we be protected together.

May we be nourished together.

May we work together with great vigor.

May our study be enlightening.

May no obstacle arise between us.

United your resolve, united your hearts, may your spirits be at one, that you may long together dwell in unity and concord.

Peace, peace, peace be unto all. Om.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication

to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, July 30, 2024.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable RAPHAEL G. WARNOCK, a Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNOCK thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Nevada.

WELCOMING THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise in recognition of today's guest

Chaplain, Rajan Zed. Mr. Zed is not new to Congress. He was invited in 2007 by Majority Leader Harry Reid to read the first-ever Hindu opening prayer before the U.S. Senate. And he has read opening prayers in the U.S. House of Representatives, various State legislative bodies, county commissions, and city councils all across the United States.

Mr. Zed is a religious leader of the Hindu community in Reno, and he has taken up causes from all over the world. He is president of the Universal Society of Hinduism, an active member of the Nevada Interfaith Association, and a spiritual advisor to the National Association of Interchurch & Interfaith Families.

He has been invited to and participated in the World Economic Forum. He has met with the President of the European Parliament in Brussels to promote interfaith dialogue, and he has received several awards for his contributions to both local and global religious communities.

Outside of his faith leadership, Mr. Zed has been active in the Reno community. He serves on the governing board of directors of the Northern Nevada International Center, the board of directors of the Nevada World Trade Council, the Citizens Advisory Committee of the Regional Transportation Commission, and on the Reno Police Chief Advisory Board.

Mr. President, I am honored to have Mr. Zed back in the U.S. Senate to deliver opening prayers once again today. I welcome him to the U.S. Senate and his beautiful family.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

KOSA-COPPA

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I am proud to say, today, the Senate keeps its promise to every parent who has lost a child because of the risks of social media. Today, after a lot of hard

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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work and a lot of twists and turns, we will pass KOSA and COPPA. KOSA and COPPA will be perhaps the most important updates to Federal laws protecting kids on the internet in decades, and it is a very good first step.

This was truly a bipartisan effort from the start here in the Senate. I am proud of the way both sides of the aisle came together on an issue affecting so many kids and so many families across America. The House should take note and follow the Senate's example by passing KOSA and COPPA when they return. After the Senate passes KOSA and COPPA today with a strong bipartisan vote, the House should do the same when they return in September. These bills have real bipartisan momentum. So we should seize the opportunity to send them to the President's desk.

As we all know, social media has many benefits, but we also know about the many risks social media can pose, especially to our kids. Too many kids experience relentless promotion of suicide or substance abuse material. Too many kids have their personal data collected and then used nefariously. With studies showing that kids today spend more time on social media than ever before, now is the moment to pass KOSA, pass COPPA, and instill guardrails that protect kids from these risks.

We have heard from so many parents whose kids, sadly, took their own lives—their own lives—because of what happened to them on social media. To their everlasting credit, these parents, instead of cursing the darkness, lit a candle. They turned their grief into grace—an amazing thing—and worked doggedly to help get this bill over the finish line so that what happened to their kids—their kids will never come back—but so that what happened to their kids doesn't happen to any others. I thank these brave parents and families for sharing their heart-wrenching stories.

And I thank my colleagues Senators BLUMENTHAL and BLACKBURN, MARKEY and CASSIDY, DURBIN and KLOBUCHAR, Chair CANTWELL, and so many others for championing these bills.

TAX RELIEF FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES AND WORKERS ACT

Mr. President, now, 45 days after Joe Biden took the oath of office and I became majority leader, Senate Democrats passed a major expansion of the child tax credit, one of the signature policies of the American Rescue Plan. Every single Republican, down to the last Member, voted against this bill.

The child tax credit expansion was a stupendous success. It cut child poverty in America in half—in half—but it sadly expired after a year. During that year, parents had money to pay for good food for their kids, to pay for school supplies, to pay for clothing and the things that so many parents can't afford to do. It made the kids so much better. But, of course, it did expire because it was passed just during COVID.

This week, the Senate has a chance to do it again, to pass another expansion of the child tax credit to help get more kids out of poverty. This is just one of the many reasons—one of many reasons—the Senate should take up the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act.

Last night, I filed cloture on this important piece of legislation, and Senators should expect to vote on this measure Thursday.

Now, on the day Democrats assumed the majority in 2021, I promised my colleagues that I would always try my best to work first in a bipartisan way to get things done in this Chamber. I have always said bipartisanship is preferable because it is the best approach to achieving results. The Senate's record over the last 3 years bears this out. Democrats and Republicans have come together again and again to pass historic bills like infrastructure, Chips and Science, Ukraine and Israel aid, veterans' healthcare. And we have even passed bills on more difficult issues like gun safety and marriage equality. And, of course, together we avoided default and shutting down the government, which would have wreaked such havoc in our economy and hurt so many millions of families.

Now, just today, we are getting another bipartisan bill done through KOSA and COPPA. We want to continue the productive streak this week with a vote on the tax bill, though, because it will deliver so many benefits for families. This should be bipartisan. It passed in a bipartisan vote in the House, and I hope Republicans here in the Senate choose to join us.

But I have also always been clear that Democrats would not shy away from moving forward on important issues when necessary to give the American people a chance to see where their elected representatives stand. Putting Senators on record is one way progress is made on important issues. It can bring important issues to the forefront. It is what we did on choice, IVF, contraception last month.

This week is a classic example of how we can do both in the Senate: pass bipartisan legislation to get things done for the American people, like KOSA and COPPA, but also put pressure on Republicans to show where they stand on important issues like the child tax credit, affordable housing, and R&D. So, this week, the American people will also get a chance to see which Senators, in reality, support tax relief for parents and businesses and housing, and who opposes it.

Now, over the past few days, some Republican Senators, like the junior Senator from Ohio, have claimed laughably that Democrats somehow oppose the child tax credit. This is plain old nonsense. Democrats do not oppose the child tax credit whatsoever. On the contrary, we strongly support it. We authored it and put it together back in 2021, and the child tax credit is one of the most significant achievements

Democrats have done under the Biden-Harris administration.

If anyone wants to know who actually opposes the child tax credit, they should go ask the 49 Republican Senators who voted against the child tax credit when we passed the American Rescue Plan.

Here is the truth: Democrats want to pass the tax package because it will help lift more kids out of poverty with another expansion of the child tax credit. Democrats want to pass the tax package because it will reward businesses that will invest in R&D and new equipment, which will mean new jobs and greater opportunity. Democrats want to pass the tax package because it makes progress on a subject I am passionate about, affordable housing. And this package, thankfully, includes an expansion of the low-income housing tax credit, one of the best tools we have for increasing the supply of housing.

Democrats are ready to go. The American people need tax relief. The big question right now is, Will Republicans join us, or will they stand in the way?

So let me just say it again because I am very proud of this Senate and, particularly, of our caucus. This week is a classic example of how we can do both in the Senate: pass bipartisan legislation to get things done for the American people, like KOSA and COPPA, with large bipartisan majorities, but also put pressure on Republicans to show where they stand on important issues like the child tax credit, affordable housing, and R&D tax credit for business.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE SENATE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, the Senate is preparing to leave town for the August State work period, but there is no mistaking that our most important business here in Washington remains unfinished. Let's take a look at how the Senate has spent its summer so far.

In June, the Democratic leader called up a series of show votes, spending precious floor time on what Senate Democrats seemed to have thought would be political home runs. Instead, they gave Republicans the opportunity to reiterate our support for Americans hoping to start families.

In June, it was the month of fearmongering. July was the month of giving unqualified nominees lifetime promotions to the Federal bench.

Take Nancy Maldonado, unfortunately now a Federal judge on the Seventh Circuit. This is the judge infamous for letting her work pile up and blaming her clerks for lack of time management. It is particularly ironic that Senate Democrats chose to procrastinate on their most urgent responsibilities by confirming a nominee with a nearly unparalleled record of judicial procrastination.

Congress has real work in front of us, some of which really should be behind us by now—from the National Defense Authorization Act, to the farm bill, to annual appropriations.

Our colleagues on the Armed Services Committee reported the NDAA by an overwhelming bipartisan vote over a month ago, but so far, the Democratic leader hasn't come close to putting this must-pass authorizing legislation out here on the floor. Of course, urgent national security priorities won't fund themselves, either. The Senate hasn't cleared a Defense appropriations bill or any other government funding, for that matter. Well, at least the fiscal 2025 appropriations have been written. The farm bill that is supposed to help America's growers and producers succeed doesn't even exist yet. Apparently, it is just a twinkle in Chair STABENOW's eye.

The American people sent us here to do a job, and a show-vote summer can't hide the fact that Senate Democrats' majority isn't earning its keep.

VENEZUELA

Mr. President, on a different matter, as the Maduro regime continues its attempt to steal an election, the people of Venezuela are standing up forcefully against the predations of a hellish socialist dictatorship.

Across the country, working Venezuelans are protesting in the streets. They have torn down a statue of Maduro's socialist predecessor, Hugo Chavez. In at least one instance, security forces have removed their uniforms and refused to use force against the demonstrators.

The people of Venezuela are putting up an inspired resistance. Unfortunately, they are up against an authoritarian who will stop at nothing to retain his grip on power. After all, Maduro has learned from the worst—Moscow, Beijing, Tehran, Damascus, and Havana—and he has no shortage of useful idiots and fifth columns at his disposal.

Some of the same corners of social media that defended Bashar Assad, spun conspiracies about Ukraine, and demonized Israel are now laughably accusing the CIA—believe it or not—of masterminding Venezuela's unrest.

Meanwhile, supposedly mainstream media here in America are already hard at work whitewashing history. According to the New York Times, Venezuela's problem isn't the abject failure of socialism but the incursion of a supposed "brutal capitalism."

George Orwell would like a word.

Mr. President, the free world ought to have the courage to look evil in the face and call it what it actually is.

NATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. President, on another matter, I have said frequently that the single most important, immediate objective of the free world right now is Russian defeat in Ukraine—I mean that—but not just for its implications on transatlantic security or our own economy; not just because helping degrade a major adversary's military strength is in America's interests; not just because the defense of Ukraine has ignited significant new investments in hard power here at home and among our European allies; certainly not just because of what the outcome will say about how the free world values sovereignty—no. The world we live in doesn't reward thinking compartmentally. Security threats don't exist in vacuums. Our credibility is not divisible. Our adversaries are working more closely together to undermine the American-led order, and allowing one threat to fester makes every other one a taller order.

This week, the final report of the independent, bipartisan Commission on the National Defense Strategy underscored this reality.

[The] new alignment of nations opposed to U.S. interests creates a real risk, if not likelihood, that conflict anywhere could become a multi-theater or global war.

A multitheater war—the sort of conflict America is simply not prepared to fight.

Too many in Washington seem to think America can just opt out of facing such a challenge, but our enemies get a vote too. We owe it to our servicemembers and the American people to plan accordingly.

As the NDS Commission report lays out, we have a lot of work to do and not much time to do it.

The PRC's military is already leaving little room for doubt about Beijing's willingness to use hard power to coerce its neighbors and to test American power and Western resolve.

Last month, the PRC's naval forces launched a violent confrontation in disputed waters that Beijing clearly hopes to turn into a Chinese lake.

The Philippines—America's longtime treaty ally—has maintained a lawful presence in an area just 100 miles off their coast known as the Second Thomas Shoal for decades. Its sailors peacefully man a grounded ship on the shoal, and they count on regular shipments of supplies. But in recent months, these shipments have come under brazen attack. Chinese forces have rammed Philippine resupply vessels, harassed them with water cannons, injured Philippine sailors, destroyed their navigation equipment, towed them out to sea, and left them for dead.

Thankfully, the most acute aggression appears to have subsided for the moment, but a fundamental reality still remains: Just as Russia is using force to redraw European borders and reassert imperial ambitions, just as

Iran is using force to sow chaos and threaten international shipping, the People's Republic of China is engaged in a concerted effort to expand its control over maritime commerce well beyond its borders and build a pretext for wider war, and the first target of that conflict may well be America's longest standing treaty ally in the Indo-Pacific.

Our adversaries have struck up a "no-limits" partnership, and the challenges they present us are as complex as they are urgent. We don't get to make neat, tidy, either-or choices about which threats deserve our attention—not anymore.

The Senate was right to pass a national security supplemental to equip vulnerable partners with American weapons and invest in expanding our defense production capacity earlier this year. The Biden administration was right to start directing more rhetorical attention to the challenge facing our Philippine ally. But to the extent that the administration is serious about backing up its frequent assurances to the Philippines with actual support, it is high time to do more to help our allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific to reconfigure and strengthen their defenses against the PRC's maritime threat and to clear bureaucratic barriers so security assistance programs can move at the speed of relevance. More importantly, it is time for Congress and the administration to take our shared responsibility to provide for the common defense seriously.

So I will close today with another quote from the Cochairs of the bipartisan National Defense Strategy Commission. Here is what they said:

The Commission finds that the United States faces the most significant national security threats since the height of the Cold War, if not World War II. We are not prepared to meet those threats. The United States confronts the prospect of war against peer and near-peer adversaries simultaneously across multiple theaters—a war we could quite possibly lose.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, yesterday evening, in the tradition of another Democrat President and his infamous Court-packing scheme way back in 1937, President Biden announced a proposal to interfere with the Constitution's separation of powers and permanently politicize the Supreme Court. He dressed it up with appeals to permanent American values, but what it all boiled down to was this: Democrats don't like some of the Supreme Court's

recent decisions, and so they have decided to change the rules of the game. That is it.

I have disagreed with more than one Supreme Court decision in my time—I have disagreed with Supreme Court Justices nominated by Presidents of my own party—but I have never thought that my not agreeing with a Supreme Court decision meant that the Court itself was illegitimate or that my party should attempt to change the law to make over the Supreme Court in our image.

Well, not so for Democrats. The Supreme Court releases a handful of decisions the Democrats don't like, and they decide that the Court is illegitimate and that it is time to remake the Court to their liking. More than one Democrat has already introduced legislation in Congress to do just that.

And now, with the President's announcement yesterday, it has become clear that those plans have accelerated and that if Democrats take the White House and Congress in November, we can expect them to lose no time in destroying the Court as we know it.

While the President's proposals are troubling enough, with a measure to circumvent the Constitution's lifetime appointments for Justices and replace the Supreme Court's own code of conduct with a code of conduct mandated by Democrat Members of Congress, who knows—who knows if Democrats will stop there? After all, while their proposal would conveniently start by retiring Republican appointees, Democrats would only be able to retire one Justice every 2 years. What is to say that would be fast enough for Democrats?

We all know that Court-packing, which is expanding the Supreme Court until you get a sufficient number of Justices to endorse your policies, has gained significant traction in Democrat circles. Indeed, President Biden's term limits proposal is a version of Court-packing by another name, and it would not surprise me at all if Democrats didn't stop there, because—make no mistake—this is a slippery slope. Once you start interfering, there is no going back.

If the Democrats implement this plan, it is easy to see a future where each subsequent administration acts to "return balance" to the Supreme Court, with the result that the Supreme Court changes wildly from administration to administration, losing all independence and credibility and any resemblance to the Supreme Court as established by the Constitution.

I would like to remind my Democrat colleagues of what happened with the filibuster for judicial nominees here in the Senate. Back in 2013, Democrats, frustrated that they could not rubberstamp all of President Obama's appointees, abolished the filibuster for lower court nominees. It turned out to be a quick step from that to abolishing the filibuster for Supreme Court nominees a few years later, and I am pretty

sure that I have heard more than one of my Democrat colleagues express regret over that 2013 decision. But it seems that Democrats are resolved not to learn from history and are perfectly willing to sacrifice the long-term stability of the Supreme Court for their own short-term political gain.

Even worse than any specific element of President Biden's proposals yesterday is the incredibly dangerous precedent they would set for meddling in what is supposed to be a separate, independent branch of our government. If Democrats were really, really concerned about impartiality and the rule of law and promoting faith in the Supreme Court, the last thing they would be doing is interfering with the Court's makeup.

If there are any Democrats left in Congress who are willing to put the long-term health of our institutions over some temporary political gain, I urge them—I urge them—to join Republicans in opposing this power grab. I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). Without objection, it is so ordered.

KIDS ONLINE SAFETY ACT

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I come here today to talk briefly on the Kids Online Safety Act before the milestone, historic vote that we will take at about noon today.

For years—in fact, for decades—Congress has discussed and debated the need for reform and safeguards on the internet. We have held dozens of hearings, brought Mark Zuckerberg and every other Big Tech CEO to our committees, and there has been broad agreement: Something needs to be done. We need rules, safeguards. Despite countless polls showing public bipartisan demand for legislation, nothing has happened, nothing.

Senator BLACKBURN and I began working on our subcommittee when we held legislative investigations on kids' online safety. Throughout that process, we began to meet with parents who have lost their children because of social media's harms from bullying, fentanyl, sex exploitation, and other horrific harms.

As a parent of four children and Senator BLACKBURN also as a parent, we felt deeply the grief, but we admired the grit and the grace of those parents who came to us and demanded action.

I am haunted by one of the moms who said to us early on, I think speaking on behalf of so many of them and us:

When will you stop them from killing people? When will you stop them from killing our children?

Voting today, the U.S. Senate is finally taking action on Big Tech.

At its core, the Kids Online Safety Act is a simple, straightforward measure. It gives young people and parents the tools and safeguards to take back control over their online lives. It gives them that measure of power. It empowers them. It enables them to make choices about what they want to see and hear on the internet rather than the algorithms that drive content—often repetitive, addictive content—about bullying and eating disorders that contributes to the destruction of their lives.

There are three key principles in this legislation: accountability, safeguards, and transparency.

First, social media platforms will be bound by a duty of care, legally required to exercise reasonable care to prevent their products from causing self-harm, suicide, eating disorders, substance abuse, and other harmful impacts.

The duty of care is flexible because we wanted to keep up with the changes in technology and to be able to be fairly applied to companies with widely different sizes, business models, and products.

We recognize the obligations on Instagram or YouTube should be different from those for a startup and that social media platforms are different from video games.

Second, social media platforms will have to provide young people safeguards and set them to the strongest settings by default.

Finally, social media companies will no longer be able to hide harm. This legislation will require yearly independent audits and access to data. Researchers, Congress, and parents all will be able to hold those companies truly accountable.

Importantly, this bill stops Big Tech from avoiding their legal obligations to protect children. We do that through the knowledge standard in the bill.

The bill ensures that if Meta or Google know or should know that a user is a teen or a child, they need to provide them the safeguards under this legislation. Where the platforms have information indicating that they are kids, they need to act and protect them—no more sticking their heads in the sand, no more excuses, no more platitudes that disguise inaction and irresponsibility.

In short, we want kids to have more of the good that comes from the internet without the bad. There are a lot of positives. Kids experience it, but there is some really scary, toxic stuff that kids also experience. And they have told us again and again and again they want to make choices. They don't want the algorithms to do it for them. That is why we have empowered them to make those choices. We are not blocking or censoring content for them. We are simply creating an environment that is safe by design.

At its core, this bill is a product design bill. All my career, I have tried to protect consumers against defective

products that are designed to make more money and more profits at the risk or expense of injury to people. Whether it is cigarettes that are designed to kill the customer through nicotine addiction or car manufacturers that have been required to make their products safer by design through seatbelts and airbags or toys with small parts that endanger children who can choke on those parts unless there is sufficient warning to parents or caregivers, this society steps forward to make products safer, putting people, and particularly children, over products. That is what we are requiring social media to do.

We can no longer rely on the Big Tech companies to say to us: Trust us. They have betrayed that trust, and Congress has an obligation to act.

Over the past 3 years, we have worked exhaustively to improve this bill. We have sought feedback. We have made changes. We have revised and crafted new provisions. We have robustly debated the issues with anyone and everyone who had concerns.

I am immensely grateful to Senator BLACKBURN, who has been incomparably important as a partner, as a cowriter and drafter of this legislation, as an advocate because we share this common goal. Whatever our differences on other issues, this goal has been paramount for both of us over these past 3-plus years.

I want to also thank Senators SCHUMER and McCONNELL for scheduling this vote and Chair CANTWELL and Ranking Member CRUZ for their leadership and support for this bill in the Commerce Committee. The Kids Online Safety Act now has 72 cosponsors—nearly three-quarters of the membership of this Chamber. That is unheard of for an important, substantive piece of legislation that takes on the most powerful companies in the world.

Looking ahead, I am confident that we can build on this momentum—it is powerful momentum, but we need to build on it—and we can swiftly pass the Kids Online Safety Act in the House and enact it into law this fall as kids come back to school. Legislators will be returning from their home districts having heard from those parents and children, just as we have heard here, about the dangers and destruction coming from the internet. Senator BLACKBURN and I have spoken with the House leadership several times, and I believe we have strong support and a clear path forward.

Through this long process, our leaders—indeed, our loadstar—has been those parents and young people. They are in the Gallery today for the vote, and across the country, they are watching. Our Nation is watching because the parents of this Nation—not just the advocates and activists who came here to meet with Senators before now and, soon, Congresspeople, but all of the parents of this Nation who have a stake in the safety of our children—are demanding this change. They

are demanding the Kids Online Safety Act because they know firsthand the heartbreak and loss that social media can cause. We can't bring back the lives of their loved ones, but we can save others.

These parents are heroes: spending countless hours living through the pain, telling and retelling their stories, bringing tears to our eyes, as the majority leader, Senator SCHUMER, has said so eloquently. He has felt that pain through them, through their eyes and through their hearts, and I particularly want to thank Senator SCHUMER for keeping his word and giving this bill a vote, keeping not only his word but keeping faith with those parents. Congress owes them, and I am honored to fight alongside them.

Today the Senate will show that it understands we are in the midst of a mental health crisis in this country, particularly for our young people, that is aggravated and exacerbated by Big Tech. And the reason is, very simply, a business model that, in effect, relies on repetitive addictive features driving toxic content at kids.

They want back control over their online lives. Parents are asking for tools and safeguards that give them a measure of control. Clearly, the need is so deeply and widely felt in this country, and the Senate today shows that it values the lives of young people over the political influence and the profits of Big Tech.

The armies of lawyers and lobbyists that it has been able to muster, the false pretenses of “Sure, we want regulation but not that regulation,” will finally be defeated. It is a historic day. It is time to vote.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Tennessee.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, I thank my colleague, while he is still here on the floor, for his diligence and his work and his partnership as we have worked on the Kids Online Safety Act. Indeed, he has put many hours, as his team has also put many hours, into this.

As we get ready to move forward with passage, I think we have to remember that it was 1998 the last time this body took up and passed a bill that became law that protected children in the virtual space. And a lot has changed since then. We have seen the emergence of social media. We have seen 100 million Americans born during that period of time.

So thinking about these platforms and that emergence, when you think about Facebook and Instagram and Snapchat and TikTok and online video games, those interactive games that are pulling kids into those, you think about how social media has changed the lives and the exposure of children today. They have grown up in this.

And, as Senator BLUMENTHAL said, Mr. President, it is so important to note that there are laws that protect children from buying alcohol, buying

tobacco, buying pornography, being taken to a strip show. We, as a society, have decided kids can't drive until they are 16 years old and they can't vote until they are 18 years old. But when you look at the social media platforms, there are no guardrails, and children are constantly exposed—constantly exposed—to content that encourages self-harm.

That is why we have started to see, over the last decade, such a rise in cyber bullying. I had one mom tell me her child was bullied to death—cyber-bullied nonstop. I had a principal tell me—he said: You know, MARSHA, it is interesting. Previously, in previous decades, children could go home and get away from the schoolyard bully. Now, that takes place over that phone, and it never stops.

Indeed, many of the behavioral issues at school are related to what is happening online. And we have seen a rise in mental health disorders. We have seen an increase in eating disorders, online sexual abuse, human trafficking, drug overdoses in teens, and of course, suicides—online challenges where a child loses their life. And we have seen how, the way Big Tech approaches this, our kids are basically defenseless.

That is why the Kids Online Safety Act has moved forward, as Senator BLUMENTHAL said. We have worked on this. We have met with colleagues. We have met with wonderful parents. We have met with principals and pediatricians and so many people that are involved in children's lives. That is why this legislation is focused on safety by design. And that is a change. That will be a change for social media. It will have that duty of care. There will be that toolbox for kids and parents to make it a safer environment. Those algorithms are going to have to be opened up. There is going to have to be a portal so bad actors in the virtual space can be reported, and the social media platforms will have to do something about it.

When we started focusing on these issues and doing our hearings, what became so evident to us, social media platforms knew. They knew that what they were doing and what they were allowing was causing harm. They knew it because the whistleblowers from those companies told us they knew it. But, you know what, they were putting profits before children. So they did it anyway. They did it knowing they were harming our children.

But children are not a product when they are online. That is the way social media has treated them. Indeed, Meta assigned a value to each child. That child is worth \$270 a year to that company. That is the callous nature with which they have approached this.

So we are ready to move forward with this today, and we do thank the parents who have shared their stories with us and have done more. They have advocated. They have worked. They have pulled neighbors and friends and those who work with children into a coalition. It has been pretty powerful.

So we are ready to move forward with this, and we do thank Senator BLUMENTHAL and his team. We thank the other Members of the Senate, the 70 cosponsors that are on this legislation with us. We thank Leader SCHUMER and Leader MCCONNELL for their work. Commerce Committee Chairman CANTWELL and Ranking Member CRUZ all have been supportive of moving this legislation. And it is, indeed, a testament to building consensus around bipartisan solutions that are going to last.

We also thank all of the groups and organizations that have worked with us to make certain that this legislation gets across the finish line. And as we pass it today and send it over to the House, we know that we have Chairwoman MCMORRIS RODGERS and Congresswoman KATHY CASTOR and Congressman BILIRAKIS. CASTOR and BILIRAKIS are the House leads on this legislation. There is broad bipartisan support in the House, and we know that the House leadership is supporting it. And we are ready to move this across the finish line and to the President's desk so that as kids head to school this year, they know they have new tools in the toolbox to protect themselves as they are in the virtual space.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Kids Online Safety and Privacy Act, a bill that includes an amended version of the Kids Online Safety Act and the Children and Teens Online Privacy Protection Act. I commend the bill's sponsors, Commerce Chair CANTWELL, Leader SCHUMER, and members like Senator WYDEN and the many outside advocates for children, civil rights, and privacy who have helped improve the bill to the version we are voting on today. I also appreciate the parents and students who have shared their experiences with me, particularly those who have turned great pain into advocacy to protect children.

While the internet is an invaluable tool for connecting people, disseminating information, and fostering an exchange of ideas, it can also be exploited to spread misinformation, harvest personal data, and prey on society's most vulnerable. The complex landscape can be especially difficult to navigate for young people, who deserve the freedom to access information and express themselves online but can also be subject to bullying, targeting, and privacy violations.

I had concerns about the Kids Online Safety Act as originally introduced, particularly provisions that could have permitted political censorship of content and falsely categorized basic information as dangerous or harmful. The bill before us today focuses instead on design elements to protect children online, including restricting features that encourage compulsive use, ensuring more transparency about how platforms use personalized recommendation systems and allow users to opt out of those systems, and providing op-

tional tools that can help parents manage their child's online experience while protecting young people's access to information. I became a cosponsor of the Kids Online Safety Act after these changes were included, strengthening the legislation while, in turn, preventing unintended consequences.

Congress will also have an obligation to ensure that the Federal Trade Commission implements this bill as intended, with clear guidance to platforms on how to comply with the law without restricting First Amendment-protected content or limiting privacy protections. I believe this legislation is a balanced approach to the serious challenge of protecting young people online, but will carefully monitor its implementation and effects to ensure it remains targeted to prevent harm.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that this article on the history of privacy protections for children and teens from Common Sense Media be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Common Sense Media, July 29, 2024]
WHEN IT COMES TO PROTECTING KIDS' PRIVACY, CALL US THE ENERGIZER BUNNY—WE JUST WON'T QUIT WHEN IT COMES TO PROTECTING KIDS' ONLINE PRIVACY, BUT WE'RE ALMOST AT THE FINISH LINE

(By Ariel Fox Johnson)

For 14 years, Common Sense Media has been trying to get Congress to update the one federal law that protects children's privacy online: the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). We have fought to extend COPPA's protections to teenagers, since it only covers kids under age 13 today, and to ban targeted advertising that pushes unwanted products on kids. Congress has been a tough place to pass anything when it comes to kids and tech.

Our privacy advocacy began during the rise of the smartphone and mobile technology. And it has continued into a new age of biometrics, virtual reality, and the rise of AI. Children are living in a world of constantly increasing surveillance and data collection, and the stakes could not be higher.

We have been working alongside champions like Senator Ed Markey (D-MA), who passed COPPA into law in 1998 and introduced his first effort to update it, called the Do Not Track Kids Act, in 2011. He reintroduced it, or a version of it, every two years, and we supported him every time. It was lonely work. You can see our 2012 call to action, our 2013 blog post, and our 2019 call to action. We filed comments with the executive branch (2014 NTIA comments) asking for privacy for teens and more protections against targeted advertising. And we've filed many comments since then. We testified before Congress twice (2021 testimony one and two), always asking for updates to this foundational law. In the interim, while Congress did nothing, we turned to the states—playing the lead role in taking ideas from COPPA updates and getting them turned into laws such as California's Eraser Button (2013), the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) of 2018, the Maryland Online Data Privacy Act (2024), and the New York Child Data Protection Act (2024).

Ever since we started to advocate for children's privacy, concerns about this issue

have grown across almost every corner of the country. Sen. Markey has co-authored his COPPA update bills with Republicans every time, including Sen. Cassidy (R-LA) this year. And he has worked in both the House and the Senate on the same issues. In 2022, the bill passed a key committee, the Senate Commerce Committee, but then nothing else happened.

Until now.

In 2010, we called COPPA “woefully out of date.” On July 30, 2024, the U.S. Senate finally approved COPPA 2.0 as part of a larger bill that also addresses one of our other top priorities, social media health and safety for kids and teens. Congress is now the closest it has been in 25 years to finally updating privacy laws for kids. The next step is to get the U.S. House of Representatives to agree with what the Senate did this summer. We haven't rested over the past 14 years—and we won't until this job is done.

This story is a lesson in how hard it can be to get Congress to do the right thing. It's also a testament to our commitment to sticking with our mission to ensure a healthier digital world for all kids. The wait has been long and hard, and Congress's refusal to act has been inexcusable. But we are confident that the wait and the work will be worth it.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, today is a historic day. Today the U.S. Senate will vote on the Kids Online Safety and Privacy Act, which includes my legislation with Senator BILL CASSIDY from Louisiana, the Children and Teens' Online Privacy Protection Act, COPPA 2.0.

With this vote, the U.S. Senate will finally send a message to Big Tech that the days of indiscriminately tracking and targeting children and teens are over in our country; that their privacy-invasive business model must change; that young people and their parents are more important than shareholders' bank accounts.

This vote is long overdue. On June 20, 1996—June 20, 1996—more than 28 years ago, at the dawn of the information age, when only birds tweeted and “the gram” was simply a measurement, I stood before the House of Representatives and warned about the internet's unique threat to user privacy.

I stated then, in 1996, that the internet would allow corporate America to have the “opportunity to track the clickstream of a citizen of the Net, to sneak corporate hands into a personal information cookie jar and use [that] database to compile sophisticated, highly personal consumer profiles of people's hobbies, buying habits, financial information, health information, who they contact or converse with, when and for how long.” The internet would allow “digital desperadoes to roam the [internet] frontier unchecked.”

Two years later, Congress enacted my Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, or COPPA—that was 1998—and it was for kids under the age of 13. That is all I could get in 1998—protections for kids under 13, in our country—knowing that there was going to be an effort by corporate America to exploit those children.

Now, how did I know that? I knew it because I had been chairman over telecommunications in the 1980s, when the

television industry was targeting kids with advertising on Saturday morning cartoons, Saturday morning programs.

They were pretty much turning all the programs into one big ad targeted at vulnerable kids. And so I had to author the Children's Television Act of 1990 in order to put protections for television on the books. But then, as the internet evolved, the marketers, the targeters all moved over from television over to the internet. And with it, Congress has to follow them in order to pass the laws to protect children, to protect teenagers from being exploited by the very same marketers, the very same companies that sought to exploit them on television.

And as I explained back then, the original COPPA, or the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, can be summarized in three words: "disclosure," "knowledge," and "no"—disclosure of privacy policies, knowledge of information collected on our children, and no to the sale of the information. That information should only be used for the purposes for which the young person and their family had intended it.

So COPPA put real safeguards on the internet, at least for kids under the age of 13. But over the last 26 years, the Federal Trade Commission has brought dozens of cases against both household names, like Google, TikTok, and even Mrs. Fields Cookies, and lesser known entities. And during that period, the Federal Trade Commission has collected over half a billion dollars in fines for violations of COPPA, of the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act.

The original COPPA law has done a lot of good. But as the years have passed and technology has evolved, our online world, once again, started to look like the Wild West with the desperadoes in charge, exploiting teenagers, exploiting children, using algorithms—powerful algorithms—to target those kids.

So, in 2011, I introduced my children and teens' privacy bill to update COPPA. And in every Congress since, I have continued to introduce that legislation, slowly developing coalitions, answering questions, building support to modernize and update COPPA to protect children and teens' privacy online.

And it can no longer be under the age of 13. Now we have to move it up to age 16 because we can see very clearly the targeting that goes on by these companies, the exploitation of the young people in our country, and the vulnerability of that group of Americans under the age of 17 who, according to the Surgeon General, according to the CDC, are in a mental health crisis in our country. And social media has been implicated by the Surgeon General, by the CDC, as one of the principal causes of this mental health crisis in our country.

And while knowledge and disclosure and no may have been effective during

the early internet era, today, that formula needs to be modified. The no must now be no, no, no; and that is the foundation of COPPA 2.0—no targeted advertising toward children and teenagers in our country, no excessive data collection of information of teens and children, no deliberately ignoring young users.

For over a decade, I have been fighting for these essential privacy protections. In fact, if COPPA 2.0 were a person, it would have just turned 13 and would have aged out of COPPA's critical privacy protections, and that is unacceptable.

I introduced it in 2011, but the power of those tech industries has blocked that progress that we needed. Yes, you want all the good things from the internet, but there is a Dickensian quality to the internet. It is the best of technologies and the worst of technologies simultaneously. It can enable; it can ennoble. But it can also degrade; it can debase.

And we must put these protections in because we know that these companies have been exploiting their ability to reach children and teenagers all across our country and, largely, unencumbered by any restrictions whatsoever.

I know that privacy can sometimes seem as an elusive concept because strong privacy rules sound great in theory, but what does that mean in practice? Well, with COPPA 2.0, here is what privacy is going to mean: It is going to mean privacy will put an end to the manipulative, personalized ads that trick young people into purchasing unwanted goods and services.

Privacy means stopping a search engine or social media site from collecting a teenager's eye color or location or other information which has nothing to do with why that young person had gone online in the first place. It is none of that company's business.

And it also means giving teens or parents an eraser button to delete a social media post—to tell the company: "Delete all that information you have gathered about me, a teenager"; or, as a parent, "that you have collected about my child. Erase it all."

And that right will be in the hands of the young person. It will be in the hands of the parent to just say: No, stop it. Stop collecting that information and delete whatever you have. Erase it.

So there will be an eraser button so a youthful mistake doesn't last forever.

So that is going to be a big home run, too, when we pass this legislation, to move the power over to the parents and to the young people. And, most importantly, privacy means a fighting chance for parents and young people who are struggling against trillion-dollar platforms looking for every way to keep kids and teens on their app.

Today, with passage of COPPA 2.0, the Senate takes a momentous step to stand up to the Big Tech lobbying machine; to stop the privacy-invasive

business model that exploits young people for profit; to give our high-tech regulator, the Federal Trade Commission, the tools to tame our modern, digital desperadoes who are out there trying to exploit young people in our country.

With AI supercharging Big Tech's algorithms and encouraging platforms to collect more data on young people, it has never been more important to protect our young people's privacy. With this vote, the Senate is finally meeting that moment.

When I was a boy and I was home with my mother and with my two brothers—and I would be 10 years old, 9 years old—a salesman would ring the doorbell, and my mother would tell me: Just go to where the letter opener is in the door and tell the salesman that your mother is not home.

And I would. And then I would go to my mother and say: But you are home.

And she would say: I am not home to him. He is not getting in our living room. It is 11 in the morning. We are not having a stranger in our living room with you and three small children. It is just not happening.

Well, that same sense of privacy is still present in American families, in America's mothers and fathers. They don't want strangers in their living rooms, in their kitchens, in their bedrooms, with their children.

And what has happened is that, in the internet age, those same salesmen have been able to get around that front door. They have been able to get into the lives of the children, of the teenagers in our country, in ways that the parents have had great difficulty in controlling.

And so what we are going to say here today on the floor of the Senate is no. We are going to change this balance of power. We are going to hand it over to the parents, hand it over to the children and the teenagers, so that we can just say to those salesmen, those digital salesmen, those digital desperadoes trying to take advantage of young people in our country: No, you cannot get in. You cannot compromise the well-being of the young people in this family.

So that is what this vote is all about. It is historic. It is long overdue. It was pretty clear what the business model of these companies was going to be long ago at the dawn of the era.

I was the Democratic author of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that moved America from analog to digital, from narrowband to broadband. Not one company in America had broadband in February of 1996, but it was all predictable.

The pediatricians in our country said: We must put protections in for this new digital world in 1996.

So it was highly predictable.

Those who cared about the well-being of children, of teenagers were saying it all back then. Nothing is new.

So today is a historic day, and we thank all of our partners for working

with us and all of the outside groups who have dedicated their time, their effort, their resources to getting this bill to the Senate floor.

I am deeply grateful to Senator SCHUMER for his partnership and leadership on this issue, to Chairwoman CANTWELL, to Ranking Member TED CRUZ, and to my partner Senator CASSIDY from Louisiana. In 1998, COPPA 1.0 was a partnership between myself and Billy Tauzin from Louisiana, and, today, with Senator CASSIDY, we are going to take COPPA 2.0, partner it with the legislation of Senator BLUMENTHAL and the Senator from Tennessee, and we are going to make history. And then we are going to get it over the finish line and onto the President's desk before the end of this year.

So I thank all the Members for their cooperation on this, and, again, I want to thank Senator SCHUMER for his great effort in expediting the movement of this legislation to the floor and for, I believe, its inexorable, inevitable passage.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, well, today is a momentous day. The Senate keeps its promise to every parent who has lost a child because of the risks of social media.

Today, after a lot of hard work, twists and turns, the Senate is passing two vital pieces of legislation with a strong bipartisan vote: the Kids Online Safety Act, or KOSA, and the Children and Teens' Online Prevention Act, or COPPA.

By passing KOSA and COPPA, we are one step closer to the most important update in decades to Federal laws protecting kids on the internet.

Once we act, the House should pass these bills as soon as they can.

This is such an important piece of legislation, and I say to my colleagues who have worked hard—Senators BLUMENTHAL and BLACKBURN, MARKEY and CASSIDY, DURBIN, KLOBUCHAR, Chair CANTWELL, and others—thank you.

But thank you, above all, to the parents who advocated so tirelessly for these bills. I have sat with them. I have heard the terrible stories—children, teenagers, perfectly normal. Some algorithm captures them online by accident, and they end up committing suicide shortly thereafter. I have heard those stories. Can you imagine being a parent and living with that?

So we have to do something. And these parents have turned their grief into grace. These parents are the reason that we succeeded today. Today the Senate tells the parents: We hear you. We are taking action.

I am so glad that we have a broad bipartisan vote here. It shows the Chamber can work on something important; that no one let partisanship get in the way of passing this important legislation.

But this is a historic moment. This is a moment when the Senate has said:

There have been horrible abuses. We must end them, and we will.

I yield the floor.

I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

ELIMINATE USELESS REPORTS ACT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to legislative session and resume consideration of the House message to accompany S. 2073, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

House message to accompany S. 2073, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Schumer motion to concur in the amendment of the House to the bill, with Schumer amendment No. 3021 (to the House amendment to the bill), in the nature of a substitute.

Schumer amendment No. 3022 (to amendment No. 3021), to add an effective date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, amendment No. 3022 is withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 3022) was withdrawn.

VOTE ON MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion to concur in the House amendment to S. 2073 with amendment No. 3021.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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 legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The result was announced—yeas 91, nays 3, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 221 Leg.]

YEAS—91

Baldwin	Butler	Cotton
Barrasso	Cantwell	Cramer
Bennet	Capito	Crapo
Blackburn	Cardin	Cruz
Blumenthal	Carper	Daines
Booker	Casey	Duckworth
Boozman	Cassidy	Durbin
Braun	Collins	Ernst
Britt	Coons	Fischer
Brown	Cornyn	Gillibrand
Budd	Cortez Masto	Graham

Grassley	Marshall	Schumer
Hagerty	McConnell	Scott (FL)
Hassan	Merkley	Shaheen
Hawley	Moran	Sinema
Heinrich	Mullin	Smith
Hickenlooper	Murkowski	Stabenow
Hirono	Murphy	Sullivan
Hoeven	Murray	Tester
Hyde-Smith	Ossoff	Thune
Johnson	Padilla	Tillis
Kaine	Peters	Tuberville
Kelly	Reed	Van Hollen
Kennedy	Ricketts	Warnock
King	Risch	Warren
Klobuchar	Rosen	Welch
Lankford	Rounds	Whitehouse
Lujan	Rubio	Wicker
Lummis	Sanders	Young
Manchin	Schatz	
Markey	Schmitt	

NAYS—3

Lee Paul Wyden

NOT VOTING—6

Fetterman Romney Vance
Menendez Scott (SC) Warner

The motion was agreed to.
(Mr. HICKENLOOPER assumed the Chair.)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. LUJÁN). Under the previous order, the Senate will resume executive session.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 1:01 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. LUJÁN).

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

NOMINATION OF STACEY D. NEUMANN

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the nomination of Stacey Neumann to serve as a U.S. district court judge for the District of Maine.

I had the opportunity to meet with Ms. Neumann before her Senate Judiciary Committee hearing in May.

The committee has reported her nomination favorably with bipartisan support, and the Senate will be voting on her confirmation shortly.

I have decided to support this nominee based on her extensive legal experience—including as a Federal prosecutor—her in-depth interview with me, and her hearing testimony and background check. I have concluded that she possesses the integrity, intellect, and impartiality to serve in this critical position.

Ms. Neumann has served as a litigator at the law firm Murray Plumb & Murray in Portland, ME. She has been there since 2013 and handles criminal defense and civil litigation matters in State and Federal courts and agencies. Prior to this role, Ms. Neumann served in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maine as an assistant U.S. attorney, where she represented the Federal Government in a variety of criminal proceedings.

Notably, a group of former Federal prosecutors from the District of Maine signed a letter stating that, in their view, Ms. Neumann has “distinguished herself by virtue of a keen legal mind, tireless work ethic, and balanced and measured professional demeanor.”

Earlier in her career, Ms. Neumann served as the law clerk to a justice of the Vermont Supreme Court as well as for a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. She graduated magna cum laude from both James Madison University and Cornell Law School.

The American Bar Association has given Ms. Neumann its highest rating of unanimously “well qualified.”

If confirmed by the Senate, she would be assigned to the U.S. district court seat in Bangor.

Based on her experience and character, I believe that Stacey Neumann will faithfully uphold our Nation’s laws and that she will serve the State of Maine and our Nation well. I urge the Senate to confirm this nominee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I can’t really improve upon the comments made by my senior colleague. I think she summarized Stacey Neumann’s qualifications brilliantly and really made the case for her confirmation.

I just wanted to add a couple of notes. One is that not only does she have extraordinary qualifications in terms of having been a public defender and a Federal prosecutor and a civil litigator, she has had experience in all areas of the law, particularly areas of the law involving courtroom practice, motions, negotiations, the whole process that a judge has to preside over in our court system.

In addition, though—I think Senator COLLINS really beautifully summarized her qualifications, but in addition, I found in my discussions with her and my discussions with others who know her well that she has the important temperament to hold this position and to give confidence to those who appear before her in the court.

Our courts rest upon the trust and confidence of the public. People have to believe that the judges and the people that are involved in our judicial system are nonpartisan, are neutral factfinders, and are going to do their best to apply the law fairly and evenly, no matter who the parties are before them. I believe that Stacey Neumann has that quality of fairness and has the quality of the temperament that is so important to a successful judicial career.

One final note. As a former practicing lawyer in Maine, I appreciate judges who have a bit of humility. Even though they have on the black robe, they identify with the litigants before them and the counsel and don’t try to run roughshod over those people that are before them in the court. I think Stacey Neumann has that quality of judicial temperament that is

evenhanded, that is empathetic, and I think she will make an extraordinary district court judge in our wonderful city of Bangor, ME.

So I join my senior colleague in urging my colleagues to support this nomination. I think she will be a real asset to the judiciary in the country but particularly to the people of Maine.

I yield the floor.

I would like to ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately at this moment in time. Thank you.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 708, Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Peter Welch, John W. Hickenlooper, Margaret Wood Hassan, Jack Reed, Laphonza R. Butler, Richard Blumenthal, Benjamin L. Cardin, Tammy Baldwin, Christopher Murphy, Chris Van Hollen, Catherine Cortez Masto, Tammy Duckworth, Christopher A. Coons, Brian Schatz, Sheldon Whitehouse.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call has been waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the nomination of Stacey D. Neumann, of Maine, to be United States District Judge for the District of Maine, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 50, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 222 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Butler	Collins
Bennet	Cantwell	Coons
Blumenthal	Cardin	Cortez Masto
Booker	Carper	Duckworth
Brown	Casey	Durbin

Gillibrand	Markey	Sinema
Graham	Merkley	Smith
Hassan	Murkowski	Stabenow
Heinrich	Murphy	Tester
Hickenlooper	Murray	Tillis
Hirono	Padilla	Van Hollen
Kaine	Peters	Warren
Kelly	Reed	Welch
King	Rosen	Whitehouse
Klobuchar	Schatz	Wicker
Lujan	Schumer	Wyden
Manchin	Shaheen	

NAYS—41

Barrasso	Ernst	Moran
Blackburn	Fischer	Mullin
Boozman	Grassley	Paul
Braun	Hagerty	Ricketts
Britt	Hawley	Risch
Budd	Hoeben	Rounds
Capito	Hyde-Smith	Rubio
Cassidy	Johnson	Schmitt
Cornyn	Kennedy	Scott (FL)
Cotton	Lankford	Sullivan
Cramer	Lee	Thune
Crapo	Lummis	Tuberville
Cruz	Marshall	Young
Daines	McConnell	

NOT VOTING—9

Fetterman	Romney	Vance
Menendez	Sanders	Warner
Ossoff	Scott (SC)	Warnock

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). On this vote, the yeas are 50, the nays are 41.

The motion is agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to support passage of two bipartisan bills aimed at continuing the significant progress we are making in treating and, one day, preventing and curing Alzheimer’s disease.

These bills—S. 133, the National Alzheimer Project Act, or NAPA, as it is referred to, Reauthorization Act, and S. 134, the Alzheimer Accountability and Investment Act would help coordinate the tools of the Federal Government toward reaching these important goals.

And I would note, on the floor is the cochair of the Alzheimer’s task force in the Senate, Senator MARKEY, along with the other two cosponsors we are fortunate to have, Senators WARNER and CAPITO.

When I first joined the Senate in 1997, there really wasn’t much of a focus on Alzheimer’s in Washington. It was often called senility and was thought of not as a disease but just as part of growing old.

To increase public awareness of Alzheimer’s disease, to advance research, and to bring the disease to the forefront of the Congressional agenda, I founded the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer’s in 1999 here in the Senate.

A true milestone in focusing our efforts was the passage of the Bipartisan National Alzheimer’s Project Act that I coauthored with then-Senator Evan Bayh in 2011.

Before we passed that legislation, which became known as NAPA, there was no coordinated strategic plan to focus our efforts to defeat this devastating disease and ensure that our resources were maximized and leveraged.

NAPA tackled this problem by convening a panel of experts to create a coordinated strategic plan to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's disease by the year 2025, an ambitious goal, to be sure.

The expert council updates its plan annually. While the 2025 goal regrettably will not be met, it was still important to set an ambitious objective in order to spur research and to instill hope.

And, indeed, since then, researchers have made great strides in understanding this complex disease. To put our progress in context, 20 years ago we knew of only four genes that were associated with Alzheimer's disease. Now, researchers have identified more than 70 associated genetic areas, opening multiple new avenues for potential prevention and treatment.

There is another point that helps put this into perspective. In the early 2000s, the only sure way to know whether a person had Alzheimer's was through an autopsy.

Since then, the National Institutes of Health Research has led to the development of imaging techniques, biomarker tests, and data-driven approaches to enable more precise and earlier diagnoses.

And, most recently, decades of NIH research have paved the way for disease-modifying therapies targeting amyloid plaques' role in certain dementias.

After directing this decade of progress, the National Alzheimer's Project Act law is scheduled to expire soon. We must reauthorize the law to ensure that research investments remain coordinated to maximize their impact.

Toward that end, I introduced the NAPA Reauthorization Act with Senator WARNER, which would extend NAPA through 2035 and modernize the legislation to reflect the strides that have been made to better understand the disease, such as including a new focus on promoting healthy aging, reducing risk factors, and supporting family caregivers.

The NAPA Reauthorization Act will allow the important work of the expert panel to continue through 2035. Among its provisions, the bill would reauthorize and expand the Advisory Council that assists annually in the development and evaluation of the National Plan. It will also ensure that underserved populations, including individuals with Down syndrome who are at greatly increased risk for Alzheimer's as they age, are included in this important work.

I have also introduced the Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act with my colleague from Massachusetts who has been such a leader in this area. It would continue through the year 2035 a requirement that the NIH submit an annual budget directly to Congress, estimating the funding necessary to fully implement NAPA's research goals.

Only two other areas of biomedical research—cancer and HIV/AIDS—have been the subject of special budget development aimed at speeding discovery. This “bypass budget” helps us understand what additional funding is required to find better treatments, a means of prevention, and ultimately a cure.

As cochair along with Senators WARNER, CAPITO, and MARKEY of the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's, I am committed to this effort both on a personal level as well as professionally as a Senator concerned about the impact on our families and our healthcare budgets.

On a personal level, I know just how devastating this disease is. I just recently lost my brother-in-law to the disease. My father, grandfather, and two of my uncles also succumbed to Alzheimer's. It is truly a heartbreaking disease. It is heartbreaking when you talk to a loved one and receive only a confused look in reply.

Alzheimer's disease is also one of the greatest health challenges of our time. It is currently ranked as the seventh leading cause of death in the United States, and nearly 7 million Americans are living with the disease. It is also one of the most expensive diseases for society, costing an estimated \$360 billion last year alone.

Reauthorization of NAPA and the Alzheimer's Accountability and Investment Act would ensure our country is maintaining momentum in our fight against Alzheimer's, just as our investments in research are beginning to translate into promising new treatments.

