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No. 183

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. VALADAO).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
December 10, 2024.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DAVID G. VALADAO to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 9, 2024, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with time equally allocated between the parties and each Member other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip limited to 5 minutes, but in no event shall debate continue beyond 11:50 a.m.

CONGRATULATING CONGRESSIONAL WRITING COMPETITION WINNERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winners of our first ever congressional writing competition. I asked students from around Iowa's First Congressional District, elementary, middle, and high school, to submit an essay about what makes Iowa special. Given that the

University of Iowa has the Writers' Workshop, writing in Iowa is a known quantity.

I was moved by the quality of writing our students in Iowa possess and their unwavering love for Iowa.

The winners are: Katelyn Cope, sixth grader from Newton; Adele Decker, sixth grader from Newton; Sawyer Rhoades, sixth grader from Keokuk; Georgia Clark, eighth grader from West Liberty; Gwenavie Spalding, ninth grader from Anamosa; Kayden Wherry, ninth grader from Anamosa; Yuchen Gong, 11th grader from Iowa City; and Justin Chapman, 12th grader from Williamsburg.

The winners will receive a certificate of achievement as well as a flag flown over the Capitol building.

I congratulate these dedicated students. I look forward to seeing all of their contributions to Iowa in the future.

CONGRATULATING THE IOWA HAWKEYES FOOTBALL TEAM

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Iowa Hawkeyes football team on another winning season. Led by the breakout running back Kaleb Johnson, who finished the regular season with 1,537 yards and 21 touchdowns, the Hawkeyes finished 8-4, with key wins coming against Washington, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

This season was a historical one for our longtime coach, Kirk Ferentz. Coach Ferentz clinched his 204th career win on November 29 and is now only one win away from the all-time record for wins in the Big 10.

While the regular season may be over, there is still more football to be played. On December 30, the Iowa Hawkeyes will be taking on the number 19 in the country, the Missouri Tigers, in the Music City Bowl in Nashville.

I once again congratulate the Hawkeyes on a great season and wish them all the best in their bowl game.

Go Hawks.

GIVING VETERANS TOOLS TO THRIVE

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Veterans SPORT Act, legislation I introduced to ensure that our Nation's veterans have access to adaptive prostheses and terminal devices for sports and recreational activities as part of their medical benefits.

Currently, veterans eligible for VA medical services can receive artificial limbs, but those wishing to engage in sports and recreation lack access to specialized equipment. This bill amends title 38 of the United States Code to include these critical devices, allowing veterans to pursue activities that support their physical and mental well-being.

Sports and recreation are vital components to rehabilitation, promoting fitness, social interaction, a sense of accomplishment, and the sense of being a whole person once again.

The Veterans SPORT Act empowers veterans to regain independence and participate fully in activities they love. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and ensure our veterans have the tools they need to thrive.

MISGUIDED EV MANDATES

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of President Trump's commitment to ending the misguided EV mandates set by the Biden-Harris administration.

While our country and our automakers need to make EVs to combat the Chinese Communist Party and electric vehicles have their place in the market, the American people should not be forced into adopting them.

Hundreds of millions of Americans rely on combustion engine vehicles in their daily lives, and these mandates are driving up the cost for families who can least afford it.

In just 2 years, the Biden administration allocated \$7.5 billion in taxpayer funds for EV chargers, yet only eight

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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stations have been completed. This failure highlights the need for a more thoughtful approach, one that assesses cost and benefit and one that respects consumer choice and avoids unnecessary government intervention.

President Trump understands that a thriving economy is built on freedom and choice, not top-down mandates. Under his leadership, the American people will have the freedom to make their own decisions without the overreach of Washington.

MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S WORD OF THE YEAR

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, Merriam-Webster has named "polarization" the word of year. While that may reflect current times, it should also serve as a reminder that we must work harder to bridge the growing divide in our Nation.

Too often, political discourse has become hostile, with one side labeling their opponents as extremists for advocating commonsense solutions like securing our borders, lowering costs, or commonsense solutions that are helping hardworking families and ensuring fairness in women's sports.

I am optimistic that we can begin to heal these divisions and put America back on track. We must come together to prioritize policies that promote economic growth, strengthen national security, and restore the American Dream.

As we move into a new year, let us focus on the values that unite us and work for the betterment of all Americans.

WITH GRATITUDE TO NORTH CAROLINA'S SIXTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) for 5 minutes.

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep gratitude for the people of North Carolina's Sixth Congressional District for trusting me to represent them in the U.S. House of Representatives.

I have been proud to stand with House Democrats to pass historic legislation to rebuild our crumbling infrastructure, lower the cost of prescription drugs, strengthen domestic manufacturing, protect our future with the development of clean energy, address gun violence, and provide vital support for our veterans.

Thanks to these efforts, 80,000 households in my district have gained access to affordable high-speed internet, 39,000 residents are saving hundreds of dollars annually on their prescription drugs, and more than 4,700 veterans exposed to toxins during their service have filed claims to access benefits they have earned.

I have also been proud to secure nearly \$60 million in Federal funding for community projects across the Sixth District. From improved transportation to new equipment for our police

and firefighters, public safety initiatives, expanding education and job training, incentivizing economic development and public health, these projects are making a real difference.

I have also been proud to fight against the terrible loss of women's rights. Two years ago, the Supreme Court overturned 50 years of judicial precedent with its decision to strike down Roe v. Wade. This terrible ruling stripped millions of women of their right to obtain an abortion, has placed devastating hurdles in obtaining care for miscarriages, and has unleashed a wave of rightwing attacks on the full range of women's reproductive healthcare, including birth control.

That is why I introduced my Right to Contraception Act, to protect access to all FDA-approved birth control, which passed through the House in the last Congress. Sadly, my bill was blocked by Republicans, first in the Senate and again this term by Republicans in the House. It is shameful.

As policy co-chair of the Democratic Women's Caucus, I have been proud to fight for all women to make decisions about their own bodies and to have the ability to succeed in the workplace while still caring for their children and their family members.

In addition to fighting for North Carolinians' basic freedoms, I have worked to advance America's values and interests on the world stage. As the vice ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, I have advocated for rebuilding and expanding strong relationships with our allies, including unwavering support for Ukraine and Israel in the face of unprecedented attacks.

After Hamas' brutal October 7 invasion of Israel, I have stood up against the alarming rise in anti-Semitism here at home and around the globe as the co-chair of the House Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Anti-Semitism. This includes introducing my Countering Antisemitism Act, the most comprehensive legislation aimed at addressing the disturbing increase in anti-Semitism in our country's history.

This bill must be passed if we are serious about eradicating the scourge of the world's oldest hatred and protecting the fundamentals of our democracy. What begins with hatred against the Jews never ends there but spreads to other vulnerable groups.

As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I have championed investments in our students and schools and worked to address the youth mental health crisis, introducing the Improving Mental Health and Wellness in Schools Act to expand resources for our students.

As chair of the New Democrat Coalition Workforce Development Task Force, I have fought to address ongoing labor shortages and prepare workers for the jobs of the future.

While I would love to continue this important work on behalf of my con-

stituents, the blatantly gerrymandered congressional districts passed by the Republican-led North Carolina General Assembly make it impossible for me to do so. These maps are a deliberate distortion of the will of the people, designed with surgical precision to split communities of interest and deny real representation to North Carolinians. These maps force me to depart Congress, but I recognize that I am doing so at a time of great division within our country.

Now, more than ever, it is our duty in this Chamber to reaffirm the fundamental values that unite us as Americans: freedom, democracy, the rule of law, and the belief that all people are created equal.

While I will not be here to witness the next chapters of history written in this Chamber, I will keep using my voice to defend these values and trust in their enduring power to make our Union more perfect.

I will close by thanking my extraordinary staff members who work every day to get things done for the people we represent. I thank everyone who supported me in getting to Congress and all the colleagues with whom I have worked to develop friendships on both sides of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING FARMERS, RANCHERS, AND OTHER PRODUCERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. THOMPSON) for 5 minutes.

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize our Nation's hardworking and dedicated farmers, ranchers, and other producers.

In 1978, radio broadcaster Paul Harvey addressed the Future Farmers of America at their annual convention and delivered a powerful message that highlighted the importance of our Nation's farmers.

He said:

And on the 8th day, God looked down on his planned paradise and said: I need a caretaker.

So God made a farmer.

God said: I need somebody willing to get up before dawn, milk cows, work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper, then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board.

So God made a farmer.

God said: I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild; somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his wife is done feeding visiting ladies, then tell the ladies to be sure and come back real soon and mean it.

So God made a farmer.

God said: I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt and watch it die, then dry his eyes and say: Maybe next year. I need somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make a harness out of haywire, feed sacks, and shoe scraps; who, planting time and

harvest season, will finish his 40-hour week by Tuesday noon and then painin' from tractor back, put in another 72 hours.

So God made a farmer.

God had to have somebody willing to ride the ruts at double speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds and yet stop in midfield and race to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor's place.

So God made a farmer.

God said: I need somebody strong enough to clear trees and heave bales, yet gentle enough to tame lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink-combed pullets, who will stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a meadow lark.

It had to be somebody who would plow deep and straight and not cut corners; somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed, and rake and disc and plow and plant, and tie the fleece and strain the milk and replenish the self-feeders and finish the hard week's work with a 5-mile drive to church; somebody who would bale a family together with the soft, strong bonds of sharing, who would laugh, and then sigh, and then reply, with smiling eyes, when his son says that he wants to spend his life "doing what dad does."

So God made a farmer.

□ 1015

Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the House Committee on Agriculture, it is my honor to advocate for their interests and ensure that they have certainty and stability for generations to come.

Even though Paul Harvey wrote these remarks about our Nation's farmers, it encompasses so much more than that. Our farmers, ranchers, foresters, and producers are essential in providing food, fiber, and fuel to our Nation and the world.

Mr. Speaker, food security is national security. As we head into the holiday season, I recognize and thank our Nation's producers for their contributions to our everyday lives.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF HOUSTON'S IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Mrs. LEE CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LEE CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the rich legacy of Houston's immigrant communities and the contributions they have made to improve the lives of all Houstonians and the United States of America.

Houston is a city built by Dreamers, a vibrant metropolis where nearly one-quarter of our population is comprised of immigrants.

I will highlight members of Houston's immigrant community who are as diverse as they are inspiring.

From Eugene Pillot, who opened one of the city's first opera houses, to Ninfa Lorenzo, whose modest restaurant blossomed into a multimillion-dollar empire featuring Tex-Mex classics.

In these times when some would demonize immigrants, who have always

been an important part of America's fabric, I choose to lift them up.

In Houston, foreign-born Latinos make up 20 percent of our population and include persons like Renaissance man Felix Tijerina, a restaurateur, philanthropist, and the 25th president of the League of United Latin American Citizens; Ellen Ochoa, the first Latina in space and a former director at the Johnson Space Center which is in the Houston area. They remind me of the limitless potential immigrants bring to our society.

Houston is also home to the Nation's largest Nigerian population outside of Nigeria. Nearly 57,000 Nigerian Americans call Houston home.

The legendary athlete Hakeem Olajuwon is a proud Nigerian American. He dominated at the University of Houston and became the number one draft pick in 1984 where he played for the Houston Rockets and led us to a pair of championships. I was proud to be at those games to cheer him on.

Immigrant contributions go beyond culture and commerce. Immigrants are vital to Houston's economy, especially in industries like healthcare, education, and construction.

Our educational institutions have also prospered from immigrant leadership like Dr. Renu Khator, an immigrant from India and the chancellor of the University of Houston. She was the first Indian immigrant to head a comprehensive research institution in the United States. She has raised a record number of research dollars and overseen unprecedented growth. Her story remains a testament to the transformative power of immigration, education, and innovation.

Yet, challenges still persist. Around 67,000 college-educated immigrants in Houston are underemployed and not living to their full potential, which is sometimes called brain waste. We must address this by reducing licensing barriers and improving English proficiency programs. We must create real immigration reform, as that solidifies pathways to citizenship and reduces the backlog.

Also, nearly one-half of all children in Houston live in a household where at least one parent immigrated to the United States, and these parents are shaping the next generation of Houstonians who will be leaders, innovators, and changemakers.

However, they face extreme challenges, specifically those with temporary or undocumented status. Barriers to naturalization and access to public services create uncertainty for many, despite their immense contributions to our city.

In my home State of Texas, State leadership is fighting to keep DACA recipients, our Dreamers, from being able to pay for Affordable Care Act insurance under the Biden rule. They should not deny access to those brought here as children to healthcare and health insurance.

Houston's immigrant communities are not just part of our city, they are

a key part of what has made our city and Nation truly great. Let us honor their contributions, celebrate their achievements, and continue to build a city and a nation where everyone, regardless of origin, has the opportunity to thrive.

RECONCILIATION CAN SAVE OUR COUNTRY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCLINTOCK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, our country is in dire fiscal straits. Years of profligacy under both parties are now crushing our economy under the heaviest debt in our long history. Just paying the interest on that debt now exceeds what we spend on our Nation's entire defense. History warns us that nations that bankrupt themselves aren't around very long.

Now many people find hope in President Trump's creation of an unofficial Department of Government Efficiency, or DOGE. Others propose a bipartisan fiscal commission.

However, in our haste to pass the buck, let us all remember that it is Congress alone that holds the purse strings. Try as we may, we cannot escape our responsibility. Congress is the ultimate bipartisan fiscal commission because, in a very real sense, the buck starts here. The Federal Government cannot raise or spend a single dollar unless and until the House says that it can. Ultimately, this responsibility rests with us. It cannot be DOGE'd and it cannot be dodged.

Fortunately, we have the ideal tools in our possession to bring spending in line with revenues if we choose to use them properly: the budget resolution and the accompanying reconciliation act.

Here is how it works. Both Houses agree on a spending ceiling by a simple majority resolution. Reconciliation instructions are then sent to every House committee with the mandate to report out statutory changes to bring spending within these limits. If they fail to act, then the House Budget Committee acts in their place, and a single comprehensive bill goes to the floor for an up-or-down vote. The bill gets expedited consideration in the Senate, and when signed by the President, all the laws necessary to balance the budget are enacted together.

There is one catch. It can only be used to enact the fiscal reforms necessary to implement the budget. It cannot be used for general policymaking beyond these fiscal confines.

The last time this process was used as it was designed and intended was during the Republican majority led by Newt Gingrich in 1995. The result was four balanced budgets in a row that produced one of the greatest waves of prosperity our Nation has ever seen.

Tragically, in 2017, the Republican majority under Paul Ryan utterly

squandered this authority. Instead of using the reconciliation process to bring mandatory spending to heel, it was abused to achieve pet political projects, first repealing ObamaCare and next for tax cuts.

The first attempt resulted in a mangled mess of incomplete fiscal measures that collapsed in the Senate. The next budget year, the object was tax reform, but since it had to fall within the narrow fiscal parameters of reconciliation, most of the tax cuts could only be temporary and will soon expire. The result was no healthcare reform and only temporary tax relief.

The opportunity cost was to squander our last chance to prevent the fiscal debacle that our country now faces.

Last month, the American people gave Republicans a rare second chance to save our country from insolvency. We must not repeat the mistakes that have brought us here. Republican leaders in the House and Senate are, once again, proposing to use the budget and reconciliation process not as it was designed, to set spending limits and adhere to those limits, but rather to chase a variety of shiny objects including tax reform, energy development, and border security.

These are all vital reforms, and they need to be enacted. Indeed, some aspects of them can be realized as a by-product of the reconciliation process. However, that process cannot produce comprehensive policy reform. It can produce comprehensive fiscal reform at a moment when our Nation faces its greatest fiscal threat in its history.

I appeal to the Speaker to follow the success of the Gingrich majority. If we repeat the mistakes of the past, then we will lose the future. We are on the threshold of a sovereign debt crisis the likes of which this Nation has never seen and that few nations have ever survived. Let us not throw away this, the last fleeting chance to avert fiscal disaster.

The American people didn't save our country last month. They gave us the tools and the trust to save our country. Let us use the tools that they have given us, and let us be worthy of the trust that they have placed in us.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. BLUMENAUER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor for the last time I will address this Chamber after 28 years in Congress.

My goal as a Member of Congress was to leave this place a little better than I found it, and I am proud of what we have done. There are things that you are not going to see on FOX or MSNBC News, Mr. Speaker, and it is not going to rocket around the internet, but they are simple, commonsense efforts to bring people together to solve problems.

At the beginning of each Congress for the last dozen years, I have given each new Member, hand-delivered, my thoughts about what they need to know to be able to navigate these strange waters in Congress.

Together, we have been able to achieve some interesting things, as I say, items you don't see in the news necessarily, Mr. Speaker, but that have made a huge difference.

I am proud of the work we have done with international water and sanitation that has resulted in millions of people having their lives saved and reducing the burdens on 140 million women who struggle to get water, often dirty water, for their families every day.

I am proud of the work I have done in terms of agriculture reform because it is past time that we stop subsidizing a diet that makes Americans sick.

I am proud of the work we did in the midst of the pandemic to create the Restaurant Rescue Plan: 100,000 grants that have resulted in many independent restaurants that were able to stay in business.

I am proud of the work we have done with transportation and infrastructure to rebuild and renew America. Instead of having infrastructure week be a joke, we are actually doing it.

I am proud of the work that I have done, for example, in terms of bicycling, symbolized by the bike lanes in the middle of Pennsylvania Avenue, making it easier for people to burn calories instead of fossil fuel and transform the face of our communities.

I am proud of the work that we have done dealing in terms of saving the lives of Iraqis and Afghans who put their trust in us when they were helping our people in those troubled countries. You don't have to believe in the wars, Mr. Speaker, I didn't, but I worked to make sure that the men and women who were the drivers, the guides, and the interpreters were not left to the tender mercies of al-Qaida and the Taliban.

Together we were able, with Senator McCain and Senator KENNEDY, to pass a Special Immigrant Visa that has resulted in thousands of these people who worked with us to be able to live and, in many cases, to be able to seek safety in the United States.

As I say, these are not things that people necessarily see in the news or on the internet. They are not going to raise campaign money for their goals using them, but they are the things that make the difference.

I guess my last piece of advice that I leave to the people who are coming in the next Congress is to focus on things that bring people together rather than divide them and to look for ways to solve problems rather than to create new ones.

Over the course of the last 28 years, I have seen this formula work, and I hope in the new Congress people will employ it in ways that will make a difference.

Heaven knows we need to do it.

□ 1030

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE EARL BLUMENAUER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK) for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the last speaker, my friend, EARL BLUMENAUER.

It was a source of pride for me to be here on the floor this morning and see the gentleman's last speech on the floor of the House of Representatives. Though we may disagree on policy, and we have many times, I count the gentleman as a dear friend and colleague. It has been a great honor to serve with my colleague EARL, and this place is going to miss him.

The gentleman has made me a better Congressman, and he has made me a better person. I congratulate the gentleman and wish him the best.

CONGRATULATING THE GREENWOOD BULLDOGS

Mr. WOMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Arkansas' 6A State football champions, the Greenwood Bulldogs, after a convincing 61-35 victory over Shiloh Christian Saturday at Little Rock's War Memorial Stadium.

The Bulldogs went back to back in winning their 12th overall State title. I commend Head Coach Chris Young and his staff and players for another thrilling chapter in Greenwood football with this perfect and magical 13-0 season.

Mr. Speaker, this title is not without tragedy. Earlier in the season, a house fire took the life of one of Greenwood's finest athletes, 18-year-old Isaiah "Ike" Arrington; his 46-year-old mother, Wendy Medrano; and his 5-year-old sister, Vivian.

This season was dedicated to the memory of Ike and his family. The motivation to make this a season to remember helped Greenwood not only bring home the trophy but record its 70th consecutive home win in the process.

I congratulate Greenwood. Their Bulldog pride is showing today, and they have made all of us Arkansas Proud.

CELEBRATING ALBANY PARK THEATER PROJECT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Albany Park Theater Project, a gem of Illinois' Third Congressional District, and to recognize their production of "Port of Entry," which reminds us all of an important lesson.

The story of our Nation wouldn't be complete without the sweat, without the tears, without the joy, and without the dreams and hopes of so many immigrants and children of immigrants.

They are the same stories that brought so many of us here to Congress.

Located in the heart of Albany Park, one of the most diverse immigrant communities in the Nation, the Albany Park Theater Project has long been a beacon of creativity, resilience, and hope. Through the power of storytelling and theater, this organization prepares and propels young people in Illinois' Third Congressional District to lead civically engaged and choice-filled lives.

Together, their team ensemble members and adult artists make world-class, award-winning, original theater that amplifies and illuminates the voices of immigrants and refugees, showcasing their struggles, triumphs, pain, and enduring humanity.

My husband, Boris, and I were fortunate to experience the production of "Port of Entry" together, and it was more than a performance. It was a profound journey in the daily lives of immigrant families from all over the world living in Albany Park.

As a "proud," "orguloso," daughter of Guatemalan immigrants, I know firsthand how important it is for immigrant stories to be told authentically and celebrated unapologetically.

"Port of Entry," a collaboration with Third Rail Projects, takes audiences into a theater production set in a typical Chicago apartment building.

Audience members of "Port of Entry" are part of an immersive experience of the intimate lives of neighbors from Mexico, the Philippines, Russia, and beyond. Audience members share in the lived experiences and stories of immigrant families, celebrating their resilience, amplifying their voices, and showcasing the invaluable contributions they make to our communities.

The cast is made up of talented young people from our community who brilliantly invite us to reflect on what it means to call a place home and what it means to find belonging and to build a future in the face of challenge.

It invites us to wonder what makes the United States of America. The production is a culmination of years of work involving over 300 collaborators, including youth performers, storytellers, and creators. It is a testament to the theater company's 27-year-old commitment to using the arts to empower young people in bringing our community together.

Albany Park and our Nation have always been a port of entry for many families seeking new beginnings, whether through the southern border, like my mom, or welcomed by the "Mother of Exiles," the Statue of Liberty, like many of the ancestors of the Members of this very same body.

Today, at a time when Members of this Chamber and the incoming administration are threatening to tear our communities apart and would question who gets to be American and who doesn't, this play feels so timely and vital.

I thank the Albany Park Theater Project and Debbie Reznick, one of the founding directors, for reminding us of the power of storytelling to inspire empathy and connection. I thank them for showing us that theater is not just for entertainment, but it is a vehicle for change and a celebration of the human spirit.

I am so proud to represent this community. I am even prouder to be the daughter of immigrants. Their work reflects the very best of our district and our Nation.

HONORING RETIRING STAFF MEMBERS WADE BALLOU AND RALPH SEEP

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Mrs. FISCHBACH) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. FISCHBACH. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor two men who have given a combined 74 years of service to the House of Representatives, Wade Ballou and Ralph Seep. Both of these gentlemen are retiring and have made important contributions in the way that the House functions.

In November, Wade Ballou retired after 41 years of service in the Office of Legislative Counsel, including the past years as head of OLC. Over his years, he provided clear, coherent, and high-quality legal analysis and built a reputation for being warm, engaging, and attentive to the needs of Members of Congress and staff.

No matter how complicated or time-sensitive the project was, Wade was warm, engaging, and attentive to the needs of the Members of Congress and our staff. We are all grateful for his care and his work.

Ralph Seep spent the past 33 years in the Office of the Law Revision Counsel, including the past 13 years as head of the office. After a long career of helping to oversee and maintain the publication of the United States Code, Wade retired on October 1.

While the Members of Congress write the laws, Ralph was the one who ensured that they were literally published in black and white and placed into the United States Code.

Ralph's leadership, high standards of excellence, calm demeanor, and generous spirit have made him a trusted leader and colleague and earned him the respect of his staff and colleagues.

On behalf of the entire House of Representatives, I thank Wade and Ralph for their service to this Chamber, and we wish them both the best in their next stages of life.

CELEBRATING RETIREMENT OF DENVER METEOROLOGIST MIKE NELSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SORENSEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, as the only meteorologist in Congress, I rise

today to honor one of the best in the career field of atmospheric science, Mike Nelson of Denver's Channel 7, on a remarkable 40-year career.

For decades, Mike was the trusted voice that families turned to in order to prepare them for what is ahead. Blizzards, tornadoes, devastating wildfires, Mike tracked them all.

His impact did not stop there. Early on, Mike took the initiative to communicate how our climate was changing. In addition to those watching his broadcasts, more than a million school-age students learned from him.

A 20-time Emmy Award winner, a member of the Emmys Silver Circle, and a fellow of the American Meteorological Society, Mike's contributions are extraordinary. With many thanks, he signs off from Denver7 News this week.

From Capitol Hill, I am forecasting a sunny and well-deserved retirement ahead. I congratulate Mike on a job well done.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. CARAVEO).

Ms. CARAVEO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the remarkable career and contributions of Denver7 Chief Meteorologist Mike Nelson, who will deliver his final weather forecast this week.

With 40 years of forecasting and 25 of those dedicated to Colorado, Mike Nelson has become a familiar face and trusted voice for weather in our State, and his impact goes far beyond the screen. From his early days at Weather Central to pioneering the use of computer weather graphics, Mike has been a trailblazer in his field.

Over his career, Mike has shared his love of weather with more than 750,000 students across the State, inspiring young minds with his trademark tornado dance. Mike's decades of dedication, innovation, and community service have made Colorado a better place.

I congratulate Mike on his well-deserved retirement. Here is to clear skies and sunny days ahead.

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Speaker, finally, a last word of advice for our friend, Mike Nelson. On his last broadcast day, when his executive producer gets into his ear and says he has gone over in time, he should finish his work and then say: I yield back.

STRENGTHENING OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH ISRAEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LAMALFA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to address a crucial and escalating situation facing Israel, our close ally. They have been under attack not only from isolated factions but from a coordinated effort orchestrated by Iran.

Rockets have rained down on Israel from Lebanon, the Gaza Strip, and

Yemen, forcing Israel to defend its citizens and its sovereignty from these relentless threats. It is crucial to understand that these attacks are not random acts of violence but part of a larger, more sinister and coordinated plan.

In each of these regions, there exists a militia backed by Iran. In the Gaza Strip, it is Hamas; in Yemen, the Houthis; and in Lebanon, it is Hezbollah.

Recently, with the fall of Assad and the regime in Syria, this very much will disrupt some of those efforts that Iran and some of their backers in Russia have been able to do in there, but the United States and our diplomacy must pay very, very close attention to how this is handled because many times when there is a vacuum like this, there can be even worse results coming in, such as what happened in Libya and Iraq.

We will have to grade this by what we see as possible new leadership coming in, but, indeed, be on top of that so that Iran doesn't get a stronger foothold in Syria again.

It is exacerbated by the policies of previous U.S. administrations because of the overall outcome we are seeing. These people are funded, supplied, and directed by Iran as part of a calculated strategy to encircle and weaken Israel.

Indeed, they do not want Israel to exist, and it is pretty hard to sit down at a negotiation table to come up with peace when they don't even acknowledge your right to exist as a nation.

Unfortunately, the lenient stances taken by Presidents Obama and Biden have only encouraged Iran and others in the Middle East to keep Israel firmly in the target sights.

Secretary Blinken recently warned that Iran is potentially within weeks of nuclear capabilities. This is not hyperbole. It is a direct reality. We have been hearing that for some time, so we don't know what that really means, but Iran has been working ever since the JCPOA to become a nuclear nation.

We are witnessing a comprehensive and coordinated assault by Iranian militias aimed at Israel. The intent is to strain Israel's defenses from every direction. We must recognize and respond to the true nature of this threat.

The National Defense Authorization Act being brought to the floor this week in the House takes decisive steps to strengthen our partnership with Israel in the face of these ongoing threats. Our partnership with Israel is critical for their existence but also for us, as they have been a great partner in the Middle East and there are so many innovations and things that we do together as countries.

The NDAA authorizes full funding for joint U.S.-Israel missile defense programs, like the Iron Dome, a defensive mechanism. It allocates \$47 million for cutting-edge technologies, such as anti-missile laser defenses, and commits \$30 million to dismantling Hamas tunnel networks.

As Iran continues its aggression against Israel, these measures reaffirm

our unwavering support for Israel's right to defend itself and its future and to exist. Together, we must ensure that Israel has the tools it needs to stand strong.

Our partnership is ironclad. It is important to both of us. It is important to Israeli existence, and even other Arab countries nearby have acknowledged that Israel is an important partner due to the success of the Abraham Accords.

If my colleagues ask Arab Israelis who live in the country if they like it better in Israel or would rather go back to something else, they like it better in Israel.

There is a lot of good that comes from that nation being able to stand on its own, as it has always been a beacon of light and opportunity for people who just want to play by a good set of rules.

□ 1045

BIDDING FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ALLRED) for 5 minutes.

Mr. ALLRED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank the people of north Texas for trusting me with the sacred responsibility and opportunity to represent them for the last 6 years. It has been an honor of my life to serve the great people of north Texas, who I was born and raised among, and to have done it with so many great colleagues.

I was born and raised in Dallas by a single mom who was a public schoolteacher. It wasn't always easy for us, but because of our community, because of my family, because of my teachers, my coaches, and the good folks at the YMCA, I was able to make it. I played Division 1 football at Baylor University. Afterwards, I made the team on the Tennessee Titans and spent 5 years as a linebacker. I eventually went to law school and became a voting rights attorney, and I proudly served the Obama administration at the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

For the last 6 years, it has been my greatest honor to represent my hometown of Dallas and all the communities across the 32nd District from Dallas to Richardson to Addison to Mesquite to Garland, communities big and small across the DFW area. The folks in north Texas have always been my inspiration to get things done.

I am so proud of all the things we have done together. Working with folks in both parties, we secured the Garland VA Medical Center. It took over a year, but after countless meetings, phone calls, letters, and false starts and stops, we got it done. Together, we created thousands of good-paying jobs in north Texas and are helping to better serve our veterans and get them the care they have earned. This is one of my proudest accomplishments, and I will continue to support local efforts to invest and expand the facility.

We passed historic legislation that will help north Texas and the country for years to come: the CHIPS Act, the bipartisan infrastructure law, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the pandemic relief legislation that helped save our economy in a time of deep crisis.

We lowered the cost of healthcare and kept the cost of insulin for seniors at \$35 a month. We invested in high-tech manufacturing, job training, and clean energy that is helping Texas create thousands upon thousands of jobs.

Because of our efforts, more Texans will have access to economic opportunities to enter the middle class and to live their version of the American Dream.

During my time in office, I made a point to introduce legislation that was focused on helping people. From voting rights to ensuring veterans can access their benefits to cutting red tape and helping government work for people, I am so proud that together we worked to pass 50 of the bills I cosponsored into law. That doesn't include the dozens of amendments, committee work, or administrative actions that we had a hand in helping to get done.

We ran a constituent-first office that was focused on cutting red tape for people and helping them get the services and help they needed from their government. From helping folks with Social Security to assisting veterans to helping our businesses, big and small, keep people employed, I am proud that we closed over 4,300 cases and saved Texans more than \$57 million. I am also personally proud to be the first Member of Congress to ever take paternity leave and to hopefully set an example for all new dads who will follow me.

Though this is the end of a chapter for me, I am reminded that our democracy is great because it doesn't begin or end with one elected official. It is not about one person. It never has been.

We are caretakers. We are guardians of the great American experiment and protectors of this democracy.

I know that Congresswoman-elect Julie Johnson will serve the people of the 32nd District with honor. I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have worked with me over the years, people who I know will keep working in a bipartisan way to represent and deliver for their constituents.

I remember the legends and icons I have had a chance to serve with, Members like Eddie Bernice Johnson to John Lewis.

I also could not have done this without my wife, Aly, and my two boys, Jordan and Cameron, who have helped me every step of the way.

I thank my staff, who have been on my team and on my side since the very beginning. I am so proud that we have had one of the lowest turnover rates of any office in Congress. My dedicated staff are public servants who have

helped us serve people here in Washington and in Dallas.

This was always personal for me, Mr. Speaker. It wasn't just another district; it was the place where I was born and raised, where I went to high school, where my family lives.

Mr. Speaker, we served during a time of great uncertainty: a pandemic and an insurrection. There is more uncertainty to come, but I believe in this country. I believe in the people of north Texas. I know that God will continue to bless Texas and our great country.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS for her 20 years of public service in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Not only is CATHY the first woman Congress Member in history to give birth three times while in office, she is also the first woman in history to become chairwoman of the powerful and influential Energy and Commerce Committee. In addition, CATHY served 6 years in leadership as the Republican Conference Chair.

CATHY and her husband, Brian, and their three children attended the same D.C. church that Joe and I attended. I remember going out to lunch after church with them and having fun throwing snowballs with their kids. I will always remember CATHY giving Bibles to every member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, inviting me and others to Bible studies, and walking around the U.S. Capitol after votes praying with other Congress Members.

Mr. Speaker, CATHY has made a difference in this world and in the people she has touched. May God continue to bless her and her family. She will be missed.

RECOGNIZING LOU HRKMAN

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a member of my staff, Lou Hrkman, for his dedication and service to me and the constituents of Arizona's Eighth Congressional District.

Lou joined my staff as my energy policy advisor and brought with him decades of experience in the energy space, including experience on the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis and at the Department of Energy under President Trump.

Lou's expertise was key to my work on the Energy and Commerce Committee and his commitment to advancing sound energy policy was critical in the passage of my legislation, Hands Off Our Home Appliances and Save Our Gas Stoves Act this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, as I leave Congress, I have no doubt Lou will go on to do great things as he continues his public service. I wish him nothing but the

best in all of his endeavors. I appreciate him.

RECOGNIZING DANIEL STEFANSKI

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a member of my staff, Daniel Stefanski, for his dedication and service to the constituents of Arizona's Eighth Congressional District.

As Members of Congress, we know the importance of communicating our work to our constituents, and communications staffers are essential to this endeavor.

Daniel joined my communications team after a career that included service to other Members of the U.S. House of Representatives and the former Attorney General of Arizona. He is a dedicated professional who is committed to helping conservatives effectively communicate their policy priorities to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Daniel for his hard work and dedication to me and to our team. As I leave Congress, I have no doubt Daniel will go on to do great things. I wish him nothing but the best in all of his future endeavors. I greatly appreciate him.

RECOGNIZING BOBBY BRAVO

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize someone whose service and dedication to both myself and the State of Arizona are unmatched, Bobby Bravo.

Bobby first came to work for me when I was serving in the Arizona State Legislature, and I was honored when he joined me on my congressional staff in Washington, D.C.

My longest serving aide, Bobby is a hard worker with a commitment to advancing the policies and priorities that make our Nation and State great.

A native of Mesa, Arizona, and a graduate of Arizona State University, Bobby never meets a stranger. Bobby is kind to everyone and treats everyone with dignity and respect, regardless of their position or party affiliation. He always has a smile for anyone he comes in contact with.

When I look back at my time in elected office, Bobby was such an important part of my journey, and I thank him for his service and commitment to me, our State, and our Nation. I greatly appreciate him.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CAN'T PASS AN AUDIT

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BEAN of Florida). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Oregon (Ms. HOYLE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to state my opposition to the National Defense Authorization Act.

First, let me be clear, I support any funding to keep Americans safe, protect and fairly compensate our troops for their sacrifices, and to improve our national security. I also support some of what is included in this act: pay

raises for our servicemembers, expanding access to contraceptives for female servicemembers under TRICARE, and properly funding the replacement of poor and failing military housing and barracks.

However, it is simply irresponsible to give more money to an agency that accounts for half of our discretionary spending but can't pass an audit. This is an agency that spends over half its budget on defense contractors who have no incentive against price gouging, some who overcharge the Department of Defense by 40 to 50 percent with no accountability and no consequences. Year after year, we dump money into defense contractors that grow fatter while our servicemembers and their families struggle to scrape by.

Since the election, we have heard a lot of talk about improving government efficiency and cutting waste, and I agree. It is incumbent upon us to be good stewards of taxpayer dollars, but instead of proposing cuts to Social Security benefits for seniors or cutting veterans' benefits to our servicemembers, benefits that they have earned, let's start where there are clear savings to be had.

In this NDAA, the Pentagon would get \$10 billion more than last year. Simply put, the Pentagon just failed its seventh audit, and it is getting nearly \$900 billion already. Why should we keep writing blank checks and expecting things to change when there is no incentive to do so?

Without robust accountability, all this is, is a transfer of wealth from hardworking American taxpayers to private defense contractors in the military industrial complex. Without meaningful oversight for how my constituents' taxpayer dollars are spent, I plan on voting no.

CONFUSING ZIP CODES CAUSE UNNECESSARY DIFFICULTIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOLINARO). The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. STEIL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, currently in the United States, some municipalities have ZIP Codes that don't match the municipal boundaries, and it is a real problem.

Communities across southeast Wisconsin, including Somers, Mount Pleasant, Caledonia, and Franklin have dealt with this unnecessary difficulty as a result, so I rise in support of H.R. 8753 to fix this problem.

H.R. 8753 will direct the United States Postal Service to designate single, unique ZIP Codes for certain communities.

When physical mailing addresses differ because multiple ZIP Codes converge within one municipality, it causes real confusion.

Besides mail delivery issues, inaccurate address listings can cause delays in service response times, higher

insurance rates, problems with tax rebates, confusion over polling places, and incorrect jury summonses.

□ 1100

ZIP Codes play an important role in community identity. The consequences of inaccurate address listings have been a constant frustration for many local officials and the people they serve. In fact, Dave DeGroot is the one who brought this to my attention.

This bill directs USPS to create ZIP Codes that align with municipal boundaries. It is a commonsense solution, and I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

ACTBLUE INVESTIGATION

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I think we can all agree foreign funding has no place in American elections.

Over the past year, my Committee on House Administration has investigated multiple situations, and in particular the Democratic online fundraising platform of ActBlue, identifying and showing the vulnerabilities that exist that could be exploited by foreign actors.

We have uncovered that the platform previously wasn't requiring the use of a CVV code. That is the three or four digit number on the back of your credit card. It is a simple financial safeguard most online companies use to deter bad actors.

The Committee on House Administration has recently subpoenaed ActBlue for documents related to potential foreign influence in campaign funding. As chairman, I have introduced legislation to require the CVV number and prohibit prepaid cards from being used to make contributions, a pathway for foreign entities, including drug cartels, to launder money.

The SHIELD Act would prohibit political committees from accepting online contributions unless the contributor provides the CVV number and the billing address associated with the card and also prohibit them from accepting online contributions from prepaid cards.

It is imperative that we are increasing trust and transparency in our elections. All parties should be complying with Federal election law, including campaign finance laws.

Foreign actors have no place contributing in American elections. They have no place in contributing to American political campaigns. I will continue working to prevent foreign funding in our elections.

AMERICA NEEDS MEDICARE FOR ALL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. KHANNA) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, across our land, there is outrage at private health insurance companies that are denying claims: denying claims for heart disease, denying claims for cancer, denying claims for diabetes.

Mr. Speaker, the average cancer patient in America will lose their entire life savings in 2 years. Forty-two percent of Americans who have cancer lose their life savings in 2 years. Mr. Speaker, 18 percent of Americans have had their healthcare claims denied, over 3.4 million Americans.

On a very small matter, I had my healthcare claim denied by UnitedHealthcare when I wanted to get a \$100 nasal pump for allergies. Back it came: denied. I couldn't get that reversed. Imagine people with more serious problems.

One of the people in my district, Sarah Broughton, died of a sinus infection because her health insurance companies denied her claims for basic healthcare.

As Americans face denial after denial after denial, what is happening with these private insurance companies? Let me tell you: \$1.4 trillion in revenue, \$70 billion in profits for the top seven private insurance companies. They say, oh, it is only 5 percent profit, but it is \$1.4 trillion sucked out of our economy while basic Americans are denied healthcare.

What is this money going to? It is going to administrative costs. It is going to advertising. It is going to bloated executive pay salaries while we can't give people treatment for cancer, for diabetes, for basic health issues.