Both laws have no mandatory spending effects, according to the Congressional Budget Office. Both bills are co-sponsored by nearly half the Members of this Senate. Both bills have wide-ranging support from national stakeholders, including the Alzheimer's Association, Us Against Alzheimer's, the National Down Syndrome Society, and the National Down Syndrome Congress. And both bills were reported out of the Senate HELP Committee with broad bipartisan support last summer.

In order to change the trajectory of this disease that otherwise is projected to claim the minds of 13.8 million seniors and nearly surpass \$1 trillion in annual costs by 2050, Congress has a responsibility to pursue effective public policy.

Ultimately, I think we are going to discover that this is a multifactorial disease, and that is why all of the research that is going on is so critical to finding effective treatments, a means of prevention, and, one day, a cure. And that is the purpose of these two bills.

NAPA REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, so as if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the

immediate consideration of Calendar No. 182, S. 133.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 133) to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “NAPA Reauthorization Act”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PROJECT.

Section 2 of the National Alzheimer's Project Act (42 U.S.C. 11225) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and coordination of” and inserting “on, and coordination of,”;

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively; and

(ii) by inserting before subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following:

“(A) promotion of healthy aging and reduction and mitigation of risk factors for Alzheimer's;”;

(C) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by inserting “and other underserved populations, including individuals with developmental disabilities such as Down syndrome,” after “ethnic and racial populations”; and

(ii) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(D) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(E) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

“(6) provide information on, and promote the adoption of, healthy behaviors that may reduce the risk of cognitive decline and promote and protect cognitive health; and”;

(2) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) by inserting “, across public and private sectors,” after “Nation's progress”; and

(B) by inserting “, including consideration of public-private collaborations, as appropriate” before the period;

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by adding at the end the following:

“(xi) A designee of the Department of Justice.

“(xii) A designee of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

“(xiii) A designee of the Social Security Administration.

“(xiv) 2 or more other designees, as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, at least one of whom has expertise in risk factors associated with the development or the progression of Alzheimer's.”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “12” and inserting “15”;

(II) in clause (v)—

(aa) by striking “2 researchers” and inserting “3 researchers”; and

(bb) by striking “; and” and inserting “, including at least one researcher with demonstrated experience in recruitment and retention of diverse cohorts of trial participants.”;

(III) in clause (vi), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(IV) by adding at the end the following:

“(vii) 1 individual with a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease; and

“(viii) 1 representative from a historically underserved population whose lifetime risk for developing Alzheimer's is markedly higher than that of other populations.”;

(b) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “an initial evaluation” and inserting “annual evaluations”; and

(II) by striking “research, clinical” and inserting “research, risk reduction, public health, clinical”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “initial”;

(iii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “initial”; and

(II) in clause (ii), by inserting “and reduce disparities” before the semicolon; and

(iv) in subparagraph (D), by striking “annually thereafter, an evaluation” and inserting “annual evaluations”; and

(C) in paragraph (6), by striking “2025” and inserting “2035”;

(4) in subsection (g)(3)(A)(ii), by inserting “and reduce disparities” before the semicolon; and

(5) in subsection (h), by striking “2025” and inserting “2035”.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be withdrawn, that the Collins substitute amendment, which is at the desk, be considered and agreed to; and that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The committee-reported amendment, in the nature of a substitute, was withdrawn.

The amendment (No. 3201), in the nature of a substitute, was agreed to as follows:

(Purpose: In the nature of a substitute)

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “NAPA Reauthorization Act”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PROJECT.

Section 2 of the National Alzheimer’s Project Act (42 U.S.C. 11225) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and coordination of” and inserting “on, and coordination of,”;

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively; and

(ii) by inserting before subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following:

“(A) promotion of healthy aging and reduction and mitigation of risk factors for Alzheimer’s”;

(C) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by inserting “and other underserved populations, including individuals with developmental disabilities such as Down syndrome,” after “populations”; and

(ii) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(D) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(E) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

“(6) provide information on, and promote the adoption of, healthy behaviors that may reduce the risk of cognitive decline and promote and protect cognitive health; and”;

(2) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) by inserting “, across public and private sectors,” after “Nation’s progress”; and

(B) by inserting “, including consideration of public-private collaborations, as appropriate” before the period;

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by adding at the end the following:

“(xi) A designee of the Department of Justice.

“(xii) A designee of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

“(xiii) A designee of the Social Security Administration.

“(xiv) 2 or more other designees, as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, at least one of whom has expertise in risk factors associated with the development or the progression of Alzheimer’s.”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “12” and inserting “15”;

(II) in clause (v)—

(aa) by striking “2 researchers” and inserting “3 researchers”; and

(bb) by striking “; and” and inserting “, including at least one researcher with demonstrated experience in recruitment and retention of underrepresented groups into research or clinical trials related to dementia;”;

(III) in clause (vi), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(IV) by adding at the end the following:

“(vii) 1 individual with a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease; and

“(viii) 1 representative from a historically underserved population whose lifetime risk for developing Alzheimer’s is markedly higher than that of other populations.”;

(B) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “an initial evaluation” and inserting “annual evaluations”; and

(II) by striking “research, clinical” and inserting “research, risk reduction, public health, clinical”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “initial”;

(iii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “initial”; and

(II) in clause (ii), by inserting “and reduce disparities” before the semicolon; and

(iv) in subparagraph (D), by striking “annually thereafter, an evaluation” and inserting “annual evaluations”; and

(C) in paragraph (6), by striking “2025” and inserting “2035”;

(4) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by adding “and” after the semicolon;

(ii) by striking “that includes an evaluation” and inserting “that includes—

“(A) an evaluation;”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) a summary of the Secretary’s process for identifying and updating what conditions constitute Alzheimer’s disease;”;

(B) in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), by inserting “and reduce disparities” before the semicolon; and

(5) in subsection (h), by striking “2025” and inserting “2035”.

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the bill, prior to our proceeding with it, as amended.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the bill?

Hearing none, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 133), as amended, was passed.

ALZHEIMER’S ACCOUNTABILITY AND INVESTMENT ACT

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, as if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 183, S. 134.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 134) to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer’s Project Act.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. COLLINS. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 134) was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed as follows:

S. 134

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 “Alzheimer’s Accountability and Investment Act”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PROJECT.

Section 2 of the National Alzheimer’s Project Act (42 U.S.C. 11225) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (i); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (g) the following:

“(h) PROFESSIONAL JUDGMENT BUDGET.—For fiscal year 2024 and each subsequent fiscal year, the Director of the National Institutes of Health shall prepare and submit, directly to the President for review and transmittal to Congress, after reasonable opportunity for comment, but without change, by the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Advisory Council, an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to the reports and recommendations made under this Act, including an estimate of the number and type of personnel needs for the National Institutes of Health.”.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am very pleased to yield at this time to the Senator from Massachusetts.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, thanks to Senator COLLINS for her longtime leadership on this issue.

There is no more important issue in our country than the scourge of Alzheimer’s. My mother, like Senator COLLINS’s father, succumbed to Alzheimer’s. But today, there are very few families in our whole country that do not have a similar story, some relative who has had Alzheimer’s.

My mother was diagnosed, and she was a brilliant woman. She was president of her senior class in high school.

But her mother died—my grandmother—when my mother was 17. She had to be the mother and raise her three younger sisters so she never got to go to college. She ultimately finished raising the first family. Then, at 37, she married my father who was a milkman and then had me at 39 and my two brothers at age 40 and then she raised us.

Now, my mother was a completely brilliant woman. She could do calculus for fun at the table, even though she never had calculus in school. And my father used to say, after my mother contracted Alzheimer's, your mother was a brilliant woman. It was an honor that your mother married me. Your mother is never stepping foot in a nursing home. No one is touching your mother at 2 a.m. in the morning. It was an honor that she married me.

And so at age 80, 82, 84, 86, 88, 90, my father kept my mother in our living room. That is my story. That is my family's story. That is Senator COLLINS's story. That is the story of millions of families in our country.

Alzheimer's is a scourge that needs to be defeated.

And so I learned a lot from my father and his dedication to my mother. He was a milkman for the Hood milk company. He was 6 feet 1 inch, 265, so he could do it. But many families cannot do it, especially when it is the man who has Alzheimer's and not the woman—although, two-thirds of all Alzheimer's cases are women. Can I say that again? Two-thirds of all Alzheimer's cases are women in our country. So these families are heroes, but heroes need help.

So in the House, as Senator COLLINS is leading in the Senate, we were able to pass the first law. And the first law said to the National Institutes of Health: Break down all the silos at NIH and all of your institutes. You all have information on the brain, and you don't even share that information on the brain. The Institute on Aging is not sharing with Infectious Diseases what you know about the brain. Break down all the silos and put together a plan to find the cure by 2025.

I was leading in the House; that was my bill. Senator COLLINS was doing it in the Senate; that was her bill. That became the law in 2011.

But we realized by 2014 that a vision without funding is a hallucination. Right now in our country between Medicare and Medicaid, our country spends the equivalent of one-third of the defense budget's money every single year just on Alzheimer's patients—one-third of the defense budget.

By the year of 2050, at the pace at which Alzheimer's is advancing, the Alzheimer's budget in our country will equal the defense budget because no one is saying that grandma shouldn't have a nursing home bed because she has Alzheimer's. That is not going to happen in our country. So finding a cure is absolutely not an option.

And so in 2014, we passed another law. And that law said that each year

the NIH has to tell the Senate Appropriations Committee and the House Appropriations Committee how much money they needed to find the cure for Alzheimer's by the year 2025. Well, back then, it was about \$500 million a year that was spent to fund research.

Last year, because of that law—Senator COLLINS leading in the Senate, along with me—we are up to \$3.7 billion a year because, obviously, prevention is preferable to cure. Let's stop it. Let's try to get this right at its beginnings.

And we made some progress, but we are not going to find the cure by 2025. So what this legislation says is we are extending it out to 2035, and we are going to continue both of these programs to make sure that it gets the focus at the NIH so that we will find the cure because research is medicine's "field of dreams" from which we harvest the findings that give hope to families that there will be a cure for the disease which has been ravaging their family for generations. Alzheimer's is the one disease that we all know almost every family in our country has in common.

So President Kennedy created a mission to the Moon in 1961, and our country responded to it. And what these two bills that we are passing today have done is they have created a mission to the mind. They have created a mission to find what is going wrong with the brains of not just people in our country but all around the world because we are going to have to find the cure. And it is our responsibility here to provide leadership in the U.S. Senate, to keep the plan in place, and to find the funding that will have the best, brightest young scientists in America make careers out of finding the cure for Alzheimer's.

The same thing is happening with cancer. The same thing is happening with HIV. But we have to focus here on Alzheimer's and keep that investment rising and rising because patients deserve it; families deserve it; caregivers across our country deserve it.

We have millions of families right now—as Senator COLLINS just said, 7 million families—who have this disease in their families right now, and there is no cure. The end result is always inexorable. It is always inevitable. It always ends the same way. And so we are the only way in which this can be solved.

So 3.7 billion a year—or 4 billion a year—that is a small price to pay against the disease which will ultimately cost the Federal Government the equal amount as the Defense budget every single year by 2050. So we have to act. And we have come a long way on research. But we have a long way to go.

So here is what we hope: We hope to promote healthy aging; to reduce risk factors; to require the National Alzheimer's Plan to include recommendations on reducing health disparities for Black, Brown, and disabled Americans,

because that is all part of this storyline—along with women, they are in a separate and higher risk category than men are—and expanding the National Alzheimer's Advisory Council to ensure a true whole-of-government approach to preventing, treating, and curing Alzheimer's and supporting family caregivers. That is why we can't delay another day.

So I urge my colleagues to celebrate today. We have just passed two historic pieces of legislation. And it sets 2035 as the target date. And we can get this done, but we have to finish the job.

And today's vote is going to clear the path for millions of Alzheimer's patients and their families, for them, their loved ones, and for the communities all across our country.

And so I thank Senator COLLINS for her great, great leadership on this. And my family and Senator COLLINS's family, we stand here speaking for the 7 million families. And there will be many more to come if we don't find a cure. And we thank the Members of the Senate for passing this historic legislation today.

With that, I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I am glad I was in the Chamber to witness this passage of these bills pertaining to the scourge of Alzheimer's by unanimous consent. This is a rare bright spot in our activities where we actually all come together and agree on good policy.

KOSA-COPPA

Mr. President, we have also taken the step to pass another piece of bipartisan legislation today, something that used to be standard operating procedure in this Chamber. We would call up bipartisan legislation that would address everything from the opioid crisis to medical innovation. Members would debate the bills; we would offer amendments; and, in the end, hold an up-or-down vote.

But, sadly, this has become too rare a phenomenon. In recent years, the Senate, controlled by our friends on the Democratic side, have strayed from our core legislative duties. Instead of voting on bipartisan bills, marking them up in committee where everybody can participate, this Chamber devotes, instead, the vast majority of its time to things from relatively unimportant nominations to partisan show votes.

As a result, major tasks like funding the government, strengthening our defense, are left to the last possible moment and then rushed across the finish line. But I am glad for today that the Senate has gotten back to basics and passed a strong, bipartisan package to help keep our kids safe online.

Every day, our children seek content online about suicide, eating disorders, and drug use—and other topics that are not suitable for children. At the same

time, online bullying and harassment run rampant. And the statistics on teen suicide and mental health paint an alarming picture for the next generation.

The bill that passed today includes two important pieces of legislation to help address that crisis. The Kids Online Safety Act, introduced by Senators BLUMENTHAL and BLACKBURN, provides children and parents the tools and safeguards they need to keep harmful content out of children's social media feeds. More than two-thirds of the Senate sponsored these bills, including this one. And I am proud to be one of them.

We also passed another bill that I was proud to cosponsor called the Children and Teens' Online Privacy Protection Act, introduced by Senators MARKEY and CASSIDY. That bill prohibits internet companies from collecting personal information from their youngest users and establishes better safeguards to protect children's privacy. It protects and prevents Big Tech from tracking and targeting kids with the most addictive content possible.

Congress has been working on legislation in this area for many years, and I want to commend Senators BLACKBURN and CASSIDY for getting us to this point.

There are a number of other bills that have passed the Judiciary Committee on a bipartisan basis, as the Presiding Officer knows. And I hope we will be able to turn to those soon. But these bills we passed today struck the right balance between the First Amendment and safety, which is no easy task—which is, perhaps, one reason why it has taken us so long to get here.

But I appreciate these Senators' leadership. And I am proud the Senate has finally taken an important step to help keep America's children safe online.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. President, on another matter, I want to speak briefly about President Biden's proposal to, essentially, unconstitutionally transform the Supreme Court into another political branch of government.

Every student of government, every high school civics class, teaches that ours is a government of three coequal branches: the two political branches being the Senate and the House, the legislative branch, and then the executive branch. The reason they are political is because they are accountable to the public through regular elections.

Conversely, the Judiciary is unique in that it is unaccountable to the voters. Judges are nominated by the President and then confirmed by the Senate. But as long as they are conducting themselves appropriately, they can serve as long as they live—literally, have life tenure. Rarely—very rarely—there is remedy of impeachment for extraordinary cases. But, as I said, that happens almost not at all.

But in recent years, our Democratic colleagues have floated a litany of in-

stitutional changes to try to tilt the balance of power in the Judiciary in their favor. They are not content to allow the Courts to do their job, which is to call balls and strikes. Again, judges are supposed to interpret the law and the facts and apply that to a given case and not decide ahead of time who should win and who should lose.

Judges don't take public opinion polls and decide what is popular, because they take the same oath we do to uphold the Constitution and laws of the United States. But they do so in a framework of judicial independence.

Former Justice Scalia used to say that the independent judiciary is the gold standard, is the secret sauce for the United States form of government, because there has to be some neutral arbiter to basically decide contested cases, and that is our independent judiciary.

But our Democratic colleagues, since they have been upset about some of the decisions of the Court, have gone so far as to suggest that the Court be restructured. This was tried back in the administration of Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the famous court packing cases. He wanted to add additional Justices to the Supreme Court because he thought that would change the receptivity of the case to causes that he supported.

But we have also seen changes advocated here in this Senate, institutional changes by our Democratic colleagues who were unhappy with the fact that they don't win 100 percent of the vote. They have advocated eliminating the filibuster to clear the path for radical and unpopular policy ideas. They have attempted to federalize or nationalize our voting laws and take over America's elections as opposed to having those decided at the State level. They pushed for statehood for the District of Columbia as well as Puerto Rico. And, presumably, each of those would get two United States Senators and a Member of Congress and thus tilt the balance of power here in the Senate.

But when it comes to the Supreme Court, it is clear that the left is outraged over some of the Court's recent decisions. As a matter of fact, not that long ago, the majority leader stood on the front steps of the Supreme Court and called out two sitting Justices by name and, essentially, threatened them if they decided these cases in a way that he disagreed with.

That was an extraordinary act of bad judgment by the majority leader. He actually went so far as to say: Justice Gorsuch, Justice Kavanaugh, you won't know what hit you.

Again, it was shocking to, I think, most of us who regard the Court as an independent and separate branch of government immune from politics.

But, of course, many Democrats are upset that the Court's decision in *Roe v. Wade* has now returned the issue of abortion to the States, where on a State-by-State basis, legislators and voters will decide what the appropriate

limits are on abortion, which divides much of our country.

They are upset with the decision on Presidential immunity. They want the President to be subject to ordinary litigation on a regular basis, using what has now come to be known as lawfare to achieve political objectives.

And they are concerned that the Court has done away with something as arcane and relatively poorly understood as Chevron deference, basically saying if an Agency decides something, there is not much that the courts or that Congress can do about it.

Our colleagues don't want to keep losing cases in the courtroom. So they have adopted a new strategy: If you can't win the game, change the rules. And their playbook has gone something like this: No. 1, villainize the Supreme Court. I mentioned the comments of the majority leader, which are not unique. The strategy is to make the Justices seem evil or biased out of touch when they rule against progressive causes in the courtroom.

The second step in the playbook is to offer a solution—or a proposed solution—to address the problem that Democrats have manufactured. That involves an act which itself is unconstitutional and irresponsible, which is the overhaul of the Court-packing I mentioned a moment ago.

And, No. 3: It is to go on the attack and stay on the attack and vilify anyone who dares oppose these changes as somehow corrupt and anti-Democrat.

From packing the Court with liberal Justices to dictating recusal requirements for the Justices to holding security funding hostage if the Supreme Court doesn't do what our Democratic colleagues want them to do, our colleagues have offered many plans to fully assert control over this independent branch of government—the Judiciary.

For a long time, these proposals were only supported by a fringe of the Democratic Party. But now, they have become more commonplace and infiltrated the Oval Office itself.

President Joe Biden used the pages of the Washington Post to advocate for exactly the sorts of dramatic and unconstitutional changes that I just mentioned. He wants to somehow establish term limits for Justices. He wants to craft a schedule for new appointments, force a code of ethics on the Justices written by Congress, and destroy the longstanding precedent of Presidential immunity.

These proposals are not to enhance the fairness of the Court or promote equality or justice or any other good government objective; they are about power, about control. They would turn our most independent branch of government into a partisan branch to ensure that our Democratic colleagues are the ones who ultimately wield the power.

It is bad enough that President Biden has promoted these radical changes, but even more concerning is that his

protegee, Vice President HARRIS, has fully embraced them. She made it clear that if she is elected in November, the assault on the independent judiciary—the Supreme Court—will not go away; it will accelerate. A potential Harris administration would stage a full-blown coup to overtake the Supreme Court and eviscerate judicial independence. She basically would disregard the Constitution itself and attempt to turn the Court into an institution that serves at the pleasure of a political party—hers.

We need to call it what it is. The Biden-Harris proposal is not about protecting democracy or ensuring accountability; it is about consolidating power and undermining institutions that stand in the way of their agenda.

If these radical ideas were to become a reality, they would dangerously shift the balance of power and erode the independence of the Supreme Court—again, the crown jewels of our form of government. They would ultimately politicize the one branch of government that was designed to be insulated from partisanship.

Our Founders deliberately designed a Federal Government with three distinct but equal branches. They established a set of checks and balances to prevent any one branch from forcing another to bend to its will, but unfortunately, that is exactly what President Biden and his party are trying to do today—to blur the lines between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches to secure partisan political wins and accrue more power.

But here in the U.S. Senate—an institution created for this purpose—cooler heads must prevail. We cannot stoop to the level of the mob. We have to stand up for an independent judiciary and the Supreme Court as an essential institution in our form of government regardless of how we feel about the decisions.

Many decisions by the Supreme Court I have disagreed with in the past, and I am sure I will in the future, but as one Justice said, “The Supreme Court is not final because it is right; it is right because it is final.”

That is the only way to preserve the integrity of the judiciary and our invaluable checks and balances, is with an independent judiciary—one that isn’t politicized and doesn’t bend to the will of a political party.

Republicans will continue to fight to protect the integrity of America’s judicial system, and we will not allow this President or any President or any political party to hijack the Federal judiciary for their own partisan benefit.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that I be permitted to speak for up to 15 minutes prior to the scheduled rollcall vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO ALEV KELTER AND THE U.S. OLYMPICS WOMEN’S RUGBY TEAM

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I have a resolution that I am looking forward to passing here on the Senate floor. I am pretty sure no one is going to object to it, but we will see in a minute.

Before I begin, I want to do a huge shout-out and congratulations to Alaska’s own Alev Kelter and the U.S. women’s rugby team. Thanks to Alev’s score late in the first half, the Americans beat the vaunted Australians in rugby to deliver the women’s rugby team’s first Olympic medal in rugby sevens.

So great job, Alev. Great job to the American women’s rugby team in getting some medals there for our great Nation.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE COURAGE AND SACRIFICE OF VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR AND EXPRESSING REGRET FOR THE MISTREATMENT OF VETERANS RETURNING HOME FROM THE WAR

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I am here on the floor today to ask unanimous consent for a long, long overdue resolution. It is a resolution that I guarantee most Americans are going to be like: What? Wait. What? We haven’t done that yet? The Senate, the Congress, hasn’t done that yet?

It is a resolution on this: recognizing the heroic service of our Vietnam veterans and finally issuing an apology—yes—for the way in which tens of thousands of them were treated when they came home after serving their Nation.

So that is what I am going to do right here. I was told a couple of minutes ago that someone was going to object, and I was like: Whoa. Really? Let’s have that debate. Let’s have that debate.

But good news: no objection. So what I wanted to do briefly is just explain the reasoning behind this resolution.

I think, as a country, when you look at the broad sweep of American history, we have always rightfully respected, lionized, and celebrated America’s veterans—think about it—in the last several decades.

The World War II generation—we even have a name for them: the “greatest generation”—sacrificed over 400,000 Americans killed in action, saving the world from dictatorships in Europe and in the Pacific. The “greatest generation” literally defended freedom all over the world. When they came home—and to this day—we celebrated them, and we lionized them with ticker-tape parades, as it should be. At that moment in our history, the respect for our veterans was sky-high.

Then you had the Korean war, and unfortunately, in my view—I am a Korean war history buff, and I have studied this a lot—you had kind of an attitude of benign neglect. Even the phrase the “forgotten war,” which I don’t

like—it should be called the noble war, actually—kind of indicates this benign neglect. The veterans came home. People didn’t really celebrate what they did. It wasn’t really like World War II. It was just kind of, OK, get on with your life; you did your duty. They sacrificed, of course, but there wasn’t a lot—it was kind of benign neglect, as I mentioned.

Then the Vietnam war happened, and we all know what happened, but to this day, I think most Americans maybe don’t even understand what happened, but there is no doubt our country went off-kilter, and the respect given to our servicemembers—World War II was certainly at the high level, even the Korean war with its benign neglect—this respect hit rock bottom. It hit rock bottom.

You know, it is just really sad. We all have heard stories of veterans coming home—corporals, enlisted guys, young officers. They did their duty. Some of them were drafted and said: It is my turn to go. For whatever reason—Vietnam was, of course, very contentious, but for whatever reason, when they came home, a lot of people in the American public took it out on them—slandered, spit upon, all kinds of horrible epitaphs.

I remember one of my first mess nights as a Marine officer—I was a brandnew second lieutenant, and we had a mess night with a lot of these old retired marines—a very formal, sacred setting in many ways. One of the officers there talked about how he came home from Vietnam. His dad was a World War II vet. He had been in 12 months of combat. He came home to see his father. He hugged his dad. They were walking outside of the airport, and somebody threw red paint on him and his dad. Could you imagine that? You just sacrificed for your country. You are in uniform with your father, who is a World War II vet. What did we do that for? I don’t know if there is ever going to be an answer. But this happened literally to tens of thousands of Vietnam veterans. It shouldn’t have happened, but it did.

So what we can do here in the Senate is just say: Hey, we recognize your great service. It wasn’t easy. You were doing your duty. And if you were treated horribly—which a lot of them were when they came home—again, maybe you go attack President Johnson or President Nixon—not attack but criticize them—but why take it out on the lance corporal? That is what happened, and it shouldn’t have happened.

So what we can do here—and we are going to do it in a second. I am really glad no one is objecting. I hope no one is objecting. My resolution, S. Res. 778, has a lot of Senators supporting it. It is simply acknowledging the courage and sacrifice of our veterans from the Vietnam war and apologizing for the treatment that so many of them received when they came home—pretty simple—and welcoming them home, finally, from the U.S. Senate.

This resolution lays out their heroic service. It talks about the sacrifice. Mr. President, 58,000 members of the Armed Forces lost their lives. More than 300,000 Americans were wounded in Vietnam. Yet many who served bravely and faithfully to the United States during the Vietnam war were repeatedly targeted with shameful attacks when they came home. Why? I don't know. That never really happened in our history before, and it should never happen again.

Here is the beautiful thing about our Vietnam vets: Instead of being wracked and incapacitated by bitterness or anger, our Vietnam veterans—and I have seen it throughout my career in the military—when they came home, they said: Here is what we are going to do. We were treated really poorly. We are going to work really hard to make sure that the next generations of veterans who serve overseas aren't treated poorly, that we get back to this level of World War II treatment.

Guess what. The Vietnam vets succeeded in that. The vast majority of Americans look at our veterans—whether they agreed with the war in Iraq or Afghanistan or anywhere else, when they see the vets, they say: Thank you for your heroic service. We may not have liked the war, but we are certainly not going to take it out on you, lieutenant or corporal.

That group—our Vietnam vets—had a lot to do with us getting back to that level.

I saw this throughout my entire military career. I just retired out of the Marine Corps a few months ago after 30 years. I will give you one example. I had a sergeant from one of my Marine Recon units who was killed by an avalanche in Alaska—a great guy. So we were having a service to bury him. It was very somber. I was just a captain, but I was the lead officer overseeing this service. These guys pulled up on motorcycles—Vietnam vets. There were like five of them at this service, just sitting there.

After the service, they came up to me.

I said: Hey, thank you, guys, for coming to the service of my sergeant.

I said: Did you know him?

No, we didn't know him. We just saw that he was killed, and we wanted to come here to honor him.

Think about that. Those are Vietnam veterans in my great State of Alaska who probably didn't get treated well but who said: We are going to go to the funeral of this Marine sergeant to make sure he gets the respect that everybody should have gotten and certainly that the Vietnam vet generation should have gotten, but so many didn't.

So this resolution does that. It recognizes the extraordinary sacrifice of our Vietnam vets. It commends them for their courage and sacrifice. It urges the President and on behalf of the Congress to formally acknowledge the widespread mistreatment of veterans of the

Vietnam war when they came back home. It offers, on behalf of the Congress, a long overdue apology, and it encourages and expresses support for increased education in the schools of the United States to reflect on and learn about the courage and sacrifice of this group of veterans and, unfortunately, sometimes the lack of support when they came home. So that is what the resolution does.

Mr. President, as if in legislative session and notwithstanding rule XXII, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 778, which is at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 778) acknowledging the courage and sacrifice of veterans of the Vietnam war and expressing regret for the mistreatment of veterans returning home from the war.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SULLIVAN. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 778) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, with that, given that there is no objection, that Senate resolution has now passed in the United States. It unanimously is on record finally, in 2024, thanking our Vietnam veterans for their service, for their sacrifice; acknowledging the mistreatment they got when they came home; welcoming them home; and saying, on behalf of the Congress of the United States, we do apologize for the mistreatment that you received, and we know that you are the key to making sure future generations of veterans are honored.

So to our Vietnam vets, welcome home.

Thank you.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

NOMINATION OF STACEY D. NEUMANN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today the Senate will vote to confirm Stacey Neumann to the U.S. District Court for the District of Maine.

Ms. Neumann earned her B.A. from James Madison University (2000) and her J.D. from Cornell Law School (2005). Following law school, she clerked for Judge John A. Dooley on the Vermont Supreme Court and Judge Peter W. Hall on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Ms. Neumann began her legal career with the Chittenden County Public Defender Office in Vermont. In 2009, she joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Maine as a special assistant U.S. attorney and became an assistant U.S. attorney in 2010. At the U.S. Attorney's Office, she served as the Project Safe Childhood Coordinator. In this role, she was responsible for investigating and prosecuting crimes involving the possession, transportation, and production of child sexual abuse material.

Since 2013, Ms. Neumann has been a litigator with Murray Plumb & Murray, where she maintains a diverse practice that consists of criminal, civil, and administrative matters. She has focused her civil practice on representing employees in workplace discrimination cases while also serving as a member of the Criminal Justice Act panel, accepting appointed indigent clients.

Over the course of her legal career, Ms. Neumann has handled 15 trials or adjudicated matters that proceeded to verdict or judgment.

The American Bar Association unanimously rated Ms. Neumann as "well qualified," and she has the support of her home State Senators, Ms. COLLINS and Mr. KING.

Ms. Neumann's diverse experience as a litigator and commitment to service make her well-prepared to serve on the bench with distinction. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting her nomination.

VOTE ON NEUMANN NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Neumann nomination?

Ms. ROSEN. 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 senior assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The result was announced—yeas 50, nays 43, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 223 Ex.]

YEAS—50

Baldwin	Carper	Graham
Bennet	Casey	Hassan
Blumenthal	Collins	Heinrich
Booker	Cooms	Hickenlooper
Brown	Cortez Masto	Hirono
Butler	Duckworth	Kaine
Cantwell	Durbin	Kelly
Cardin	Gillibrand	King

Klobuchar	Peters	Stabenow
Luján	Reed	Tester
Manchin	Rosen	Tillis
Markey	Sanders	Van Hollen
Merkley	Schatz	Warren
Murkowski	Schumer	Welch
Murphy	Shaheen	Whitehouse
Murray	Sinema	Wyden
Padilla	Smith	

NAYS—43

Barrasso	Fischer	Paul
Blackburn	Grassley	Ricketts
Boozman	Hagerty	Risch
Braun	Hawley	Rounds
Britt	Hoeven	Rubio
Budd	Hyde-Smith	Schmitt
Capito	Johnson	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Kennedy	Scott (SC)
Cornyn	Lankford	Sullivan
Cotton	Lee	Thune
Cramer	Lummis	Tuberville
Crapo	Marshall	Wicker
Cruz	McConnell	Young
Daines	Moran	
Ernst	Mullin	

NOT VOTING—7

Fetterman	Romney	Warnock
Menendez	Vance	
Osoff	Warner	

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MARKEY). The Senator from Hawaii.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE MAUI WILDFIRES

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, for so many people in Lahaina, next week marks 1 year since the worst day of their lives. They watched in horror as wind-whipped fires barreled into town at blistering speed and sent everything in their path up in flames. They saw the only homes and places they had ever known and lived in fall around them. And with just minutes to escape, they gathered whatever they could and ran for their lives.

It is a testament to the generosity and camaraderie that typifies Hawaii that, even amid all of that panic and chaos, so many people put their loved ones, their neighbors, and total strangers before themselves. In their darkest hour, their first instinct was to provide help. In that moment, everyday people became eternal heroes.

The outpouring of kindness continued far beyond those first few hours. As the grim and heartbreaking reality of death and destruction set in, people did everything that they could to ease the burden, even if just a little bit. Everybody pitched in—not because they were asked but because they saw that their ohana needed help.

For the survivors who lost everything in an instant, no amount of help is ever truly enough. Mr. President, 102 people died that day; 2,200 structures, most of them homes, flattened. More than 12,000 residents were displaced overnight. And so the process of recovery was never going to be quick or easy. This was always going to be a yearslong effort, riddled with stubborn realities to confront and difficult challenges to overcome.

And in spite of the grace and good will of the community, in spite of a robust Federal response since the very beginning, there is still so much unmet need and unfinished work. And, understandably, people are worried and anxious and exhausted. They are tired of

having to uproot their families from one temporary housing unit to the next, every few weeks or every few months. They are tired of wondering what the future holds and if that future will be on Maui at all. They worry about their friends and their neighbors grappling with depression and post-traumatic stress from the lingering trauma of the fires. They worry about their kids missing out on school and getting left behind.

One year later, people's lives are nowhere near back to normal. National headlines may have moved on, but life for survivors has not. They still need help.

From the very next day after the fires, following President Biden's disaster declaration, the Federal Government mobilized a sweeping recovery effort that has delivered more than \$300 million in aid to date.

Here in Congress, Senator MAZIE HIRONO, Representative JILL TOKUDA, Representative ED CASE, and I worked with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to deliver disaster relief funding and get survivors the help that they deserve.

And while we should be clear-eyed about the long road ahead, it is worth, just for a moment, reflecting on the progress that has been made. After a year of round-the-clock work from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, debris removal is entering the final stretch and is expected to be completed in the coming months. Water and wastewater services have been fully restored as of 2 weeks ago. And a temporary campus for King Kamehameha III Elementary School was built from the ground up in just 95 days and opened its doors to students in April.

That progress is real. And it is the reason for hope that things can and will improve. But there is still so much work left to do. Housing remains the number one issue. Businesses still need help as tourism lags. And people of all ages need expanded access to mental health resources and other healthcare.

Every part of the government—whether it is Federal, State, or county—has a responsibility to help the survivors get back on their feet.

And right now, for Congress, that means passing the President's domestic supplemental appropriations request, which includes significant investments in the CDBG-DR Program; that is, Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery. CDBG-DR has, for decades, been the lifeline for disaster survivors across the country, giving them flexible, long-term assistance to rebuild their homes and their businesses and their neighborhoods. This is a proven program that has helped revive dozens of devastated communities and has to be extended for the survivors on Maui as they try to recover.

For the people of Lahaina, the past year has been a year of uncertainty and unease; unspeakable grief and heartache; impossible choices; a year of what ifs and what's nexts. Nothing

will ever fully replace the people and the things that were lost on that harrowing day about a year ago.

But what we can do is be there for them as they recover, for as long as it takes, every step of the way. That is our responsibility, and that is our promise.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Iowa.

NATIONAL SECURITY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, Vladimir Putin and Xi often call for what they call a multipolar world. By "multipolar world," these Presidents of Russia and China mean to criticize the post-Cold War situation with the United States as the preeminent superpower.

Even some American commentators and politicians seem to agree with Putin and Xi.

In some corners of American foreign policy thought, there is an implicit acceptance of the premise that large, powerful countries are entitled to a certain sphere of influence and where they can, at the same time, dominate their neighbors against the will of the people who live in those countries.

The Soviet Union previously had an ideology of exporting communist revolution to other countries. The Soviet Union sought to dominate much of the Eurasian continent and to export its economic and political system to countries around the globe, either by cunning or by force.

When the Berlin Wall fell and the then-Soviet Union collapsed, many previously captive nations became free to chart their own course. As a result, many of them chose free market democracy.

Those countries also naturally chose to develop good relationships with the United States and what we call the West—countries of the West.

Putin clearly sees this as a humiliation. And he famously called the collapse of the Soviet empire as "the greatest geopolitical disaster of the 20th century."

By contrast to the Soviet Union, the United States is what we might call a reluctant superpower—I think sometimes too reluctant.

We never set out to have the most powerful military. The instinct of the American people was to stay out of World War I and World War II. We then learned that our failure to nip aggression in the bud and do it early comes at a tremendous cost.

Still, our instinctual reluctance to get involved in foreign wars is to our credit. I am not saying that we have never deviated from our general nature or made mistakes. But I believe that imperialism is contrary to the American character.

During the Cold War, Margaret Thatcher had this to say—and bear with me because it is a fairly long quote. Margaret Thatcher said this:

It is fashionable for some commentators to speak of the two super powers—United

States and the Soviet Union—as though they were somehow of equal worth and equal significance. Mr. Speaker, that is a travesty of the truth! The Soviet Union has never concealed its real aim. In the words of Mr. Brezhnev, “the total triumph of all Socialism all over the world is inevitable—for this triumph we shall struggle with no lack of effort.” Indeed, there has been no lack of effort.

Contrast this with the record of the West. We do not aim at domination, at hegemony, in any part of the world. Even against those who oppose and who would destroy our ideas, we plot no aggression. Of course, we are ready to fight the battle of ideas with all the vigour at our command, but we do not try to impose our system on others. We do not believe that force should be the final arbiter in human affairs. We threaten no-one.

I will further quote her in just a minute.

Now, listen to this point that Thatcher makes, because I think Putin still thinks like a Soviet.

I continue quoting Thatcher:

In talking to the Soviet Union, we find great difficulty in getting this message across. They judge us by their ambitions. They cannot conceive of a powerful nation not using its power for expansion or subversion, and yet they should remember that when, after the last War, the United States had a monopoly of nuclear weapons, she never once exploited her superiority. No country ever used such great power more responsibly or with such restraint.

Where she says “no country ever used such great power more responsibly and with such restraint,” she was referring to and complimenting the United States.

Putin and Xi talk about the United States as some sort of hegemony, pushing our values on others. The fact is, whatever they think, America’s principles and systems of government have spread across the world primarily through example, not by force.

To understand the American view, let’s look back on a speech made by John Quincy Adams on the Fourth of July, 1821. There are a lot of lessons that you can draw from a speech 200 years ago.

A small excerpt of this speech is often quoted in arguing for more isolationist foreign policy. I will get to that point later.

First, I want to mention about the broader point of Adams’s speech, which was to celebrate the Declaration of Independence as an articulation of America’s founding principles.

John Quincy Adams goes on at length extolling the American founding based on natural rights, rejecting monarchy, as we all know.

America, with the same voice which spoke herself into existence as a nation, proclaimed to mankind the inextinguishable rights of human nature, and the only lawful foundations of government.

At the time, revolutions had broken out in Europe and Latin America, threatening monarchies and empires of that day.

Adams—meaning John Quincy Adams—castigates empires that seek to nominate people by force.

He then ends the speech with a call for the spirit of liberty—that spirit of

liberty that is talked about in the Declaration—and he asks that to descend upon Britain and all monarchies.

In fact, the diplomat in attendance from the Russian Empire was appalled at the statement that John Quincy Adams was making.

He reported to St. Petersburg that the speech was “an appeal to the nations of Europe to rise against their governments.”

This was provocative stuff for monarchists.

In the excerpt of the speech that is most often quoted, Adams makes a digression to clarify that he is not suggesting the United States intervene directly to support every anti-monarchy revolution.

Adams explains that the United States has respected the independence of other nations and has not intervened even when “conflict has been for principles to which she clings, as to the last vital drop that visits the heart.”

In this case, he is referring to the anti-colonial revolutions taking place at that time in Latin America or Greece.

The most famous quote from that speech comes in the following passage about the role of the United States. So quoting from John Quincy Adams again:

Wherever the standard of freedom and independence has been or shall be unfurled, there will her heart, her benedictions and her prayers be. But she goes not abroad in search of monsters to destroy. She is the well-wisher to the freedom and independence of all. She is the champion and vindicator only of her own.

People have argued how Adams’ words apply to specific foreign policy debates today, but what is beyond question is that John Quincy Adams said Americans ought to at least root for freedom and independence. It is in our American DNA to take the side of the underdog, fighting for liberty against an empire.

As Margaret Thatcher explained, dictatorships and democracies aren’t morally equal.

However they feel about the prudence of any particular foreign policy decision, Americans should reject the Putin-Xi vision of a multipolar war.

Let’s look at some examples and consider the alternative values of the multipolar war Putin and Xi are offering to 8 billion people.

On Sunday, September 11, 2022, Grace Evangelical Church in Melitopol, Ukraine, was full of worshipers. Worship leaders with guitars stood in front of a giant, colorful screen displaying the lyrics of a praise song. It looked like any evangelical church here in the United States. As the congregation was singing praises to Jesus, armed Russian soldiers in camouflage barged in and stopped the service. I encourage every American to watch that video, and it is on video. The soldiers took the names of all the worshipers and detained the minister.

In the same Ukrainian city, the largest church was the Melitopol Christian

Church, and that happens to be a charismatic Protestant church. Russian soldiers broke into the church with sledgehammers. They arrested the pastors in the middle of the night, waking one pastor’s 9-year-old son with a gun in his face. The large cross in the front of the church was removed—the building confiscated by the Russian occupiers not for religious reasons but for secular use.

Before the Russian invasion, there were more Protestant churches in that city than orthodox churches. Now, as you see how the Russians invade, there are no Protestant churches in that community. Evangelical churches are considered undesirable by Russians for being too Western, even being accused of being too American.

Religious freedom, as we know, is a core natural right. In fact, it is the first right mentioned in our own Bill of Rights. The degree to which a country respects this right of religious freedom is a good barometer of the degree to which it respects individual rights in general. You cannot call yourself a free country if you suppress the freedom of religion.

Both Russia and China are among a handful of countries designated by the State Department as being what we call Countries of Particular Concern because of their severe violations of religious freedom.

China has been holding up to 2 million Uighurs and other Muslims in detention camps. The State Department has now officially labeled what China is doing to the Uighurs and other Muslims in detention camps as a “genocide.” They have been beaten with batons while being strapped to chairs; interrogated while water is being poured in their faces; placed in prolonged solitary confinement, constantly surveilled; deprived of sleep and food; forbidden from speaking their own language or practicing their own religion; and forced to sing patriotic songs that only Xi would approve of.

The Chinese Communist Party says that these camps are for vocational education to fight “extremism.” Here are some examples of what the Chinese Communist Party calls extremism: having too many children, being an unsafe person, being born in certain years, wearing a veil or having a beard.

My staff met with a former internee from one of these camps—obviously, because that person was able to get free. She described widespread torture and rape. Since this started to result in children, the Chinese Communist Party has subjected Uighur women to forced birth control and sterilization. Uighurs in other countries, including in the United States, have been subjected to harassment and intimidation, including threats against family members for speaking out about the genocide of their people.

The Chinese Communist Party sees a threat from any belief system that provides an alternative to the Chinese Communist Party’s ideology. So it has

co-opted religious institutions that it can control while suppressing independent religious groups. This includes Tibetan Buddhists. Chinese officials have demolished a number of Tibetan monastery buildings and placed atheist Communist Party officials in important administrative positions.

Tibetan Buddhists are very peaceful so they pose no threat to the government except in their moral authority and their credibility in undercutting the government's legitimacy in that region. In Tibet, there have been reports of forced disappearances, arrests, torture, physical abuse, and prolonged detentions without trial of monks, nuns, and other individuals due to their religious practices.

Authorities arrest individuals for possessing photographs of or writings by the Dalai Lama.

Also, practitioners of Falun Gong, which traces its roots to the traditional Chinese religion, have been labeled "members of a cult."

Freedom House independently verified 933 cases of Falun Gong adherents sentenced to prison terms of up to 12 years in just a 3½-year period, often just for exercising their rights to freedom of expression in addition to freedom of religion. Thousands more are believed to be held at various prisons and extralegal detention centers. There are reports of cases of torture, disappearance, brainwashing, rape, and death of Falun Gong practitioners by the Chinese Communist Party.

When a person dies while imprisoned, their families are told that their loved ones committed suicide or died of a disease, but the bodies are cremated before evidence can be gathered.

In recent years, there have been credible reports of Falun Gong practitioners and other political prisoners having been victims of forced organ harvesting.

Christianity also has had a deep historical and cultural impact on modern China, but in the mid-20th century, the Communist Party suppressed the religion. The growth of Protestantism in China in recent decades has led to the emergence of what we call house churches. These are independent and not part of one of the state-sanctioned, Chinese Communist Party-controlled churches.

The Chinese Communist Party has clamped down on Christian activities outside of registered venues, banned unauthorized evangelization online, and intensified its crackdown on unauthorized Protestant meeting points and underground Catholic churches. Christians seeking to practice their faith free of government control have to fear their identities being discovered and facing punishment or imprisonment.

By contrast, Taiwan has complete religious freedom. Note that the new Taiwanese President, Mr. Lai, is part of a vibrant Protestant minority. I met him a few years ago when he was Vice President-elect, and he came to Washington for the National Prayer Breakfast.

Aside from geopolitics, it is only natural that Americans would sympathize with Taiwan over communist China because of religious freedom in Taiwan versus no religious freedom in communist China.

To repeat the words of John Quincy Adams, "Wherever the standard of freedom and independence has been or shall be unfurled, there will her heart, her benedictions and her prayers be."

So I have laid out for my colleagues the multipolar world that Xi and Putin want versus the freedom that is declared in our Declaration of Independence and practiced here, and by practicing it here, we hope we are an example for other countries that prefer democracy and religious freedom.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KING). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant executive clerk called the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD).

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I was unavoidably absent on July 30, 2024, for rollcall vote No. 221. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on the motion to concur in House message to accompany S. 2073 with amendment No. 3021, Kids Online Safety and Privacy Act.●

WHISTLEBLOWER APPRECIATION DAY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today is the day of the whistleblower.

But every day should be the day of the whistleblower.

I have asked every President since Ronald Reagan to hold a Rose Garden ceremony to honor whistleblowers. No President has done so.

That is a shame because Presidents should view whistleblowers as making their job easier not more difficult. It is often the whistleblower who gives the unvarnished truth relating to government misconduct. And once that misconduct is known, it can be taken care of.

When fraud and waste are exposed, the executive branch should bend over backwards to eliminate it. Instead, the executive branch often stupidly attacks the whistleblowers for courageously putting themselves out there.

And for those in the FBI like Marcus Allen, retaliation is holding your security clearance hostage.

Let me give some other recent examples. Department of Homeland Security whistleblowers alerted me of this administration's failure to implement the DNA Fingerprint Act. This failure allowed migrants with criminal histories to enter the United States unchecked, putting our communities at risk. The Department of Homeland Security has violated Federal law. The Office of Special Counsel substantiated the allegations and the retaliation against the whistleblowers for their disclosures. On July 23 this year, I held an oversight roundtable to highlight the whistleblower disclosures and the resulting retaliation they have suffered.

Whistleblowers from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives brought to light that the Agency wasted millions of taxpayer dollars. How so? The ATF illegally misclassified human resource positions as law enforcement and paid these employees enhanced benefits they weren't entitled to.

Whistleblowers also provided my office with records revealing the Department of Health and Human Services failed to vet sponsors for unaccompanied alien children. They provided detail never before known to the public. On July 9 this year, I held an oversight roundtable with some of these whistleblowers, giving them a public voice to share their stories for the benefit of these kids. Agencies just don't like being exposed, apparently even if the lives of children are on the line. We have to change that culture.

Whistleblowers recently provided me with internal FBI documents of State Department incompetence and obstruction. Specifically, documents show the State Department actively interfered with FBI operations. For example, the State Department prevented the FBI from arresting known terrorists, members of Iranian proliferation networks, and other criminals providing material support for Iran's nuclear and ballistic missile programs. The Department did this because it didn't want the FBI's arrest of the Iranians to upset the pending Iran Nuclear Deal. I made these FBI documents public on May 21, 2024, to prove the facts of the matter.

And most recently, I have made records and video public relating to the Trump assassination attempt. I obtained those records from local law enforcement officers, not the Federal Government. The information that I have made public is usually because of whistleblowers.

The government rarely provides information to Congress upon request. Simply put, that is a slap in the face to

not just Congress but the American people. Accordingly, it is critically important that all Federal Agencies promote openness and transparency. They must also ensure Federal employees know their rights to blow the whistle on wrongdoing, including to Congress.

That is why I have fought hard to ensure Federal Agencies include the anti-gag provision as required by law. That provision is a notice to employees of their rights to disclose waste, fraud, abuse, and misconduct to Congress, an inspector general, and the Office of Special Counsel.

For example, the ATF failed to include this notification in guidance sent to their employees. I demanded they issue updated guidance, which they subsequently did. Further, in March of this year, I wrote to all 74 inspectors general requesting they conduct a review of their Agency's nondisclosure policy, forms, and similar agreements to ensure it includes the anti-gag provision as required by law.

The task of supporting whistleblowers doesn't start and stop on Whistleblower Appreciation Day. It is a full time, year-round job. Last year, I talked about the legislation I have introduced this Congress to do just that, from the Securities and Exchange Commission Whistleblower Reform Act to the False Claims Amendment Act to the IRS Whistleblower Program Improvement Act and others.

Whistleblowers are brave men and women who perform an invaluable public service. Whistleblowers must be protected; they are patriots. Dating back to the Revolutionary War, the first whistleblowers reported fraud and misconduct. Our Founding Fathers knew the importance of rooting out fraud, waste, and abuse.

As I stand here today in July 2024—a long way's away from the Revolutionary War—the same sentiment remains. I am proud to have introduced the National Whistleblower Appreciation Day resolution for the 11th year in a row on behalf of the entire Senate Whistleblower Protection Caucus.

And I will tell you this again:

One day, all of us together, we are going to get that Rose Garden ceremony.

SPRING 2024 PUBLIC SERVICE REVIEW

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I encourage all Americans to read the newly published Spring 2024 edition of Public Service Review. The Review is the quarterly publication of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service, an exemplary organization, which I am honored to support as a member of its Board of Trustees. In the Public Service Review, readers can explore work from students, faculty, and leadership of Brandeis University's Educational Network for Active Civic Transformation (ENACT) Program. That initiative shares the Stennis Center's mission: encouraging students to pursue careers in public service.

We are thrilled to publish writing and interviews by undergraduate students. In the pages of this issue, readers will find work from Julian Ober of the University of Maine, Vishni Samaraweera of Georgetown University, and Tomas Cruz Villalvazo of the University of Utah. They were joined by a number of Brandeis students, including Elaina Pevide, Ravi Simon, Dalia Moran, and Arianna Jackson, who all submitted thoughtful pieces.

The Assistant Director of ENACT, David J. Weinstein, also contributed, as did Lynne Chandler Garcia of the U.S. Air Force Academy. This edition also features interviews with State Representative Ambureen Rana of Maine and State Senator Becca Rausch of Massachusetts.

These students and leaders showcase the incredible work of the ENACT program, and they encourage those who serve in communities nationwide. It is our hope that they will also inspire others to lives of service. On behalf of my fellow Board members, U.S. Senator CHRIS COONS, Mr. Tom Daffron, U.S. Representatives TRENT KELLY and TERRI SEWELL, and Mike Sommers, I urge all audiences to visit www.stennis.gov to read the Spring 2024 issue of Public Service Review.

REMEMBERING SHERIFF JOHN PLASSE

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life and career of a true hero, Sheriff John Plasse.

For four decades, Sheriff Plasse lived to serve and protect his community and his country. He died on Wednesday, July 24, after a battle with cancer. Sheriff Plasse served in law enforcement in Terre Haute and Vigo County since 1985. He served 33 years in the Terre Haute Police Department, including 11 as chief of police, before retiring from the department in 2018. But he was not done working to keep his community safe. In 2018, he was elected Vigo County Sheriff, a position he held until his passing.

Sheriff Plasse also served 34 years in the Indiana Army National Guard. He rose to the rank of sergeant major with the 38th Infantry Division before retiring in November 2017. He was a veteran of the War in Afghanistan and, among his many commendations, awarded a Bronze Star.

While his military and law enforcement careers are impressive, he was also beloved in Terre Haute for his selfless service in the community. He served on numerous boards and volunteered for countless charitable organizations including the Boys and Girls Club, the United Way of Central Indiana, the Hamilton Center, the Special Olympics, and the Muscular Dystrophy Association, to name just a few.

Sheriff Plasse is survived by his wife Julie, three children, and three grandchildren. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and the countless individuals whose lives were changed as a result of his service.

It is my honor to recognize Sheriff John Plasse for his life of service.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN R. ALLEN

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Maryland resident John R. Allen as he retires from Federal service after 20 years in the Marine Corps and 20 years at the Peace Corps.

Mr. Allen served as the Chief of the Global Crime Response and Analysis Unit for the Peace Corps, a U.S. Government Agency that sends American Volunteers to serve alongside host communities in roughly 60 countries around the world. John was a key adviser to multiple Directors of the Peace Corps on all areas of the Agency's global safety and security program. Throughout his 20 years with the Agency, he traveled extensively representing Peace Corps and directly supporting Volunteers in Africa and Latin America.

Mr. Allen joined the Peace Corps after retiring from the Marine Corps, where he served honorably at home and abroad as a senior noncommissioned officer. He has remained active in the veterans community as the leadership liaison for the Peace Corps' Veterans Employee Resource Group. He was also an active member of the Interagency Veterans Advisory Council (IVAC), comprised of Active-Duty and veteran representatives of approximately 100 departments and Agencies, which proudly supports the recruitment, acclimation, retention, and promotion of veterans, Reservists, National Guard personnel, and military spouses in the Federal civilian workforce. Collectively, IVAC advocates for the interests of over 500,000 veteran civilian employees.

Mr. Allen has a BA in psychology from the University of South Carolina and an MS in management from Troy University. He completed the Key Executive Leadership Program at American University and is currently working on his dissertation for the doctor in ministry degree at Denver Seminary. John resides in Urbana, MD, with his wife Susan. They are the proud parents to two adult sons, a daughter-in-law, and two rambunctious grandboys Miles John and Austin David.

I am honored to represent such an exemplary civil servant and military veteran. Please join me in congratulating John R. Allen for his Federal service, his contributions to the Peace Corps and the Marine Corps, and the larger U.S. veteran and national service community and in wishing him well as he transitions into his new position at the U.S. Institute of Peace.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

● Mr. CRAMER. Mr. President, it is my honor to recognize one of North Dakota's legacy businesses celebrating 80

years of excellence next month in Fargo.

TrueNorth Steel began as Fargo Tank Company by a Norwegian immigrant named Ole Rommesmo. Upon coming to America, he worked as a lumberjack in Minnesota before learning the trade of welding at a steel tank plant in Minneapolis. He moved to Fargo as a welder for the Fargo Foundry Company and tried unsuccessfully four times to start his own business before finally succeeding. During World War II, he worked in northern Canada for the United States military as a welder and construction foreman for an airbase.

It was after the war in 1945 when Fargo Tank Company began, and the business has been going strong ever since. Reflecting Ole's values and principles of integrity, humility, commitment and knowledge, it has added products and services that now reach around the world. He died in 1990, and his son, Ole Rommesmo, Jr., took over the business.

In 2011, the company's seven steel businesses merged to become TrueNorth Steel. Today, it serves many industries, including agricultural, construction, mining, road building, energy, and others on projects at power plants, refineries, golf courses, hospitals, fire stations, airports, stadiums, schools and universities, government, apartment and commercial buildings, wind farms, coal mines, river watersheds, water treatment plants, aquariums—and more.

I congratulate the Rommesmo family for 80 years of providing steel solutions. TrueNorth Steel is testament to the importance of family-owned businesses across the Nation, and the impact bold entrepreneurs have had on our American economy. To my friends at TrueNorth Steel, you have enhanced the quality of life we treasure in our region and have set a very high bar for being a dedicated community partner at your locations across North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Montana. Thank you for all you have done to build the foundations of industry and infrastructure across our Nation. I hope you will thrive for many years to come. Happy Birthday, TrueNorth Steel.●

RECOGNIZING L.R. FALK CONSTRUCTION CO.

● Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize L.R. Falk Construction Co. of St. Ansgar, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1922, LaVerne Falk founded L.R. Falk Construction Company. With just a Ford Model T and a shovel, LaVerne established a hauling business, moving items between Chicago and Iowa. La-

Verne recognized the untapped potential of the transportation industry and, over time, expanded the company to encompass more services. By the late 1930s, the company acquired its first rock quarry in St. Ansgar, IA. Now, L.R. Falk Construction hauls everything from large vehicles to agricultural materials.

In 1970, LaVerne's son David Falk became president of L.R. Falk Construction. Under his 40 years of leadership, the company grew to 35 employees, expanded operations to seven quarries, and achieved sustainable growth across the State of Iowa. For over 50 years, the company's main office stayed on St. Ansgar's Main Street. In 2009, L.R. Falk Construction moved its office but remained in the community. In 2010, David stepped down from leadership, and his son Lindsey Falk assumed the role of president of the company.

Over its 102-year history, L.R. Falk Construction has consistently developed and diversified its products and services. Today, Lindsey Falk, the third-generation owner-operator, leads a team of over 60 full-time employees across nine quarries and three sand pits. The company has expanded its offerings to include custom crushing and products such as concrete stone, landscaping materials, and agricultural lime. In 2018, Lindsey founded Saint Stone, a subsidiary of L.R. Falk Construction that repurposes excess stone into marketable products that ships products nationwide.

L.R. Falk Construction Company plays an active role in the St. Ansgar community, organizing events such as the Quarry 5K Run to benefit the Clausen Park Renovation Project. The company also established the ROCK Foundation, a nonprofit charitable organization which supports local projects ranging from organizing starting a local food bank to financing mental health professionals in local schools. Lindsey also acquired the Enterprise Journal, the local Mitchell County newspaper. He hopes that it would stay local and continue to serve as a community resource for Mitchell County residents, as it has done since 1861.

In September of 2022, the North Iowa Area Community College Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center and the Iowa Small Business Development Center honored L.R. Falk Construction Co. with the Entrepreneur of the Month Award. Additionally, the Limestone Producers Association presented the company with the Good Neighbor Award several times. The Falk family has embedded their life into the great State of Iowa, and all three generations have served as president of the Iowa Limestone Association, marking a first in the organization's history.

L.R. Falk Construction's commitment to providing quality services and products in St. Ansgar, IA, is evident. I want to congratulate the entire Falk family for building such an incredible family-owned and operated business that continues to serve Iowans and be-

yond. I am eager to see how the company continues to expand and reach new heights of success.●

TRIBUTE TO LOU D'ALLESANDRO

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize State Senator Lou D'Alessandro for his decades of public service and advocacy on behalf of his fellow Granite Staters. Senator D'Allesandro—Lou as many of us call him—has been dedicated to constituent service for more than 50 years and has represented New Hampshire's District 20 in the New Hampshire State Senate for 13 consecutive terms. He leaves a legacy of fairness, determination, and genuine care for his constituents. Lou's exemplary years in New Hampshire government will be fondly remembered by communities across the State and by his colleagues in Concord.

Born and raised in Boston, MA, Lou studied at Worcester Academy before attending the University of New Hampshire. He was not only a focused and diligent student, but also a player on the UNH football team and cocaptain his senior season. He also played 2 years of lacrosse and a year of baseball for the Wildcats. In 1963, shortly after graduating from UNH, Lou served as the first athletic director and as a basketball coach at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU). Lou was inducted into the SNHU Penmen Hall of Fame in 1970 after his team won three consecutive conference titles. A year later, he would continue his educational path by earning his M.Ed. from Rivier University. Lou's academic persistence, extracurricular achievements, and impressive career were an early indicator of his leadership skills and compassionate team-player mentality—all attributes that would guide his transition into public service.

Lou first ran for a seat in New Hampshire's House of Representatives in 1973, and his career in public office blossomed from there. He served two terms in the house and three terms on the New Hampshire Executive Council. In 1998, Lou began his quarter-century long run as a State senator representing District 20. During his time in office, Lou chaired the finance and capital budget committees and was a member of the administrative rules committee. This term, he also served as vice chair of the ways and means committee.

Legislatively, Lou has worked tirelessly to listen to his constituents' values and reflect them in his extensive voting record. With a keen focus on the future, Lou concentrated much of his legislative attention on education and supporting New Hampshire's students. He has sponsored bills ranging from increasing access to free and reduced-priced school lunches to breaking the barriers to higher education. He has prioritized access to early-learning opportunities for young children, noting the importance of public education in

boosting the State's economy and future-driven development. Lou has passionately promoted funding the New Hampshire Community College system and the University of New Hampshire, demonstrating his lifelong commitment to ensuring Granite Staters' access to quality public education in K-12 schools and beyond. In addition to education policy, he has also supported statewide action to address climate change and fought to expand access to Medicare and reproductive health services. His passionate advocacy for these issues and more earned him the nickname, "the Lion of the Senate."

Throughout a half-century of public service, Lou has fostered genuine relationships built on trust, courage, and partnership. During his time in office, he frequently reached across the aisle to ensure that his constituents' needs came before partisan division. He clearly understands the value of compromise and of compassion, even in a divisive and strenuous political climate. The public announcement of his retirement drew bipartisan messages of bittersweet congratulations from his Senate colleagues, including the Democratic leader who commended his leadership and commitment to public service, as well as the Republican senate president who praised his dedication to accomplishing meaningful work as an elected official. Lou has exuded grounded, thoughtful wisdom, which not only helped him achieve legislative successes, but also made him an approachable and reliable representative for his constituents. As his colleague Senator Donna Soucy expressed, Lou D'Allesandro was and continues to be a "North Star," guiding future generations of State senators and leaving a legacy of service and mentorship.

Lou's decades of public service will be celebrated later this year, and friends, family and colleagues will join together to reflect on his remarkable accomplishments. Having spent most of his life as a community leader, Lou will undoubtedly continue to serve his friends and neighbors with care and compassion in meaningful ways. He is surrounded by love and affection from his wife Pat and their three children, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. I join in celebrating and thanking Lou for all he has done for the Granite State.●

REMEMBERING SHARON NORDGREN

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Sharon Nordgren and recognize a longtime public servant who gave so much to the Granite State.

Sharon spent her younger years in Chicago, IL and St. Louis Park, MN, before attending the University of Minnesota. She was an extremely active member of the campus community, a hint at her future calling as a dedicated local leader and regular presence in New Hampshire's Upper Valley.

Sharon played clarinet in the band, organized the school's first golf team, and participated in the local chapter of a youth development group called Camp Fire. She also met her husband Richard in college. They wed in 1965 and planted roots in Hanover, NH 7 years later.

As a Hanover resident, Sharon almost immediately immersed herself in local affairs and started making enduring connections with others around town and across the region. She helped mobilize and empower her fellow citizens as part of the League of Women Voters in the 1970s. In the 1980s, Sharon won a seat on the Hanover Selectboard and made history as the first chairwoman of that elected body. She developed relationships with local leaders as well as Hanover-based institutions like Dartmouth College and Mary Hitchcock Memorial Hospital. Sharon built on this strong foundation of experience and knowledge as a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives. She was first elected to the position in 1988, and her constituents voted to send her to the State capital as their State representative for 18 consecutive terms.

At the State House, Sharon instantly earned the respect and admiration of her peers. She had a warmth, integrity, work ethic, and quick wit that enabled her to make fast and lasting friends on both sides of the aisle in New Hampshire's citizen legislature. Her kindness and sense of humor were especially treasured by her colleagues on the House Finance Committee, and she could always be counted on to give thoughtful advice or lighten the mood with a soft-spoken joke as they worked long hours together to craft a State budget every 2 years. In addition to her expertise on State finances, Sharon was also a passionate advocate for affordable healthcare, reproductive rights, sensible gun regulations, and robust funding of public education. She even served as deputy Democratic leader from 1998-2004.

Sharon sadly passed away earlier this year, and her absence in just the past 5 months has been hard to miss in her hometown of Hanover, as well as our State capital of Concord. Sharon's accomplishments as a long-serving State legislator include the many State budgets she helped to write, the many bills she helped to pass, and the many issues she helped to elevate in our public discourse. As an experienced legislative leader, she could be formidable without being hostile and thorough without losing sight of the big picture; yet Sharon's legacy must also include the many people who crossed her path and came away with a smile and a new perspective on things. She was a guiding force for so many of her colleagues, and they will continue to look to her example of a devoted public servant and a determined advocate for the best interests of her constituents.

Sharon's family—including husband Richard, son Rob, and daughter Krisy—

as well as her many friends will gather this month for a celebration of life, and they will undoubtedly share and cherish many fond memories of her. I will be with them in spirit as they reflect on the life of this good and generous woman.●

TRIBUTE TO EVAN FIRMAN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Evan Firman, an intern in my Rapid City, SD, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Evan is a graduate of the U.S. Department of Defense Education Activity- Ramstein High School in Ramstein, Germany. Currently, he is attending the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, SD, where he is pursuing degrees in economics and political science. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Evan for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO GRAYSON HOWES

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Grayson Howes, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Grayson is a graduate of O'Gorman High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, he is attending Fordham University in New York, NY, where he is pursuing a degree in global business. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Grayson for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO GRIFFIN PETERSEN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Griffin Petersen, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Griffin is a graduate of Sully Buttes High School in Onida, SD. Currently, he is attending the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, SD, where he is pursuing a degree in political science. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Griffin for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 4853. A bill to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from promulgating or enforcing rules regarding disclosure of artificial intelligence-generated content in political advertisements.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5453. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, two (2) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Agriculture, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5454. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of nine (9) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of brigadier general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5455. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Architect and Engineering Service Fees (DFARS Case 2024-D019)" (RIN0750-AM16) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-5456. A communication from the Director, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Imposition of Special Measure regarding Al-Huda Bank as a Financial Institution of Primary Money Laundering Concern" (RIN1506-AB65) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5457. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Quality Control Standards for Automated Valuation Models" (RIN2590-AA62) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5458. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of General Counsel, Department of Treasury received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5459. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Treasury Decision: Excise Tax on Designated Drugs; Procedural Requirements" (RIN1545-BQ93) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5460. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Required Minimum Distributions"

(RIN1545-BP82) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5461. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data, and defense services to Turkiye and the United Kingdom in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more (Transmittal No. DDTC 23-091); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5462. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Affairs, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing Benefits" received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5463. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Community Services Block Grant Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2021" and includes the "Community Services Block Grant Performance Management Report"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5464. A communication from the Executive Secretary, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Representation—Case Procedures: Election Bars; Proof of Majority Support in Construction Industry Collective-Bargaining Relationships" (RIN3142-AA22) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5465. A communication from the Chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's fiscal year 2024 Federal Activities Inventory Reform (FAIR) Act submission of its commercial and inherently governmental activities; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5466. A communication from the Executive Director of the Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin, transmitting, the report of the Office of Inspector General for the period October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5467. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Annual Report for fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5468. A communication from the Solicitor General, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the decision not to appeal the United States v. Sweeney-Teal decision of the United States District Court of West Virginia received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5469. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs: Technical Amendments" (RIN2105-AE94) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5470. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs" (RIN2105-AE94) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5471. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Program and Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act Program Regulations" (RIN2105-AE69) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5472. A communication from the Management Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "FY2025 Airport Terminal Program Notice of Funding Opportunity" (Docket No. FAA-ARP-BIL-G-24-002) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5473. A communication from the Chief for Regulatory Development, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Commercial Driver's License Standards; Incorporation by Reference of a New State Procedures Manual" (RIN2126-AC68) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5474. A communication from the Chief for Regulatory Development, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fees for the Unified Carrier Registration Plan and Agreement" (RIN2126-AC67) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5475. A communication from the Legal Yeoman, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulation; Sail Grand Prix; Upper Bay, New York City, NY" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USCG-2024-0169)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5476. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Monkfish Fishery; 2019 Monkfish Specifications" (RIN0648-XG820) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5477. A communication from the Program Analyst, Broadband Data Task Force, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection; Modernizing the FCC Form 477 Data Program" (FCC 24-72) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5478. A communication from the Program Analyst, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Accessibility of User Interfaces, and Video Programming Guides and Menus" (FCC-24-79) (MB Docket No. 12-108) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5479. A communication from the Program Analyst, Space Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Assessment and Collection of Space and Earth Station Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2024: Review of the Commission's Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2024, Report and Order" (FCC 24-70) (MD Docket Nos. 24-85 and 24-86) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5480. A communication from the Senior Attorney, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hazardous Materials: FAST Act Requirements for Real-Time Train Consist Information" (RIN2137-AF21) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 26, 2024; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5481. A communication from the Chair of the National Transportation Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's 2023 Annual Report to Congress; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Michael Louis Sulmeyer, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Tonya Parran Wilkerson, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Duke A. Pirak, to be Lieutenant General.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. John J. DeGoes, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Brian S. Eifler, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Robert D. Harter, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Mark H. Landes, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Paul T. Stanton, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Matthew W. McFarlane, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. David J. Francis, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Steven G. Behmer and ending with Brig. Gen. Frank R. Verdugo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 8, 2024. (minus 1 nominee: Brig. Gen. Aaron D. Drake)

Air Force nomination of Col. John M. Schutte, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Lucas J. Teel, to be Brigadier General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. David Wilson, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Justin W. Osberg, to be Major General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Joseph A. Ryan, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Jonathan M. Stubbs, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. William H. Graham, Jr., to be Lieutenant General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Andree G. Carter and ending with Col. Mitchell J. Wisniewski III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 8, 2024.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Kevin D. Admiral, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Brian R. Abraham and ending with Col. Roger B. Zeigler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 8, 2024. (minus 1 nominee: Col. Michael P. Flaherty)

Army nomination of Col. Eric W. Widmar, to be Brigadier General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Troy E. Armstrong and ending with Brig. Gen. Teri D. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 8, 2024.

*Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Daniel W. Dwyer, to be Vice Admiral.

*Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Michael E. Boyle, to be Vice Admiral.

*Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Ronald P. Clark, to be General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Stephanie R. Ahern and ending with Brig. Gen. Jeffrey A. VanAntwerp, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024. (minus 1 nominee: Brig. Gen. Michael J. Simmering)

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Edward H. Evans, Jr. and ending with Brig. Gen. Gent Welsh, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024.

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Daniel R. McDonough, to be Major General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Nathan P. Aysta and ending with Col. David R. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024.

Air Force nomination of Col. David R. Chauvin, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. John D. Blackburn and ending with Col. Michael B. Meason, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Matthew F. Blue and ending with Col. Stuart M. Solomon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Patrick D. Chard and ending with Col. Adria P. Zuccaro, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Michael W. Bank and ending with Brig. Gen. Kimbra L. Sterr, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024.

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Michael T. Venerdi, to be Major General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Akshai M. Gandhi and ending with Brig. Gen. Michael D. Stohler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Peter G. Bailey and ending with Brig. Gen. Bryony A. Terrell, which nomina-

tions were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Kevin V. Doyle and ending with Brig. Gen. Christopher J. Sheppard, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 11, 2024.

*Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. John D. Lamontagne, to be General.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Michael L. Ahmann, to be Lieutenant General.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Michael L. Downs, to be Lieutenant General.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Evan L. Pettus, to be Lieutenant General.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Rebecca J. Sonkiss, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Joel B. Vowell, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Curtis A. Buzzard, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Edmond M. Brown, to be Lieutenant General.

*Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Peter A. Garvin, to be Vice Admiral.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nomination of Matthew J. Vargas, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Scott D. Hopkins, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Elizabeth B. Mathias, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Matthew I. Horner, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Colton T. Cash, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Bradley J. Marron, to be Major.

Air Force nominations beginning with Travis P. Abeita and ending with Eric T. Yerly, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Andrew Kyle Baldwin and ending with Desbah Rose Yazzie, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Elena A. Amspacher and ending with Kristina M. Zuccarelli, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Edison I. Abeyta and ending with Mike B. Youn, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Samory Ahmir Abdurraheem and ending with Andrew K. Zimmer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Neils J. Abderhalden and ending with Matthew A. Zimmer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2024.

Air Force nominations beginning with Chastine R. Abueg and ending with Mason T. Workman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2024.

Army nomination of Joshua A. King, to be Major.

Army nomination of Matthew F. Fouquier, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Vegas V. Coleman and ending with Matthew A. Dugard, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Army nomination of Hannah E. Choi, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Steven P. Perry, Jr. and ending with Rebecca D. White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Roy A. George and ending with Anthony J. Smithhart II, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Army nomination of Gary Levy, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of 0003824486, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Jesse J. Adamson and ending with Heung S. Yoo, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Matthew D. Atkins and ending with Christopher W. Wallace, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Joseph T. Conley III and ending with Rodney P. Kelley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Army nomination of Richard T. Hill, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Timothy J. Leone, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Ramon R. Gonzalez Figueroa, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Ivan J. Serpaperez, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Adam R. Mann, to be Major.

Army nomination of Cody S. Foister, to be Captain.

Army nominations beginning with Michael L. Able and ending with Ryan J. Zimmerman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Army nomination of Thomas S. Randall, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Edwin Rodriguez, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Robert L. Wooten III, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Jason P. Haggard, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Mark T. Moore, to be Major.

Army nomination of John A. Temme, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with John M. Aguilar, Jr. and ending with Eric T. Pelosi, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2024.

Army nomination of Dewee S. Debusk, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Kyle Y. Tobara, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Daniel E. Ball and ending with Christopher E. Powers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 23, 2024.

Army nominations beginning with Shannon D. Huntley and ending with William D. Vanpool, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 23, 2024.

Marine Corps nomination of Julie N. Marek, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Navy nomination of Juan J. Barba-Jaume, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Riccardo S. Hicks, Jr., to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Nathan K. Magare, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with James E. Barclay and ending with Justus E. Steckman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Adam M. Baroni and ending with Loudon A. Westgard III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Dennis J. Crump and ending with Matthew S. Maupin, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Joseph M. Federico and ending with Bryan J. Kauffman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Christopher M. Andrews and ending with Andrew C. Wyman, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Rafal B. Banek and ending with Jamey R. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Thomas P. Byrnes and ending with Ray L. Wolcott, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Francis A. Goiran and ending with Sarah D. Thomas, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with John F. Landis and ending with Ryan Murphy, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Joseph E. Allen and ending with Elliot M. Ross, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with David F. Bell and ending with Joseph R. Tullis III, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Frederick J. Auth and ending with Brett M. Woodard, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Kwadwo S. Agyepong and ending with Ryan D. Zachar, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Kelly W. Agha and ending with Amy L. Younger, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Nicholas H. Abelein and ending with Timothy J. Zakriski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Garrett L. Adams and ending with Iris P. Wood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Brandon M. Beckler and ending with James M. Zweifel, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Michael C. Becker II and ending with William N. Zinicolalain, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with James K. Brown and ending with David K. Zivnuska, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with David M. Gardner and ending with Lauren M. Spaziano, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Tyler L. Branham and ending with Lee R. Thackston, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Eric A. Gardner and ending with Jeremy S. Talmadge, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Johan Baik and ending with Daniel A. Sorensen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Richard A. Barkley and ending with Richard B. Wright, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Christopher C. Cady and ending with Roel Rosalez, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nominations beginning with Milton G. Casasola and ending with Paul S. Young, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Navy nomination of James F. Sullivan IV, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Christopher R. Napoli, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Ross C. Huddleston, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Ramon L. DeJesusmunoz, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Blaine C. Pitkin, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Kalista M. Ming, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Kevin S. McCormick, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of James J. Cullen, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Steven C. McGhan, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Allen M. Agor and ending with Jonathan A. Yuen, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 23, 2024.

Space Force nomination of Lucas M. Malabad, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Space Force nominations beginning with Davin Mao and ending with Daniel S. Teel, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 20, 2024.

Space Force nomination of Brenda L. Beegle, to be Major.

Space Force nominations beginning with Clifford V. Sulham and ending with Stephanie L. Wexler, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 9, 2024.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BUDD (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 4831. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include peer supports as a supportive service within the National Family Caregiver Support Program, to require States to consider the unique needs of caregivers whose families have been impacted by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder, in providing services under such program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 4832. A bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to amend the rules of the Commission to include a shark attack as an event for which a wireless emergency alert may be transmitted, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4833. A bill to exclude locality adjustments from average pay for purposes of computing the amount of retirement annuities of new employees; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4834. A bill to prohibit certain telework employees from receiving certain annual adjustments to pay schedules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. KING:

S. 4835. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group or individual health insurance coverage to provide for 3 primary care visits and 3 behavioral health care visits without application of any cost-sharing requirement; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 4836. A bill to require the creation of a simplified Department of Agriculture grant form for use by rural communities; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 4837. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for transportation and subsistence for criminal justice defendants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 4838. A bill to direct the Secretary of Commerce to develop a national strategy regarding artificial intelligence consumer literacy and conduct a national artificial intelligence consumer literacy campaign; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 4839. A bill to amend the Office of National Drug Control Policy Reauthorization Act of 2006 to modify the authority of the Office of National Drug Control Policy with respect to the World Anti-Doping Agency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. COTTON):

S. 4840. A bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to establish a rebuttable presumption that a permanent injunction should be granted in certain circumstances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 4841. A bill to amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 to establish a National Center for Advanced Development in Education at the Institute for Education Sciences, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. 4842. A bill to amend the Stored Communications Act to include Tribal courts as courts of competent jurisdiction; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. 4843. A bill to establish a Summer for All program through summer enrichment expansion grants and summer programming State grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. PADILLA, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WELCH, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 4844. A bill to provide for grants for States that require fair and impartial police training for law enforcement officers of that State and to incentivize States to enact laws requiring the independent investigation and prosecution of the use of deadly force by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 4845. A bill to lower the cost of all drugs for all Americans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 4846. A bill to provide for referral of denied applicants to the Service Academies to the senior military colleges; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 4847. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on active military-civilian partnerships at trauma centers of military medical treatment facilities within the Defense Health Agency; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. ROSEN:

S. 4848. A bill to promote conservation, improve public land management, and provide for sensible development in Pershing County, Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 4849. A bill to require the Secretary of State to seek to enter into negotiations with the Government of Ukraine for the establishment by that Government of a foreign investment review mechanism; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 4850. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to Mesa County, Colorado,

certain Federal land in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 4851. A bill to adjust the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to include the Scarper Ridge property; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. REED, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4852. A bill to prohibit oil and gas leasing on the Outer Continental Shelf off the coast of New England; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LEE (for himself and Mr. BUDD):

S. 4853. A bill to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from promulgating or enforcing rules regarding disclosure of artificial intelligence-generated content in political advertisements; read the first time.

By Mr. WARNOCK (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 4854. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the annual report on privatized military housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. 4855. A bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize the provision of appropriate training, resources, and best practices to the aging network under grants for projects that address negative health effects associated with social isolation among older individuals; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 4856. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a small business start-up tax credit for veterans creating businesses in underserved communities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 4857. A bill to eliminate the period of limitations for certain offenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 4858. A bill to require the imposition of sanctions with respect to financial institutions of countries of concern that clear, verify, or settle transactions with other financial institutions of such countries; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 4859. A bill to prohibit Federal employees and contractors from directing online platforms to censor any speech that is protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 4860. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish coverage for certain residential substance use disorder services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WELCH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. BUTLER, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 4861. A bill to establish, in the Office of Refugee Resettlement, the Destination Reception Services Program New Arrival Services Board and to authorize a grant program for providing funding for medium-term services to eligible arrivals in destination States and localities to promote their self-sufficiency, reduce costs of extended emergency

service provision, maximize benefit to new arrivals and host communities, provide diversion from homelessness, and promote the effective navigation and compliance of the immigration process; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 4862. A bill to ensure that new advances in artificial intelligence are ethically adopted to improve the health of all individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KAINÉ (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 4863. A bill to require an annual report on the unfunded programs, activities, and mission requirements within the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. RISCH):

S. 4864. A bill to provide for the location of multiple hardrock mining mill sites, to establish the Abandoned Hardrock Mine Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 4865. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 4866. A bill to require a report on the threats posed by control of strategic ports by the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. KAINÉ):

S. 4867. A bill to require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct, and submit to Congress a report describing the results of, a study that analyzes housing programs and services for older individuals under the Older Americans Act of 1965; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEE:

S. 4868. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to eliminate the use of official time by Federal employees; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 4870. A bill to require reports on artificial intelligence regulation in the financial services industry; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BUDD, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. ERNST, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. TUBERVILLE, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S.J. Res. 104. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration relating to "Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards for Passenger Cars and Light Trucks for Model Years 2027 and Beyond and Fuel Efficiency Standards for Heavy-Duty Pickup Trucks and Vans for Model Years 2030 and Beyond"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PAUL:

S.J. Res. 105. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval of the proposed foreign military sale to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of certain defense articles and services; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. Res. 775. A resolution expressing support for the designation of July 15, 2024, as "National Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. Res. 776. A resolution recognizing the 49th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Cabo Verde and celebrating the contributions of Cabo Verdean-Americans to democracy in Cabo Verde and the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. Res. 777. A resolution keeping guns out of classrooms; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SULLIVAN:

S. Res. 778. A resolution acknowledging the courage and sacrifice of veterans of the Vietnam war and expressing regret for the mistreatment of veterans returning home from the war; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. Res. 779. A resolution strongly condemning the Biden administration and its "border czar", Kamala Harris, for failing to secure the United States border; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. Res. 780. A resolution recognizing August 1, 2024, as "National Poll Worker Recruitment Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. PADILLA, and Ms. BUTLER):

S. Res. 781. A resolution supporting the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams in the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Summer Games; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KING, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BUTLER, and Mr. ROUNDS):

S. Res. 782. A resolution designating the week of August 4 through August 10, 2024, as "National Farmers Market Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 783. A resolution to correct the en-grossment of the amendment of the Senate to S. 2073; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 91

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr.

CRAPO), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 91, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.

S. 236

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 236, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to award grants to develop, administer, and evaluate early childhood education apprenticeships, and for other purposes.

S. 253

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 253, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to provide fair treatment of radio stations and artists for the use of sound recordings, and for other purposes.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that online contributions to a political organization require a credit verification value.

S. 633

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) were added as cosponsors of S. 633, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Everett Alvarez, Jr., in recognition of his service to the United States.

S. 663

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 663, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the waiting periods for disability insurance benefits and Medicare coverage for individuals with metastatic breast cancer, and for other purposes.

S. 677

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 677, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

S. 712

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 712, a bill to identify and address barriers to coverage of remote physiologic devices under State Medicaid programs to improve maternal and child health outcomes for pregnant and postpartum women.

S. 802

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 802, a bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to provide for a consistent definition for plant biostimulants.

S. 886

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 886, a bill to authorize the location of a monument on the National Mall to commemorate and honor the women's suffrage movement and the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution, and for other purposes.

S. 1000

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1000, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the accuracy of market-based Medicare payment for clinical diagnostic laboratory services, to reduce administrative burdens in the collection of data, and for other purposes.

S. 1007

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1007, a bill to establish in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State a Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTQI+ Peoples, and for other purposes.

S. 1169

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1169, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to address disclosures by directors, officers, and principal stockholders of foreign private issuers, and for other purposes.

S. 1206

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1206, a bill to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to protect civil rights and otherwise prevent meaningful harm to third parties, and for other purposes.

S. 1358

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1358, a bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 and the Flood Control Act of 1968 to provide for provisions relating to collection and retention of user fees at recreation facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1424

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr.

KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1424, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to improve health care coverage under vision and dental plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1453

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1453, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate advance refunding bonds.

S. 1667

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1667, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize lawful permanent resident status for certain college graduates who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes.

S. 1706

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1706, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for qualified business income.

S. 1832

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1832, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes outpatient self-management training services, to require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test the provision of virtual diabetes outpatient self-management training services, and for other purposes.

S. 1840

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1840, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and improve the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program for fiscal years 2024 through 2028, and for other purposes.

S. 2176

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2176, a bill to prohibit commercial sexual orientation conversion therapy, and for other purposes.

S. 2252

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2252, a bill to require the Federal banking regulators to jointly conduct a study and develop a strategic plan to address challenges faced by proposed depository institutions seeking de novo depository institution charters, and for other purposes.

S. 2581

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cospon-

sor of S. 2581, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 2645

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2645, a bill to reduce the health risks of heat by establishing the National Integrated Heat Health Information System within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Integrated Heat Health Information System Interagency Committee to improve extreme heat preparedness, planning, and response, requiring a study, and establishing financial assistance programs to address heat effects, and for other purposes.

S. 2688

At the request of Mr. MULLIN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2688, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to extend health information technology assistance eligibility to behavioral health, mental health, and substance abuse professionals and facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 2839

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2839, a bill to clarify the maximum hiring target for new air traffic controllers, and for other purposes.

S. 2880

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2880, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the scope of practitioners eligible for payment for telehealth services under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2966

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2966, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to encourage programs to address college athlete mental health.

S. 3028

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3028, a bill to continue in effect certain Executive orders imposing sanctions with respect to Iran, to prevent the waiver of certain sanctions imposed by the United States with respect to Iran until the Government of Iran ceases to attempt to assassinate United States officials, other United States citizens, and Iranian nationals residing in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3471

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3471, a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to publish a report on the fertilizer industry, and for other purposes.

S. 3502

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3502, a bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prevent consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 3519

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3519, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance on whether hospital emergency departments should implement fentanyl testing as a routine procedure for patients experiencing an overdose, and for other purposes.

S. 3661

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3661, a bill to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to periodically assess cybersecurity threats to, and vulnerabilities in, the agriculture and food critical infrastructure sector and to provide recommendations to enhance their security and resilience, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct an annual cross-sector simulation exercise relating to a food-related emergency or disruption, and for other purposes.

S. 3730

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3730, a bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to increase the amount that may be invested in small business investment companies.

S. 3755

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3755, a bill to amend the CARES Act to remove a requirement on lessors to provide notice to vacate, and for other purposes.

S. 3801

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3801, a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to prohibit the Federal Reserve banks from offering certain products or services directly to an individual, to prohibit the use of central bank digital currency for monetary policy, and for other purposes.

S. 3838

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3838, a bill to amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 to authorize assistance for emergency measures in response to pine beetle outbreaks, and for other purposes.

S. 3849

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3849, a bill to promote United States leadership in technical standards by directing the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the Department of State to take certain actions to encourage and enable United States participation in developing standards and specifications for artificial intelligence and other critical and emerging technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 4075

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4075, a bill to prohibit payment card networks and covered entities from requiring the use of or assigning merchant category codes that distinguish a firearms retailer from a general merchandise retailer or sporting goods retailer, and for other purposes.

S. 4079

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 4079, a bill to improve obstetric emergency care.

S. 4141

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4141, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the FIFA World Cup 2026, and for other purposes.

S. 4334

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4334, a bill to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and stability of the transportation security workforce by applying the personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 4365

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 4365, a bill to provide public health veterinary services to Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations for rabies prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 4374

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4374, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include screening for loneliness and coordination of supportive services and health care to address the negative health effects of loneliness, to require a report on loneliness, and for other purposes.

S. 4616

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4616, a bill to establish a public health plan.

S. 4687

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4687, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to wildland firefighters in recognition of their strength, resiliency, sacrifice, and service to protect the forests, grasslands, and communities of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 4688

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4688, a bill to require the designation in the National Security Council of a coordinator for combating foreign kleptocracy and corruption, and for other purposes.

S. 4724

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4724, a bill to amend title XXXIII of the Public Health Service Act with respect to flexibility and funding for the World Trade Center Health Program.

S. 4731

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4731, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide for food-based interventions.

S. 4791

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4791, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the consideration of continuity of health care in determining best medical interest under the Veterans Community Care Program, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 684

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 684, a resolution supporting the role of the United States in helping save the lives of children and protecting the health of people in low-income countries with vaccines and immunization through Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance ("Gavi").

S. RES. 772

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 772, a resolution recognizing the importance of independent living and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities made possible by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and calling for further action to strengthen and expand opportunities for individuals with disabilities to participate in work and community life.

AMENDMENT NO. 2287

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr.

MORAN) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2287 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2549

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2549 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2553

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2553 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2855

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2855 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3098

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3098 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3169

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3169 intended to be proposed to S. 4638, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 4837. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for transportation and subsistence for criminal justice defendants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 4837

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 “Criminal Judicial Administration Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. TRANSPORTATION AND SUBSISTENCE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT DEFENDANTS.

Section 4285 of title 18, United States Code, is amended in the first sentence—

(1) by striking “when the interests of justice would be served thereby and the United States judge or magistrate judge is satisfied, after appropriate inquiry, that the defendant is financially unable to provide the necessary transportation to appear before the required court on his own” and inserting “when the United States judge or magistrate judge is satisfied that the defendant is indigent based on appointment of counsel pursuant to section 3006A, or, after appropriate inquiry, that the defendant is financially unable to provide necessary transportation”;

(2) by striking “to the place where his appearance is required,” and inserting “to the place where each appearance is required and back to the place of the person’s arrest or bona fide residence,”; and

(3) by striking “to his destination” and inserting “, which includes money for both lodging and food, during travel to the person’s destination and during any proceeding at which the person’s appearance is required”.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE USE OF MAGISTRATE JUDGES TO DECIDE POSTJUDGMENT MOTIONS.

Section 3401 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the second sentence—

(i) by striking “and” after “trial, judgment,”; and

(ii) by inserting “, and rulings on all post-judgment motions” after “sentencing”; and

(B) in the third sentence—

(i) by striking “and” after “trial, judgment,”; and

(ii) by inserting “, and rulings on all post-judgment motions” after “sentencing”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “, with the approval of a judge of the district court,”; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (i) the following:

“(j) A magistrate judge who exercises trial jurisdiction under this section, in either a petty offense case or a misdemeanor case in which the defendant has consented to a magistrate judge, may also rule on all post-judgment motions in that case, including petitions for writs of habeas corpus, petitions for writs of coram nobis, motions to vacate a sentence under section 2255 of title 28, and motions related to mental competency under chapter 313 of this title.”.

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 4851. A bill to adjust the boundaries of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area to include the Scarper Ridge property; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise to introduce the Scarper Ridge Golden Gate National Recreation Area Boundary Adjustment Act, straightforward, uncontroversial bill to adjust the boundary of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

This bill would modify the boundary of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, GGNRA, to include the approximately 896-acre Scarper Ridge property. This land is currently owned by the Peninsula Open Space Trust, who would like to sell this land to the National Park Service to include within the GGNRA.

The GGNRA is one of the world’s largest urban national parks, spanning three counties and more than 82,000 acres of coastal and urban lands. According to the National Park Service, the GGNRA is an assemblage of military, private, and public lands which altogether offer vast skylines, natural beauty, and diverse histories to locals and visitors alike. The GGNRA welcomes over 15 million visitors each year, and strives to be an accessible recreational area for all people.

Thanks to continuing efforts by the Peninsula Open Space Trust, local partners, Congresswoman ESHOO, and my predecessors in the Senate, Congress has previously awarded funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to purchase additional land to be included within the GGNRA. However, the lands included in my bill—known as the Scarper Ridge property—require a minor legislative boundary adjustment in order for the National Park Service to use future Land and Water Conservation Fund dollars to purchase this property and include it within the park.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this common-sense, straightforward boundary adjustment bill as soon as possible.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 775—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF JULY 15, 2024, AS “NATIONAL LEIOMYOSARCOMA AWARENESS DAY”

Ms. STABENOW submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 775

Whereas leiomyosarcoma is a malignant sarcoma subtype, 1 of 70 to 100 such subtypes, that arises in smooth muscle and has several subtypes itself due to its vascularity and bone invasion;

Whereas leiomyosarcoma is designated by the National Institutes of Health as a rare form of cancer;

Whereas leiomyosarcoma is largely resistant to standard chemotherapy treatments, radiation treatments, and immunotherapy trials, with 40-year-old chemotherapy treatments still in use;

Whereas leiomyosarcoma affects all age groups, including children, young adults, the middle-aged, and the elderly, and all genders;

Whereas leiomyosarcoma is diagnosed in more than 2,000 individuals in the United States each year;

Whereas, with respect to leiomyosarcoma, research and clinical trials remain complicated and extremely costly due to the difficulty of recruiting patients;

Whereas survival and longevity for individuals with leiomyosarcoma has not significantly improved for at least 30 years;

Whereas multidisciplinary care coordination teams, because of their expertise and experience, are critical to the health of leiomyosarcoma patients;

Whereas researchers continue to strive to improve quality of life for leiomyosarcoma patients, improve outcomes in clinical trials, and promote enhanced survivorship; and

Whereas increased education and awareness about sarcoma and leiomyosarcoma will contribute to the well-being of the communities of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of July 15, 2024, as “National Leiomyosarcoma Awareness Day”;

(2) recognizes the challenges faced by leiomyosarcoma patients; and

(3) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and caregivers across the United States working to improve the quality of life of leiomyosarcoma patients and their families.

SENATE RESOLUTION 776—RECOGNIZING THE 49TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CABO VERDE AND CELEBRATING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF CABO VERDEAN-AMERICANS TO DEMOCRACY IN CABO VERDE AND THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WELCH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 776

Whereas the archipelago of Cabo Verde was the first permanent European settlement in the tropics, the Portuguese arrived in 1456 and settled in Cidade Velha on the Island of Santiago in 1462, and Cabo Verde became an epicenter of the beginning of the transatlantic slave trade;

Whereas Kriolu Kabuverdianu, the maternal language of Cabo Verde, a mix of Portuguese and various African languages, became the world’s first European and African creole language and is the oldest living and widely spoken creole language;

Whereas British influence significantly shaped the archipelago’s economic development and cultural landscape, particularly through the establishment of trade routes and maritime commerce facilitated by British traders and merchants;

Whereas the spirit of Cabo Verdeans’ resistance to the colonial rule of Portugal was embodied by the Badiu community and culture on the Island of Santiago, which was made up of escaped formerly enslaved Africans who lived removed from the Portuguese colonial administration;

Whereas the United States and the archipelago of Cabo Verde share strong historical links dating back to the whaling trade in the 18th century, with people-to-people ties potentially dating back even earlier;

Whereas the emigration of Cabo Verdeans to the United States began in the 18th century and continues today, with communities primarily concentrated in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut;

Whereas, in 1818, the first consulate of the United States in sub-Saharan Africa opened in what is now the Republic of Cabo Verde;

Whereas, in the 19th century, the archipelago of Cabo Verde was the base of the Africa Squadron of the United States Navy, which worked to suppress the transatlantic slave trade across West Africa to the Americas and beyond;

Whereas the archipelago of Cabo Verde has long been a refuge for communities seeking a better life, as exemplified by an embrace of Jewish heritage following the persecution of Sephardic Jews during the Inquisition and Moroccan and Gibraltarian migration during the 19th century, an integral part of Cabo Verde’s national heritage;

Whereas the State Ship of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the schooner Ernestina-Morrissey, originally launched in 1894 as the Effie M. Morrissey, was the last sailing vessel to bring immigrants to the United States from the archipelago of Cabo Verde and was designated as a National Historic Landmark by the Department of the Interior in 1990;

Whereas, between 1800 and 1921, more than 70 percent of all Cabo Verdean immigrants to the United States arrived via the Port of New Bedford, Massachusetts;

Whereas the labor of Cabo Verdeans became integral to the commercial cultivation of cranberries in the 19th century as the whaling industry declined and remains so today;

Whereas, with the decline of the whaling industry, Cabo Verdean-American mariners developed a strong packet trade between the archipelago of Cabo Verde and New England, bringing goods and thousands of immigrants with them;

Whereas, on January 20, 1973, Amilcar Cabral, the founder and leader of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cabo Verde, was assassinated;

Whereas, on July 5, 1975, the archipelago of Cabo Verde gained independence from Portugal;

Whereas, on July 19, 1975, the United States established diplomatic relations with the Republic of Cabo Verde;

Whereas the Government of the Republic of Cabo Verde was under one-party rule until 1992, when the first multiparty elections were held;

Whereas Kriolu Kabuverdianu can still be heard today in various towns and cities across New England;

Whereas the Republic of Cabo Verde has several sister city and town relationships with counterparts in the United States, such as Praia with Boston, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island, Mosteiros with Brockton, Massachusetts, and Mindelo with New Bedford, Massachusetts;

Whereas Cabo Verdean-Americans continue to contribute to the social fabric of the United States, particularly in New England, in industries such as politics, entertainment, sports, academia, and others;

Whereas many Cabo Verdean-Americans were involved in the civil rights movement in the United States and Cabo Verde’s struggle for independence during the 20th century;

Whereas more than 150 Peace Corps volunteers served in the Republic of Cabo Verde from 1988 to 2013, and in 2019 the Government

of the Republic of Cabo Verde formally invited the Peace Corps to return;

Whereas José Maria Pereira Neves, the former Prime Minister and current President of the Republic of Cabo Verde, met with United States President Barack Obama in the Cabinet Room of the White House in 2013 to discuss and strengthen bilateral relations, emphasizing mutual interests in economic development, democracy, and regional security;

Whereas the Pedro Pires Institute for Cape Verdean Studies at Bridgewater State University in Bridgewater, Massachusetts, is the only academic research institute in the world solely dedicated to the archipelago of Cabo Verde and Cabo Verdeans and serves as a bridge between Massachusetts, the archipelago of Cabo Verde, and the Cabo Verdean diaspora;

Whereas the Republic of Cabo Verde upholds the principles of freedom and democracy;

Whereas the Republic of Cabo Verde enjoys relatively high literacy rates, high per capita income, and positive health indicators;

Whereas, in 2021, New Hampshire and the Republic of Cabo Verde agreed to the State Partnership Program administered by the National Guard Bureau, which deepens United States-Cabo Verde relations and encourages exchanges between government and military personnel;

Whereas, in 2019, the traditional Cabo Verdean musical genre Morna, popularized by the world-renowned late singer and “Barefoot Diva,” Cesária Évora, was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

Whereas, in June 2022, according to the World Food Programme of the United Nations, almost ten percent of the Republic of Cabo Verde’s population faced acute food insecurity as a result of drought, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the upheaval in global food and energy markets caused by the Russian Federation’s illegal invasion of Ukraine;

Whereas, in December 2023, the Board of Directors of the Millennium Challenge Corporation selected the Republic of Cabo Verde as eligible to develop a regional compact for the purpose of regional economic integration;

Whereas the selection was made in recognition of the Republic of Cabo Verde’s clear commitment to democratic governance, consistent, strong passage of the Millennium Challenge Corporation scorecard, successful prior partnerships with the Millennium Challenge Corporation, lingering development and poverty reduction needs, and the potential opportunities to strengthen regional economic integration with a committed and engaged former partner of the Millennium Challenge Corporation;

Whereas the Republic of Cabo Verde’s initial \$110,000,000 compact with the Millennium Challenge Corporation, which closed in 2010, included the construction of several new roads and bridges and expanded and modernized the Port of Praia, which boosted its competitiveness by decreasing cargo processing times and shipping costs, and the Republic of Cabo Verde’s subsequent \$66,000,000 compact, which concluded in 2017, improved access to clean water and sanitation, strengthened land rights, and facilitated ambitious policy and institutional reforms to improve the country’s overall investment climate;

Whereas, in December 2023, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Cabo Verde, José Ulisses Correia e Silva, met with the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, to emphasize Cabo Verde’s support for the territorial integrity of Ukraine dating back to

the illegal annexation of Crimea by Russia in 2014;

Whereas, on January 22, 2024, Secretary of State Antony Blinken traveled to the Republic of Cabo Verde to highlight how the United States has accelerated the United States-Africa partnership since the United States-Africa Leaders Summit held in December 2022;

Whereas members of the Cabo Verdean-American community have served in every United States conflict, from the Revolutionary War to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan;

Whereas, in March 2024, the New Hampshire National Guard and the Cabo Verdean Armed Forces held the GRANITE FALCO Combined Exercise, the first major United States-Cabo Verde combined exercise under the bilateral State Partnership Program;

Whereas, in June 2024, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Cabo Verde, José Ulisses Correia e Silva, attended the Summit on Peace in Ukraine in Switzerland and met with the President of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and the President of the Swiss Confederation, Viola Patricia Amherd;

Whereas the Republic of Cabo Verde has a close relationship with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to address common challenges such as small arms proliferation, maritime security, and terrorism;

Whereas the Republic of Cabo Verde remains an integral part of the Economic Community of West African States, the African Union, the Community of Portuguese Language Countries, and numerous other international organizations; and

Whereas July 5, 2025, will be the 50th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Cabo Verde and will be celebrated by diaspora communities across New England and beyond: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) extends sincere congratulations and best wishes to the people of the Republic of Cabo Verde as they celebrate the 49th anniversary of the independence of the archipelago of Cabo Verde;

(2) expresses support for the principles of freedom, democracy, and good governance to which the people and Government of the Republic of Cabo Verde are committed;

(3) commends the Cabo Verdean-American community for its contributions to the United States and service as a bridge between the two countries before and after independence based on shared history, diaspora, and values;

(4) notes the important role that the Republic of Cabo Verde has played in African and broader transatlantic affairs since gaining independence on July 5, 1975; and

(5) commends Cabo Verde's support for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and people of Ukraine and condemnation of the invasion of Ukraine by Russia.