The American people are outraged, and they are rising up across our country, demanding fundamental change to a broken healthcare system. Enough.

Here are three things that we could do: First, if a doctor prescribes a medicine, the private insurance company must cover it if Medicare covers it. That is common sense.

Second, let us cap out-of-pocket costs so you don't have someone who has cancer depleting their entire life savings. Cap those costs at \$2,000 a year.

Third, let us make sure that these private insurance companies can't rely on AI to have AI-generated algorithms that deny claims. No AI used to deny Americans' claims.

Really, what we need, Mr. Speaker, is what so many other democracies have. We need Medicare for All. The reality is, the average American is paying more than \$6,000 a year on healthcare costs, and those premiums are up 7 percent from last year. We are not going to get those premiums down. We are not going to get those healthcare costs down unless we have Medicare for All.

When we have Medicare for All, we will have 2 percent administrative fees. Medicare will be able to negotiate with the hospitals and the pharmaceutical companies to lower costs for all Americans and provide care.

Guess what. If we have Medicare for All, every doctor and every hospital will be in network. No more of these denied claims that are bankrupting Americans and taking people's lives.

Mr. Speaker, I represent a district in Silicon Valley that has \$12 trillion of value: Apple, Google, Nvidia, Tesla. We

are producing more wealth in my ZIP Code than anyplace in human history. How is it that in the wealthiest nation in the world when we are producing more wealth than ever before, Americans can't get basic healthcare?

Healthcare is a human right. We have the money to make sure every American is covered and not denied. It is time for change. It is time to hold private health insurance companies accountable. It is time to fight and pass Medicare for All.

CONGRATULATING MICA MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CISCOMANI) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Mica Mountain High School varsity football team for winning the 4A State championship, the first title in the school's history.

The fourth-seed Mica Mountain Thunderbolts overcame the odds and beat second-seed Arizona College Prep by a resounding score of 42-13 and capped their perfect 14-0 season with a majestic trophy.

The Thunderbolts attacked early and quickly, scoring on each of their opening four drives and leading by a score of 28-7 at halftime. They were led by star running back Josiah Thornwell, who finished the night with 182 yards and four touchdowns.

Considering that Mica Mountain only became a school 4½ years ago, it is remarkable to see how much the students and staff have accomplished in such a short time, setting a strong foundation for future classes to build upon.

Moreover, this was Coach Nugent's first championship in his 34 years of coaching. Coach Nugent did a great job.

Coach Nugent, all the coaching staff, the players, the administration, the school, the students and everyone who had their hand in this special season made their school and our community extremely proud. This is their victory. They earned it. Go on and enjoy it.

CONGRATULATING MICAH POWELL

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Micah Powell for an outstanding tenure as mayor of Eloy.

Since the day he took office 4 years ago, Micah has been a devoted public servant who cared deeply for the residents of Eloy and dedicated himself to serving his community with genuine passion and a tireless work ethic.

During his tenure, Micah focused on bringing more jobs and housing opportunities for the residents and promoting businesses and economic growth. In my time in Congress, I am deeply proud of the strong Federal-local partnership Micah and I forged to benefit our constituents. In FY25, we worked together to initially secure \$1

million to repair and revitalize the historic Frontier Street, which serves as the main gateway to downtown Eloy.

While Micah's leadership will be missed, his public service will continue to be felt in his community long after his tenure and far into the future.

I also congratulate the outgoing and incoming leadership of Eloy. I look forward to working with all of them in advance and our district to continue to look forward and advance our community always.

Again, congratulations to my friend Micah. He deserves it.

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BEAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is that time of year. Everyone is talking about who has the best recipes for pies or who has the best recipes for cookies.

I don't know about those, Mr. Speaker, but I can tell you who has got the best recipe for an amazing elementary school environment: Paterson Elementary in Clay County, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the best schools in the Nation. The Florida Department of Education recently released their elementary school rankings for the 2023–2024 school year, and out of 411 in the Sunshine State, Clay County's very own Paterson Elementary placed in the top 10.

Mr. Speaker, 86 percent of the fourth and fifth graders showed massive learning gains in math last year, not to mention 98 percent of sixth graders. Talk about an A-plus in learning momentum.

Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am putting their report card on my refrigerator. Abby and I recently visited the campus and saw firsthand how educators at Paterson Elementary cultivate truly exceptional students by doing their job with hard work, love, and care.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing everyone at Paterson Elementary for their incredible recipe for success.

I say to Paterson Elementary: Keep up the great work, and go get 'em.

ORANGE PARK ELEMENTARY RANKED FIRST

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is that time of year: Everybody is debating on school rankings. Where does your school rank? Are you in the top 12?

Mr. Speaker, I can tell you who is number one. It is Orange Park Elementary in Orange Park, Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate Orange Park Elementary School's rise to the top. The Florida Department of Education recently released their rankings for the 2023–2024 school year, and out of 411 schools statewide, Clay County's very own Orange Park Elementary was ranked number one.

Mr. Speaker, 93 percent of fourth graders showed impressive learning

gains in math last year, as well as 91 percent of fifth graders. Mr. Speaker, 95 percent of sixth graders saw the same results.

How is that for a report card? Yes, Mr. Speaker, I am putting their report card on my refrigerator.

I commend all of the teachers and administrators at Orange Park Elementary for their passion and hard work in shaping the future of our great State: our kids.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing Orange Park Elementary for the incredible example they set for schools around the country. It is not easy being number one.

I say to Orange Park: Keep up the great work, and go get 'em.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 13 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Holy and eternal God, the source of light in our darkness and the hope of our world in these days and always, help us in opening our eyes to and rejoice in the hope that is ours on this day.

Teach us how to be patient in tribulation, to refrain from getting caught up in the arguments that pit one side against one another, to avoid fueling fires of discord and division. Show us instead how to reach within our souls and draw from Your deep well of mercy and Your steadfast loving kindness, that the urgency and sense of instancy to react would dissolve into forbearance with one another and a calm that will enable us to see Your will.

Even as we pause to bow our heads in this moment, may we be inspired to be constant in prayer, to realize that You walk with us throughout the day, ever available to receive our petitions, to hear our pleadings, and to respond to our deepest needs.

Reveal Your divine spirit among us today as we claim Your name in prayer.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's pro-

ceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina 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.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

GO DAWGS

(Mr. COLLINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to demand that Texas be sent back to the Big 12 and to congratulate the 2024 SEC champions, the Georgia Bulldogs. After the Dawgs' historic win over the Longhorns the SEC's championship over the weekend, which, by the way, was the second time Georgia has beat Texas this season, the Dawgs have proved, without a doubt, that Texas just ain't ready for SEC ball.

What an incredible win, Mr. Speaker. Not only did the Dawgs absolutely smoke Texas in overtime, but they did it with class, style, and a backup quarterback.

This is the 15th SEC championship in Georgia history, and the Dawgs aren't done yet.

As we move into the playoffs, don't let off the gas.

The Dawgs have got a national championship to bring back to Athens, and don't let anyone stop them.

Mr. Speaker, Go Dawgs.

INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

(Ms. PLASKETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge International Human Rights Day, observed annually on December 10, to commemorate the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

This landmark document was signed by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10, 1948, with contributions of representatives from all regions with different legal and cultural backgrounds to create a universal structure and standard of fundamental human rights.

This year's theme, "Our Rights, Our Future, Our Now," is a call to address the formidable year of human rights suppression, wartime atrocities, and transactional democracy, including renewed hostilities between Israel and Hamas, the ongoing crisis in Haiti, and backsliding democracies in the Sahel region of Africa.

Millions worldwide face violations of their basic rights, and the very system we rely upon is under threat.

Today, and every day, let us renew our commitment to the universal protection of human rights where all people are entitled to live with dignity, respect, and equality.

CELEBRATING COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION WEEK

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Computer Science Education Week.

Computer Science Education Week is a chance for students of all ages to learn about the importance and benefits of computer science and the endless professional opportunities that abound with a skills-based education.

In today's world, technology influences every sector: healthcare, agriculture, transportation, entertainment, and beyond.

Yet, many students are growing up without exposure to the foundational skills that power this innovation. Only about one-half of schools in the United States offer any kind of computer science coursework. That is a gap we cannot afford to ignore.

As co-chair of the bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I have been proud to work across the aisle to invest in cutting-edge CTE programming that, in many cases, now incorporates computer science courses.

Our Nation desperately needs skilled workers, and career and technical education is a win-win. It can offer rewarding professional futures for learners of all ages while closing the Nation's skill gap.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Computer Science Education Week, we recognize the importance of equipping our young people with the skills they need to navigate and contribute to an increasingly digital world.

CONGRESSIONAL APP CHALLENGE WINNERS

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate our 2024 Congressional App Challenge winners during Computer Science Education Week.

Lydia Denton, an 11th grader, and Bethany Denton, a 9th grader from

Wilson Early College Academy, were inspired to create BITES Bento Box after seeing a friend with diabetes struggle to track blood sugar and accurately dose insulin levels.

The BITES Bento app pairs a hardware Bento Box with an app to dynamically calculate the macros consumed in food. Using the Bento Box to get the most accurate information, the user can weigh food before and after eating.

Our winners, who are also sisters, demonstrated great application and innovation.

Congratulations to Lydia and Bethany on this fantastic accomplishment.

SAFEGUARDING OUR FREE SPEECH

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, the National Defense Authorization Act is more than just a defense bill. It is a safeguard for free speech.

How can that be?

It is because within its pages, Congress took an important step to protect the First Amendment by prohibiting the Department of Defense from partnering with advertising firms such as NewsGuard which unfairly targets conservative news sources as untrustworthy.

Stopping censorship and ensuring the government isn't using taxpayer dollars to silence viewpoints it doesn't like under the pretense of misinformation is essential for free press.

By including this provision, the NDAA ensures that Federal agencies can't act as gatekeepers for acceptable speech or manipulate the flow of information.

At a time when cancel culture seems to have no boundaries, this is a much-needed step to keep the government out of the business of picking winners and losers in the marketplace of ideas, especially in information that needs to get out to the public.

The NDAA sends a clear message: Free speech isn't a privilege; it is a right for us to know.

□ 1215

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SUZANNE MURRAY

(Mr. MAGAZINER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MAGAZINER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Suzanne Murray, a humanitarian and philanthropist who made it her life's work to advocate for women's education.

Born in Providence, Sue was an accomplished student who attended Henry Barnard School, the Lincoln School, and Radcliffe College, where she discovered a passion for education

and found the love of her life, Terry Murray.

The Murrays settled in Warwick and later Narragansett, raising five children.

Sue devoted her time giving back to her alma maters, serving as chair of the board of the Lincoln School and as a trustee at Radcliffe, among many other leadership positions.

In 2003, Lincoln named its middle school the Murray Middle School in her honor.

In 1997, Sue and Terry cofounded the Murray Family Charitable Foundation to support education, healthcare, and the arts in southern New England. She assisted in the founding of Sophia Academy, a middle school in Providence for girls. Her work to expand access to education, particularly for young women, has made a difference in countless lives across Rhode Island and beyond.

I join Sue's family and loved ones in celebrating her remarkable life.

CELEBRATING RETIREMENT OF PETER KIELTY

(Mrs. RODGERS of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my trusted adviser and friend, Peter Kielty, who is retiring at the end of this year.

Peter has served the House Energy and Commerce Committee with distinction for 25 years, including currently as general counsel.

Former Chair Fred Upton said: Peter worked as hard as the day is long and is a part of the legacy of its success.

Former Chair Greg Walden said: In a town filled with attention seekers, Peter worked harder than anyone I know to put the committee and its members in the spotlight and never himself. The committee, the Congress, and the country are better off because of Peter Kielty.

I echo those sentiments, but to me, it is his charm, wit, and relentless kindness that will be his lasting legacy for the committee.

I thank Peter for his public service, and I wish him and his wife, Mary, nothing but the best in the next chapter of their lives.

May God bless Peter.

END HUNGER NOW

(Mr. MCGOVERN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, before Thanksgiving, I joined the 15th Annual March for the Food Bank, a 43-mile journey through western Massachusetts, led by the incredible Monte Belmonte along with Andrew Morehouse, the director of the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, and his amazing team, countless advocates, students, and local elected officials.

Together, we broke records, raising over \$600,000, equivalent to 1.7 million meals for families in need. I am inspired every year by the resilience of the walkers and the generosity of the community.

I also want to recognize New England Public Media and 93.9, "The River," for amplifying this cause and inspiring others to join the fight, but let's be clear. Charity alone cannot end hunger. Congress must do its part by further improving our antihunger safety net and supporting programs like SNAP, WIC, TEFAP, and universal school meals nationwide.

The March for the Food Bank is one step we are taking in Massachusetts to improve food security. Hunger is solvable, and it is time for us to end hunger now.

PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the military protects the freedom of all American families, and we must provide adequate support to retain our ability to have peace through strength.

Tomorrow, the House will consider the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act to improve the lives of servicemembers and their families and strengthen national security with the energetic leadership of Chairman MIKE ROGERS.

This bill supports the deployment of the National Guard to the southern border, deters the Chinese Communist Party, combats anti-Semitism, blocks war criminal Putin, supports Israel, cuts inefficient programs, and guts woke programs at the Department of Defense.

The legislation improves the quality of life of servicemembers with housing upgrades, pay raises, lower healthcare wait times, better access to childcare, employment support for spouses, and more.

In conclusion, God bless our troops as the global war on terrorism continues. Open borders for dictators put all American families at risk of imminent 9/11 attacks, as warned by the FBI.

Trump will reinstitute existing laws to protect American families with peace through strength. I congratulate Chairman-elect BRIAN MAST.

CINDERELLA STORY OF ASU FOOTBALL

(Mr. STANTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a team from my district, a team that is a Cinderella story for all ages, the Arizona State University football team.

A couple of years ago, the team was in bad shape. This year, the team was coming off two straight seasons of only three wins, their worst stretch since the 1940s.

Coach Kenny Dillingham was hired a couple of years ago, the youngest head coach in Division 1 college football. He grew up in Phoenix. He worked hard at rebuilding this program.

Their star player, running back Cam Skattebo, had only one college scholarship coming out of high school. Analysts predicted that ASU would finish dead last in their first season in the Big 12 Conference, 16th out of 16 teams.

No one believed in them, but they believed in themselves. They are a testament to what anyone can achieve when they show up, work hard, and are good teammates. They won 11-2 this season, undefeated at home for the first time in 20 years.

Just this past Saturday, they had a massive victory over Iowa State and won the Big 12 Conference championship, solidifying their place as one of the best comeback stories in Arizona history.

They are now one of the best teams in the United States. No one is underestimating them now. Coach Dillingham and the people's Heisman winner, Cam Skattebo, and this team are easy to root for. They have activated our valley like never before. Onward to Victory and Forks Up.

CELEBRATING RETIREMENT OF COLONEL ROBERT R. "BART" BARTRAN

(Mr. EZELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Robert Bartran for his remarkable 36 years of dedicated service to the Mississippi Army National Guard.

Over the course of his distinguished career, Colonel Bartran has exemplified what it means to be a true leader—selfless, committed, and always ready to serve.

His service has not only protected our Nation but also strengthened our State and enriched the communities that he has sworn to defend. He has answered the call of duty with distinction, representing the State of Mississippi with pride and honor.

In his role as the director of the counterdrug program for the Mississippi National Guard and as commandant of the Regional Counterdrug Training Academy at Naval Air Station Meridian, Colonel Bartran has made an incredible mark on the battle against illegal drugs and organized crime.

His leadership has not only advanced the mission but has also guided countless servicemembers, empowering them to make a difference in their own communities.

His vision and dedication remain a steady force, driving the success of fu-

ture generations of guardsmen and -women.

On behalf of all Mississippians, we are deeply grateful for Colonel Bartran's extraordinary contributions to our State, Nation, and military.

I thank Colonel Bartran for his tireless commitment, leadership, and unwavering service. As he enters this new chapter of his life, we wish him nothing but success, happiness, and fulfillment.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7673, LIBERTY IN LAUNDRY ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 4199, JUDICIAL UNDERSTAFFING DELAYS GETTING EMERGENCIES SOLVED ACT OF 2024; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5009, WILDLIFE INNOVATION AND LONGEVITY DRIVER REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 1612 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1612

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (H.R. 7673) to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing or enforcing energy conservation standards for clothes washers that are not cost-effective or technologically feasible, and for other purposes. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 2. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to consider in the House the bill (S. 4199) to authorize additional district judges for the district courts and convert temporary judgeships. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to commit.

SEC. 3. Upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 5009) to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-52. The Senate amendment and the motion shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority

member of the Committee on Armed Services or their respective designees. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion.

SEC. 4. The chair of the Committee on Armed Services may insert in the Congressional Record not later than December 10, 2024, such material as he may deem explanatory of the Senate amendment and the motion specified in section 3 of this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOST). The gentleman from Georgia is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to the gentlewoman from New Mexico (Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ), pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume. During consideration of this resolution, all time yielded is for the purpose of debate only.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, last night, the Rules Committee met and reported a rule, House Resolution 1612, providing for consideration of three measures, including the Senate amendment to H.R. 5009, the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

The rule makes in order a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on Armed Services or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment with an amendment consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 118-52.

The rule provides for 1 hour of debate on the motion, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Armed Services Committee or their respective designees.

The rule also provides that the chair of the Armed Services Committee may insert into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, not later than December 10, 2024, such material as he may deem explanatory of the Senate amendment and the motion specified in section 3.

Additionally, the rule provides for the consideration of H.R. 7673, the Liberty in Laundry Act, under a closed rule.

The rule provides for 1 hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees, and provides for one motion to recommit.

Further, the rule provides for consideration of S. 4199, the Judicial Understaffing Delays Getting Emergencies Solved Act of 2024, under a closed rule.

The rule provides for 1 hour of debate, equally divided and controlled by

the chair and ranking member of the Committee on the Judiciary or their respective designees, and provides for one motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support the rule and the underlying piece of legislation, beginning with the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

Mr. Speaker, under the leadership of Speaker MIKE JOHNSON, Chairman MIKE ROGERS, Ranking Member ADAM SMITH, and additional colleagues in the House and Senate, the fiscal year 2025 National Defense Authorization Act represents the result of months of bipartisan and bicameral collaboration.

It is a bill that balances the needs of our servicemen and -women and the fiscal challenges facing our Nation. The NDAA significantly improves the quality of life for our servicemembers, deters our adversaries, supports our allies, and focuses on military readiness and our national security.

Our country is facing serious threats to our security and freedom at levels that we have not seen since World War II. It is imperative for our national security that our servicemembers and their families are supported so that they can focus on their mission.

Ahead of the NDAA, Chairman ROGERS established a panel to evaluate the quality of life for our servicemembers and found that servicemembers' standards of living are a major cause of low morale and family stress. This undermines our recruitment, retention, and military readiness.

□ 1230

The NDAA puts our servicemembers and their families first and addresses many of the issues found by the Quality of Life Panel. This legislation boosts compensation, improves housing, expands access to medical care, increases access to childcare, and provides support for the spouses of servicemembers.

Through the tireless work of the House Armed Services Committee and Rules Committee staff, the NDAA advances important policies to support our warfighters at home and abroad and deters our adversaries.

The National Defense Authorization Act ensures that our Nation's military is organized, trained, and equipped to deter our adversaries. Communist China, Russia, Iran, North Korea, and any other nation or terrorist group must know that they will never succeed in a war with the United States of America.

To strengthen our defense, the NDAA supports the continued modernization of our nuclear deterrent. It invests in our naval fleet, increases innovation, and revitalizes our defense industrial base to ensure our warfighters have the capabilities they need to win on future battlefields.

The NDAA restores American deterrence by restoring lethality, defending Israel, securing our southern border,

and providing oversight and accountability.

We must continue to modernize our military. The NDAA fosters innovation by providing for the development and fielding of artificial intelligence, hypersonics, quantum computing, and autonomous systems.

The NDAA builds and maintains the overmatch we need to deter China. This legislation counters Communist China's maligned global influence in Africa, South America, and Central America. The NDAA removes Communist China from our supply chains and prevents CCP spies from infiltrating our research institutions.

The NDAA bolsters Taiwan's defense and support of our Indo-Pacific allies as they work to deter our shared adversaries. This legislation also supports our ally Israel as they defend themselves from Hamas terrorists by fully funding cooperative missile defense programs and expanding emerging technology research and development efforts.

The NDAA reforms and improves the acquisition process by streamlining the budgeting, milestone, and contracting processes making them more efficient, user-friendly, and less costly.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, the NDAA includes language that saves our taxpayers over \$31 billion by cutting inefficient programs, obsolete weapons, and Pentagon bureaucracy.

We live in the greatest Nation on Earth, and it is imperative that we support those who protect our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, the fiscal year 2025 NDAA is another step in that direction.

Now, moving on to H.R. 7673, the Liberty in Laundry Act.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is simple. It clarifies the intent of the Energy Policy Conservation Act of 1975 by prohibiting the Secretary of Energy from imposing new efficiency mandates or enforcing existing standards for washing machines unless these standards: one, are cost-effective and technologically feasible; two, save the consumers money; and three, save a significant amount of energy.

The Energy Policy Conservation Act of 1975 already requires the Department of Energy to follow specific criteria for prescribing new efficiency standards and the DOE may only propose the new standard if the new standard results in a significant conservation of energy, is technologically feasible, and economically justified.

The DOE, under President Biden, has consistently ignored the consumer protections built into the underlying statute and has used efficiency and appliance standards to pursue climate objectives over consumer choice. They have attempted to impose these mandates on every appliance in our homes: gas stoves, clothes dryers, dishwashers, refrigerators, and air-conditioners.

These mandates have increased the cost of appliances, undercut appliance production quality, and jeopardized

consumer choice. It is just another example of executive overreach that has made the cost of living for everyday Americans more expensive.

If the Biden administration had proposed standards in accordance with the law, H.R. 7673 wouldn't be coming to the floor.

Finally, we have S. 4199, the JUDGES Act of 2024. It is another simple bill, Mr. Speaker.

Congress last comprehensively updated judgeships for the district courts in the Judicial Improvements Act of 1990. Since then, the population of the United States has grown by nearly 100 million people and Federal caseload has increased by 40 percent.

In the last 20 years, civil cases pending more than 3 years have increased 346 percent and the average time between filing cases and trial is over 2 years, but often it is 3 to 4 years.

This bill is based off the 2023 recommendations of the Judicial Conference of the United States and increases district judgeships by 66 over time, splitting the new judges into six tranches across at least two Presidential administrations.

Additionally, S. 4199 amends certain districts in Utah, Texas, and California, and requires a GAO report on the caseload of district courts and courts of appeals with recommendations on how to alleviate any caseload-related challenges.

Mr. Speaker, to simplify it further, this bill requires the President to appoint, with the advice and consent of the Senate, new judgeships for certain district courts by each of the years 2025, 2027, 2029, 2031, 2033, and 2035.

That is across six different Congresses, across three different Presidential terms, and at least two different Presidential administrations.

This bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent in August. I will say that again, Mr. Speaker. This bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent in August, and the House should now do its part to address the workload demands in the courts.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to consideration of these important pieces of legislation and urge passage of this rule.

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman and my colleague from Rules (Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT) for the customary 30 minutes, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, families all across the United States want Congress to help lower the cost of living, whether it is the single mom working to put enough food on the table for her kids or an elder who tries to stretch their Social Security as much as possible. Millions of Americans also worry about the cost of their utilities. Indeed, utility bills are at the heart of our most basic needs. They are some of the highest costs that working families have to think about each month.

H.R. 7673, the Liberty in Laundry Act—yes, I know. Some chuckle just by hearing the title—but the Liberty in Laundry Act betrays Americans' desire for lower costs because it increases utility bills. Energy-efficient washing machines can save the average family up to \$285 over the washing machine's lifetime.

Republicans would take away these savings with these bills. This isn't the first appliance where Republicans are raising costs. Republicans are making your refrigerators, dishwashers, and stoves even more expensive to operate. With these bills attacking energy efficiency, they are definitely not looking after American working families.

Who are they really protecting?

With just 6 more days in the congressional calendar this year, we have a laundry list. Indeed, we need to talk about laundry, but it is the laundry list of unfinished business that Congress should be doing for the American people.

However, my colleagues across the aisle decided that a washing machine is more important than Social Security, the farm bill, nutrition programs, and so much more.

I am here to tell you, when I am in New Mexico, my constituents never ask me what I am doing about washers and dryers unless, of course, I am lost in the hardware store.

They do ask, however, about saving Social Security and lowering the cost of medicine. While Democrats have worked hard to protect Social Security and lower healthcare costs, what do we hear from the other side? Trump's billionaire bros were just here and they said his plans would "necessarily involve some temporary hardship," from billionaire bro Musk.

Now, I need to tell you, if you are a billionaire, a little bit of hardship, you are not going to face with some of the cuts they are talking. Working families will suffer.

This rule also includes the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025. I am pleased that so much of this year's NDAA is rooted in improving the quality of life for our servicemembers and their families.

These measures, some of which were described by my colleague, include things like the 14.5 percent pay raise for junior enlisted servicemembers and 4.5 percent pay raise for all other servicemembers. They are going to provide our military personnel with the resources they deserve.

Indeed, it is the care for our servicemembers and the shared goal of increased military readiness that typically makes the NDAA very bipartisan. That is why it is, indeed, disappointing that the Republican majority decided to use the NDAA to attack military families with the inclusion of a provision to attack transgender children.

As Ranking Member SMITH eloquently discussed at Rules last night, for the first time, the NDAA is attacking a family member's right to choose

the healthcare they need for their kids. He pointed out that there are thousands of families who rely on medical care to improve the lives of children who suffer from gender dysphoria.

Imagine, you are serving in the Marines because you and your family love your country, but your child is suffering. He comes to you, she comes to you, their pain is so great that they tell you they are contemplating suicide. Of course, as a parent, you want to do everything you can to help your child, and the medical profession has tools that can help. They can help you treat your child, save your child, make sure your child leads a healthy, happy life, but Congress is now telling that marine, you can't get the medical help your child needs.

Congress is telling that marine: We know better.

The Committee on Armed Services did not ask for this ban on transgender healthcare for minors. That was explained to us last night in Rules. This did not come out of the Committee whose goal is to look at armed services. No, this proposed ban was inserted by Speaker JOHNSON.

What Republicans are doing is interfering with a parent's ability to get healthcare for their children.

Why do Republicans keep interfering in personal healthcare decisions?

We have Republican politicians sitting on the examination table when a parent is trying to get their children care just like they sit on the examination table when women are trying to get reproductive healthcare.

This mean provision is a stain on the bipartisan NDAA.

I don't know why Republicans keep launching culture wars when the NDAA should focus on preventing wars.

Finally, the rule also includes the JUDGES Act, adding Federal judges to ensure we guarantee justice in America. We worked on a bipartisan bargain to do just that. Democrats and Republicans negotiated a good, fair deal to pass this bill, but the deal was to pass it before the election so we could ensure impartiality before anybody knew who had won.

Republican leadership went back on that deal and refused to move the bill until Donald Trump won. That is a huge breach of trust.

How are we supposed to negotiate unless the other side keeps their promise?

Republicans broke their word and broke the deal.

Time and again, the Republican majority shows the American people that their priorities are power and partisanship. They did it again with a closed rule for each of these bills, so Congress cannot debate any amendments that were offered.

Members should have the opportunity to debate. The American people should have the opportunity to hear where their Representatives stand on these issues, where they will vote on amendments, but we keep getting denied the right to have any amendments

debated on this floor in the people's House.

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

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I will take just a second to read to the American citizens the provision that the Democratic Party, at least some in the Democratic Party, are using as an excuse to vote against the National Defense Authorization Act.

I will read this word for word: "Medical interventions for the treatment of gender dysphoria that could result in sterilization may not be provided to a child under the age of 18."

Let me read that one more time, Mr. Speaker. "Medical interventions for the treatment of gender dysphoria that could result in sterilization may not be provided to a child under the age of 18."

□ 1245

That is the provision that they are talking about that is their excuse for voting against the National Defense Authorization Act.

We are talking about children under the age of 18, and we are saying that we are not going to allow a surgical procedure on them that could lead to or result in sterilization.

I don't understand why we are even having this discussion. It defies logic to me that it is even legal to do that to a child under the age of 18. These are permanent and irreversible procedures, and they should not be allowed.

Mr. Speaker, they certainly shouldn't be an excuse to vote against the National Defense Authorization Act.

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I point out, once again, that these are decisions, individual decisions with regard to gender care that a marine, a naval officer, or enlisted personnel are making in consultation with their doctors and for their family. We are saying we know better.

I would also point out what happens if your child has not gotten the care they need and have taken their life? Fifty-six percent of transgender youth attempt suicide.

When the Republican Governor of Utah was vetoing a transgender ban, his words were so moving. He said: I don't really understand this, but it is not my place to understand those decisions. This is what haunts me is his statement: "But I want them to live." That is a quote. "But I want them to live."

We should want all of our children to live, and we should let the parents of those children take actions so that their children can live.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 4½ minutes to the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Rules and my dear friend and mentor.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I feel like I am living in an alternative reality right now.

Liberty in laundry? I mean, liberty in laundry? Are you kidding me, Mr. Speaker? I mean, you can't make this stuff up. Who came up with the title? ChatGPT? What is next, changing the national motto to "lint free or die"?

It is no surprise coming from the same Republican Party that gave us the Refrigerator Freedom Act and the Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act. I mean, is something wrong with them? I ask that seriously, Mr. Speaker. Americans voted for lower grocery prices, not whatever the hell this is. This is insane.

As I listen to the gentleman on the other side talk about lowering costs for consumers, I have to wonder what bill is he talking about because it is definitely not this one.

This bill gives big companies license to cut corners and make bad appliances that use more electricity and water. I mean, to put it simply, they object to appliances that save consumers money on their bills. What the hell planet are these guys living on where that saves people money?

I remember, Mr. Speaker, when a washing machine used to last 30 years. People could go their whole lives without buying a new refrigerator. Now they break all the time. Why is that? It is because these big, huge companies cut corners and because my Republican friends are letting them do it right here and right now.

That is what this is all about. That is the Republican solution: Let the appliance companies cut corners so they can make a buck, say it will lower costs, and then turn around and act surprised when everyone's crappy washing machine breaks down in 2 years.

This bill is about one thing. It is about making money for big corporations at the expense of everyone else. That is all my Republican friends care about.

Then we have the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2025. I have to tell you, the military budget is out of control. We are looking at over a trillion dollars. I mean, does anyone here realize how much money that is? This is for an agency that cannot even pass an audit. Not once in 33 years has the DOD been able to pass an audit.

Meanwhile, I hear from every one of my friends on the other side of the aisle about the deficit, the deficit, the deficit. There are long diatribes about the national debt. Where is that energy and passion today as we are talking about an agency that probably wastes more money in a second than most people earn in a year?

The kicker here is that all this money we spend on the military, a huge chunk of it doesn't even go to our troops. It goes to defense contractors. It goes to their CEOs. It goes to the military-industrial complex. There is no discussion of that on the floor today—just more money, more money, more money for the Pentagon.

When does it all end?

Don't worry, though, the Republicans found time to strip out language on in

vitro fertilization for our servicemembers. They found a way to deny people IVF because of their extreme views on everything under the Sun. Women's rights, family rights, you name it, they are against it.

They also found a way to talk about transgender people, their weird obsession. They talk about transgender people and bathrooms more than they talk about jobs and the economy. They never miss an opportunity to divide people, to double down on the cruelty.

Once again, the agenda of this majority is just all screwed up, and today's rule is just the latest example of how wrong their priorities are.

Mr. Speaker, before I forget, I have one last thing. This rule that we are debating provides for three more completely closed rules on legislation. This is the most closed Congress in history. This is the most authoritarian House in U.S. history. My colleagues are making Putin proud. But I will tell you this: It is lousy for democracy.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I do want to acknowledge that the citizens did vote for lower gas prices, grocery prices, secure borders, and extension of the Tax Code.

I again want to read the provision of the bill: Medical interventions for the treatment of gender dysphoria that could result in sterilization may not be provided to a child—a child, Mr. Speaker—under the age of 18.

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, if we defeat the previous question, I will offer an amendment to the rule to bring up H.R. 9643, a bill to protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization.

Mr. Speaker, Republicans have been relentless on their attacks against reproductive healthcare rights, including IVF treatments that are so important to millions of Americans hoping to start a family.

Just recently, the House-passed and Senate-passed versions of the NDAA contained provisions to improve IVF access for our servicemembers. However, what did Republicans do? They stripped those provisions from the legislation we are considering today. They stripped the recommendations to allow access to IVF treatment.

Simply put, that is why we must defeat the previous question and pass H.R. 9643, to ensure that IVF treatment is protected for all Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of my amendment into the RECORD along with any extraneous material immediately prior to the vote on the previous question.

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

There was no objection.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. WILD) to discuss our proposal.

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, there are only 2 weeks left of this Congress and I, along with many of my colleagues, want to use that time to do useful things that will actually help the American people.

Instead, House Republicans and Speaker JOHNSON have us debating the Liberty in Laundry Act, but I am here today to urge my colleagues to consider a vote on the Right to IVF Act, a bill that I have been proud to lead this Congress, which would protect the right of Americans across the country to receive fertility treatments.

I wish we were not facing unprecedented times, where even our most basic freedoms, including the freedom to start or grow your family, are at risk.

Like so many hopeful parents, I struggled with my own fertility when having my children, and I am so grateful that there were no government restrictions on what was available to me. That would have made an already heartbreaking situation even more heartbreaking.

Unfortunately, politicians and judges across the country are now threatening to strip hopeful parents of that right. Imagine looking at a couple who has been hoping and praying for a baby for years and has struggled to conceive or a cancer patient who has been told by their oncologist that treatment could destroy their fertility, and then telling them that they can no longer turn to IVF.

Imagine a military couple in the midst of IVF treatments in one State where they are permitted, then being transferred to a new post in a State that forbids IVF.

Since long before my time in Congress, I have believed that judges and politicians have no place in your bedroom or doctor's office, and that your personal medical decisions are yours alone to make. That is why I am proud to be the House lead of the Right to IVF Act, which would ensure hopeful parents across the country have access to the fertility treatments they need and to expand insurance coverage to make those treatments more affordable.

With an incoming administration that has promised to roll back reproductive rights, it is more crucial than ever that we pass the Right to IVF Act and prevent access to fertility treatments from being swept up in all the dangerous rhetoric and legislation around embryos and personhood.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

Ms. WILD. Mr. Speaker, instead of wasting time with messaging bills that have no chance of becoming law, Speaker JOHNSON and House Republicans should be taking steps that would actually solve problems for the American people. Please put the Right

to IVF Act on the floor for a vote today, and vote "no" on the previous question so that we can protect Americans' right to build their families free from government interference.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I just want to tell you a couple of the great things the National Defense Authorization Act does: 14.5 percent pay raise for our junior enlisted, and a 4.5 percent pay raise for all other servicemembers. It fixes some of the cost of living and the basic needs allowances for our soldiers, and it authorizes an additional \$954 million over the Pentagon's request for housing and facility maintenance accounts.

It authorizes over \$569 million to build new family housing units, \$1.2 billion to renovate and build new barracks.

It increases access to childcare, authorizes over \$176 million for the design and construction of new childcare centers. It fully funds childcare fee assistance programs to eliminate all fee assistance wait-lists for eligible families.

Mr. Speaker, there are a lot of good things in this National Defense Authorization Act. It takes care of our military servicemen and -women, and it makes sure that we are safe.

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON), another distinguished member of the Rules Committee and my friend.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to a rule that demonstrates much of what is wrong with the 118th Congress under this Republican majority, primarily a failure to do the people's business in a timely and serious manner.

This rule has three bills. First, there is S. 4199, which addresses serious understaffing in our Federal courts, which impedes access to justice for all Americans. This carefully negotiated, bipartisan bill should have passed months ago, but it has been delayed in the House to seek partisan political advantage in the staffing of those new positions.

Next, we have the Liberty in Laundry Act, part of the House Republican spin cycle to undermine energy efficiency standards for common household appliances. Like the companion bills that have been offered throughout this term, it would hamper the process of setting energy efficiency standards upon which consumers rely to save money and operate their homes more efficiently.

□ 1300

Finally, and most distressingly, this rule puts forward a politicized version of the National Defense Authorization Act. For 60 years, Congress has worked in a bipartisan manner to draft the NDAA, coming together to put our troops, veterans, and national security above political considerations. The FY25 NDAA breaks from this tradition.

I am deeply opposed to a provision in this NDAA that will prohibit the children of U.S. servicemembers from receiving medical treatment if they are diagnosed with gender dysphoria. This provision has no business being in an NDAA. At a time when we are struggling to recruit and retain soldiers, ensuring access to medical care for servicemembers and their families is more important than ever, but this bill, as written, will take away medically necessary care.

The evidence is clear. Gender-affirming care of various types is life-changing and lifesaving for the children who need it. Our soldiers need to be able to focus on their missions, not worrying whether their children are able to get the medical treatment that they need.

In order to illustrate the impact of this political attack, I would like to share the following story from a military spouse whose family would be harmed by this provision of the NDAA. They write:

My spouse has proudly served in the U.S. Air Force for 22 years, dedicating their life to protecting our country. Over the years, our family has moved across the Nation and the world, embracing the challenges and opportunities that military life brings.

One of the greatest blessings of this life has been the assurance of quality healthcare for our family. It has been a cornerstone of our stability and a key reason why my spouse continues to serve. Knowing we could depend on the military healthcare system gave us the peace of mind to focus on the sacrifices required of us as a military family.

However, I am now writing to you with great concern and a heavy heart. Recent legislative efforts to restrict or eliminate access to gender-affirming care threaten not only the well-being of my trans child but also the very values of dignity and respect that our military stands for.

This care has been transformative for my child, giving them confidence, joy, and a sense of self that we had only glimpsed before. To have this vital care stripped away feels cruel and unjust. For lawmakers to target military families, families who already sacrifice so much for this Nation, only compounds the pain.

My spouse has given 22 years to the service of this country, and now it feels as though the country is turning its back on us.

I am thankful to this military family for sharing their story.

The ability to obtain medical care for one's child, including gender-affirming care, should be between a parent, a child, and their doctor, and politicians should stay the hell out of it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

Ms. SCANLON. Mr. Speaker, for all of these reasons, I oppose today's rule.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, again, as long as that treatment did not result in the sterilization of a child under the age of 18, then there is not a provision in this legislation that should be a problem.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. McCORMICK).

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 7673, S. 4199, and H.R. 5009, the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

I am confident that this year's NDAA will have a lasting, positive impact on our national security, and I urge my colleagues to support the rule providing for its consideration.

The fiscal year 2025 NDAA authorizes targeted, responsible investments in critical technologies and future capabilities while restoring our military's focus on lethality.

I served with sailors, marines, and Army folks from all walks of life during my time on Active Duty. We all bled red and were all green at heart, and we were all united in our mission to protect the United States.

Putting our differences under the microscope only divides us and distracts us from our mission, so I am pleased that the NDAA gets things like DEI and critical race theory out of the military's divisive issues.

I am also glad that it reauthorizes language I put in last year's NDAA to improve the Defense Department's transparency on how it works with entities that discriminate against conservative voices by steering advertisement dollars away from them.

I was also proud to champion specific provisions in this bill that will help us deter and, if necessary, defeat our allies in the future fight. Things like using drones to clear land mines, changing how we do aircraft maintenance by using AI to bring down costs and improve readiness results, and making it easier for the Marine Corps to procure critical capabilities like LPDs and CH-53K helicopters will all help us maintain our edge over our adversaries using these techniques.

Perhaps most importantly, the NDAA will drastically improve our servicemembers' quality of life, especially for the junior enlisted. The least we can do for our fellow Americans who take up the mantle of service is to make sure they have good housing, quality medical care, and the tools and resources to raise a family in the military if they so choose.

This NDAA deters our adversaries, supports our allies, and exercises Congress' lawful oversight mandate to cut down on waste and improve the way our military does business within the private sector.

Mr. Speaker, I express my sincerest thanks to Chairman ROGERS, Ranking Member SMITH, my fellow committee members, and all the staff for their work on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have helped with this bill, and I urge swift passage for the rule and swift passage of the fiscal year 2025 NDAA.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would inquire of the gentlewoman if she has any additional speakers.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, indeed, I do have additional speakers.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Vermont (Ms. BALINT).

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, this is a message to all of my colleagues voting on the NDAA and to Americans who might be watching: You are being misled.

Our most cynical Republican colleagues are telling you that Democrats are pushing for sterilization and surgery for kids in military families. Let me be absolutely clear: This is not true. That is not what is going on here.

Here is what is true: TRICARE currently covers appropriate gender-affirming hormone therapy for all military dependents, period, the kind of care that millions of doctors support as safe and effective.

Now, Republicans want to restrict this, but only for trans kids. They are targeting trans kids and their families and saying what kind of healthcare is appropriate for them. This is a very tiny percentage of the population, and they are using this opportunity to scapegoat them.

We know that appropriate and medically recommended care saves lives. We know this. It is well documented. Why wouldn't we want to do everything that we can to save the lives of children?

I am a member of a military family. I was born on an Army base in Germany when my dad served in the military. Military families carry the weight of the world on their shoulders. They shouldn't have to worry whether their kids can receive the lifesaving care that they need.

Our servicemembers have enough to worry about. Why do Republicans want to make it even more complicated for them by limiting healthcare options for their families?

I am here to say it absolutely loud and clear: Military families deserve the healthcare that they need. This includes gender-affirming care options for their children.

Servicemembers across this country and across the world deserve so much better than what they are getting from House Republicans.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, once again, I will read the provision word for word: "Medical interventions for the treatment of gender dysphoria that could result in sterilization may not be provided to a child under the age of 18." That is word for word the language in the bill.

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

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, we have heard from my Democratic colleagues as we have raised our voices in opposition to this rule. We have raised our voices in oppo-

sition to this rule for numerous reasons.

One is that it is not really taking care of the people's business, of their most pressing concerns—liberty and laundry, really?—when we could be addressing key things like funding the government, protecting Social Security, passing the farm bill, and making sure that we have the nutrition programs so children do not go to school hungry and stay hungry.

We need to protect education. We need to do all of these things that the American people are asking for, and what do we get instead? We get their bills for liberty and laundry.

This is a continuation of their other bills, you know, stoves, refrigerators, all kinds of things that mean nothing to the American people but that mean a lot to those big corporations and those billionaires.

Time and time again, Republicans have come to this floor and told us who they stand with. They stand with the richest Americans. They stand with the billionaires. They stand with the wealthy corporations who do not want any regulation.

When they say no regulation, what they are saying is don't pass the kinds of regulations that save lives, don't pass the kinds of regulations that make sure that we save money. That is when we will constantly point out every time they do it: Who are you standing with? The wealthiest, the billionaires.

We are standing with working families.

Then, we have the NDAA, something that is usually and almost always bipartisan. You do not hear the ranking member of the Armed Services Committee come before the committee and describe how these kinds of provisions are poison pills, how they are a stain on bipartisanship.

My colleague across the aisle keeps getting up and pointing out one provision, but that provision fails to acknowledge that the lack of care leads to death, leads to suicide. You are standing in between a father, a mother, and their child. You are standing in between the parents, the doctors, and their child.

I think that Americans deserve more. We deserve American families, especially those who, as the story from the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. SCANLON) said, have sacrificed so much for our Nation, who go and travel from one base to another base to another base knowing they can get care for their children.

Members on the other side say: No, no, no, we know better than you. We know better than the parent and the doctor as to what care your child should get.

That is insulting to our marines, to those who serve in our Navy, to those who are deployed overseas and on our bases around our own country. They deserve better.

That is why we are calling out that provision, because it interferes with a

family's ability to get care for their children. Because of these tragic problems and the fact that you don't let us debate anything—all those amendments that were offered, no, we never get to debate any of those, so the American people don't know. They can't hear us talk about these things. This is one of the only times we get to come to talk about these things.

For these reasons, I urge a "no" vote on the rule, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I think every American knows that when agencies pass rules and regulations just for the sake of passing rules and regulations, those rules and regulations increase the costs of consumer goods. It doesn't hurt the billionaire. It hurts the working Americans.

This week, we have the ability to advance significant legislation in the House of Representatives. In fiscal year 2025, the National Defense Authorization Act fully authorizes our national defense and improves efficiency while eliminating wasteful spending and harmful programs.

□ 1315

Mr. Speaker, it strengthens our military and takes important steps to address the security threats Americans face from our adversaries including China, Iran, and foreign terrorist organizations.

It improves our military readiness, provides robust support to our ally, Israel, and supports law enforcement operations at our southern border.

Critically, Mr. Speaker, it focuses on improving the quality of life of our servicemembers and their families who sacrifice so much to defend us. This NDAA provides a 14.5 percent pay raise for our junior enlisted servicemembers and a 4.5 percent pay raise for all other servicemembers.

The NDAA has been enacted into law every year for 63 years, and I encourage all Members to do what is best for our military and national security and support this legislation.

Additionally, H.R. 7673, the Liberty in Laundry Act, pushes back on executive overreach that is increasing the costs of appliances and diminishing their quality.

Again, H.R. 7673 clarifies the intent of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act by prohibiting the Secretary of Energy from imposing new efficiency mandates or enforcing existing standards for washing machines, unless they are cost effective and technologically feasible, not likely to result in any additional costs to Americans, and save a significant amount of energy.

Again, passing additional rules and regulations that increase the cost of people's appliances doesn't matter to the billionaire. It does matter to the working American.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this bill which supports energy

efficiency standards. As long as the technology exists to meet them, they don't take more money out of the pockets of hardworking Americans, and they actually save energy.

Finally, S. 4199, the JUDGES Act of 2024, adds 66 judgeships over three different Presidential terms. It fairly works to address the workload demands in our courts. I call on my colleagues to join me in voting "yes" on the previous question and "yes" on the rule.

Mr. Speaker, I urge on my colleagues to support this legislation which passed out of the Senate unanimously.

The material previously referred to by Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ is as follows:

The material previously referred to by Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ is as follows:

AN AMENDMENT TO H. RES. 1612 OFFERED BY MS. LEGER FERNANDEZ OF NEW MEXICO

At the end of the resolution, add the following:

SEC. 5. Immediately upon adoption of this resolution, the House shall proceed to the consideration in the House of the bill (H.R. 9643) to protect and expand nationwide access to fertility treatment, including in vitro fertilization. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. The bill shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the bill and on any amendment thereto, to final passage without intervening motion except: (1) one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees; and (2) one motion to recommit.

SEC. 6. Clause 1(c) of rule XIX shall not apply to the consideration of H.R. 9643.

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and I move the previous question on the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess for a period of less than 15 minutes.

Accordingly (at 1 o'clock and 17 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1330

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MURPHY) at 1 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

The motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 4367;

Ordering the previous question on House Resolution 1612;

Adoption of House Resolution 1612, if ordered; and

The motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 3613.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

THOMAS R. CARPER WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 4367) to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GRAVES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 399, nays 18, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 493]

YEAS—399

Adams	Brownley	Cohen
Aderholt	Buchanan	Cole
Aguilar	Bucshon	Collins
Alford	Budzinski	Comer
Allen	Burchett	Connolly
Allred	Burlison	Correa
Amo	Bush	Costa
Amodei	Calvert	Courtney
Armstrong	Cammack	Craig
Arrington	Caraveo	Crawford
Auchincloss	Carbajal	Crenshaw
Babin	Cárdenas	Crockett
Bacon	Carey	Crow
Baird	Carl	Cuellar
Balderson	Carson	Curtis
Balint	Carter (GA)	D'Esposito
Banks	Carter (LA)	Davids (KS)
Barr	Carter (TX)	Davidson
Barragán	Cartwright	Davis (IL)
Bean (FL)	Casar	Davis (NC)
Beatty	Case	De La Cruz
Bentz	Casten	Dean (PA)
Bera	Castor (FL)	DeGette
Bergman	Castro (TX)	DeLauro
Beyer	Chavez-DeRemer	DeBene
Bice	Cherfilus-	Deluzio
Bilirakis	McCormick	DeSaulnier
Bishop (GA)	Chu	DesJarlais
Bishop (NC)	Ciscomani	Diaz-Balart
Blumenauer	Clark (MA)	Dingell
Blunt Rochester	Clarke (NY)	Doggett
Bonamici	Cleaver	Donalds
Bost	Cline	Duarte
Bowman	Cloud	Duncan
Boyle (PA)	Clyburn	Dunn (FL)
Brown	Clyde	Edwards

Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Fong
Foster
Foustee
Foxy
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, Scott
Frost
Fry
Fulcher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez, V.
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood

LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Lee Carter
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Mansueti
Matsui
McBath
McClain
McClellan
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
McIver
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Nickel
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler

Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Rulli
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schneider
Scholten
Schriber
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Suozzi
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dwyne
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wied
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NAYS—18
Biggs
Boebert
Brecheen
Crane
Good (VA)
Gosar
Grothman
Hageman
Lopez
McClintock
Mooney
Norman

NOT VOTING—13
Burgess
Evans
Granger
Greene (GA)
Grijalva
Lieu
Massie
McCaul
Newhouse
Rutherford
Palmer
Perry
Rosendale
Roy
Self
Spartz
Scott, David
Steel
Waltz

□ 1402
Messrs. LOPEZ and GROTHMAN changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 7673, LIBERTY IN LAUNDRY ACT; PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF S. 4199, JUDICIAL UNDERSTAFFING DELAYS GETTING EMERGENCIES SOLVED ACT OF 2024; AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5009, WILDLIFE INNOVATION AND LONGEVITY DRIVER REAUTHORIZATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on ordering the previous question on the resolution (H. Res. 1612) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7673) to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing or enforcing energy conservation standards for clothes washers that are not cost-effective or technologically feasible, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (S. 4199), to authorize additional district judges for the district courts and convert temporary judge-ships; and providing for consideration of Senate Amendment to the bill (H.R. 5009), to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on ordering the previous question.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 210, nays 205, not voting 16, as follows:

[Roll No. 494]
YEAS—210
Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Buchson
Burchett
Burlison
Calvert

Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Flood
Fong
Foxy
Franklin, Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Gonzales, Tony
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Lee Carter
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Lopez
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luna
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis
Maloy
Mann
Mast
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Nickel
Norcross
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pelosi
Peltola
Pence
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler

NAYS—205
Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Amo
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragan
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Bush
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez, V.
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kennedy
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Lee Carter
Leger Fernandez

Table listing names of House members and their states, organized in multiple columns.

NOT VOTING—16

Table listing names of House members who did not vote.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1408

So the previous question was ordered. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded. The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution. The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote. A recorded vote was ordered. The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote. The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 211, noes 207, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 495]

AYES—211

Table listing names of House members who voted 'Ayes'.

NOES—207

Table listing names of House members who voted 'Noes'.

YEAS—410

Table listing names of House members who voted 'Yeas'.

NOT VOTING—13

Table listing names of House members who did not vote.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1414

So the resolution was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded. A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

IMPROVING FEDERAL BUILDING SECURITY ACT OF 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 3613) to require Facility Security Committees to respond to security recommendations issued by the Federal Protective Service relating to facility security, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered. The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 410, nays 6, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 496]

YEAS—410

Table listing names of House members who voted 'Yeas'.

Clark (MA) Hill
 Clarke (NY) Himes
 Cleaver Hinson
 Cline Horsford
 Cloud Houchin
 Clyburn Houlihan
 Cole Hoyle (OR)
 Collins Hudson
 Comer Huffman
 Connolly Huizenga
 Correa Hunt
 Costa Issa
 Courtney Ivey
 Craig Jackson (IL)
 Crawford Jackson (NC)
 Crenshaw Jackson (TX)
 Crockett Jacobs
 Crow James
 Cuellar Jayapal
 Curtis Jeffries
 D'Esposito Johnson (GA)
 Davids (KS) Johnson (LA)
 Davidson Johnson (SD)
 Davis (IL) Jordan
 Davis (NC) Joyce (OH)
 De La Cruz Joyce (PA)
 Dean (PA) Kamlager-Dove
 DeGette Kaptur
 DeLauro Kean (NJ)
 DeBene Keating
 Deluzio Kelly (IL)
 DeSaulnier Kelly (MS)
 DesJarlais Kelly (PA)
 Diaz-Balart Kennedy
 Dingell Khanna
 Doggett Kiggans (VA)
 Donalds Kildee
 Duarte Kiley
 Duncan Kilmer
 Dunn (FL) Kim (CA)
 Edwards Krishnamoorthi
 Ellzey Kuster
 Emmer Kustoff
 Escobar LaHood
 Eshoo LaLota
 Espaillat LaMalfa
 Estes Lamborn
 Ezell Landsman
 Fallon Langworthy
 Feenstra Larsen (WA)
 Ferguson Larson (CT)
 Finstad Latta
 Fischbach LaTurner
 Fitzgerald Lawler
 Fitzpatrick Lee (CA)
 Fleischmann Lee (FL)
 Fletcher Lee (NV)
 Flood Lee (PA)
 Fong Lee Carter
 Foster Leger Fernandez
 Foushee Lesko
 Foxx Letlow
 Frankel, Lois Levin
 Franklin, Scott Lofgren
 Frost Lopez
 Fry Loudermilk
 Fulcher Lucas
 Gallego Luetkemeyer
 Garamendi Luna
 Garbarino Luttrell
 Garcia (IL) Lynch
 Garcia (TX) Mace
 Garcia, Mike Magaziner
 Garcia, Robert Malliotakis
 Gimenez Maloy
 Golden (ME) Mann
 Goldman (NY) Manning
 Gomez Mast
 Gonzales, Tony Matsui
 Gonzalez, V. McBath
 Good (VA) McClain
 Gooden (TX) McClellan
 Gosar McClintock
 Gottheimer McCollum
 Graves (LA) McCormick
 Graves (MO) McGarvey
 Green (TN) McGovern
 Green, Al (TX) McHenry
 Griffith McIver
 Grothman Meeks
 Guest Menendez
 Guthrie Meng
 Hageman Meuser
 Harder (CA) Mfume
 Harris Miller (IL)
 Harshbarger Miller (OH)
 Hayes Miller (WV)
 Hern Miller-Meeks
 Higgins (LA) Mills

Molinaro
 Moolenaar
 Mooney
 Moore (AL)
 Moore (UT)
 Moore (WI)
 Moran
 Morelle
 Moskowitz
 Moulton
 Mrvan
 Mullin
 Murphy
 Nadler
 Napolitano
 Neal
 Neguse
 Nehls
 Nickel
 Norcross
 Nunn (IA)
 Obernolte
 Ocasio-Cortez
 Ogles
 Omar
 Owens
 Pallone
 Palmer
 Panetta
 Pappas
 Pelosi
 Peltola
 Pence
 Perez
 Perry
 Peters
 Pettersen
 Pfluger
 Phillips
 Pingree
 Pocan
 Porter
 Posey
 Pressley
 Quigley
 Ramirez
 Raskin
 Reschenthaler
 Rodgers (WA)
 Rogers (AL)
 Rogers (KY)
 Rose
 Rosendale
 Ross
 Rouzer
 Ruiz
 Rulli
 Ruppersberger
 Ryan
 Salazar
 Salinas
 Sánchez
 Sarbanes
 Scalise
 Scanlon
 Schakowsky
 Schneider
 Scholten
 Schrier
 Schweikert
 Scott (VA)
 Scott, Austin
 Self
 Sessions
 Sewell
 Sherman
 Sherrill
 Simpson
 Slotkin
 Smith (MO)
 Smith (NE)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (WA)
 Smucker
 Sorensen
 Soto
 Spanberger
 Spartz
 Stansbury
 Stanton
 Stauber
 Stefanik
 Steil
 Steube
 Stevens
 Strickland
 Strong
 Suozzi
 Swalwell

Webster (FL)
 Wenstrup
 Westerman
 Wexton
 Wied
 Wild
 Williams (GA)
 Williams (NY)
 Williams (TX)
 Wilson (FL)
 Wilson (SC)
 Wittman
 Womack
 Yakym
 Zinke

The text of the bill is as follows:
 H.R. 7673

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 “Liberty in Laundry Act”.

SEC. 2. PRESCRIBING AND ENFORCING ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARDS FOR CLOTHES WASHERS.

(a) TECHNOLOGICALLY FEASIBLE AND ECONOMICALLY JUSTIFIED.—Notwithstanding subsections (m), (n), and (o) of section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295), the Secretary of Energy may not—

(1) prescribe a new or an amended energy conservation standard for a covered product that is a clothes washer under such section unless the Secretary of Energy determines that the prescription and imposition of such energy conservation standard is technologically feasible and economically justified; or

(2) enforce an energy conservation standard prescribed under such section for a covered product that is a clothes washer if the Secretary of Energy determines that enforcement of or compliance with such energy conservation standard is not technologically feasible or economically justified.

(b) PROHIBITION ON INCREASED COSTS TO CONSUMERS.—Notwithstanding subsections (m), (n), and (o) of section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295), the Secretary of Energy may not—

(1) prescribe a new or an amended energy conservation standard for a covered product that is a clothes washer under such section unless the Secretary of Energy determines that the prescription and imposition of such energy conservation standard is not likely to result in additional net costs to the consumer, including any increase in net costs associated with the purchase, installation, maintenance, disposal, and replacement of the covered product; or

(2) enforce an energy conservation standard prescribed under such section for a covered product that is a clothes washer if the Secretary of Energy determines that enforcement of or compliance with such energy conservation standard is likely to result in additional net costs to the consumer, including any increase in net costs associated with the purchase, installation, maintenance, disposal, and replacement of the covered product.

(c) SIGNIFICANT ENERGY SAVINGS REQUIREMENT.—Notwithstanding subsections (m), (n), and (o) of section 325 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6295), the Secretary of Energy may not—

(1) prescribe a new or an amended energy conservation standard for a covered product that is a clothes washer under such section if the Secretary of Energy determines that the prescription and imposition of such energy conservation standard will not result in significant conservation of energy; or

(2) enforce an energy conservation standard prescribed under such section for a covered product that is a clothes washer if the Secretary of Energy determines that enforcement of or compliance with such energy conservation standard will not result in significant conservation of energy.

(d) COVERED PRODUCT; ENERGY CONSERVATION STANDARD.—In this section, the terms “covered product” and “energy conservation standard” have the meanings given such terms in section 321 of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6291).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and

NAYS—6

Brecheen Clyde
 Burlison Crane
 Norman Roy

NOT VOTING—15

Burgess Grijalva Newhouse
 Cohen Hoyer Rutherford
 Evans Lieu Scott, David
 Granger Massie Steel
 Greene (GA) McCaul Waltz

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1421

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
 Washington, DC, December 9, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
 Speaker, House of Representatives,
 Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 9, 2024, at 4:35 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 1868.

That the Senate passed S. 3606.

That the Senate passed S. 4212.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. McCUMBER,
 Acting Clerk.

LIBERTY IN LAUNDRY ACT

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1612, I call up the bill (H.R. 7673) to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing or enforcing energy conservation standards for clothes washers that are not cost-effective or technologically feasible, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOLINARO). Pursuant to House Resolution 1612, the bill is considered read.

ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce or their respective designees.

The gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DUNCAN) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DUNCAN).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 7673.

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

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7673, the Liberty in Laundry Act, and I thank Congressman OGLES for leading on this issue.

Throughout the 118th Congress, the Energy and Commerce Committee has been on the front lines for defending the needs of everyday Americans against the radical climate agenda of the Biden administration.

This administration has prioritized expensive and unreliable energy policies that have diminished the quality of life for our friends and neighbors across the country.

These harmful policies have sought to direct the energy we use and even the appliances we buy. We stood on this floor and we talked about gas stoves, dishwashers, and HVACs. In Congress, we talked about the push to electrification and the mandates from the U.S. Government to Americans to tell them what kind of cars they have to drive—not what they want to drive, but cars they have to drive. Today, we are addressing the assault on clothes washers.

This bill protects the affordability and quality and choice for Americans to decide for themselves what suits their needs best.

Thanks to radical climate policies, Americans will spend 34 percent more on appliances today than they did just a decade ago. These appliances are not only more expensive, they offer a lesser quality with fewer features Americans rely on and shorter lifespans.

This legislation will prevent the DOE from enforcing standards for clothes washers unless they are technologically feasible and economically justified, are not likely to result in additional cost to the consumer, and will result in significant conservation of energy.

The American people have spoken. They cannot afford and they don't want more of the same. They have overwhelmingly rejected the Democratic Party and their pandering to the radical climate lobby.

Everyday Americans are tired of record inflation, high-energy costs, and just the struggle they have every day to make ends meet.

□ 1430

This legislation addresses kitchen-table issues for Americans and their families. The out-of-touch policies of the Biden administration are why the American people decided to elect President Donald J. Trump to a second term.

In the 119th Congress, House Republicans will continue to fight for hard-working Americans and unleash our energy to lower costs and improve the quality of life for those across the country.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in support of H.R. 7673, the Liberty in Laundry Act. I thank Representative OGLES for leading this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, we are quickly approaching the final days of this Congress, and after spending a year on the campaign trail promising to lower prices for working families, today House Republicans are bringing up a bill that will raise energy bills for those very same families.

H.R. 7673 guts popular energy efficiency standards for laundry machines, standards that save Americans money on their utility bills and reduce dangerous greenhouse gas pollution at the same time.

These efficiency standards create certainty for manufacturers, and they protect consumers from rising costs. In the case of these laundry machine standards, they also reduce water use, a benefit that could greatly aid drought-prone regions around the Nation.

What is more, Mr. Speaker, the Biden administration's energy efficiency actions are projected to save Americans \$1 trillion and reduce greenhouse gas pollution by more than 2.5 billion metric tons over the next 30 years. The laundry machine standard that this bill guts is on track to save Americans \$18 billion on their utility bills over the next 30 years, as well.

However, today's Republican Party is unpersuaded by things like facts and cost savings. With this bill, Republicans are proving that their vow to lower costs was nothing more than an empty campaign promise. This legislation actively works to raise Americans' energy bills, all so they can curry favor with their special interest friends and do the bidding of their fossil fuel industry friends. Absolutely no one else stands to benefit from this legislation, proving once and for all that Republicans only pay lip service to lowering costs when it is campaign season.

That is why this bill conveniently ignores the efficiency standards-setting process that already exists at the Department of Energy, which already requires that these standards result in significant savings, be technologically feasible, and economically justifiable.

In fact, DOE's process works so well that the laundry machine standard tar-

geted by this bill was actually the result of a consensus agreement between the appliance industry, efficiency advocates, and consumer advocates. They actually embrace reality. The reality is that laundry machine standards haven't been updated in more than a decade, many models that meet the new standard already exist, and appliance manufacturers have said they do not feel burdened by it at all.

All this begs the question—why are Republicans trying to undermine a process that brings everyone to the table to lower costs? Who, exactly, is asking for this bill?

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7673 would effectively overturn the Department of Energy's recently finalized efficiency standards and prohibit the Department from enforcing any standard that increases upfront costs by even a single penny, completely ignoring the massive savings that Americans would enjoy on their home energy bills over the long run.

I oppose the bill because it will increase energy costs for American families and undermine our ongoing efforts to combat the worsening climate crisis. Republicans will go out of their way to cut taxes for their wealthy billionaire friends, but when it comes to taking actions that actually lower costs for everyday Americans, they are nowhere to be found.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

I remind Americans that this mandate by the Biden administration on washing machines will only save them about \$9 total over the lifespan of the unit itself, which is about 13½ years, a savings of only \$9 over 13½ years. Unbelievable.

I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES), my friend.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, the Liberty in Laundry Act, which defends the American people against rogue and out-of-touch D.C. bureaucrats.

There might only be 41 days remaining in the current administration, but this administration is still doing its best to make household appliances unaffordable. If he wanted to limit consumer choice, undercut quality, and raise costs for Americans, then Joe Biden couldn't have done a better job.

First it was gas stoves, then it was water heaters and HVAC. Go down the list. Now the Biden-Harris administration is going after your washing machines.

When the government tries to micro-manage something as basic as your laundry routine, including which washing machines you can buy and how much you will pay for them, my Republican colleagues and I will take a stand.

The Biden Energy Department doesn't even believe in the value of its

own rulemaking. As the chairman said, \$9 over the lifespan of this device. The upfront cost of the machine is outweighed by this so-called savings.

They are imposing energy standards that often mean higher costs on the appliances themselves, longer wash cycles, and perhaps even using more water. The American people pay more for their appliances upfront because of these efficiency standards.

Worse, the Biden administration repealed better efficiency rules implemented by the Trump administration with the Fifth Circuit ruling earlier this year that DOE's repeal of President Trump's efficiency rules were arbitrary and capricious.

The court found that the Biden administration failed to consider—now keep in mind, this is the court—failed to consider things like appliance performance and the fact that the standards were causing Americans to use more water, not less.

Some Democrats may want to race down the world to serfdom, replacing the judgments of consumers with those of government commissars about what products best meet their needs. However, I will not allow them to drag millions of hardworking Americans, like in the rural parts of my district, who are going to go to their appliance store and pay more.

My bill prohibits the Department of Energy from imposing or enforcing standards that would increase net costs to consumers. My bill requires them to include costs related to purchase, installation, maintenance, and replacement cost, forcing them to be honest about the true cost of the rule or the regulation.

My bill safeguards the right of families to choose the appliance that best fits their needs and budget, again, without the burden of the Biden administration.

Of course, we won't stop with laundry. We will continue pursuing legislation to stop bureaucrats wherever they choose to make life harder for hardworking Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of my legislation.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR), the ranking member of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 7673. It is a Republican bill that is going to raise costs on American families.

Mr. Speaker, years ago, Congress directed the Department of Energy to encourage innovation and cost savings in the appliances we use by working with manufacturers and consumer advocates to routinely update energy efficiency standards. That is one of the reasons why Americans enjoy modern and cost-saving appliances when they go to replace them.

Everyone knows that higher standards do not force you to go and replace

your washing machine, but when that washer finally breaks, you have the choice to replace it with a better model, one that saves you money.

Energy efficiency across all appliances is a huge success. It helps families save money and improves our lives.

Earlier this year, the Department of Energy updated standards for clothes washers based upon the input of a wide range of stakeholders, including the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers—that is right, the manufacturers support energy efficiency standards—the Consumer Federation of America, and energy efficiency advocates. To them, I say great work and thank you because over time Americans will save big on their energy and water bills while also reducing tons of dangerous carbon dioxide pollution.

You could say that energy-efficient clothes washers will provide loads of savings, as the new models speed up the cycle to aid the household bottom line.

All together, with more efficient appliances, DOE projects that the average family could save at least \$100 a year on their utility bills, plus efficiency helps cut the pollution that is fueling costly extreme weather events like Hurricanes Helene and Milton that ruined homes and businesses back in my community just a few months ago.

If the appliance industry supports efficiency standards and consumer groups support efficiency standards, and three out of five Americans support the cost savings, why are Republicans making this a priority? Well, here is the dirty, little secret. The special interests that profit off of people using as much energy as possible and who profit when energy is wasted—like oil and gas companies and some utilities—have a lot of influence here on Capitol Hill.

You can either side with the polluters and their profits or you can side with the people and their pocketbooks. I am going to side with the people and their pocketbooks every time.

Appliance efficiency standards are one of the best tools we have to lower household energy costs, so I urge my colleagues not to fall for the rinse and spin, put this bill out to dry, and vote “no.”

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

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. DINGELL).

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to this partisan energy appliance bill. Time and time again in this Congress, we keep seeing these bills brought to the floor that are partisan messaging bills meant to rile up the American people, not really get something done, while continuing to put off the work that the American people sent us here to do.

H.R. 7673 isn't the first anti-efficiency bill we have seen on the House floor this year. I say to my Republican

colleagues and friends, I am not sure what we are really getting done. The Liberty in Laundry Act, along with other anti-efficiency bills this Congress, would delay and weaken popular energy efficiency standards, courting favor with polluters, not consumers.

The bill attacks existing standards and sends a message to the incoming Trump administration to attack existing standards and undermine the entire program. Bills like the Liberty in Laundry Act show that Republicans don't want to help save American consumers money on their energy bills.

I wish we could work together on doing things that the American people need us to do instead of going after America's household appliances. The fear-mongering continues, and it is nothing more than politics designed to scare consumers.

I am a car girl. Hey, I am not old, but I am seasoned. When the administration, Republicans and Democrats, wanted to increase fuel efficiency standards, American consumers wanted it, and yet on the floor of both houses, people stood up against it. I will tell you what, the American consumer likes those fuel efficiency standards. It saved them money.

The American people sent us here to work together in a bipartisan manner to find commonsense solutions, and that is what I want to work with my colleagues on, but we don't have much time left in this Congress, so I am just saying, can we please work together on the real issues facing the American people instead of talking about people's dirty laundry?

Let me say again, we are politicizing washing machines. Why? We have real work to do to cut costs and make life better for Americans. We need to fund the government. Attacking popular energy efficiency standards is not why our constituents sent us here. They want us to save them money.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote against H.R. 7673. We need to work on things that will make a difference for consumers every day in the remaining days of the 118th Congress.

□ 1445

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, just a point. The payback periods for many of these appliances are uneconomical. Republicans look long term. Republicans look toward quality and value for Americans.

For example, the payback period for the Department of Energy's proposed clothes washer standard for a ventless electric combination washer and dryer is—are you ready for it?—46 years. Forty-six years for a washing machine that, if we are lucky, will last 15 years. Americans know they have to replace a lot of appliances over a period of time.

Mr. Speaker, it is sort of a bitter-sweet moment for me because this may be the very last time I get to speak from the House floor, and it is an honor to be here to represent the Energy and Commerce Committee's Energy, Climate, and Grid Security Subcommittee

that I chair on this bill, but it has been an honor to work on so many other bills over time.

I have enjoyed working with my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. Ranking Member PALLONE has been a phenomenal ranking member for the Energy and Commerce Committee to work with. I have enjoyed it. There are so many others on the other side of the aisle, too many to name, but Representative HENRY CUELLAR is a good friend and SCOTT PETERS. Albio Sires was a good friend of mine who is no longer in Congress.

It has been an interesting ride for 14 years in the United States Congress. I have seen a lot on this House floor, from last year with the Speaker's debate from the original Speaker election that happened in this Congress back to John Boehner, Speaker Boehner, calling me a hardhead on the floor, something I wore as a badge of courage because I was representing my constituents in the Third District of South Carolina, who sent me to Washington to be that hardhead because they were tired of seeing runaway government. They were tired of seeing government spending that has created a balance of about \$35 trillion in debt that our Nation faces today. That is a number that is unfathomable.

To work on energy policy has been something that I came to Washington to work on, and I was blessed with the opportunity to become the chair of the Energy, Climate, and Grid Security Subcommittee. We dealt with energy, grid security, and climate change in this Congress—retitled that committee—but we focus a lot on American energy, American energy independence.

There are four words that I talk about often. Those are produce, deliver, utilize, and export. We are blessed in this Nation with abundant resources that we need to produce more of because using natural gas, as an example, we have in abundance. We can't even measure the amount of natural gas we are blessed with in this Nation, and utilizing that natural gas has helped us lower our global carbon emissions.

The carbon emissions in the United States have gone down because of the use of cleaner-burning, American-produced natural gas. If we produce more, we are going to need to deliver those assets whether it is liquid fuels or gas or electricity down power lines, transmission lines. That is the delivery component.

We have to deliver that resource, whether it is electricity produced at a nuclear power plant or whether it is natural gas or liquid fuels going to the refinery. We need to produce more. We need to deliver it to where it can be utilized.

We need to utilize it to create the electricity that meets the demands of America and the globe, and energy demand in this country and globally is not going down. It is only going up, and it is going up exponentially globally.

We can help so many people around the world improve their quality of life, their standard of living, by exporting more United States-produced natural gas to help them meet their global carbon emissions goals by utilizing cleaner burning U.S. gas, taking their coal-fired power plants offline and using U.S. gas to produce the electricity that makes the lives of their constituents and their citizens much better.

These are things we have worked on, and I hope Congress in the future will continue to work on, yes, lowering our global carbon emissions because, yes, cleaner air is just the right thing. Whatever side you come down on on the global climate change aspects, cleaner air is good, and we can do that by utilizing more U.S.-produced natural gas.

Produce more, deliver more, utilize more, and export more to help our friends and allies in Eastern Europe that are facing energy security issues because they depend on Russia. They look west to the U.S. to help them meet their energy needs.

Yet, we debate things like washing machines, stoves, and dishwashers, but we have had the opportunity to work on real substantive issues for American energy policy under my tenure as an Energy and Commerce subcommittee chair, but also under CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, a great American who chaired the Energy and Commerce Committee for this Congress. She has been a great leader. She also is somebody who cares about more than just energy. She cares about the whole spectrum of energy and commerce, from children's online safety to privacy, data privacy. She also understands the need for American energy independence.

I have been blessed with the opportunity in Congress to stand here, and I give a shout-out to Representative Doc Hastings, who was the former chair of the Natural Resources Committee who gave me the opportunity twice back in the day when we actually did motions to recommit and had those speeches. Ranking Member PALLONE may remember those days. Honestly, that was some of the most fun debate on the House floor. You heard cheers. Trey Gowdy was up here, and others. I miss those days in the United States Congress when we interacted a little bit more.

I thank the Energy and Commerce Committee staff that is sitting behind me and the full committee staff that has made this job much easier, providing us the information we need to debate properly.

This is a great institution that I have been honored to be a part of. I thank the House staff because they are great. They make order out of all this chaos. It is chaos many, many days, but we are all here elected, both Republican and Democrat, to do what is best for the United States of America, a country that we love, every one of us.

We may have differences on how to get there, but making America great,

being the best nation we can be, providing for our constituents, providing for our Nation, being a strong nation, is something everybody believes in. We just have different approaches. Nobody dislikes one another, and that is what really makes the United States House of Representatives so special.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to do this today on the floor. I thank my creator for giving me the opportunity to do this.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. DUNCAN for all that he has done for many years in Congress, particularly on the Energy and Commerce Committee. We were at the Rules Committee last night, and we actually said that we enjoyed being at the Rules Committee and sparring back and forth. I think we really meant it. Not too many people would say that when they go to the Rules Committee, to be perfectly honest. That is because he has always been a gentleman. He is always concerned about doing the right thing.

One of the things in the Energy and Commerce Committee that we do all the time is try to come to a consensus. It is not always possible. That is certainly not possible on this bill, but we really try to get things done. We try to build a consensus and do what we think is going to make a difference to improve the lives of the American people. I thank him for the comments he made and for his service, and I know we are going to see each other after this year as well, hopefully a lot.

Mr. Speaker, maybe this bill is a good example of what I just said. I understand where the Republicans are coming from, but I just strongly disagree, frankly, because I think for many years now the Department of Energy has had the obligation to try to come up with better efficiency standards for appliances. Usually, it is done on a consensus basis with industry, and it has to, under the current law, save money.

In this case, it is not only saving money over the life of a washing machine, if you will, but also saving water, reducing the amount of greenhouse gases that go into the atmosphere. I think the one thing where we differ is Mr. DUNCAN has talked about maybe—I don't want to put words in his mouth—the price goes up a dollar or a few dollars from where it is right now, but over the life of a machine, you actually are saving money. That is exactly what the Department is supposed to look at when they look at not only the energy savings but the reduced costs to the consumer. That is maybe where the difference lies here.

The bottom line is that this standard doesn't go into effect until 2028. It certainly is my experience—and you know they have done focus groups and other things on this to show that people actually want more efficient machines

and the new technology that goes with it.

I think it really makes no sense to simply say we are going to wipe away these efficiency standards for laundry machines. We have had similar bills on refrigerators and other appliances because what we are all about in this country is using technology to make things more efficient, make things cheaper, and make things better for the future.

That is essentially why I oppose the bill and would ask my colleagues to vote “no” on this legislation.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I think the difference between the Republican Party and administration and Democrats comes down to government mandating certain choices and Republicans believing in free markets, market choices, and market opportunities.

If Americans want to buy something that, in their mind, is more efficient and that can save them money, maybe will last longer, that is up to the Americans. The market will step up and provide those opportunities and products. If you want an electric vehicle, the market is going to provide that. It shouldn't be mandated.

I thank my colleague from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES) for approaching this bill that is dealing with washing machines, but the broader picture is the mandates from the administration to tell Americans the only choices they have aren't going to save them that much money in the long run, as we pointed out.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on the motion to recommit and vote in favor of this legislation, H.R. 7673.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 1612, the previous question is ordered on the bill.

The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, and was read the third time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on passage of the bill.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair

will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

STRENGTHENING CYBER RESILIENCE AGAINST STATE-SPONSORED THREATS ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9769) to ensure the security and integrity of United States critical infrastructure by establishing an interagency task force and requiring a comprehensive report on the targeting of United States critical infrastructure by People's Republic of China state-sponsored cyber actors, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9769

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 “Strengthening Cyber Resilience Against State-Sponsored Threats Act”.

SEC. 2. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE AND REPORT ON THE TARGETING OF UNITED STATES CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE BY PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA STATE-SPONSORED CYBER ACTORS.

(a) INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, acting through the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) of the Department of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Attorney General, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the heads of appropriate Sector Risk Management Agencies as determined by the Director of CISA, shall establish a joint interagency task force (in this section referred to as the “task force”) to facilitate collaboration and coordination among the Sector Risk Management Agencies assigned a Federal role or responsibility in National Security Memorandum–22, issued April 30, 2024 (relating to critical infrastructure security and resilience), or any successor document, to detect, analyze, and respond to the cybersecurity threat posed by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China by ensuring that such agencies' actions are aligned and mutually reinforcing.

(b) CHAIRS.—

(1) CHAIRPERSON.—The Director of CISA (or the Director of CISA's designee) shall serve as the chairperson of the task force.

(2) VICE CHAIRPERSON.—The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (or such Director's designee) shall serve as the vice chairperson of the task force.

(c) COMPOSITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The task force shall consist of appropriate representatives of the departments and agencies specified in subsection (a).

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—To materially assist in the activities of the task force, representatives under paragraph (1) should be subject matter experts who have familiarity and technical expertise regarding cybersecurity, digital forensics, or threat intelligence analysis, or in-depth knowledge of the tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) com-

monly used by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China.

(d) VACANCY.—Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the task force shall be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.

(e) ESTABLISHMENT FLEXIBILITY.—To avoid redundancy, the task force may coordinate with any preexisting task force, working group, or cross-intelligence effort within the Homeland Security Enterprise or the intelligence community that has examined or responded to the cybersecurity threat posed by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China.

(f) TASK FORCE REPORTS; BRIEFING.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 540 days after the establishment of the task force, the task force shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees the first report containing the initial findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the task force.

(2) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the submission of the initial report under paragraph (1) and annually thereafter for five years, the task force shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees an annual report containing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the task force.

(3) CONTENTS.—The reports under this subsection shall include the following:

(A) An assessment at the lowest classification feasible of the sector-specific risks, trends relating to incidents impacting sectors, and tactics, techniques, and procedures utilized by or relating to State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China.

(B) An assessment of additional resources and authorities needed by Federal departments and agencies to better counter the cybersecurity threat posed by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China.

(C) A classified assessment of the extent of potential destruction, compromise, or disruption to United States critical infrastructure by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China in the event of a major crisis or future conflict between the People's Republic of China and the United States.