SENATE RESOLUTION 777—KEEPING GUNS OUT OF CLASSROOMS

Mr. MURPHY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 777

Whereas Congress has consistently made clear that it is unlawful for Federal funds to be used to arm school personnel with firearms or to train such personnel in the use of firearms;

Whereas, in response to the shooting in Parkland, Florida, Congress passed the STOP School Violence Act of 2018 (title V of division S of Public Law 115-141; 132 Stat. 1128), which amended part AA of title I of the

Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10551 et seq.) to specify that “[n]o amounts provided as a grant [for school security under that part] may be used for the provision to any person of a firearm or training in the use of a firearm”;

Whereas section 4102 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7112), as added by section 4101 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114-95; 129 Stat. 1968), defines drug and violence prevention in schools as including the “creation . . . of a school environment that is free of weapons”;

Whereas existing research demonstrates that arming school personnel with firearms or training such personnel to use firearms will not make schools safer;

Whereas a recent analysis by the Federal Bureau of Investigation found that casualties for trained law enforcement during active shooter incidents increased from 2021 to 2022;

Whereas a survey of gun violence on school campuses showed that out of 225 incidents of gun violence between 1999 and 2018, trained armed personnel or school-based police failed to disarm an active shooter 223 times;

Whereas proposed and existing programs to arm school personnel with firearms or to train such personnel in the use of firearms provide significantly less training than law enforcement officers receive;

Whereas research demonstrates that—

(1) increased gun access and possession are not associated with protection from violence; and

(2) a greater prevalence of guns increases the likelihood of gun violence;

Whereas a greater prevalence of guns in schools creates undue risk of students gaining unauthorized access to firearms and the potential for unintentional shootings and school staff using guns in situations that do not warrant lethal force;

Whereas students of color, students with disabilities, and other vulnerable groups would experience a disparate impact of programs that arm school personnel as those students are disproportionately disciplined and arrested;

Whereas heightened policing within public school spaces decreases the sense of safety of a student and the associated anticipation of violence leads to increased anxiety, fear, and depression;

Whereas 54 percent of teachers in the United States believe carrying firearms will make schools less safe, according to a RAND Research Report from May 2023;

Whereas the majority of parents of school-aged children oppose arming school personnel, according to surveys;

Whereas the National Association of School Resource Officers, the National Education Association, and the American Federation of Teachers have all publicly opposed State-level policies to arm teachers and school personnel;

Whereas, as of June 2024, there is no evidence supporting the value of arming school personnel;

Whereas, before the enactment of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (Public Law 117-159; 136 Stat. 1313), the December 2018 report of the Federal Commission on School Safety endorsed the use of Federal funds to train school personnel to use firearms even though, according to transcripts of the affiliated listening tour, the broad consensus among listening tour participants was disagreement with programs that would arm school personnel; and

Whereas section 13401 of the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (Public Law 117-159; 136 Stat. 1338) added a provision to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.) that prohibits

using funds under that Act to provide any person with a dangerous weapon or training in the use of a dangerous weapons: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that Federal funds should not be used to arm school personnel with firearms or to train such personnel in the use of firearms.

SENATE RESOLUTION 778—ACKNOWLEDGING THE COURAGE AND SACRIFICE OF VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM WAR AND EXPRESSING REGRET FOR THE MISTREATMENT OF VETERANS RETURNING HOME FROM THE WAR

Mr. SULLIVAN submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 778

Whereas members of the Armed Forces of the United States began serving in an advisory role to the Republic of Vietnam in 1955;

Whereas, in 1965, ground combat units of the Armed Forces of the United States arrived in the Republic of Vietnam to join approximately 23,000 personnel of the Armed Forces who were already present there;

Whereas, by 1969, the number of such troops reached a peak of over 537,000, including members of the Armed Forces in the region who were supporting the combat operations;

Whereas, on January 27, 1973, the Agreement on Ending the War and Restoring Peace in Vietnam (commonly known as the “Paris Peace Accords”) was signed, which required the release of all prisoners of war of the United States held in North Vietnam and the withdrawal of all Armed Forces of the United States from South Vietnam;

Whereas, on March 29, 1973, the Armed Forces of the United States completed the withdrawal of combat units and combat support units from South Vietnam;

Whereas, on April 30, 1975, North Vietnamese forces captured Saigon, the capital of South Vietnam, effectively placing South Vietnam under Communist control;

Whereas more than 58,000 members of the Armed Forces of the United States lost their lives in the Vietnam war, and more than 153,000 members of the Armed Forces of the United States were wounded in Vietnam;

Whereas many thousands of veterans of the Vietnam war were exposed to Agent Orange and other harmful herbicides during the course of their service, carrying home delayed wounds of toxic exposure at the highest rate of any generation of veterans before;

Whereas the Vietnam war was an extremely divisive issue in the United States, as a result of certain biased and shameful attacks from some in media and academia, politicians, and many others;

Whereas some opponents of the war did not limit their opposition to normal political discourse, but engaged in violent protests, including the targeting of Reserve Officers' Training Corps facilities and recruiting stations, and the bombing of the Army Mathematics Research Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces who served bravely and faithfully for the United States during the Vietnam war were repeatedly targeted with shameful personal attacks for their service as the result of decisions that were beyond their control; and

Whereas Vietnam Veterans Day is observed each year on March 29, marking the anniversary of the withdrawal of combat troops from Vietnam: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the extraordinary sacrifice of veterans of the Vietnam war and commends them, and their families, for their unwavering and courageous sacrifice to the United States;

(2) expresses urgent support for increased education in the schools of the United States to better reflect the courage and sacrifice of veterans of the Vietnam war and the lack of support back home;

(3) urges the President to formally acknowledge the widespread mistreatment of many veterans of the Vietnam war as part of the ongoing Vietnam War Commemoration; and

(4) expresses regret for the mistreatment of veterans and their families during and after the war.

SENATE RESOLUTION 779—STRONGLY CONDEMNING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION AND ITS “BORDER CZAR”, KAMALA HARRIS, FOR FAILING TO SECURE THE UNITED STATES BORDER

Mrs. BLACKBURN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

S. RES. 779

Whereas, on March 24, 2021, President Biden asked Vice President Kamala Harris to lead, as “border czar”, the Administration’s diplomatic efforts to address the “root causes” of illegal immigration into the United States from El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras;

Whereas Vice President Kamala Harris did not even visit the southern border until June 25, 2021, 93 days after being named “border czar”;

Whereas when Vice President Kamala Harris traveled near the southern border for the first time on June 25, 2021, she decided to travel to El Paso, Texas, which is located 800 miles from the Lower Rio Grande Valley;

Whereas former United States Border Patrol Chief Raul Ortiz stated that during his nearly 2 years in that position between August 2021 and June 2023, he “never had one conversation with [President Biden] or the [Vice President Harris], for that matter. I was the Chief of the Border Patrol, I commanded 21,000 people. That’s a problem.”;

Whereas current United States Border Patrol Chief Jason Owens stated that Vice President Kamala Harris has not spoken with him since he was appointed in July 2023;

Whereas, since Joe Biden and Kamala Harris became President and Vice President, respectively there have been—

(1) more than 9,700,000 illegal immigrant encounters nationwide;

(2) more than 7,900,000 illegal immigrant encounters at the United States southern border; and

(3) an estimated 2,000,000 known gotaways who evaded the United States Border Patrol, which is more known gotaways than evaded the Border Patrol during the entire previous decade;

Whereas, in May 2024, there were 170,723 illegal immigrant encounters at the United States southern border, which represents a 185 percent increase from the average May encounter total during the administration of President Trump;

Whereas May 2024 was the 39th straight month where monthly illegal immigrant encounters have been higher than the highest month under President Trump;

Whereas illegal immigrants with violent criminal histories who have murdered inno-

cent Americans, including Laken Riley, Jocelyn Nungary, Rachel Morin, and others throughout the United States, pose an existential threat to the safety and security of the American people;

Whereas, in June 2024, NBC News reported that more than 50 illegal immigrants with ties to ISIS were on the loose in the United States after having been released by officials of the Biden administration;

Whereas during the Biden administration, more than 350 illegal immigrants with ties to ISIS and whose names appear on the terrorist watch list were stopped while trying to cross the southern border;

Whereas, during less than the first 10 months of fiscal year 2024, a record-breaking 31,077 Communist Chinese nationals have been encountered at the southwest border;

Whereas the Biden border crisis is costing the United States approximately \$150,700,000,000 each year, which equals an annual cost of \$1,156 per taxpayer;

Whereas, in May 2024, Republican members of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate released documents showing the Biden administration secretly flew more than 400,000 illegal immigrants into the United States;

Whereas the far left open border policies of President Biden, “border czar” Harris, and the Democratic Party are to blame for this historic immigration crisis; and

Whereas in August 2022, President Biden’s administration decided to make the border crisis significantly worse by formally ending former President Trump’s successful Remain in Mexico program: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) strongly condemns the Biden administration and “border czar” Kamala Harris for failing to secure the United States border;

(2) affirms that the people of the United States deserve elected officials who—

(A) understand the gravity of the crisis at the border; and

(B) will execute policies that will fix the border crisis; and

(3) clearly and firmly states that the continuation of the Biden-Harris border policies would be disastrous for the United States and its citizens.

SENATE RESOLUTION 780—RECOGNIZING AUGUST 1, 2024, AS “NATIONAL POLL WORKER RECRUITMENT DAY”

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 78

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes August 1, 2024, as “National Poll Worker Recruitment Day”;

(2) recognizes the need for, and appreciation of, the service of poll workers; and

(3) encourages eligible people to help American citizens to vote in the 2024 elections by serving as poll workers.

SENATE RESOLUTION 781—SUPPORTING THE UNITED STATES OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC TEAMS IN THE 2024 OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC SUMMER GAMES

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. PADILLA, and Ms. BUTLER) submitted the following reso-

lution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 781

Whereas, for more than 100 years, the Olympic and Paralympic Movements have—

(1) educated young people through amateur athletics;

(2) brought together athletes from many countries in friendly competition; and

(3) forged new relationships among athletes bound by friendship, solidarity, and fair play;

Whereas the 2024 Olympic Games will take place in Paris, France from July 26, 2024, to August 11, 2024, and the 2024 Paralympic Games will take place in Paris, France from August 28, 2024, to September 8, 2024;

Whereas the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams (referred to in this preamble as “Team USA”) have won 2,037 gold medals, 1,736 silver medals, and 1,615 bronze medals, totaling 5,388 medals, during the past Summer and Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games;

Whereas, at the 2024 Olympic Games, 206 countries will compete in more than 32 sports and 329 events, and at the 2024 Paralympic Games, more than 184 countries will compete in 22 sports and 549 events;

Whereas, at the 2024 Olympic Games, Team USA will compete in 44 sports disciplines and 253 contested events;

Whereas the United States plans to send 592 athletes to participate in the 2024 Olympic Games, including 314 women;

Whereas the United States has already qualified 138 athletes to participate in the 2024 Paralympic Games, with many more expected to qualify;

Whereas the people of the United States stand united in respect, admiration, and pride for the athletes of Team USA and their athletic accomplishments, sportsmanship, grace under pressure, goodwill toward other competitors, and commitment to excellence;

Whereas the many accomplishments of Team USA would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of the many sports organizations, administrators, coaches, and family members who have provided critical support to the athletes;

Whereas the United States maintains a commitment to the safety and security of Team USA;

Whereas the United States Government is grateful to France for hosting the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games;

Whereas, upon the conclusion of the 2024 Paris Olympic and Paralympic Summer Games, the United States will assume the role of host-country of the next Summer Games and stands ready to support the athletes and organizers of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic and Paralympic Games; and

Whereas Team USA exemplifies rigorous competition, fair play, and the pursuit of dreams: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) applauds the athletes and coaches of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Teams (referred to in this resolution as “Team USA”) and the families who support them;

(2) commends the Government of France and the Paris Metropolitan Government for their efforts to commit tremendous resources to provide a safe and secure environment for the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games;

(3) supports the athletes of Team USA in competing at the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Summer Games; and

(4) commits to ensuring a safe and secure environment for the fans attending and athletes competing in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic and Paralympic Games.

SENATE RESOLUTION 782—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 4 THROUGH AUGUST 10, 2024, AS “NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK”

Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. TESTER, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KING, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BUTLER, and Mr. ROUNDS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 782

Whereas farmers markets accounted for \$1,700,000,000 in income for farmers of the United States in 2020, demonstrating the crucial role of farmers markets in local economies;

Whereas, according to the Agricultural Marketing Service of the Department of Agriculture, the number of farmers markets in the United States rose from 1,755 in 1994 to 8,771 in 2019, an average growth of nearly 7 percent per year;

Whereas farmers markets serve as significant educational sites and as bridges between urban and rural communities, contributing to a better public understanding of farming and ranching;

Whereas the adoption of more sustainable farming practices is closely associated with farmer-to-consumer interactions facilitated by farmers markets;

Whereas farmers markets and direct marketing farmers help improve the health and wellness of low-income people in the United States who receive Federal nutrition benefits; and

Whereas National Farmers Market Week is a time to recognize the unique and indispensable role farmers markets play in supporting food access, bolstering local economies, promoting healthy communities, and fostering sustainable farming: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of August 4 through August 10, 2024, as “National Farmers Market Week”; and

(2) recognizes the vital role that farmers markets play in bringing communities together and in supporting the livelihoods of millions of people in the United States, from farmers and food producers to consumers.

SENATE RESOLUTION 783—TO CORRECT THE ENGROSSMENT OF THE AMENDMENT OF THE SENATE TO S. 2073

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 783

Resolved, That in the engrossment of the amendment of the Senate to S. 2073, an Act to amend title 31, United States Code, to require agencies to include a list of outdated or duplicative reporting requirements in annual budget justifications, and for other purposes, the Secretary of the Senate shall amend the title of the bill so as to read “An Act to protect the safety and privacy of children on the internet.”.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3195. Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3196. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3197. Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3198. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7024, to make improvements to the child tax credit, to provide tax incentives to promote economic growth, to provide special rules for the taxation of certain residents of Taiwan with income from sources within the United States, to provide tax relief with respect to certain Federal disasters, to make improvements to the low-income housing tax credit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3199. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3200. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7024, to make improvements to the child tax credit, to provide tax incentives to promote economic growth, to provide special rules for the taxation of certain residents of Taiwan with income from sources within the United States, to provide tax relief with respect to certain Federal disasters, to make improvements to the low-income housing tax credit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3201. Ms. COLLINS proposed an amendment to the bill S. 133, to extend the National Alzheimer’s Project.

SA 3202. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3203. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3204. Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3205. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3206. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3195. Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Mr. CRUZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in subtitle H of title X, insert the following:

SEC. —. AM RADIO FOR EVERY VEHICLE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AM BROADCAST BAND.—The term “AM broadcast band” means the band of frequencies between 535 kilohertz and 1705 kilohertz, inclusive.

(2) AM BROADCAST STATION.—The term “AM broadcast station” means a broadcast station licensed for the dissemination of radio communications—

(A) intended to be received by the public; and

(B) operated on a channel in the AM broadcast band.

(3) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives; and

(C) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(4) DEVICE.—The term “device” means a piece of equipment or an apparatus that is designed—

(A) to receive signals transmitted by a radio broadcast station (as defined in section 3 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153)); and

(B) to play back content or programming derived from those signals.

(5) DIGITAL AUDIO AM BROADCAST STATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “digital audio AM broadcast station” means an AM broadcast station that—

(i) is licensed by the Federal Communications Commission; and

(ii) uses an In-band On-channel system (as defined in section 73.402 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation)) for broadcasting purposes.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term “digital audio AM broadcast station” does not include an all-digital AM station (as defined in section 73.402 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation)).

(6) MANUFACTURER.—The term “manufacturer” has the meaning given the term in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

(7) PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term “passenger motor vehicle” has the meaning given the term in section 32101 of title 49, United States Code.

(8) RECEIVE.—The term “receive” means to receive a broadcast signal via over-the-air transmission.

(9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Transportation.

(10) SIGNAL.—The term “signal” means radio frequency energy that a holder of a radio station license granted or authorized by the Federal Communications Commission pursuant to sections 301 and 307 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 301, 307) intentionally emits or causes to be emitted at a specified frequency for the purpose of transmitting content or programming to the public.

(11) STANDARD EQUIPMENT.—The term “standard equipment” means motor vehicle equipment (as defined in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code) that—

(A) is installed as a system, part, or component of a motor vehicle as originally manufactured; and

(B) the manufacturer of the motor vehicle recommends or authorizes to be included in the motor vehicle for no additional or separate monetary fee, payment, or surcharge, beyond the base price of a motor vehicle.

(b) AM BROADCAST STATIONS RULE.—

(1) RULE REQUIRED.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Federal Communications Commission, shall issue a rule—

(A) requiring devices that can receive signals and play content transmitted by AM broadcast stations be installed as standard equipment in passenger motor vehicles—

(i) manufactured in the United States, imported into the United States, or shipped in interstate commerce; and

(ii) manufactured after the effective date of the rule;

(B) requiring access to AM broadcast stations in a manner that is easily accessible to a driver after the effective date of the rule; and

(C) allowing a manufacturer to comply with that rule by installing devices that can receive signals and play content transmitted by digital audio AM broadcast stations as standard equipment in passenger motor vehicles manufactured in the United States, imported into the United States, or shipped in interstate commerce after the effective date of the rule.

(2) COMPLIANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), in issuing the rule required under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall establish an effective date for the rule that is not less than 2 years, but not more than 3 years, after the date on which the rule is issued.

(B) CERTAIN MANUFACTURERS.—In issuing the rule required under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall establish an effective date for the rule that is at least 4 years after the date on which the rule is issued with respect to manufacturers that manufactured not more than 40,000 passenger motor vehicles for sale in the United States in 2022.

(3) INTERIM REQUIREMENT.—For passenger motor vehicles manufactured after the date of enactment of this Act and manufactured in the United States, imported into the United States, or shipped in interstate commerce between the period of time beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the effective date of the rule issued under paragraph (1) that do not include devices that can receive signals and play content transmitted by AM broadcast stations, the manufacturer of the passenger motor vehicles—

(A) shall provide clear and conspicuous labeling to inform purchasers of those passenger motor vehicles that the passenger motor vehicles do not include devices that can receive signals and play content transmitted by AM broadcast stations; and

(B) may not charge an additional or separate monetary fee, payment, or surcharge, beyond the base price of the passenger motor vehicles, for access to AM broadcast stations for the period of time described in this paragraph.

(4) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—When the rule issued under paragraph (1) is in effect, a State or a political subdivision of a State may not prescribe or continue in effect a law, regulation, or other requirement applicable to access to AM broadcast stations in passenger motor vehicles.

(5) ENFORCEMENT.—

(A) CIVIL PENALTY.—Any person failing to comply with the rule issued under paragraph (1) shall be liable to the United States Government for a civil penalty in accordance with section 30165(a)(1) of title 49, United States Code.

(B) CIVIL ACTION.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States to enjoin a violation of the rule issued under paragraph (1) in accordance with section 30163 of title 49, United States Code.

(6) REVIEW.—Not less frequently than once every 5 years after the date on which the Secretary issued the rule required by paragraph (1), the Secretary, in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that shall include an assessment of—

(A) the impacts of the rule issued under that paragraph, including the impacts on public safety; and

(B) changes to communication technologies that enable resilient and accessible alerts to drivers and passengers of passenger motor vehicles.

SA 3196. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

SEC. 9001. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This division may be cited as the “Department of State Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this division is as follows:

DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

Sec. 9001. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 9002. Definitions.

TITLE I—WORKFORCE MATTERS

Sec. 9101. Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Rogers Act; creation of the Department of State.

Sec. 9102. Workforce modernization efforts.

Sec. 9103. Training float of the Department of State for Civil and Foreign Service personnel.

Sec. 9104. Competitive local compensation plan.

Sec. 9105. Language incentive pay for civil service employees.

Sec. 9106. Strategy for targeted recruitment of civil servants.

Sec. 9107. Electronic medical records.

Sec. 9108. Options for comprehensive evaluations.

Sec. 9109. Portability of professional licenses.

Sec. 9110. Expanding opportunities for Department-paid student internship program.

Sec. 9111. Career intermission program adjustment to enhance retention.

Sec. 9112. Professional counseling services.

Sec. 9113. Assignment process modernization.

Sec. 9114. Report on modifying consular tour and first tours requirements.

Sec. 9115. Comprehensive policy on vetting and transparency.

Sec. 9116. Efficiency in employee survey creation and consolidation.

Sec. 9117. Per diem allowance for newly hired members of the Foreign Service.

Sec. 9118. Termination of residential or motor vehicle leases and telephone service contracts for members of the Foreign Service.

Sec. 9119. Needs-based childcare subsidies enrollment period.

Sec. 9120. Comptroller General report on Department traveler experience.

Sec. 9121. Quarterly report on global footprint.

Sec. 9122. Report on former Federal employees advising foreign governments.

Sec. 9123. Job share and part-time employment opportunities.

Sec. 9124. Expansion of special rules for certain monthly workers’ compensation payments and other payments for personnel under chief of mission authority.

Sec. 9125. Authority to provide or reimburse for certain security services.

TITLE II—ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

Sec. 9201. State-of-the-art building facilities.

Sec. 9202. Presence of chiefs of mission at diplomatic posts.

Sec. 9203. Periodic Inspector General reviews of chiefs of mission.

Sec. 9204. Special Envoy for Sudan.

Sec. 9205. Special Envoy for Belarus.

Sec. 9206. National Museum of American Diplomacy.

Sec. 9207. Authority to establish Negotiations Support Unit within Department of State.

Sec. 9208. Restrictions on the use of funds for solar panels.

Sec. 9209. Responsiveness to Congressional Research Service inquiries.

Sec. 9210. Mission in a box.

Sec. 9211. Report on United States Consulate in Chengdu, People’s Republic of China.

Sec. 9212. Personnel reporting.

Sec. 9213. Support co-location with allied partner nations.

Sec. 9214. Streamline qualification of construction contract bidders.

TITLE III—INFORMATION SECURITY AND CYBER DIPLOMACY

Sec. 9301. Supporting Department of State data analytics.

Sec. 9302. Realigning the Regional Technology Officer Program.

Sec. 9303. Measures to protect Department devices from the proliferation and use of foreign commercial spyware.

Sec. 9304. Report on cloud computing in Bureau of Consular Affairs.

Sec. 9305. Information technology pilot projects.

Sec. 9306. Leveraging approved technology for administrative efficiencies.

Sec. 9307. Office of the Special Envoy for Critical and Emerging Technology.

TITLE IV—PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

Sec. 9401. Africa broadcasting networks.

Sec. 9402. United States Agency for Global Media.

Sec. 9403. Extension of authorizations to support United States participation in international fairs and expos.

Sec. 9404. Research and scholar exchange partnerships.

Sec. 9405. Waiver of United States residency requirement for children of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty employees.

TITLE V—DIPLOMATIC SECURITY

- Sec. 9501. Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act requirements.
- Sec. 9502. Congressional notification for Serious Security Incidents.
- Sec. 9503. Notifications regarding security decisions at diplomatic posts.
- Sec. 9504. Security clearance suspension pay flexibilities.
- Sec. 9505. Modification to notification requirement for security clearance suspensions and revocations.

TITLE VI—UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Sec. 9601. Personal service agreement authority for the United States Agency for International Development.
- Sec. 9602. Crisis operations and disaster surge staffing.
- Sec. 9603. Education allowance while on military leave.
- Sec. 9604. Inclusion in the pet transportation exception to the Fly America Act.

TITLE VII—OTHER MATTERS

- Sec. 9701. Authorization of appropriations to promote United States citizen employment at the United Nations and international organizations.
- Sec. 9702. Amendment to Rewards for Justice program.
- Sec. 9703. Passport automation modernization.
- Sec. 9704. Extension of certain payment in connection with the International Space Station.
- Sec. 9705. Support for congressional delegations.
- Sec. 9706. Electronic communication with visa applicants.
- Sec. 9707. Electronic transmission of visa information.
- Sec. 9708. Inclusion of cost associated with producing reports.
- Sec. 9709. Extensions.

SEC. 9002. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

- (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.
- (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.
- (3) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of State.
- (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of State.
- (5) USAID.—The term “USAID” means the United States Agency for International Development.

TITLE I—WORKFORCE MATTERS

SEC. 9101. COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROGERS ACT; CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Congress recognizes and honors those who have served, or are presently serving, in the diplomatic corps of the United States, in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Act entitled, “An Act for the reorganization and improvement of the Foreign Service of the United States, and for other purposes” (43 stat. 140, chapter 182), commonly known as the “Rogers Act of 1924”, which on May

24, 1924, established what has come to be known as the Foreign Service. Today, the Department of State includes more than 13,000 Foreign Service personnel working alongside more than 11,000 civil service personnel and 45,000 locally engaged staff at more than 270 embassies and consulates.

SEC. 9102. WORKFORCE MODERNIZATION EFFORTS.

The Secretary should prioritize efforts to further modernize the Department, including—

- (1) making workforce investments, including increasing wages for locally employed staff and providing other non-cash benefits, and hiring up to 100 new members of the Foreign Service above projected attrition to reduce overseas vacancies and mid-level staffing gaps;
- (2) utilizing authorities that allow the Department to acquire or build and open new embassy compounds quicker and at significantly less cost to get diplomats on the front lines of strategic competition; and
- (3) modernizing legacy systems and human resource processes.

SEC. 9103. TRAINING FLOAT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR CIVIL AND FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop and submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a strategy to establish and maintain a “training float” by January 1, 2027, to allow for a minimum of 8 percent and up to 10 percent of members of the Civil and Foreign Service to participate in long-term training at any given time. The strategy shall include—

- (1) a proposal to ensure that personnel in the training float remain dedicated to training or professional development activities;
- (2) recommendations to maintain, and an assessment of the feasibility of maintaining, a minimum of 8 percent of personnel in the float at any given time; and
- (3) any additional resources and authorities needed to maintain a training float contemplated by this section.

(b) MONITORING.—For any established training float, not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall ensure that personnel in such training float remain dedicated to training or professional development activities.

SEC. 9104. COMPETITIVE LOCAL COMPENSATION PLAN.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

- (1) the effectiveness and stability of United States foreign missions are linked to the dedication and expertise of locally employed staff; and
- (2) ensuring competitive compensation packages benchmarked against the local market is essential not only to retain valuable talent but also to reflect a commitment to employment practices abroad.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$47,500,000 for fiscal year 2025 to support implementation of a global baseline for prevailing wage rate goal for Local Compensation Plan positions at the 75th percentile.

SEC. 9105. LANGUAGE INCENTIVE PAY FOR CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES.

The Secretary and Administrator may provide special monetary incentives to acquire or retain proficiency in foreign languages to civil service employees who serve in domestic positions that require critical language skills. The amounts of such incentives should be similar to the language incentive pay provided to members of the Foreign

Service under the Foreign Service pursuant to section 704(b)(3) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4024(b)(3)).

SEC. 9106. STRATEGY FOR TARGETED RECRUITMENT OF CIVIL SERVANTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a strategy for targeted and proactive recruitment to fill open civil service positions, focusing on recruiting from schools or organizations, and on platforms targeting those with relevant expertise related to such positions.

SEC. 9107. ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Foreign Service personnel at the Department serve with distinction in austere places and under challenging conditions around the world with limited healthcare availability;

(2) the use of paper medical records, which require Foreign Service personnel to carry files containing protected health information from post to post, limits the availability of their health information to Department medical personnel during critical health incidents;

(3) electronic medical records are necessary, particularly as the Department opens new embassies in the South Pacific, thousands of miles from the nearest Department medical officer, who may not have access to up-to-date personnel medical files;

(4) the lack of electronic medical records is even more important for mental health records, as the Department only has a small number of regional medical officer psychiatrists and relies heavily on telehealth for most Foreign Service personnel; and

(5) due to the critical need for electronic medical records, it is imperative that the Department address the situation quickly and focus on secure commercially available or other successful systems utilized by public and private sector organizations with a track record of successfully implementing large-scale projects of this type.

(b) ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS REQUIREMENT.—Not later than December 31, 2027, the Secretary shall have fully implemented an electronic medical records process or system for all Foreign Service personnel and their Eligible Family Members that eliminates reliance on paper medical records and includes appropriate safeguards to protect personal privacy.

(c) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the progress made towards meeting the requirement under subsection (b).

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

- (A) An updated timeline for implementation.
- (B) An estimated completion date.
- (C) The amounts expended to date on the required electronic medical records system.
- (D) The estimated amount needed to complete the system.

(3) TERMINATION OF REQUIREMENT.—The reporting requirement under paragraph (1) shall cease upon notification to the appropriate congressional committees that electronic medical records have been completely

implemented for all Foreign Service personnel.

SEC. 9108. OPTIONS FOR COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on options for integrating 360-degree reviews in personnel files for promotion panel consideration.

(b) EVALUATION SYSTEMS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include—

(1) one or more options to integrate confidential 360-degree reviews, references, or evaluations by superiors, peers, and subordinates, including consideration of automated reference requests; and

(2) other modifications or systems the Secretary considers relevant.

(c) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall describe, with respect to each evaluation system included in the report—

(1) any legal constraints or considerations;

(2) the timeline required for implementation;

(3) any starting and recurring costs in comparison to current processes;

(4) the likely or potential implications for promotion decisions and trends; and

(5) the impact on meeting the personnel needs of the Foreign Service.

SEC. 9109. PORTABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 9 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081 et seq.) is amended by adding after section 908 (22 U.S.C. 4088) the following new section:

“SEC. 909. PORTABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a member of the Foreign Service or the spouse of a member of the Foreign Service has a covered United States license and such member of the Foreign Service or spouse relocates his or her residency because of an assignment or detail to a location that is not in the jurisdiction of the licensing authority that issued the covered license, such covered license shall be considered valid at a similar scope of practice and in the discipline applied for in the jurisdiction of such new residency for the duration of such an assignment or detail if such member of the Foreign Service or spouse—

“(1) provides a copy of the member’s notification of assignment to the licensing authority in the jurisdiction in which the new residency is located;

“(2) remains in good standing with—
“(A) the licensing authority that issued the covered license; and

“(B) every other licensing authority that has issued to the member of the Foreign Service or spouse a license valid at a similar scope of practice and in the discipline applied in the jurisdiction of such licensing authority; and

“(3) submits to the authority of the licensing authority in the new jurisdiction for the purposes of standards of practice, discipline, and fulfillment of any continuing education requirements.

“(b) INTERSTATE LICENSURE COMPACTS.—If a member of the Foreign Service or spouse of a member of the Foreign Service is licensed and able to operate in multiple jurisdictions through an interstate licensure compact, with respect to services provided in the jurisdiction of the interstate licensure compact by a licensee covered by such compact, the member of the Foreign Service or spouse of a member of the Foreign Service shall be subject to the requirements of the compact or the applicable provisions of law of the applicable State and not this section.

“(c) COVERED LICENSE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered license’ means a professional license or certificate—

“(1) that is in good standing with the licensing authority that issued such professional license or certificate;

“(2) that the member of the Foreign Service or spouse of a member of the Foreign Service has actively used during the two years immediately preceding the relocation described in subsection (a); and

“(3) that is not a license to practice law.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 2 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 908 the following new item:

“Sec. 909. Portability of professional licenses.”.

SEC. 9110. EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEPARTMENT-PAID STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9201 of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2022 (22 U.S.C. 2737) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by inserting “or have graduated from such an institution within the six months preceding application to the Program” after “paragraph (1)”; and

(2) in subsection (c), by inserting “and gives preference to individuals who have not previously completed internships within the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development” after “career in foreign affairs”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following subsections:

“(k) WORK HOURS FLEXIBILITY.—Students participating in the Program may work fewer than 40 hours per week and a minimum of 24 hours per week to accommodate their academic schedules, provided that the total duration of the internship remains consistent with program requirements.

“(l) MENTORSHIP PROGRAM.—The Secretary and Administrator are authorized to establish a mentoring and coaching program that pairs Foreign Service or Civil Service employees with interns who choose to participate throughout the duration of their internship.”.

SEC. 9111. CAREER INTERMISSION PROGRAM ADJUSTMENT TO ENHANCE RETENTION.

(a) AUTHORITY TO EXTEND FEDERAL EMPLOYEE HEALTH BENEFIT COVERAGE.—The Secretary and Administrator are authorized to offer employees the option of extending Federal Employee Health Benefit coverage during pre-approved leave without pay for up to 3 years.

(b) RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREMIUM PAYMENTS.—If an employee elects to continue coverage pursuant to subsection (a) for longer than 365 days, the employee shall be responsible for 100 percent of the premium (employee share and government share) during such longer period.

SEC. 9112. PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall seek to increase the number of professional counselors, including licensed clinical social workers, providing services for employees under chief of mission authority. These positions may be filled under Limited Non-Career Appointment terms.

(b) EMPLOYMENT TARGETS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this division, the Secretary shall seek to employ not fewer than 4 additional professional counselors, including licensed clinical social workers, in the Bureau of Medical Services to work out of regional medical centers abroad.

SEC. 9113. ASSIGNMENT PROCESS MODERNIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act,

the Secretary shall modernize the Foreign Service bidding process, and specifically implement the following elements:

(1) A stable-pair matching, preference-ranking system for non-directed Foreign Service employees and hiring bureaus, allowing for a more strategic alignment of workforce and resources.

(2) Incorporation of lessons learned from the previous stable-pair matching bidding pilot framework referred to as “iMatch”, but applied more expansively to include non-directed assignments up through FS-01 positions, taking advantage of efficiency benefits such as tandem assignment functionalities.

(3) Mechanisms to ensure transparency, efficiency, effectiveness, accountability, and flexibility in the assignment process, while maintaining equal opportunities for all officers.

(4) An independent auditing process to ensure adherence to established rules, effectiveness in meeting the Department’s needs, and prevention of bias or manipulation, including through the use of protected categories in making assignment decisions.

(b) CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN PROMOTION ISSUES.—In parallel with assignment process modernization efforts, the Secretary shall—

(1) assess whether any point systems tied to promotion incentives should consider service in hard-to-fill or critical positions; and

(2) assess whether the practice of dividing the assignment process into winter and summer cycles is necessary or efficient compared to stable matching processes.

(c) REPORTING AND OVERSIGHT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of the assignment process under this section, including—

(1) data on match rates, including in filling critical or priority positions, officer and hiring office satisfaction, and the impact on tandem placements;

(2) recommendations for further modifications to the bidding process;

(3) an overview of the strategy used to communicate any changes to the workforce; and

(4) results of analysis into additional transparency efforts, including those described in subsection (a)(3).

SEC. 9114. REPORT ON MODIFYING CONSULAR TOUR AND FIRST TOURS REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that evaluates the feasibility of—

(1) reducing, removing, and adding flexibility to the directed consular tours requirements for non-consular-coned generalist members of the Foreign Service; and

(2) requiring that first tours for members of the Foreign Service be assigned in the National Capital Region.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include a description of resources required to implement the changes described in such subsection, a timeline for implementation, and an assessment of the benefits and consequences of such changes, including any obstacles.

SEC. 9115. COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON VETTING AND TRANSPARENCY.

(a) COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON VETTING AND TRANSPARENCY.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop a consistent and enhanced vetting process to ensure that individuals with substantiated claims of discrimination or harassment against them, to include when administrative or disciplinary

actions are taken, are not considered for assignments to senior positions or promotions to senior grades within the Foreign Service.

(b) **ELEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE VETTING POLICY.**—Following the conclusion of any investigation into an allegation of discrimination or harassment, the Office of Civil Rights, Office of Global Talent Management, and other offices with responsibilities related to the investigation reporting directly to the Secretary shall jointly or individually submit a written summary of any findings of substantiated allegations, along with a summary of findings to the committee responsible for assignments to senior positions prior to such committee rendering a recommendation for assignment.

(c) **RESPONSE.**—The Secretary shall develop a process for candidates to respond to any allegations that are substantiated and presented to the committee responsible for assignments to senior positions.

(d) **ANNUAL REPORTS.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall submit to the Department workforce and the appropriate congressional committees a report on the number of candidates confirmed for senior diplomatic posts against whom there were substantiated allegations described in subsection (a).

(e) **SENIOR POSITIONS DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “senior positions” means Chief of Mission, Under Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Deputy Chief of Mission, and Principal Officer (i.e., Consuls General) positions.

SEC. 9116. EFFICIENCY IN EMPLOYEE SURVEY CREATION AND CONSOLIDATION.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that employee surveys are crucial for understanding the needs and concerns of the workforce, and are most effective when they are strategically designed, collected, and the results transparent where possible.

(b) **CONSOLIDATED RESOURCE REQUIREMENT.**—The Department shall provide a consolidated resource of survey methods, best practices, and a repository of survey data to avoid survey fatigue, minimize duplicating surveys, increase confidence in survey data, and facilitate data-informed decision-making.

(c) **TIMING.**—The Secretary should determine the overall timing and administration of mandated surveys to ensure maximum participation and robust data sets.

SEC. 9117. PER DIEM ALLOWANCE FOR NEWLY HIRED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

(a) **PER DIEM ALLOWANCE.**—
(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any newly hired Foreign Service employee who is in initial orientation training, or any other training expected to last less than 6 months in the Washington, D.C. area before transferring to the employee’s first assignment overseas or domestically outside the Washington, D.C. area shall, for the duration of such training, receive a per diem allowance at the levels prescribed under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) **LIMITATION ON LODGING EXPENSES.**—A newly hired Foreign Service employee may not receive any lodging expenses under the applicable per diem allowance pursuant to paragraph (1) if that employee—

(A) has a permanent residence in the Washington, D.C., area (not including government-supplied housing during such orientation training or other training); and

(B) does not vacate such residence during such orientation training or other training.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

(1) the term “per diem allowance” has the meaning given such term in section 5701 of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) the term “Washington, D.C., area” means the geographic area within a 50-mile radius of the Washington Monument.

SEC. 9118. TERMINATION OF RESIDENTIAL OR MOTOR VEHICLE LEASES AND TELEPHONE SERVICE CONTRACTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

Section 907 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4087) is amended by striking “Service who are posted abroad at a Foreign Service post” and inserting “Foreign Service who are posted in the United States or posted abroad”.

SEC. 9119. NEEDS-BASED CHILDCARE SUBSIDIES ENROLLMENT PERIOD.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Department and USAID shall—

(1) issue and maintain guidance on how to apply for any program authorized under section 630 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2002 (Public Law 107-67; 115 Stat. 552); and

(2) consider using maximum flexibilities to accept applications throughout the year or in accordance with Qualifying Life Event changes (as defined by the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB)).

SEC. 9120. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON DEPARTMENT TRAVELER EXPERIENCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the effect of section 40118 of title 49, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Fly America Act”) on Department travelers.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall include an analysis of the extent to which the Fly America Act—

(1) disproportionately impacts Department personnel;

(2) impacts travelers, including their ability to find suitable flights and the ability to complete their travel in a timely and effective manner;

(3) increases or decreases costs to the United States Government;

(4) produces overly burdensome restrictions in times of urgent travel such as Emergency Visitation Travel and Ordered/Authorized Departure; and

(5) a description of other relevant issues the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

SEC. 9121. QUARTERLY REPORT ON GLOBAL FOOTPRINT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the global footprint of the Department.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall include, for each diplomatic post—

(1) the number and type of Department employees assigned to the post; and

(2) the number of allocated positions that remain unfilled.

(c) **FORM.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in classified form.

SEC. 9122. REPORT ON FORMER FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ADVISING FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees, the Select Com-

mittee on Intelligence of the Senate, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence a report that identifies former United States Government senior officials who have been approved by the Secretary to advise foreign governments.

(b) **FORM.**—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 9123. JOB SHARE AND PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish and publish a Department policy on job share and part-time employment opportunities. The policy shall include a template for job sharing arrangements, a database of job share and part-time employment opportunities, and a point of contact in the Bureau of Global Talent Management.

(b) **WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY TRAINING.**—The Secretary shall incorporate training on workplace flexibility, including the availability of job share and part-time employment opportunities, into employee onboarding and every level of supervisory training.

(c) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for the following 5 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on workplace flexibility at the Department, including data on the number of employees utilizing job share or part-time employment arrangements.

SEC. 9124. EXPANSION OF SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN MONTHLY WORKERS' COMPENSATION PAYMENTS AND OTHER PAYMENTS FOR PERSONNEL UNDER CHIEF OF MISSION AUTHORITY.

Section 901 of title IX of division J of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (22 U.S.C. 2680b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “of a” and inserting “of an”; and

(ii) by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”; and

(C) in paragraph (3), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”; and

(2) in subsection (h)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”.

SEC. 9125. AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE OR REIMBURSE FOR CERTAIN SECURITY SERVICES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary and the Administrator are authorized to provide or reimburse for appropriate security services to mitigate risks to certain employees or members of their households resulting from or related to the employee’s official duties or affiliation with the Department or USAID. These security equipment or services may include security cameras and services to de-prioritize or remove internet search results revealing personally identifiable information.

(b) **REQUIRED POLICY.**—Prior to providing or reimbursing services pursuant to subsection (a), the Department shall establish a policy that—

(1) outlines the requirements for qualifying for provision or reimbursement of services;

(2) identifies the office responsible for vetting requests for provision or reimbursement of services; and

(3) mandates expeditious consideration of such requests.

(c) PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION.—The Secretary and the Administrator shall not collect personally identifiable information on any United States citizens while undertaking the activities described in subsection (a) unless the collection is authorized by a court as part of a criminal investigation.

TITLE II—ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

SEC. 9201. STATE-OF-THE-ART BUILDING FACILITIES.

The Secretary should use existing waiver authorities to expedite upgrades and critical maintenance for the Harry S. Truman Federal Building, with the goal of having at least 85 percent of construction and upgrades completed by December 31, 2027.

SEC. 9202. PRESENCE OF CHIEFS OF MISSION AT DIPLOMATIC POSTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR ARRIVAL AT DIPLOMATIC POST WITHIN 60 DAYS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall require that to be eligible for payment of travel expenses for initial arrival at the assigned post, a chief of mission must arrive at the post not later than 60 days after the date on which the chief of mission was confirmed by the Senate.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—The restriction under paragraph (1) shall not apply to a chief of mission who arrives later than 60 days after confirmation by the Senate if the delay was caused by one or more of the following:

(A) A flight delay that was outside of the control of the chief of mission or the Department.

(B) A natural disaster, global health emergency, or other naturally occurring event that prevented the chief of mission from entering the country of the assigned post.

(C) Delay or refusal by the government of the host country to accept diplomatic accreditation.

(D) Family or medical emergency.

(E) Extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the chief of mission.

(3) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirement under paragraph (1) upon a determination that extenuating circumstances warrant such a waiver and upon submission of a brief description of the determination to the appropriate congressional committees.

(4) NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and in each case that a chief of mission arrives at an assigned post more than 60 days after confirmation, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report identifying any chief of mission who arrived at the assigned post more than 60 days after confirmation by the Senate, and includes a description of the justification.

(b) NOTIFICATIONS ON DEPARTURES OF CHIEFS OF MISSION.—Beginning on April 1, 2025, for 5 years, the Secretary shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of any chief of mission who has permanently departed from the assigned post within 90 days of the departure.

SEC. 9203. PERIODIC INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEWS OF CHIEFS OF MISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on April 1, 2025, and for a 3-year period thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of State shall conduct management reviews of chiefs of mission, charge d'affaires, and other principal officers assigned overseas during inspection visits, when those officers have been at post more than 180 days.

(b) DISPOSITION.—Reviews conducted pursuant to subsection (a) shall be provided to the rating officer for formal discussion as part of the performance evaluation process. The

management review shall remain in the employee's personnel file unless otherwise required by law. The subject of a review conducted pursuant to subsection (a) shall have the opportunity to respond to and comment on the review, and the response shall be included in the employee's file for promotion panel review.

(c) NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT IN CASE OF SERIOUS MANAGEMENT CONCERNS.—The Inspector General of the Department of State shall notify the Secretary, the Deputy Secretary, and the appropriate congressional committees within 30 days of any review in which serious management concerns are raised and substantiated, and which is not otherwise submitted as part of the periodic inspection or report.

SEC. 9204. SPECIAL ENVOY FOR SUDAN.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The President shall, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a Special Envoy for Sudan at the Department (in this section referred to as the "Special Envoy"). The Special Envoy shall report directly to the Secretary and should not hold another position in the Department while holding the position of Special Envoy.

(b) DUTIES.—The Special Envoy shall—

(1) lead United States diplomatic efforts to support negotiations and humanitarian response efforts related to alleviating the crisis in Sudan;

(2) be responsible for coordinating policy development and execution related to ending the conflict and a future path to national recovery and democratic transition in Sudan across all bureaus in the Department and coordinating with interagency partners; and

(3) consult regularly with the appropriate congressional committees, and keep such committees fully and currently informed on the status of diplomatic efforts and negotiations.

(c) STAFFING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall ensure that the Special Envoy is staffed with personnel approved by the envoy, including through reassignment of positions responsible for issues related to Sudan that currently exist within the Department, encouraging details or assignment of employees of the Department from regional and functional bureaus with expertise relevant to Sudan, or through request for interagency details of individuals with relevant experience from other United States Government departments or agencies, including the Department of Treasury.

(2) BRIEFING REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Department should brief the appropriate congressional committees on the number of full-time equivalent positions supporting the Special Envoy and the relevant expertise and duties of any employees of the Department serving as detailees.

(d) SUNSET.—The position of the Special Envoy for Sudan shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 9205. SPECIAL ENVOY FOR BELARUS.

Section 6406(d) of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2023 (division F of Public Law 118-31; 22 U.S.C. 5811 note) is amended to read as follows:

"(d) ROLE.—The position of Special Envoy—

"(1) shall only exist while United States diplomatic operations in Belarus at the United States Embassy in Minsk, Belarus are suspended; and

"(2) shall oversee the operations and personnel of the Belarus Affairs Unit."

SEC. 9206. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.

Title I of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 is amended by adding

after section 64 (22 U.S.C. 2735a) the following:

"SEC. 65. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.

"(a) ACTIVITIES.—

"(1) SUPPORT AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary is authorized to provide, by contract, grant, or otherwise, for the performance of appropriate museum visitor and educational outreach services and related events, including—

"(A) organizing programs and conference activities;

"(B) creating, designing, and installing exhibits; and

"(C) conducting museum shop services and food services in the public exhibition and related physical and virtual space utilized by the National Museum of American Diplomacy.

"(2) RECOVERY OF COSTS.—The Secretary of State is authorized to retain the proceeds obtained from customary and appropriate fees charged for the use of facilities, including venue rental for events consistent with the activities described in subsection (a)(1) and museum shop services and food services at the National Museum of American Diplomacy. Such proceeds shall be retained as a recovery of the costs of operating the Museum, credited to a designated Department account that exists for the purpose of funding the Museum and its programs and activities, and shall remain available until expended.

"(b) DISPOSITION OF DOCUMENTS, ARTIFACTS, AND OTHER ARTICLES.—

"(1) PROPERTY.—All historic documents, artifacts, or other articles acquired by the Department of State for the permanent museum collection and determined by the Secretary of State to be suitable for display by the National Museum of American Diplomacy shall be considered to be the property of the United States Government and shall be subject to disposition solely in accordance with this subsection.

"(2) SALE, TRADE, OR TRANSFER.—Whenever the Secretary of State makes a determination described in paragraph (3) with respect to a document, artifact, or other article described in paragraph (1), taking into account considerations such as the Museum's collections management policy and best professional museum practice, the Secretary may sell at fair market value, trade, or transfer such document, artifact, or other article without regard to the requirements of subtitle I of title 40, United States Code. The proceeds of any such sale may be used solely for the advancement of the activities described in subsection (a)(1) of the National Museum of American Diplomacy and may not be used for any purpose other than the acquisition and direct care of the collections of the Museum.

"(3) DETERMINATIONS PRIOR TO SALE, TRADE, OR TRANSFER.—The determination described in this paragraph with respect to a document, artifact, or other article described in paragraph (1) is a determination that—

"(A) the document, artifact, or other article no longer serves to further the mission of the National Museum of American Diplomacy as set forth in the collections management policy of the Museum;

"(B) the sale at a fair market price based on an independent appraisal or trade or transfer of the document, artifact, or other article would serve to maintain or enhance the Museum collection; and

"(C) the sale, trade, or transfer of the document, artifact, or other article would be in the best interests of the United States.

"(4) LOANS.—In addition to the authorization under paragraph (2) relating to the sale, trade, or transfer of documents, artifacts, or

other articles described in paragraph (1), the Secretary of State may—

“(A) loan the documents, artifacts, or other articles to other institutions, both foreign and domestic, for repair, study, or exhibition when not needed for use or display by the National Museum of American Diplomacy; and

“(B) borrow documents, artifacts, or other articles from other institutions or individuals, both foreign and domestic, for activities consistent with subsection (a)(1).”

SEC. 9207. AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH NEGOTIATIONS SUPPORT UNIT WITHIN DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) there is a need for the United States Government to maintain a permanent institutional hub for technical expertise, strategic advice, and knowledge management in negotiations, mediation, and peace processes in order to prioritize and invest in diplomacy;

(2) the United States plays a role in enabling and supporting peace processes and complex political negotiations, the success of which is essential to stability and democracy around the world;

(3) the meaningful engagement of conflict-affected communities, particularly women, youth, and other impacted populations, is vital to durable, implementable, and sustainable peace;

(4) negotiation requires a specific technical and functional skillset, and thus institutional expertise in this practice area should include trained practitioners and subject matter experts;

(5) such skills should continue to be employed as the United States Government advises and contributes to peace processes, including those where the United States plays a supporting role or is led by multilateral and international partners; and

(6) training programs for United States diplomats should draw upon this expertise and United States lessons learned to help equip diplomats with skills to respond to peace processes and complex political negotiations, and how to request support.

(b) NEGOTIATIONS SUPPORT UNIT.—Section 1 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act (22 U.S.C. 2651a) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(p) NEGOTIATIONS SUPPORT UNIT.—

“(1) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH.—The Secretary of State may establish within the Department of State a unit to be known as the ‘Negotiations Support Unit’ responsible for carrying out the functions described in paragraph (2), as appropriate.

“(2) FUNCTIONS.—The functions described in this paragraph are the following:

“(A) Serving as a permanent institutional hub and resource for negotiations and peace process expertise and knowledge management.

“(B) Advising the Secretary of State, other relevant senior officials, members of the Foreign Service, and employees of the Department of State on the substance, process, and strategy of negotiations, mediation, peace processes, and other complex political negotiations from strategy and planning to implementation.

“(C) Supporting the development and implementation of United States policy related to complex political negotiations and peace processes, including those led by multilateral and international partners.

“(D) Advising on mediation and negotiations programs to implement United States policy.

“(E) Supporting training for Foreign Services Officers and civil servants on tailored negotiation and mediation skills.

“(F) Working with other governments, international organizations, and nongovernmental organizations, as appropriate, to support the development and implementation of United States policy on peace processes and complex political negotiations.

“(G) Any additional duties the Secretary of State may prescribe.

“(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2025 for the establishment of the Negotiations Support Unit under paragraph (1).”

SEC. 9208. RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF FUNDS FOR SOLAR PANELS.

The Department may not use Federal funds to procure any solar energy products that were manufactured in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People’s Republic of China or other regions in the country, which are known to be produced with forced labor.

SEC. 9209. RESPONSIVENESS TO CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE INQUIRIES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congressional Research Service is charged with rendering effective and efficient service to Congress and responding expeditiously, effectively, and efficiently to the needs of Congress.

(b) RESPONSES.—The Secretary and Administrator shall ensure that for any inquiry or request from the Congressional Research Service related to its support of Members of Congress and congressional staff—

(1) an initial answer responsive to the request is sent within 14 days of receipt of the inquiry;

(2) a complete answer responsive to the request is sent within 90 days of receipt of the inquiry, together with an explanation as to why the request was delayed; and

(3) Congressional Research Service staff shall be treated as congressional staff for any informal discussions or briefings.

SEC. 9210. MISSION IN A BOX.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Increasing the United States’ global diplomatic footprint is imperative to advance United States’ national security interests, particularly in the face of a massive diplomatic expansion of our strategic competitors.

(2) Opening or re-opening diplomatic missions, often in small island nations where there is no United States Government presence, but one is needed to advance United States strategic objectives.

(3) Diplomatic missions should be resourced and equipped for success upon opening to allow diplomats to focus on advancing United States national interests in-country.