(D) A classified assessment of the ability of the United States to counter the cybersecurity threat posed by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China in the event of a major crisis or future conflict between the People's Republic of China and the United States, including with respect to different cybersecurity measures and recommendations that could mitigate such a threat.

(E) A classified assessment of the ability of State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China to disrupt operations of the United States Armed Forces by hindering mobility across critical infrastructure such as rail, aviation, and ports, including how such would impair the ability of the United States Armed Forces to deploy and maneuver forces effectively.

(F) A classified assessment of the economic and social ramifications of a disruption to one or multiple United States critical infrastructure sectors by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China in the event of a major crisis or future conflict between the People's Republic of China and the United States.

(G) Such recommendations as the task force may have for the Homeland Security Enterprise, the intelligence community, or critical infrastructure owners and operators

to improve the detection and mitigation of the cybersecurity threat posed by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China.

(H) A one-time plan for an awareness campaign to familiarize critical infrastructure owners and operators with security resources and support offered by Federal departments and agencies to mitigate the cybersecurity threat posed by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China.

(4) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the submission of each report under this subsection, the task force shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a classified briefing on the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the task force.

(5) FORM.—Each report under this subsection shall be submitted in classified form, consistent with the protection of intelligence sources and methods, but may include an unclassified executive summary.

(6) PUBLICATION.—The unclassified executive summary of each report required under this subsection shall be published on a publicly accessible website of the Department of Homeland Security.

(g) ACCESS TO INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, the Director of CISA, the Attorney General, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the heads of appropriate Sector Risk Management Agencies, as determined by the Director of CISA, shall provide to the task force such information, documents, analysis, assessments, findings, evaluations, inspections, audits, or reviews relating to efforts to counter the cybersecurity threat posed by State-sponsored cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon, of the People's Republic of China as the task force considers necessary to carry out this section.

(2) RECEIPT, HANDLING, STORAGE, AND DISSEMINATION.—Information, documents, analysis, assessments, findings, evaluations, inspections, audits, and reviews described in this subsection shall be received, handled, stored, and disseminated only by members of the task force consistent with all applicable statutes, regulations, and executive orders.

(3) SECURITY CLEARANCES FOR TASK FORCE MEMBERS.—No member of the task force may be provided with access to classified information under this section without the appropriate security clearances.

(h) TERMINATION.—The task force, and all the authorities of this section, shall terminate on the date that is 60 days after the final briefing required under subsection (h)(4).

(i) EXEMPTION FROM FACA.—Chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the "Federal Advisory Committee Act"), shall not apply to the task force.

(j) EXEMPTION FROM PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT.—Chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the "Paperwork Reduction Act"), shall not apply to the task force.

(k) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term "appropriate congressional committees" means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on Judiciary, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Judiciary, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

(2) ASSETS.—The term "assets" means a person, structure, facility, information, material, equipment, network, or process, whether physical or virtual, that enables an

organization's services, functions, or capabilities.

(3) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term "critical infrastructure" has the meaning given such term in section 1016(e) of Public Law 107-56 (42 U.S.C. 5195c(e)).

(4) CYBERSECURITY THREAT.—The term "cybersecurity threat" has the meaning given such term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 650).

(5) HOMELAND SECURITY ENTERPRISE.—The term "Homeland Security Enterprise" has the meaning given such term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 650).

(6) INCIDENT.—The term "incident" has the meaning given such term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 650).

(7) INFORMATION SHARING.—The term "information sharing" means the bidirectional sharing of timely and relevant information concerning a cybersecurity threat posed by a State-sponsored cyber actor of the People's Republic of China to United States critical infrastructure.

(8) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term "intelligence community" has the meaning given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(9) LOCALITY.—The term "locality" means any local government authority or agency or component thereof within a State having jurisdiction over matters at a county, municipal, or other local government level.

(10) SECTOR.—The term "sector" means a collection of assets, systems, networks, entities, or organizations that provide or enable a common function for national security (including national defense and continuity of Government), national economic security, national public health or safety, or any combination thereof.

(11) SECTOR RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—The term "Sector Risk Management Agency" has the meaning given such term in section 2200 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 650).

(12) STATE.—The term "State" means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the United States Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

(13) SYSTEMS.—The term "systems" means a combination of personnel, structures, facilities, information, materials, equipment, networks, or processes, whether physical or virtual, integrated or interconnected for a specific purpose that enables an organization's services, functions, or capabilities.

(14) UNITED STATES.—The term "United States", when used in a geographic sense, means any State of the United States.

(15) VOLT TYPHOON.—The term "Volt Typhoon" means the People's Republic of China State-sponsored cyber actor described in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency cybersecurity advisory entitled "PRC State-Sponsored Actors Compromise and Maintain Persistent Access to U.S. Critical Infrastructure", issued on February 07, 2024, or any successor advisory.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

□ 1500

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all

Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 9769.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9769. As we have all witnessed in recent weeks, foreign malicious cyber actors are continuously attempting to infiltrate IT environments in a wide range of U.S. critical infrastructure sectors.

The DHS Strengthening Cyber Resilience Against State-Sponsored Threats Act will establish an interagency task force chaired by the Director of CISA to address the cybersecurity threats posed by PRC cyber actors, including Volt Typhoon.

I commend my colleague, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LEE), for her leadership in confronting these threats. I am proud to have joined her in introducing this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, our adversaries are growing bolder and more sophisticated in using cyber tools to gain access to government and critical infrastructure networks. As we speak, the Federal Government and its private-sector partners are working to understand the full scope and scale of the telecommunications hack by state-sponsored threat actors from China, known as Salt Typhoon.

The Salt Typhoon telecom hack followed warnings issued earlier this year by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and its Federal partners that state-sponsored threat actors from China are "seeking to preposition themselves on IT networks for disruptive or destructive cyberattacks against U.S. critical infrastructure."

H.R. 9769, the Strengthening Cyber Resilience Against State-Sponsored Threats Act, formalizes interagency efforts already underway to defend against state-sponsored threat activity directed by the People's Republic of China.

Notably, it would establish an interagency task force and a reporting requirement to ensure Congress is informed of sector-specific cyber threat trends and additional resources or authorities the government needs to protect government and critical infrastructure networks, among other things.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9769, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Chinese Communist Party and other adversary nation-states and criminal networks have been exploiting our critical infrastructure and collecting information on American officials, posing a grave threat to our national security.

The malicious cyber activity by the CCP represents a calculated effort to gather intelligence on IT systems vital to U.S. national security, public safety, and economic stability.

Specifically, the CCP state-sponsored cyber actor known as Volt Typhoon has conducted a coordinated campaign to infiltrate the information technology environments of a wide range of critical infrastructure sectors of the United States, including sectors like communications, transportation, energy, and water.

H.R. 9769, the Strengthening Cyber Resilience Against State-Sponsored Threats Act, will create an interagency task force, chaired by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, CISA, Director and co-chaired by the FBI Director to address the cybersecurity threat posed by CCP cyber actors.

This bill would improve our defensive and offensive capabilities in cyberspace and requires the task force to provide a classified report and briefing to Congress annually for 5 years on their findings, conclusions, and recommendations relating to malicious cyber activity. Specifically, this task force will help Congress create a mitigation strategy every year to help us prevent future cyberattacks and protect our national security.

It is time to mitigate this threat and secure our networks and infrastructure to protect all Americans. We must address the grave threats China and other foreign adversaries pose to our cybersecurity. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 9769.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9769, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9769, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9769.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DHS CYBERSECURITY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9689) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to es-

tablish a DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9689

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 "DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program Act".

SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CYBERSECURITY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

(a) PROGRAM.—Subtitle D of title XIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 1334. CYBERSECURITY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

"(a) PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall carry out a cybersecurity internship program (in this section referred to as the 'Program') under which an eligible individual participates in a paid cybersecurity internship at the Department with duties aligned to such participant's respective education, skills, and experience.

"(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in the Program, an individual shall—

"(1) be a citizen of the United States;

"(2) be at least 16 years old; and

"(3) be enrolled in a secondary school, technical, trade, or vocational school, or institution of higher education, in accordance with subsection (c).

"(c) COMPOSITION.—The Secretary shall, as practicable, ensure that participants selected for the Program for each intern class include students enrolled in each of the following:

"(1) Secondary schools.

"(2) Junior or community colleges.

"(3) Undergraduate degree programs.

"(4) Postgraduate degree programs.

"(5) Technical, trade, or vocational schools.

"(d) REPORTS.—

"(1) REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the Program.

"(2) MATTERS.—Each report under paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to the most recent Program year, the following:

"(A) A description of outreach efforts by the Secretary to raise awareness of the Program among secondary schools and institutions of higher education, including among junior or community colleges, historically-Black colleges and universities, and other minority-serving institutions.

"(B) Information on specific recruiting efforts by the Secretary to increase participation in the Program.

"(C) The number of individuals participating in the Program, listed by the type of school or program in which the individual is enrolled at the time of participation, and information on the nature of each such participation, including Department components supported, and the duties of each such individual.

"(3) CONSOLIDATION.—Reports submitted under this subsection may be consolidated with the reports required under section 1333(e).

"(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term 'historically Black college or university' has the meaning given the term 'part B institution' in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061).

"(2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

"(3) JUNIOR OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term 'junior or community college' has the meaning given that term in section 312 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058).

"(4) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term 'minority-serving institution' means an eligible institution of higher education described in section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

"(5) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term 'secondary school' means a school or program that provides secondary education, as determined under State law, except that the term does not include any education beyond grade 12.

"(6) TECHNICAL, TRADE, OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.—The term 'technical, trade, or vocational school' has the meaning given that term in section 411.167 of title 20, Code of Federal Regulations."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1333 the following new item:

"Sec. 1334. Cybersecurity internship program."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 9689.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9689, the DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program Act.

I thank my colleague, the gentleman from New York (Ms. CLARKE), for her work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, according to testimony before the House Committee on Homeland Security earlier this year, there are approximately 2,000 cybersecurity vacancies at the Department of Homeland Security. Recent cyber intrusions like the Salt Typhoon telecom breach demonstrate the urgent need to fill those empty desks.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 9689, the DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program Act. This bill codifies DHS' cyber internship program, helping ensure DHS continues to expand its efforts to support individuals seeking to join the cyber workforce.

Internships are particularly valuable for building the workforce because they help build the connection from school to work. For students, they provide critical work experience that can help launch their careers with the practical skills they will need in the workforce. For the Department, internships can help support the cyber mission while building a pipeline to future employment at DHS.

Importantly, these internships are paid, ensuring the program is accessible to all. This summer, 85 interns participated in DHS' new cyber internship program.

Enacting this legislation will ensure that DHS continues the program while adding new oversight requirements to keep Congress informed on how the Department is recruiting interns and utilizing the program to support its cyber mission.

Additionally, my legislation directs the Department to meet cyber talent where it is, whether in high school, community and 4-year colleges, technical schools, or graduate school. Recruiting cyber talent from a broad range of educational institutions will result in a bigger pool of applicants and reflect best practices that more employers should implement.

I thank Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee Chairman GARBARINO for cosponsoring this bill and my colleagues on the House Committee on Homeland Security for supporting it at our markup in September. I look forward to similar bipartisan support in the full House.

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

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, the DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program Act will advance our shared goal of strengthening the American cyber workforce while supporting DHS' effort to recruit the next generation of cyber talent and to defend the homeland.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 9689, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9689, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9689.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DHS SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM AND SUPPORT ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6229) to amend the

Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a program to assess the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of terrorism or other security threats, as appropriate, to certain events, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6229

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 "DHS Special Events Program and Support Act".

SEC. 2. DHS SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle H of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 451 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 890E. SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized within the Department a program to assess the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of terrorism or other security threats, as appropriate, at certain special events in accordance with subsection (b).

"(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The program authorized under subsection (a) shall—

"(1) apply to special events that are preplanned and not designated as National Special Security Events by the Secretary;

"(2) include a standard process for Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial officials to voluntarily submit to the Secretary requests for a special event rating that could result in direct support for security and situational awareness for such special event;

"(3) maintain a risk-based methodology to assess ratings requests, including requests submitted pursuant to paragraph (2), that considers the anticipated attendance by United States officials or foreign dignitaries, the size and venue of the special event, credible threats of terrorism or other security threats, and other homeland security information, as appropriate; and

"(4) include a process for expedited consideration and, where appropriate, a process for the reassessment, of a special event rating.

"(c) SUPPORT TO SPECIAL EVENTS.—For purposes of protecting a special event described in subsection (b), the Secretary may provide security and situational awareness support to a Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial official at the request of an appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial official.

"(d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the program authorized under subsection (a). Each such report shall include information relating to the following:

"(1) The total number of special events submitted to the program authorized under subsection (a) in the prior year, including the number of special events at each rating level.

"(2) The total number of events in the prior year for which the Secretary designated a Federal coordinator or coordinated security and situational awareness support, including a summary of Federal support provided.

"(3) The total number of requests for special event rating reassessment under subsection (b)(4), including the following:

"(A) The identification of the requesting entity.

"(B) The special event name, date, and location.

"(C) The initial and final rating determination.

"(D) The justification for such final rating determination.

"(e) PERIODIC ASSESSMENTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section and every five years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an assessment of the program authorized under subsection (a).

"(f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term "homeland security information" has the meaning given such term in section 892."

(b) MASS GATHERING RESEARCH.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Undersecretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security and the official responsible for carrying out section 890E of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a), shall, to the extent practicable, carry out research and development, including operational testing, of technologies and techniques for enhancing the Department's security and situational awareness support to Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial officials relating to mass gatherings consistent with applicable constitutional, privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protections.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 890D the following new item:

"Sec. 890E. Special events program."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 6229.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6229, the DHS Special Events Program and Support Act. I thank the gentleman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) for bringing this measure forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6229, the DHS Special Events Program and Support Act, sponsored by the gentleman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS).

H.R. 6229 is a bipartisan bill that would make our communities safer during large public events and mass gatherings by ensuring that our State,

local, Tribal, and territorial law enforcement have access to tools, resources, and help from the Department of Homeland Security.

We all know that the United States holds some of the world's greatest events, from professional football games to Formula One races, rodeos, State fairs, NASCAR, and so on. Every one of these events, big or small, requires security planning and management by State, local, Tribal, and territorial officials. Good planning and management are what it takes to prevent threats at mass gatherings and public events and, in the event of any danger, respond quickly and effectively.

H.R. 6229 is an opportunity for Congress to provide our communities with planning and management resources by authorizing the Special Event Assessment Rating program, known as the SEAR program, within DHS.

The SEAR program has had great success in every one of the States we represent, helping us ensure safe and enjoyable experiences at home events, big and small.

What SEAR does is measure the risk of a terrorist attack or other hazards, as appropriate, on a special event. Events are submitted to DHS by a State, local, Tribal, or territorial partner for an assessment.

Under the bill, DHS may provide security coordination and protection support for events with the most serious ratings.

Earlier this year in a hearing during National Police Week, former Atlanta Chief of Police Rodney Bryant told the House Committee on Homeland Security that the SEAR program and DHS resources helped him ensure a safe experience for Americans attending the Super Bowl and college football playoff championship.

Looking forward, our communities are going to need even more help from DHS through the SEAR program. In addition to longstanding large-scale public events like NFL games or New Year's celebrations in Times Square, the United States has a robust and growing presence on the Formula One racing circuit, and in just 2 years, we will be host to the World Cup.

□ 1515

DHS recently informed Congress that the World Cup matches across the country in Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Miami, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, New York, and New Jersey are SEAR rated and will need Federal help to secure their global soccer matches.

Mr. Speaker, it is time we authorize this critical program and ensure that these social, sporting, and other events can be enjoyed freely, safely, and without fear.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS), the author of the bill.

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6229, the DHS Special Events Program and Support Act.

Nevada's First District, that I am proud to represent, hosts hundreds of high-profile events each year that require considerable security measures to keep safe the southern Nevadans and the thousands of visitors who attend these events.

While State and local law enforcement take the primary responsibility in providing support for local events, many occasions, from the Super Bowl to Formula One races, require additional Federal support to ensure that security measures are hardened to prevent and protect against bad actors intending to do harm.

Through October of this year, about 35 million visitors have come to Las Vegas. This includes 5 million who came for conventions, 330,000 who attended the Super Bowl, and 300,000 who were there recently for Formula One.

Major events like this don't just occur in my district. They occur all around the country. Our country hosts some of the world's greatest events, as you have heard. In communities across the United States, special events routinely draw visitors from around the country and around the world, necessitating large-scale security coordination and assistance from the Federal Government.

Our next decade will be crucial for the United States as we host several large-scale events that will draw millions of visitors. These will require enhanced security coordination. They include the World Cup, the Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games, Men's and Women's Rugby World Cup, and the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, that in addition will give our country the opportunity to show off to the rest of the world that we are the unparalleled sports, entertainment, and hospitality capital.

My bill, H.R. 6229, the DHS Special Events Program and Support Act, will enable the Federal Government to support these local jurisdictions in safely hosting these events.

The SEAR program within DHS helps to provide this supplemental Federal support on an ad hoc basis, but it has never been authorized into law. This legislation does just that and in turn fortifies the existing program to better equip law enforcement authorities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to threats to events that happen in all our districts.

Importantly, it codifies the standardized SEAR process into law, ensures DHS maintains its risk-based methodology for event review, and allows expedited consideration or reconsideration of events that receive an initial SEAR designation.

I thank Representative RICHARD HUDSON of North Carolina for partnering with me on this legislation to codify the SEAR program, as well as Representatives ROBERT MENENDEZ of New Jersey, ANTHONY D'ESPOSITO of New York, and JARED MOSKOWITZ of Florida for cosponsoring the bill. I thank the chairman and ranking member for

bringing it to the floor, and I urge all Members to vote in support of this bipartisan measure.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Mr. Speaker, authorizing SEAR's great work will ensure that DHS may continue providing risk assessments and support to certain preplanned special events across the United States.

I thank Representatives TITUS of Nevada and HUDSON of North Carolina for introducing this bill, which will strengthen Homeland Security and protect our greatest community events from terrorism or other security threats.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 6229, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 6229, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6229.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VETERANS EXPEDITED TSA SCREENING SAFE TRAVEL ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7365) to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7365

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 "Veterans Expedited TSA Screening Safe Travel Act" or the "VETS Safe Travel Act".

SEC. 2. AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO CERTAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VETERANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 44927 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) AVAILABILITY OF PRECHECK PROGRAM TO CERTAIN SEVERELY INJURED OR DISABLED VETERANS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A veteran described in paragraph (2) is eligible for security screening under the PreCheck Program under section 44919 at no cost to the veteran if the veteran is able to meet the background check and other security requirements for participation in the Program.

“(2) VETERANS DESCRIBED.—A veteran described in this paragraph is a veteran who—

“(A) is enrolled in the patient enrollment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs established and operated under section 1705 of title 38, United States Code;

“(B) has been determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to have a service-connected disability under section 1110 or 1131 of such title, as the case may be, and such disability has been determined by such Secretary to have resulted in—

“(i) loss, or loss use of, an extremity;

“(ii) paralysis or partial paralysis; or

“(iii) permanent blindness; and

“(C) as a result of a loss, paralysis or partial paralysis, or blindness described in subparagraph (B), requires the use of a wheelchair, prosthetic limb, or other assistive device to aid with mobility.

“(3) LIMITATION.—The Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall carry out this subsection subject to the availability of appropriations and may not increase fees for enrollment in the PreCheck Program for such purpose.”

(b) COORDINATION ON IMPLEMENTATION.—The Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall jointly—

(1) implement a process under which a veteran described in paragraph (2) of subsection (g) of section 44927 of title 49, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), can receive the benefits under such subsection by not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) provide to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate a briefing on the status of implementing the process required by paragraph (1) by not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) OUTREACH FOR DISABLED VETERANS ON AVAILABILITY OF TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAMS.—

(1) COORDINATION.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall implement a process under which such Secretary provides to disabled veterans effective outreach regarding Transportation Security Administration programs designed to improve the screening process for passengers with disabilities.

(2) FURTHER ENHANCEMENTS TO EASE AIR TRAVEL FOR WOUNDED WARRIORS AND OTHER DISABLED VETERANS.—Notwithstanding subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly referred to as the “Paperwork Reduction Act”), or any other provision of law, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, in coordination with the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration, shall—

(A) engage appropriate veterans service organizations and other relevant organizations, as appropriate, to assess the awareness of veterans of relevant Transportation Security Administration programs; and

(B) examine the need and feasibility of other measures to improve travel security procedures for disabled veterans.

(3) BRIEFING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall jointly provide to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate a briefing on the status of the implementation of paragraphs (1) and (2).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentle-

woman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 7365.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7365, the VETS Safe Travel Act. The bill would make the Transportation Security Administration's PreCheck program available to certain disabled veterans. It is an important piece of legislation, and I thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR) for his attention to this matter.

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, during this era of partisanship and discord, there is one issue on which I hope we can all agree: that veterans who are disabled while serving our country should be provided the utmost care and respect.

Unfortunately, our current airport security screening systems cause unnecessary delays and intrusions for many disabled veterans.

The VETS Safe Travel Act, H.R. 7365, would help address these challenges by allowing veterans with service-connected disabilities and severe injuries to enroll in the Transportation Security Administration's PreCheck expedited screening program at no cost to the veteran.

Doing so will allow disabled veterans to move through airport screening quickly and with minimal hassle.

Importantly, such veterans will still be required to undergo the background checks required for all passengers enrolling in the PreCheck program, thus maintaining the integrity and security of the program.

In addition, during committee consideration of this bill, Democrats offered an amendment that would ensure the bill does not unintentionally require TSA to increase PreCheck enrollment fees for all other passengers to pay for the enrollments of disabled veterans.

By passing this bill, Congress will improve everyday life for disabled veterans as they travel.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR).

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GREEN for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, my great State of Arizona is home to over 450,000 veterans, and nearly 30 percent of those veterans live with a disability.

My legislation, H.R. 7365, the Veterans Expedited TSA Screening, or VETS, Safe Travel Act, will provide optimized security screenings to veterans with catastrophic, service-connected disabilities free of charge, connect veterans to the VA for expanded access to the benefits they deserve, and restore veterans' dignity and independence while traveling.

Traveling through standard airport checkpoints with severe injuries can present significant challenges for disabled veterans. They often must wait in long, winding lines, remove their shoes, and maintain balance to stand in a security scanner.

For many disabled veterans, these can be difficult tasks and can present a fall hazard or require special assistance.

By providing TSA PreCheck free of charge, my legislation will create a more honorable travel experience for veterans with prosthetics, vision impairment, paralysis, or relying on wheelchairs or other mobility aids.

The VETS Safe Travel Act will also help create an improved airport experience for everyone by decreasing congestion at the standard security checkpoints.

To obtain the benefit, the VA will certify that a veteran has a service-connected disability and is therefore eligible to apply for the program at no cost. TSA is also required to partner with veteran service organizations to make veterans aware of this benefit. TSA must also submit a report to Congress about the program to ensure it is working efficiently.

Importantly, my bill specifically prohibits any budget gimmick used to offset costs by increasing the fees for other TSA PreCheck enrollees.

This year, the Honor Flight Network welcomed 302 veterans from my home State of Arizona alone to our Nation's Capital. These veterans deserve the star treatment from departure to arrival and back.

H.R. 7365 will ease the burden of any air travel on disabled veterans, their families, and caregivers and pave the way for additional disability reforms in veteran air travel.

I thank the chairman of the Committee on Homeland Security as well as the chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs for prioritizing the quality of life for our disabled veterans.

I ask my colleagues to pass this bipartisan legislation that helps disabled veterans who have sacrificed so much for our country.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for closing.

Mr. Speaker, we owe our disabled veterans not only our gratitude for their service but our commitment to their continued care. This is a sensible

bill that would help ensure disabled veterans are provided the benefits and dignity they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

I am appreciative of both Mr. GOSAR, as a veteran myself, and Mr. THANEDAR, the Democrat cosponsor of this bill, for their hard work on it and their whipping of it and whipping me and the committee to get it done.

I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 7365, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7365, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STRATEGIC HOMELAND INTELLIGENCE AND ENFORCEMENT LEGISLATION TO DEFEND AGAINST THE CCP ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9668) to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9668

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 “Strategic Homeland Intelligence and Enforcement Legislation to Defend against the CCP Act” or the “SHIELD Against CCP Act”.

SEC. 2. WORKING GROUP TO COUNTER CERTAIN THREATS POSED TO THE UNITED STATES BY THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group (in this section referred to as the “Working Group”), which shall carry out the duties specified in subsection (b) relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(2) DIRECTOR.—

(A) APPOINTMENT.—The head of the Working Group shall be a Director (in this section referred to as the “Director”), who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(B) REPORTING.—The Director shall report to the Secretary of Homeland Security re-

garding all administrative, operational, and security matters of the Working Group.

(3) STAFFING.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure the Working Group is provided with the following:

(A) A sufficient number of employees to perform required duties.

(B) Not fewer than one employee dedicated to ensuring compliance with privacy laws and regulations.

(4) DETAILEES.—The Working Group may accept and employ detailees with expertise in countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed by the Chinese Communist Party to the United States, or in related fields, from any element of the intelligence community or any other Federal agency the Director determines appropriate, with or without reimbursement, consistent with applicable laws and regulations regarding such employees.

(b) DUTIES.—The Working Group shall carry out the following:

(1) Examine, assess, and report upon efforts by the Department of Homeland Security to counter terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, including efforts to counter the Chinese Communist Party’s—

(A) nontraditional tactics and exploitation of the United States immigration system through—

- (i) identity theft;
- (ii) the immigrant and nonimmigrant visa processes;
- (iii) unlawful border crossings;
- (iv) human smuggling; and
- (v) human trafficking;

(B) predatory economic and trade practices, including the trafficking of counterfeit and pirated goods, the use of forced labor, labor exploitation for financial gain, customs fraud, and theft of intellectual property and technology;

(C) direct or indirect support for transnational criminal organizations trafficking in fentanyl, illicit drug precursors, or other controlled substances through—

- (i) the United States border;
- (ii) international mail shipments; or
- (iii) express consignment operations; and

(D) support for illicit financial activity by Chinese Money Laundering Organizations, including any repatriation to China or any other country of the proceeds derived from the activities described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

(2) Account for the resources of the Department that are dedicated to programs aimed at countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and any supporting information as to the efficacy of each such program.

(3) Build upon existing or ongoing evaluations and avoid unnecessary duplication by reviewing the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of other appropriate working groups, committees, commissions, or entities established by the Department related to efforts to counter terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(4) Identify gaps in policies, processes, and activities of the Department to respond to terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(5) Facilitate cooperation and coordination among offices and components of the Department on a holistic response to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats

posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(c) ADDITIONAL DUTY RELATING TO INFORMATION SHARING.—The Working Group shall review, in coordination with the Office of Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security, information relating to terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party that is gathered by Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial partners, and the National Network of Fusion Centers, and incorporate such information, as appropriate, into the Working Group’s own information relating to such threats. The Working Group, in coordination with the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, shall also ensure the dissemination to Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial partners, and the National Network of Fusion Centers, of information related to such threats.

(d) ANNUAL ASSESSMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter for five years, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis of the Department of Homeland Security, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that assesses terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party during the immediately preceding 12 months.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each assessment under paragraph (1) shall also include the following:

(A) A description of the activities and operations of the Working Group undertaken pursuant to subsection (b).

(B) Any other matters the Secretary of Homeland Security determines relevant.

(3) FORM.—Each assessment under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall post on a publicly available website of the Department of Homeland Security the unclassified portion of each assessment.

(4) BRIEFING.—Not later than 30 days after the submission of each assessment under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on such assessment and the progress and challenges of the Working Group.

(e) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the implementation of this section.

(f) RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Director and the Under Secretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security, shall, to the extent practicable, carry out research and development, including operational testing, of technologies and techniques for enhancing the Department’s security and situational awareness relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party.

(g) IMPLEMENTATION.—All activities carried out pursuant to this section—

(1) shall be carried out in accordance with applicable constitutional, privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protections; and

(2) may not infringe upon the lawful exercise of free speech by United States persons.

(h) SUNSET.—The Working Group shall terminate on the date that is seven years after the establishment of the Working Group under subsection (a)(1).

(i) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) in the House of Representatives—

(i) the Committee on Homeland Security;
 (ii) the Committee on Ways and Means;
 (iii) the Committee on Financial Services;
 (iv) the Committee on the Judiciary; and
 (v) the Committee on Foreign Affairs; and
 (B) in the Senate—
 (i) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs;

(ii) the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs;

(iii) the Committee on Finance;

(iv) the Committee on the Judiciary; and

(v) the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(2) FUSION CENTER.—The term “fusion center” has the meaning given such term in subsection (k) of section 210A of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 124h).

(3) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given such term in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003(4)).

(4) NATIONAL NETWORK OF FUSION CENTERS.—The term “National Network of Fusion Centers” means a decentralized arrangement of fusion centers intended to enhance individual State and urban area fusion centers’ ability to leverage the capabilities and expertise of all such fusion centers for the purpose of enhancing analysis and homeland security information sharing nationally.

(5) UNITED STATES PERSONS.—The term “United States person” has the meaning given such term in section 1637(d)(10) of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal year 2015 (50 U.S.C. 1708(d)(10)).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 9668.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 9668, the SHIELD Against the CCP Act.

Throughout the past few years, the Chinese Communist Party has increasingly threatened our security, the security of our homeland. We must begin to come up with serious solutions to this very serious problem, and this bill is an important start.

This bill will require DHS to establish a working group to appropriately address and counter these threats.

I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG) for his work on this measure.

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

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the actions of the Chinese Communist Party at home and around the world have shown us that China is intent on undermining the global standing of the United States and weakening democratic institutions and norms.

According to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, China is expanding its covert influence and aims to sow doubts about U.S. leadership and undermine democracy, including by interfering in our elections.

□ 1530

The FBI director has stated that the CCP poses a broad and unrelenting threat to the United States critical infrastructure.

H.R. 9668 would require the Department of Homeland Security to establish a working group to coordinate its efforts to address threats that the CCP poses to the homeland. The working group would evaluate threats posed by the CCP, identify what DHS is doing to address these threats, identify what more could be done to address these threats, and then facilitate coordination across DHS to holistically address the threats from the CCP.

By supporting this bill, Congress can ensure that DHS has a strong and unified response to the Chinese Communist Party provocation and aggression.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. STRONG).

Mr. STRONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 9668, the SHIELD Against CCP Act.

We can all agree that the Chinese Communist Party poses a clear and present danger to America’s democracy and homeland security.

The CCP exploits every possible avenue to undermine our national security, and the Biden-Harris administration’s open southern border policy and soft-on-China policies have only aided our adversaries’ ability to harm American interests.

Our immigration system is routinely exploited by the CCP through identity theft, immigrant and nonimmigrant visa processes, and unlawful border crossings. According to U.S. Customs and Border Protection data, in fiscal year 2021, there were 323 apprehensions of Chinese foreign nationals. Nearly 4 years of the Biden-Harris administration have ballooned that number to 64,000.

In addition to exploiting our immigration system, the CCP also engages in theft of U.S. intellectual property and technology, which comes at a significant cost to our economy. It is estimated that China’s IP theft alone costs the average American family of four anywhere from \$4,000 to \$6,000 annually

after taxes. It is critical that DHS do more to combat these complex threats both at home and abroad.

For these reasons, I introduced H.R. 9668, the SHIELD Against CCP Act. This legislation will require the Department of Homeland Security to establish a dedicated working group to counter threats posed to our homeland security by the Chinese Communist Party.

Specifically, it will require them to examine, assess, and report on DHS’ efforts to counter the threats posed by the CCP. To ensure DHS is held accountable, H.R. 9668 also requires DHS to report annually to Congress.

It is our duty in Congress to ensure the safety and well-being of our great Nation, and we must not ignore the increasing aggression and influence of China on the global stage.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GREEN and all of the Members who have supported this legislation, and I urge all Members to join me in supporting this critically important piece of legislation to protect our national security and safeguard our interest.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. SUOZZI), who is the bill’s Democratic lead.

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I thank Chairman GREEN and Congresswoman CLARKE, my good friend, for their leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a bill I authored with Congressman STRONG, the bipartisan SHIELD Against the CCP Act.

The Chinese Communist Party is intent on promoting authoritarianism by weakening America from within. They seek to take our greatest strengths: pluralism, diversity, free speech, capitalism, and representative government, and use them against us.

China uses our freedoms, our social media, and our open society to sow chaos and division in our country. They know we cannot solve difficult problems in an environment of fear and anger, so they encourage fear and anger. They promote the most extreme sides of our thorniest debates. Whether it is Black lives matter versus blue lives matter, or transgender versus evangelicals, or Israel versus Gaza, the Chinese Communist Party promotes the most extreme positions on both sides of the debate, not with an objective of winning a debate but of fomenting dissent in America.

Add to this theft of our intellectual property, threats to our critical infrastructure, and trying to intimidate U.S. citizens through transnational repression. We must act.

The fact that today we are promoting bipartisan legislation is our greatest possible response. Democrats and Republicans can work together to combat this threat.

Our bipartisan bill counters the Chinese Communist Party with strength by, one, building the capacity of the Department of Homeland Security to

fight predatory economic and trade practices; two, preventing identity theft; three, strengthening our border security; four, providing the Department of Homeland Security with adequate resources to protect our critical infrastructure; five, improving cybersecurity; and, six, fighting transnational repression and criminal organizations.

The FBI Director has stated that the CCP, the Chinese Communist Party, poses a broad and unrelenting threat. The Chinese Communist Party is also engaged in a brutal campaign of transnational repression, targeting democracy advocates, Tibetans, Hong Kongers, Uyghurs, and other ethnic minority groups.

The Chinese Communist Party actually targets Americans, including my constituents. Just before Thanksgiving, after years of fighting for his release, I received the incredible news that my constituent, Kai Li, was finally released to the U.S. after more than a decade of wrongful imprisonment in China. If we are to honor the years Mr. Li spent in Chinese detention, then we must remain clear-eyed about the CCP threat and redouble our efforts to counter it.

Among their provocative tactics is transnational repression, which can be illustrated through the torment of Dr. Gulshan Abbas and her family. In 2018, Dr. Abbas was taken to a Uyghur forced labor camp.

What was her crime, Mr. Speaker?

Her sister, Rushan Abbas, an American, spoke out against the Uyghur genocide during a panel discussion here in America, then her sister was put in prison in China.

Think about it, Mr. Speaker. The CCP is not only carrying out mass detention, torture, forced sterilization, and forced labor against religious minorities within China, but also imprisoning family members of American citizens to suppress free expression here in America.

Let me be clear: the United States cannot waver in the face of this unrelenting strategic adversary. Today, we must demonstrate our resolve by supporting the SHIELD Against CCP Act which will help ensure that our government has a strong and unified response to the Chinese Communist Party's aggression.

Working with Congressman STRONG demonstrates that when we work together, we will succeed.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all Members to support this legislation.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have no more speakers, and I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives STRONG and SUOZZI for leading on this bill, I urge all Members to support this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I echo those comments. This is another great bipartisan effort in the Committee on Homeland Security,

and Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9668, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9668, as amended.

The question was taken.

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

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GOOD SAMARITAN REMEDIATION OF ABANDONED HARDROCK MINES ACT OF 2024

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2781) to promote remediation of abandoned hardrock mines, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2781

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 "Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) ABANDONED HARDROCK MINE SITE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "abandoned hardrock mine site" means an abandoned or inactive hardrock mine site and any facility associated with an abandoned or inactive hardrock mine site—

(i) that was used for the production of a mineral other than coal conducted on Federal land under sections 2319 through 2352 of the Revised Statutes (commonly known as the "Mining Law of 1872"; 30 U.S.C. 22 et seq.) or on non-Federal land; and

(ii) for which, based on information supplied by the Good Samaritan after review of publicly available data and after review of other information in the possession of the Administrator, the Administrator or, in the case of a site on land owned by the United States, the Federal land management agency, determines that no responsible owner or operator has been identified—

(I) who is potentially liable for, or has been required to perform or pay for, environmental remediation activities under applicable law; and

(II) other than, in the case of a mine site located on land owned by the United States, a Federal land management agency that has not been involved in mining activity on that land, except that the approval of a plan of operations under the hardrock mining regulations of the applicable Federal land management agency shall not be considered involvement in the mining activity.

(B) INCLUSION.—The term "abandoned hardrock mine site" includes a hardrock mine site (including associated facilities) that was previously the subject of a completed response action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation,

and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) or a similar Federal and State reclamation or cleanup program, including the remediation of mine-scarred land under the brownfields revitalization program under section 104(k) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 9604(k)).

(C) EXCLUSIONS.—The term "abandoned hardrock mine site" does not include a mine site (including associated facilities)—

(i) in a temporary shutdown or cessation;

(ii) included on the National Priorities List developed by the President in accordance with section 105(a)(8)(B) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9605(a)(8)(B)) or proposed for inclusion on that list;

(iii) that is the subject of a planned or ongoing response action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) or a similar Federal and State reclamation or cleanup program;

(iv) that has a responsible owner or operator; or

(v) that actively mined or processed minerals after December 11, 1980.

(2) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Administrator" means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(3) APPLICABLE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS.—The term "applicable water quality standards" means the water quality standards promulgated by the Administrator or adopted by a State or Indian tribe and approved by the Administrator pursuant to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.).

(4) BASELINE CONDITIONS.—The term "baseline conditions" means the concentrations, locations, and releases of any hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants, as described in the Good Samaritan permit, present at an abandoned hardrock mine site prior to undertaking any action under this Act.

(5) COOPERATING PERSON.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term "cooperating person" means any person that is named by the Good Samaritan in the permit application as a cooperating entity.

(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term "cooperating person" does not include—

(i) a responsible owner or operator with respect to the abandoned hardrock mine site described in the permit application;

(ii) a person that had a role in the creation of historic mine residue at the abandoned hardrock mine site described in the permit application; or

(iii) a Federal agency.

(6) COVERED PERMIT.—The term "covered permit" means—

(A) a Good Samaritan permit; and

(B) an investigative sampling permit.

(7) FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—The term "Federal land management agency" means any Federal agency authorized by law or executive order to exercise jurisdiction, custody, or control over land owned by the United States.

(8) GOOD SAMARITAN.—The term "Good Samaritan" means a person that, with respect to historic mine residue, as determined by the Administrator—

(A) is not a past or current owner or operator of—

(i) the abandoned hardrock mine site at which the historic mine residue is located; or

(ii) a portion of that abandoned hardrock mine site;

(B) had no role in the creation of the historic mine residue; and

(C) is not potentially liable under any Federal, State, Tribal, or local law for the remediation, treatment, or control of the historic mine residue.

(9) **GOOD SAMARITAN PERMIT.**—The term “Good Samaritan permit” means a permit granted by the Administrator under section 4(a)(1).

(10) **HISTORIC MINE RESIDUE.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “historic mine residue” means mine residue or any condition at an abandoned hardrock mine site resulting from hardrock mining activities.

(B) **INCLUSIONS.**—The term “historic mine residue” includes—

(i) previously mined ores and minerals other than coal that contribute to acid mine drainage or other pollution;

(ii) equipment (including materials in equipment);

(iii) any tailings facilities, heap leach piles, dump leach piles, waste rock, overburden, slag piles, or other waste or material resulting from any extraction, beneficiation, or other processing activity that occurred during the active operation of an abandoned hardrock mine site;

(iv) any acidic or otherwise polluted flow in surface water or groundwater that originates from, or is pooled and contained in, an inactive or abandoned hardrock mine site, such as underground workings, open pits, in-situ leaching operations, ponds, or impoundments;

(v) any hazardous substance (as defined in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601));

(vi) any pollutant or contaminant (as defined in section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601)); and

(vii) any pollutant (as defined in section 502 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1362)).

(11) **INDIAN TRIBE.**—The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning given the term in—

(A) section 518(h) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1377(h)); or

(B) section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601).

(12) **INVESTIGATIVE SAMPLING PERMIT.**—The term “investigative sampling permit” means a permit granted by the Administrator under section 4(d)(1).

(13) **PERSON.**—The term “person” means any entity described in—

(A) section 502(5) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1362(5)); or

(B) section 101(21) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601(21)).

(14) **REMEDIATION.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The term “remediation” means any action taken to investigate, characterize, or cleanup, in whole or in part, a discharge, release, or threat of release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant into the environment at or from an abandoned hardrock mine site, or to otherwise protect and improve human health and the environment.

(B) **INCLUSION.**—The term “remediation” includes any action to remove, treat, or contain historic mine residue to prevent, minimize, or reduce—

(i) the release or threat of release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant that would harm human health or the environment; or

(ii) a migration or discharge of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant that would harm human health or the environment.

(C) **EXCLUSION.**—The term “remediation” does not include any action that requires plugging, opening, or otherwise altering the portal or adit of the abandoned hardrock mine site.

(15) **RESERVATION.**—The term “reservation” has the meaning given the term “Indian

country” in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(16) **RESPONSIBLE OWNER OR OPERATOR.**—The term “responsible owner or operator” means a person that is—

(A)(i) legally responsible under section 301 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1311) for a discharge that originates from an abandoned hardrock mine site; and

(ii) financially able to comply with each requirement described in that section; or

(B)(i) a present or past owner or operator or other person that is liable with respect to a release or threat of release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant associated with the historic mine residue at or from an abandoned hardrock mine site under section 104, 106, 107, or 113 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9604, 9606, 9607, 9613); and

(ii) financially able to comply with each requirement described in those sections, as applicable.

SEC. 3. SCOPE.

Nothing in this Act—

(1) except as provided in section 4(n), reduces any existing liability under Federal, State, or local law;

(2) except as provided in section 4(n), releases any person from liability under Federal, State, or local law, except in compliance with this Act;

(3) authorizes the conduct of any mining or processing other than the conduct of any processing of previously mined ores, minerals, wastes, or other materials that is authorized by a Good Samaritan permit;

(4) imposes liability on the United States or a Federal land management agency pursuant to section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9607) or section 301 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1311); or

(5) relieves the United States or any Federal land management agency from any liability under section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9607) or section 301 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1311) that exists apart from any action undertaken pursuant to this Act.

SEC. 4. ABANDONED HARDROCK MINE SITE GOOD SAMARITAN PILOT PROJECT AUTHORIZATION.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Administrator shall establish a pilot program under which the Administrator shall grant not more than 15 Good Samaritan permits to carry out projects to remediate historic mine residue at any portions of abandoned hardrock mine sites in accordance with this Act.

(2) **OVERSIGHT OF PERMITS.**—The Administrator may oversee the remediation project under paragraph (1), and any action taken by the applicable Good Samaritan or any cooperating person under the applicable Good Samaritan permit, for the duration of the Good Samaritan permit, as the Administrator determines to be necessary to review the status of the project.

(3) **SUNSET.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the pilot program described in paragraph (1) shall terminate on the date that is 7 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(B) **EXCEPTION.**—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), the Administrator may grant a Good Samaritan permit pursuant to this Act after the date identified in subparagraph (A) if the application for the Good Samaritan permit—

(i) was submitted not later than 180 days before that date; and

(ii) was completed in accordance with subsection (c) by not later than 7 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

(C) **EFFECT ON CERTAIN PERMITS.**—Any Good Samaritan permit granted by the deadline prescribed in subparagraph (A) or (B), as applicable, that is in effect on the date that is 7 years after the date of enactment of this Act shall remain in effect after that date in accordance with—

(i) the terms and conditions of the Good Samaritan permit; and

(ii) this Act.

(b) **GOOD SAMARITAN PERMIT ELIGIBILITY.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—To be eligible to receive a Good Samaritan permit to carry out a project to remediate an abandoned hardrock mine site, a person shall demonstrate that, as determined by the Administrator—

(A) the abandoned hardrock mine site that is the subject of the application for a Good Samaritan permit is located in the United States;

(B) the purpose of the proposed project is the remediation at that abandoned hardrock mine site of historic mine residue;

(C) the proposed activities are designed to result in the partial or complete remediation of historic mine residue at the abandoned hardrock mine site within the term of the Good Samaritan permit;

(D) the proposed project poses a low risk to the environment, as determined by the Administrator;

(E) to the satisfaction of the Administrator, the person—

(i) possesses, or has the ability to secure, the financial and other resources necessary—

(I) to complete the permitted work, as determined by the Administrator; and

(II) to address any contingencies identified in the Good Samaritan permit application described in subsection (c);

(ii) possesses the proper and appropriate experience and capacity to complete the permitted work; and

(iii) will complete the permitted work; and

(F) the person is a Good Samaritan with respect to the historic mine residue proposed to be covered by the Good Samaritan permit.

(2) **IDENTIFICATION OF ALL RESPONSIBLE OWNERS OR OPERATORS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—A Good Samaritan shall make reasonable and diligent efforts to identify, from a review of publicly available information in land records or on internet websites of Federal, State, and local regulatory authorities, all responsible owners or operators of an abandoned hardrock mine site proposed to be remediated by the Good Samaritan under this section.

(B) **EXISTING RESPONSIBLE OWNER OR OPERATOR.**—If the Administrator determines, based on information provided by a Good Samaritan or otherwise, that a responsible owner or operator exists for an abandoned hardrock mine site proposed to be remediated by the Good Samaritan, the Administrator shall deny the application for a Good Samaritan permit.

(c) **APPLICATION FOR PERMITS.**—To obtain a Good Samaritan permit, a person shall submit to the Administrator an application, signed by the person and any cooperating person, that provides, to the extent known or reasonably discoverable by the person on the date on which the application is submitted—

(1) a description of the abandoned hardrock mine site (including the boundaries of the abandoned hardrock mine site) proposed to be covered by the Good Samaritan permit;

(2) a description of all parties proposed to be involved in the remediation project, including any cooperating person and each

member of an applicable corporation, association, partnership, consortium, joint venture, commercial entity, or nonprofit association;

(3) evidence that the person has or will acquire all legal rights or the authority necessary to enter the relevant abandoned hardrock mine site and perform the remediation described in the application;

(4) a detailed description of the historic mine residue to be remediated;

(5) a detailed description of the expertise and experience of the person and the resources available to the person to successfully implement and complete the remediation plan under paragraph (7);

(6) to the satisfaction of the Administrator and subject to subsection (d), a description of the baseline conditions caused by the historic mine residue to be remediated that includes—

(A) the nature and extent of any adverse impact on the water quality of any body of water caused by the drainage of historic mine residue or other discharges from the abandoned hardrock mine site;

(B) the flow rate and concentration of any drainage of historic mine residue or other discharge from the abandoned hardrock mine site in any body of water that has resulted in an adverse impact described in subparagraph (A); and

(C) any other release or threat of release of historic mine residue that has resulted in an adverse impact to human health or the environment;

(7) subject to subsection (d), a remediation plan for the abandoned hardrock mine site that describes—

(A) the nature and scope of the proposed remediation activities, including—

(i) any historic mine residue to be addressed by the remediation plan; and

(ii) a description of the goals of the remediation including, if applicable, with respect to—

(I) the reduction or prevention of a release, threat of release, or discharge to surface waters; or

(II) other appropriate goals relating to water or soil;

(B) each activity that the person proposes to take that is—

(i) designed to—

(I) improve or enhance water quality or site-specific soil or sediment quality relevant to the historic mine residue addressed by the remediation plan, including making measurable progress toward achieving applicable water quality standards; or

(II) otherwise protect human health and the environment (including through the prevention of a release, discharge, or threat of release to water, sediment, or soil); and

(ii) otherwise necessary to carry out an activity described in subclause (I) or (II) of clause (i);

(C) a plan describing the monitoring or other forms of assessment that will be undertaken by the person to evaluate the success of the activities described in subparagraph (A) during and after the remediation, with respect to the baseline conditions, as described in paragraph (6);

(D) to the satisfaction of the Administrator, detailed engineering plans for the project;

(E) detailed plans for any proposed recycling or reprocessing of historic mine residue to be conducted by the person (including a description of how all proposed recycling or reprocessing activities contribute to the remediation of the abandoned hardrock mine site); and

(F) identification of any proposed contractor that will perform any remediation activity;

(8) subject to subsection (d), a schedule for the work to be carried out under the project, including a schedule for periodic reporting by the person on the remediation of the abandoned hardrock mine site;

(9) a health and safety plan that is specifically designed for mining remediation work;

(10) a specific contingency plan that—

(A) includes provisions on response and notification to Federal, State, Tribal, and local authorities with jurisdiction over downstream waters that have the potential to be impacted by an unplanned release or discharge of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants; and

(B) is designed to respond to unplanned adverse events (such as adverse weather events or a potential fluid release that may result from addressing pooled water or hydraulic pressure situations), including the sudden release of historic mine residue;

(11) subject to subsection (d), a project budget and description of financial resources that demonstrate that the permitted work, including any operation and maintenance, will be completed;

(12) subject to subsection (d), information demonstrating that the applicant has the financial resources to carry out the remediation (including any long-term monitoring that may be required by the Good Samaritan permit) or the ability to secure an appropriate third-party financial assurance, as determined by the Administrator, to ensure completion of the permitted work, including any long-term operations and maintenance of remediation activities that may be—

(A) proposed in the application for the Good Samaritan permit; or

(B) required by the Administrator as a condition of granting the permit;

(13) subject to subsection (d), a detailed plan for any required operation and maintenance of any remediation, including a timeline, if necessary;

(14) subject to subsection (d), a description of any planned post-remediation monitoring, if necessary; and

(15) subject to subsection (d), any other appropriate information, as determined by the Administrator or the applicant.

(d) INVESTIGATIVE SAMPLING.—

(1) INVESTIGATIVE SAMPLING PERMITS.—The Administrator may grant an investigative sampling permit for a period determined by the Administrator to authorize a Good Samaritan to conduct investigative sampling of historic mine residue, soil, sediment, or water to determine—

(A) baseline conditions; and

(B) whether the Good Samaritan—

(i) is willing to perform further remediation to address the historic mine residue; and

(ii) will proceed with a permit conversion under subsection (e)(1).

(2) NUMBER OF PERMITS.—

(A) LIMITATION.— Subject to subparagraph (B), the Administrator may grant not more than 15 investigative sampling permits.

(B) APPLICABILITY TO CONVERTED PERMITS.—An investigative sampling permit that is not converted to a Good Samaritan permit pursuant to paragraph (5) may be eligible for reissuance by the Administrator subject to the overall total of not more than 15 investigative sampling permits allowed at any 1 time described in subparagraph (A).

(3) APPLICATION.—If a Good Samaritan proposes to conduct investigative sampling, the Good Samaritan shall submit to the Administrator an investigative sampling permit application that contains, to the satisfaction of the Administrator—

(A) each description required under paragraphs (1), (2), and (5) of subsection (c);

(B) to the extent reasonably known to the applicant, any previously documented water

quality data describing conditions at the abandoned hardrock mine site;

(C) the evidence required under subsection (c)(3);

(D) each plan required under paragraphs (9) and (10) of subsection (c); and

(E) a detailed plan of the investigative sampling.

(4) REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If a person submits an application that proposes only investigative sampling of historic mine residue, soil, sediment, or water that only includes the requirements described in paragraph (1), the Administrator may grant an investigative sampling permit that authorizes the person only to carry out the plan of investigative sampling of historic mine residue, soil, sediment, or water, as described in the investigative sampling permit application under paragraph (3).

(B) REPROCESSING.—An investigative sampling permit—

(i) shall not authorize a Good Samaritan or cooperating person to conduct any reprocessing of material; and

(ii) may authorize metallurgical testing of historic mine residue to determine whether reprocessing under subsection (f)(4)(B) is feasible.

(C) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SAMPLES.—In conducting investigative sampling of historic mine residue, soil, sediment, or water, a Good Samaritan shall—

(i) collect samples that are representative of the conditions present at the abandoned hardrock mine site that is the subject of the investigative sampling permit; and

(ii) retain publicly available records of all sampling events for a period of not less than 3 years.

(5) PERMIT CONVERSION.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the investigative sampling under the investigative sampling permit concludes, a Good Samaritan to whom an investigative sampling permit is granted under paragraph (1) may apply to convert an investigative sampling permit into a Good Samaritan permit under subsection (e)(1).

(6) PERMIT NOT CONVERTED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B)(ii)(I), a Good Samaritan who obtains an investigative sampling permit may decline—

(i) to apply to convert the investigative sampling permit into a Good Samaritan permit under paragraph (5); and

(ii) to undertake remediation activities on the site where investigative sampling was conducted on conclusion of investigative sampling.

(B) EFFECT OF LACK OF CONVERSION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding a refusal by a Good Samaritan to convert an investigative sampling permit into a Good Samaritan permit under subparagraph (A), but subject to clause (ii), the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (n) shall continue to apply to the Good Samaritan and any cooperating persons after the refusal to convert.

(ii) DEGRADATION OF SURFACE WATER QUALITY.—

(I) OPPORTUNITY TO CORRECT.—If, before the date on which a Good Samaritan refuses to convert an investigative sampling permit under subparagraph (A), actions by the Good Samaritan or any cooperating person have caused conditions at the abandoned hardrock mine site to be measurably worse, as determined by the Administrator, when compared to conditions described pursuant to paragraph (3)(B), if applicable, the Administrator shall provide the Good Samaritan or cooperating person, as applicable, the opportunity to return the conditions at the abandoned hardrock mine site to those conditions.

(II) EFFECT.—If, pursuant to subclause (I), the applicable Good Samaritan or cooperating person does not return the surface water quality at the abandoned hardrock mine site to conditions described pursuant to paragraph (3)(B), if applicable, as determined by the Administrator, clause (i) shall not apply to the Good Samaritan or any cooperating persons.

(e) INVESTIGATIVE SAMPLING CONVERSION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A person to which an investigative sampling permit was granted may submit to the Administrator an application in accordance with paragraph (2) to convert the investigative sampling permit into a Good Samaritan permit.

(2) APPLICATION.—

(A) INVESTIGATIVE SAMPLING.—An application for the conversion of an investigative sampling permit under paragraph (1) shall include any requirement described in subsection (c) that was not included in full in the application submitted under subsection (d)(3).

(B) PUBLIC NOTICE AND COMMENT.—An application for permit conversion under this paragraph shall be subject to—

(i) environmental review and public comment procedures required by subsection (1); and

(ii) a public hearing, if requested.

(f) CONTENT OF PERMITS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A Good Samaritan permit shall contain—

(A) the information described in subsection (c), including any modification required by the Administrator;

(B)(i) a provision that states that the Good Samaritan is responsible for securing, for all activities authorized under the Good Samaritan permit, all authorizations, licenses, and permits that are required under applicable law except for—

(I) section 301, 302, 306, 307, 402, or 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1311, 1312, 1316, 1317, 1342, 1344); and

(II) authorizations, licenses, and permits that would not need to be obtained if the remediation was conducted pursuant to section 121 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9621); or

(ii) in the case of an abandoned hardrock mine site in a State that is authorized to implement State law pursuant to section 402 or 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1342, 1344) or on land of an Indian tribe that is authorized to implement Tribal law pursuant to that section, a provision that states that the Good Samaritan is responsible for securing, for all activities authorized under the Good Samaritan permit, all authorizations, licenses, and permits that are required under applicable law, except for—

(I) the State or Tribal law, as applicable; and

(II) authorizations, licenses, and permits that would not need to be obtained if the remediation was conducted pursuant to section 121 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9621);

(C) specific public notification requirements, including the contact information for all appropriate response centers in accordance with subsection (o);

(D) in the case of a project on land owned by the United States, a notice that the Good Samaritan permit serves as an agreement for use and occupancy of Federal land that is enforceable by the applicable Federal land management agency; and

(E) any other terms and conditions determined to be appropriate by the Administrator or the Federal land management agency, as applicable.

(2) FORCE MAJEURE.—A Good Samaritan permit may include, at the request of the Good Samaritan, a provision that a Good Samaritan may assert a claim of force majeure for any violation of the Good Samaritan permit caused solely by—

(A) an act of God;

(B) an act of war;

(C) negligence on the part of the United States;

(D) an act or omission of a third party, if the Good Samaritan—

(i) exercises due care with respect to the actions of the Good Samaritan under the Good Samaritan permit, as determined by the Administrator;

(ii) took precautions against foreseeable acts or omissions of the third party, as determined by the Administrator; and

(iii) uses reasonable efforts—

(I) to anticipate any potential force majeure; and

(II) to address the effects of any potential force majeure; or

(E) a public health emergency declared by the Federal Government or a global government, such as a pandemic or an epidemic.

(3) MONITORING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Good Samaritan shall take such actions as the Good Samaritan permit requires to ensure appropriate baseline conditions monitoring, monitoring during the remediation project, and post-remediation monitoring of the environment under paragraphs (7) and (14) of subsection (c).

(B) MULTIPARTY MONITORING.—The Administrator may approve in a Good Samaritan permit the monitoring by multiple cooperating persons if, as determined by the Administrator—

(i) the multiparty monitoring will effectively accomplish the goals of this section; and

(ii) the Good Samaritan remains responsible for compliance with the terms of the Good Samaritan permit.

(4) OTHER DEVELOPMENT.—

(A) NO AUTHORIZATION OF MINING ACTIVITIES.—No mineral exploration, processing, beneficiation, or mining shall be—

(i) authorized by this Act; or

(ii) covered by any waiver of liability provided by this Act from applicable law.

(B) REPROCESSING OF MATERIALS.—A Good Samaritan may reprocess materials recovered during the implementation of a remediation plan only if—

(i) the project under the Good Samaritan permit is on land owned by the United States;

(ii) the applicable Federal land management agency has signed a decision document under subsection (1)(2)(G) approving reprocessing as part of a remediation plan;

(iii) the proceeds from the sale or use of the materials are used—

(I) to defray the costs of the remediation; and

(II) to the extent required by the Good Samaritan permit, to reimburse the Administrator or the head of a Federal land management agency for the purpose of carrying out this Act;

(iv) any remaining proceeds are deposited into the appropriate Good Samaritan Mine Remediation Fund established by section 5(a); and

(v) the materials only include historic mine residue.

(C) CONNECTION WITH OTHER ACTIVITIES.—The commingling or association of any other discharge of water or historic mine residue or any activity, project, or operation conducted on or after the date of enactment of this Act with any aspect of a project subject to a Good Samaritan permit shall not limit or reduce the liability of any person associ-

ated with the other discharge of water or historic mine residue or activity, project, or operation.

(g) ADDITIONAL WORK.—A Good Samaritan permit may (subject to subsection (r)(5) in the case of a project located on Federal land) allow the Good Samaritan to return to the abandoned hardrock mine site after the completion of the remediation to perform operations and maintenance or other work—

(1) to ensure the functionality of completed remediation activities at the abandoned hardrock mine site; or

(2) to protect public health and the environment.

(h) TIMING.—Work authorized under a Good Samaritan permit—

(1) shall commence, as applicable—

(A) not later than the date that is 18 months after the date on which the Administrator granted the Good Samaritan permit, unless the Administrator grants an extension under subsection (r)(2)(A); or

(B) if the grant of the Good Samaritan permit is the subject of a petition for judicial review, not later than the date that is 18 months after the date on which the judicial review, including any appeals, has concluded; and

(2) shall continue until completed, with temporary suspensions permitted during adverse weather or other conditions specified in the Good Samaritan permit.

(i) TRANSFER OF PERMITS.—A Good Samaritan permit may be transferred to another person only if—

(1) the Administrator determines that the transferee qualifies as a Good Samaritan;

(2) the transferee signs, and agrees to be bound by the terms of, the permit;

(3) the Administrator includes in the transferred permit any additional conditions necessary to meet the goals of this section; and

(4) in the case of a project under the Good Samaritan permit on land owned by the United States, the head of the applicable Federal land management agency approves the transfer.

(j) ROLE OF ADMINISTRATOR AND FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCIES.—In carrying out this section—

(1) the Administrator shall—

(A) consult with prospective applicants;

(B) convene, coordinate, and lead the application review process;

(C) maintain all records relating to the Good Samaritan permit and the permit process;

(D) in the case of a proposed project on State, Tribal, or private land, provide an opportunity for cooperating persons and the public to participate in the Good Samaritan permit process, including—

(i) carrying out environmental review and public comment procedures pursuant to subsection (1); and

(ii) a public hearing, if requested; and

(E) enforce and otherwise carry out this section; and

(2) the head of an applicable Federal land management agency shall—

(A) in the case of a proposed project on land owned by the United States, provide an opportunity for cooperating persons and the public to participate in the Good Samaritan permit process, including—

(i) carrying out environmental review and public comment procedures pursuant to subsection (1); and

(ii) a public hearing, if requested; and

(B) in coordination with the Administrator, enforce Good Samaritan permits issued under this section for projects on land owned by the United States.

(k) STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS.—As soon as practicable, but not later than 14 days after the date on which the Administrator receives an application for the

remediation of an abandoned hardrock mine site under this section that, as determined by the Administrator, is complete and meets all applicable requirements of subsection (c), the Administrator shall provide notice and a copy of the application to—

(1) each local government with jurisdiction over a drinking water utility, and each Indian tribe with reservation or off-reservation treaty rights to land or water, located downstream from or otherwise near a proposed remediation project that is reasonably anticipated to be impacted by the remediation project or a potential release of contaminants from the abandoned hardrock mine site, as determined by the Administrator;

(2) each Federal, State, and Tribal agency that may have an interest in the application; and

(3) in the case of an abandoned hardrock mine site that is located partially or entirely on land owned by the United States, the Federal land management agency with jurisdiction over that land.

(1) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND PUBLIC COMMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Before the issuance of a Good Samaritan permit to carry out a project for the remediation of an abandoned hardrock mine site, the Administrator shall ensure that environmental review and public comment procedures are carried out with respect to the proposed project.

(2) RELATION TO NEPA.—

(A) MAJOR FEDERAL ACTION.—Subject to subparagraph (F), the issuance or modification of a Good Samaritan permit by the Administrator shall be considered a major Federal action for purposes of section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332).

(B) LEAD AGENCY.—The lead agency for purposes of an environmental assessment and public comment under this subsection shall be—

(i) in the case of a proposed project on land owned by the United States that is managed by only 1 Federal land management agency, the applicable Federal land management agency;

(ii) in the case of a proposed project entirely on State, Tribal, or private land, the Administrator;

(iii) in the case of a proposed project partially on land owned by the United States and partially on State, Tribal, or private land, the applicable Federal land management agency; and

(iv) in the case of a proposed project on land owned by the United States that is managed by more than 1 Federal land management agency, the Federal land management agency selected by the Administrator to be the lead agency, after consultation with the applicable Federal land management agencies.

(C) COORDINATION.—To the maximum extent practicable, the lead agency described in subparagraph (B) shall coordinate procedures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) with State, Tribal, and Federal cooperating agencies, as applicable.

(D) COOPERATING AGENCY.—In the case of a proposed project on land owned by the United States, the Administrator shall be a cooperating agency for purposes of an environmental assessment and public comment under this subsection.

(E) SINGLE NEPA DOCUMENT.—The lead agency described in subparagraph (B) may conduct a single environmental assessment for—

(i) the issuance of a Good Samaritan permit;

(ii) any activities authorized by a Good Samaritan permit; and

(iii) any applicable permits required by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture.

(F) NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A Good Samaritan permit may only be issued if, after an environmental assessment, the head of the lead agency issues a finding of no significant impact (as defined in section 111 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4336e)).

(ii) SIGNIFICANT IMPACT.—If the head of the lead agency is unable to issue a finding of no significant impact (as so defined), the head of the lead agency shall not issue a Good Samaritan permit for the proposed project.

(G) DECISION DOCUMENT.—An approval or denial of a Good Samaritan permit may be issued as a single decision document that is signed by—

(i) the Administrator; and

(ii) in the case of a project on land owned by the United States, the head of the applicable Federal land management agency.

(H) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this paragraph exempts the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior, as applicable, from any other requirements of section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4332).

(m) PERMIT GRANT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may grant a Good Samaritan permit to carry out a project for the remediation of an abandoned hardrock mine site only if—

(A) the Administrator determines that—

(i) the person seeking the permit is a Good Samaritan;

(ii) the application described in subsection (c) is complete;

(iii) the project is designed to remediate historic mine residue at the abandoned hardrock mine site to protect human health and the environment;

(iv) the proposed project is designed to meet all other goals, as determined by the Administrator, including any goals set forth in the application for the Good Samaritan permit that are accepted by the Administrator;

(v) the proposed activities, as compared to the baseline conditions described in the permit, will make measurable progress toward achieving—

(I) applicable water quality standards;

(II) improved soil quality;

(III) improved sediment quality;

(IV) other improved environmental or safety conditions; or

(V) reductions in threats to soil, sediment, or water quality or other environmental or safety conditions;

(vi) the applicant has—

(I) demonstrated that the applicant has the proper and appropriate experience and capacity to complete the permitted work;

(II) demonstrated that the applicant will complete the permitted work;

(III) the financial and other resources to address any contingencies identified in the Good Samaritan permit application described in subsections (b) and (c);

(IV) granted access and provided the authority to review the records of the applicant relevant to compliance with the requirements of the Good Samaritan permit; and

(V) demonstrated, to the satisfaction of the Administrator, that—

(aa) the applicant has, or has access to, the financial resources to complete the project described in the Good Samaritan permit application, including any long-term monitoring and operations and maintenance that the Administrator may require the applicant to perform in the Good Samaritan permit; or

(bb) the applicant has established a third-party financial assurance mechanism, such

as a corporate guarantee from a parent or other corporate affiliate, letter of credit, trust, surety bond, or insurance to assure that funds are available to complete the permitted work, including for operations and maintenance and to address potential contingencies, that—

(AA) establishes the Administrator or the head of the Federal land management agency as the beneficiary of the third-party financial assurance mechanism; and

(BB) allows the Administrator to retain and use the funds from the financial assurance mechanism in the event the Good Samaritan does not complete the remediation under the Good Samaritan permit; and

(vii) the project meets the requirements of this Act;

(B) the State or Indian tribe with jurisdiction over land on which the abandoned hardrock mine site is located has been given an opportunity to review and, if necessary, comment on the grant of the Good Samaritan permit;

(C) in the case of a project proposed to be carried out under the Good Samaritan permit partially or entirely on land owned by the United States, pursuant to subsection (1), the head of the applicable Federal land management agency has signed a decision document approving the proposed project; and

(D) the Administrator or head of the Federal land management agency, as applicable, has provided—

(i) environmental review and public comment procedures required by subsection (1); and

(ii) a public hearing under that subsection, if requested.

(2) DEADLINE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall grant or deny a Good Samaritan permit by not later than—

(i) the date that is 180 days after the date of receipt by the Administrator of an application for the Good Samaritan permit that, as determined by the Administrator, is complete and meets all applicable requirements of subsection (c); or

(ii) such later date as may be determined by the Administrator with notification provided to the applicant.

(B) CONSTRUCTIVE DENIAL.—If the Administrator fails to grant or deny a Good Samaritan permit by the applicable deadline described in subparagraph (A), the application shall be considered to be denied.

(3) DISCRETIONARY ACTION.—The issuance of a permit by the Administrator and the approval of a project by the head of an applicable Federal land management agency shall be considered to be discretionary actions taken in the public interest.

(n) EFFECT OF PERMITS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A Good Samaritan and any cooperating person undertaking remediation activities identified in, carried out pursuant to, and in compliance with, a covered permit—

(A) shall be considered to be in compliance with all requirements (including permitting requirements) under the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) (including any law or regulation implemented by a State or Indian tribe under section 402 or 404 of that Act (33 U.S.C. 1342, 1344)) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.) during the term of the covered permit, after the termination of the Good Samaritan permit, and after declining to convert an investigative sampling permit into a Good Samaritan permit, as applicable;

(B) shall not be required to obtain a permit under, or to comply with, section 301, 302, 306, 307, 402, or 404 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1311, 1312, 1316,

1317, 1342, 1344), or any State or Tribal standards or regulations approved by the Administrator under those sections of that Act, during the term of the covered permit, after the termination of the Good Samaritan permit, and after declining to convert an investigative sampling permit into a Good Samaritan permit, as applicable; and

(C) shall not be required to obtain any authorizations, licenses, or permits that would otherwise not need to be obtained if the remediation was conducted pursuant to section 121 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9621).

(2) UNAUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any person (including a Good Samaritan or any cooperating person) that carries out any activity, including activities relating to mineral exploration, processing, beneficiation, or mining, including development, that is not authorized by the applicable covered permit shall be subject to all applicable law.

(B) LIABILITY.—Any activity not authorized by a covered permit, as determined by the Administrator, may be subject to liability and enforcement under all applicable law, including—

(i) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.); and

(ii) the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.).

(3) NO ENFORCEMENT OR LIABILITY FOR GOOD SAMARITANS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraphs (D) and (E), a Good Samaritan or cooperating person that is conducting a remediation activity identified in, pursuant to, and in compliance with a covered permit shall not be subject to enforcement or liability described in subparagraph (B) for—

(i) any actions undertaken that are authorized by the covered permit; or

(ii) any past, present, or future releases, threats of releases, or discharges of hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants at or from the abandoned hardrock mine site that is the subject of the covered permit (including any releases, threats of releases, or discharges that occurred prior to the grant of the covered permit).

(B) ENFORCEMENT OR LIABILITY DESCRIBED.—Enforcement or liability referred to in subparagraph (A) is enforcement, civil or criminal penalties, citizen suits and any liabilities for response costs, natural resource damage, or contribution under—

(i) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) (including under any law or regulation administered by a State or Indian tribe under that Act); or

(ii) the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.).

(C) DURATION OF APPLICABILITY.—Subparagraph (A) shall apply during the term of the covered permit, after the termination of the Good Samaritan permit, and after declining to convert an investigative sampling permit into a Good Samaritan permit, as applicable.

(D) OTHER PARTIES.—Nothing in subparagraph (A) limits the liability of any person that is not described in that subparagraph.

(E) DECLINE IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), if a Good Samaritan or cooperating person fails to comply with any term, condition, or limitation of a covered permit and that failure results in surface water quality or other environmental conditions that the Administrator determines are measurably worse than the baseline conditions as described in the permit (in the case of a Good Samaritan permit) or the conditions as described pursuant to subsection (d)(3)(B), if applicable (in the case of an investigative sampling per-

mit), at the abandoned hardrock mine site, the Administrator shall—

(i) notify the Good Samaritan or cooperating person, as applicable, of the failure to comply; and

(ii) require the Good Samaritan or the cooperating person, as applicable, to undertake reasonable measures, as determined by the Administrator, to return surface water quality or other environmental conditions to those conditions.

(F) FAILURE TO CORRECT.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to a Good Samaritan or cooperating person that fails to take any actions required under subparagraph (E)(ii) within a reasonable period of time, as established by the Administrator.

(G) MINOR OR CORRECTED PERMIT VIOLATIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the failure to comply with a term, condition, or limitation of a Good Samaritan permit or investigative sampling permit shall not be considered a permit violation or noncompliance with that permit if—

(i) that failure or noncompliance does not result in a measurable adverse impact, as determined by the Administrator, on water quality or other environmental conditions; or

(ii) the Good Samaritan or cooperating person complies with subparagraph (E)(ii).

(O) PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF ADVERSE EVENT.—A Good Samaritan shall notify all appropriate Federal, State, Tribal, and local entities of any unplanned or previously unknown release of historic mine residue caused by the actions of the Good Samaritan or any cooperating person in accordance with—

(1) section 103 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9603);

(2) section 304 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986 (42 U.S.C. 11004);

(3) the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.);

(4) any other applicable provision of Federal law; and

(5) any other applicable provision of State, Tribal, or local law.

(P) GRANT ELIGIBILITY.—A remediation project conducted under a Good Samaritan permit shall be eligible for funding pursuant to—

(1) section 319 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1329), for activities that are eligible for funding under that section; and

(2) section 104(k) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9604(k)), subject to the condition that the recipient of the funding is otherwise eligible under that section to receive a grant to assess or remediate contamination at the site covered by the Good Samaritan permit.

(Q) EMERGENCY AUTHORITY AND LIABILITY.—

(1) EMERGENCY AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section affects the authority of—

(A) the Administrator to take any responsive action authorized by law; or

(B) a Federal, State, Tribal, or local agency to carry out any emergency authority, including an emergency authority provided under Federal, State, Tribal, or local law.

(2) LIABILITY.—Except as specifically provided in this Act, nothing in this Act, a Good Samaritan permit, or an investigative sampling permit limits the liability of any person (including a Good Samaritan or any cooperating person) under any provision of law.

(R) TERMINATION OF GOOD SAMARITAN PERMIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A Good Samaritan permit shall terminate, as applicable—

(A) on inspection and notice from the Administrator to the recipient of the Good Sa-

maritan permit that the permitted work has been completed in accordance with the terms of the Good Samaritan permit, as determined by the Administrator;

(B) if the Administrator terminates a permit under paragraph (4)(B); or

(C) except as provided in paragraph (2)—

(i) on the date that is 18 months after the date on which the Administrator granted the Good Samaritan permit, if the permitted work has not commenced by that date; or

(ii) if the grant of the Good Samaritan permit was the subject of a petition for judicial review, on the date that is 18 months after the date on which the judicial review, including any appeals, has concluded, if the permitted work has not commenced by that date.

(2) EXTENSION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Administrator is otherwise required to terminate a Good Samaritan permit under paragraph (1)(C), the Administrator may grant an extension of the Good Samaritan permit.

(B) LIMITATION.—Any extension granted under subparagraph (A) shall be not more than 180 days for each extension.

(3) EFFECT OF TERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the termination of a Good Samaritan permit under paragraph (1), but subject to subparagraph (B), the provisions of paragraphs (1) through (4) of subsection (n) shall continue to apply to the Good Samaritan and any cooperating persons after the termination, including to any long-term operations and maintenance pursuant to the agreement under paragraph (5).

(B) DEGRADATION OF SURFACE WATER QUALITY.—

(i) OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO BASELINE CONDITIONS.—If, at the time that 1 or more of the conditions described in paragraph (1) are met but before the Good Samaritan permit is terminated, actions by the Good Samaritan or cooperating person have caused surface water quality at the abandoned hardrock mine site to be measurably worse, as determined by the Administrator, when compared to baseline conditions described in the permit, the Administrator shall, before terminating the Good Samaritan permit, provide the Good Samaritan or cooperating person, as applicable, the opportunity to return surface water quality to those baseline conditions.

(ii) EFFECT.—If, pursuant to clause (i), the applicable Good Samaritan or cooperating person does not return the surface water quality at the abandoned hardrock mine site to the baseline conditions described in the permit, as determined by the Administrator, subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the Good Samaritan or any cooperating persons.

(4) UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The recipient of a Good Samaritan permit may seek to modify or terminate the Good Samaritan permit to take into account any event or condition that—

(i) significantly reduces the feasibility or significantly increases the cost of completing the remediation project that is the subject of the Good Samaritan permit;

(ii) was not—

(I) reasonably contemplated by the recipient of the Good Samaritan permit; or

(II) taken into account in the remediation plan of the recipient of the Good Samaritan permit; and

(iii) is beyond the control of the recipient of the Good Samaritan permit, as determined by the Administrator.

(B) TERMINATION.—The Administrator shall terminate a Good Samaritan permit if—

(i) the recipient of the Good Samaritan permit seeks termination of the permit under subparagraph (A);

(ii) the factors described in subparagraph (A) are satisfied; and

(iii) the Administrator determines that remediation activities conducted by the Good Samaritan or cooperating person pursuant to the Good Samaritan permit may result in surface water quality conditions, or any other environmental conditions, that will be worse than the baseline conditions, as described in the Good Samaritan permit, as applicable.

(5) **LONG-TERM OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE.**—In the case of a project that involves long-term operations and maintenance at an abandoned hardrock mine site located on land owned by the United States, the project may be considered complete and the Administrator, in coordination with the applicable Federal land management agency, may terminate the Good Samaritan permit under this subsection if the applicable Good Samaritan has entered into an agreement with the applicable Federal land management agency or a cooperating person for the long-term operations and maintenance that includes sufficient funding for the long-term operations and maintenance.

(s) **REGULATIONS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture, and appropriate State, Tribal, and local officials, may promulgate any regulations that the Administrator determines to be necessary to carry out this Act.

(2) **GUIDANCE IF NO REGULATIONS PROMULGATED.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—If the Administrator does not initiate a regulatory process to promulgate regulations under paragraph (1) within 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture, and appropriate State, Tribal, and local officials, shall issue guidance establishing specific requirements that the Administrator determines would facilitate the implementation of this section.

(B) **PUBLIC COMMENTS.**—Before finalizing any guidance issued under subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall hold a 30-day public comment period.

SEC. 5. SPECIAL ACCOUNTS.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a Good Samaritan Mine Remediation Fund (referred to in this section as a “Fund”) for—

(1) each Federal land management agency that authorizes a Good Samaritan to conduct a project on Federal land under the jurisdiction of that Federal land management agency under a Good Samaritan permit; and

(2) the Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) **DEPOSITS.**—Each Fund shall consist of—

(1) amounts provided in appropriation Acts;

(2) any proceeds from reprocessing deposits under section 4(f)(4)(B)(iv);

(3) any financial assurance funds collected from an agreement described in section 4(m)(1)(A)(vi)(V)(bb);

(4) any funds collected for long-term operations and maintenance under an agreement under section 4(r)(5); and

(5) any amounts donated to the Fund by any person.

(c) **UNUSED FUNDS.**—Amounts in each Fund not currently needed to carry out this Act shall be maintained as readily available or on deposit.

(d) **RETAIN AND USE AUTHORITY.**—The Administrator and each head of a Federal land management agency, as appropriate, may, notwithstanding any other provision of law, retain and use money deposited in the applicable Fund without fiscal year limitation for the purpose of carrying out this Act.

SEC. 6. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 8 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator, in consultation with the heads of Federal land management agencies, shall submit to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, Energy and Commerce, and Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report evaluating the Good Samaritan pilot program under this Act.

(b) **INCLUSIONS.**—The report under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of—

(A) the number, types, and objectives of Good Samaritan permits granted pursuant to this Act; and

(B) each remediation project authorized by those Good Samaritan permits;

(2) interim or final qualitative and quantitative data on the results achieved under the Good Samaritan permits before the date of issuance of the report;

(3) a description of—

(A) any problems encountered in administering this Act; and

(B) whether the problems have been or can be remedied by administrative action (including amendments to existing law);

(4) a description of progress made in achieving the purposes of this Act; and

(5) recommendations on whether the Good Samaritan pilot program under this Act should be continued, including a description of any modifications (including amendments to existing law) required to continue administering this Act.

The **SPEAKER** pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Utah (Ms. MALOY) and the gentlewoman from Alaska (Mrs. PELTOLA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 2781.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 2781, the bipartisan and bicameral Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024.

I am the Republican cosponsor of the House companion legislation. This bill is critical to removing the obstacles that are preventing the cleanup and remediation of important land and water resources across our Nation.

This map shows the hundreds of thousands of estimated abandoned mines sprinkled across the United States. This is not only a western issue, but a national one. Historic mining in the U.S. predates modern environmental laws and current reclamation standards. This leads to the creation of abandoned hardrock mine lands, which can pose environmental and safety risks to surrounding areas and communities.

Despite the danger, non-profit organizations, mining companies, State agencies, and other stakeholders with the willingness and expertise to clean up these abandoned mines are deterred from taking action.