(4) The United States can and should move more swiftly to open new diplomatic missions and provide United States diplomats and locally employed staff with a workplace that meets locally appropriate quality, safety, and security standards.

(5) To do this, the Department must streamline and support the process of opening new posts to identify efficiencies and removing obstacles that are unduly complicating the opening of new diplomatic missions, particularly in small island states and similarly situated locations.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on how the Department is creating a “mission in a box” concept to provide new such diplomatic missions the needed resources and authorities to quickly and efficiently stand up and operate a mission from the moment United States personnel arrive, or even be-

fore the opening of a new mission, particularly in small island nations.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a list of authorities and processes related to the opening of new diplomatic missions;

(B) a list of authorities and processes related to the opening of new diplomatic missions that the Department can waive to expediently stand up new diplomatic missions;

(C) essential functions that each new diplomatic mission should be able to carry out independently upon opening;

(D) a description of functions that another post or support center will need to carry out to support the new mission;

(E) a list of essential equipment and access to facilities, including to support secure communications, that should be provided to each new diplomatic mission, the approval of which should be handled prior to or shortly after the opening of the new diplomatic mission, including arrangements for basic office equipment, vehicles, and housing;

(F) the number of recommended locally engaged staff and United States direct hires resident in-country;

(G) the number of non-resident support staff who are assigned to the new diplomatic mission, such as from another post or regional support center;

(H) a description of how medical and consular support services could be provided;

(I) procedures for requesting an expansion of the post’s functions or physical platform after opening, should that be needed;

(J) any other authorities or processes that may be required to successfully and quickly stand up a new diplomatic mission, including any new authorities the Department may need;

(K) a list of incentives, in addition to pay differentials, being considered for such posts; and

(L) a description of any specialized training, including for management and security personnel supporting the establishment of such new embassies that may be required.

(c) SENIOR OFFICIAL TO LEAD NEW EMBASSY EXPANSION.—

(1) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary shall designate an assistant secretary-level senior official to expedite and make recommendations for the reform of procedures for opening new diplomatic missions abroad, particularly in small island states.

(2) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The senior official designated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be responsible for proposing policy and procedural changes to the Secretary to—

(A) expediting the resourcing of new diplomatic missions by waiving or reducing when possible mandatory processes required to open new diplomatic missions, taking into account the threat environment and circumstances in the host country;

(B) when necessary, quickly adjudicating within the Department any decision points that arise during the planning and execution phases of the establishment of a new mission;

(C) ensuring new missions receive the management and operational support needed, including by designating such support be undertaken by another post, regional support center, or Department entities based in the United States; and

(D) ensuring that the authorities provided in the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (title VI of division A of appendix G of Public Law 106-113), as amended by the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 2022 (section 9301 of Public Law 117-263; 136 Stat. 3879), are fully utilized in the planning for all new diplomatic missions.

(d) NEW DIPLOMATIC MISSION DEFINED.—In this section, the term “new diplomatic mission” means any bilateral diplomatic mission opened since January 1, 2020, in a country where there had not been a bilateral diplomatic mission since the date that is 20 years before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) SUNSET.—The authorities and requirements of this section shall terminate 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 9211. REPORT ON UNITED STATES CONSULATE IN CHENGDU, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the effect of the suspension of operations at of the United States Consulate General in Chengdu, People's Republic of China, on July 27, 2020, on diplomatic and consular activities of the United States in Southwestern China, including the provision of consular services to United States citizens, and on relations with the people of Southwestern China, including in areas designated by the Government of the People's Republic of China as autonomous.

SEC. 9212. PERSONNEL REPORTING.

Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and at least every 120 days thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

(1) describing the on-board personnel levels, hiring, and attrition of the Civil Service, Foreign Service, eligible family members, locally employed staff, and contractor workforce of the Department, on an operating unit-by-operating unit basis; and

(2) including a status update on progress toward fiscal year hiring plans for Foreign Service and Civil Service.

SEC. 9213. SUPPORT CO-LOCATION WITH ALLIED PARTNER NATIONS.

The Secretary, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, may alter, repair, and furnish United States Government-owned and leased space for use by the government of a foreign country to facilitate co-location of such government in such space, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine, including with respect to reimbursement of all or part of the costs of such alteration, repair, or furnishing. Reimbursements or advances of funds pursuant to this section may be credited to the currently applicable appropriation and shall be available for the purposes for which such appropriation is authorized.

SEC. 9214. STREAMLINE QUALIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT BIDDERS.

Section 402 of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4852) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by inserting “be awarded” after “joint venture persons may”;

(B) by striking “bid on” both places it appears; and

(C) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$10,000,000” and inserting “\$25,000,000”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph 1, by striking “two” and inserting “three”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (D), by striking “at a United States diplomatic or consular establishment abroad” and inserting “on a Federal contract abroad”;

(ii) by striking subparagraphs (E) and (G);

(iii) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (E); and

(iv) in subparagraph (E), as redesignated by clause (iii), by striking “80” [both places it appears] and inserting “65”.

TITLE III—INFORMATION SECURITY AND CYBER DIPLOMACY

SEC. 9301. SUPPORTING DEPARTMENT OF STATE DATA ANALYTICS.

There is authorized to be appropriated for the Department of State for fiscal year 2025 \$3,000,000 for bureaus to hire Chief Data Officers through the “Bureau Chief Data Officer Program”, consistent with section 6302 of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2023 (division F of Public Law 118-31; 22 U.S.C. 2651a note).

SEC. 9302. REALIGNING THE REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY OFFICER PROGRAM.

Section 9508(a)(1) of the Department of State Authorizations Act of 2022 (division I of Public Law 117-263; 22 U.S.C. 10305(a)(1)) is amended by inserting “, and shall be administered by the Bureau for Cyberspace and Digital Policy” before the period at the end.

SEC. 9303. MEASURES TO PROTECT DEPARTMENT DEVICES FROM THE PROLIFERATION AND USE OF FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SPYWARE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(1) COVERED DEVICE.—The term “covered device” means any electronic mobile device, including smartphones, tablet computing devices, or laptop computing device, that is issued by the Department for official use.

(2) FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SPYWARE; SPYWARE.—The terms “foreign commercial spyware” and “spyware” have the meanings given those terms in section 1102A of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3232a).

(b) PROTECTION OF COVERED DEVICES.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency—

(A) issue standards, guidance, best practices, and policies for Department and USAID personnel to protect covered devices from being compromised by foreign commercial spyware;

(B) survey the processes used by the Department and USAID to identify and catalog instances where a covered device was compromised by foreign commercial spyware over the prior 2 years and it is reasonably expected to have resulted in an unauthorized disclosure of sensitive information; and

(C) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the measures in place to identify and catalog instances of such compromises for covered devices by foreign commercial spyware, which may be submitted in classified form.

(2) NOTIFICATIONS.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which an element of the Department becomes aware that a covered device was compromised by foreign commercial spyware, the Secretary, in coordination with relevant agencies, shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress of the facts concerning such targeting or compromise, including—

(A) the location of the personnel whose covered device was compromised;

(B) the number of covered devices compromised;

(C) an assessment by the Secretary of the damage to the national security of the United States resulting from any loss of data or sensitive information; and

(D) an assessment by the Secretary of any foreign government or foreign organization or entity, and, to the extent possible, the foreign individuals, who directed and benefited from any information acquired from the compromise.

SEC. 9304. REPORT ON CLOUD COMPUTING IN BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the status of the Bureau of Consular Affairs adoption of cloud-based products and services as well as options to require enterprise-wide adoption of cloud computing, including for all consular operations.

SEC. 9305. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROJECTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Information Officer of the Department of State should, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Consular Affairs, prioritize information technology systems with high potential to accelerate the passport renewal processes, reduce processing times, and reduce dependency on legacy systems.

SEC. 9306. LEVERAGING APPROVED TECHNOLOGY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCIES.

The Secretary and Administrator shall ensure appropriate and secure technological solutions are authorized and available for employee use, where feasible, to promote technological fluency in the workforce, including the integration of secure tools in the evaluation process to ensure performance management standards while maximizing efficiency.

SEC. 9307. OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY FOR CRITICAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish an Office of the Special Envoy for Critical and Emerging Technology (referred to in this section as the “Office”), which may be located within the Bureau for Cyberspace and Digital Policy.

(b) LEADERSHIP.—

(1) SPECIAL ENVOY.—The Office shall be headed by a Special Envoy for Critical and Emerging Technology, who shall—

(A) be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

(B) have the rank and status of ambassador; and

(C) report to the Ambassador-at-Large for Cyberspace and Digital Policy.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Office may include representatives or expert detailees from other key Federal agencies or research and technology-focused fellowship programs, as determined by the Special Envoy for Critical and Emerging Technology and with the consent of the Ambassador-at-Large for Cyberspace and Digital Policy, in coordination with appropriate senior officials of the Department and such agencies.

(d) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Office shall include—

(1) establishing, in coordination with relevant bureaus, offices and other Federal agencies, an interagency security review process for proposals regarding United States Government-funded international collaboration on certain critical and emerging technologies and associated research;

(2) establishing and coordinating an interagency strategy to facilitate international cooperation with United States allies and partners regarding the development, use, and deployment of critical and emerging technologies and associated standards and safeguards for research security, intellectual property protection, and illicit knowledge transfer;

(3) facilitating technology partnerships with countries and relevant political and economic unions that are committed to—

(A) the rule of law and respect for human rights, including freedom of speech, and expression;

(B) the safe and responsible development and use of certain critical and emerging technologies and the establishment of related norms and standards, including for research security and the protection of sensitive data and technology;

(C) a secure internet architecture governed by a multi-stakeholder model instead of centralized government control;

(D) secure and resilient supply chains;

(E) robust international cooperation to promote open and interoperable technological products and services that are necessary to freedom, innovation, transparency, and privacy; and

(F) multilateral coordination, including through diplomatic initiatives, information sharing, and other activities, to defend the principles described in subparagraphs (A) through (E) against efforts by state and non-state actors to undermine them;

(4) supporting efforts to harmonize technology governance regimes with partners, coordinating on basic and pre-competitive research and development initiatives, and collaborating to pursue such opportunities in certain critical and emerging technologies;

(5) coordinating with other technology partners on export control policies for certain critical and emerging technologies, including countering illicit knowledge and data transfer related to certain critical and emerging technology research;

(6) conducting diplomatic engagement, in coordination with other bureaus, offices, and relevant Federal departments and agencies, with allies and partners to develop standards and coordinate policies designed to counter illicit knowledge and data transfer in academia related to critical and emerging technology research;

(7) coordinating with allies, partners, and other relevant Federal agencies to prevent the exploitation of research partnerships related to certain critical and emerging technologies;

(8) sharing information regarding the threat posed by the transfer of certain critical and emerging technologies to authoritarian governments, including the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation, and the ways in which autocratic regimes are utilizing technology, including for military and security purposes, to erode individual freedoms and other foundations of open, democratic societies; and

(9) collaborating with private companies, trade associations, and think tanks to realize the purposes described in paragraphs (1) through (8).

(e) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for the following 5 years, the Secretary, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, as appropriate, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an unclassified report, with a classified index, if necessary, regarding—

(1) the activities of the Office related to paragraphs (1) through (9) of subsection (d), including any cooperative initiatives and partnerships pursued with United States allies and partners, and the results of such activities, initiatives, and partnerships;

(2) the activities of the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese Communist Party, and the Russian Federation in sectors related to certain critical and emerging technologies and the threats they pose to the United States; and

(3) an inventory of all international research and development programs for certain critical and emerging technologies funded by the Department or USAID that include participation by institutions or organizations that are affiliated with, or receive support from, the Government of the People's Republic of China or the Government of the Russian Federation.

(f) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) **CERTAIN CRITICAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.**—The term “certain critical and emerging technologies” means the technologies determined by the Secretary, in consultation with other Federal agencies, from the critical and emerging technologies list published by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) at the Office of Science and Technology Policy, as amended by subsequent updates to the list issued by the NSTC.

TITLE IV—PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

SEC. 9401. AFRICA BROADCASTING NETWORKS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the resources and timeline needed to establish within the Agency an organization the mission of which shall be to promote democratic values and institutions in Africa by providing objective, accurate, and relevant news and information to the people of Africa and counter disinformation from malign actors, especially in countries in which a free press is banned by the government or not fully established, about the region, the world, and the United States through uncensored news, responsible discussion, and open debate.

SEC. 9402. UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR GLOBAL MEDIA.

Section 306 of the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22 U.S.C. 6205) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsection (g) and (h), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) **SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT OF GRANTEES.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), a grantee may not be debarred or suspended without consultation with the Chief Executive Officer and a three-fourths majority vote of the Advisory Board in support of such action.

“(2) **SUSPENSION.**—

“(A) **CRITERIA FOR SUSPENSION.**—A grantee may not be suspended unless the Advisory Board determines that the criteria described in section 513.405 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, have been met.

“(B) **SUSPENDING OFFICIAL.**—The Advisory Board shall collectively serve as the suspending official (as described in section 513.105 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations).

“(3) **DEBARMENT.**—

“(A) **CRITERIA FOR DEBARMENT.**—A grantee may not be debarred unless the Advisory Board determines that one or more of the causes described in section 513.305 of title 22,

Code of Federal Regulations, has been established.

“(B) **DEBARRING OFFICIAL.**—The Advisory Board shall collectively serve as the debarring official (as described in section 513.105 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations).”.

SEC. 9403. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATIONS TO SUPPORT UNITED STATES PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL FAIRS AND EXPOS.

Section 9601 of the Department of State Authorizations Act of 2022 (division I of Public Law 117-263; 136 Stat. 3909) is amended in subsection (b), by striking “fiscal years 2023 and 2024” and inserting “fiscal years 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027”.

SEC. 9404. RESEARCH AND SCHOLAR EXCHANGE PARTNERSHIPS.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) it is in the strategic interest of the United States to strengthen relations with Sub-Saharan African states to promote shared interests in the areas of—

(A) democracy and good governance;

(B) education and human capital;

(C) trade and economic development;

(D) science and technology;

(E) biodiversity, food, and agriculture; and

(F) the preservation and management of natural resources, including critical minerals; and

(2) historically Black colleges and universities (referred to in this section as “HBCUs”) have a long history of—

(A) cultivating diaspora relations with Sub-Saharan African states; and

(B) developing innovative solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges.

(b) **STRENGTHENED PARTNERSHIPS.**—The Secretary and the Administrator should seek to strengthen and expand partnerships and educational exchange opportunities, including by working with HBCUs, which build the capacity and expertise of students, scholars, and experts from Sub-Saharan Africa in key development sectors.

(d) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Administrator is authorized to—

(1) provide technical assistance to HBCUs to assist in fulfilling the goals of this section, including in developing contracts, operating agreements, legal documents, and related infrastructure; and

(2) upon request, provide feedback to HBCUs, to the maximum extent practicable, after a grant rejection from relevant Federal programs in order to improve future grant applications, as appropriate.

SEC. 9405. WAIVER OF UNITED STATES RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR CHILDREN OF RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY EMPLOYEES.

Section 320(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1431(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (1)(B), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(2) by adding at the end of the following new paragraph:

“(3) the child residing in the legal and physical custody of a citizen parent who is residing abroad as a result of employment with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.”.

TITLE V—DIPLOMATIC SECURITY

SEC. 9501. SECURE EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION AND COUNTERTERRORISM ACT REQUIREMENTS.

(a) **REPORT.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe new guidance and requirements consistent with the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (title VI of division A of appendix

G of Public Law 106-113), as amended by the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 2022 (section 9301 of Public Law 117-263; 136 Stat. 3879) and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing such guidance and requirements, including the impact of implementation on United States diplomatic facilities and construction projects.

(b) **CONSEQUENCE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.**—If the Secretary fails to meet the requirement under subsection (a) no Federal funds appropriated to the Department shall be used for official travel by senior staff in the executive office of the Diplomatic Security Service, including the Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security, until such time as the Secretary meets the requirement.

(c) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary may waive the restriction in subsection (b) to meet urgent and critical needs if the Secretary provides written notification to the appropriate congressional committees in advance of travel.

SEC. 9502. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION FOR SERIOUS SECURITY INCIDENTS.

Section 301(a) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4833(a)), is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

“(2) **INITIAL CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.**—The Secretary shall notify the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, the majority and minority leaders of the Senate, and the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives not later than 8 days after a possible Serious Security Incident has taken place. Such notification shall include a preliminary description of the incident, of an incident described in paragraph (1), including any known individuals involved, when and where the incident took place, and the next steps in the investigation.”; and

(3) in paragraph (4), as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this section, by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting “paragraph (3)”.

SEC. 9503. NOTIFICATIONS REGARDING SECURITY DECISIONS AT DIPLOMATIC POSTS.

Section 103(c) of section 103 of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4802(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

(2) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting “(1) The Secretary”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) The Secretary of State shall notify the appropriate congressional committees within 10 days of any decision to retain authority over or approve decisions at an overseas post, including the movement of personnel.”.

SEC. 9504. SECURITY CLEARANCE SUSPENSION PAY FLEXIBILITIES.

Section 610(c)(6) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4010(c)(6)) is amended by striking “paragraph 1(B)” and inserting “this subsection”.

SEC. 9505. MODIFICATION TO NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR SECURITY CLEARANCE SUSPENSIONS AND REVOCATIONS.

Section 6710(a) of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2023 (division F of Public Law 118-31; 22 U.S.C. 2651a note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and moving such subparagraphs, as so redesignated, 2 ems to the right;

(2) by striking “IN GENERAL.—With respect” and inserting the following: “NOTIFICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect”;

(3) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “revocation on” and all that follows through “or revocation” and inserting “revocation on—

“(A) the present employment status of the covered official and whether the job duties of the covered official have changed since such suspension or revocation;

“(B) the reason for such suspension or revocation;

“(C) the investigation of the covered official and the results of such investigation; and

“(D) any negative fallout or impacts for the Department of State, the United States Government, or national security of the United States as a result of the actions for which the security clearance was suspended or revoked.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) **SUBMISSION TO INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITIES.**—To the extent the basis for any suspension or revocation of a security clearance is premised on the unauthorized release of intelligence (as defined by section 3(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(1)), the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives shall be an appropriate congressional committee for the purposes of this section.”.

TITLE VI—UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 9601. PERSONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

Section 636(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2396(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(17) employing individuals or organizations, by contract, for services abroad for purposes of this Act and title II of the Food for Peace Act, and individuals employed by contract to perform such services shall not by virtue of such employment be considered to be employees of the United States Government (except that the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development may determine the applicability to such individuals of section 5 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1965 (22 U.S.C. 2672) regarding tort claims when such claims arise in foreign countries in connection with United States operations abroad, and of any other law administered by the Administrator concerning the employment of such individuals abroad), and such contracts are authorized to be negotiated, the terms of the contracts to be prescribed, and the work to be performed, where necessary, without regard to such statutory provisions as relate to the negotiation, making, and performance of contracts and performance of work in the United States.”.

SEC. 9602. CRISIS OPERATIONS AND DISASTER SURGE STAFFING.

Section 625 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2385) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(k) **CRISIS OPERATIONS AND DISASTER SURGE STAFFING.**—(1) The United States Agency for International Development is authorized to appoint personnel in the excepted service using funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available under the heading “Transition Initiatives” in an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs to carry out the provisions of part I and chapter 4 of part II of this Act of and section 509(b) of the Global Fragility Act of

2019 (title V of division J of Public Law 116-94) to prevent or respond to foreign crises and contexts with growing instability;

“(2) Funds authorized to carry out such purposes may be made available for the operating expenses and administrative costs of such personnel and may remain attributed to any minimum funding requirement for which they were originally made available.

“(3) The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall coordinate with the Office of Personnel Management on implementation of the appointment authority under paragraph (1).”.

SEC. 9603. EDUCATION ALLOWANCE WHILE ON MILITARY LEAVE.

Section 908 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4088) is amended by inserting “or United States Agency for International Development” after “A Department”.

SEC. 9604. INCLUSION IN THE PET TRANSPORTATION EXCEPTION TO THE FLY AMERICA ACT.

Section 6224(a)(1) of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2023 (division F of Public Law 118-31; 22 U.S.C. 4081a) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(1) by striking “the Department is” and inserting “the Department and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and other United States Government employees under chief of mission authority are”; and

(2) by striking “Department personnel” and inserting “Department and USAID personnel, and other United States Government employees under chief of mission authority”.

TITLE VII—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 9701. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS TO PROMOTE UNITED STATES CITIZEN EMPLOYMENT AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President should direct United States departments and agencies to, in coordination with the Secretary —

(1) fund and recruit Junior Professional Officers for positions at the United Nations and related specialized and technical organizations; and

(2) facilitate secondments, details, and transfers to agencies and specialized and technical bodies of the United Nations.

(b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated an additional \$20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2025 through 2031 for the Secretary to support Junior Professional Officers, details, transfers, and interns that advance United States interests at multilateral institutions and international organizations, including to recruit, train, and host events related to such positions, and to promote United States citizen candidates for employment and leadership positions at multilateral institutions and international organizations.

(c) **AVAILABILITY.**—Amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) shall remain available until expended.

(d) **CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.**—Not later than 15 days prior to the obligation of funds authorized to be appropriated under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a notification outlining the amount and proposed use of such funds.

SEC. 9702. AMENDMENT TO REWARDS FOR JUSTICE PROGRAM.

Section 36(b) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (13), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(15) the restraining, seizing, forfeiting, or repatriating of stolen assets linked to foreign government corruption and the proceeds of such corruption.”.

SEC. 9703. PASSPORT AUTOMATION MODERNIZATION.

The Act entitled “An Act to regulate the issue and validity of passports, and for other purposes”, approved July 3, 1926 (44 Stat. 887, 22 U.S.C. 211a), is amended—

(1) by inserting “and through the use of Department of State electronic systems,” after “the insular possessions of the United States,”; and

(2) by striking “person” and inserting “entity”.

SEC. 9704. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PAYMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION.

Section 7(1) of Public Law 106-178 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended, in the undesignated matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “December 31, 2025” and inserting “December 31, 2030”.

SEC. 9705. SUPPORT FOR CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) congressional travel is essential to fostering international relations, understanding global issues first-hand, and jointly advancing United States interests abroad; and

(2) only in close coordination and thanks to the dedication of personnel at United States embassies, consulates, and other missions abroad can the success of these vital trips be possible.

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall reaffirm to all diplomatic posts the importance of Congressional travel and shall require all such posts to support congressional travel by members and staff of the appropriate congressional committees fully, by making such support available on any day of the week, including Federal and local holidays and, to the extent practical, requiring the direct involvement of mid-level or senior officers.

(c) EXCEPTION FOR SIMULTANEOUS HIGH-LEVEL VISITS.—The requirement under subsection (a) does not apply in the case of a simultaneous visit from the President, the First Lady or First Gentleman, the Vice President, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of Defense.

(d) TRAINING.—The Secretary shall require all designated control officers to have been trained on supporting congressional travel at posts abroad prior to the assigned congressional visit.

SEC. 9706. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION WITH VISA APPLICANTS.

Section 833(a)(5)(A) of the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act of 2005 (8 U.S.C. 1375a(a)(5)(A)) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(vi) Mailings under this subsection may be transmitted by electronic means, including electronic mail. The Secretary of State may communicate with visa applicants using personal contact information provided to them or to the Secretary of Homeland Security by the applicant, petitioner, or designated agent or attorney.”.

SEC. 9707. ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF VISA INFORMATION.

Section 222 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1202) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(i) ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of the immigration laws (as such term is defined in section 101(a)(17) of this Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17)), all requirements in the immigration laws for

communications with visa applicants shall be deemed satisfied if electronic communications are sent to the applicant using personal contact information at an address for such communications provided by the applicant, petitioner, or designated agent or attorney. The Secretary of State shall take appropriate actions to allow applicants to update their personal contact information and to ensure that electronic communications can be securely transmitted to applicants.”.

SEC. 9708. INCLUSION OF COST ASSOCIATED WITH PRODUCING REPORTS.

(a) ESTIMATED COST OF REPORTS.—Beginning on October 1, 2026, and for the next three fiscal years, the Secretary shall require that any report produced for external distribution, including for distribution to Congress, include the total estimated cost of producing such report and the estimated number of personnel hours.

(b) ANNUAL TOTAL COST OF REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year, beginning with fiscal year 2025, and for the next three fiscal years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives an annual report listing the reports issued for the prior fiscal year, the frequency of each report, the total estimated cost associated with producing such report, and the estimated number of personnel hours.

SEC. 9709. EXTENSIONS.

(a) PASSPORT FEES.—Section 1(b)(2) of the Passport Act of June 4, 1920 (22 U.S.C. 214(b)(2)) shall be applied by striking “September 30, 2010” and inserting “September 30, 2028”.

(b) USAID CIVIL SERVICE ANNUITANT WAIVER.—Section 625(j)(1)(B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2385(j)(1)(B)) shall be applied by striking “October 1, 2010” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

(c) OVERSEAS PAY COMPARABILITY AND LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The authority provided under section 1113 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111-32; 123 Stat. 1904) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2026.

(2) LIMITATION.—The authority described in paragraph (1) may not be used to pay an eligible member of the Foreign Service (as defined in section 1113(b) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111-32; 123 Stat. 1904)) a locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that exceeds two-thirds of the amount of the locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that would be payable to such member under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, if such member’s official duty station were in the District of Columbia.

(d) INSPECTOR GENERAL ANNUITANT WAIVER.—The authorities provided under section 1015(b) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111-212; 124 Stat. 2332)—

(1) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2026; and

(2) may be used to facilitate the assignment of persons for oversight of programs in Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela, and Yemen.

(e) SECURITY REVIEW COMMITTEES.—The authority provided under section 301(a)(3) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4831(a)(3)) shall remain in effect for facilities in Afghanistan and shall apply to facilities in Ukraine through September 30, 2026, except that the notification and reporting requirements contained in such section shall include the appropriate congressional com-

mittees, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SA 3197. Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title X, add the following:

Subtitle I—International Nuclear Energy Act of 2024

SEC. 1099A. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “International Nuclear Energy Act of 2024”.

SEC. 1099B. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR.—The term “advanced nuclear reactor” means—

(A) a nuclear fission reactor, including a prototype plant (as defined in sections 50.2 and 52.1 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations (or successor regulations)), with significant improvements compared to reactors operating on October 19, 2016, including improvements such as—

(i) additional inherent safety features;

(ii) lower waste yields;

(iii) improved fuel and material performance;

(iv) increased tolerance to loss of fuel cooling;

(v) enhanced reliability or improved resilience;

(vi) increased proliferation resistance;

(vii) increased thermal efficiency;

(viii) reduced consumption of cooling water and other environmental impacts;

(ix) the ability to integrate into electric applications and nonelectric applications;

(x) modular sizes to allow for deployment that corresponds with the demand for electricity or process heat; and

(xi) operational flexibility to respond to changes in demand for electricity or process heat and to complement integration with intermittent renewable energy or energy storage;

(B) a fusion reactor; and

(C) a radioisotope power system that utilizes heat from radioactive decay to generate energy.

(2) ALLY OR PARTNER NATION.—The term “ally or partner nation” means—

(A) the Government of any country that is a member of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development;

(B) the Government of the Republic of India; and

(C) the Government of any country designated as an ally or partner nation by the Secretary of State for purposes of this subtitle.

(3) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committees on Foreign Relations and Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate; and

(B) the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives.

(4) ASSISTANT.—The term “Assistant” means the Assistant to the President and Director for International Nuclear Energy Policy described in section 1099C(a)(1)(D).

(5) ASSOCIATED ENTITY.—The term “associated entity” means an entity that—

(A) is owned, controlled, or operated by—
 (i) an ally or partner nation; or
 (ii) an associated individual; or
 (B) is organized under the laws of, or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of, a country described in paragraph (2), including a corporation that is incorporated in a country described in that paragraph.

(6) ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUAL.—The term “associated individual” means a foreign national who is a national of a country described in paragraph (2).

(7) CIVIL NUCLEAR.—The term “civil nuclear” means activities relating to—
 (A) nuclear plant construction;
 (B) nuclear fuel services;
 (C) nuclear energy financing;
 (D) nuclear plant operations;
 (E) nuclear plant regulation;
 (F) nuclear medicine;
 (G) nuclear safety;
 (H) community engagement in areas in reasonable proximity to nuclear sites;
 (I) infrastructure support for nuclear energy;
 (J) nuclear plant decommissioning;
 (K) nuclear liability;
 (L) safe storage and safe disposal of spent nuclear fuel;
 (M) environmental safeguards;
 (N) nuclear nonproliferation and security;
 and
 (O) technology related to the matters described in subparagraphs (A) through (N).

(8) EMBARKING CIVIL NUCLEAR NATION.—
 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “embarking civil nuclear nation” means a country that—
 (i) does not have a civil nuclear energy program;
 (ii) is in the process of developing or expanding a civil nuclear energy program, including safeguards and a legal and regulatory framework, for—
 (I) nuclear safety;
 (II) nuclear security;
 (III) radioactive waste management;
 (IV) civil nuclear energy;
 (V) environmental safeguards;
 (VI) community engagement in areas in reasonable proximity to nuclear sites;
 (VII) nuclear liability; or
 (VIII) advanced nuclear reactor licensing;
 (iii) is in the process of selecting, developing, constructing, or utilizing advanced light water reactors, advanced nuclear reactors, or advanced civil nuclear technologies; or
 (iv) is eligible to receive development lending from the World Bank.
 (B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term “embarking civil nuclear nation” does not include—
 (i) the People’s Republic of China;
 (ii) the Russian Federation;
 (iii) the Republic of Belarus;
 (iv) the Islamic Republic of Iran;
 (v) the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea;
 (vi) the Republic of Cuba;
 (vii) the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela;
 (viii) the Syrian Arab Republic;
 (ix) Burma; or
 (x) any other country—
 (I) the property or interests in property of the government of which are blocked pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); or
 (II) the government of which the Secretary of State has determined has repeatedly provided support for acts of international terrorism for purposes of—
 (aa) section 620A(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2371(a));
 (bb) section 40(d) of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780(d));
 (cc) section 1754(c)(1)(A)(i) of the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50 U.S.C. 4813(c)(1)(A)(i)); or
 (dd) any other relevant provision of law.

(9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy.

(10) SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL.—The term “spent nuclear fuel” has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101).

(11) U.S. NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY.—The term “U.S. nuclear energy company” means a company that—
 (A) is organized under the laws of, or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of, the United States; and
 (B) is involved in the nuclear energy industry.

SEC. 1099C. CIVIL NUCLEAR COORDINATION AND STRATEGY.

(a) WHITE HOUSE FOCAL POINT ON CIVIL NUCLEAR COORDINATION.—
 (1) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—Given the critical importance of developing and implementing, with input from various agencies throughout the executive branch, a cohesive policy with respect to international efforts related to civil nuclear energy, it is the sense of Congress that—
 (A) there should be a focal point within the White House, which may, if determined to be appropriate, report to the National Security Council, for coordination on issues relating to those efforts;
 (B) to provide that focal point, the President should establish, within the Executive Office of the President, an office, to be known as the “Office of the Assistant to the President and Director for International Nuclear Energy Policy” (referred to in this subsection as the “Office”);
 (C) the Office should act as a coordinating office for—
 (i) international civil nuclear cooperation; and
 (ii) civil nuclear export strategy;
 (D) the Office should be headed by an individual appointed as an Assistant to the President with the title of “Director for International Nuclear Energy Policy”; and
 (E) the Office should—
 (i) coordinate civil nuclear export policies for the United States;
 (ii) develop, in coordination with the officials described in paragraph (2), a cohesive Federal strategy for engagement with foreign governments (including ally or partner nations and the governments of embarking civil nuclear nations), associated entities, and associated individuals with respect to civil nuclear exports;
 (iii) coordinate with the officials described in paragraph (2) to ensure that necessary framework agreements and trade controls relating to civil nuclear materials and technologies are in place for key markets; and
 (iv) develop—
 (I) a whole-of-government coordinating strategy for civil nuclear cooperation;
 (II) a whole-of-government strategy for civil nuclear exports; and
 (III) a whole-of-government approach to support appropriate foreign investment in civil nuclear energy projects supported by the United States in embarking civil nuclear nations.
 (2) OFFICIALS DESCRIBED.—The officials referred to in paragraph (1)(E) are—
 (A) appropriate officials of any Federal agency that the President determines to be appropriate; and
 (B) appropriate officials representing foreign countries and governments, including—
 (i) ally or partner nations;
 (ii) embarking civil nuclear nations; and
 (iii) any other country or government that the Assistant (if appointed) and the officials described in subparagraph (A) jointly determine to be appropriate.
 (b) NUCLEAR EXPORTS WORKING GROUP.—
 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a working group, to be known as the “Nuclear

Exports Working Group” (referred to in this subsection as the “working group”).

(2) COMPOSITION.—The working group shall be composed of—
 (A) senior-level Federal officials, selected internally by the applicable Federal agency or organization, from any Federal agency or organization that the President determines to be appropriate; and
 (B) other senior-level Federal officials, selected internally by the applicable Federal agency or organization, from any other Federal agency or organization that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(3) REPORTING.—The working group shall report to the appropriate White House official, which may be the Assistant (if appointed).

(4) DUTIES.—The working group shall coordinate, not less frequently than quarterly, with the Civil Nuclear Trade Advisory Committee of the Department of Commerce, the Nuclear Energy Advisory Committee of the Department of Energy, and other advisory or stakeholder groups, as necessary, to maintain an accurate and up-to-date knowledge of the standing of civil nuclear exports from the United States, including with respect to meeting the targets established as part of the 10-year civil nuclear trade strategy described in paragraph (5)(A).

(5) STRATEGY.—
 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the working group shall establish a 10-year civil nuclear trade strategy, including biennial targets for the export of civil nuclear technologies, including light water and non-light water reactors and associated equipment and technologies, civil nuclear materials, and nuclear fuel that align with meeting international energy demand while seeking to avoid or reduce emissions.
 (B) COLLABORATION REQUIRED.—In establishing the strategy under subparagraph (A), the working group shall collaborate with—
 (i) any Federal agency that the President determines to be appropriate; and
 (ii) representatives of private industry.

SEC. 1099D. ENGAGEMENT WITH ALLY OR PARTNER NATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall launch, in accordance with applicable nuclear technology export laws (including regulations), an international initiative to modernize the civil nuclear outreach to embarking civil nuclear nations.

(b) FINANCING.—In carrying out the initiative described in subsection (a), the President, acting through an appropriate Federal official, who may be the Assistant (if appointed) or the Chief Executive Officer of the International Development Finance Corporation, if determined to be appropriate, and in coordination with the officials described in section 1099C(a)(2), may, if the President determines to be appropriate, seek to establish cooperative financing relationships for the export of civil nuclear technology, components, materials, and infrastructure to embarking civil nuclear nations.

(c) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the initiative described in subsection (a), the President shall—
 (1) assist nongovernmental organizations and appropriate offices, administrations, agencies, laboratories, and programs of the Department of Energy and other relevant Federal agencies and offices in providing education and training to foreign governments in nuclear safety, security, and safeguards—
 (A) through engagement with the International Atomic Energy Agency; or
 (B) independently, if the applicable entity determines that it would be more advantageous under the circumstances to provide

the applicable education and training independently;

(2) support the efforts of the International Atomic Energy Agency to expand the support provided by the International Atomic Energy Agency to embarking civil nuclear nations for nuclear safety, security, and safeguards;

(3) coordinate the work of the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation and the Export-Import Bank of the United States to expand outreach to the private investment community to create public-private financing relationships to assist in the adoption of civil nuclear technologies by embarking civil nuclear nations, including through exports from the United States;

(4) seek to better coordinate, to the maximum extent practicable, the work carried out by any Federal agency that the President determines to be appropriate; and

(5) coordinate the work of the Export-Import Bank of the United States to improve the efficient and effective exporting and importing of civil nuclear technologies and materials.

SEC. 1099E. COOPERATIVE FINANCING RELATIONSHIPS WITH ALLY OR PARTNER NATIONS AND EMBARKING CIVIL NUCLEAR NATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The President shall designate an appropriate White House official, who may be the Assistant (if appointed), and the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation to coordinate with the officials described in section 1099C(a)(2) to develop, as the President determines to be appropriate, financing relationships with ally or partner nations to assist in the adoption of civil nuclear technologies exported from the United States or ally or partner nations to embarking civil nuclear nations.

(b) **UNITED STATES COMPETITIVENESS CLAUSES.**—

(1) **DEFINITION OF UNITED STATES COMPETITIVENESS CLAUSE.**—In this subsection, the term “United States competitiveness clause” means any United States competitiveness provision in any agreement entered into by the Department of Energy, including—

(A) a cooperative agreement;

(B) a cooperative research and development agreement; and

(C) a patent waiver.

(2) **CONSIDERATION.**—In carrying out subsection (a), the relevant officials described in that subsection shall consider the impact of United States competitiveness clauses on any financing relationships entered into or proposed to be entered into under that subsection.

(3) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary shall facilitate waivers of United States competitiveness clauses as necessary to facilitate financing relationships with ally or partner nations under subsection (a).

SEC. 1099F. COOPERATION WITH ALLY OR PARTNER NATIONS ON ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR DEMONSTRATION AND COOPERATIVE RESEARCH FACILITIES FOR CIVIL NUCLEAR ENERGY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Secretary of Commerce, shall conduct bilateral and multilateral meetings with not fewer than 5 ally or partner nations, with the aim of enhancing nuclear energy cooperation among those ally or partner nations and the United States, for the purpose of developing collaborative relationships with respect to research, development, licensing, and deployment of advanced nuclear reactor technologies for civil nuclear energy.

(b) **REQUIREMENT.**—The meetings described in subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a focus on cooperation to demonstrate and deploy advanced nuclear reactors, with an emphasis on U.S. nuclear energy companies, during the 10-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act to provide options for addressing energy security and climate change; and

(2) a focus on developing a memorandum of understanding or any other appropriate agreement between the United States and ally or partner nations with respect to—

(A) the demonstration and deployment of advanced nuclear reactors; and

(B) the development of cooperative research facilities.

(c) **FINANCING ARRANGEMENTS.**—In conducting the meetings described in subsection (a), the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Secretary of Commerce, shall seek to develop financing arrangements to share the costs of the demonstration and deployment of advanced nuclear reactors and the development of cooperative research facilities with the ally or partner nations participating in those meetings.

(d) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of Commerce shall jointly submit to Congress a report highlighting potential partners—

(1) for the establishment of cost-share arrangements described in subsection (c); or

(2) with which the United States may enter into agreements with respect to—

(A) the demonstration of advanced nuclear reactors; or

(B) cooperative research facilities.

SEC. 1099G. INTERNATIONAL CIVIL NUCLEAR ENERGY COOPERATION.

Section 959B of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16279b) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary”;

(2) in subsection (a) (as so designated)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “financing.”; and

(ii) by striking “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “preparations for”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (C)(v), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) to support, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, the safe, secure, and peaceful use of civil nuclear technology in countries developing nuclear energy programs, with a focus on countries that have increased civil nuclear cooperation with the Russian Federation or the People’s Republic of China; and

“(4) to promote the fullest utilization of the reactors, fuel, equipment, services, and technology of U.S. nuclear energy companies (as defined in section 1099B of the International Nuclear Energy Act of 2024) in civil nuclear energy programs outside the United States through—

“(A) bilateral and multilateral arrangements developed and executed with the concurrence of the Secretary of State that contain commitments for the utilization of the reactors, fuel, equipment, services, and technology of U.S. nuclear energy companies (as defined in that section);

“(B) the designation of 1 or more U.S. nuclear energy companies (as defined in that section) to implement an arrangement under subparagraph (A) if the Secretary determines that the designation is necessary and appro-

priate to achieve the objectives of this section; and

“(C) the waiver of any provision of law relating to competition with respect to any activity related to an arrangement under subparagraph (A) if the Secretary, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Secretary of Commerce, determines that a waiver is necessary and appropriate to achieve the objectives of this section.”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) **REQUIREMENTS.**—The program under subsection (a) shall be supported in consultation with the Secretary of State and implemented by the Secretary—

“(1) to facilitate, to the maximum extent practicable, workshops and expert-based exchanges to engage industry, stakeholders, and foreign governments with respect to international civil nuclear issues, such as—

“(A) training;

“(B) financing;

“(C) safety;

“(D) security;

“(E) safeguards;

“(F) liability;

“(G) advanced fuels;

“(H) operations; and

“(I) options for multinational cooperation with respect to the disposal of spent nuclear fuel (as defined in section 2 of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 (42 U.S.C. 10101)); and

“(2) in coordination with any Federal agency that the President determines to be appropriate.

“(c) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out subsection (a)(3) \$15,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028.”.

SEC. 1099H. INTERNATIONAL CIVIL NUCLEAR PROGRAM SUPPORT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Assistant (if appointed), shall launch an international initiative (referred to in this section as the “initiative”) to provide financial assistance to, and facilitate the building of technical capacities by, in accordance with this section, embarking civil nuclear nations for activities relating to the development of civil nuclear energy programs.

(b) **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out the initiative, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Assistant (if appointed), may award grants of financial assistance to embarking civil nuclear nations in accordance with this subsection—

(A) for activities relating to the development of civil nuclear energy programs; and

(B) to facilitate the building of technical capacities for those activities.

(2) **AMOUNT.**—The amount of a grant of financial assistance under paragraph (1) shall be not more than \$5,500,000.

(3) **LIMITATIONS.**—The Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Assistant (if appointed), may award—

(A) not more than 1 grant of financial assistance under paragraph (1) to any 1 embarking civil nuclear nation each fiscal year; and

(B) not more than a total of 5 grants of financial assistance under paragraph (1) to any 1 embarking civil nuclear nation.

(c) **SENIOR ADVISORS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In carrying out the initiative, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Secretary and the Assistant (if appointed), may provide financial assistance to an embarking civil nuclear nation for the purpose of contracting with a U.S. nuclear energy company to hire 1 or more senior advisors to assist the embarking civil nuclear

nation in establishing a civil nuclear program.

(2) REQUIREMENT.—A senior advisor described in paragraph (1) shall have relevant experience and qualifications to advise the embarking civil nuclear nation on, and facilitate on behalf of the embarking civil nuclear nation, 1 or more of the following activities:

(A) The development of financing relationships.

(B) The development of a standardized financing and project management framework for the construction of nuclear power plants.

(C) The development of a standardized licensing framework for—

(i) light water civil nuclear technologies; and

(ii) non-light water civil nuclear technologies and advanced nuclear reactors.

(D) The identification of qualified organizations and service providers.

(E) The identification of funds to support payment for services required to develop a civil nuclear program.

(F) Market analysis.

(G) The identification of the safety, security, safeguards, and nuclear governance required for a civil nuclear program.

(H) Risk allocation, risk management, and nuclear liability.

(I) Technical assessments of nuclear reactors and technologies.

(J) The identification of actions necessary to participate in a global nuclear liability regime based on the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage, with Annex, done at Vienna September 12, 1997 (TIAS 15–415).

(K) Stakeholder engagement.

(L) Management of spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste.

(M) Any other major activities to support the establishment of a civil nuclear program, such as the establishment of export, financing, construction, training, operations, and education requirements.

(3) CLARIFICATION.—Financial assistance under this subsection may be provided to an embarking civil nuclear nation in addition to any financial assistance provided to that embarking civil nuclear nation under subsection (b).

(d) LIMITATION ON ASSISTANCE TO EMBARKING CIVIL NUCLEAR NATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Offices of the Inspectors General for the Department of State and the Department of Energy shall coordinate—

(1) to establish and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a joint strategic plan to conduct comprehensive oversight of activities authorized under this section to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse; and

(2) to engage in independent and effective oversight of activities authorized under this section through joint or individual audits, inspections, investigations, or evaluations.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of State to carry out the initiative \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

SEC. 1099I. BIENNIAL CABINET-LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUCLEAR SAFETY, SECURITY, SAFEGUARDS, AND SUSTAINABILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President, in coordination with international partners, as determined by the President, and industry, shall hold a biennial conference on civil nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability (referred to in this section as a “conference”).

(b) CONFERENCE FUNCTIONS.—It is the sense of Congress that each conference should—

(1) be a forum in which ally or partner nations may engage with each other for the purpose of reinforcing the commitment to—

(A) nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability;

(B) environmental safeguards; and

(C) local community engagement in areas in reasonable proximity to nuclear sites; and

(2) facilitate—

(A) the development of—

(i) joint commitments and goals to improve—

(I) nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability;

(II) environmental safeguards; and

(III) local community engagement in areas in reasonable proximity to nuclear sites;

(ii) stronger international institutions that support nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability;

(iii) cooperative financing relationships to promote competitive alternatives to Chinese and Russian financing;

(iv) a standardized financing and project management framework for the construction of civil nuclear power plants;

(v) a standardized licensing framework for civil nuclear technologies;

(vi) a strategy to change internal policies of multinational development banks, such as the World Bank, to support the financing of civil nuclear projects;

(vii) a document containing any lessons learned from countries that have partnered with the Russian Federation or the People’s Republic of China with respect to civil nuclear power, including any detrimental outcomes resulting from that partnership; and

(viii) a global civil nuclear liability regime;

(B) cooperation for enhancing the overall aspects of civil nuclear power, such as—

(i) nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and sustainability;

(ii) nuclear laws (including regulations);

(iii) waste management;

(iv) quality management systems;

(v) technology transfer;

(vi) human resources development;

(vii) localization;

(viii) reactor operations;

(ix) nuclear liability; and

(x) decommissioning; and

(C) the development and determination of the mechanisms described in paragraphs (7) and (8) of section 1099J(a), if the President intends to establish an Advanced Reactor Coordination and Resource Center as described in that section.

(c) INPUT FROM INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT.—It is the sense of Congress that each conference should include a meeting that convenes nuclear industry leaders and leaders of government agencies with expertise relating to nuclear safety, security, safeguards, or sustainability to discuss best practices relating to—

(1) the safe and secure use, storage, and transport of nuclear and radiological materials;

(2) managing the evolving cyber threat to nuclear and radiological security; and

(3) the role that the nuclear industry should play in nuclear and radiological safety, security, and safeguards, including with respect to the safe and secure use, storage, and transport of nuclear and radiological materials, including spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste.

SEC. 1099J. ADVANCED REACTOR COORDINATION AND RESOURCE CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall consider the feasibility of leveraging existing activities or frameworks or, as necessary, establishing a center, to be known as the “Advanced Reactor Coordination and Resource Center” (referred to in this section as the “Center”), for the purposes of—

(1) identifying qualified organizations and service providers—

(A) for embarking civil nuclear nations;

(B) to develop and assemble documents, contracts, and related items required to establish a civil nuclear program; and

(C) to develop a standardized model for the establishment of a civil nuclear program that can be used by the International Atomic Energy Agency;

(2) coordinating with countries participating in the Center and with the Nuclear Exports Working Group established under section 1099C(b)—

(A) to identify funds to support payment for services required to develop a civil nuclear program;

(B) to provide market analysis; and

(C) to create—

(i) project structure models;

(ii) models for electricity market analysis;

(iii) models for nonelectric applications market analysis; and

(iv) financial models;

(3) identifying and developing the safety, security, safeguards, and nuclear governance required for a civil nuclear program;

(4) supporting multinational regulatory standards to be developed by countries with civil nuclear programs and experience;

(5) developing and strengthening communications, engagement, and consensus-building;

(6) carrying out any other major activities to support export, financing, education, construction, training, and education requirements relating to the establishment of a civil nuclear program;

(7) developing mechanisms for how to fund and staff the Center; and

(8) determining mechanisms for the selection of the location or locations of the Center.

(b) OBJECTIVE.—The President shall carry out subsection (a) with the objective of establishing the Center if the President determines that it is feasible to do so.

SEC. 1099K. STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE FUND WORKING GROUP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a working group, to be known as the “Strategic Infrastructure Fund Working Group” (referred to in this section as the “working group”) to provide input on the feasibility of establishing a program to support strategically important capital-intensive infrastructure projects.

(b) COMPOSITION.—The working group shall be—

(1) led by a White House official, who may be the Assistant (if appointed), who shall serve as the White House focal point with respect to matters relating to the working group; and

(2) composed of—

(A) senior-level Federal officials, selected by the head of the applicable Federal agency or organization, from any Federal agency or organization that the President determines to be appropriate;

(B) other senior-level Federal officials, selected by the head of the applicable Federal agency or organization, from any other Federal agency or organization that the Secretary determines to be appropriate; and

(C) any senior-level Federal official selected by the White House official described in paragraph (1) from any Federal agency or organization.

(c) REPORTING.—The working group shall report to the National Security Council.

(d) DUTIES.—The working group shall—

(1) provide direction and advice to the officials described in section 1099C(a)(2)(A) and appropriate Federal agencies, as determined by the working group, with respect to the establishment of a Strategic Infrastructure Fund (referred to in this subsection as the “Fund”) to be used—

(A) to support those aspects of projects relating to—

- (i) civil nuclear technologies; and
- (ii) microprocessors; and
- (B) for strategic investments identified by the working group; and
- (2) address critical areas in determining the appropriate design for the Fund, including—
 - (A) transfer of assets to the Fund;
 - (B) transfer of assets from the Fund;
 - (C) how assets in the Fund should be invested; and
 - (D) governance and implementation of the Fund.

(e) **REPORT REQUIRED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the working group shall submit to the committees described in paragraph (2) a report on the findings of the working group that includes suggested legislative text for how to establish and structure a Strategic Infrastructure Fund.

(2) **COMMITTEES DESCRIBED.**—The committees referred to in paragraph (1) are—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, the Committee on Environmental and Public Works, and the Committee on Finance of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

(3) **ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND.**—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include suggested legislative language requiring all expenditures from a Strategic Infrastructure Fund established in accordance with this section to be administered by the Secretary of State (or a designee of the Secretary of State).

SEC. 1099L. JOINT ASSESSMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND INDIA ON NUCLEAR LIABILITY RULES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall establish and maintain within the U.S.-India Strategic Security Dialogue a joint consultative mechanism with the Government of the Republic of India that convenes on a recurring basis—

(1) to assess the implementation of the Agreement for Cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of India Concerning Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy, signed at Washington October 10, 2008 (TIAS 08-1206);

(2) to discuss opportunities for the Republic of India to align domestic nuclear liability rules with international norms; and

(3) to develop a strategy for the United States and the Republic of India to pursue bilateral and multilateral diplomatic engagements related to analyzing and implementing those opportunities.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes the joint assessment developed pursuant to subsection (a)(1).

SEC. 1099M. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this subtitle may be construed to alter or otherwise affect the interpretation or implementation of section 123 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (42 U.S.C. 2153).

SA 3198. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill H.R. 7024, to make improvements to the child tax credit, to provide tax incentives to promote economic growth, to provide special rules for the taxation of certain residents of Taiwan with income from sources within the United States, to provide tax relief with respect to certain Federal disasters, to make improvements to the low-income housing tax credit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 106. REDUCTION OF THRESHOLD AMOUNT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 24(h)(3) is amended by striking “\$400,000 in the case of a joint return (\$200,000 in any other case)” and inserting “\$150,000 in the case of a joint return (\$75,000 in any other case)”.

(b) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2022.

SA 3199. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title XXVIII, add the following:

SEC. 2836. LAND CONVEYANCE AND AUTHORIZATION FOR INTERIM LEASE, DEFENSE FUEL SUPPORT POINT SAN PEDRO, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

(a) **CONVEYANCE AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary of the Navy (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”), may convey to the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita, California, or both, at a cost less than fair market value, all right, title, and interest of the United States in and to parcels of real property, including any improvements thereon or thereon, known as the ballfields and the firing range at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Defense Fuel Support Point, San Pedro, California, as further described in subsection (b), for the purposes of permitting the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita (as appropriate) to use such conveyed parcel of real property for park and recreational activities or law enforcement affiliated purposes, as set forth in subsection (e).

(b) **INTERIM LEASE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Until such time as a parcel of real property described in subsection (a) is conveyed to the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita (as appropriate), the Secretary may lease such parcel or a portion of such parcel to either the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita at no cost for a term of not more than 3 years.

(2) **LIMITATION.**—If the conveyance under subsection (a) of a parcel leased under paragraph (1), is not completed within the period of the lease term, the Secretary shall have no further obligation to make any part of such parcel available for use by the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita (as appropriate).

(c) **CONSIDERATION.**—

(1) **CONSIDERATION REQUIRED.**—As consideration for a conveyance under subsection (a), the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita (as appropriate) shall pay to the Secretary an amount determined by the Secretary, which may consist of cash payment, in-kind consideration as described under paragraph (2), or a combination thereof.

(2) **IN-KIND CONSIDERATION.**—In-kind consideration provided by the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita (as appropriate) under this subsection may include—

(A) the acquisition, construction, provision, improvement, maintenance, repair, or restoration (including environmental restoration), or combination thereof, of any property, facility, or infrastructure with proximity to Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, that the Secretary considers acceptable; or

(B) the delivery of services relating to the needs of Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach that the Secretary considers acceptable.

(3) **TREATMENT OF AMOUNTS RECEIVED FOR CONVEYANCE.**—Cash payments received under paragraph (1) as reimbursement for costs incurred by the Secretary to carry out a conveyance under subsection (a) shall be—

(A) credited to and merged with the fund or account used to cover the costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out the conveyance or an appropriate fund or account available to the Secretary for the purposes for which the costs were paid; and

(B) available for the same purposes and subject to the same conditions and limitations as amounts in such fund or account.

(4) **PAYMENT OF COSTS OF CONVEYANCE.**—

(A) **PAYMENT REQUIRED.**—The Secretary shall require the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita (as appropriate) to cover costs (except costs for environmental remediation of the property) to be incurred by the Secretary, or to reimburse the Secretary for costs incurred by the Secretary, to carry out a conveyance under subsection (a) or an interim lease under subsection (b), including costs for environmental and real estate due diligence and any other administrative costs related to the conveyance or lease execution.

(B) **REFUND OF EXCESS AMOUNTS.**—If amounts collected from the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita under subparagraph (A) exceed the costs actually incurred by the Secretary to carry out a conveyance under subsection (a) or an interim lease execution under subsection (b), the Secretary shall refund the excess amount to the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita (as appropriate).

(d) **VALUATION.**—The values of the property interests to be conveyed by the Secretary under subsection (a) shall be determined by an independent appraiser selected by the Secretary and in accordance with the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice.

(e) **CONDITIONS OF CONVEYANCE.**—A conveyance under subsection (a) shall be subject to all existing easements, restrictions, and covenants of record and the following conditions:

(1) The parcels of real property described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (h) shall be used solely for park and recreational activities, which may include ancillary uses such as vending and restrooms.

(2) The parcel of real property described in paragraph (3) of subsection (h) shall be used solely for law enforcement affiliated purposes.

(3) The city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita (as appropriate) may not use Federal funds to cover any portion of the amounts required by subsection (c) to be paid.

(f) **REVERSIONARY INTEREST.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Secretary determines at any time that a parcel of real property conveyed under subsection (a) is not being used in accordance with the purpose of the conveyance specified in this section, all right, title, and interest in and to the land, including any improvements thereon, shall, at the option of the Secretary, revert to and become the property of the United States,

and the United States shall have the right of immediate entry onto such real property.

(2) **OPPORTUNITY FOR HEARING.**—A determination by the Secretary under paragraph (1) shall be made on the record after an opportunity for a hearing.

(g) **CONVEYANCE AGREEMENT.**—A conveyance of land under subsection (a) shall be accomplished—

(1) using a quitclaim deed or other legal instrument; and

(2) upon terms and conditions mutually satisfactory to the Secretary and the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita (as appropriate), including such additional terms and conditions as the Secretary considers appropriate to protect the interests of the United States.

(h) **DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY.**—The parcels of real property that may be conveyed under subsection (a) are the following:

(1) The City of Lomita Ballfield Parcel consisting of approximately 5.7 acres.

(2) The City of Los Angeles Ballfield Parcels consisting of approximately 15.3 acres.

(3) The firing range located at 2981 North Gaffey Street, San Pedro, California, consisting of approximately 3.2 acres.

(i) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section affects the application of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.).

SA 3200. Mr. MANCHIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 7024, to make improvements to the child tax credit, to provide tax incentives to promote economic growth, to provide special rules for the taxation of certain residents of Taiwan with income from sources within the United States, to provide tax relief with respect to certain Federal disasters, to make improvements to the low-income housing tax credit, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title I, insert the following:

SEC. 106. ENSURING THAT CHILD TAX CREDIT DOES NOT EXCEED PROJECTED COST.

(a) **REDUCTION OF CHILD TAX CREDIT IN CASE OF UNANTICIPATED DEFICIT INCREASE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In the case of the first taxable year beginning after any applicable fiscal year for which there is an unanticipated deficit increase, the amount of the credit allowable under section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to such taxable year shall be reduced by an amount equal to the applicable percentage of the amount of the credit otherwise allowable under such section (as determined without regard to this section) with respect to such taxable year.

(2) **NONAPPLICATION TO SUBSEQUENT TAXABLE YEARS.**—Any reduction pursuant to paragraph (1) in the amount of the credit allowable under section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for a taxable year shall not apply to any subsequent taxable year.

(b) **APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of subsection (a), with respect to any applicable fiscal year, the applicable percentage shall be the amount (expressed as a percentage) equal to the quotient of—

(A) the unanticipated deficit increase with respect to such fiscal year, divided by

(B) the projected child tax credit cost for such fiscal year.

(2) **DETERMINATION.**—

(A) **TREASURY REPORT.**—Not later than July 31 of each applicable fiscal year, the Secretary shall, based on the most recent in-

formation available, submit a report to Congress containing—

(i) an estimate of the total amount of credits allowed to all taxpayers under section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for the taxable year ending during such fiscal year,

(ii) a determination as to whether there was an unanticipated deficit increase for such fiscal year, and

(iii) in the case of a determination under clause (ii) that there was an unanticipated deficit increase for such fiscal year, the projected applicable percentage with respect to the first taxable year beginning after such fiscal year.

(B) **CBO REPORT.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the issuance of the report described in subparagraph (A), the Director of the Congressional Budget Office shall publish a report containing—

(I) estimates and determinations, as made by the Congressional Budget Office in consultation with the Joint Committee on Taxation, with respect to the items described in clauses (i) through (iii) of subparagraph (A), and

(II) an explanation of any differences between the estimates and determinations described in subclause (I) and the estimates and determinations described in subparagraph (A).

(ii) **PROVISION OF NECESSARY INFORMATION.**—Notwithstanding section 6103(j)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the Secretary shall provide the Congressional Budget Office with any return information necessary to prepare the report described in clause (i), provided that such information is provided in a manner to ensure that such information cannot be associated with, or otherwise identify, directly or indirectly, a particular taxpayer.

(C) **RESOLUTION OF CONFLICTING ESTIMATES.**—In preparing the report required under subparagraph (D)—

(i) the Secretary shall review the report described in subparagraph (B)(i), and

(ii) if the Secretary determines that there is a significant difference between the reports described in subparagraphs (A) and (B)(i), the Secretary shall consult with the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives regarding that difference, which shall include, to the extent practicable, written communication to those committees that affords such committees the opportunity to comment before the issuance of the report described in subparagraph (D).

(D) **FINAL REPORT.**—Not later than 45 days after the publication of the report described in subparagraph (B)(i), if the Secretary determines that there was an unanticipated deficit increase for the applicable fiscal year described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall publish on the public website of the Internal Revenue Service—

(i) the applicable percentage with respect to the first taxable year beginning after such fiscal year, and

(ii) the resulting reduction in the amount of the credit allowable under section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for such taxable year.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPLICABLE FISCAL YEAR.**—The term “applicable fiscal year” means fiscal year 2024 and each of the 9 succeeding fiscal years.

(2) **PROJECTED CHILD TAX CREDIT COST.**—The term “projected child tax credit cost” means, with respect to any fiscal year, the sum of—

(A) the estimated cost to the Government for such fiscal year attributable to section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 in the Budget and Economic Outlook: 2024 to 2034

Supplemental Revenue Projections of the Congressional Budget Office, published February 7, 2024, and

(B) the amount equal to the sum of—

(i) the absolute value of the amount of the reduction in revenue attributable to this title in the Congressional Budget Office cost estimate for H.R. 7024, Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024, as published January 25, 2024, for such fiscal year, and

(ii) the amount of direct spending attributable to this title in the Congressional Budget Office cost estimate for H.R. 7024, Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024, as published January 25, 2024, for such fiscal year.

(3) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary’s delegate.

(4) **UNANTICIPATED DEFICIT INCREASE.**—The term “unanticipated deficit increase” means, with respect to any fiscal year, the excess (if any) of—

(A) the sum of—

(i) the absolute value of the amount of the reduction in revenue attributable to section 24 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for such fiscal year, and

(ii) the amount of direct spending attributable to section 24 of such Code for such fiscal year, over

(B) the projected child tax credit cost for such fiscal year.

SA 3201. Ms. COLLINS proposed an amendment to the bill S. 133, to extend the National Alzheimer’s Project; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “NAPA Reauthorization Act”.

SEC. 2. EXTENSION OF PROJECT.

Section 2 of the National Alzheimer’s Project Act (42 U.S.C. 11225) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “and coordination of” and inserting “on, and coordination of,”;

(B) in paragraph (4)—

(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively; and

(ii) by inserting before subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following:

“(A) promotion of healthy aging and reduction and mitigation of risk factors for Alzheimer’s;”;

(C) in paragraph (5)—

(i) by inserting “and other underserved populations, including individuals with developmental disabilities such as Down syndrome,” after “populations”; and

(ii) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(D) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7); and

(E) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following:

“(6) provide information on, and promote the adoption of, healthy behaviors that may reduce the risk of cognitive decline and promote and protect cognitive health; and”;

(2) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) by inserting “, across public and private sectors,” after “Nation’s progress”; and

(B) by inserting “, including consideration of public-private collaborations, as appropriate” before the period;

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by adding at the end the following:

“(xi) A designee of the Department of Justice.

“(xii) A designee of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

“(xiii) A designee of the Social Security Administration.

“(xiv) 2 or more other designees, as determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, at least one of whom has expertise in risk factors associated with the development or the progression of Alzheimer’s.”; and

(i) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “12” and inserting “15”;

(II) in clause (v)—

(aa) by striking “2 researchers” and inserting “3 researchers”; and

(bb) by striking “; and” and inserting “, including at least one researcher with demonstrated experience in recruitment and retention of underrepresented groups into research or clinical trials related to dementia.”;

(III) in clause (vi), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(IV) by adding at the end the following:

“(vii) 1 individual with a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease; and

“(viii) 1 representative from a historically underserved population whose lifetime risk for developing Alzheimer’s is markedly higher than that of other populations.”;

(B) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “an initial evaluation” and inserting “annual evaluations”; and

(II) by striking “research, clinical” and inserting “research, risk reduction, public health, clinical”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “initial”;

(iii) in subparagraph (C)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “initial”;

(II) in clause (ii), by inserting “and reduce disparities” before the semicolon; and

(iv) in subparagraph (D), by striking “annually thereafter, an evaluation” and inserting “annual evaluations”; and

(C) in paragraph (6), by striking “2025” and inserting “2035”;

(4) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by adding “and” after the semicolon;

(ii) by striking “that includes an evaluation” and inserting “that includes—

“(A) an evaluation.”; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) a summary of the Secretary’s process for identifying and updating what conditions constitute Alzheimer’s disease.”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), by inserting “and reduce disparities” before the semicolon; and

(5) in subsection (h), by striking “2025” and inserting “2035”.

SA 3202. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title XV, add the following:

Subtitle E—SAFE Orbit Act

SEC. 1549. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the “Situational Awareness of Flying Elements in Orbit Act” or the “SAFE Orbit Act”.

SEC. 1550. SPACE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS AND SPACE TRAFFIC COORDINATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce shall facilitate safe operations in space and encourage the development of commercial space capabilities by acquiring and disseminating unclassified data, analytics, information, and services on space activities.

(b) ACQUISITION OF DATA.—The Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Space Commerce (established under section 50702(b) of title 51, United States Code, as amended by section 1551) is authorized to acquire—

(1) data, analytics, information, and services, including with respect to—

(A) location tracking data;

(B) positional and orbit determination information; and

(C) conjunction data messages; and

(2) such other data, analytics, information, and services as the Secretary of Commerce determines necessary to avoid collisions of space objects.

(c) DATABASE ON SATELLITE LOCATION AND BEHAVIOR.—The Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Space Commerce shall provide access for the public, at no charge, a fully updated, unclassified database of information concerning space objects and behavior, which shall include—

(1) the data and information acquired under subsection (b), except to the extent that such data or information is classified or a trade secret (as defined in section 1839 of title 18, United States Code); and

(2) the provision of basic space situational awareness services and space traffic coordination based on the data referred to in paragraph (1), including basic analytics, tracking calculations, and conjunction data messages.

(d) BASIC SPACE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS SERVICES.—The Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Space Commerce—

(1) shall provide to satellite operators, at no charge, basic space situational awareness services, including the data, analytics, information, and services described in subsection (b);

(2) in carrying out paragraph (1), may not compete with private sector space situational awareness products, to the maximum extent practicable; and

(3) not less frequently than every 3 years, shall review the basic space situational awareness services described in paragraph (1) to ensure that such services provided by the Federal Government do not compete with space situational awareness services offered by the private sector.

(e) REQUIREMENTS FOR DATA ACQUISITION AND DISSEMINATION.—In acquiring data, analytics, information, and services under subsection (b) and disseminating data, analytics, information, and services under subsections (c) and (d), the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Space Commerce shall—

(1) leverage commercial capabilities to the maximum extent practicable;

(2) prioritize the acquisition of data, analytics, information, and services from commercial industry located in or licensed in the United States to supplement data collected by United States Government agencies, including the Department of Defense and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(3) appropriately protect proprietary data, information, and systems of firms located in the United States, including by using appropriate infrastructure and cybersecurity measures, including measures set forth in the most recent version of the Cybersecurity Framework, or successor document, maintained by the National Institute of Standards and Technology;

(4) facilitate the development of standardization and consistency in data reporting, in

collaboration with satellite owners and operators, commercial space situational awareness data and service providers, the academic community, nonprofit organizations, and the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology; and

(5) encourage foreign governments to participate in unclassified data sharing arrangements for space situational awareness and space traffic coordination.

(f) OTHER TRANSACTION AUTHORITY.—In carrying out the activities required by this section, the Secretary of Commerce shall enter into such contracts, leases, cooperative agreements, or other transactions as may be necessary.

SEC. 1551. OFFICE OF SPACE COMMERCE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 50701 of title 51, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§ 50701. Definitions

“In this chapter:

“(1) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term ‘Assistant Secretary’ means the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Space Commerce.

“(2) BUREAU.—The term ‘Bureau’ means the Bureau of Space Commerce established under section 50702.

“(3) ORBITAL DEBRIS.—The term ‘orbital debris’—

“(A) means—

“(i) any human-made space object orbiting Earth that—

“(I) no longer serves an intended purpose;

“(II) has reached the end of its mission; or

“(III) is incapable of safe maneuver or operation; and

“(ii) a rocket body and other hardware left in orbit as a result of normal launch and operational activities; and

“(B) includes fragmentation debris produced by failure or collision of human-made space objects.

“(4) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Commerce.

“(5) SPACE OBJECT.—The term ‘space object’ means any object launched into space or created in space robotically or by humans, including the component parts of such an object.

“(6) SPACE SITUATIONAL AWARENESS.—The term ‘space situational awareness’ means—

“(A) the identification, characterization, tracking, and the predicted movement and behavior of space objects and orbital debris; and

“(B) the understanding of the space operational environment.

“(7) SPACE TRAFFIC COORDINATION.—The term ‘space traffic coordination’ means the planning, assessment, and coordination of activities to enhance the safety, stability, and sustainability of operations in the space environment.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 507 of title 51, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 50701 and inserting the following:

“50701. Definitions.”.

(b) TRANSITION OF OFFICE TO BUREAU.—Subsection (a) of section 50702 of title 51, United States Code, is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, which, not later than 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, shall be elevated by the Secretary of Commerce from an office within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to a bureau reporting directly to the Office of the Secretary of Commerce”.

(c) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS OF BUREAU.—Subsection (c) of such section is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) to perform space situational awareness and space traffic management duties pursuant to the SAFE Orbit Act.”.

(d) ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR SPACE COMMERCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of such section is amended to read as follows:

“(b) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The Bureau shall be headed by the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Space Commerce, who shall—

“(1) be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate;

“(2) report directly to the Secretary of Commerce; and

“(3) have a rate of pay that is equal to the rate payable for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 50702(d) of title 51, United States Code, is amended—

(i) in the subsection heading, by striking “DIRECTOR” and inserting “ASSISTANT SECRETARY”; and

(ii) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Director” and inserting “Assistant Secretary”.

(B) Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking “Assistant Secretaries of Commerce (11)” and inserting “Assistant Secretaries of Commerce (12)”.

(3) REFERENCES.—On and after the date of the enactment of this Act, any reference in any law or regulation to the Director of the Office of Space Commerce shall be deemed to be a reference to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Space Commerce.

(e) TRANSITION REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Commerce shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that sets forth transition and continuity of operations plans for the functional and administrative transfer of the Office of Space Commerce from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to a bureau reporting to the Office of the Secretary of Commerce.

(2) GOAL.—The goal of transition and continuity of operations planning shall be to minimize the cost and administrative burden of establishing the Bureau of Space Commerce while maximizing the efficiency and effectiveness of the functions and responsibilities of the Bureau of Space Commerce, in accordance with this section and the amendments made by this section.

(3) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SA 3203. Mr. PADILLA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ IMPROVING CYBERSECURITY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS OF THE U.S. ACADEMIC RESEARCH FLEET.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) U.S. ACADEMIC RESEARCH FLEET.—The term “U.S. Academic Research Fleet” means the United States-flagged vessels that—

(A) have been accepted into, and are active participants administered within, the University-National Oceanographic Laboratory System;

(B) are operated as oceanographic research vessels by research universities and laboratories;

(C) receive funding from the National Science Foundation; and

(D) have achieved designation as a member vessel through a standard evaluation process.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

(3) OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH VESSEL.—The term “oceanographic research vessel” has the meaning given the term in section 2101 of title 46, United States Code.

(b) PLAN TO IMPROVE CYBERSECURITY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS OF U.S. ACADEMIC RESEARCH FLEET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall, in consultation with the head of any Federal agency, university, or laboratory that owns or operates a vessel of the U.S. Academic Research Fleet, submit to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Space, Science, and Technology of the House of Representatives a plan to improve the cybersecurity and telecommunications of the U.S. Academic Research Fleet.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) an assessment of the telecommunications and networking needs of the U.S. Academic Research Fleet, consistent with the typical scientific mission of that vessel;

(B) in accordance with guidance issued by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the National Institute for Standards and Technology, an assessment of cybersecurity needs appropriate for—

(i) the ownership of vessels within the U.S. Academic Research Fleet; and

(ii) the typical research functions and topics of such vessels;

(C) an assessment of the costs necessary to meet the needs described in subparagraphs (A) and (B), including—

(i) any necessary equipment, such as satellite communications equipment, software, high-performance computing clusters shipboard and shoreside, or enterprise hardware; and

(ii) estimated personnel costs in excess of current expenditures, including any necessary training, support, or logistics;

(D) an assessment of the time required to implement any upgrades required to meet the needs described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) under varying budgets and funding scenarios;

(E) the adoption of common solutions or consortial licensing agreements, or by centralizing elements of fleet cybersecurity, telecommunications or data management at a single facility; and

(F) in consultation with any non-Federal owners of a vessel of the U.S. Academic Research Fleet, a spending plan for the National Science Foundation, the Office of Naval Research, non-Federal owners of vessels of the U.S. Academic Research Fleet, users of the U.S. Academic Research Fleet, or any combination thereof, to provide funding to cover the costs described in subparagraph (C).

(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—The Director shall, in preparing the plan required by paragraph (1), consider—

(A) the network capabilities, including speed and bandwidth targets, necessary to

meet the scientific mission needs of each class of vessel within the U.S. Academic Research Fleet for such purposes as—

(i) executing the critical functions and communications of the vessel;

(ii) providing network access for the health and well-being of deployed personnel, including communications to conduct telemedicine (including mental health care), counseling, interviews with crisis response providers, and other remote individual care and services;

(iii) as necessary to meet operations, uploading any scientific data to a shoreside server, including the copying of data off ship for disaster recovery or risk mitigation purposes;

(iv) as appropriate, conducting real-time streaming to enable shore-based observers to participate in ship-based maintenance or research activities;

(v) real-time coordinated viewing of—

(I) scientific instrumentation so that it is possible to conduct scientific surveys and seafloor mapping with fully remote subject-matter experts; and

(II) critical operational technology by manufacturers and vendors so that it is possible to carry out maintenance and repairs to systems with limited expertise on the vessel, with fully remote subject-matter experts advising; and

(vi) as appropriate, enabling video communications to allow improved outreach to, and other educational services for, K–12 students, including occasional remote classroom teaching for instructors at sea to improve oceanographic access for students; and

(B) in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Director of the National Institute for Standards and Technology, and the heads of other Federal agencies, as appropriate—

(i) the cybersecurity recommendations in the report of the private scientific advisory group known as JASON entitled “Cybersecurity at NSF Major Facilities” (JSR–21–10E) and dated October 2021 as applied to the U.S. Academic Research Fleet;

(ii) aligning with international standards and guidance for information security, including the use of encryption for sensitive information, the detection and handling of security incidents, and other areas determined relevant by the Director;

(iii) facilitating access to cybersecurity personnel and training of research and support personnel; and

(iv) the requirements for controlled unclassified or classified information.

SA 3204. Mr. PADILLA (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

DIVISION __ NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION PROGRAM REAUTHORIZATION

SEC. __ 01. SHORT TITLE.

This division may be cited as the “National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2024”.

SEC. 02. MODIFICATION OF FINDINGS.

Section 2 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “50 States, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico,” and inserting “States and Tribal jurisdictions”;

(B) by striking “of them” and inserting “States”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following: “Almost half of the United States population resides in areas that are at risk or experiencing a damaging earthquake during the 50-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2024”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by inserting after the first sentence the following: “A 2023 report by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the United States Geological Survey (FEMA P-366) estimates the annualized earthquake losses to the national building stock is \$14,700,000,000 per year and the total economic exposure to earthquake losses (buildings and contents) across the nation is \$107,800,000,000,000.”; and

(B) in the third sentence—

(i) by striking “and construction” and inserting “, construction, evaluation, and retrofitting”;

(ii) by striking “and (E)” and inserting the following: “(E) inventories of buildings and infrastructure with high seismic risk, especially those that are critical to community resilience, (F) programs that require or incentivize replacement or retrofit of existing buildings and infrastructure with high seismic risk, especially those that are critical to community resilience, and (G)”;

(3) in paragraph (3), by inserting “Tribal,” after “local,”;

(4) in paragraph (4), by striking “could provide” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting “is necessary to provide the scientific understanding needed to improve and expand the earthquake early warning system.”;

(5) in paragraph (8), by striking “cave-ins” and inserting “collapse”;

(6) in paragraph (9)—

(A) in the first sentence, by striking “and local” and inserting “local, and Tribal government”;

(B) in the second sentence, by striking “transfer knowledge and information to” and inserting “exchange knowledge and information between”;

(C) in the third sentence, by striking “specifications, criteria” and inserting “guidelines, codes, standards”;

(7) in paragraph (12)—

(A) in the second sentence—

(i) by striking “When earthquakes occur, the built environment is generally” and inserting “Relatively newer buildings and infrastructure have generally been”;

(ii) by striking “and is” and inserting “when earthquakes occur, but most are”;

(B) by adding at the end the following: “In addition, buildings and infrastructure built to older codes and standards may pose significant risk of injury, loss of life, or irreparable damage. A 2021 report submitted to Congress pursuant to section 8(b), as amended by section 5 of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-307), by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (FEMA P2090/NST SP-1254) provides recommendations for improving post-earthquake functional recovery time of the built environment to support community resil-

ience goals and many of these recommendations still need to be implemented.”; and

(8) in paragraph (13)—

(A) in the first sentence, by inserting “in 2011” after “a study”;

(B) in the second sentence, by inserting “(in 2011 dollars)” after “\$300,000,000”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following: “The cost of actual seismic retrofits to reduce known risks is not included in such valuation.”.

SEC. 03. MODIFICATION OF PURPOSE.

Section 3 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7702) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “and local” and inserting “, local, and Tribal government”;

(B) by striking “locations and structures” and inserting “buildings and infrastructure”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “and construction” and inserting “, construction, evaluation, and retrofitting”;

(B) by inserting “housing and care facilities for vulnerable populations,” after “occupancy buildings”;

(3) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking “and local” and inserting “, local, and Tribal government”;

(B) by striking “encourage consideration of” and inserting “incorporate”.

SEC. 04. MODIFICATION OF DEFINITIONS.

Section 4 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7703) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3), by inserting “, including secondary effects such as earthquake-caused tsunamis”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(11) The term ‘Tribal government’ has the meaning given the term ‘tribal government’ in section 421 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 658).

“(12) The term ‘functional recovery’ means a post-earthquake performance state in which a building or lifeline infrastructure system is maintained, or restored, to safely and adequately support the basic intended functions associated with the pre-earthquake use or occupancy of a building, or the pre-earthquake service level of a lifeline infrastructure system.

“(13) The term ‘earthquake forecast’ means a statement of probabilities that 1 or more earthquakes within a clearly specified magnitude range may occur within a specified time interval and geographic region.”.

SEC. 05. IMPROVEMENTS TO NATIONAL EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION PROGRAM.

(a) PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—Subsection (a)(2) of section 5 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7704) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the matter before clause (i)—

(i) by striking “and local” and inserting “, local, and Tribal”; and

(ii) by striking “and constructing” and inserting “, designing, constructing, evaluating, and retrofitting”;

(B) by amending clause (ii) to read as follows:

“(ii) development of standards, guidelines, and voluntary standards, guidelines, and consensus codes for earthquake hazards reduction for buildings, structures, and lifeline infrastructure, including post-earthquake recovery-based performance objectives that address reoccupancy and downtime of community-prioritized buildings, structures, and services provided by lifeline infrastructure”;

(C) in clause (iii), by striking “and hazards reduction; and” and inserting “functional recovery, and other hazards reduction topics”;

(D) in clause (iv)—

(i) by inserting “and maintaining” after “publishing”;

(ii) by inserting “in coordination with the National Tsunami Hazards Mitigation Program, tsunami susceptibility,” after “liquefaction susceptibility.”; and

(iii) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(v) subject to the availability of funds, development of best practices and guidelines to create an inventory of and conduct seismic performance evaluations of buildings, structures, and lifeline infrastructure with high seismic risk, especially those that are critical to community resilience; and

“(vi) subject to the availability of funds, the provision of technical assistance upon request by a State, local, or Tribal government regarding—

“(I) the creation of an inventory of buildings, structures, and lifeline infrastructure;

“(II) the performance of seismic performance evaluations; and

“(III) cost-effective best practices for retrofitting existing buildings, structures, and lifeline infrastructure.”;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(3) by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E); and

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

“(D) improve the understanding of—

“(i) the multiple hazards associated with earthquakes, including liquefaction, tsunamis, landslides, structural fires, and the compounding effects of climate on these hazards; and

“(ii) potential mitigation measures for such hazards; and”.

(b) DUTIES OF INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON EARTHQUAKE HAZARDS REDUCTION.—Subsection (a)(3)(D)(ii) of such section is amended—

(1) in subclause (V), by inserting “and associated secondary hazards” before the period at the end; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(VIII) Coordinating with the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission on the timely broadcasting of emergency alerts generated by the earthquake early warning system.”.

(c) BIENNIAL REPORT.—Subsection (a)(4)(A) of such section is amended by striking “under paragraph (3)(D)(i)(I)” each place it appears and inserting “under paragraph (3)(D)(ii)(I)”.

(d) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Subsection (a)(5)(A) of such section is amended—

(1) by inserting “the Chair of the Scientific Earthquake Studies Advisory Committee and” after “including”;

(2) by striking “and local government” and inserting “, local, and Tribal governments”; and

(3) by inserting “social,” after “scientific.”.

(e) LEAD AGENCY FOR RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROGRAM AGENCIES.—Subsection (b)(1) of such section is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking “and local” and inserting “local, and Tribal governments”; and

(B) by striking “plan and constructing” and inserting “planning, designing, constructing, evaluating, and retrofitting”;

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (F) and (G), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) improve the understanding of earthquake-caused fires and support the development of engineering tools and construction methods that mitigate the risk of fire following earthquakes;

“(D) develop, in coordination with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, best practices and guidelines for a State, local, or Tribal government to create an inventory of buildings, structures, or lifeline infrastructure that are critical to community resilience or otherwise have high seismic risk;

“(E) provide, in coordination with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, technical assistance to a State, local, or Tribal government requesting such assistance with respect to the creation of an inventory of buildings, structures, or lifeline infrastructure;”

(f) RESPONSIBILITIES OF FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—Subsection (b)(2) of such section is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) in clause (i)—

(i) by inserting “and Tribal governments” after “States”;

(ii) by inserting “and performance evaluations” after “safety inspections”; and

(iii) by inserting “and improve post-earthquake functional recovery” after “seismic safety”;

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting “, including Tribal entities,” after “appropriate audiences”;

(C) in clause (iii)—

(i) by striking “of seismic resistant” and inserting “to all appropriate audiences, including Tribal governments, of”; and

(ii) by inserting “that enhance seismic safety, improve post-earthquake functional recovery, and reduce losses from earthquakes” after “and lifeline infrastructure”;

(D) in clause (iv)—

(i) in striking “and local” and inserting “, local, and Tribal”; and

(ii) by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(E) by redesignating clause (v) as clause (vi); and

(F) by inserting after clause (iv) the following:

“(v) shall provide technical assistance to State, local, or Tribal governmental entities in the creation of evacuation plans in the event of an earthquake, landslide, tsunami, or other earthquake-related hazard; and”;

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in the subparagraph heading, by inserting “AND TRIBAL” after “STATE”;

(B) in the matter before clause (i), by inserting “or Tribal government” after “State”; and

(C) in clause (i), by striking “safety” and inserting “performance, community resilience, or public awareness”.

(g) RESPONSIBILITIES OF UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—Subsection (b)(3) of such section is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and local” and inserting “, local, and Tribal”;

(2) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “, the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission,” after “Agency”;

(3) by redesignating subparagraphs (D) through (K) as subparagraphs (L) through (Q), respectively;

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following:

“(D) coordinate with the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency on data sharing and resource allocation to support a timely response to oceanic earthquakes and tsunamis;

“(E) in consultation with the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission, ensure that earthquake alerts and early warnings are broadcast as rapidly and reliably as possible, in the predominant languages in

the affected region, to ensure maximum warning time for nearby persons;

“(F) expand the earthquake early warning system within and to additional high risk hazard areas, including making improvements as practicable to improve detection and increase the time between warning messages and perceptible ground motion;

“(G) coordinating with affected State and Tribal governments on earthquake early warning system improvements;

“(H) issue earthquake forecasts, when appropriate, for aftershocks associated with significant earthquakes in the United States;”;

(5) in subparagraph (I), as redesignated by paragraph (3), by inserting “the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission,” after “Agency;”;

(6) in subparagraph (L), as redesignated by paragraph (3), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(7) in subparagraph (M), as redesignated by paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(8) in subparagraph (O), as redesignated by paragraph (3), by inserting “maps of natural hazards associated with earthquakes and”.

(h) RESPONSIBILITIES OF NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—Subsection (b)(4)(A) of such section is amended—

(1) in clause (iii), by inserting “including updated tsunami and liquefaction risk maps,”; and

(2) in clause (vii), by striking “Historically Black Colleges and Universities and those serving large proportions of Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, and other underrepresented populations” and inserting “institutions described in section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a))”.

SEC. 06. SEISMIC PERFORMANCE PROPERTY STANDARDS.

Section 947 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 7704a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “safety” both places it appears and inserting “performance”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “shake-related property damage” and inserting “seismic-related property damage to improve the post-earthquake functional recovery time”.

SEC. 07. SEISMIC STANDARDS.

Section 8 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7705b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking “under paragraph (1)” and inserting “under subsection (a)”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—Each Program agency, as part of their Program responsibilities, shall execute research, projects, grants, and other activities that support, promote, advance, or otherwise implement the recommendations in the report submitted pursuant to subsection (b) to improve the performance of the built environment in terms of post-earthquake re-occupancy and functional recovery time.

“(d) BIENNIAL REPORTS.—

“(1) BIENNIAL REPORTS TO INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—No later than September 30, 2025, and not less frequently than once every 2 years thereafter, each Program agency shall submit to the Interagency Coordinating Committee a report on activities and progress made to support, promote, or advance the implementation of the recommendations included in the report submitted pursuant to subsection (b).

“(2) INCLUSION IN BIENNIAL REPORTS OF INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE.—The Interagency Coordinating Committee shall include the information received under para-

graph (1) in each biennial report submitted under section 5(a)(4), including consideration of a prioritized work plan to coordinate activities among the Program agencies and the necessary Program budget to fully implement the recommendations described in paragraph (1).”

SEC. 08. IMPROVEMENTS TO POST-EARTHQUAKE INVESTIGATIONS PROGRAM.

Section 11 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7705e) is amended, in the matter before paragraph (1)—

(1) in the first sentence, by inserting “domestic and international” after “investigate major”; and

(2) in the fifth sentence, by inserting “Federal Emergency Management” before “Agency”.

SEC. 09. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FOR PROGRAM.—Subsection (a)(8) of section 12 of the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7706) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (I), by striking “, and” and inserting a comma; and

(2) by inserting after subparagraph (J) the following:

“(K) \$10,590,000 for fiscal year 2024,

“(L) \$10,590,000 for fiscal year 2025,

“(M) \$10,590,000 for fiscal year 2026,

“(N) \$10,590,000 for fiscal year 2027, and

“(O) \$10,590,000 for fiscal year 2028.”.

(b) UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.—Subsection (b)(2) of such section is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (I), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in subparagraph (J), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(K) \$100,900,000 for fiscal year 2024, of which not less than \$36,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 13;

“(L) \$100,900,000 for fiscal year 2025, of which not less than \$36,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 13;

“(M) \$100,900,000 for fiscal year 2026, of which not less than \$36,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 13;

“(N) \$100,900,000 for fiscal year 2027, of which not less than \$36,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 13; and

“(O) \$100,900,000 for fiscal year 2028, of which not less than \$36,000,000 shall be made available for completion of the Advanced National Seismic System established under section 13.”.

(c) NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION.—Subsection (c)(2) of such section is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (I), by striking “, and” and inserting a comma;

(2) in subparagraph (J), by striking the period at the end and inserting a comma; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(K) \$58,000,000 for fiscal year 2024,

“(L) \$58,000,000 for fiscal year 2025,

“(M) \$58,000,000 for fiscal year 2026,

“(N) \$58,000,000 for fiscal year 2027, and

“(O) \$58,000,000 for fiscal year 2028.”.

(d) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY.—Subsection (d)(2) of such section is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (I), by striking “, and” and inserting a comma;

(2) in subparagraph (J), by striking the period at the end and inserting a comma; and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (J) the following:

“(K) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2024,
 “(L) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2025,
 “(M) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2026,
 “(N) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2027, and
 “(O) \$5,900,000 for fiscal year 2028.”.

SA 3205. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 1241 and insert the following:

SEC. 1241. INDO-PACIFIC SECURITY ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE.

(a) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY FOR USE OF UNITED STATES INVENTORY AND INVENTORY FROM OTHER SOURCES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President may, on a grant or lease basis not to exceed \$500,000,000 in any fiscal year, make available to the foreign military and national security forces and ministries of defense (or security agencies serving a similar defense function) of foreign partners, and to regional organizations with security missions, defense articles to replenish comparable stocks that such forces or such institutions have provided to other foreign military or national security forces or ministries of defense (or security agencies serving a similar defense function) of foreign partners in the Indo-Pacific region, or to regional organizations with security missions in the Indo-Pacific region.

(2) APPLICABILITY OF OTHER LAW.—The provision of defense articles under this section shall be subject to the requirements of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et seq.), including sections 3 and 36 of that Act (22 U.S.C. 2753, 2776).

(b) TERMINATION.—The authority provided by this section shall terminate on December 31, 2027.

SA 3206. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

SEC. 9001. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This division may be cited as the “Department of State Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this division is as follows:

DIVISION F—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

Sec. 9001. Short title; table of contents.
 Sec. 9002. Definitions.

TITLE I—WORKFORCE MATTERS

Sec. 9101. Commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Rogers Act; creation of the Department of State.
 Sec. 9102. Workforce modernization efforts.

Sec. 9103. Training float of the Department of State for Civil and Foreign Service personnel.

Sec. 9104. Competitive local compensation plan.

Sec. 9105. Language incentive pay for civil service employees.

Sec. 9106. Strategy for targeted recruitment of civil servants.

Sec. 9107. Electronic medical records.

Sec. 9108. Options for comprehensive evaluations.

Sec. 9109. Portability of professional licenses.

Sec. 9110. Expanding opportunities for Department-paid student internship program.

Sec. 9111. Career intermission program adjustment to enhance retention.

Sec. 9112. Professional counseling services.

Sec. 9113. Assignment process modernization.

Sec. 9114. Report on modifying consular tour and first tours requirements.

Sec. 9115. Comprehensive policy on vetting and transparency.

Sec. 9116. Efficiency in employee survey creation and consolidation.

Sec. 9117. Per diem allowance for newly hired members of the Foreign Service.

Sec. 9118. Termination of residential or motor vehicle leases and telephone service contracts for members of the Foreign Service.

Sec. 9119. Needs-based childcare subsidies enrollment period.

Sec. 9120. Comptroller General report on Department traveler experience.

Sec. 9121. Quarterly report on global footprint.

Sec. 9122. Report on former Federal employees advising foreign governments.

Sec. 9123. Job share and part-time employment opportunities.

Sec. 9124. Expansion of special rules for certain monthly workers' compensation payments and other payments for personnel under chief of mission authority.

Sec. 9125. Authority to provide or reimburse for certain security services.

TITLE II—ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

Sec. 9201. State-of-the-art building facilities.

Sec. 9202. Presence of chiefs of mission at diplomatic posts.

Sec. 9203. Periodic Inspector General reviews of chiefs of mission.

Sec. 9204. Special Envoy for Sudan.

Sec. 9205. Special Envoy for Belarus.

Sec. 9206. National Museum of American Diplomacy.

Sec. 9207. Authority to establish Negotiations Support Unit within Department of State.

Sec. 9208. Restrictions on the use of funds for solar panels.

Sec. 9209. Responsiveness to Congressional Research Service inquiries.

Sec. 9210. Mission in a box.

Sec. 9211. Report on United States Consulate in Chengdu, People's Republic of China.

Sec. 9212. Personnel reporting.

Sec. 9213. Support co-location with allied partner nations.

Sec. 9214. Streamline qualification of construction contract bidders.

TITLE III—INFORMATION SECURITY AND CYBER DIPLOMACY

Sec. 9301. Supporting Department of State data analytics.

Sec. 9302. Realigning the Regional Technology Officer Program.

Sec. 9303. Measures to protect Department devices from the proliferation and use of foreign commercial spyware.

Sec. 9304. Report on cloud computing in Bureau of Consular Affairs.

Sec. 9305. Information technology pilot projects.

Sec. 9306. Leveraging approved technology for administrative efficiencies.

Sec. 9307. Office of the Special Envoy for Critical and Emerging Technology.

TITLE IV—PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

Sec. 9401. Africa broadcasting networks.

Sec. 9402. United States Agency for Global Media.

Sec. 9403. Extension of authorizations to support United States participation in international fairs and expos.

Sec. 9404. Research and scholar exchange partnerships.

Sec. 9405. Waiver of United States residency requirement for children of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty employees.

TITLE V—DIPLOMATIC SECURITY

Sec. 9501. Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act requirements.

Sec. 9502. Congressional notification for Serious Security Incidents.

Sec. 9503. Notifications regarding security decisions at diplomatic posts.

Sec. 9504. Security clearance suspension pay flexibilities.

Sec. 9505. Modification to notification requirement for security clearance suspensions and revocations.

TITLE VI—UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Sec. 9601. Personal service agreement authority for the United States Agency for International Development.

Sec. 9602. Crisis operations and disaster surge staffing.

Sec. 9603. Education allowance while on military leave.

Sec. 9604. Inclusion in the pet transportation exception to the Fly America Act.

TITLE VII—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 9701. Authorization of appropriations to promote United States citizen employment at the United Nations and international organizations.

Sec. 9702. Amendment to Rewards for Justice program.

Sec. 9703. Passport automation modernization.

Sec. 9704. Extension of certain payment in connection with the International Space Station.

Sec. 9705. Support for congressional delegations.

Sec. 9706. Electronic communication with visa applicants.

Sec. 9707. Electronic transmission of visa information.

Sec. 9708. Inclusion of cost associated with producing reports.

Sec. 9709. Extensions.

SEC. 9002. DEFINITIONS.

In this division:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(3) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department” means the Department of State.

(4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of State.

(5) USAID.—The term “USAID” means the United States Agency for International Development.

TITLE I—WORKFORCE MATTERS

SEC. 9101. COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROGERS ACT; CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Congress recognizes and honors those who have served, or are presently serving, in the diplomatic corps of the United States, in commemorating the 100th Anniversary of the Act entitled, “An Act for the reorganization and improvement of the Foreign Service of the United States, and for other purposes” (43 stat. 140, chapter 182), commonly known as the “Rogers Act of 1924”, which on May 24, 1924, established what has come to be known as the Foreign Service. Today, the Department of State includes more than 13,000 Foreign Service personnel working alongside more than 11,000 civil service personnel and 45,000 locally engaged staff at more than 270 embassies and consulates.

SEC. 9102. WORKFORCE MODERNIZATION EFFORTS.

The Secretary should prioritize efforts to further modernize the Department, including—

(1) making workforce investments, including increasing wages for locally employed staff and providing other non-cash benefits, and hiring up to 100 new members of the Foreign Service above projected attrition to reduce overseas vacancies and mid-level staffing gaps;

(2) utilizing authorities that allow the Department to acquire or build and open new embassy compounds quicker and at significantly less cost to get diplomats on the front lines of strategic competition; and

(3) modernizing legacy systems and human resource processes.

SEC. 9103. TRAINING FLOAT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR CIVIL AND FOREIGN SERVICE PERSONNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop and submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a strategy to establish and maintain a “training float” by January 1, 2027, to allow for a minimum of 8 percent and up to 10 percent of members of the Civil and Foreign Service to participate in long-term training at any given time. The strategy shall include—

(1) a proposal to ensure that personnel in the training float remain dedicated to training or professional development activities;

(2) recommendations to maintain, and an assessment of the feasibility of maintaining, a minimum of 8 percent of personnel in the float at any given time; and

(3) any additional resources and authorities needed to maintain a training float contemplated by this section.

(b) MONITORING.—For any established training float, not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall ensure that personnel in such training float remain dedicated to training or professional development activities.

SEC. 9104. COMPETITIVE LOCAL COMPENSATION PLAN.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the effectiveness and stability of United States foreign missions are linked to the dedication and expertise of locally employed staff; and

(2) ensuring competitive compensation packages benchmarked against the local market is essential not only to retain valuable talent but also to reflect a commitment to employment practices abroad.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$47,500,000 for fiscal year 2025 to support implementation of a global baseline for prevailing wage rate goal for Local Compensation Plan positions at the 75th percentile.

SEC. 9105. LANGUAGE INCENTIVE PAY FOR CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES.

The Secretary and Administrator may provide special monetary incentives to acquire or retain proficiency in foreign languages to civil service employees who serve in domestic positions that require critical language skills. The amounts of such incentives should be similar to the language incentive pay provided to members of the Foreign Service under the Foreign Service pursuant to section 704(b)(3) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4024(b)(3)).

SEC. 9106. STRATEGY FOR TARGETED RECRUITMENT OF CIVIL SERVANTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a strategy for targeted and proactive recruitment to fill open civil service positions, focusing on recruiting from schools or organizations, and on platforms targeting those with relevant expertise related to such positions.

SEC. 9107. ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) Foreign Service personnel at the Department serve with distinction in austere places and under challenging conditions around the world with limited healthcare availability;

(2) the use of paper medical records, which require Foreign Service personnel to carry files containing protected health information from post to post, limits the availability of their health information to Department medical personnel during critical health incidents;

(3) electronic medical records are necessary, particularly as the Department opens new embassies in the South Pacific, thousands of miles from the nearest Department medical officer, who may not have access to up-to-date personnel medical files;

(4) the lack of electronic medical records is even more important for mental health records, as the Department only has a small number of regional medical officer psychiatrists and relies heavily on telehealth for most Foreign Service personnel; and

(5) due to the critical need for electronic medical records, it is imperative that the Department address the situation quickly and focus on secure commercially available or other successful systems utilized by public and private sector organizations with a track record of successfully implementing large-scale projects of this type.

(b) ELECTRONIC MEDICAL RECORDS REQUIREMENT.—Not later than December 31, 2027, the Secretary shall have fully implemented an electronic medical records process or system for all Foreign Service personnel and their Eligible Family Members that eliminates reliance on paper medical records and includes appropriate safeguards to protect personal privacy.

(c) REPORT ON IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 180 days thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congress-

sional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the progress made towards meeting the requirement under subsection (b).

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

(A) An updated timeline for implementation.

(B) An estimated completion date.

(C) The amounts expended to date on the required electronic medical records system.

(D) The estimated amount needed to complete the system.

(3) TERMINATION OF REQUIREMENT.—The reporting requirement under paragraph (1) shall cease upon notification to the appropriate congressional committees that electronic medical records have been completely implemented for all Foreign Service personnel.

SEC. 9108. OPTIONS FOR COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on options for integrating 360-degree reviews in personnel files for promotion panel consideration.

(b) EVALUATION SYSTEMS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall include—

(1) one or more options to integrate confidential 360-degree reviews, references, or evaluations by superiors, peers, and subordinates, including consideration of automated reference requests; and

(2) other modifications or systems the Secretary considers relevant.

(c) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection (a) shall describe, with respect to each evaluation system included in the report—

(1) any legal constraints or considerations;

(2) the timeline required for implementation;

(3) any starting and recurring costs in comparison to current processes;

(4) the likely or potential implications for promotion decisions and trends; and

(5) the impact on meeting the personnel needs of the Foreign Service.

SEC. 9109. PORTABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 9 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081 et seq.) is amended by adding after section 908 (22 U.S.C. 4088) the following new section:

“SEC. 909. PORTABILITY OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In any case in which a member of the Foreign Service or the spouse of a member of the Foreign Service has a covered United States license and such member of the Foreign Service or spouse relocates his or her residency because of an assignment or detail to a location that is not in the jurisdiction of the licensing authority that issued the covered license, such covered license shall be considered valid at a similar scope of practice and in the discipline applied for in the jurisdiction of such new residency for the duration of such an assignment or detail if such member of the Foreign Service or spouse—

“(1) provides a copy of the member’s notification of assignment to the licensing authority in the jurisdiction in which the new residency is located;

“(2) remains in good standing with—

“(A) the licensing authority that issued the covered license; and

“(B) every other licensing authority that has issued to the member of the Foreign Service or spouse a license valid at a similar

scope of practice and in the discipline applied in the jurisdiction of such licensing authority; and

“(3) submits to the authority of the licensing authority in the new jurisdiction for the purposes of standards of practice, discipline, and fulfillment of any continuing education requirements.

“(b) INTERSTATE LICENSURE COMPACTS.—If a member of the Foreign Service or spouse of a member of the Foreign Service is licensed and able to operate in multiple jurisdictions through an interstate licensure compact, with respect to services provided in the jurisdiction of the interstate licensure compact by a licensee covered by such compact, the member of the Foreign Service or spouse of a member of the Foreign Service shall be subject to the requirements of the compact or the applicable provisions of law of the applicable State and not this section.

“(c) COVERED LICENSE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered license’ means a professional license or certificate—

“(1) that is in good standing with the licensing authority that issued such professional license or certificate;

“(2) that the member of the Foreign Service or spouse of a member of the Foreign Service has actively used during the two years immediately preceding the relocation described in subsection (a); and

“(3) that is not a license to practice law.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 2 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 908 the following new item:

“Sec. 909. Portability of professional licenses.”.

SEC. 9110. EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEPARTMENT-PAID STUDENT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9201 of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2022 (22 U.S. 2737) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2)(A), by inserting “or have graduated from such an institution within the six months preceding application to the Program” after “paragraph (1)”;

(2) in subsection (c), by inserting “and gives preference to individuals who have not previously completed internships within the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development” after “career in foreign affairs”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following subsections:

“(k) WORK HOURS FLEXIBILITY.—Students participating in the Program may work fewer than 40 hours per week and a minimum of 24 hours per week to accommodate their academic schedules, provided that the total duration of the internship remains consistent with program requirements.

“(l) MENTORSHIP PROGRAM.—The Secretary and Administrator are authorized to establish a mentoring and coaching program that pairs Foreign Service or Civil Service employees with interns who choose to participate throughout the duration of their internship.”.

SEC. 9111. CAREER INTERMISSION PROGRAM ADJUSTMENT TO ENHANCE RETENTION.

(a) AUTHORITY TO EXTEND FEDERAL EMPLOYEE HEALTH BENEFIT COVERAGE.—The Secretary and Administrator are authorized to offer employees the option of extending Federal Employee Health Benefit coverage during pre-approved leave without pay for up to 3 years.

(b) RESPONSIBILITY FOR PREMIUM PAYMENTS.—If an employee elects to continue coverage pursuant to subsection (a) for longer than 365 days, the employee shall be responsible for 100 percent of the premium

(employee share and government share) during such longer period.