Under the Clean Water Act and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, or CERCLA, Good Samaritans who wish to clean up an abandoned mine would assume liability for the pre-existing mine waste or pollution that they did not create. As a result, remediation efforts are stopped before they can even begin.

This bill directs the EPA to establish a pilot permitting program for 15 low-risk projects to allow true Good Samaritans, with no legal or financial responsibility or connection to an abandoned hardrock mine site, to remediate and clean up sites leading to improved environmental and safety conditions.

S. 2781 is the right start to allow for the cleanup and remediation of these mines in Utah and across the country while providing narrowly targeted liability protections for Good Samaritan volunteers.

This bill has robust bipartisan support from a significant number of stakeholders across the political spectrum. The legislation also passed out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee by voice vote, the full Senate by unanimous consent, and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee by voice vote in September.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. PELTOLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2781, the Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024, authored by Senator HEINRICH of New Mexico.

This bipartisan bill, also introduced in the House by Representative MALOY and myself, would address the significant environmental challenge posed by tens of thousands of abandoned hardrock mining sites by creating a pathway for Good Samaritan entities to receive the legal assurances they need to move ahead with remediation of historic mine pollution.

I applaud the bipartisan work that has gotten the bill to this point, and I am pleased to see that we are on the cusp of enactment.

The potential harm to the environment and society caused by these abandoned mines is great. Tens of thousands of miles of streams around the Nation are contaminated by acid and metals drained from these abandoned mine sites, and hundreds of thousands of acres of lakes and reservoirs are impacted from runoff from abandoned mines.

The Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024 would establish a pilot program to allow EPA to issue certain permits to allow remediation of abandoned hardrock mine sites.

The legislation has the support of a range of outdoor conservation groups, including American Rivers, National Parks Conservation Association, National Wildlife Federation, The Nature Conservancy, and Trout Unlimited.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE).

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Utah for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024 introduced by my colleague Representative MALOY from Utah.

Around the country, and particularly in the West, thousands of historic hardrock mines lay abandoned, posing risks to public health and the environment.

Many of these sites sit on the same public land on which we recreate and thoroughly enjoy. The leftover residues, chemicals, and harmful contaminants affect thousands of miles of streams and waterways, endangering wildlife and fish.

Clearly, there is a problem to be solved here. Too often in this body of Congress, we create more problems than actual solutions.

This bill is fundamentally different from the way that it tries to approach and address this issue that exists out in our communities.

This bill will accelerate remediation work by allowing Good Samaritan organizations and State agencies to voluntarily take action and clean up abandoned mines to protect water quality.

With the enactment of this bill, we will help ensure that these sites are restored and no longer pose risks to the public. A key word on that is “voluntarily.” If we get in the way of these Good Samaritan and State agencies to actually solve this issue, we will continue to have these problems going forward.

In Utah, we know the importance of being good stewards of our resources, and this legislation is vital to passing on our land to future generations.

I thank Congresswoman MALOY and her work on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

□ 1545

Mrs. PELTOLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE).

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to S. 2781.

To be clear, I strongly support cleaning up abandoned mines, but this bill contains language that would undermine the cleanups it aims to support. It opens the floodgates for bad actors to take advantage of Superfund liability shields and loopholes created by this legislation for the very first time.

Providing broad Superfund exemptions undermines our ability to protect the communities we are elected to serve. For example, during a cleanup, a so-called Good Samaritan may do an

inadequate job or make the toxic contamination at a site worse. Under this bill, they would not be held responsible for the harm that they caused. By exempting polluters from liability, Congress would be shifting the costs of these cleanups onto the taxpayers, and I don't think that is right.

I fear that Congress is opening a Pandora's box, where every corporation and polluter will be asking for their own sweetheart Superfund exemption. What is more, this bill gives the incoming Trump Environmental Protection Agency Administrator unilateral power to decide which entities are Good Samaritans and which are not.

The Trump EPA also has sole power to choose which sites get selected for the program and to determine if a site is truly cleaned up in a reasonable amount of time under vague terms that make it difficult to ensure that adequate protection for human health and the environment takes place.

Mr. Speaker, EPA, the agency in charge of implementing the provisions of this bill, has also expressed serious concerns. The bill opens the program to additional litigation, takes away the possibility of downstream communities' holding Good Samaritans accountable in case of a spill, and leaves taxpayers on the hook to pay for cleaning up pollution that is discovered after a permit expires.

Mr. Speaker, for decades, the Superfund program has worked to clean up toxic sites across the Nation, particularly those contaminated with radioactive material and heavy metals. It has a strong bipartisan history of cleaning up sites, regardless of location and regardless of who is responsible or which political party controls Congress or the White House.

I believe allowing the Trump EPA to politicize this successful law is a mistake. Giving the Trump EPA additional tools to undermine Superfund cleanups should not be the way to close out this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I have consistently been willing to work with bill supporters to address deficiencies and recognize the critical role that Good Samaritans play in mine cleanups while also making sure we don't create new toxic Superfund sites in the process. Unfortunately, attempts by me and others to improve this bill or alleviate those concerns have not been granted or didn't take place.

Mr. Speaker, I simply cannot support the way this bill is phrased. I urge a “no” vote.

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER).

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her work and leadership on this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 2781, the Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024.

According to the Government Accountability Office, there are over

140,000 abandoned hardrock mines on Federal lands. At least 22,500 of these mines pose serious dangers to the communities around them. Historically, the Coeur d'Alene mining district in Idaho stands as one of the most productive mining regions in silver and lead in the United States, with a legacy dating back to the 1890s. However, this history has resulted in thousands of abandoned hardrock mines on Federal lands. In some cases, they degrade the environment.

This bill simply provides limited liability protections for groups willing to step up and help. It allows Good Samaritans, nonprofits, private organizations, and local governments to clean up and remediate these sites effectively without fear of incurring harmful liability under the framework of CERCLA and the Clean Water Act.

Mr. Speaker, this is needed. Government can't and shouldn't do everything. This legislation simply encourages public-private partnerships to tackle this issue and do it in an effective and affordable way.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues' support of this bill.

Mrs. PELTOLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Colorado (Ms. DEGETTE).

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bipartisan Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act.

This bill would establish a pilot program for 15 low-risk abandoned mine remediation projects to be approved by the EPA and to be conducted by qualified State agencies, local governments, and nonprofits. It does not provide unlimited protection for everybody. It is a pilot project.

In Colorado and across the West, we are surrounded by the legacy of our pioneering mining industry, but with that comes the responsibility to address what is left behind at mining sites.

According to the GAO, of the nearly 140,000 abandoned hardrock mines in the U.S., we have 23,000 of them in Colorado alone, with over 7,400 of them posing environmental risks. Under current law, groups that volunteer to clean or restore a former mining site could become liable for the site, even if the group played no role in causing the pollution before remediating the site. The Colorado Department of Natural Resources has told me that that hurdle has stopped cleanup efforts in Colorado.

This bill represents a critical step forward, empowering those nonresponsible parties that are ready, willing, and able to help and to improve water quality in and around abandoned hardrock mines to obtain a permit to clean up those sites.

By establishing a pilot program, abandoned mines can be remediated over the next 7 years, and we will learn lessons on how to best permit and manage remediation of those sites going forward.

In September 2023, the Biden administration's recommendations to improve mining on public lands called for the establishment of a Good Samaritan remediation. The administration strongly supports the establishment of a Good Samaritan remediation program through the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this bill that would allow us to address important environmental issues.

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. GRAVES).

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Utah (Ms. MALOY) and the gentlewoman from Alaska (Mrs. PELTOLA) for coming together on this important bipartisan legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the reality is that there are abandoned mines all over the United States. There are very few in Louisiana because you hit water when you go subsurface in most cases, but we do have some mines in the northern part of the State.

The reason I am excited about this legislation is because it incentivizes the right type of behavior.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues need to think about the two alternatives here. One alternative is that these abandoned mines and the environmental risks that they pose are left unadulterated. They would be left behind with the risk and the threat.

The other is you allow the work of a Good Samaritan, someone who wants to come in to help carry out remediation efforts. This can't be someone that created the mine. It can't be someone who is a PRP or otherwise has liability associated with the mine. They are folks who want to come in to eliminate the risk, to reduce the risk, and to clean things up.

This is exactly the type of behavior that we should be incentivizing. This is exactly what we should be doing.

In fact, I would love to see us actually expand this into areas like coastal Louisiana, where we have lost 2,000 square miles of our coast, incentivizing Good Samaritans to come in to carry out remediation efforts or restoration efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Alaska (Mrs. PELTOLA) for taking a leadership role and working together with my good friend, the gentlewoman from Utah (Ms. MALOY), on this great bipartisan legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I will say it again. This type of pilot program is the exact thing that we should be doing on a broader basis, on an expanded basis, because this incentivizes the right type of behavior. It eliminates risk and eliminates threats to the environment, and I appreciate this legislation being brought up.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mrs. PELTOLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mrs. PELTOLA and Ms. MALOY for their leadership.

Abandoned hardrock mines are scattered all across the American West, including in my own district, which is home to some of the oldest mine lands in Nevada. Their pollutants are poisoning our waters, threatening Tribal lands and resources, and creating hazardous landscapes that have injured and killed Americans.

A range of highly qualified partners, from State and local agencies to the nonprofit guardians of America's great outdoors, such as Trout Unlimited, stand ready to work with the Federal Government to clean up these sites.

Today's bipartisan, bicameral legislation will safely and responsibly cut through red tape currently preventing these Good Samaritans from doing so. It has taken 25 years of consensus building to craft this version of the Good Sam bill now on the floor. That is a quarter century of collaboration that has earned this version of the bill the support of every Member of the U.S. Senate; our Transportation and Infrastructure Committee; a bipartisan coalition of lawmakers, myself included, who have led the charge to get this legislation across the finish line in this Congress; and stakeholders from The Nature Conservancy to the National Congress of American Indians and the Western Governors' Association.

Mr. Speaker, here is a sobering reminder: Across these multiple decades, abandoned hardrock mines have continued to send mercury, arsenic, lead, and other toxic materials into our rivers and communities.

Let's take a look back in history to highlight just one example.

When the Senator from Montana first proposed the Good Sam legislation back in 1999, officials from the State were hoping that it would provide a pathway for them to help clean up an 1800s-era abandoned mine polluting Montana's Corbin Creek. After 25 years, with Good Sam bill after Good Sam bill dying here in Washington, Corbin Creek still remains on Montana's list of impaired waters to this day, and for no good reason since Good Samaritans have been willing to actively assist.

The time for talking is over. It is now time for the House to act. Before Congress adjourns, we have a historic opportunity to put our Nation on an accelerated path to cleaner waters and safer landscapes. This Good Sam bill is a good bill.

The Clean Water Act and Superfund both aim to restore and maintain the integrity of America's waters, and this bill moves us closer to that objective. It also includes multiple protections and provisions to prevent any abuse or backsliding.

Mr. Speaker, I ask both my Republican and Democratic colleagues to join me in voting at long last to pass it.

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers and am prepared to close. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. PELTOLA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time to close.

Mr. Speaker, mining is a very interesting field, and a lot of modern mining is very, very environmentally conscious. I think it is noteworthy to recognize that all rock is between zero to six or seven stages of acid rock leaching. All that means is, if acid-leaching rock is crushed, its exposure to water and air becomes a contaminant to fish.

Acid-rock drainage was not very well understood in some of the early mines, and I know that there are a lot of entities that are very interested and have a lot of philanthropic money behind them to put toward remediation and reclamation.

This act provides a reasonable, commonsense approach to ensure that voluntary parties that had nothing to do with the cause of pollution are able to take steps to reduce the environmental health and safety problems associated with abandoned mine sites.

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

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purposes of closing.

The Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act, the Good Samaritan Act, is the right step forward. There is a clear irony here that the Clean Water Act and CERCLA are unintentionally standing in the way of sensible, low-risk mine clean-ups.

I ask that my colleagues support this monumental legislation, the concepts for which have been in the works for over two decades. The strong bipartisan nature of this bill cannot be overstated, with Senators and Members of Congress working alongside stakeholders and industry leaders across the political spectrum, including the White House, to make this bill into law.

I thank my co-lead, Congresswoman MARY PELTOLA, for her leadership and partnership and for the support of the bill's bipartisan cosponsors.

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

□ 1600

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Utah (Ms. MALOY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 2781.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMTRAK TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR PASSENGERS AND TAXPAYERS ACT

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8692) to require that the Amtrak Board of Directors comply with the open meetings requirements of section 552b of title 5, United States Code, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8692

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 “Amtrak Transparency and Accountability for Passengers and Taxpayers Act”.

SEC. 2. OPEN MEETINGS.

Section 24301(e) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “Section 552 of title 5, this part” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), sections 552 and 552b of title 5, this part”;

(2) in the second sentence by striking “Section 552 of title 5, United States Code, applies” and inserting the following:

“(2) TIMING OF APPLICATION.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), sections 552 and 552b of title 5 apply”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) SCOPE OF APPLICATION.—

“(A) INFORMATION.—The requirements of the second sentence of section 552(b) of title 5 shall not apply to any portion of an Amtrak meeting and subsections (d) and (e) of section 552b of title 5 shall not apply to any information pertaining to any portion of an Amtrak meeting otherwise required by section 552b of title 5 to be disclosed to the public in any case in which Amtrak properly determines that such portion or portions of the meeting or the disclosure of such information is likely to involve—

“(i) contract negotiations, including negotiations for contract procurements and agreements, the disclosure of which would imperil or compromise the competitive position of Amtrak;

“(ii) collective bargaining agreements or any terms and conditions that are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of terms and conditions with employees or representatives of employees of Amtrak; and

“(iii) with respect to any individual who is a prospective officer, employee, or contractor or an officer, employee, or contractor employed or appointed by Amtrak, matters involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of, promotion or disciplining of any such individual, unless all such individuals whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that the matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.

“(B) ADDITIONAL APPLICATION.—In addition to the information described in subparagraph (B), the information described in section 552b(c) shall apply to Amtrak meetings.”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Utah (Ms. MALOY) and the gentlewoman from Alaska (Mrs. PELTOLA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Utah.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on H.R. 8692.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Utah?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, the Government in the Sunshine Act, or Sunshine Act, was es-

tablished to increase the public's confidence in its government.

Under the Sunshine Act, meetings of government agencies must be open to the public unless one of the statute's exemptions apply.

The act defines an agency as one headed by a collegial body, a majority of whose members are nominated by the President, and whose appointment is subject to advice and consent of the Senate. This clearly describes Amtrak.

The need for full transparency at Amtrak has never been greater. Here are just a few examples.

First, last fiscal year, Amtrak reported operating losses of \$757 million. These were losses made up for by taxpayers. Its Acela II train sets are more than 3 years behind schedule, and the delays have cost Amtrak more than \$140 million in lost revenues.

Additionally, the Northeast Corridor Commission estimates its state of good repair backlog on the Northeast Corridor exceeds \$78.7 billion. Further, the Biden administration's infrastructure law provides for more than \$66 billion in advanced appropriations that Amtrak can use to expand service, regardless of the need to make a profit.

With so much of the taxpayers' money in Amtrak's hands, there clearly needs to be more transparency and accountability for the decisions made by the passenger rail service's board, and this bill provides just that.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 8692. This bill requires Amtrak's board of directors to hold open meetings, ensures the public is notified of upcoming meetings, and allows the public to observe board meetings.

The bill increases transparency and allows exceptions when certain sensitive financial and contractual obligations are discussed, including contract negotiations with Amtrak's workers.

Transparency is important, and the concept of open board meetings has support from the Rail Passengers Association and the States for Passenger Rail Coalition.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. NEHLS).

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 8692, the Amtrak Transparency and Accountability for Passengers and Taxpayers Act, is essential legislation for mandating transparency from Amtrak.

This bill applies the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 to Amtrak, requiring meetings of its board of directors to be open to public observation with certain exceptions.

Amtrak's status as a governmental entity for the purposes of the Sunshine Act is beyond dispute. All its voting board members are nominated by the

President and confirmed by the Senate. It shares characteristics with other government-created and -sponsored entities that require board of director meetings to be open.

Amtrak receives substantial taxpayer support. Never in its more than 50-year history has it made a profit, and now it has access to more than \$66 billion. That is with a b, Mr. Speaker. For those of you upstairs, that is \$66 billion in taxpayer support through the Biden administration's infrastructure law.

How this funding will be utilized and how Amtrak is managed is of great importance to its customers, employees, and taxpayers at large.

It is often said that sunshine is the best disinfectant. Opening up many of Amtrak's board of director meetings will better ensure that its decisions are made in the best interest of the public. With so much at stake, Amtrak should not be the exception to transparency.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to Chairman GRAVES and the members of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for supporting H.R. 8692, and I urge support of this legislation.

Mrs. PELTOLA. Mr. Speaker, this bill will increase transparency of Amtrak decisions as Amtrak uses Federal funding to improve operations, and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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

Ms. MALOY. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 8692 represents an important step in providing much-needed transparency and accountability to meetings by Amtrak's board of directors and the decisions they make that involve billions of taxpayer dollars.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Utah (Ms. MALOY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8692, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 4 o'clock and 5 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1630

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. FERGUSON) at 4 o'clock and 30 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Proceedings will resume on questions previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

Passage of H.R. 7673; and
The motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 9668.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XX, the remaining electronic vote will be conducted as a 5-minute vote.

LIBERTY IN LAUNDRY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on passage of the bill (H.R. 7673) to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing or enforcing energy conservation standards for clothes washers that are not cost-effective or technologically feasible, and for other purposes, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.
The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the passage of the bill.

This is a 15-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 215, nays 200, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 497]

YEAS—215

Aderholt	Duarte	Joyce (OH)
Alford	Duncan	Joyce (PA)
Allen	Dunn (FL)	Kean (NJ)
Amodei	Edwards	Kelly (MS)
Armstrong	Elizy	Kelly (PA)
Arrington	Emmer	Kiggans (VA)
Babin	Estes	Kiley
Bacon	Ezell	Kim (CA)
Baird	Fallon	Kustoff
Balderson	Feenstra	LaHood
Banks	Ferguson	LaLota
Barr	Finstad	LaMalfa
Bean (FL)	Fischbach	Lamborn
Bentz	Fitzgerald	Langworthy
Bergman	Fitzpatrick	Latta
Bice	Fleischmann	LaTurner
Biggs	Flood	Lawler
Bilirakis	Fong	Lee (FL)
Bishop (NC)	Fox	Lesko
Boebert	Franklin, Scott	Letlow
Bost	Fry	Lopez
Brecheen	Fulcher	Loudermillk
Buchanan	Garbarino	Lucas
Buchson	Jimenez	Luetkemeyer
Burchett	Gonzales, Tony	Luna
Burlison	Gonzalez, V.	Luttrell
Calvert	Good (VA)	Mace
Cammack	Gooden (TX)	Malliotakis
Caraveo	Gosar	Maloy
Carey	Graves (LA)	Mann
Carl	Graves (MO)	Massie
Carter (GA)	Green (TN)	Mast
Carter (TX)	Griffith	McClain
Chavez-DeRemer	Grothman	McClintock
Ciscomani	Guest	McCormick
Cline	Guthrie	Meuser
Cloud	Hageman	Miller (IL)
Clyde	Harris	Miller (OH)
Cole	Harshbarger	Miller (WV)
Collins	Hern	Miller-Meeks
Comer	Higgins (LA)	Mills
Crane	Hill	Molinaro
Crawford	Hinson	Moolenaar
Cuellar	Houchin	Mooney
Curtis	Hudson	Moore (AL)
D'Esposito	Huizenga	Moore (UT)
Davidson	Hunt	Moran
Davis (NC)	Issa	Murphy
De La Cruz	Jackson (TX)	Nehls
DesJarlais	James	Norman
Diaz-Balart	Johnson (SD)	Nunn (IA)
Donalds	Jordan	Obernolte

Ogles	Schweikert	Turner
Owens	Scott, Austin	Valadao
Palmer	Self	Van Drew
Peltola	Sessions	Van Dуйne
Pence	Simpson	Van Orden
Perez	Smith (MO)	Wagner
Perry	Smith (NE)	Walberg
Pfuger	Smith (NJ)	Weber (TX)
Posey	Smucker	Webster (FL)
Reschenthaler	Spartz	Wenstrup
Rogers (AL)	Stauber	Westerman
Rogers (KY)	Steel	Wied
Rose	Stefanik	Williams (NY)
Rosendale	Steil	Williams (TX)
Rouzer	Steube	Wilson (SC)
Roy	Strong	Wittman
Rulli	Tenney	Womack
Rutherford	Thompson (PA)	Yakym
Salazar	Tiffany	Zinke
Scalise	Timmons	

NAYS—200

Adams	Goldman (NY)	Panetta
Aguiar	Gomez	Pappas
Allred	Gottheimer	Pelosi
Amo	Green, Al (TX)	Peters
Auchincloss	Harder (CA)	Petterson
Balint	Hayes	Phillips
Barragan	Himes	Pingree
Beatty	Horsford	Pocan
Bera	Houlihan	Porter
Beyer	Hoyer	Pressley
Bishop (GA)	Hoyle (OR)	Quigley
Blumenauer	Huffman	Ramirez
Blunt Rochester	Ivey	Raskin
Bonamici	Jackson (IL)	Ross
Bowman	Jackson (NC)	Ruiz
Boyle (PA)	Jacobs	Ruppersberger
Brown	Jayapal	Ryan
Brownley	Jeffries	Salinas
Budzinski	Johnson (GA)	Sanchez
Bush	Kamllager-Dove	Sarbanes
Carbajal	Kaptur	Scanlon
Cardenas	Keating	Schakowsky
Carson	Kelly (IL)	Schneider
Carter (LA)	Kennedy	Scholten
Cartwright	Khanna	Schrier
Casar	Kildee	Scott (VA)
Case	Kilmer	Scott, David
Casten	Krishnamoorthi	Sewell
Castor (FL)	Kuster	Sherman
Castro (TX)	Landsman	Sherrill
Cherfilus-	Larsen (WA)	Slotkin
McCormick	Larson (CT)	Smith (WA)
Chu	Lee (CA)	Sorensen
Clark (MA)	Lee (NV)	Soto
Clarke (NY)	Lee (PA)	Spanberger
Cleaver	Lee Carter	Stansbury
Leger Fernandez	Levin	Stanton
Cohen	Lofgren	Stevens
Connolly	Lynch	Strickland
Correa	Magaziner	Suozi
Costa	Manning	Swalwell
Courtney	Matsui	Sykes
Craig	McBath	Takano
Crockett	McClellan	Thanedar
Crow	McClellan	Thompson (CA)
Dauids (KS)	McCollum	Thompson (MS)
Davis (IL)	McGarvey	Titus
Dean (PA)	McGovern	Tlaib
DeGette	McIver	Tokuda
DeLauro	Meeks	Tonko
DelBene	Menendez	Torres (CA)
Deluzio	Meng	Torres (NY)
Dunne	Mfume	Torres (NY)
Desaulnier	Moore (WI)	Trahan
Dingell	Morelle	Trone
Doggett	Moskowitz	Underwood
Escobar	Moulton	Vargas
Eshoo	Espallat	Vasquez
Eshoo	Meuser	Veasey
Espallat	Fletcher	Velasquez
Fleischmann	Foster	Wasserman
Flood	Foushee	Neal
Fong	Frankel, Lois	Schultz
Fox	Frost	Waters
Fry	Garamendi	Watson Coleman
Fulcher	Garcia (IL)	Wild
Guthrie	Garcia (TX)	Williams (GA)
Hageman	Garcia, Robert	Wilson (FL)
Harris	Golden (ME)	
Harshbarger		
Hern		
Higgins (LA)		
Hill		
Hinson		
Houchin		
Hudson		
Huizenga		
Hunt		
Issa		
Jackson (TX)		
James		
Johnson (SD)		
Jordan		

NOT VOTING—15

Burgess	Granger	McHenry
Crenshaw	Greene (GA)	Newhouse
Evans	Grijalva	Rodgers (WA)
Gallego	Lieu	Waltz
Garcia, Mike	McCauley	Wexton

□ 1700

Messrs. VASQUEZ, LANDSMAN, SUOZZI, and GARAMENDI changed their vote from “yea” to “nay.”

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STRATEGIC HOMELAND INTEL-
LIGENCE AND ENFORCEMENT
LEGISLATION TO DEFEND
AGAINST THE CCP ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9668) to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 409, nays 4, not voting 17, as follows:

[Roll No. 498]

YEAS—409

Adams	Cammack	Davis (IL)
Aderholt	Caraveo	Davis (NC)
Aguiar	Carbajal	De La Cruz
Alford	Cardenas	Dean (PA)
Allen	Carey	DeGette
Allred	Carl	DeLauro
Amo	Carson	DelBene
Amodei	Carter (GA)	Deluzio
Armstrong	Carter (LA)	Desaulnier
Arrington	Carter (TX)	DesJarlais
Auchincloss	Cartwright	Diaz-Balart
Babin	Casar	Dingell
Bacon	Case	Doggett
Baird	Casten	Donalds
Balderson	Castor (FL)	Duarte
Balint	Castro (TX)	Duncan
Banks	Chavez-DeRemer	Dunn (FL)
Barr	Cherfilus-	Edwards
Barragan	McCormick	Elizy
Bean (FL)	Chu	Emmer
Beatty	Ciscomani	Escobar
Bentz	Clark (MA)	Eshoo
Bera	Clarke (NY)	Espallat
Bergman	Cleaver	Estes
Beyer	Cline	Ezell
Bice	Cloud	Fallon
Biggs	Clyburn	Feenstra
Bilirakis	Clyde	Ferguson
Bishop (GA)	Cohen	Finstad
Bishop (NC)	Cole	Fischbach
Blumenauer	Collins	Fitzgerald
Blunt Rochester	Comer	Fitzpatrick
Boebert	Connolly	Fleischmann
Bonamici	Correa	Fletcher
Bost	Costa	Flood
Bowman	Courtney	Fong
Buchson	Craig	Foster
Budzinski	Crane	Foushee
Burchett	Crawford	Fox
Burlison	Crockett	Frankel, Lois
Calvert	Crow	Franklin, Scott
	Cuellar	Frost
	Curtis	Fry
	D'Esposito	Fulcher
	Davidson	Garamendi
		Garbarino

Garcia (IL) Lopez
 Garcia (TX) Loudermilk
 Garcia, Robert Lucas
 Gimenez Luetkemeyer
 Golden (ME) Luna
 Goldman (NY) Luttrell
 Gomez Lynch
 Gonzales, Tony Mace
 Gonzalez, V. Magaziner
 Good (VA) Malliotakis
 Gooden (TX) Mann
 Gosar Manning
 Gottheimer Mast
 Graves (LA) Matsui
 Graves (MO) McBath
 Green (TN) McClain
 Green, Al (TX) McClellan
 Griffith McClintock
 Grothman McCollum
 Guest McCormick
 Guthrie McGarvey
 Hageman McGovern
 Harder (CA) McIver
 Harris Meeks
 Harshbarger Menendez
 Hayes Meng
 Hern Meuser
 Higgins (LA) Mfume
 Hill Miller (IL)
 Himes Miller (OH)
 Hinson Miller (WV)
 Horsford Miller-Meeks
 Houchin Mills
 Houlihan Molinaro
 Hoyer Moolenaar
 Hoyle (OR) Mooney
 Hudson Moore (AL)
 Huffman Moore (UT)
 Huizenga Moore (WI)
 Hunt Moran
 Issa Morelle
 Ivey Moskowitz
 Jackson (IL) Moulton
 Jackson (NC) Mrvan
 Jackson (TX) Mullin
 Jacobs Nadler
 James Napolitano
 Jayapal Neal
 Jeffries Neguse
 Johnson (GA) Nehls
 Johnson (SD) Nickel
 Jordan Norcross
 Joyce (OH) Norman
 Joyce (PA) Nunn (IA)
 Kamlager-Dove Obernolte
 Kaptur Ocasio-Cortez
 Kean (NJ) Ogles
 Keating Omar
 Kelly (IL) Owens
 Kelly (MS) Pallone
 Kelly (PA) Palmer
 Kennedy Panetta
 Khanna Pappas
 Kiggans (VA) Pelosi
 Kildee Peltola
 Kiley Pence
 Kilmer Perez
 Kim (CA) Perry
 Krishnamoorthi Peters
 Kustoff Petterson
 LaHood Pfluger
 LaLota Phillips
 LaMalfa Pingree
 Lamborn Pocan
 Landsman Porter
 Langworthy Posey
 Larsen (WA) Pressley
 Larson (CT) Quigley
 Latta Ramirez
 LaTurner Raskin
 Lawler Reschenthaler
 Lee (CA) Rodgers (WA)
 Lee (FL) Rogers (AL)
 Lee (NV) Rogers (KY)
 Lee (PA) Rose
 Lee Carter Ross
 Leger Fernandez Rouzer
 Lesko Roy
 Letlow Ruiz
 Levin Rulli
 Lofgren Ruppberger

Rutherford Ryan
 Ryan Salazar
 Salinas Salinas
 Luna Sánchez
 Sarbanes Sarbanes
 Scalise Scalise
 Scanlon Scanlon
 Schakowsky Schakowsky
 Schneider Schneider
 Scholten Scholten
 Schrier Schrier
 Schweikert Schweikert
 Scott (VA) Scott (VA)
 McBath Scott, Austin
 McClain Scott, David
 McClellan Self
 Sessions Sessions
 McCollum Sewell
 McCormick Sherman
 McGarvey Sherrill
 McGovern Simpson
 McIver Slotkin
 Meeks Smith (MO)
 Menendez Smith (NE)
 Meng Smith (NJ)
 Meuser Smith (WA)
 Mfume Smucker
 Miller (IL) Sorensen
 Miller (OH) Soto
 Miller (WV) Spanberger
 Miller-Meeks Spartz
 Mills Stansbury
 Molinaro Stanton
 Moolenaar Stauber
 Mooney Steel
 Moore (AL) Stefanik
 Moore (UT) Steil
 Moore (WI) Steube
 Moran Stevens
 Morelle Strickland
 Moskowitz Strong
 Moulton Suozzi
 Mrvan Swalwell
 Mullin Sykes
 Nadler Takano
 Napolitano Tenney
 Neal Thanedar
 Neguse Thompson (CA)
 Nehls Thompson (MS)
 Nickel Thompson (PA)
 Norcross Tiffany
 Norman Timmons
 Nunn (IA) Titus
 Obernolte Tokuda
 Ocasio-Cortez Tonko
 Ogles Torres (CA)
 Omar Torres (NY)
 Owens Trahan
 Pallone Trone
 Palmer Turner
 Panetta Underwood
 Pappas Valadao
 Pelosi Van Drew
 Peltola Van Dуйne
 Pence Van Orden
 Perez Vargas
 Perry Vasquez
 Peters Veasey
 Petterson Velázquez
 Pfluger Wagner
 Phillips Walberg
 Pingree Wasserman
 Pocan Schultz
 Porter Waters
 Posey Watson Coleman
 Pressley Weber (TX)
 Quigley Webster (FL)
 Ramirez Wenstrup
 Raskin Westerman
 Reschenthaler Wied
 Rodgers (WA) Wild
 Rogers (AL) Williams (GA)
 Rogers (KY) Williams (NY)
 Rose Williams (TX)
 Ross Wilson (FL)
 Rouzer Wilson (SC)
 Roy Wittman
 Ruiz Womack
 Rulli Yakym
 Ruppberger Zinke

Greene (GA) Maloy
 Grijalva McCauley
 Kuster McHenry
 Lieu Murphy
 Newhouse
 Waltz
 Wexton

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE
 The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

□ 1707

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 4545

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered to be the first sponsor of H.R. 4545, a bill originally introduced by Representative GALLAGHER of Wisconsin, for the purpose of adding co-sponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CARTER of Georgia). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

HONORING JOHN W. MIXON

(Mr. FERGUSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable Georgian, Mr. John W. Mixon. Mr. John has made almost an immeasurable impact on the State of Georgia.

After graduating from the University of Georgia, Mr. John went to work in the timber industry for the Great Southern Paper Company and then worked for the Georgia Forestry Commission.

For the next 34 years, John Mixon played the leading role in turning Georgia into the number one State in America for forestry. His work was both visionary and comprehensive.

Starting as a technician and rising to the director of the commission, he worked tirelessly toward his goal of making the Georgia forest industry into what it is today.

He started the Reforestation Commission that was responsible for planting a world record 600,000 acres of pine trees. He established Georgia's first forestry museum, an educational forest, and the Georgia Tree Coalition, which planted thousands of trees in the 1996 Olympic venues throughout the State.

John served and held leadership positions in numerous professional and civic organizations and received the Soil Conservationist of the Year award from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps the highest recognition of his professional contribution was receiving the Wise Owl Award from the Georgia Forestry Association. This significant achievement was well earned and deserved.

As a result of Mr. John Mixon's vision and hard work, literally thousands of Georgians work in the timber industry, and the industry has massively impacted the economic well-being of Georgia.

Just as importantly, Georgia's environment is better off, and the timber industry is environmentally sustainable. We all owe Mr. John Mixon a debt of gratitude for making our world a much better place.

□ 1715

UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

(Mrs. LEE CARTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LEE CARTER. Mr. Speaker, today on U.N. Human Rights Day we reaffirm our commitment to justice, equality, and human dignity, values that are reflected in Texas' 18th Congressional District. I hope that we, as Members of Congress and Americans, reflect it, as well.

Houston resettles over 3,000 refugees annually through the U.N. Refugee Agency, supported by organizations like the Alliance and YMCA International, providing housing, education, and healthcare for refugees.

With over 300,000 human trafficking victims in Texas, collaboration with the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime has been vital, supporting programs like the Houston Rescue and Restore Coalition.

My mother, the late Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, worked closely with the U.N. to address human rights issues. She partnered with the World Health Organization to combat public health disparities, focusing on maternal health and HIV/AIDS in underserved communities.

Additionally, she supported the U.N.'s efforts after Hurricane Harvey, helping to coordinate relief and provided essential resources to displaced families.

As we honor Human Rights Day, let us remember the dignity of all who traverse this great Earth we call our home, and let us continue these efforts and advance justice and equality for all.

CONGRATULATING JACK FELTON, A LIFELONG VOLS FAN

(Mr. BURCHETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BURCHETT. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate a very fine young man from Tennessee's Second District, young

NAYS—4

Bush Rosendale
 Massie Tlaib

NOT VOTING—17

Burgess Evans Garcia, Mike
 Crenshaw Gallego Granger

Jack Felton. Jack is a proud member of the fall 2024 pledge class of the Sigma Chi fraternity at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he was recently initiated.

Jack graduated from the Webb School of Knoxville, where he served as captain of the baseball team and played shortstop. He thinks quickly, he has got steady hands, and he works very hard.

Jack is majoring in agribusiness. I know he will find success wherever his life takes him. I know his parents, and they have raised him well.

Jack has four sisters; three are here, and one sweet little girl is in heaven.

Jack has been a lifelong Vols fan, and he is fourth in the family to attend UT. He truly bleeds orange, Mr. Speaker.

I have no doubt Jack will continue to make his family proud by attending every single class, as his father did, and not staying out late when he should be in the library.

Mr. Speaker, as a reminder, one of our other fraternity brothers, Scott Davis, owned a bar on the Cumberland Avenue Strip, and its name was The Library.

I look forward to seeing all the great things he will accomplish, and I expect to see his pledge class at the top of the GPA leaderboard this semester.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Jack on his initiation. Go Vols. "In hoc signo vinces." "In this sign you will conquer."

FALL OF SYRIAN DICTATOR ASSAD

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this past Sunday morning, a new day dawned in Syria. The world saw stunning images of liberty emerge in the world's oldest continuously inhabited capital city of Damascus.

Syria was freed from the 55-year-old regime of Bashar al-Assad, who had turned it into a dictatorship.

It was not totally clear who the rebel factions were that swarmed through the towns of Aleppo, Hama, and Homs, and then the capital city.

As a result of the fall of Assad, the spiderweb of tyranny between Russia, Iran, North Korea, and China has been weakened.

Iran and Russia could no longer prop up their puppet. The days ahead for Syria are uncertain, but the Syrian people deserve a chance to rebuild a civil nation of their choosing after decades of turmoil. Hopefully, it will be a tolerant society, accepting of people from all religious confessions.

Under that dictatorship, over 500,000 people suffered horror and death at the hands of Assad. Others were held warrantlessly in captivity by this ruthless dictator. My hope is that the Syrian people may have the chance to write their own intelligent chapter in human history.

While the future of Syria remains uncertain, we should recognize this spirit of triumph. Millions who fled the scourge of war will have a chance to return home free of bombs.

CONGRATULATING WARE COUNTY, GEORGIA

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ware County, Georgia, for celebrating its 200th year anniversary.

Ware County was founded in 1824 and resides in Georgia's First Congressional District, which I have the honor and privilege of representing.

Originally carved from Appling County, Ware County was named after the United States Senator, Nicholas Ware, who served as the mayor of Augusta, Georgia, before his term in the Senate.

Today, Ware County is recognized as one of the leading counties in south Georgia, as it is home to the 451st militia district, the oldest in our entire country.

The county site, Waycross, has grown from a small town with nothing more than a log courthouse to a city serving 14,000 people and large manufacturing companies such as Stewart's Candy Company.

Waycross is also bordered by the beautiful Satilla River, which became a busy route in the early 1800s for transporting longleaf pine trees to sawmills on the coast.

In fact, Waycross is the largest city in the largest county in the largest State east of the Mississippi.

I am proud to celebrate this anniversary with Ware County and our great State of Georgia.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICHAEL ALEXANDER RAIMONDI

(Mr. LAWLER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAWLER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Michael Alexander Raimondi, a remarkable young man from Westchester County, who was tragically taken from us far too soon. Michael was a bright and imaginative soul who brought joy to everyone around him.

A student at Somers High School and a member of the Westchester County Police Cadet program, he had begun exploring his love for forensic science and criminal justice. His creativity knew no bounds, from crafting intricate origami designs to building automotive LEGO masterpieces with his brother and grandfather.

Michael's gentle and nurturing spirit shone through in his love for animals, his deep bonds with family, and his quiet yet purposeful way of expressing himself. His love for music, gaming,

and endless laughter with his brother, Matthew, created memories that will live forever in the hearts of those who loved him.

Though his time with us was far too brief, Michael's vibrant spirit and boundless imagination left an indelible mark on Somers and all of the Hudson Valley.

May his memory be a blessing to his family and all who knew him.

CONGRATULATING MAYOR JIM LUKE

(Mr. EZELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to extend heartfelt congratulations to Mayor Jim Luke on being named the recipient of the prestigious 2024 Excellence in Government Award. This is a remarkable achievement, and Mayor Luke is only the second mayor in history to receive such an honor.

Luke has spent his career improving the city of Picayune, Mississippi, starting his career as a police officer at the Picayune Police Department. Under Luke's leadership, the Picayune Police Department achieved significant advancements in community engagement and public safety.

Luke initiated innovative programs such as the Teen 411 Program and the police camp aimed at fostering positive relationships between law enforcement and youth.

As chief, he spearheaded the Partnership, Pride, and Progress Program which revolutionized public safety technological capabilities without incurring additional cost to the city.

Through innovative partnerships with local businesses, the program facilitated the exchange of information and resources beneficial to law enforcement and the community. His outstanding dedication and visionary leadership and tireless commitment to improving the lives of those in Picayune have truly earned him this recognition. We are incredibly fortunate to have such a dedicated leader guiding our community.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mayor Luke for his exceptional contributions and for serving the city of Picayune with unwavering distinction.

CHRISTMAS 1777

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. WIED). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the time to come here in December. I am not sure if we will get time next week here on the floor.

As we look forward to Christmas, I think it is important to remember why we are here and why we are here in the House.