SEC. 9112. PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall seek to increase the number of professional counselors, including licensed clinical social workers, providing services for employees under chief of mission authority. These positions may be filled under Limited Non-Career Appointment terms.

(b) EMPLOYMENT TARGETS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this division, the Secretary shall seek to employ not fewer than 4 additional professional counselors, including licensed clinical social workers, in the Bureau of Medical Services to work out of regional medical centers abroad.

SEC. 9113. ASSIGNMENT PROCESS MODERNIZATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall modernize the Foreign Service bidding process, and specifically implement the following elements:

(1) A stable-pair matching, preference-ranking system for non-directed Foreign Service employees and hiring bureaus, allowing for a more strategic alignment of workforce and resources.

(2) Incorporation of lessons learned from the previous stable-pair matching bidding pilot framework referred to as “iMatch”, but applied more expansively to include non-directed assignments up through FS-01 positions, taking advantage of efficiency benefits such as tandem assignment functionalities.

(3) Mechanisms to ensure transparency, efficiency, effectiveness, accountability, and flexibility in the assignment process, while maintaining equal opportunities for all officers.

(4) An independent auditing process to ensure adherence to established rules, effectiveness in meeting the Department’s needs, and prevention of bias or manipulation, including through the use of protected categories in making assignment decisions.

(b) CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN PROMOTION ISSUES.—In parallel with assignment process modernization efforts, the Secretary shall—

(1) assess whether any point systems tied to promotion incentives should consider service in hard-to-fill or critical positions; and

(2) assess whether the practice of dividing the assignment process into winter and summer cycles is necessary or efficient compared to stable matching processes.

(c) REPORTING AND OVERSIGHT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall provide the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of the assignment process under this section, including—

(1) data on match rates, including in filling critical or priority positions, officer and hiring office satisfaction, and the impact on tandem placements;

(2) recommendations for further modifications to the bidding process;

(3) an overview of the strategy used to communicate any changes to the workforce; and

(4) results of analysis into additional transparency efforts, including those described in subsection (a)(3).

SEC. 9114. REPORT ON MODIFYING CONSULAR TOUR AND FIRST TOURS REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that evaluates the feasibility of—

(1) reducing, removing, and adding flexibility to the directed consular tours require-

ments for non-consular-coned generalist members of the Foreign Service; and

(2) requiring that first tours for members of the Foreign Service be assigned in the National Capital Region.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include a description of resources required to implement the changes described in such subsection, a timeline for implementation, and an assessment of the benefits and consequences of such changes, including any obstacles.

SEC. 9115. COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON VETTING AND TRANSPARENCY.

(a) COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON VETTING AND TRANSPARENCY.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall develop a consistent and enhanced vetting process to ensure that individuals with substantiated claims of discrimination or harassment against them, to include when administrative or disciplinary actions are taken, are not considered for assignments to senior positions or promotions to senior grades within the Foreign Service.

(b) ELEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE VETTING POLICY.—Following the conclusion of any investigation into an allegation of discrimination or harassment, the Office of Civil Rights, Office of Global Talent Management, and other offices with responsibilities related to the investigation reporting directly to the Secretary shall jointly or individually submit a written summary of any findings of substantiated allegations, along with a summary of findings to the committee responsible for assignments to senior positions prior to such committee rendering a recommendation for assignment.

(c) RESPONSE.—The Secretary shall develop a process for candidates to respond to any allegations that are substantiated and presented to the committee responsible for assignments to senior positions.

(d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall submit to the Department workforce and the appropriate congressional committees a report on the number of candidates confirmed for senior diplomatic posts against whom there were substantiated allegations described in subsection (a).

(e) SENIOR POSITIONS DEFINED.—In this section, the term “senior positions” means Chief of Mission, Under Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Deputy Chief of Mission, and Principal Officer (i.e., Consuls General) positions.

SEC. 9116. EFFICIENCY IN EMPLOYEE SURVEY CREATION AND CONSOLIDATION.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that employee surveys are crucial for understanding the needs and concerns of the workforce, and are most effective when they are strategically designed, collected, and the results transparent where possible.

(b) CONSOLIDATED RESOURCE REQUIREMENT.—The Department shall provide a consolidated resource of survey methods, best practices, and a repository of survey data to avoid survey fatigue, minimize duplicating surveys, increase confidence in survey data, and facilitate data-informed decision-making.

(c) TIMING.—The Secretary should determine the overall timing and administration of mandated surveys to ensure maximum participation and robust data sets.

SEC. 9117. PER DIEM ALLOWANCE FOR NEWLY HIRED MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

(a) PER DIEM ALLOWANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), any newly hired Foreign Service employee who is in initial orientation training, or any other training expected to

last less than 6 months in the Washington, D.C. area before transferring to the employee's first assignment overseas or domestically outside the Washington, D.C. area shall, for the duration of such training, receive a per diem allowance at the levels prescribed under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) **LIMITATION ON LODGING EXPENSES.**—A newly hired Foreign Service employee may not receive any lodging expenses under the applicable per diem allowance pursuant to paragraph (1) if that employee—

(A) has a permanent residence in the Washington, D.C., area (not including government-supplied housing during such orientation training or other training); and

(B) does not vacate such residence during such orientation training or other training.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section—

(1) the term “per diem allowance” has the meaning given such term in section 5701 of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) the term “Washington, D.C., area” means the geographic area within a 50-mile radius of the Washington Monument.

SEC. 9118. TERMINATION OF RESIDENTIAL OR MOTOR VEHICLE LEASES AND TELEPHONE SERVICE CONTRACTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE.

Section 907 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4087) is amended by striking “Service who are posted abroad at a Foreign Service post” and inserting “Foreign Service who are posted in the United States or posted abroad”.

SEC. 9119. NEEDS-BASED CHILDCARE SUBSIDIES ENROLLMENT PERIOD.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Department and USAID shall—

(1) issue and maintain guidance on how to apply for any program authorized under section 630 of the Treasury and General Government Appropriations Act, 2002 (Public Law 107-67; 115 Stat. 552); and

(2) consider using maximum flexibilities to accept applications throughout the year or in accordance with Qualifying Life Event changes (as defined by the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHB)).

SEC. 9120. COMPTROLLER GENERAL REPORT ON DEPARTMENT TRAVELER EXPERIENCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the effect of section 40118 of title 49, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Fly America Act”) on Department travelers.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall include an analysis of the extent to which the Fly America Act—

(1) disproportionately impacts Department personnel;

(2) impacts travelers, including their ability to find suitable flights and the ability to complete their travel in a timely and effective manner;

(3) increases or decreases costs to the United States Government;

(4) produces overly burdensome restrictions in times of urgent travel such as Emergency Visitation Travel and Ordered/Authorized Departure; and

(5) a description of other relevant issues the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

SEC. 9121. QUARTERLY REPORT ON GLOBAL FOOTPRINT.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate

congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the global footprint of the Department.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall include, for each diplomatic post—

(1) the number and type of Department employees assigned to the post; and

(2) the number of allocated positions that remain unfilled.

(c) **FORM.**—The report required under subsection (a) shall be submitted in classified form.

SEC. 9122. REPORT ON FORMER FEDERAL EMPLOYEES ADVISING FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 3 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees, the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence a report that identifies former United States Government senior officials who have been approved by the Secretary to advise foreign governments.

(b) **FORM.**—The report required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 9123. JOB SHARE AND PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish and publish a Department policy on job share and part-time employment opportunities. The policy shall include a template for job sharing arrangements, a database of job share and part-time employment opportunities, and a point of contact in the Bureau of Global Talent Management.

(b) **WORKPLACE FLEXIBILITY TRAINING.**—The Secretary shall incorporate training on workplace flexibility, including the availability of job share and part-time employment opportunities, into employee onboarding and every level of supervisory training.

(c) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for the following 5 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on workplace flexibility at the Department, including data on the number of employees utilizing job share or part-time employment arrangements.

SEC. 9124. EXPANSION OF SPECIAL RULES FOR CERTAIN MONTHLY WORKERS' COMPENSATION PAYMENTS AND OTHER PAYMENTS FOR PERSONNEL UNDER CHIEF OF MISSION AUTHORITY.

Section 901 of title IX of division J of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (22 U.S.C. 2680b) is amended—

(1) in subsection (e)—

(A) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “of a” and inserting “of an”; and

(ii) by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”; and

(C) in paragraph (3), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”; and

(2) in subsection (h)(1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “January 1, 2016” and inserting “September 11, 2001”.

SEC. 9125. AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE OR REIMBURSE FOR CERTAIN SECURITY SERVICES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary and the Administrator are authorized to provide or reimburse for appropriate security services to mitigate risks to certain employees or members of their households resulting from or related to the employee's official duties or affiliation with the Department or USAID. These security equipment or services may include security cameras and services to de-prioritize or remove internet search results revealing personally identifiable information.

(b) **REQUIRED POLICY.**—Prior to providing or reimbursing services pursuant to subsection (a), the Department shall establish a policy that—

(1) outlines the requirements for qualifying for provision or reimbursement of services;

(2) identifies the office responsible for vetting requests for provision or reimbursement of services; and

(3) mandates expeditious consideration of such requests.

(c) **PROTECTION OF PERSONAL INFORMATION.**—The Secretary and the Administrator shall not collect personally identifiable information on any United States citizens while undertaking the activities described in subsection (a) unless the collection is authorized by a court as part of a criminal investigation.

TITLE II—ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS

SEC. 9201. STATE-OF-THE-ART BUILDING FACILITIES.

The Secretary should use existing waiver authorities to expedite upgrades and critical maintenance for the Harry S. Truman Federal Building, with the goal of having at least 85 percent of construction and upgrades completed by December 31, 2027.

SEC. 9202. PRESENCE OF CHIEFS OF MISSION AT DIPLOMATIC POSTS.

(a) **REQUIREMENT FOR ARRIVAL AT DIPLOMATIC POST WITHIN 60 DAYS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall require that to be eligible for payment of travel expenses for initial arrival at the assigned post, a chief of mission must arrive at the post not later than 60 days after the date on which the chief of mission was confirmed by the Senate.

(2) **EXCEPTIONS.**—The restriction under paragraph (1) shall not apply to a chief of mission who arrives later than 60 days after confirmation by the Senate if the delay was caused by one or more of the following:

(A) A flight delay that was outside of the control of the chief of mission or the Department.

(B) A natural disaster, global health emergency, or other naturally occurring event that prevented the chief of mission from entering the country of the assigned post.

(C) Delay or refusal by the government of the host country to accept diplomatic accreditation.

(D) Family or medical emergency.

(E) Extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the chief of mission.

(3) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary may waive the requirement under paragraph (1) upon a determination that extenuating circumstances warrant such a waiver and upon submission of a brief description of the determination to the appropriate congressional committees.

(4) **NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and in each case that a chief of mission arrives at an assigned post more than 60 days after confirmation, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report identifying any chief of mission who arrived at the assigned post

more than 60 days after confirmation by the Senate, and includes a description of the justification.

(b) **NOTIFICATIONS ON DEPARTURES OF CHIEFS OF MISSION.**—Beginning on April 1, 2025, for 5 years, the Secretary shall notify the appropriate congressional committees of any chief of mission who has permanently departed from the assigned post within 90 days of the departure.

SEC. 9203. PERIODIC INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEWS OF CHIEFS OF MISSION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Beginning on April 1, 2025, and for a 3-year period thereafter, the Inspector General of the Department of State shall conduct management reviews of chiefs of mission, charge d'affaires, and other principal officers assigned overseas during inspection visits, when those officers have been at post more than 180 days.

(b) **DISPOSITION.**—Reviews conducted pursuant to subsection (a) shall be provided to the rating officer for formal discussion as part of the performance evaluation process. The management review shall remain in the employee's personnel file unless otherwise required by law. The subject of a review conducted pursuant to subsection (a) shall have the opportunity to respond to and comment on the review, and the response shall be included in the employee's file for promotion panel review.

(c) **NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT IN CASE OF SERIOUS MANAGEMENT CONCERNS.**—The Inspector General of the Department of State shall notify the Secretary, the Deputy Secretary, and the appropriate congressional committees within 30 days of any review in which serious management concerns are raised and substantiated, and which is not otherwise submitted as part of the periodic inspection or report.

SEC. 9204. SPECIAL ENVOY FOR SUDAN.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The President shall, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint a Special Envoy for Sudan at the Department (in this section referred to as the "Special Envoy"). The Special Envoy shall report directly to the Secretary and should not hold another position in the Department while holding the position of Special Envoy.

(b) **DUTIES.**—The Special Envoy shall—

(1) lead United States diplomatic efforts to support negotiations and humanitarian response efforts related to alleviating the crisis in Sudan;

(2) be responsible for coordinating policy development and execution related to ending the conflict and a future path to national recovery and democratic transition in Sudan across all bureaus in the Department and coordinating with interagency partners; and

(3) consult regularly with the appropriate congressional committees, and keep such committees fully and currently informed on the status of diplomatic efforts and negotiations.

(c) **STAFFING.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall ensure that the Special Envoy is staffed with personnel approved by the envoy, including through reassignment of positions responsible for issues related to Sudan that currently exist within the Department, encouraging details or assignment of employees of the Department from regional and functional bureaus with expertise relevant to Sudan, or through request for interagency details of individuals with relevant experience from other United States Government departments or agencies, including the Department of Treasury.

(2) **BRIEFING REQUIREMENTS.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Department should brief the appropriate congressional committees on the number of full-time equivalent positions sup-

porting the Special Envoy and the relevant expertise and duties of any employees of the Department serving as detailees.

(d) **SUNSET.**—The position of the Special Envoy for Sudan shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 9205. SPECIAL ENVOY FOR BELARUS.

Section 6406(d) of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2023 (division F of Public Law 118-31; 22 U.S.C. 5811 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(d) **ROLE.**—The position of Special Envoy—

“(1) shall only exist while United States diplomatic operations in Belarus at the United States Embassy in Minsk, Belarus are suspended; and

“(2) shall oversee the operations and personnel of the Belarus Affairs Unit.”.

SEC. 9206. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.

Title I of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 is amended by adding after section 64 (22 U.S.C. 2735a) the following:

“SEC. 65. NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.

“(a) **ACTIVITIES.**—

“(1) **SUPPORT AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary is authorized to provide, by contract, grant, or otherwise, for the performance of appropriate museum visitor and educational outreach services and related events, including—

“(A) organizing programs and conference activities;

“(B) creating, designing, and installing exhibits; and

“(C) conducting museum shop services and food services in the public exhibition and related physical and virtual space utilized by the National Museum of American Diplomacy.

“(2) **RECOVERY OF COSTS.**—The Secretary of State is authorized to retain the proceeds obtained from customary and appropriate fees charged for the use of facilities, including venue rental for events consistent with the activities described in subsection (a)(1) and museum shop services and food services at the National Museum of American Diplomacy. Such proceeds shall be retained as a recovery of the costs of operating the Museum, credited to a designated Department account that exists for the purpose of funding the Museum and its programs and activities, and shall remain available until expended.

“(b) **DISPOSITION OF DOCUMENTS, ARTIFACTS, AND OTHER ARTICLES.**—

“(1) **PROPERTY.**—All historic documents, artifacts, or other articles acquired by the Department of State for the permanent museum collection and determined by the Secretary of State to be suitable for display by the National Museum of American Diplomacy shall be considered to be the property of the United States Government and shall be subject to disposition solely in accordance with this subsection.

“(2) **SALE, TRADE, OR TRANSFER.**—Whenever the Secretary of State makes a determination described in paragraph (3) with respect to a document, artifact, or other article described in paragraph (1), taking into account considerations such as the Museum's collections management policy and best professional museum practice, the Secretary may sell at fair market value, trade, or transfer such document, artifact, or other article without regard to the requirements of subtitle I of title 40, United States Code. The proceeds of any such sale may be used solely for the advancement of the activities described in subsection (a)(1) of the National Museum of American Diplomacy and may

not be used for any purpose other than the acquisition and direct care of the collections of the Museum.

“(3) **DETERMINATIONS PRIOR TO SALE, TRADE, OR TRANSFER.**—The determination described in this paragraph with respect to a document, artifact, or other article described in paragraph (1) is a determination that—

“(A) the document, artifact, or other article no longer serves to further the mission of the National Museum of American Diplomacy as set forth in the collections management policy of the Museum;

“(B) the sale at a fair market price based on an independent appraisal or trade or transfer of the document, artifact, or other article would serve to maintain or enhance the Museum collection; and

“(C) the sale, trade, or transfer of the document, artifact, or other article would be in the best interests of the United States.

“(4) **LOANS.**—In addition to the authorization under paragraph (2) relating to the sale, trade, or transfer of documents, artifacts, or other articles described in paragraph (1), the Secretary of State may—

“(A) loan the documents, artifacts, or other articles to other institutions, both foreign and domestic, for repair, study, or exhibition when not needed for use or display by the National Museum of American Diplomacy; and

“(B) borrow documents, artifacts, or other articles from other institutions or individuals, both foreign and domestic, for activities consistent with subsection (a)(1).”.

SEC. 9207. AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH NEGOTIATIONS SUPPORT UNIT WITHIN DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

(a) **SENSE OF CONGRESS.**—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) there is a need for the United States Government to maintain a permanent institutional hub for technical expertise, strategic advice, and knowledge management in negotiations, mediation, and peace processes in order to prioritize and invest in diplomacy;

(2) the United States plays a role in enabling and supporting peace processes and complex political negotiations, the success of which is essential to stability and democracy around the world;

(3) the meaningful engagement of conflict-affected communities, particularly women, youth, and other impacted populations, is vital to durable, implementable, and sustainable peace;

(4) negotiation requires a specific technical and functional skillset, and thus institutional expertise in this practice area should include trained practitioners and subject matter experts;

(5) such skills should continue to be employed as the United States Government advises and contributes to peace processes, including those where the United States plays a supporting role or is led by multilateral and international partners; and

(6) training programs for United States diplomats should draw upon this expertise and United States lessons learned to help equip diplomats with skills to respond to peace processes and complex political negotiations, and how to request support.

(b) **NEGOTIATIONS SUPPORT UNIT.**—Section 1 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act (22 U.S.C. 2651a) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(p) **NEGOTIATIONS SUPPORT UNIT.**—

“(1) **AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH.**—The Secretary of State may establish within the Department of State a unit to be known as the ‘Negotiations Support Unit’ responsible for carrying out the functions described in paragraph (2), as appropriate.

“(2) **FUNCTIONS.**—The functions described in this paragraph are the following:

“(A) Serving as a permanent institutional hub and resource for negotiations and peace process expertise and knowledge management.

“(B) Advising the Secretary of State, other relevant senior officials, members of the Foreign Service, and employees of the Department of State on the substance, process, and strategy of negotiations, mediation, peace processes, and other complex political negotiations from strategy and planning to implementation.

“(C) Supporting the development and implementation of United States policy related to complex political negotiations and peace processes, including those led by multilateral and international partners.

“(D) Advising on mediation and negotiations programs to implement United States policy.

“(E) Supporting training for Foreign Service Officers and civil servants on tailored negotiation and mediation skills.

“(F) Working with other governments, international organizations, and nongovernmental organizations, as appropriate, to support the development and implementation of United States policy on peace processes and complex political negotiations.

“(G) Any additional duties the Secretary of State may prescribe.

“(3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2025 for the establishment of the Negotiations Support Unit under paragraph (1).”

SEC. 9208. RESTRICTIONS ON THE USE OF FUNDS FOR SOLAR PANELS.

The Department may not use Federal funds to procure any solar energy products that were manufactured in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China or other regions in the country, which are known to be produced with forced labor.

SEC. 9209. RESPONSIVENESS TO CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE INQUIRIES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congressional Research Service is charged with rendering effective and efficient service to Congress and responding expeditiously, effectively, and efficiently to the needs of Congress.

(b) RESPONSES.—The Secretary and Administrator shall ensure that for any inquiry or request from the Congressional Research Service related to its support of Members of Congress and congressional staff—

(1) an initial answer responsive to the request is sent within 14 days of receipt of the inquiry;

(2) a complete answer responsive to the request is sent within 90 days of receipt of the inquiry, together with an explanation as to why the request was delayed; and

(3) Congressional Research Service staff shall be treated as congressional staff for any informal discussions or briefings.

SEC. 9210. MISSION IN A BOX.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Increasing the United States' global diplomatic footprint is imperative to advance United States' national security interests, particularly in the face of a massive diplomatic expansion of our strategic competitors.

(2) Opening or re-opening diplomatic missions, often in small island nations where there is no United States Government presence, but one is needed to advance United States strategic objectives.

(3) Diplomatic missions should be resourced and equipped for success upon opening to allow diplomats to focus on advancing United States national interests in-country.

(4) The United States can and should move more swiftly to open new diplomatic mis-

sions and provide United States diplomats and locally employed staff with a workplace that meets locally appropriate quality, safety, and security standards.

(5) To do this, the Department must streamline and support the process of opening new posts to identify efficiencies and removing obstacles that are unduly complicating the opening of new diplomatic missions, particularly in small island states and similarly situated locations.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on how the Department is creating a “mission in a box” concept to provide new such diplomatic missions the needed resources and authorities to quickly and efficiently stand up and operate a mission from the moment United States personnel arrive, or even before the opening of a new mission, particularly in small island nations.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a list of authorities and processes related to the opening of new diplomatic missions;

(B) a list of authorities and processes related to the opening of new diplomatic missions that the Department can waive to expeditiously stand up new diplomatic missions;

(C) essential functions that each new diplomatic mission should be able to carry out independently upon opening;

(D) a description of functions that another post or support center will need to carry out to support the new mission;

(E) a list of essential equipment and access to facilities, including to support secure communications, that should be provided to each new diplomatic mission, the approval of which should be handled prior to or shortly after the opening of the new diplomatic mission, including arrangements for basic office equipment, vehicles, and housing;

(F) the number of recommended locally engaged staff and United States direct hires resident in-country;

(G) the number of non-resident support staff who are assigned to the new diplomatic mission, such as from another post or regional support center;

(H) a description of how medical and consular support services could be provided;

(I) procedures for requesting an expansion of the post's functions or physical platform after opening, should that be needed;

(J) any other authorities or processes that may be required to successfully and quickly stand up a new diplomatic mission, including any new authorities the Department may need;

(K) a list of incentives, in addition to pay differentials, being considered for such posts; and

(L) a description of any specialized training, including for management and security personnel supporting the establishment of such new embassies that may be required.

(c) SENIOR OFFICIAL TO LEAD NEW EMBASSY EXPANSION.—

(1) DESIGNATION.—The Secretary shall designate an assistant secretary-level senior official to expedite and make recommendations for the reform of procedures for opening new diplomatic missions abroad, particularly in small island states.

(2) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The senior official designated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be responsible for proposing policy and procedural changes to the Secretary to—

(A) expediting the resourcing of new diplomatic missions by waiving or reducing when possible mandatory processes required to open new diplomatic missions, taking into

account the threat environment and circumstances in the host country;

(B) when necessary, quickly adjudicating within the Department any decision points that arise during the planning and execution phases of the establishment of a new mission;

(C) ensuring new missions receive the management and operational support needed, including by designating such support be undertaken by another post, regional support center, or Department entities based in the United States; and

(D) ensuring that the authorities provided in the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (title VI of division A of appendix G of Public Law 106-113), as amended by the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 2022 (section 9301 of Public Law 117-263; 136 Stat. 3879), are fully utilized in the planning for all new diplomatic missions.

(d) NEW DIPLOMATIC MISSION DEFINED.—In this section, the term “new diplomatic mission” means any bilateral diplomatic mission opened since January 1, 2020, in a country where there had not been a bilateral diplomatic mission since the date that is 20 years before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(e) SUNSET.—The authorities and requirements of this section shall terminate 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 9211. REPORT ON UNITED STATES CONSULATE IN CHENGDU, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the effect of the suspension of operations at of the United States Consulate General in Chengdu, People's Republic of China, on July 27, 2020, on diplomatic and consular activities of the United States in Southwestern China, including the provision of consular services to United States citizens, and on relations with the people of Southwestern China, including in areas designated by the Government of the People's Republic of China as autonomous.

SEC. 9212. PERSONNEL REPORTING.

Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and at least every 120 days thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report—

(1) describing the on-board personnel levels, hiring, and attrition of the Civil Service, Foreign Service, eligible family members, locally employed staff, and contractor workforce of the Department, on an operating unit-by-operating unit basis; and

(2) including a status update on progress toward fiscal year hiring plans for Foreign Service and Civil Service.

SEC. 9213. SUPPORT CO-LOCATION WITH ALLIED PARTNER NATIONS.

The Secretary, following consultation with the appropriate congressional committees, may alter, repair, and furnish United States Government-owned and leased space for use by the government of a foreign country to facilitate co-location of such government in such space, on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may determine, including with respect to reimbursement of all or part of the costs of such alteration, repair, or furnishing. Reimbursements or advances of funds pursuant to this section may be credited to the currently applicable appropriation and shall be available for the purposes for which such appropriation is authorized.

SEC. 9214. STREAMLINE QUALIFICATION OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT BIDDERS.

Section 402 of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4852) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—
(A) by inserting “be awarded” after “joint venture persons may”;

(B) by striking “bid on” both places it appears; and

(C) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$10,000,000” and inserting “\$25,000,000”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—
(A) in paragraph 1, by striking “two” and inserting “three”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (D), by striking “at a United States diplomatic or consular establishment abroad” and inserting “on a Federal contract abroad”;

(ii) by striking subparagraphs (E) and (G);

(iii) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (E); and

(iv) in subparagraph (E), as redesignated by clause (iii), by striking “80” [both places it appears] and inserting “65”.

TITLE III—INFORMATION SECURITY AND CYBER DIPLOMACY

SEC. 9301. SUPPORTING DEPARTMENT OF STATE DATA ANALYTICS.

There is authorized to be appropriated for the Department of State for fiscal year 2025 \$3,000,000 for bureaus to hire Chief Data Officers through the “Bureau Chief Data Officer Program”, consistent with section 6302 of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2023 (division F of Public Law 118-31; 22 U.S.C. 2651a note).

SEC. 9302. REALIGNING THE REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY OFFICER PROGRAM.

Section 9508(a)(1) of the Department of State Authorizations Act of 2022 (division I of Public Law 117-263; 22 U.S.C. 10305(a)(1)) is amended by inserting “, and shall be administered by the Bureau for Cyberspace and Digital Policy” before the period at the end.

SEC. 9303. MEASURES TO PROTECT DEPARTMENT DEVICES FROM THE PROLIFERATION AND USE OF FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SPYWARE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives.

(1) COVERED DEVICE.—The term “covered device” means any electronic mobile device, including smartphones, tablet computing devices, or laptop computing device, that is issued by the Department for official use.

(2) FOREIGN COMMERCIAL SPYWARE; SPYWARE.—The terms “foreign commercial spyware” and “spyware” have the meanings given those terms in section 1102A of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3232a).

(b) PROTECTION OF COVERED DEVICES.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall, in consultation with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency—

(A) issue standards, guidance, best practices, and policies for Department and USAID personnel to protect covered devices from being compromised by foreign commercial spyware;

(B) survey the processes used by the Department and USAID to identify and catalog instances where a covered device was compromised by foreign commercial spyware over the prior 2 years and it is reasonably expected to have resulted in an unauthorized disclosure of sensitive information; and

(C) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the measures in place

to identify and catalog instances of such compromises for covered devices by foreign commercial spyware, which may be submitted in classified form.

(2) NOTIFICATIONS.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Department becomes aware that a covered device was seriously compromised by foreign commercial spyware, the Secretary, in coordination with relevant agencies, shall notify the appropriate committees of Congress of the facts concerning such targeting or compromise, including—

(A) the location of the personnel whose covered device was compromised;

(B) the number of covered devices compromised;

(C) an assessment by the Secretary of the damage to the national security of the United States resulting from any loss of data or sensitive information; and

(D) an assessment by the Secretary of any foreign government or foreign organization or entity, and, to the extent possible, the foreign individuals, who directed and benefited from any information acquired from the compromise.

(3) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for 5 years, the Secretary, in coordination with relevant agencies, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report regarding any covered device that was compromised by foreign commercial spyware, including the information described in subparagraphs (A) through (D) of paragraph (2).

SEC. 9304. REPORT ON CLOUD COMPUTING IN BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the status of the Bureau of Consular Affairs adoption of cloud-based products and services as well as options to require enterprise-wide adoption of cloud computing, including for all consular operations.

SEC. 9305. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROJECTS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Information Officer of the Department of State should, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of the Bureau of Consular Affairs, prioritize information technology systems with high potential to accelerate the passport renewal processes, reduce processing times, and reduce dependency on legacy systems.

SEC. 9306. LEVERAGING APPROVED TECHNOLOGY FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCIES.

The Secretary and Administrator shall ensure appropriate and secure technological solutions are authorized and available for employee use, where feasible, to promote technological fluency in the workforce, including the integration of secure tools in the evaluation process to ensure performance management standards while maximizing efficiency.

SEC. 9307. OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY FOR CRITICAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish an Office of the Special Envoy for Critical and Emerging Technology (referred to in this section as the “Office”), which may be located within the Bureau for Cyberspace and Digital Policy.

(b) LEADERSHIP.—

(1) SPECIAL ENVOY.—The Office shall be headed by a Special Envoy for Critical and Emerging Technology, who shall—

(A) be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

(B) have the rank and status of ambassador; and

(C) report to the Ambassador-at-Large for Cyberspace and Digital Policy.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—The Office may include representatives or expert detailees from other key Federal agencies or research and technology-focused fellowship programs, as determined by the Special Envoy for Critical and Emerging Technology and with the consent of the Ambassador-at-Large for Cyberspace and Digital Policy, in coordination with appropriate senior officials of the Department and such agencies.

(d) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Office shall include—

(1) establishing, in coordination with relevant bureaus, offices and other Federal agencies, an interagency security review process for proposals regarding United States Government-funded international collaboration on certain critical and emerging technologies and associated research;

(2) establishing and coordinating an interagency strategy to facilitate international cooperation with United States allies and partners regarding the development, use, and deployment of critical and emerging technologies and associated standards and safeguards for research security, intellectual property protection, and illicit knowledge transfer;

(3) facilitating technology partnerships with countries and relevant political and economic unions that are committed to—

(A) the rule of law and respect for human rights, including freedom of speech, and expression;

(B) the safe and responsible development and use of certain critical and emerging technologies and the establishment of related norms and standards, including for research security and the protection of sensitive data and technology;

(C) a secure internet architecture governed by a multi-stakeholder model instead of centralized government control;

(D) robust international cooperation to promote open and interoperable technological products and services that are necessary to freedom, innovation, transparency, and privacy; and

(E) multilateral coordination, including through diplomatic initiatives, information sharing, and other activities, to defend the principles described in subparagraphs (A) through (D) against efforts by state and non-state actors to undermine them;

(4) supporting efforts to harmonize technology governance regimes with partners, coordinating on basic and pre-competitive research and development initiatives, and collaborating to pursue such opportunities in certain critical and emerging technologies;

(5) coordinating with other technology partners on export control policies for certain critical and emerging technologies, including countering illicit knowledge and data transfer related to certain critical and emerging technology research;

(6) conducting diplomatic engagement, in coordination with other bureaus, offices, and relevant Federal departments and agencies, with allies and partners to develop standards and coordinate policies designed to counter illicit knowledge and data transfer in academia related to certain critical and emerging technology research;

(7) coordinating with allies, partners, and other relevant Federal agencies to prevent the exploitation of research partnerships related to certain critical and emerging technologies;

(8) sharing information regarding the threat posed by the transfer of certain critical and emerging technologies to authoritarian governments, including the People's

Republic of China and the Russian Federation, and the ways in which autocratic regimes are utilizing technology, including for military and security purposes, to erode individual freedoms and other foundations of open, democratic societies; and

(9) collaborating with private companies, trade associations, and think tanks to realize the purposes described in paragraphs (1) through (8).

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for the following 5 years, the Secretary, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence and the heads of other relevant Federal agencies, as appropriate, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an unclassified report, with a classified index, if necessary, regarding—

(1) the activities of the Office related to paragraphs (1) through (9) of subsection (d), including any cooperative initiatives and partnerships pursued with United States allies and partners, and the results of such activities, initiatives, and partnerships;

(2) the activities of the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Chinese Communist Party, and the Russian Federation in sectors related to certain critical and emerging technologies and the threats they pose to the United States; and

(3) an inventory of all international research and development programs for certain critical and emerging technologies funded by the Department or USAID that include participation by institutions or organizations that are affiliated with, or receive support from, the Government of the People's Republic of China or the Government of the Russian Federation.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Foreign Relations, the Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(2) CERTAIN CRITICAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES.—The term “certain critical and emerging technologies” means the technologies determined by the Secretary, in consultation with other Federal agencies, from the critical and emerging technologies list published by the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) at the Office of Science and Technology Policy, as amended by subsequent updates to the list issued by the NSTC.

TITLE IV—PUBLIC DIPLOMACY

SEC. 9401. AFRICA BROADCASTING NETWORKS.

Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chief Executive Officer of the United States Agency for Global Media shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the resources and timeline needed to establish within the Agency an organization the mission of which shall be to promote democratic values and institutions in Africa by providing objective, accurate, and relevant news and information to the people of Africa and counter disinformation from malign actors, especially in countries in which a free press is banned by the government or not fully established, about the region, the world, and the United States through uncensored news, responsible discussion, and open debate.

SEC. 9402. UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR GLOBAL MEDIA.

Section 306 of the United States International Broadcasting Act of 1994 (22 U.S.C. 6205) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsection (g) and (h), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT OF GRANTEES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), a grantee may not be debarred or suspended without consultation with the Chief Executive Officer and a three-fourths majority vote of the Advisory Board in support of such action.

“(2) SUSPENSION.—

“(A) CRITERIA FOR SUSPENSION.—A grantee may not be suspended unless the Advisory Board determines that the criteria described in section 513.405 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, have been met.

“(B) SUSPENDING OFFICIAL.—The Advisory Board shall collectively serve as the suspending official (as described in section 513.105 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations).

“(3) DEBARMENT.—

“(A) CRITERIA FOR DEBARMENT.—A grantee may not be debarred unless the Advisory Board determines that one or more of the causes described in section 513.305 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, has been established.

“(B) DEBARRING OFFICIAL.—The Advisory Board shall collectively serve as the debarring official (as described in section 513.105 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations).”

SEC. 9403. EXTENSION OF AUTHORIZATIONS TO SUPPORT UNITED STATES PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL FAIRS AND EXPOS.

Section 9601 of the Department of State Authorizations Act of 2022 (division I of Public Law 117–263; 136 Stat. 3909) is amended in subsection (b), by striking “fiscal years 2023 and 2024” and inserting “fiscal years 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027”.

SEC. 9404. RESEARCH AND SCHOLAR EXCHANGE PARTNERSHIPS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) it is in the strategic interest of the United States to strengthen relations with Sub-Saharan African states to promote shared interests in the areas of—

(A) democracy and good governance;

(B) education and human capital;

(C) trade and economic development;

(D) science and technology;

(E) biodiversity, food, and agriculture; and

(F) the preservation and management of natural resources, including critical minerals; and

(2) historically Black colleges and universities (referred to in this section as “HBCUs”) have a long history of—

(A) cultivating diaspora relations with Sub-Saharan African states; and

(B) developing innovative solutions to some of the world's most pressing challenges.

(b) STRENGTHENED PARTNERSHIPS.—The Secretary and the Administrator should seek to strengthen and expand partnerships and educational exchange opportunities, including by working with HBCUs, which build the capacity and expertise of students, scholars, and experts from Sub-Saharan Africa in key development sectors.

(d) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator is authorized to—

(1) provide technical assistance to HBCUs to assist in fulfilling the goals of this section, including in developing contracts, operating agreements, legal documents, and related infrastructure; and

(2) upon request, provide feedback to HBCUs, to the maximum extent practicable, after a grant rejection from relevant Federal programs in order to improve future grant applications, as appropriate.

SEC. 9405. WAIVER OF UNITED STATES RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR CHILDREN OF RADIO FREE EUROPE/RADIO LIBERTY EMPLOYEES.

Section 320(c) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1431(a)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (1)(B), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(2) by adding at the end of the following new paragraph:

“(3) the child residing in the legal and physical custody of a citizen parent who is residing abroad as a result of employment with Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.”

TITLE V—DIPLOMATIC SECURITY

SEC. 9501. SECURE EMBASSY CONSTRUCTION AND COUNTERTERRORISM ACT REQUIREMENTS.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prescribe new guidance and requirements consistent with the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 1999 (title VI of division A of appendix G of Public Law 106–113), as amended by the Secure Embassy Construction and Counterterrorism Act of 2022 (section 9301 of Public Law 117–263; 136 Stat. 3879) and submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report detailing such guidance and requirements, including the impact of implementation on United States diplomatic facilities and construction projects.

(b) CONSEQUENCE FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.—If the Secretary fails to meet the requirement under subsection (a) no Federal funds appropriated to the Department shall be used for official travel by senior staff in the executive office of the Diplomatic Security Service, including the Assistant Secretary for Diplomatic Security, until such time as the Secretary meets the requirement.

(c) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the restriction in subsection (b) to meet urgent and critical needs if the Secretary provides written notification to the appropriate congressional committees in advance of travel.

SEC. 9502. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION FOR SERIOUS SECURITY INCIDENTS.

Section 301(a) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4833(a)), is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

“(2) INITIAL CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall notify the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, the majority and minority leaders of the Senate, and the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives not later than 8 days after a possible Serious Security Incident has taken place. Such notification shall include a preliminary description of the incident, of an incident described in paragraph (1), including any known individuals involved, when and where the incident took place, and the next steps in the investigation.”; and

(3) in paragraph (4), as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this section, by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting “paragraph (3)”.

SEC. 9503. NOTIFICATIONS REGARDING SECURITY DECISIONS AT DIPLOMATIC POSTS.

Section 103(c) of section 103 of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4802(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively;

(2) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting “(1) The Secretary”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) The Secretary of State shall notify the appropriate congressional committees within 10 days of any decision to retain authority over or approve decisions at an overseas post, including the movement of personnel.”.

SEC. 9504. SECURITY CLEARANCE SUSPENSION PAY FLEXIBILITIES.

Section 610(c)(6) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4010(c)(6)) is amended by striking “paragraph 1(B)” and inserting “this subsection”.

SEC. 9505. MODIFICATION TO NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR SECURITY CLEARANCE SUSPENSIONS AND REVOCATIONS.

Section 6710(a) of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2023 (division F of Public Law 118-31; 22 U.S.C. 2651a note) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively, and moving such subparagraphs, as so redesignated, 2 ems to the right;

(2) by striking “IN GENERAL.—With respect” and inserting the following: “NOTIFICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—With respect”;

(3) in subparagraph (B), as redesignated by paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “revocation on” and all that follows through “or revocation” and inserting “revocation on—

“(A) the present employment status of the covered official and whether the job duties of the covered official have changed since such suspension or revocation;

“(B) the reason for such suspension or revocation;

“(C) the investigation of the covered official and the results of such investigation; and

“(D) any negative fallout or impacts for the Department of State, the United States Government, or national security of the United States as a result of the actions for which the security clearance was suspended or revoked.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) SUBMISSION TO INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITIES.—To the extent the basis for any suspension or revocation of a security clearance is premised on the unauthorized release of intelligence (as defined by section 3(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(1)), the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives shall be an appropriate congressional committee for the purposes of this section.”.

TITLE VI—UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 9601. PERSONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

Section 636(a) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2396(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(17) employing individuals or organizations, by contract, for services abroad for purposes of this Act and title II of the Food for Peace Act, and individuals employed by contract to perform such services shall not by virtue of such employment be considered to be employees of the United States Government (except that the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development may determine the applicability

to such individuals of section 5 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1965 (22 U.S.C. 2672) regarding tort claims when such claims arise in foreign countries in connection with United States operations abroad, and of any other law administered by the Administrator concerning the employment of such individuals abroad, and such contracts are authorized to be negotiated, the terms of the contracts to be prescribed, and the work to be performed, where necessary, without regard to such statutory provisions as relate to the negotiation, making, and performance of contracts and performance of work in the United States.”.

SEC. 9602. CRISIS OPERATIONS AND DISASTER SURGE STAFFING.

Section 625 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2385) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(k) CRISIS OPERATIONS AND DISASTER SURGE STAFFING.—(1) The United States Agency for International Development is authorized to appoint personnel in the excepted service using funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available under the heading ‘Transition Initiatives’ in an Act making appropriations for the Department of State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs to carry out the provisions of part I and chapter 4 of part II of this Act of and section 509(b) of the Global Fragility Act of 2019 (title V of division J of Public Law 116-94) to prevent or respond to foreign crises and contexts with growing instability;

“(2) Funds authorized to carry out such purposes may be made available for the operating expenses and administrative costs of such personnel and may remain attributed to any minimum funding requirement for which they were originally made available.

“(3) The Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development shall coordinate with the Office of Personnel Management on implementation of the appointment authority under paragraph (1).”.

SEC. 9603. EDUCATION ALLOWANCE WHILE ON MILITARY LEAVE.

Section 908 of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4088) is amended by inserting “or United States Agency for International Development” after “A Department”.

SEC. 9604. INCLUSION IN THE PET TRANSPORTATION EXCEPTION TO THE FLY AMERICA ACT.

Section 6224(a)(1) of the Department of State Authorization Act of 2023 (division F of Public Law 118-31; 22 U.S.C. 4081a) is amended, in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(1) by striking “the Department is” and inserting “the Department and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and other United States Government employees under chief of mission authority are”; and

(2) by striking “Department personnel” and inserting “Department and USAID personnel, and other United States Government employees under chief of mission authority”.

TITLE VII—OTHER MATTERS

SEC. 9701. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS TO PROMOTE UNITED STATES CITIZEN EMPLOYMENT AT THE UNITED NATIONS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The President should direct United States departments and agencies to, in coordination with the Secretary —

(1) fund and recruit Junior Professional Officers for positions at the United Nations and related specialized and technical organizations; and

(2) facilitate secondments, details, and transfers to agencies and specialized and technical bodies of the United Nations.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated an additional \$20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2025 through 2031 for the Secretary to support Junior Professional Officers, details, transfers, and interns that advance United States interests at multilateral institutions and international organizations, including to recruit, train, and host events related to such positions, and to promote United States citizen candidates for employment and leadership positions at multilateral institutions and international organizations.

(c) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts appropriated pursuant to subsection (a) shall remain available until expended.

(d) CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.—Not later than 15 days prior to the obligation of funds authorized to be appropriated under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a notification outlining the amount and proposed use of such funds.

SEC. 9702. AMENDMENT TO REWARDS FOR JUSTICE PROGRAM.

Section 36(b) of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2708(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (13), by striking “; or” and inserting a semicolon;

(2) in paragraph (14), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; or”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(15) the restraining, seizing, forfeiting, or repatriating of stolen assets linked to foreign government corruption and the proceeds of such corruption.”.

SEC. 9703. PASSPORT AUTOMATION MODERNIZATION.

The Act entitled “An Act to regulate the issue and validity of passports, and for other purposes”, approved July 3, 1926 (44 Stat. 887, 22 U.S.C. 211a), is amended—

(1) by inserting “and through the use of Department of State electronic systems,” after “the insular possessions of the United States,”; and

(2) by striking “person” and inserting “entity”.

SEC. 9704. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PAYMENT IN CONNECTION WITH THE INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION.

Section 7(1) of Public Law 106-178 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note) is amended, in the undesignated matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “December 31, 2025” and inserting “December 31, 2030”.

SEC. 9705. SUPPORT FOR CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATIONS.

(a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) congressional travel is essential to fostering international relations, understanding global issues first-hand, and jointly advancing United States interests abroad; and

(2) only in close coordination and thanks to the dedication of personnel at United States embassies, consulates, and other missions abroad can the success of these vital trips be possible.

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall reaffirm to all diplomatic posts the importance of Congressional travel and shall require all such posts to support congressional travel by members and staff of the appropriate congressional committees fully, by making such support available on any day of the week, including Federal and local holidays and, to the extent practical, requiring the direct involvement of mid-level or senior officers.

(c) EXCEPTION FOR SIMULTANEOUS HIGH-LEVEL VISITS.—The requirement under subsection (a) does not apply in the case of a simultaneous visit from the President, the

First Lady or First Gentleman, the Vice President, the Secretary of State, or the Secretary of Defense.

(d) TRAINING.—The Secretary shall require all designated control officers to have been trained on supporting congressional travel at posts abroad prior to the assigned congressional visit.

SEC. 9706. ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION WITH VISA APPLICANTS.

Section 833(a)(5)(A) of the International Marriage Broker Regulation Act of 2005 (8 U.S.C. 1375a(a)(5)(A)) is amended by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(vi) Mailings under this subsection may be transmitted by electronic means, including electronic mail. The Secretary of State may communicate with visa applicants using personal contact information provided to them or to the Secretary of Homeland Security by the applicant, petitioner, or designated agent or attorney.”.

SEC. 9707. ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF VISA INFORMATION.

Section 222 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1202) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(i) ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of the immigration laws (as such term is defined in section 101(a)(17) of this Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(17))), all requirements in the immigration laws for communications with visa applicants shall be deemed satisfied if electronic communications are sent to the applicant using personal contact information at an address for such communications provided by the applicant, petitioner, or designated agent or attorney. The Secretary of State shall take appropriate actions to allow applicants to update their personal contact information and to ensure that electronic communications can be securely transmitted to applicants.”.

SEC. 9708. INCLUSION OF COST ASSOCIATED WITH PRODUCING REPORTS.

(a) ESTIMATED COST OF REPORTS.—Beginning on October 1, 2026, and for the next three fiscal years, the Secretary shall require that any report produced for external distribution, including for distribution to Congress, include the total estimated cost of producing such report and the estimated number of personnel hours.

(b) ANNUAL TOTAL COST OF REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year, beginning with fiscal year 2025, and for the next three fiscal years, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives an annual report listing the reports issued for the prior fiscal year, the frequency of each report, the total estimated

cost associated with producing such report, and the estimated number of personnel hours.

SEC. 9709. EXTENSIONS.

(a) USAID CIVIL SERVICE ANNUITANT WAIVER.—Section 625(j)(1)(B) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2385(j)(1)(B)) shall be applied by striking “October 1, 2010” and inserting “September 30, 2026”.

(b) OVERSEAS PAY COMPARABILITY AND LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The authority provided under section 1113 of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111–32; 123 Stat. 1904) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2026.

(2) LIMITATION.—The authority described in paragraph (1) may not be used to pay an eligible member of the Foreign Service (as defined in section 1113(b) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009 (Public Law 111–32; 123 Stat. 1904)) a locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that exceeds two-thirds of the amount of the locality-based comparability payment (stated as a percentage) that would be payable to such member under section 5304 of title 5, United States Code, if such member’s official duty station were in the District of Columbia.

(c) INSPECTOR GENERAL ANNUITANT WAIVER.—The authorities provided under section 1015(b) of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2010 (Public Law 111–212; 124 Stat. 2332)—

(1) shall remain in effect through September 30, 2026; and

(2) may be used to facilitate the assignment of persons for oversight of programs in Somalia, South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela, and Yemen.