Christmas 1777 was one of the lowest and most desperate points of American

history. General Washington, fresh off defeats at Brandywine and Germantown had marched the battered Continental Army to winter quarters at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. Frozen rain, snow, and brutally cold temperatures tested not only the men's resolve to fight for freedom, but their bodies' ability to withstand the elements.

They showed up low on provisions. It was so bad that in a letter on December 23, General Washington wrote to Henry Laurens of the Continental Congress: "I am now convinced beyond a doubt, that unless some great and capital change suddenly takes place . . . this Army must inevitably be reduced to one or other of these three things: Starve, dissolve, or disperse. . . . [This] is not an exaggerated picture. . . ."

Historians estimate that as many as one-third of them didn't have boots or shoes. Washington ordered soldiers to build wooden huts for themselves to stave off the cold and search the surrounding countryside for straw to make bedding to keep them warm. They didn't have enough blankets to go around after all.

In the same letter, Washington also noted that his Army was in danger from the enemy. General Howe was nearby, and Washington needed his men ready to rock and roll, but they couldn't do it.

"I ordered the troops to be in readiness," for an attack, Washington wrote. "When behold to my great mortification . . . the men were unable to stir on account of provision. . . ."

"All I could do under these circumstances was to send out a few light parties to watch and harass the enemy. . . ."

His officers were resigned to leaving the camp, and he fretted that without congressional action otherwise "I much doubt the practicability of holding the Army together much longer."

Mr. Speaker, how did we get here?

Twelve months earlier had been one of the high points of the Revolution and Washington's military career—victories at Trenton, victories at Princeton, the Crossing of the Delaware and the daring Christmas Day surprise attack on the Hessians.

This year it was burnt mutton and watered-down grog for an Army that was cold, starving, and on the brink.

Mr. Speaker, 2,100 out of 10,000 would die there from disease and exposure.

We know that is not the end of the story. We know that because I am standing here on this floor in the United States House of Representatives as a citizen of the greatest country in the world.

Baron Von Steuben got to camp in 1778 and started whipping the Continental Army into better shape, and Washington's men kept up the fight until Yorktown 3 long years later.

However, now, Mr. Speaker, to my friends and colleagues who are here in the Chamber, the few remaining, it is now our turn to fight. We are at a relatively speaking low point in our coun-

try's history due to the unbelievable but yet completely observable negligence, nay, I say purposeful actions of the current administration to undermine the safety, security, prosperity, and well-being of our people and our Nation.

We have millions of people who have been dumped into our country illegally, including criminals. We have \$36 trillion in debt, another \$2 trillion a year. It is really another \$1 trillion every 100 days, a little over 3 months.

Americans are in record levels of personal debt because of the record levels of inflation and a hamstrung economy by bureaucrats and progressive radical Democrats who want to micromanage your life and regulate your life to death, tell you what stoves you can use, what cars you can drive, drive up the price of cars, your houses, your schools, your healthcare, and then thank you for the privilege.

The world around us is in chaos. We see what is happening in Syria. We saw what is happening in South Korea, and we see what is happening around the globe, Ukraine, and Russia, the empowerment of Iran, although, thankfully, the resolve of Israel is standing strong while our country has walked away from that fight.

That is all due to the weakness of the Biden administration that it has shown for 4 years. Now it is our calling in this Congress to stand up alongside President Trump to stand up and fix it. However, the calling for our Congress is not to simply walk back some of the failures of this administration. It is not to ask for some quick fixes. It is to fundamentally change the trajectory of our country.

□ 1730

It is to take bold action. It is to pass serious legislation. It is to fundamentally change our reliance on debt and profligate spending that is indebting our children and driving up inflation because we are spending money we don't have.

We have an obligation to fight for the American people. That is our calling as we wrap up this year. We have several really important fights and debates to continue to finish, such as the National Defense Authorization Act, which, unbelievably, our Democratic colleagues are resisting and saying they aren't going to support. Why? Because Republicans have taken the position that we shouldn't have taxpayer funding at the Pentagon for transgender surgeries for children.

Our Democratic colleagues are so committed to the mutilation of children that they would choose not to authorize the defense of the United States. That is the world in which we are currently operating, and it is Republicans who are standing here in defense of our children while trying to make sure our defense is strong.

The NDAA is not where it should be. Let me be clear, because of radical progressive Democrats in the Senate and the House, we have miles to go.

We have an obligation to do our job. We have an obligation to not spend money that we don't have. We have an obligation to pay for the disaster aid that so many of my colleagues understandably want and seek for their constituents in the wake of hurricane damage, drought, or issues that are facing our people. We have an obligation to pay for these things, or else we are no better than the people we criticize.

Come January, after we do whatever we are going to do here in December with respect to the funding of government, such as the disaster funding, the national defense bill, the farm bill, all issues that are still ripe before us—we have a new President, a new Congress coming in, a new Senate, all Republican—what will we do? I am here to suggest to you that, through the reconciliation tools, we can make serious change.

Now, here, I pause for a second. I have colleagues of mine who, rightly, on both sides of the aisle, will point out that reconciliation is supposed to be a budget tool for reconciling the budget and ensuring that we are, frankly, working to achieve balance and not spending more money than we should. That very much should be the priority of budget reconciliation, and I will endeavor to ensure that we follow that path.

I remind the American people that the reason they cannot afford healthcare, the reason they cannot go to the doctor of their choice, the reason they are frustrated with the American healthcare system today, and the reason insurance companies are making billions of dollars while they suffer is their Federal Government.

It is a Federal Government that has overpromised, overregulated, and is now telling you precisely what kind of healthcare you can have while then enriching insurance companies to administer it for you. You can't go to the doctor of your choice. You can't get the healthcare of your choice. We don't have robust health savings accounts. We haven't empowered you.

We have empowered bureaucrats in Washington at HHS and bureaucrats at CMS who are managing Medicare and managing Medicaid. We have empowered insurance bureaucrats. We have empowered corporate cronies. What we have not done is empowered you. What we have not done is empowered doctors.

We must do that if we are going to claim the mantle of not just healthcare freedom and making America healthy again, but if we are going to actually say that we are going to be fiscally responsible, we can't solve our \$36 trillion of debt if we don't solve the burden of healthcare.

When we get to January, when we are sworn in, when we have counted the electors for President Trump, when the Senate is in session, we should act with dispatch to pass a reconciliation package right out of the gate that secures the border of the United States.

It was the fundamental promise of the Trump campaign but, more importantly, what President Trump has campaigned on all the way back since 2016, what President Trump did while he was in office from 2017 to 2021.

It was the fundamental failure of the Biden administration to purposefully flood our country with some 10-odd million human beings, including criminals, weakening our border, fentanyl, all the dangers that have been posed to the American people, including the murders of Americans, deaths from fentanyl poisoning, putting the burden on our social welfare state and our schools, jails, and hospitals.

Obligation number one for this Republican Congress is to ensure that we secure the border, or at least take step one to secure the border. What will that mean?

Well, we need to build the wall. President Trump ran on building the wall in 2016, so let's provide the funding through reconciliation to ensure that the wall is built.

Number two, the wall does no good if you have policies in place that allow people to be released into the United States. That is what the Biden administration has done, so we must fund and empower ICE to carry out the repatriation of millions of individuals who are illegally placed into the United States in violation of law, in violation of the statute, in violation of parole, in the name of parole, and in the name of asylum. These individuals must be removed and repatriated through funding to ICE and Border Patrol.

We need to fund the Migrant Protection Protocols that President Trump was using to ensure that Mexico was upholding its end of the bargain and not dumping people into our country. We need to pay back the States that have had to be on the front lines when our government failed us, like Texas, which has spent \$12 billion over the last 4 years to stand in the breach. Other States also have a claim to having stood up to try to secure the border.

We should impose monthly and annual fees on those who have been paroled into the United States and those who have been given notices to appear in court. We have to pay for all that. Impose fees. Impose fees on applications for work permits. Ensure that welfare benefits only go to United States citizens and legal permanent residents and not parolees, not asylees, and not people who are illegally present.

Currently, that is costing us upwards of \$160 billion over 10 years. Your tax dollars are going to fund welfare benefits for people who have been illegally placed into the United States or who illegally came here.

Additionally, let's make Mexico and other bad-actor states pay for the wall by imposing a tax on remittances sent by noncitizens here abroad.

Impose taxes or fees on nongovernmental organizations that have been

taking taxpayer money just to use it against us and move people here illegally into the United States.

Require illegal aliens to cover the cost of background checks.

Impose fees on aliens who fail to provide approved, unexpired identification documents at ports of entry.

Increase financial penalties for visa overstays.

Increase fees on student visas to stop the foreign takeover of U.S. colleges.

Beef up 287(g) to allow local law enforcement to collaborate with Federal law enforcement to enforce our border security and immigration laws.

These are just some of the things, a pretty exhaustive list, that we can do, should do, and must do right out of the gate in January when we have the pen. We can do it—and by the way, we can pay for it—and we must.

Let me be clear: For all manners of our choices on reconciliation, we will pay for them. We will achieve deficit reduction, not deficit increase. That is our calling, and we must achieve it. Failure to do so will not succeed.

We can repeal the expanded Internal Revenue Service funding. I would rather pay for Border Patrol agents than to pay for Internal Revenue Service agents. There is some \$50 billion sitting there. Let's use that to secure the border of the United States.

Let's repeal the student loan policy of the Biden administration in which Americans who never went to college or have paid off their student loans or don't qualify are paying off the student loans of other Americans. Why is that happening?

My wife's student loan hasn't been paid off. She has now been working on it for 20 years, the product of a single mom. She worked her butt off to go to school, had debt sitting there. She has been paying it down and working hard to pay it down.

There are thousands, millions of those people in this country who have followed the law, done their responsibility, worked hard to pay off their student loans. Joe Biden came in and said: Don't worry about that. I am going to take from you, and I am going to give to these other people.

End that. That could get us between \$100 billion and \$270 billion. Take that and fund the things we need to do and that the Constitution calls for us to do.

Repeal the SNAP Thrifty Food Plan. Do you know what that was? It was a massive expansion done by the stroke of the pen, just like the same stroke of the pen that Joe Biden used to expand the student loan bailouts, to expand food stamps, effectively, and to walk into just continuing to fund the worst form.

Huge percentages of the food stamps go to sugar drinks and all the things that are making us unhealthy, making us obese, and making us overweight so that we can then go to pharma, Big Insurance, and big hospitals and say: Please save us from ourselves.

The government subsidizes both. The Federal Government subsidizes the poi-

son. The Federal Government subsidizes the overmedication. The Federal Government subsidizes the bureaucracy. Guess what? We are all worse off because of it, and we are \$36 trillion in debt. How about we stop doing that?

Every Member of Congress is going to have some constituency telling them why they can't do that. They are going to have somebody saying: If you do that, my rural hospital might have a problem. If you do that, my local business, my local sugar growers, my local manufacturers—who cares? That is not our job.

Forgive me for channeling "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," but we are not supposed to be here to funnel printed money to our local districts. We are not. That is not why we are elected. Unfortunately, that is why too many of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle are here. Don't do that.

We could repeal the EPA EV mandate rule. We could save \$113 billion by stopping the ridiculous rule to mandate that two-thirds of our fleet be changed to electric vehicles by 2032. That is absurd.

If you even converted the entire American fleet today to electric vehicles, you would diminish CO₂ production by less than, I think, 2 percent, a fraction. I don't even think it is that high. It would be a minimal impact, and you can't even do that. Even if we wanted to, we couldn't do that.

Why would we drive up the cost of automobiles, make them less reliable, harm the economy, spend money subsidizing something that is not going to produce the result that it said it is going to produce, all so some people can run around, flying to Davos in their private jets, patting themselves on the back, which is precisely what my colleagues on the other side of the aisle and gasbags like John Kerry do.

I will probably get admonished for that one.

The fact of the matter is that we have an obligation here in Congress to do the job we said we would do. I give this speech, and I give it pretty regularly, but I am going to keep giving it because I have to be honest with you. This job has its pros and cons. The cons list tends to stack up. You are away from your family, and you are traveling and all of that, but it is a great honor and a great blessing.

One of the great blessings is when you are around the country and see somebody—or like the woman who I ran into on the street who was walking up the street and coming up to the Capitol, who just said: Thank you. Thank you for fighting for us. Thank you for giving us a voice for sanity.

The American people just want their country back. Do you want to know what the election was about in November? They just want their country back. They just want common sense back. They just want sanity.

Here we are again, sitting here on the eve of passing a National Defense Authorization Act, which many of my

Democratic colleagues are saying they don't want to support because, again, we are limiting the use of taxpayer dollars to go to transgender surgeries for children.

□ 1745

We have a defense authorization bill that is something like, I don't know, \$900 billion to authorize the national defense of the United States.

Now, imagine George Washington and all of those men freezing to death. They didn't have socks. They didn't have shoes. They were suffering. General Washington thought he was going to lose the Army.

Fast-forward to Christmas of 1944 and our grandfathers, our great-grandfathers, some of our fathers were sitting in a foxhole in Bastogne freezing to death, and for what?

For a country that would take taxpayer dollars to fund, through the national defense of the United States, the mutilation of children. Now, my Democrat colleagues want to hold up the National Defense Authorization Act because we dare say that children shouldn't be mutilated.

That is the current Democratic Party. If you want to know why they were thrown out on their ear in November, that is why.

Now we should lead. We should lead farther.

I heard some rumbling on this side of the aisle that the Speaker shouldn't have included that language in the bill. The Speaker was exactly right to include that language in the bill. We have an obligation in the House of Representatives, the people's House, not to punt. I hear my colleagues saying, well, President Trump will come in and take care of it.

I understand that we believe that the policies adopted by the President will be much more to our liking.

But what about your constitutional obligation?

What about our job?

What about our use of the power of the purse?

The United States House of Representatives is supposed to be the closest to the people. The people didn't sign up for this. The people just want a military that is lethal again. They just want a military that is not woke, that isn't going through all sorts of nonsense trainings at the academies or at the Pentagon itself. They sure as hell don't want their taxpayer dollars going to the mutilation of children.

Let's not forget that this same National Defense Authorization Act will continue to allow and promote the use of taxpayer dollars for adult transgender surgeries.

Mr. Speaker, if we pass this bill, this horrible bill, according to our Democratic colleagues that shouldn't have this provision to protect children, our great win is to pull back the goalpost from full transgender surgeries being funded through our tax dollars through the Pentagon to, well, we will just do adults, but not children, we think.

We will still fund the chief diversity officer, whatever that is and whatever value that is providing for the Pentagon. We will still continue to authorize all manners of programs. We still have a bill that is larded up with conservation programs and all sorts of things, it is not just a specific defense bill.

There are a variety of reasons to oppose this legislation because we can do better. It could be more focused on lethality. It can be with fewer dollars.

Our job is to represent the people. It is not to represent the latest focus group at Yale University that sit around talking about what woke nonsense they want out of our Pentagon, but yet that is what our Democrat colleagues are doing.

We will see what happens tomorrow when we vote on this defense bill. I think it is useful for the American people to see precisely the values of our radical, progressive Democrat colleagues on this particular issue.

It is incumbent upon Republicans for us to advance the ball, to actually shrink the size of government. Don't hide behind DOGE. Don't hide behind Elon or Vivek. Don't say: Oh, isn't it great? They are going to do all this stuff. They are going to take this stuff in. They are going to use AI. They are going to crowdsource. Then what? What?

They are going to present recommendations to Secretaries. The Secretaries will implement some of that stuff. Meanwhile, Congress will continue to appropriate. Congress will continue to authorize.

What will we authorize? What will we appropriate?

Will it be responsible? Will we shrink the size of the bureaucracy? Will we make government more efficient and effective and focus on its actual constitutional provisions? Will we address the massive problem with the automatic spending that is Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, now increasingly, the Veterans Administration, which is on autopilot?

Mr. Speaker, 70 percent of the budget, 70 percent of what we spend every year, is on autopilot, and we don't touch it. My Democrat colleagues will say, you are going to push granny off the cliff. My Republican colleagues will say, we can't cut discretionary spending because we must focus on so-called mandatory, automatic spending. Yet then we never have a proposal. We never come to the floor.

One of my Democratic colleagues was walking by me earlier. I won't name this individual lest I get that individual in trouble. I was giving an interview and they asked me about whether ObamaCare subsidies should be on the chopping block for this round of debates on reconciliation later this year in tax policy.

Now my answer, as someone who opposed the implementation of ObamaCare, was to not focus on ObamaCare. My answer was simple:

The American people deserve robust health savings accounts in which they can choose their healthcare, where they are empowered, their doctor is empowered, and insurance companies, bureaucrats, hospitals, and pharma are not in power.

This Democratic colleague was walking by and said, hey, I can support that. Those are the kinds of conversations, if we want to be serious about driving down the cost of healthcare, so we can actually balance our budget, that we must have in the context of reconciliation.

My message to my Republican colleagues is, if you think you are going to come in this Chamber and waltz in here and say that we are going to pass tax reform, extend the tax cuts without dealing with spending, you are mistaken. You are mistaken.

If K Street wants to come down here and make their case for all of the tax provisions they want—and look, there are a lot of small businesses and people across America who care strongly about getting the tax policies that I agree with that we ought to put in place: expensing, research and development, pass-through tax policy. To be very clear, tax policy is not going to move off of the House floor until we deal with spending.

We are going to cut spending. We are going to put us on a path to balance. We are going to reduce deficits, or I will be an opponent of tax policy and many of my colleagues will also because the time is now. No more games, no more gimmicks, no more short-term extensions to get a political win. This has to end on both sides of the aisle.

We need to get busy this Congress figuring out how to be fiscally responsible, dramatically cutting the bureaucracy, shrinking Washington, and empowering Americans.

Mr. Speaker, I am reminded as I wrap up here that Valley Forge was not the end of the story for this country when I opened up my remarks about General Washington and the suffering of those soldiers under his care and watch.

Those men freezing, starving, and uncertain of the future, not knowing what laid in front of them, they didn't give up.

General Washington wrote in that pre-Christmas letter, "We have not more than 3 months to prepare a great deal of business in—if we let these slip or waste, we shall be laboring under the same difficulties all next campaign. . . ."

Washington knew that every low point was a time to prepare, to keep moving, to get things in place for the next fight, because those low points are where opportunity lives. That is what we can learn from and what we have to imitate here.

We have 4 years to make transformative change or we will squander everything that those men at Valley Forge fought for and gave us, all those men who fought in the Civil War in the 1860s, all of those men who stormed the

beaches of Normandy and ended up at Bastogne.

What are we going to have written on our headstone when this fight is over? Did we keep and preserve this republic for our kids and our grandkids?

That should be the question that guides everything we do as Republicans in charge of this House Chamber going forward.

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

BIDDING FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ESHOO) for 60 minutes as designee of the minority leader.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to give valedictory remarks as my service as a United States Representative comes to a close.

Nearly 32 years ago, I arrived in this Chamber after the people of the most distinguished congressional district in our country gave me the honor of a lifetime to serve as their Representative in the Congress.

Over those years, I have worked to live up to that sacred trust that they placed in me and I can say that I have given it my all.

In 1993, I was sworn in as a Member of the largest freshman class since World War II with 110 new Members and one of the 47 women elected in the House in that "Year of the Woman." I was the first Democrat and the first woman in the history of my congressional district to represent it.

During that time, I had the honor to serve among the giants of the bay area delegation: Congressman George Miller, Congressman Norm Mineta, so many from the bay area known as the conscience of the House of Representatives, and my forever Speaker, NANCY PELOSI.

They gave me the guidance I needed to accomplish my goals for my first term. In my second term, I became a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, one of the oldest House legislative committees and the committee with the broadest of jurisdictions.

From that powerful position of enormous privilege, I was determined to be an ambassador to the future from the Silicon Valley District, drafting and passing 68 bills into law signed by five Presidents.

I didn't do this alone. Nearly every single bill was bipartisan and many had more than 200 cosponsors. I am proud of this body of work and what we achieved together.

During my tenure, I have witnessed much. We have witnessed much together: the horror of September 11, the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, a painful and deep recession, the loss of over a million American souls to the pandemic, and January 6th.

However, there were so many high points: The passage many years ago in

1995 of the Telecommunications Act, the Affordable Care Act where finally we had a national health plan, a real health plan for the American people, the Violence Against Women Act, the end of over 100 years of silence by the United States with the passage of the Armenian genocide resolution, and the election of the first woman Speaker of the House of Representatives, NANCY PELOSI.

□ 1800

Each weekend I have flown home to be with my constituents, and I have seen the words of the laws that we have written walk into people's lives. In my community, as in so many others, Federal grants paved new bike paths, created ADA accessibility, and unveiled the 21st century transportation system of electric trains.

I heard from my neighbors about small improvements, like my law many years ago to lower the volume of loud TV commercials, and big improvements like children whose lives were saved because of new pediatric treatments at Stanford's Lucile Packard Children's Hospital.

I am especially proud to have created two new Federal agencies to bring life-saving research to the American people: the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority—we call it BARDA—and the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health, ARPA-H. That agency is at work to pursue the cures for those diseases that are death sentences today.

During my tenure, I had the privilege to serve on the House Intelligence Committee, where I worked to protect and defend during the challenging times of the Iraq war, and to visit our courageous troops in the war zones where they were serving. I still picture them in the places that they were, these young men and women who answered the call of our country.

One of the most memorable events, for me, that took place right here in this Chamber was the visit of Pope Francis in 2015. I recall his words: "A nation can be considered great when it defends liberty, as Lincoln did; when it fosters a culture which enables people to 'dream' of full rights for all their brothers and sisters, as Martin Luther King sought to do; when it strives for justice and the cause of the oppressed, as Dorothy Day did by her tireless work. . . ."

My brother-in-law carries forward that work at the Catholic Worker House in Redwood City, California.

To my staff, you have been a brilliant team, a team that has crafted and negotiated the legislative legacy that I am so proud of and who have successfully helped thousands upon thousands of constituents with immigration issues, housing needs, Social Security benefits, and other important Federal issues. You heard them, you saw them, you served them, and you gave them hope. I thank you.

To all who work in this Chamber and throughout the Capitol, cleaning, cook-

ing, repairing, and administering, I thank you for your labors.

To all of my colleagues, I am grateful to you for your friendship and your support over all the years. I will miss working with you and seeing you every day.

To my beloved California delegation, to say that I will miss working with you and being with you doesn't begin to describe it. Thank you for keeping our State the golden one in our country, and I know that you will continue to. For your precious friendships, I can never thank you enough. To the Connecticut delegation, thank you for adopting me. I was born in Connecticut.

To the people of California's 16th Congressional District, you have my unending gratitude for choosing me to be your voice in Congress.

To my family, thank you for your love, your support, most of all your patience. You have sustained me every single day of my service.

While it may be customary to end these farewell speeches with advice or warnings about the future, I am not going to do that.

What I have carried with me throughout my public service are the words of my grandmother. When I was a child and I would walk past her bedroom every morning, there wasn't a time that she didn't lean over and kiss the ground. When I asked her, "Nana, why are you doing that?" this was her answer: "To thank God for this country, for what it represents, and what it has given to us."

My colleagues, love our country, defend her, make her stronger and better to serve its good and decent people.

I thank God for the blessings that have come to me, and I say farewell to all of you, my colleagues. This has been the joy, the privilege, and the pleasure of my life, and I thank you for it. May God continue to bless the United States of America.

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

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will remind all persons in the gallery that they are here as guests of the House and that any manifestation of approval or disapproval of proceedings is in violation of the rules of the House.

THANKING REPRESENTATIVE CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS FOR HER SERVICE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. HARSHBARGER) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in

which to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues here today to honor the life and legacy of my good friend, Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, from the great State of Washington.

Through her 20 years of service, she has made an incredible impact in the Halls of Congress and touched the lives of so many Members who have had the privilege of working alongside of her.

I will begin by just giving my remarks. Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor to serve in the Halls for the past few years, but an even greater one to do so beside my colleague, Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS.

CATHY has served in Congress for nearly 20 years, and she has made incredible sacrifices, accomplished incredible feats, and dutifully served her constituents every step of the way.

As I have gotten to know CATHY, I have learned that she leads with a servant's heart. It is her incredible affinity for helping others that has allowed her to find success and accomplish so much during her time here. She never sought the spotlight or the prestigious position she held in Congress for her own gain, but did so because of her colleagues who encouraged and trusted her.

She has paved the way for countless women in the GOP, inspiring us with her leadership, wisdom, and dedication, and she has achieved some of the highest levels of success, become a beloved friend to countless colleagues, and in my opinion, leaves us 20 years too soon.

Thank you, CATHY, for everything you have done for us. I might add, I am going to miss our prayer time, and I am going to miss walking around the Capitol praying for our Nation and just the incredible mentor you have been to me.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE), our new chairman of Energy and Commerce.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and dear colleague, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, for her service to our country and the committee, everything that she did with the committee, and the way it affected our Conference, this Congress, and this country.

First and foremost, I have been honored to serve with CATHY, our chair for the House Energy and Commerce Committee, for more than 10 years, the last 4 years as our leader. What an outstanding job she has done. Under her leadership, we have worked together on healthcare policy. She put her faith in me to make me the subcommittee chair for the Health Subcommittee.

By doing that, I was able to gain expertise. I am a manufacturing guy by

background, and I really dug in and learned healthcare and learned other parts of the committee. As I think my good friend from Tennessee just said, I was honored by the selection to follow her in her wonderful footsteps. I have big shoes to fill, and I look forward to having the opportunity to do so.

Under her leadership, we took on some difficult things. She has fought to force the sale of TikTok, something that is really hurting all our youth and a lot of people in our country, in a way that the court has said works. She took a while to do it, but she wanted to make sure it was right. She wanted to ensure that people have access to TikTok, people can use TikTok. She did not ban TikTok. All she said was a foreign adversary cannot own this type of business in our country.

Thank you for your leadership and for what you do, but more importantly, thanks for your friendship.

When my friend from Tennessee talks about prayerful leadership, that is absolutely the case. When the chair says, I am praying for you, you know that she is, and it is really heartfelt.

Not only do I get the opportunity to follow in your great, great path, but I also get to continue to follow you and your young and beautiful family.

What I always say, what happens in this House affects people in their homes. Congress is a snapshot of America, and our chair is a fantastic wife and mother. The experiences in her home I know she brings here, and it affects families across this country because of her leadership.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO).

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and pleasure to say thank you, CATHY, and to wish you well. I know there was much celebrating when you were named chair, breaking that barrier, becoming the first woman to lead Energy and Commerce.

As we know, we just heard from our colleague, ANNA ESHOO, that there is this breadth and depth to the committee that enables us to serve people in so many ways on so many issues. On behalf of the Democrats in the House, I thank you for the opportunities you presented to work together to do a lot of legislation and certainly to effect policy in the realm of energy and environment, which have been strong points for the committee and certainly of particular interest for me.

I do appreciate all the work on the challenged, the differently abled, the people in our society who teach us much by their daily walks in life. I know your son is an inspiration to you. Thank you for carrying the torch for legislation that enables people to showcase their abilities, to be able to be included in a very powerful way. It is a lifesaving, life-changing opportunity that we can present the given community. I thank you for that forcefulness.

Personally speaking, thank you for the assistance on the medication-as-

sisted treatment effort, the MAT Act, which will, in my opinion, save lives as we enable people to prescribe for those who are struggling and living with the illness of addiction. That is going to be a major difference for so many people that we will never ever meet. That is the joy and I think the soulfulness of this job, where we are able to assist those who will be here in this universe well after we have gone or people who live here and share the moment with us but that we will never meet. Those are great opportunities for us to express in compassionate measure making a difference on behalf of individuals who have deep challenges each and every day in life.

Thank you also for the efforts on bringing together, with our side, with Ranking Member PALLONE, to be able to do the Parkinson's bill. There are 1 million people in this country who live with Parkinson's, and the fact that we are able to provide for an effort, an all-out effort, a collaborative effort with agencies in the Federal Government, working with clinicians, patients, and caregivers to make a difference, to make certain that we focus on a cure, better, earlier prognoses, and better treatments. These are measures that will really speak to the dignity of the individual and deliver hope to the doorsteps of so many people who struggle with that illness.

There are countless achievements. I know you will leave here with your heart filled with opportunities that presented themselves where you were able to deliver. On behalf of this side of the aisle, I say thank you. I am sure we haven't heard or seen the last of you. I wish you well as you go into the next phase of life.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK).

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague and friend from the great State of Tennessee for yielding to me.

Tonight we gather to honor and bid farewell to an extraordinary leader and friend, Energy and Commerce Chairwoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS. Tonight we say good-bye, as she concludes her remarkable tenure in Congress. Serving under her leadership on the Energy and Commerce Committee has truly been a privilege and an honor.

□ 1815

I first met CATHY when I was a chief of staff. It was 2013, and I came to meet with her as she was the Conference chair at the time. I was shaking I was so intimidated, and I just remember she exuded a cool calmness, an openness, and, most importantly, a warmth that was immediately putting me at ease. As someone who was brand new to the Hill, someone who was a very young woman at the time who didn't know much of anything, she still made me feel like my opinion mattered. That is one of her many gifts.

Fast forward as a Member of Congress with the honor and privilege to serve here, I will never forget the night that I was in the Cloakroom and CATHY comes up to me and says, KAT, I think you would be good for the Energy and Commerce Committee. I am shaking and intimidated like, holy crap, the chairwoman is asking me to serve on the best damn committee in Congress.

It was her faith in me that really gave me an insight into how she would be as a leader, as someone who we would look to as we navigated some of the toughest pieces of legislation and controversial issues.

I later recall, after having joined the committee, attending a speech where she was asked by the moderator to give her life story. Any Member of Congress will start spouting off that I was born here, I did this, and I am that. No. CATHY stopped, and she said, I will give you my life story and who I am in 10 words. She used the following words to describe her commitment to service, who she was, who she is: a pioneer, trailblazer, leader, working mom of three, wife, ability advocate, and trust builder.

In my time serving with her, I have learned that not only does she embrace these words, but she lives them every single day.

As a pioneer and trailblazer, she is the first woman to lead the Energy and Commerce Committee, paving the way for many others to follow. She has forged paths in policy areas that were complex, controversial, tough, but, most importantly, critical to saving our Nation's future.

As a leader, she was a unifying force and continues to unify within the Energy and Commerce Committee. She has an exceptional ability to bring together Members with diverse viewpoints—which as we know here in Congress, there are many—ensuring that everyone has that feeling of being valued and also being heard.

As a wife and mother, she has balanced the responsibilities of public service and motherhood, which we all know is no easy task. She has managed it with grace and unwavering dedication.

As an ability advocate, she has been an unwavering voice for those with disabilities, advocating for policies that promote inclusion and opportunity, knowing the experience firsthand. We expect to see Cole on this House floor in many, many more years to come. He is going to be here.

As a trust builder, her honesty, transparency, and commitment to doing what is right have earned her respect in every single room that she has entered.

Chairwoman RODGERS' legacy in Congress will continue to inspire us all. I thank her for her service, her leadership, and her example. We wish her every success and happiness in the future.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS).

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I am here to talk about my good friend, an outstanding leader, Chairwoman RODGERS. We are going to miss her. I am glad we can gather today, actually this evening, to recognize the outstanding leadership of Energy and Commerce Committee Chair CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS.

For the last 4 years, she has been an inspiring partner, leading priorities on our side of the aisle to protect consumers from harm, hold the administration accountable for regulatory overreach, and save children from the mental health crisis of the online generation.

This leadership is best exemplified in the work done to ban Chinese access to Americans' personal data and national security information, starting with the divestiture of TikTok from the Chinese Communist Party.

Throughout her tenure, Chair RODGERS' tenacity to fight for the people is a trait that should be emulated by us all. It is this determination that has served a great service to our committee and our country.

While Chair RODGERS returns to Washington State as a constituent to her successor, she does so having improved the lives of Americans, and she should be proud of the work achieved under her leadership.

Mr. Speaker, this is an outstanding individual, what a role model and great statesperson. We are going to miss her. She has helped me in so many different ways over the years, first as Conference chair and as chair of the best committee in the House of Representatives. I will always be grateful to her. I thank her, and God bless her.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. MILLER).

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS.

During the time I have known CATHY, I have admired her hard work and the devotion that she has toward her constituents and upholding her conservative values. Mostly, I admire her love of God. She is a light to all who meet her.

I have always looked forward to her leadership along with my other wonderful colleagues during our weekly morning prayers with Speaker MIKE JOHNSON in his office.

CATHY has achieved so much throughout her political career. She served in the Washington House of Representatives before coming to Congress. She has introduced key pieces of legislation, built bipartisan relationships, and ensured that the interests of her constituents and the American people are all looked out for.

CATHY will be sorely missed, but I also know that she will continue to go on and do amazing things for others. Good luck to her, and God bless her.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New Jer-

sey (Mr. PALLONE), the ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I don't know where to begin. I think of Chair CATHY RODGERS as a friend. I truly mean that. We use that term a lot, but in her case, it is truly true. I consider her a real friend.

The other thing I wanted to say is that you hear me a lot on the floor and in the committee talking about how I often blame Republicans for being in the pocket or somehow beholden to corporate interests, to big corporations, to the wealthy. Forgive me for saying that tonight because I do say it a lot, but I have to say it is never the case with her. She has a set of values that I don't know if it is just her, it is from eastern Washington, or what it is, but she is always looking out for what I call the little guy, particularly the children.

You never get the impression with CATHY that she is here because she wants to cater to some special interest group or somebody who is wealthy. She is always looking out for the average person in a way that—I am not saying there aren't other Republicans that do that; of course, there are, many who are on the floor tonight—but there is something very special about the fact that she always looks out for the little guy. Everything that she does is oriented to trying to help the average American and not thinking about any trade association or lobbying association, at least from what I have seen.

I know she was a trailblazer. The very first day she walked in, I said I guess I always had hoped that somehow the Democrats would have the first chairwoman—not that I would want anybody to replace me as chairman or ranking member—but the fact that she was the first woman chair as a Republican I thought was rather significant, not only that she was the first chair but also that she is a Republican and in that capacity as the first chair.

Our committee has this tradition of being bipartisan. It is easy to say, but it is not always easy to make sure it happens because it is very easy in the way things are today with the media, social media, whatever, for us all to digress into shouting matches, hollering at each other, and saying bad things about each other.

CATHY would never let that happen. Oftentimes, if it was going to happen at a hearing or a markup, she would come over to me, or if she was sitting next to me, she would say: Look, what can we do to kind of calm this down so people don't go after each other?

We maintained not only bipartisanship when we can but also dignity and respect for each other. There were many occasions when, if it wasn't for the fact that she was willing to step in and do that with my help, we would have digressed into the kind of the law of the jungle or whatever you want to call it.

I know a lot has been said tonight about the legislation that she shepherded through. I missed part of it in the beginning, but a lot of it was significant. In all honesty, the nuclear package—we were at the White House, I guess in the summer, when the President signed the nuclear package. That wasn't easy. There are a lot of people who are opposed to nuclear energy, even the President himself in the past has often been against nuclear energy. We managed, through her efforts, to get that bill passed on a bipartisan basis. It was a major achievement.

Other bills that I think were very significant was the hospital transparency bill. We call it that, but it actually went way beyond hospitals. It dealt with PBMs. It dealt with insurance companies. It dealt with so many other things. Again, this goes back to, I think, her championing the idea that if we pass legislation where people can sort of be empowered themselves to do things, that that works. That is what that bill was all about. We haven't passed the Senate, but we will get it passed at some point.

It was the idea that we would empower the consumer, the individual, or the group to actually be able to do comparison shopping, create competition, which is the American way, to create that competition. I think that was, again, to her credit that she championed this, made it bipartisan, and it passed out of our committee and also passed the floor of the House.

I have to say, CATHY, that many times you would bring up China.

Oftentimes, we would have a hearing and she would start going after not China per se, but Beijing, Communist China. I would often laugh and say: Here we go again. She is going to talk about Beijing and the Communist Party in China.

The fact of the matter is, I agreed with her. I mean, I do think that the biggest threat that we face is from Beijing, from China, militarily. In terms of trade, the competition is there. That culminated in the TikTok bill and the data brokers legislation, which I know is still being challenged in the courts, but it seems like we are doing pretty good.

That was a recognition of the fact that the Communist Party in China was really out to spread misinformation and lead us down a path that was contrary and dangerous to our national security.

I would laugh when she talked about the Communist Party in China, but I agreed with her. I totally agreed with her every time she talked about it because it is absolutely true. There is no question about it.

I know another bill that we didn't have complete success on was data privacy, but again, that goes back to her caring about kids. I remember when she had all of her children. I often wondered: How is she going to do this? How is she going to have all these kids while she is in Congress? How is she

going to have these children and how is she going to continue to be a leader? She was head of the Conference, I think, part of the time, but she just managed to do it all.

□ 1830

Mr. Speaker, she managed to be the mother, to be the example for women as a mother, as a leader in politics, and as a legislator. I don't know how you did it, but you did manage to do it all.

Of course, when we talk about data privacy, a lot of that was her concern for social media and how it is negatively influencing kids.

I think you felt the same way about fentanyl and the drugs and how young people were being hooked on fentanyl and other drugs and that we had to do something about it. We have done some things about it in my opinion.

I thank you, CATHY. I don't want to keep going on. I know there are others who want to speak.

Thank you, CATHY. Thank you to your husband, Brian, your three kids, Cole, Grace, and Brynn, who basically sacrificed a lot while you were here. I know you want to get back to them and to eastern Washington, which you love so dearly.

I also thank Nate, Sarah, and the entire team. They not only made it possible for her to accomplish what she did but they really loved her, too. That showed, as well.

We are going to miss you. I know we are going to see you again and hopefully see you often.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Thank you, Ranking Member PALLONE.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BALDERSON).

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the outgoing chairwoman of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, on an extraordinary career in public service.

As a leader of the most powerful committee in Congress, CATHY has stood out as a dedicated public servant and a tireless champion for the children.

Under her leadership, we have advanced policies that uplift American families and inspire a new era of innovation. Her commitment to service and her vision for a brighter future have left a lasting mark on this institution.

Back home in eastern Washington, she is known simply as a humble public servant and a dedicated voice for her constituents.

CATHY has served the people of Washington's Fifth Congressional District with grace and dedication for 20 years, and she leaves behind a legacy of selflessness and service.

As she embarks on her next chapter, I extend my best wishes to CATHY, as well as my heartfelt gratitude to her husband, Brian, and her children for their unwavering support of her and her work.

Thank you, Chairwoman MCMORRIS RODGERS, for your exceptional leadership.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Utah (Mr. MOORE).

Mr. MOORE of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in celebrating the time we got to spend with our colleague, Chairwoman MCMORRIS RODGERS.

I can sum this up in one thought, and this is what I will take. The best part of this place is we get to interact with some of our colleagues and learn from others. What I will take going forward was what she exemplified, and that was being a well-rounded person.

When you talked to her, you could dive deep on all of the policy matters that go on in the Committee on Energy and Commerce. You could also dig in and learn about her experience leading the Republican Conference with her efforts on messaging.

More importantly, what she always loved to talk about was being a mother to amazing children, some of which I have had a chance to meet and been inspired by, as well. She and her husband have lived and will continue to live a life of service.

She is somebody who doesn't just talk about reading the Bible. She lives it. This is somebody who isn't narrowly focused on one aspect of life. She embraces a well-rounded way to live and touch as many people as possible, and that is what I will learn and continue to take from her example.

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated public servant, loving wife, mother, and a distinguish Member of this body, Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, and to share the story of our work together on behalf of America's military families.

In 2009, we founded the Congressional Military Family Caucus. Every year since then, we hosted a summit, alternating between Fairchild Air Force Base and Fort Moore, which gives the members of America's Armed Forces, their spouses, and their children an opportunity to hear from the Department of Defense leaders and subject-matter experts, as well as share their families' experiences and challenges.