(d) SECURITY REVIEW COMMITTEES.—The authority provided under section 301(a)(3) of the Omnibus Diplomatic Security and Antiterrorism Act of 1986 (22 U.S.C. 4831(a)(3)) shall remain in effect for facilities in Afghanistan and shall apply to facilities in Ukraine through September 30, 2026, except that the notification and reporting requirements contained in such section shall include the appropriate congressional committees, the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have eight requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary are authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a joint hearing.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 2:45 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC POLICY

The Subcommittee on Economic Policy of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

FOREIGN TRAVEL FINANCIAL REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following reports for standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel:

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95–384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Veronica Duron:					
Chad	CFA Franc BEAC	320.86			320.86
Ghana	Ghana Cedi	622.00			622.00
Nigeria	Naira	690.00			690.00
United States	US Dollar		15,404.20		15,404.20
Delegation Expenses*:					
Chad	CFA Franc BEAC			7,367.91	7,367.91
Ghana	Ghana Cedi			167.46	167.46

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Nigeria	Naira			624.00	624.00
Total		1,632.86	15,404.20	8,159.37	25,196.43

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR DEBBIE STABENOW,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, June 18, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Christopher Coons:					
Poland	Zloty	451.99			451.99
Slovakia	Euro	265.71			265.71
Switzerland	Swiss Franc	4,954.51			4,954.51
United States	US Dollar		12,192.30		12,192.30
Elizabeth O'Bagy:					
Poland	Zloty	451.99			451.99
Slovakia	Euro	265.71			265.71
Switzerland	Swiss Franc	2,397.68			2,397.68
United States	US Dollar		12,192.30		12,192.30
Delegation Expenses:*					
Poland	Zloty			1,192.50	1,192.50
Slovakia	Euro			1,501.99	1,501.99
Switzerland	Swiss Franc			17,512.00	17,512.00
Total		8,787.59	24,384.60	20,206.49	53,378.68

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR PATTY MURRAY,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, July 23, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Toni-Marie Higgins:					
Czech Republic	Czech Koruna	631.67			631.67
Senator John Boozman:					
Czech Republic	Czech Koruna	789.58			789.58
Delegation Expenses:*					
Czech Republic	Czech Koruna			630.63	630.63
Lithuania	Euro			141.15	141.15
Senator Shelley Moore Capito:					
Cyprus	Euro	493.00			493.00
Egypt	Egyptian Pound	749.50			749.50
Finland	Euro	985.52			985.52
Greece	Euro	1,744.00			1,744.00
Sweden	Swedish Krona	999.00			999.00
Senator Lisa Murkowski:					
Sweden	Swedish Krona	1,231.04			1,231.04
Senator Deb Fischer:					
Cyprus	US Dollar	493.00			493.00
Egypt	US Dollar	768.50			768.50
Finland	US Dollar	985.52			985.52
Greece	US Dollar	1,744.00			1,744.00
Sweden	US Dollar	999.00			999.00
Senator John Hoeven:					
Cyprus	Euro	493.00			493.00
Egypt	Egyptian Pound	768.50			768.50
Finland	Euro	985.52			985.52
United States	US Dollar		6,198.30		6,198.30
Senator Jerry Moran:					
Cyprus	Euro	525.30			525.30
Egypt	Egyptian Pound	817.00			817.00
Finland	Euro	995.00			995.00
Greece	Euro	1,744.00			1,744.00
Sweden	Swedish Krona	941.00			941.00
Tony Eberhard:					
Cyprus	Euro	493.00			493.00
Egypt	Egyptian Pound	768.50			768.50
Finland	Euro	985.52			985.52
United States	US Dollar		6,198.30		6,198.30
Emily Leviner:					
Cyprus	Euro	493.00			493.00
Egypt	Egyptian Pound	768.50			768.50
Finland	Euro	985.51			985.51
Greece	Euro	1,035.00			1,035.00
Sweden	Swedish Krona	791.00			791.00
James Mann:					
Cyprus	Euro	493.00			493.00
Egypt	Egyptian Pound	768.50			768.50
Finland	Euro	985.51			985.51
Greece	Euro	1,035.00			1,035.00
Sweden	Swedish Krona	791.00			791.00
Jase Rapert:					
Cyprus	Euro	493.00			493.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22,
P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Egypt	Egyptian Pound	768.50			768.50
Finland	Euro	985.51			985.51
Greece	Euro	1,035.00			1,035.00
Sweden	Swedish Krona	791.00			791.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Cyprus	Euro			3,823.28	3,823.28
Egypt	Egyptian Pound			2,126.96	2,126.96
Finland	Euro			4,702.64	4,702.64
Greece	Euro			3,749.40	3,749.40
Sweden	Swedish Krona			9,819.11	9,819.11
Alexander Carnes:					
Armenia	Armenian Dram	456.00			456.00
Georgia	Lari	804.00			804.00
Turkey	Turkish Lira	259.41			259.41
United States	US Dollar		5,185.70		5,185.70
Andrew Platt:					
Armenia	Armenian Dram	456.00			456.00
Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan Manat	303.00			303.00
Georgia	Lari	804.00			804.00
Turkey	Turkish Lira	259.41			259.41
United States	US Dollar		2,719.50		2,719.50
Delegation Expenses:*					
Armenia	Armenian Dram			666.80	666.80
Azerbaijan	Azerbaijan Manat			1,945.44	1,945.44
Georgia	Lari			289.97	289.97
Turkey	Turkish Lira			168.58	168.58
Senator Patty Murray:					
France	Euro	3,298.00			3,298.00
Meaghan D'Arcy:					
France	Euro	3,298.00			3,298.00
Katherine Kaufer:					
France	Euro	3,298.00			3,298.00
Melinda Linquist:					
France	Euro	3,298.00			3,298.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
France	Euro			16,305.50	16,305.50
Senator Christopher Coons:					
South Africa	Rand	329.36			329.36
United States	US Dollar		9,976.00		9,976.00
Kali Farahmand:					
South Africa	Rand	330.39			330.39
United States	US Dollar		3,100.20		3,100.20
Elizabeth O'Bagy:					
South Africa	Rand	330.39			330.39
United States	US Dollar		3,219.80		3,219.80
Delegation Expenses:*					
South Africa	Rand			128.08	128.08
Senator Christopher Coons:					
Botswana	Pula	416.88			416.88
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	201.53			201.53
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	528.00			528.00
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,307.00			1,307.00
Senator Patty Murray:					
Botswana	Pula	1,757.53			1,757.53
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	342.89			342.89
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	528.00			528.00
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,307.00			1,307.00
Senator Gary Peters:					
Botswana	Pula	1,078.56			1,078.56
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	400.08			400.08
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	528.00			528.00
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,307.00			1,307.00
Kali Farahmand:					
Botswana	Pula	169.65			169.65
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	144.34			144.34
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	468.00			468.00
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,307.00			1,307.00
Melinda Linquist:					
Botswana	Pula	768.60			768.60
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	286.54			286.54
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	468.00			468.00
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,307.00			1,307.00
Elizabeth O'Bagy:					
Botswana	Pula	169.65			169.65
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	144.34			144.34
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	468.00			468.00
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,307.00			1,307.00
Carly Rush:					
Botswana	Pula	768.60			768.60
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	286.54			286.54
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	468.00			468.00
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,307.00			1,307.00
Evan Schatz:					
Botswana	Pula	768.60			768.60
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	286.54			286.54
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	468.00			468.00
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,307.00			1,307.00
David Weinberg:					
Botswana	Pula	768.60			768.60
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	286.54			286.54
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	468.00			468.00
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,307.00			1,307.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Angola	Kwanza			284.00	284.00
Botswana	Pula			32,352.39	32,352.39
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo			17,300.04	17,300.04
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha			3,488.40	3,488.40
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha			7,501.00	7,501.00
Senator Lindsey Graham:					
Egypt	Egyptian Pound	301.50			301.50
Israel	New Israeli Sheqel	1,903.65			1,903.65
United States	US Dollar		12,532.76		12,532.76
Ryan Geary:					
Egypt	Egyptian Pound	301.50			301.50
Israel	New Israeli Sheqel	1,816.28			1,816.28

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
United States	US Dollar		11,867.88		11,867.88
Delegation Expenses:*					
Egypt	Egyptian Pound			1,125.26	1,125.26
Israel	New Israeli Sheqel			8,934.60	8,934.60
United Arab Emirates	UAE Dirham			79.26	79.26
Paul Grove:					
Cambodia	Riel	524.00			524.00
India	Indian Rupee	858.03			858.03
Philippines	Philippine Peso	881.07			881.07
Thailand	Baht	544.38			544.38
United States	US Dollar		8,980.14		8,980.14
Delegation Expenses:*					
Cambodia	Riel			144.40	144.40
India	Indian Rupee			1,302.37	1,302.37
Philippines	Philippine Peso			153.75	153.75
Thailand	Baht			631.93	631.93
Paul Grove:					
Algeria	Algerian Dinar	339.00			339.00
Libya	Libyan Dinar	53.00			53.00
Tunisia	Tunisian Dinar	1,297.43			1,297.43
United States	US Dollar		2,574.90		2,574.90
Delegation Expenses:*					
Tunisia	Tunisian Dinar			1,713.58	1,713.58
Andrew Platt:					
Bosnia	Convertible Mark	436.05			436.05
Kosovo	Euro	314.77			314.77
Serbia	Serbian Dinar	445.00			445.00
United States	US Dollar		3,359.30		3,359.30
Delegation Expenses:*					
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Convertible Mark			80.14	80.14
Kosovo	Euro			150.33	150.33
Serbia	Serbian Dinar			326.00	326.00
Rishi Sahgal:					
Canada	Canadian Dollar	1,434.50			1,434.50
United States	US Dollar		1,549.80		1,549.80
Delegation Expenses:*					
Canada	Canadian Dollar			507.00	507.00
Brian Daner:					
Colombia	Colombian Peso	1,444.33			1,444.33
Mexico	Mexican Peso	1,140.00			1,140.00
United States	US Dollar		1,292.74		1,292.74
Lindsay Erickson:					
Colombia	Colombian Peso	1,444.33			1,444.33
Mexico	Mexican Peso	1,140.00			1,140.00
United States	US Dollar		1,248.54		1,248.54
Delegation Expenses:*					
Colombia	Colombian Peso			955.69	955.69
Kimberly Segura:					
Germany	Euro	663.02			663.02
Romania	Romanian Leu	582.47			582.47
United States	US Dollar		947.00		947.00
Abigail Grace:					
Germany	Euro	663.02			663.02
Romania	Romanian Leu	582.47			582.47
United States	US Dollar		947.00		947.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Germany	Euro			2,877.86	2,877.86
Romania	Romanian Leu			246.61	246.61
Sarita Vanka:					
Guatemala	Quetzal	231.05			231.05
Panama	Balboa	256.00			256.00
United States	US Dollar		3,378.71		3,378.71
Delegation Expenses:*					
Guatemala	Quetzal			475.12	475.12
Panama	Balboa, US Dollar			396.74	396.74
Kali Farahmand:					
Papua New Guinea	Kina	904.32			904.32
Philippines	Philippine Peso	1,014.86			1,014.86
United States	US Dollar		26,865.00		26,865.00
Sarita Vanka:					
Papua New Guinea	Kina	904.32			904.32
Philippines	Philippine Peso	1,014.87			1,014.87
United States	US Dollar		31,477.60		31,477.60
Delegation Expenses:*					
Papua New Guinea	Kina			1,684.59	1,684.59
Philippines	Philippine Peso			391.25	391.25
Total		100,508.89	143,619.17	127,599.85	371,727.91

* Delegation Expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR PATTY MURRAY,
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations, July 23, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Isaac Jalakanen:					
Colombia	US Dollar	1,039.00			1,039.00
Panama	US Dollar	600.00			600.00
Paraguay	US Dollar	586.00			586.00
United States	US Dollar		4,166.15		4,166.15
Brendan Gavin:					
Colombia	US Dollar	1,010.00			1,010.00
Panama	US Dollar	627.00			627.00
Paraguay	US Dollar	579.00			579.00
United States	US Dollar		4,166.15		4,166.15

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Brandon Gaskew:					
Singapore	US Dollar	1,701.71			1,701.71
Taiwan	US Dollar	442.90			442.90
United States	US Dollar		9,163.70		9,163.70
Senator Theodore Budd:					
Iraq	US Dollar	230.00			230.00
Israel	US Dollar	670.00			670.00
United Arab Emirates	US Dollar	973.96			973.96
United States	US Dollar		21,499.15		21,499.15
Ryan Alban:					
Iraq	US Dollar	230.00			230.00
Israel	US Dollar	670.00			670.00
United Arab Emirates	US Dollar	973.96			973.96
United States	US Dollar		24,015.25		24,015.25
Eric Trager:					
Iraq	US Dollar	16.00			16.00
Israel	US Dollar	922.49			922.49
Syria	US Dollar	5.00			5.00
United Arab Emirates	US Dollar	699.63			699.63
United States	US Dollar		24,015.25		24,015.25
Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand:					
Japan	US Dollar	758.20			758.20
Philippines	US Dollar	313.24			313.24
South Korea	US Dollar	638.54			638.54
Vietnam	US Dollar	543.20			543.20
Senator Jeanne Shaheen:					
Japan	Yen	758.20			758.20
Philippines	Philippine Peso	343.45			343.45
South Korea	Won	568.81			568.81
Vietnam	Dong	496.34			496.34
Frank Broomell:					
Japan	US Dollar	715.77			715.77
Philippines	US Dollar	313.24			313.24
South Korea	US Dollar	741.23			741.23
Vietnam	US Dollar	496.34			496.34
Patti Lubin:					
Japan	US Dollar	730.58			730.58
Philippines	US Dollar	313.24			313.24
South Korea	US Dollar	534.07			534.07
Vietnam	US Dollar	529.90			529.90
Senator Mazie Hirono:					
France	US Dollar	1,504.70			1,504.70
Delegation Expenses:*					
France	Euro			1,526.19	1,526.19
Senator Jack Reed:					
France	Euro	1,147.21			1,147.21
Delegation Expenses:*					
France	Euro			1,526.19	1,526.19
United States	US Dollar			5,721.30	5,721.30
Walter Lohman:					
Taiwan	US Dollar	459.27			459.27
United States	US Dollar		6,102.40		6,102.40
Eric Trager:					
Jordan	US Dollar	451.88			451.88
United States	US Dollar		7,001.70		7,001.70
Olivia Trusty:					
Jordan	US Dollar	597.41			597.41
United States	US Dollar		6,495.70		6,495.70
Delegation Expenses:*					
Jordan	Jordanian Dinar			123.64	123.64
Senator Theodore Budd:					
France	US Dollar	3,070.49			3,070.49
Delegation Expenses:*					
France	Euro			1,526.19	1,526.19
Total		28,001.96	106,625.45	10,423.51	145,050.92

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JACK REED,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, July 25, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS, FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Katie Britt:					
France	Euro	3,854.00			3,854.00
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling	1,911.27			1,911.27
United States	US Dollar		5,800.90		5,800.90
Senator John Fetterman:					
Israel	US Dollar	1,920.00			1,920.00
United States	US Dollar		12,064.65		12,064.65
Carrie Adams:					
Israel	US Dollar	1,920.00			1,920.00
United States	US Dollar		12,339.65		12,339.65
Cameron Smith:					
Israel	US Dollar	1,900.00			1,900.00
United States	US Dollar		12,339.65		12,339.65
Delegation Expenses:*					
Israel	New Israeli Sheqel			6,672.69	6,672.69
Total		11,505.27	42,544.85	6,672.69	60,722.81

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR SHERROD BROWN,
Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs, July 25, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse:					
Canada	US Dollar	978.78			978.78
United States	US Dollar		2,986.41		2,986.41
Delegation Expenses:*					
Canada	US Dollar	1,017.78			1,017.78
United States	US Dollar		2,119.75		2,119.75
Delegation Expenses:*					
Canada	Canadian Dollar			2,211.56	2,211.56
Delegation Expenses:*					
Greece	US Dollar	718.91			718.91
United States	US Dollar		8,592.10		8,592.10
Total		2,715.47	13,698.26	2,211.56	18,625.29

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR SHELDON WHITEHOUSE,
Chairman, Committee on the Budget, July 10, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND TRANSPORTATION FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Ted Cruz:					
France	US Dollar	3,246.00			3,246.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
France	Euro			1,484.94	1,484.94
Senator Cynthia Lummis:					
Japan	US Dollar	813.44			813.44
Philippines	US Dollar	347.03			347.03
South Korea	US Dollar	809.00			809.00
United States	US Dollar		7,456.40		7,456.40
Vietnam	US Dollar	804.00			804.00
Adam Stewart:					
Japan	US Dollar	813.44			813.44
Philippines	US Dollar	347.02			347.02
South Korea	US Dollar	809.00			809.00
Vietnam	US Dollar	804.00			804.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Japan	Yen			376.88	376.88
Philippines	Philippine Peso			23.04	23.04
South Korea	Won			368.64	368.64
Vietnam	Dong			334.85	334.85
Senator Peter Welch:					
Canada	US Dollar	719.00			719.00
United States	US Dollar		4,131.28		4,131.28
Juliet Walsh:					
Canada	US Dollar	719.00			719.00
United States	US Dollar		1,427.87		1,427.87
Delegation Expenses:*					
Canada	Canadian Dollar			1,105.77	1,105.77
James Kelly:					
Cyprus	US Dollar	493.00			493.00
Egypt	US Dollar	768.50			768.50
Finland	US Dollar	985.52			985.52
Greece	US Dollar	1,744.00			1,744.00
Sweden	US Dollar	791.00			791.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Cyprus	Euro			477.91	477.91
Egypt	Egyptian Pound			265.86	265.86
Finland	Euro			723.91	723.91
Greece	Euro			568.09	568.09
Sweden	Swedish Krona			1,402.72	1,402.72
James Kelly:					
Spain	US Dollar	1,025.87			1,025.87
United States	US Dollar		2,195.60		2,195.60
Delegation Expenses:*					
Spain	Euro			157.08	157.08
Senator Raphael Warnock:					
Italy	US Dollar	495.00			495.00
United States	US Dollar		12,277.60		12,277.60
Mark Libell:					
Italy	US Dollar	1,162.92			1,162.92
United States	US Dollar		12,003.10		12,003.10
Delegation Expenses:*					
United States	US Dollar			2,061.22	2,061.22
Total		17,696.74	39,491.85	9,350.91	66,539.50

*Delegation Expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARIA CANTWELL,
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation,
July 25, 2004.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Steve Daines:					
Kazakhstan	US Dollar	605.84			605.84

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Kyrgyzstan	US Dollar	237.37			237.37
United States	US Dollar		10,809.34		10,809.34
Uzbekistan	US Dollar	567.59			567.59
Darin Thacker:					
Kazakhstan	US Dollar	603.53			603.53
Kyrgyzstan	US Dollar	232.76			232.76
United States	US Dollar		10,809.44		10,809.44
Uzbekistan	US Dollar	427.96			427.96
Delegation Expenses*:					
Kazakhstan	Tenge			201.83	201.83
Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan Sum			696.21	696.21
Total		2,675.05	21,618.78	898.04	25,191.87

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JOE MANCHIN,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, July 24, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Jeff Merkley:					
Canada	US Dollar	562.00			562.00
United States	US Dollar		3,675.20		3,675.20
Ben Schreiber:					
Canada	US Dollar	562.00			562.00
United States	US Dollar		2,122.25		2,122.25
Delegation Expenses*:					
Canada	Canadian Dollar			2,203.34	2,203.34
Jake Kennedy:					
Canada	US Dollar	767.25			767.25
United States	US Dollar		1,240.92		1,240.92
Mary-Eileen Manning:					
Canada	US Dollar	1,381.50			1,381.50
United States	US Dollar		983.00		983.00
Delegation Expenses*:					
Canada	Canadian Dollar			1,014.00	1,014.00
Total		3,272.75	8,021.37	3,217.34	14,511.46

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR THOMAS CARPER,
Chairman, Committee on Environment and Public Works, July 22, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Catherine Cortez Masto:					
Botswana	US Dollar	1,103.56			1,103.56
Cape Verde	US Dollar	500.08			500.08
Malawi	US Dollar	528.00			528.00
Zambia	US Dollar	753.00			753.00
Christina McCauley:					
Botswana	US Dollar	793.60			793.60
Cape Verde	US Dollar	440.21			440.21
Malawi	US Dollar	468.00			468.00
Zambia	US Dollar	1,775.00			1,775.00
Delegation Expenses*:					
Angola	Kwanza			43.68	43.68
Botswana	Pula			3,617.16	3,617.16
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo			601.50	601.50
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha			775.20	775.20
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha			1,070.61	1,070.61
Total		6,361.45		6,108.15	12,469.60

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR RON WYDEN,
Chairman, Committee on Finance, June 6, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Michael F. Bennet:					
Ecuador	US Dollar	951.85			951.85
Panama	Balboa	713.64			713.64
United States	US Dollar		3,400.80		3,400.80

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FINANCE FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Charles Dunst:					
Ecuador	US Dollar	1,084.22			1,084.22
Panama	US Dollar	641.24			641.24
United States	US Dollar		3,400.80		3,400.80
Delegation Expenses:*					
Ecuador	US Dollar			3,796.25	3,796.25
Panama	Balboa, US Dollar			3,105.00	3,105.00
Joseph Johnson:					
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar	1,250.56			1,250.56
United States	US Dollar		6,137.20		6,137.20
Molly Newell:					
Taiwan	US Dollar	1,241.56			1,241.56
United States	US Dollar		6,137.20		6,137.20
Delegation Expenses:*					
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar			2,370.20	2,370.20
Rachel Lang:					
Kenya	Kenyan Shilling	1,759.83			1,759.83
United States	US Dollar		21,176.70		21,176.70
Molly Newell:					
Kenya	US Dollar	1,762.83			1,762.83
United States	US Dollar		21,176.70		21,176.70
Delegation Expenses:*					
Kenya	Kenyan Shilling			1,295.95	1,295.95
Total		9,405.73	61,429.40	10,567.40	81,402.53

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR RON WYDEN,
Chairman, Committee on Finance, July 18, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Kathryn Bell:					
Tanzania	Tanzanian Shilling	1,880.00	598.00		2,478.00
United States	US Dollar		11,376.70		11,376.70
Jane Bigham:					
Tanzania	Tanzanian Shilling	1,880.00	598.00		2,478.00
United States	US Dollar		11,376.70		11,376.70
Delegation Expenses:*					
Tanzania	Tanzanian Shilling			805.00	805.00
Total		3,760.00	23,949.40	805.00	28,514.40

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BERNARD SANDERS,
Chairman, Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions,
July 11, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Sarah Arkin:					
Guatemala	Quetzal	632.84			632.84
Panama	US Dollar	526.85			526.85
United States	US Dollar		3,834.78		3,834.78
Charles Orta:					
Guatemala	US Dollar	767.90			767.90
Panama	US Dollar	562.00			562.00
United States	US Dollar		3,434.78		3,434.78
Delegation Expenses:*					
Guatemala	Quetzal			150.00	150.00
Panama	Balboa, US Dollar			793.47	793.47
Senator Cory Booker:					
Chad	US Dollar	158.00			158.00
Ghana	US Dollar	464.00			464.00
Nigeria	US Dollar	472.00			472.00
United States	US Dollar		15,231.60		15,231.60
Samantha Schifrin:					
Chad	US Dollar	176.00			176.00
Ghana	US Dollar	484.00			484.00
Nigeria	US Dollar	471.86			471.86
United States	US Dollar		6,263.20		6,263.20
Delegation Expenses:*					
Chad	CFA Franc BEAC			14,735.81	14,735.81
Ghana	Ghana Cedi			334.92	334.92
Nigeria	Naira			1,248.00	1,248.00
Victor Cervino:					
Mexico	US Dollar	1,619.00			1,619.00
United States	US Dollar		1,100.74		1,100.74
Kelsey Kelleher:					
Mexico	US Dollar	1,619.00			1,619.00
United States	US Dollar		978.74		978.74
Delegation Expenses:*					
Mexico	Mexican Peso			2,846.00	2,846.00
Katie Chaudoin:					
Canada	US Dollar	1,652.57			1,652.57

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
United States	US Dollar		2,329.57		2,329.57
Matthew Sullivan:					
United States	US Dollar	1,652.57			1,652.57
Canada	US Dollar		2,329.57		2,329.57
Delegation Expenses:*					
Canada	Canadian Dollar			23.00	23.00
Senator Christopher Coons:					
Indonesia	US Dollar	483.19			483.19
Philippines	US Dollar	344.00			344.00
Singapore	US Dollar	1,078.00			1,078.00
Taiwan	US Dollar	499.08			499.08
United States	US Dollar		14,489.00		14,489.00
Elizabeth O'Bagy:					
Indonesia	US Dollar	483.18			483.18
Philippines	US Dollar	338.00			338.00
Singapore	US Dollar	1,048.00			1,048.00
Taiwan	US Dollar	499.08			499.08
United States	US Dollar		14,489.00		14,489.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Indonesia	Rupiah			1,691.57	1,691.57
Philippines	Philippine Peso			152.30	152.30
Singapore	Singapore Dollar			1,035.00	1,035.00
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar			1,178.16	1,178.16
Senator Christopher Coons:					
Italy	US Dollar	720.00			720.00
United States	US Dollar		11,998.00		11,998.00
Elizabeth O'Bagy:					
Italy	US Dollar	1,672.00			1,672.00
United States	US Dollar		5,418.50		5,418.50
Delegation Expenses:*					
Italy	Euro			4,300.00	4,300.00
Michael Urena:					
Belgium	US Dollar	761.70			761.70
Germany	US Dollar	310.00			310.00
United States	US Dollar		4,228.50		4,228.50
Christopher Socha:					
Belgium	Euro	811.70			811.70
Luxembourg	Euro	366.84			366.84
United Kingdom	US Dollar	1,090.93			1,090.93
United States	US Dollar		5,175.80		5,175.80
Delegation Expenses:*					
Belgium	Euro			1,354.84	1,354.84
Luxembourg	Euro			184.60	184.60
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling			1,976.34	1,976.34
Joan Condon:					
Italy	US Dollar	937.94			937.94
Switzerland	US Dollar	1,324.91			1,324.91
United States	US Dollar		6,039.00		6,039.00
Margaret Dougherty:					
Italy	US Dollar	937.94			937.94
Switzerland	Swiss Franc	1,324.91			1,324.91
United States	US Dollar		4,921.10		4,921.10
Delegation Expenses:*					
Italy	Euro			1,537.38	1,537.38
Switzerland	Swiss Franc			2,354.24	2,354.24
Grace Cason:					
Singapore	US Dollar	1,713.00			1,713.00
Taiwan	US Dollar	475.30			475.30
United States	US Dollar		13,093.98		13,093.98
Delegation Expenses:*					
Singapore	Singapore Dollar			986.12	986.12
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar			589.08	589.08
Heather Flynn:					
Ivory Coast	CFA Franc BCEAO	1,465.45			1,465.45
United States	US Dollar		9,664.70		9,664.70
Delegation Expenses:*					
Ivory Coast	CFA Franc BCEAO			4,965.81	4,965.81
Heather Flynn:					
Liberia	US Dollar	1,182.00			1,182.00
Sierra Leone	US Dollar	637.50			637.50
United States	US Dollar		11,395.50		11,395.50
Philip Oke-Thomas:					
Liberia	US Dollar	1,213.00			1,213.00
Sierra Leone	US Dollar	637.50			637.50
United States	US Dollar		10,404.06		10,404.06
Delegation Expenses:*					
Liberia	Liberian Dollar			717.78	717.78
Sierra Leone	Leone			1,907.76	1,907.76
Josh Klein:					
Canada	US Dollar	1,431.50			1,431.50
United States	US Dollar		783.00		783.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Canada	Canadian Dollar			507.00	507.00
Tom Melia:					
Hungary	US Dollar	1,200.00			1,200.00
United States	US Dollar		4,140.30		4,140.30
Delegation Expenses:*					
Hungary	Forint			34.00	34.00
Heather Flynn:					
Ethiopia	US Dollar	795.00			795.00
Kenya	US Dollar	931.53			931.53
South Sudan	US Dollar	230.00			230.00
United States	US Dollar		4,975.00		4,975.00
Damian Murphy:					
Ethiopia	Ethiopian Birr	1,331.52			1,331.52
Kenya	Kenyan Shilling	751.53			751.53
South Sudan	US Dollar	50.00			50.00
United States	US Dollar		10,972.60		10,972.60
Delegation Expenses:*					
Ethiopia	Ethiopian Birr			795.00	795.00
Joan Condon:					
Ethiopia	Ethiopian Birr	1,591.00			1,591.00
United States	US Dollar		4,830.42		4,830.42
Andy Olson:					
Ethiopia	US Dollar	1,591.00			1,591.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
United States	US Dollar		4,830.42		4,830.42
Delegation Expenses:*					
Ethiopia	Ethiopian Birr			1,348.40	1,348.40
Andy Olson:					
Kazakhstan	US Dollar	989.40			989.40
United States	US Dollar		8,480.26		8,480.26
Uzbekistan	US Dollar	1,066.57			1,066.57
Hannah Thornburn:					
Kazakhstan	US Dollar	1,109.40			1,109.40
United States	US Dollar		8,221.26		8,221.26
Uzbekistan	US Dollar	1,099.08			1,099.08
Delegation Expenses:*					
Kazakhstan	Tenge			130.95	130.95
Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan Sum			104.07	104.07
Hannah Thornburn:					
Armenia	US Dollar	595.83			595.83
France	US Dollar	1,755.12			1,755.12
United States	US Dollar		8,581.40		8,581.40
Delegation Expenses:*					
Armenia	Armenian Dram			483.96	483.96
France	Euro			1,423.00	1,423.00
Andrew Hanna:					
Brazil	US Dollar	1,410.09			1,410.09
United States	US Dollar		8,431.80		8,431.80
Mischa Thompson:					
Brazil	US Dollar	2,240.09			2,240.09
United States	US Dollar		8,447.22		8,447.22
Delegation Expenses:*					
Brazil	Brazilian Real			450.00	450.00
Mischa Thompson:					
Antigua & Barbuda	US Dollar	3,339.00			3,339.00
United States	US Dollar		1,201.90		1,201.90
Habiba Shehita:					
Malaysia	US Dollar	677.36			677.36
Philippines	US Dollar	694.53			694.53
Singapore	US Dollar	2,204.00			2,204.00
United States	US Dollar		9,099.50		9,099.50
Jennifer Hendrixson White:					
Malaysia	US Dollar	707.96			707.96
Philippines	US Dollar	694.54			694.54
Singapore	US Dollar	2,204.00			2,204.00
United States	US Dollar		9,099.50		9,099.50
Delegation Expenses:*					
Malaysia	Malaysian Ringgit			1,035.54	1,035.54
Philippines	Philippine Peso			1,035.54	1,035.54
Singapore	Singapore Dollar			150.00	150.00
Jennifer Hendrixson White:					
Mongolia	US Dollar	1,180.00			1,180.00
South Korea	US Dollar	1,109.61			1,109.61
United States	US Dollar		8,827.00		8,827.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Mongolia	Tugrik			1,622.76	1,622.76
South Korea	Won			1,401.00	1,401.00
Total		66,593.40	247,741.70	55,583.40	369,918.50

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR BENJAMIN CARDIN,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Relations, July 23, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Laphonza Butler:					
Singapore	US Dollar	1,503.70			1,503.70
Taiwan	US Dollar	435.07			435.07
United States	US Dollar		14,850.80		14,850.80
Rob Levinson:					
Singapore	US Dollar	1,659.04			1,659.04
Taiwan	US Dollar	490.76			490.76
United States	US Dollar		6,970.19		6,970.19
Delegation Expenses:*					
Singapore	Singapore Dollar			1,972.25	1,972.25
South Korea	Won			42.25	42.25
Taiwan	New Taiwan Dollar			963.96	963.96
Total		4,088.57	21,820.99	2,978.46	28,888.02

* Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR GARY PETERS,
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs,
June 28, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Chris Homan:					
Cambodia	US Dollar	262.00			262.00

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024—Continued

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
United States	US Dollar		11,834.90		11,834.90
Katherine Nikas:					
Japan	Yen	1,007.62			1,007.62
Thailand	US Dollar	976.01			976.01
United States	US Dollar		12,101.80		12,101.80
Corey Becker:					
Japan	US Dollar	1,003.74			1,003.74
Thailand	US Dollar	972.12			972.12
United States	US Dollar		12,101.80		12,101.80
Chastidy Burns:					
Japan	US Dollar	911.26			911.26
Thailand	Baht	927.86			927.86
United States	US Dollar		12,101.80		12,101.80
Joseph Charlet:					
Japan	US Dollar	966.54			966.54
Thailand	US Dollar	934.93			934.93
United States	US Dollar		14,286.80		14,286.80
Austin Rogers:					
Japan	US Dollar	1,057.81			1,057.81
Thailand	US Dollar	1,021.67			1,021.67
United States	US Dollar		12,101.80		12,101.80
Nicole Walton:					
United States	US Dollar		105.00		105.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Japan	Yen			8,346.32	8,346.32
Thailand	Baht			322.04	322.04
Taylor Reidy:					
Egypt	US Dollar	301.50			301.50
Israel	US Dollar	1,818.38			1,818.38
United States	US Dollar		11,867.88		11,867.88
Delegation Expenses:*					
Egypt	Egyptian Pound			562.64	562.64
Israel	New Israeli Sheqel			2,226.00	2,226.00
United Arab Emirates	UAE Dirham			39.64	39.64
Senator Mike Lee:					
El Salvador	US Dollar	600.00			600.00
Guatemala	US Dollar	306.92			306.92
United States	US Dollar		1,819.92		1,819.92
Mark Wait:					
El Salvador	US Dollar	294.05			294.05
Guatemala	US Dollar	369.02			369.02
United States	US Dollar		1,337.70		1,337.70
Delegation Expenses:*					
El Salvador	El Salvador Colon, US Dollar			579.74	579.74
Guatemala	Quetzal			1,124.47	1,124.47
Katherine Nikas:					
United Kingdom	US Dollar	2,953.25			2,953.25
United States	US Dollar		8,191.70		8,191.70
Delegation Expenses:*					
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling			1,341.14	1,341.14
Senator Christopher Coons:					
Canada	US Dollar	665.85			665.85
United States	US Dollar		2,138.88		2,138.88
Samuel Dupont:					
Canada	US Dollar	688.85			688.85
United States	US Dollar		1,996.19		1,996.19
Delegation Expenses:*					
Canada	Canadian Dollar			303.00	303.00
Total		18,039.38	101,986.17	14,844.99	134,870.54

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR RICHARD DURBIN,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, July 25, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Sean Moore:					
Estonia	US Dollar	582.84			582.84
United Kingdom	US Dollar	1,827.75			1,827.75
United States	US Dollar		2,617.10		2,617.10
Samantha Scoca:					
Estonia	US Dollar	380.00			380.00
United Kingdom	US Dollar	1,827.75			1,827.75
United States	US Dollar		4,974.60		4,974.60
Meredith West:					
Estonia	US Dollar	380.00			380.00
United Kingdom	US Dollar	1,827.75			1,827.75
United States	US Dollar		8,216.40		8,216.40
Justin Witt:					
Estonia	US Dollar	380.00			380.00
United Kingdom	US Dollar	1,827.75			1,827.75
United States	US Dollar		5,656.50		5,656.50
Delegation Expenses:*					
Estonia	Euro			178.57	178.57
United Kingdom	Pound Sterling			685.69	685.69
Total		9,033.84	21,464.60	864.26	31,362.70

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JEANNE SHAHEEN,
Chairman, Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship,
July 2, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON VETERANS AFFAIRS FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Marsha Blackburn:					
France	US Dollar	2,960.92			2,960.92
Senator Richard Blumenthal:					
France	US Dollar	3,105.43			3,105.43
Senator John Boozman:					
France	US Dollar	3,249.38			3,249.38
Senator Bill Cassidy:					
France	US Dollar	3,375.52			3,375.52
Senator Maggie Hassan:					
France	US Dollar	3,238.82			3,238.82
Senator Joe Manchin:					
France	US Dollar	2,951.49			2,951.49
Senator Kyrsten Sinema:					
France	US Dollar	3,300.00			3,300.00
Mara Boggs:					
France	US Dollar	3,434.37			3,434.37
Daniel Burgess:					
France	US Dollar	3,211.79			3,211.79
Cody Garner:					
France	US Dollar	3,338.45			3,338.45
Nathaniel Guajardo:					
France	US Dollar	3,342.42			3,342.42
Lauren Holly:					
France	US Dollar	3,288.91			3,288.91
Spencer Hurwitz:					
France	US Dollar	3,281.65			3,281.65
Richard Kehoe:					
France	US Dollar	3,285.78			3,285.78
Josh Leach:					
France	US Dollar	3,258.75			3,258.75
Jay Maroney:					
France	US Dollar	3,248.44			3,248.44
Maria Mcelwain:					
France	US Dollar	3,230.03			3,230.03
William Van Saun:					
France	US Dollar	3,439.44			3,439.44
Daniel Winkler:					
France	US Dollar	3,300.00			3,300.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
France	Euro			28,917.37	28,917.37
Total		61,841.59		28,917.37	90,758.96

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR JON TESTER,
Chairman, Committee on Veterans Affairs, July 25, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Rebecca Lee:					
Country 1		999.98			999.98
Country 2		352.21			352.21
Country 3			15,234.63		15,234.63
Delegation Expenses:*					
Country 1				444.88	444.88
Country 2				209.49	209.49
Andrew Polesovsky:					
Country 1		913.92			913.92
Country 2		528.12			528.12
Country 3			19,097.28		19,097.28
Arjun Ravindra:					
Country 1		539.46			539.46
Country 2		528.12			528.12
Country 3			22,647.28		22,647.28
Valli Sanmugalingam:					
Country 1		539.46			539.46
Country 2		528.12			528.12
Country 3			13,823.28		13,823.28
Steve Smith:					
Country 1		831.02			831.02
Country 2		528.12			528.12
Country 3			22,647.28		22,647.28
Delegation Expenses:*					
Country 1				10.00	10.00
Senator Mark Warner:					
Country 1		2,364.00			2,364.00
Country 2			19,075.60		19,075.60
William Wu:					
Country 1		1,970.49			1,970.49
Country 2			10,970.00		10,970.00
Delegation Expenses:*					
Country 1				277.20	277.20
Russell Willig:					
Country 1		269.00			269.00
Country 2			835.93		835.93
Delegation Expenses:*					
Country 1				239.41	239.41
Total		10,892.02	124,331.28	1,180.98	136,404.28

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MARK WARNER,
Chairman, Committee on Intelligence, July 18, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), REPUBLICAN LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Brian Monahan:					
Czech Republic	Czech Koruna	789.58			789.58
Robert Karem:					
Bahrain	Bahraini Dinar	625.02			625.02
Saudi Arabia	Saudi Riyal	1,570.21			1,570.21
United States	US Dollar		18,310.56		18,310.56
Total		2,984.81	18,310.56		21,295.37

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR MITCH MCCONNELL,
Republican Leader, July 23, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), MAJORITY LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM JAN. 1 TO MAR. 31, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Senator Michael F. Bennet:					
Poland	US Dollar	294.64			294.64
Ukraine	US Dollar	284.51			284.51
Senator Richard Blumenthal:					
Poland	US Dollar	290.14			290.14
Ukraine	US Dollar	280.01			280.01
Senator Maggie Hassan:					
Poland	US Dollar	298.55			298.55
Ukraine	US Dollar	288.43			288.43
Senator Jack Reed:					
Poland	US Dollar	289.85			289.85
Ukraine	US Dollar	279.72			279.72
Senator Charles Schumer:					
Poland	US Dollar	293.64			293.64
Ukraine	US Dollar	283.51			283.51
Allison Biasotti:					
Poland	US Dollar	293.64			293.64
Ukraine	US Dollar	283.52			283.52
Jay Maroney:					
Poland	US Dollar	375.02			375.02
Emily Sweda:					
Poland	US Dollar	302.14			302.14
Ukraine	US Dollar	292.02			292.02
Michael Kuiken:					
Poland	US Dollar	305.50			305.50
Ukraine	US Dollar	291.38			291.38
Brian Monahan:					
Poland	US Dollar	402.03			402.03
Delegation Expenses:*					
Poland	Zloty			19,859.81	19,859.81
Ukraine	Hryvnia			18,884.50	18,884.50
Jon Cardinal:					
Belgium	US Dollar	920.60			920.60
Netherlands	US Dollar	1,321.00			1,321.00
United States	US Dollar		1,685.70		1,685.70
Delegation Expenses:*					
Belgium	Euro			537.46	537.46
Netherlands	Euro			105.12	105.12
Total		7,669.85	1,685.70	39,386.89	48,742.44

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES SCHUMER,
Majority Leader, July 24, 2024.

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR FOREIGN TRAVEL BY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE U.S. SENATE, UNDER AUTHORITY OF SEC. 22, P.L. 95-384—22 U.S.C. 1754(b), MAJORITY LEADER FOR TRAVEL FROM APR. 1 TO JUNE 30, 2024

Name and country	Name of currency	Per diem	Transportation	Miscellaneous	Total
		U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Gary Myrick:					
Czech Republic	Czech Koruna	789.58			789.58
Delegation Expenses:*					
Czech Republic	Czech Koruna			210.21	210.21
Lithuania	Euro			47.04	47.04
Senator John Fetterman:					
Turks & Caicos Islands	US Dollar	900.67			900.67
Cameron Smith:					
Turks & Caicos Islands	US Dollar	659.89			659.89
Delegation Expenses:*					
Turks & Caicos Islands	US Dollar			7,554.40	7,554.40
Brian Monahan:					
Botswana	Pula	970.76			970.76
Cape Verde	Cabo Verde Escudo	178.74			178.74
Malawi	Malawi Kwacha	410.21			410.21
Zambia	Zambian Kwacha	1,349.21			1,349.21
Total		5,259.06		7,811.65	13,070.71

*Delegation expenses include payments and reimbursements to the Department of State under authority of Sec. 502(b) of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, as amended by Section 22 of P.L. 95-384, and S. Res. 179 agreed to May 25, 1977.

SENATOR CHARLES SCHUMER,
Majority Leader, July 24, 2024.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 780, S. Res. 781, S. Res. 782, and S. Res. 783.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to; the preambles, where applicable, be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 780) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The resolutions (S. Res. 781 and 782) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The resolution (S. Res. 783) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MEASURE READ THE FIRST
TIME—S. 4853

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The senior assistant executive clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4853) to prohibit the Federal Communications Commission from promulgating or enforcing rules regarding disclosure of artificial intelligence-generated content in political advertisements.

Mr. SCHUMER. I now ask for a second reading, and in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JULY
31, 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 11 a.m. on Wednesday, July 31; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that following the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to

resume consideration of the Vacca nomination; further, that the cloture motions filed during yesterday's session ripen at 11:30 a.m.; that if cloture is invoked on the Vacca nomination, all time be considered expired at 2:30 p.m. and that if cloture is invoked on the Saporito nomination, all time be considered expired at 5:30 p.m.; further, that if any nominations are confirmed during Wednesday's session, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order following the remarks of Senator SANDERS.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

ISSUES FACING AMERICA

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, when I turn on the TV or read the papers, I read a lot about politics, and I read about this candidate attacking that candidate and the other candidate attacking another candidate, and on and on it goes.

But somehow or another, as a nation, here in Congress and on the campaign trail and in the corporate media, we, as a nation, have a habit of forgetting to talk about some of the most important issues that affect ordinary Americans. We talk about a lot of stuff, but, somehow, we will neglect to talk about the most important issues facing our country.

And at the top of my list is the reality that in America we are rapidly becoming an oligarchic form of society. What does that mean? It means that today we have more income and wealth inequality than at any time in the history of the United States of America.

It means that there are three people—one, two, three multibillionaires—who own more wealth than the bottom half of American society. Three people here, 160 million people there—that sounds like an issue we might want to be talking about.

We might just want to be asking about how well the economy is doing for ordinary people as opposed to the people on top. And when we ask that question, the answer is pretty clear. The top 1 percent have never, ever in American history had it so good. They are making money head over heels.

What we are seeing at the same time is a working class in this country that is struggling—struggling to pay the bills, struggling to put food on the table, struggling to see that their kids get ahead.

According to the Rand Corporation, not exactly a progressive entity, over the last 50 years, we have seen a massive transfer of wealth from ordinary Americans to the top 1 percent. In fact, there has been a shift of \$50 trillion going from the bottom 90 percent to the top 1 percent. What does that say about American economic policy?

And, at the same exact time, over the last 50 years, we have seen something else that is rather extraordinary. Despite the huge increase that we have all observed as a result of technology and increased worker productivity, it turns out that real inflation-accounted-for wages for the average American worker is lower today than it was 50 years ago.

Every worker in America is producing a lot more than was the case 50 years ago because of this new technology, and yet real inflation-accounted-for wages are lower today than they were 50 years ago. People on top are making out fantastically well; working class people are falling further and further behind.

And let us not forget that, today in America, 60 percent of our people are living paycheck to paycheck. I grew up in a family that lived paycheck to paycheck. We lived in a rent-controlled apartment for my whole childhood. I know something about it.

And what it means that people from California to Vermont—they are struggling, living under great stress, trying to figure out how they are going to be able to take care of their families, at the same time as the people on top never had it so good.

But when we talk about oligarchy, it is not just massive income and wealth inequality. It is not just the fact that the working class in this country is going nowhere in a hurry. It is also the growing concentration of ownership in America. In sector after sector, whether it is media, whether it is financial services, whether it is transportation, whether it is healthcare, you have fewer and fewer large corporations that control what goes on in those sectors.

And when you have concentration of ownership, you have price-fixing, you have corporate greed, and that is one of the reasons why inflation has had the impact that it has had and why we have seen that much inflation.

Unbelievably, there are three Wall Street investment firms today—BlackRock, Vanguard, and State Street—that combined control assets of \$20 trillion and combined are the major stockholders in 95 percent of the Standard & Poor corporations. That is what power is about—three entities, three private Wall Street investment firms being able to be combined as the major stockholders in 95 percent of our corporations.

So oligarchy is about massive income and wealth inequality. Oligarchy is about the rich becoming much richer—CEOs of large corporations now making

350 times what their workers make. Oligarchy is about 60 percent of our people living paycheck to paycheck, despite huge increases in worker productivity.

But I will tell you what oligarchy is also about: The billionaire class is not just satisfied to control the economic life of this country. They are moving aggressively to control the political life of this country.

So while ordinary Americans get the right to vote—they have one vote—the billionaire class, as a result of this disastrous Citizens United Supreme Court decision, they have the right not just to cast one vote as a citizen but to contribute hundreds of millions of dollars into super-PACs that will elect their friends and defeat their political opponents.

Now, if anyone in America thinks that is what American democracy is supposed to be about, well, I have a strong disagreement with you. Democracy is one person, one vote; not billionaires buying elections through their super-PACs. And I would hope that, here in Congress and on the campaign trail, leaders of this country make it clear that we have got to overturn this disastrous Supreme Court decision on Citizens United, which allows billionaires to buy elections, and move to public funding of elections. And that is where we should be going if we believe in democracy.

When we talk about the issues facing working families, when I go around the country—and I was just up in Maine the other day, as a matter of fact—you ask people about our healthcare system. You ask them a simple question. You say: Is this healthcare system working for you?

And almost without exception, what the American people say is: Our healthcare system today is broken. It is dysfunctional, and it is way, way, way too expensive.

And when people say that, they are right. And I hope everybody knows that, in America today, we spend twice as much per person on healthcare as do the people of any other country—twice as much. And yet despite spending over \$13,000 for every man, woman, and child—18 percent of our GDP on healthcare—our outcomes are worse than other countries that spend half as much per capita.

Our life expectancy is way down, behind many other countries, and, really obscenely, the life expectancy in the United States between the people on top and working-class people is 10, 12 years. In other words, if you are rich, you will live as long as people in other developed countries, but if you are working class or poor, the odds are you are going to live 10 or 15 years less.

Now, I don't know how much we talk about that, but I think maybe it is time that we do. And maybe we talk about the reality that we remain today the only country in the industrialized world that does not guarantee healthcare for all people as a human

right, and that 85 million of our people are uninsured or underinsured.

And it is not just healthcare. It is prescription drugs, and we are working hard on this. As chairman of the HELP Committee, that is what we are doing, trying to drive down the costs of prescription drugs.

But today, because of the greed of the pharmaceutical industry and the inactivity of the Congress, in many cases we are paying 10 times more for the same exact prescription drugs as do the people in other countries. And on and on it goes.

We have, as a nation, the highest rate of childhood poverty of almost any major country on Earth. This is the richest nation on Earth, and we have the highest rate of childhood poverty of almost any major country on Earth.

In terms of our seniors, 50 percent of senior citizens in this country are living on \$30,000 a year or less, and 25 percent are living on \$15,000 a year or less. And I do not know how anybody, let alone a senior citizen, lives on \$15,000 a year or less.

So what do we do? Well, maybe for a change—I know it is a radical idea—we might want to hear on the floor of the Senate and maybe in the House, actually discuss issues of relevance to working people. I know that is kind of an extremist, a far-left idea, that we talk about the real issues facing working families, but, you know, that is what I think. And maybe we come up with some serious proposals and ideas that address some of these crises.

And there may be differences of opinions, but let's at least discuss these issues. It seems to me that when so many of our elderly people are struggling, when half of older workers have nothing in the bank as they face retirement, you know, we might want to pay attention to that issue.

Now, over in the House, some 90 percent of the Republicans think that what we want to do is cut Social Security benefits. Well, I don't think that that is a particularly good idea. I think that is a dumb idea.

And I think we should do exactly the opposite. Instead of cutting Social Security benefits, we should expand Social Security benefits and extend the life and the solvency of Social Security.

Well, how do you do that? It ain't hard to do. Right now, somebody that makes \$16 million a year contributes the same amount into the Social Security trust fund as somebody who makes \$160,000 a year. Does that make sense to anybody? Not to me.

If you lift the cap and ask the wealthy—the top 2, 3 percent—to start paying into the Social Security trust fund that same 6 percent that the working people pay, do you know what you could do? You can do two things: You can expand Social Security benefits by \$2,200 a year. That is pretty good. It may not sound like a lot of money to somebody that is wealthy, but if you are trying to get by on

\$20,000 a year, do you know what? That \$2,200 can help a lot.

And when you lift that cap, the other thing you do is you can make Social Security solvent for the next 75 years so we end this discussion about Social Security going broke.

We had a hearing recently on the HELP Committee on medical debt, and what we learned, unbelievably, is that in our broken, dysfunctional healthcare system, half of people in this country who are dealing with cancer, because of the high cost of cancer treatment—half of these people—either go bankrupt or they deplete all of their financial resources.

I mean, does anybody who has a heart, anybody who has a soul, anybody who has a sense of morality think that it makes sense that when people come down with a terrible illness and are worried about living or dying that they have to also worry about whether or not their family is going to go bankrupt?

And I think we should learn here at the Federal level, here in the Senate, a lesson that a lot of States and cities and counties are doing, and that is ending medical debt. We should not punish people, force bankruptcy on people, who are struggling with serious illnesses.

Wherever I go in my home State of Vermont, my city of Burlington, all over the country, people are worried about the high cost of healthcare in America. It is no great secret that rents are soaring. It is no great secret that, shamefully as a nation, we have some 600,000 Americans sleeping out on the streets today. It is clear to me that instead of giving tax breaks to billionaires and to large corporations, maybe—just maybe—we may want to invest in building low-income, affordable, and senior citizen housing, and we may want to put a cap on the kinds of rent increases—as President Biden suggested—that these large Wall Street firms are now raising the rents that they are raising for people who live in their homes.

I don't know how to describe this except to say that I am personally embarrassed and I think the American people are embarrassed that right now in this country, we have a Federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour. All over this country, we have workers—if they are not making 7 and a quarter, they are making 10, they are making 12, 13 bucks an hour. People can't make it. I don't care where you are. If you are in rural Kentucky, in Burlington, VT, or New York City, nobody makes it on \$12, \$13 an hour.

We have not raised the Federal minimum wage in decades. I brought a bill up here a few years ago. We got all of 46 votes. We didn't get one Republican vote; we lost six Democratic votes.

Well, the American people do not think that folks in this country should be forced to work at starvation wages, and I hope we can bring forth legislation to raise the minimum wage to a

living wage. In my view, that living wage should be at least \$17 an hour.

When we talk about workers' rights, I can tell you from personal experience, having been involved in a number of strikes and union organizing campaigns, corporations spend hundreds of millions of dollars—illegally—trying to prevent workers from forming unions. That is why we must pass the PRO Act that will provide severe penalties against any corporation, any employer that uses illegal tactics to deny workers the right to form a union.

Mr. President, when we talk about childhood poverty, as I am sure you will recall, a few years ago, as a result of the American Rescue Plan, we provided \$300 a month per child for the vast majority of working parents in this country. That tax credit had the impact, incredibly, of lowering the childhood poverty level in this country by over 40 percent. One provision in one large bill lowered the childhood poverty level by over 40 percent. For minority communities, it was even greater than that. Maybe—just maybe—as a nation, we might want to end the disgrace of having the highest rate of childhood poverty of almost any major country on Earth and make permanent a strong child tax credit simi-

lar to what we had in the American Rescue Plan.

These are just some of the issues that are out there, and there are many others.

I talk to elderly people often who say: All right. We are not going to pass—you don't have the political support to pass Medicare for All. The drug companies and the insurance companies are too powerful. You can't take them on right now. But at least—at least—can we expand Medicare to cover dental, hearing, and vision?

Millions of elderly people in America can't afford to go to a dentist. People have no teeth in their mouths. Yes, we can do that, and we should do that.

So all that I wanted to say is that at a time when many, many Americans are giving up on democracy—they are hurting. They look to the government, they vote, and nothing happens. The rich get richer; they get poorer. They are saying, "Hey, all of this democracy and all this election stuff—it is all a crock. It doesn't matter," and they are willing to look at authoritarianism as a substitute for the democracy we have.

So, to my mind, not only is it the right thing and the moral thing to start paying attention to the needs of a

long-neglected working class—long neglected by the Democratic Party; long neglected by the Republican Party—not only is it time to pay attention to those needs, if you are interested in preserving democracy, you might want to do that as well.

So the thrust of my message today is that the time is long overdue for this Congress, this Senate, to have a serious discussion on the serious issues facing the working families of this country.

With that, I yield the floor.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M.
TOMORROW

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:50 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, July 31, 2024, at 11 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate July 30, 2024:

THE JUDICIARY

STACEY D. NEUMANN, OF MAINE, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF MAINE.