The caucus has brought to the forefront and tackled numerous issues such as food insecurity, medical care, spousal employment, family relocation challenges, childcare, and so much more.

I have especially been inspired by her advocacy on behalf of individuals with disabilities, her dedication to our veterans and military families, and her commitment to statesmanship and bipartisanship in the United States Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I join all of my colleagues in commending Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS for her dedicated service to the American people. While we will greatly miss her leadership on Capitol Hill, we wish her and her family the best as she embarks upon the next chapter of her life.

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

RECOGNIZING RETIRING U.S. REP.
CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. TONKO) for 30 minutes.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. WALBERG).

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate my friend, CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS.

From taking on TikTok, as we have talked about, to boosting America's energy strategy, Chairwoman RODGERS has been our fearless leader for the last 4 years on the Committee on Energy and Commerce and as Conference chair before that.

I am most thankful for her commitment to taking care of our Nation's children, all our children. Through her efforts on kids' online privacy and safety, as well as on improving health outcomes for babies, children, and mothers, her passion and hard work have never wavered.

We are sad to see her go but wish her God's richest blessings in her next stage of life, for it is God who guided her good and principled representation of those she served.

The State of Washington and her family are lucky to have her back. Maybe I would change that from lucky to blessed to have her back full time.

Thank you, Madam Chair, for your years of service to this country, the committee, the God you serve, and Members like me who so appreciated your leadership. God bless you.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. ALLEN).

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to stand here tonight with my colleagues to recognize Chairwoman CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS and her remarkable service to the United States Congress.

When she was elected to Congress, CATHY was a Member of our leadership team, serving as the chair of the House Republican Conference. In the 115th Congress, she led our Conference's messaging machine as we delivered historic results for the American people including the best economy in our lifetime.

Additionally, I have learned a great deal from CATHY's leadership on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce this Congress as she helped each Member fulfill our promises to reclaim American energy dominance, expand clean power generation, and improve transparency in our Nation's healthcare system.

Above all else, I have cherished sharing our faith and fellowship during LEAD House over these past years.

Your love of God and family and devotion to your Christian values is

something we will miss in the next Congress. I am proud to call you my sister in the faith.

May God bless you and your family as you embark on your next season in life. Sister, I love you dearly.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Chair, I yield to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. HOUCHIN).

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate my friend, CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, a dedicated leader whose two decades of service to Washington's Fifth Congressional District and our Nation have been truly exceptional.

If I only had one word to describe CATHY, it would be trailblazer, and many people have said that yet tonight. She has been a great example of how it is possible to balance a demanding career in public service, while also being committed to her family.

She was the 200th woman elected to Congress, the first female chair of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the first woman to have three children while serving in Congress. She embodies grace and resilience. She is kind and caring. She always desires to help others achieve success.

Quite frankly, CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS is one of the driving reasons I stand in this Chamber today. Thank you.

Those are not the only reasons or the only qualities that make her stand out. Her leadership as chair of the Committee on Energy and Commerce has been transformative. She has led efforts to advance energy security, promote healthcare innovation, and build a stronger, more competitive economy.

We could go on and on tonight on her policy success. She has been a champion for rural communities, small businesses, and families. She has advocated for policies that reflect the values of the American people. Her legacy is one of tireless advocacy, principled leadership, and a deep commitment to improving the lives of others.

It has been an honor to serve alongside CATHY and witness the incredible impact she has made while serving in Congress. While it is bittersweet and the Conference will miss her, we are overjoyed that she will spend more time with her beloved family, with Brian, Cole, Grace, and Brynn.

CATHY, best wishes and congratulations. Thank you for your guidance and friendship. You have shown us all what true servant leadership looks like.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman (Ms. TENNEY) from of New York.

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my great colleague from New York, Mr. TONKO. I really appreciate this honor.

Mr. Speaker, you have heard so many wonderful things about our outgoing chairwoman, CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, or, as we like to call her, CMR. That is who she was when I first came into Congress.

As you know, she served 20 years. She served honorably. She is an incredible

mother. She has championed so many great policies.

I would just like to say I call CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS a friend. I have to say this from my heart. I have never met another person on Earth who represents the godly qualities so important to serving in public office. She is honest, she has integrity, she has compassion, and she has charity. Those things are very rare, and she is going to be so missed with those qualities.

She is also a true friend. True friends are hard to come by in Washington, D.C. She is one of those people who stands with you honestly and confidentially throughout the difficult times, throughout your good times.

I am so grateful to CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS for everything she has done for me as a leader, everything she has done for our Nation, and the State of Washington.

Another really important part of CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS that I am really going to miss is her son, Cole, who has been a dear friend of mine here when he comes to visit us in Washington. Cole has become a great friend and a wonderful inspiration for me. I know he inspires so many of us here in Congress and especially CATHY and her family.

When Cole was here last, I was a little agitated about a couple of things. I got a little anxious. Cole said: Chill out.

I think that is what CATHY will do when she retires next year. She is going to chill out for a little while. She will never stop serving our country, her State, our Nation, our world, her family, and our God.

We are so grateful to you and for having you here. It has been a complete blessing to know you.

There is never a better friend that I have ever met than CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS, our beloved CMR.

I wish you and your family the best. You really are one in a billion, one in several billion on Earth. We thank you so much. Congratulations and thank you so much for your really honorable, wonderful service to our community.

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Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER).

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for yielding, and I thank Congresswoman HARSHBARGER for doing this for us and for CATHY.

Mr. Speaker, Chairman CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS exemplifies principled leadership. As chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee, she has championed—you have heard about them—the policies that protect American families, secure energy independence, and foster innovation.

Her deep commitment to her faith, her family, and the cause of freedom has been a guiding light, and her presence will undoubtedly leave a void here in Washington.

I want to give you a personal insight from RANDY WEBER. She was the conference chair, I don't know, 4 years ago maybe, and she got some opposition when she was going to run for conference chair, from a woman. It was going to be a little tough. It was going to be a little tough on the Republican Conference, the Republican Members of Congress.

CATHY very graciously stepped down and said she would not run, which left the seat open for the lady that did get the Republican Conference chair. That just shows that she has grace and she cared more about the conference than she cared about herself.

Her deep commitment to her faith, her family, and the cause of freedom has been that kind of guiding light and undoubtedly is going to leave that void I talked about.

Under CATHY's leadership, I have watched this committee tackle critical issues from affordable energy to healthcare challenges, making our Nation stronger.

I was involved with about three Bible studies, and then I found out that CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS had one on Wednesday morning at 7 a.m. I said I am going to start going to that Bible study if she will let me. Unfortunately for her, she did. She let me in. I have watched her grow. I have watched her lead and pray for the Nation and pray for our friends on both sides of the aisle.

CATHY's dedication to America, Washington's Fifth District, and her colleagues, all I can say to them and to us is that we have walking among our midst—if you read the Bible, book of Proverbs, chapter 31, we have a virtuous woman.

CATHY, we are going to miss you in these Halls, but we are grateful that you were here. In the words of our Lord: Well done, thy good and faithful servant.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LEE).

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is indeed an honor to be here, to get to recognize such an exemplary Member of Congress.

CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS does all of the things that you could hope a Member of Congress would do, and she does them with integrity and incredible skill. She leads on policy, tackling some of the most challenging issues of our time. She is completely unafraid to confront an issue because it is complicated or because it is a political challenge. If it is the right thing to do, she will stand behind it and she has. She has been an example to all of us in that way.

Equally important, she is an example to us of the type of person and the type of Member that we should all aspire to be. She is a spiritual leader to so many in Congress.

You have heard mentioned already tonight not just of one Bible study but of numerous, because she ensures that

she meets Members where they are and that each of us has an opportunity to have a friend, a partner, somebody to walk with in our own spiritual journey as we are here. That is so vital to this place and our relationships with one another.

Everyone who knows her knows that she cares about her home and her family, and she is also an example to so many of us that we don't have to sacrifice that in order to serve here.

When I was thinking about running for Congress and before I had decided whether I could, she was one of the people who stopped what she was doing to talk to me. She shared with me the story of her family and how she managed to do both this, to be a good, strong Member fighting for good policy and for her constituents, but also to remain a wife, a mother, a servant of God, and that all of those things could, in fact, be done at once. She made the case that, in fact, it was necessary to have people in this place who were willing to try to do all of those things well at the same time.

There is no other person who I can think of who has done more to reach out, support, mentor, and help particularly new women who are Members of Congress. She has shown the way to do this and to do it well.

I am so happy for her, for her family, for the people back home who get to have her more often. I will tell you this, for those of us who stay here in Washington, D.C., she will be dearly, dearly missed.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER).

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my colleague and good friend, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS.

As chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee, Congresswoman RODGERS not only delivered results for the American people but she helped me secure wins for Idahoans.

Among many things, I am thankful for her commitment to boosting liquefied natural gas capacity in Idaho and the Northwest, for support of my bill to expand broadband solutions in rural Idaho, for her work in cracking down on China's surveillance of Americans' data, and for providing me with the opportunity to support building out the nuclear workforce, along with advancing legislation to issue a warning label on mobile apps owned by Communist China.

It has been such a privilege to serve alongside such a respected and impactful leader. I join many in expressing my support and encouragement to you, CATHY, as you move forward to this next chapter of life.

Most importantly, and my bottom-line message is, Washington State, the United States of America, and the United States Congress is all better because of you.

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I believe that leaves the individual of focus this evening, the chairwoman of the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Washington (Mrs. RODGERS).

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, as I rise here tonight, yes, my heart is overflowing with gratitude. To all my colleagues, I thank you. I thank you for your friendship and your support. What an amazing institution the United States House of Representatives is.

Part of my mission has been to restore trust and confidence in this institution because I believe it is so important in our Nation.

To my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee and beyond, it really is great to be with you tonight.

What an amazing journey for me, a farm kid, growing up and working alongside my brother and parents at our orchard and fruit stand in Kettle Falls, Washington, to walking the Halls of Congress, being elected the 200th woman ever to serve in this institution, and ultimately as the chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

I have truly lived the American Dream.

To the people of eastern Washington, thank you. Thank you for putting your trust in me to be your voice in Congress for the past 20 years. Each person that I have met along the way influenced and inspired me in ways that I couldn't imagine. Serving you has been the honor of my life.

I also want to thank my family. I couldn't have done it without my amazing, loving, and supportive husband, Brian, who has been by my side the last 18 years, at least. He said carrying the load at home was harder than anything he ever did in the Navy in his 26 years there.

Thank you, Brian. You are the love of my life and the man of my dreams.

To our beloved, beautiful children, Cole McMorris Rodgers, now 17; Grace Blossom Rodgers, 14; and Brynn Catherine Rodgers, 11: You are the greatest blessings of my life. We are so proud, and I can't wait to be home with you.

I thank my mom, Corene McMorris, for being my fierce defender against all who dare accuse me of anything wrong; my stepdad, Vern White, for his embracing of this journey.

I thank my brother, Jeff McMorris, who managed my first campaign for Congress in 2004. It was there that he renewed his acquaintance with and fell in love with my sister-in-law, Sarah, an amazing woman who also dedicated much of her time and energy to helping me win.

I thank my nieces and nephew, Kate, Reagan, Conner, and Halle, who I adore for joining me on the campaign trail.

I thank my dad, Wayne McMorris, who impressed everyone as my sign chairman back in 2004, blanketing the Fifth Congressional District with red, white, and blue "Cathy for Congress" signs.

Brian's family also joined in the fun, as well as so many, many friends and supporters.

What an honor and privilege it has been for me to represent all of you.

To my team, words cannot express my gratitude for the hundreds of brilliant men and women who have served alongside me here in my congressional office and on the Energy and Commerce Committee, and back home in my district and campaign offices. While it was always my name on the door, it was your dedication that helped me succeed and deliver results.

Together, we have fun while we SERVE—Seek excellence, Everybody matters, Respectably own it, Vigilant integrity, and Embrace change. It made all the difference.

Although I would like to give each one of you a shout-out by name, I thank the leadership, various chiefs of staff, and district directors beginning with Connie Partoyan, Jeremy Deutsch, David Condon, David Peluso, Jared Powell, Kyle VonEnde, Karli Plucker, Dick Leland, Chud Wendle, Traci Couture, Patrick Bell, Kristina Sabestinas, Dawn Sugasa, Nate Hodson, and Sarah Burke, who helped me navigate the mighty waters, the many highs and lows, and the disappointments and crowning achievements of my time in Congress.

Most of all, I am grateful to my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who lovingly drew me closer to him over the past 20 years. He has spoken to me about his mercies that are new each morning, and he has poured out his grace on me and my family.

As I leave Congress, I urge all of us to look for ways to cultivate more grace, love, and forgiveness in this world and serve others. We hope for a time of healing.

Alexis de Tocqueville said it so well. He said: “America is great because America is good, and if America ever ceases to be good, America will cease to be great.”

I have served with so many good people and had the honor of representing the good people of eastern Washington. For that, I am grateful. I say thank you, may God bless you, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.

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

HONORING KAY GRANGER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker’s announced policy of January 9, 2023, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WEBER) for 30 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to submit extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heart full of gratitude

and admiration to honor my dear friend and colleague, Representative KAY GRANGER, a true Texas legend whose retirement marks the end of an extraordinary era in this House.

KAY GRANGER is not just a trailblazer. She is absolutely a Texas institution. From her early days as the first woman to serve as the mayor of Fort Worth, to pave the way as the first Republican woman from the State of Texas to serve in Congress, to her historic tenure here in Congress serving Texas’ 12th Congressional District, KAY GRANGER has embodied the values that Texans hold dear.

□ 1900

KAY GRANGER has embodied the values that Texans hold dear. Mr. Speaker, those values would happen to be faith, fortitude, and an absolute unwavering commitment to doing what is right.

As chairwoman of the House Appropriations Committee where she made history becoming that, KAY demonstrated unparalleled leadership in guiding one of the most critical responsibilities for Congress, and that would be overseeing the power of the purse.

Mr. Speaker, KAY GRANGER’s wisdom and steady hand have ensured that our appropriations process prioritized the need of the American people while safeguarding the principles of limited government.

I have had the privilege of serving along with KAY in the Texas delegation for the past 11 years, Mr. Speaker, and let me tell you, she has been nothing short of extraordinary. In Texas we say: You done good.

The Texas row on the House floor will not be the same without her. KAY has been an absolute cornerstone of our Texas delegation, a voice we have relied on, a leader we have admired, and a friend we have cherished.

KAY’s leadership on the House Appropriations Committee and her ability to get things done have moved the needle in a giant Texas way, and not just for Texas, but for the entire country.

KAY, your dedication to service has truly been a blessing to this Congress and to every Texan who has had the honor of calling you their Representative. You have made Texas proud, KAY GRANGER, and we are all better for having worked alongside you.

KAY, please know this: as you head into retirement, you are leaving a legacy that will surely stand the test of time. We hope you get to enjoy that retirement in the greatest State in the Nation, the one and only Lone Star State.

Let me reiterate, KAY, thank you for your friendship, for your leadership, and your unwavering commitment to the values we hold dear.

God bless you, KAY. May He continue to hold you and continue to guide you in this next chapter.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the eve of her retirement to

honor Chairwoman KAY GRANGER for her many years of dedicated work on behalf of Texans everywhere and our entire country.

For nearly three decades, Chairwoman GRANGER has tirelessly served the 12th Congressional District of Texas. For many of us, she has been a valued mentor, and, more importantly, a respected friend. As the most senior member of the Texas Republican delegation, her experience, wisdom, and leadership have been a valuable resource. In fact, they have been invaluable.

Chairwoman GRANGER has been a true trailblazer, and her legacy will not be soon forgotten. Her time in public service has been marked by many firsts. She served as the first female mayor of Fort Worth, the first Republican Congresswoman from Texas, and the first female Republican to chair the powerful House Appropriations Committee.

Over the years, Chairwoman GRANGER has left a lasting impact on the Dallas/Fort Worth area, our great State of Texas, and our Nation as a whole. She has worked tirelessly to advocate for her constituents and to advance policies and improve the lives of both Texans and Americans everywhere.

She has successfully secured funding for many worthy local funding projects in Fort Worth, increased local and national defense spending to protect the American people, and kept a close eye on overall Federal spending. Her contributions to preserving our national security and supporting economic growth will not soon be forgotten.

Chairwoman GRANGER, thank you for setting the standard in our mission to represent the great people of Texas. Your leadership is a testament to the strength of the Texas spirit, and your work will have a lasting impact for generations to come. We have truly been blessed by your leadership, dedication, and service, but, most of all, your friendship.

Congratulations on your well-deserved retirement.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. WILLIAMS).

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career and accomplishments of my lifelong friend, KAY GRANGER. We both shared Fort Worth as our hometown.

Throughout the years, I have watched her lead in the classroom, on the city council as mayor, as a Congresswoman, and as chairwoman. She can make a deal, she can close a deal, and she has no problem making a decision and sticking with it. Her word is her bond, and to her, a handshake means something. She has truly lived a life worth being copied.

To my friend and colleague, KAY, thank you for your friendship and thank you for your leadership.

May God bless you, and in God we trust.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ELLZEY).

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor someone who has been a mentor, a trailblazer, and a dear friend, Congresswoman KAY GRANGER.

KAY's story is the kind of Texas story all of us Texans admire. She spent her entire life serving others, and she has done it with the kind of grit and determination that defines what we like to think about when thinking about Texas. From her days as a schoolteacher to becoming the mayor of Fort Worth and now serving right here in this Chamber, Miss KAY has poured her heart and soul into every role she has taken on. She has led with strength, wisdom, and a deep love for people she represents.

As the first Republican woman to chair the Appropriations Committee, KAY broke barriers and made history. There have only been about 11,000 people who have served in this Chamber, but Miss KAY is one of one.

If you know KAY, then you know she didn't do it for the accolades, she didn't do it to break barriers, and she didn't do it to break the grass ceiling. She did it because she believed in getting things done; and, boy, did she ever. From standing up for our military and veterans to ensuring that north Texas communities got the resources they needed, she has left a mark that will be felt for generations.

On a personal level, KAY has been a guidepost for me. From day one she has been generous with her time and advice, always ready with a word of encouragement or a little bit of wisdom delivered with that look that only she could give. That woman would walk into a room very quietly, and no matter how loud the room was, it got quiet because she had that presence about her.

She has reminded me that public service is staying true to your word and putting people first and that what you do here in Congress only matters if it improves the lives of those back home.

KAY, I think I speak for just about everyone in this room, well, everybody in Texas, when I say that you cannot be replaced. Your boots are way too big for anybody to fill. We are all going to miss you. However, what you have done will echo far beyond these Halls and these years. Your leadership and heart have touched so many lives, and your legacy is one of dedication, integrity, and love for Texas and this great country.

Thank you, Miss KAY, for everything, for paving the way, for showing us all how it is done, and for being a good friend. I know you will keep making a difference wherever life takes you next.

200 YEARS OF THE CITY OF DICKINSON

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate 200 years of the city of Dickinson, Texas, which I am proud to represent in Texas' 14th Congressional District. Dickinson has a

storied history, and I want to be the first to say: Happy bicentennial.

The city of Dickinson is named after John Dickinson, a landowner whose name became synonymous with the area. What began as an agricultural settlement in the mid-1800s would eventually grow into a thriving community thanks to the arrival of the railroad and the dreams of those who sought to make Dickinson their home.

From its fertile soil to the efforts of early entrepreneurs who formed the Dickinson Land and Improvement Association, this city has long been a beacon of promise on the Gulf Coast. In its early days, Dickinson became known for its productive farming and later as a destination for those seeking a peaceful, prosperous life along the bayous and the prairies.

Over the years, Dickinson has grown alongside the industrial expansions of nearby Houston and Galveston. The city's strategic location along major rail lines and highways has allowed it to benefit from the region's booming oil and shipping, as well as industrial sectors. When NASA established the Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in 1962, it brought a new era of opportunity and development to our community and to its neighbors.

Today, Dickinson is home to over 20,000 hardworking, admirable citizens who exemplify the very best of southeast Texas values. This is a community built on grit, resilience, and a deep sense of pride.

As your Representative, I am grateful every day to stand before you as the voice of the city of Dickinson in these hallowed Halls of Congress. It is an honor to represent a city that has made so many contributions to the progression of our region.

Here is to many more years of Dickinson pride, progress, and the enduring southeast Texas spirit that defines us. Happy anniversary, Dickinson, and may your future be as bright as your storied past.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

HONORING KAY GRANGER

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. WEBER so very much for yielding.

Tonight, Mr. Speaker, as you well know, we honor a trailblazing woman, Texas Congresswoman KAY GRANGER. Without question, history will record Chairwoman GRANGER shattered many glass ceilings during her service in Congress.

She became the first Texas woman to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. Think about that alone, just coming out of Texas, the first woman, starting in 1997.

KAY went on to serve honorably in this Chamber for 28 years. She became the first Republican woman to receive appointment to the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations and then later became its chair. She rose also as a leader for her party on the committee, including as chairwoman of the full committee, for the first year of the 118th Congress.

KAY always found a way to work together in a bipartisan fashion to pass our Nation's largest budget to bolster our Nation's military, surely for the advancement of the F-35, as well as funding in another agency, NASA's, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Artemis program and other space priorities.

She always had a vision beyond the narrow to embrace the globe.

I have always appreciated her professionalism and her passion, which she kept under control, especially for her home State of Texas, and her candor and no-nonsense demeanor. I know that KAY will continue to speak for the people of Parker and Tarrant Counties and to work for their betterment even in retirement because that is her nature.

I am virtually and mentally sending her a bouquet of roses as we are speaking tonight. I thank her for her remarkable and honorable service to our Nation. We wish her Godspeed on a job exceptionally well-done.

I have heartfelt wishes that the years ahead will be ones of fulfillment and adventure, as well.

Mr. Speaker, regarding a previous Special Order this evening, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD The New York Times article about the changes in Syria written by Peter Baker and Adam Entous.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

[From The New York Times, Dec. 8, 2024]

BIDEN WEIGHS APPROACH TO REBELS IN SYRIA
AMID SECRET MESSAGE EXCHANGE

(By Peter Baker and Adam Entous)

President Biden faces the challenge of deciding how to engage the main armed group that toppled President Bashar al-Assad, even though it remains designated a terrorist organization by the United States.

For President Biden, the fall of Syria's tyrant on Sunday was a moment to cheer what he called a "fundamental act of justice" and to claim a measure of credit for his own policy.

But it also presented Mr. Biden with a fundamental challenge late in his presidency: How does the United States make friends with the newly emerging forces taking control in Syria when it has deemed them terrorists? And should it?

The main rebel faction that toppled President Bashar al-Assad is a group called Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, which was once an affiliate of Al Qaeda and, even though it broke with the older organization years ago, remains designated a terrorist group itself by the U.S. government.

The United States has been passing messages through the Turkish government in recent days to the rebel groups involved in the lightning blitz that suddenly took down Mr. al-Assad, mainly warning them against teaming up with militants from the Islamic State. The groups responded through the Turks with assurances that they had no intention of allowing the Islamic State to be part of their movement, according to U.S. and Turkish officials briefed on the messages.

But now Mr. Biden and his top advisers are debating the extent to which they should engage directly with the rebel groups going forward, according to the officials, who described internal deliberations on the condition of anonymity. U.S. intelligence analysts and administration policymakers were trying to determine whether the groups had substantially changed, or were prepared to change, their ways to address the concerns of the United States and its allies in the region about terrorist affiliations.

In a televised statement from the White House hailing the fall of the Assad family's half century of repressive rule in Syria, Mr. Biden gave voice to the mix of cautious optimism and wary uncertainty about the new forces taking power in Syria.

"Make no mistake, some of the rebel groups that took down Assad have their own grim record of terrorism and human rights abuses," he said on Sunday. "We've taken note of statements by the leaders of these rebel groups in recent days and they're saying the right things now. But as they take on greater responsibility, we will assess not just their words but their actions."

The Islamic State, or ISIS, remains a key concern for U.S. leaders. After destroying the so-called caliphate that the group carved out of Syria and Iraq for itself, the United States does not want to give it any opportunity to reassert itself in the chaos that may follow the fall of the government in Damascus.

"We're cleareyed about the fact that ISIS will try to take advantage of any vacuum to reestablish its capability, to create a safe haven," Mr. Biden said. "We will not let that happen."

To that end, Mr. Biden authorized U.S. airstrikes on Sunday against Islamic State camps and operatives inside Syria. A swarm of B-52, F-15 and A-10 warplanes hit more than 75 targets in central Syria with about 140 munitions, according to U.S. officials.

"There should be no doubt—we will not allow ISIS to reconstitute and take advantage of the current situation in Syria," said Gen. Michael E. Kurilla, the head of the U.S. Central Command, which oversees operations in the region. "All organizations in Syria should know that we will hold them accountable if they partner with or support ISIS in any way."

The situation for the United States is all the more complicated by its own transition in Washington. Mr. Biden has just six weeks left in office before turning over the White House to President-elect Donald J. Trump, who has taken pride in his role in defeating the Islamic State in his first term while otherwise agitating to stay uninvolved in Syria.

In his only comments after Mr. al-Assad's fall on Sunday, Mr. Trump gave little clue to his thinking about Syria's future. Instead, he cast the matter entirely in terms of its implications for Russia, which had propped up Mr. al-Assad for nearly a decade but essentially left him to his own fate in recent days while it remains tied down in Ukraine.

"Assad is gone," Mr. Trump wrote on his social media site. "He has fled his country. His protector, Russia, Russia, Russia, led by Vladimir Putin, was not interested in protecting him any longer."

He added that President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia should now pursue peace talks over Ukraine. "There should be an immediate ceasefire and negotiations should begin," he wrote. "Too many lives are being so needlessly wasted, too many families destroyed, and if it keeps going, it can turn into something much bigger, and far worse. I know Vladimir well. This is his time to act."

Mr. Biden left no doubt about American satisfaction over Mr. al-Assad's ouster. The Syrian president has been a crushing ruler of

his own people, held responsible for the deaths of more than 500,000 people and the displacement of millions more during a civil war he waged to hold on to power. He has used chemical weapons on his own people and been a source of major instability in the region. As far back as 2011, President Barack Obama called on Mr. al-Assad to go and later drew a "red line" against the use of chemical weapons that he did not enforce.

"At long last, the Assad regime has fallen," Mr. Biden said in his televised remarks from the Roosevelt Room. "This regime brutalized and tortured and killed literally hundreds of thousands of innocent Syrians. The fall of the regime is a fundamental act of justice. It's a moment of historic opportunity for the long-suffering people of Syria to build a better future for their proud country. It's also a moment of risk and uncertainty."

Indeed, as U.S. policymakers have learned through painful experience in other places in the past couple of decades, places like Libya, Egypt, Iraq and Afghanistan, the demise of a loathsome dictator does not necessarily lead to a friendlier, more democratic, more stable government in his place.

The rebel groups have united under the leadership of Hayat Tahrir al-Sham. Once seen as one of the rebellion's most powerful extremist factions, the group later tried to play down its radical aspects and focused on building something like a civilian government—albeit an authoritarian and extremist one—in the patch of territory that it has controlled.

U.S. intelligence agencies and top officials in the Biden administration are still in the process of evaluating the group and its leader, Abu Mohammad al-Jolani, who is eager for legitimacy and has mounted what one senior U.S. official characterized as a "charm offensive" aimed at allaying concerns about the organization's intentions and past affiliations.

The way the official put it, "A charm offensive might mean that people are turning over a new leaf and they think differently than they used to, so you should hear them out. On the other hand, you should be cautious because charm offensives can sometimes be misleading."

U.S. officials said that the Biden administration was allowed to talk to Hayat Tahrir al-Sham and its leader even though they are on the terrorist list, but that it could not provide them with material support.

While the Biden administration has so far stopped short of directly talking to the group, it has been working closely and directly with the U.S. military's main counterterrorism partner in Syria, a Kurdish-led militia known as the Syrian Democratic Forces.

According to U.S. officials, the administration encouraged and provided intelligence support to the Kurds for its operations to take control of Syrian territory in eastern Syria, including the cities Deir al-Zour and Abu Kamal.

The officials said the operations were meant to ensure that the Islamic State could not take advantage of the situation and seize the areas as Syrian government forces withdrew. According to a U.S. official, the message that the United States sent to the Kurds was, "If the regime vacates territory, it's going to go to somebody, so you should fill the vacuum yourself rather than let ISIS fill into that vacuum."

Mr. Biden said he was sending officials to the Middle East and would personally speak with leaders from the region in the coming days. He expressed commitment to helping Israel, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon as they cope with the possible spillover effects of the turmoil in Syria.

While Mr. al-Assad is reported to have now fled to Moscow, where he is being given asylum, Mr. Biden said the deposed Syrian leader should not be allowed impunity after years of crimes. "Assad should be held accountable," he said.

In his remarks, Mr. Biden mentioned Austin Tice, the American journalist who has been held in Syria for a dozen years. Asked by reporters about Mr. Tice's fate after turning from his microphone, Mr. Biden paused before walking out to say: "We believe he's alive. We think we can get him back."

After years of trying to manage foreign crises that cost his party in last month's election, won by Mr. Trump, Mr. Biden sought to take a share of credit for Mr. al-Assad's downfall.

He said the victory of the rebel forces over Mr. al-Assad's government was made possible by the collapse of his support from Russia, Iran and Hezbollah, all of which the United States had a hand in. He noted that U.S. military aid and diplomatic support for Ukraine and Israel had bogged down Russian forces in Europe, helped destroy Hezbollah in Lebanon and thwarted two attacks by Iran on Israel. As a result, none could help Mr. al-Assad survive.

"Over the last week, their support collapsed, all three of them, because all three of them are far weaker today than they were when I took office," Mr. Biden said.

"The upshot of this is for the first time ever, neither Russia nor Iran nor Hezbollah could defend this horrible regime in Syria," he added. "This is a direct result of the blows" inflicted by Ukraine and Israel "with the support of the United States."

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. WEBER so much for doing this on Kay's behalf.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from Ohio for her remarks.

AMBASSADORS PREPARATORY ACADEMY

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege today to recognize Ambassadors Preparatory Academy in Galveston, Texas, which I am proud to represent, for being selected as a National Blue Ribbon School for 2024 by the U.S. Department of Education.

Mr. Speaker, the National Blue Ribbon School program seeks to honor schools from around the country that have a vision of excellence and hold their students and faculty to a high standard. I can't think of a more worthy school than Ambassadors Preparatory Academy.

Since 2007, this school has pushed each and every student, giving students from low socio-economic backgrounds a chance of high-quality education and fostering holistic student development through the collective efforts of dedicated staff, dedicated parents, and dedicated community members.

I believe their mission, Mr. Speaker, and their dedication to it have rightfully earned them this great honor. Their commitment to providing high-quality education through, student-centered, data-driven instruction in a safe, respectful, and inclusive environment builds a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the superintendent, Dr. Rachelle Joseph; the

wonderful teachers; the educators; and the staff at Ambassadors Preparatory Academy, as well as the dedicated students and their families on this great achievement.

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IN HONOR OF DAVID ANDREW CHRISTIAN

Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor a remarkable man, David Andrew Christian, who was called home to be with our Lord on April 18 at the young, young age of 52.

Andy was a man of many talents, pursuing careers such as underwater welding and transitioning to a pilot, where he was employed with the Garrett Flying Service for over three decades.

His attainment of the Pilot of the Year Award from the Texas Agricultural Aviation Association was a small recognition for how truly amazing he was.

Andy was a guiding light in his community. He dedicated himself to serving God through charitable work and actively participating in his church as a eucharistic minister and a proud member of the Knights of Columbus.

Andy exemplified the values that make this country great: faith, hard work, and service to others. May we all follow in Andy's footsteps and lead with loyalty, kindness, and service.

Mr. Speaker, it was an honor to represent Andy in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

HONORING KAY GRANGER

Mr. ROY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for yielding, and I appreciate his efforts to block this time for the Texas delegation to honor one of our own, KAY GRANGER, whom we will miss going forward.

So many of my colleagues have already touched on her biography and on her history as a teacher, businesswoman, mayor, Congresswoman, and, probably most importantly, wife and mother.

She is someone who has served Texas so ably and well, rising up to chair the Appropriations Committee and to do so with grace during a fairly tumultuous time in our Nation's history—this is not political; this is about honoring KAY—because of the nature of our disagreements with the current administration and the current state of things.

She managed the appropriations process and committee with grace and class. She has been a true joy to work with.

I don't always race to the floor to do these. I feel like you have to know someone pretty well or have a certain level of understanding and respect, but KAY was always very gracious and kind to me as a not-always soft-spoken member of the Conference or the delegation, as my friend from Texas knows. She was always one who would try to reach out and offer some advice, but not try to tell me what to do or say, but to come in and talk to me about what we need to do as Texans and how we can work together to do it.

She always cared about Texas. She always cared about service, and I was proud to serve with her. None of us in this body agree on everything at any given moment, but to work with someone who had such a fervor for public service from, as I said, the time of being a teacher, mayor, Congresswoman, and rising up to run the Appropriations Committee.

I will miss her. We were proud to have her in the Texas delegation as the chair of Appropriations, but she will be able to be back in Texas, which is a good thing.

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his words.

Mr. Speaker, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 8 minutes remaining.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ROBERT "BOB" WIENERS

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of an exceptional public servant, a man who served our great Nation with unwavering integrity and dedication, and a friend I was proud to know, Chief Robert Wieners, who went home to be with the Lord on August 24, 2024.

After graduating from Boston State College in 1978, Bob answered the call to serve our Nation in the United States Marine Corps. Over the course of more than 20 years, he rose through the ranks to become a lieutenant colonel, retiring from Active Duty on September 1, 1998.

His time in the Marines was marked by superior leadership and operational excellence, a testament to the character of a man we honor today.

Friendswood was truly blessed beyond measure when Bob and his bride, Susan, made it their home. For over two decades, Bob led our community as chief of police, leaving an indelible mark on Friendswood through his 24 years of dedicated service.

Mr. Speaker, I had the honor of getting to know Bob over the years, and his tireless work to protect our community along with his deep love of Friendswood will never be forgotten.

Brenda Gail and I are praying for the entire Wieners family, the Friendswood Police Department, and everyone who had the privilege of calling Bob their friend.

Mr. Speaker, may we all strive to uphold the values he so proudly embodied.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHESTER A. "PETE" SHELTON

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to pay tribute to a great American, Chester A. "Pete" Shelton, who was called home to be with the Lord on July 25, 2024.

Pete was the kind of man who knew what it meant to serve. Following in his family's footsteps, he became a Beaumont firefighter right after high school and eventually served as the city's fire chief.

He didn't stop there. Pete answered the call of duty by joining the United

States Army in 1958, proudly serving his country and continuing in the Reserves until 1966.

Beaumont was blessed to have Pete's dedication. He not only helped develop the fire chief's code of ethics but also gave over 30 years of service on the Port of Beaumont Board of Commissioners. His impact was deep, and his commitment to service was unwavering.

Mr. Speaker, Pete Shelton's legacy of kindness, compassion, and selfless service will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. May we all strive to live by the values he so faithfully upheld.

HONORING YVONNE DEWEY

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor a true patriot and dear friend, the incredible Yvonne Dewey. She was called home to be with the Lord on September 2 at age 84.

Yvonne was the very definition of honor and loyalty. I knew her personally. When she moved to Lake Jackson, Texas, back in 1971, she didn't just plant roots. She left a legacy.

Her impact on our community and the Republican Party is immeasurable. She didn't just participate. She led, serving on countless boards and associations, always working to better the lives of our youth.

Mr. Speaker, when she stepped in to chair the Republican Party of Brazoria County for 21 years, she did a great job. I watched her up close and personal.

I had the privilege of meeting Yvonne when I was just a precinct chair. She was someone I could look up to for wisdom and leadership. Over the years, we developed a lasting friendship.

I saw firsthand her gift for leading the Republican Party and helping elect the kind of patriots that represent the best of Brazoria County.

Yvonne didn't just talk the talk; she lived it. Her spirit and passion for conservative principles were undeniable, and her selfless dedication earned her the respect of so many in our community.

This woman of service led by example, and we can all learn from her kindness, her dedication, and her selflessness. Her legacy will live on in Brazoria County, and I am honored to have served her in Congress and, most of all, to have called her my friend.

Mr. Speaker, let us pray that we continue to see fearless leaders like Yvonne Dewey rise up for our Nation. Her love for this country and southeast Texas is and was unmatched.

Brenda Gail and I extend our heartfelt thanks to her husband of 50 years, John Dewey, who was her rock, and we know how deeply she loved him and the family.

HONORING RAY HOLBROOK

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredible man and true Texas patriot, Ray Holbrook, who was called home to be with the Lord on May 1 of this year at the vibrant age of 97.

Ray was a pillar of strength, integrity, and service to Galveston County

for many, many years. He served as the longest-standing county judge from 1967 to 1995, dedicating nearly three decades of his life to making his community a better place, and he was very successful.

Ray wasn't just a judge. He was a man of action, Mr. Speaker. A proud Aggie, he is fondly remembered for his tireless work of improving roads, upgrading parks, and fighting to improve the lives of county employees by removing them from Social Security and putting them on a better retirement system.

Mr. Speaker, perhaps his greatest legacy is helping create the Galveston County Water Authority, which has grown over time into the Gulf Coast Water Authority, ensuring that future generations will have access to the water resources they so desperately need.

Ray's impact reaches far beyond his accomplishments in office. He was a beloved father and friend, a man whose deep faith and unwavering commitment to his neighbors left an indelible mark on all who knew him. His life of service, devotion to his community, and deep love for the Lord will continue to inspire us all.

May God bless Ray Holbrook's family, and may his legacy of leadership, honor, and faith live on in Galveston County and beyond.

CELEBRATING RETIREMENT OF TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE EDWARD LYNN "ED" THOMPSON

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend and esteemed successor from the great legislative district of Texas-29 on the occasion of his retirement as State representative.

Since taking office in 2013, he has been a staunch defender of Texas constitutional rights. His leadership has been pivotal in securing funding for Texas roads, supporting our public schools, and fighting to protect our border. His unwavering commitment to our State has been felt across Texas.

Ed has stood firm against Federal overreach, championed policies that protect the unborn, and defended our religious liberties.

Ed's legacy of principled leadership and courage will be deeply missed.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration and respect that I thank my good friend for his leadership. Southeast Texas and the great State of Texas are better because of him.

Brenda Gail and I wish him and his bride, Freddie, all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

May God bless him and Freddie in their retirement, and may God continue to bless Texas.

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

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, everyone knows the saying "nobody messes with Texas." Well, the same could be said of Chairwoman KAY GRANGER. She's as "Texas Tough" as it comes, an unwavering force evident in her nearly three decades of faithful service to our Nation.

As someone who has sat at the leadership table alongside her and worked hand-in-glove with her on the Appropriations Committee, I can attest that she is one of the best legislators I have ever had the honor and privilege of working with. Throughout her career, she has fiercely fought for the people of Texas' 12th district. She is the definition of a defense hawk—steadfast in her commitment to ensuring our Nation remains the number one military power in the world. And she is a conservative stalwart that masterfully negotiated Republican priorities in a gridlocked government.

Her trailblazing career was characterized by historic firsts. She was the first woman mayor of Fort Worth, the first Republican woman to serve in Congress in the Texas delegation, the first woman to serve on and chair the Defense Subcommittee, and the first Republican woman to chair the full Appropriations Committee.

More importantly than her impressive list of accomplishments and superb leadership abilities, she has been a dear friend to me, who showed me the ropes and whose invaluable wisdom I will dearly miss here in Congress. Texas was lucky. America was luckier.

Chairwoman GRANGER leaves behind a towering legacy of grit and grace that will continue to inspire this institution for decades to come and it is a privilege to honor her on the House Floor.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Congressman WEBER, for putting this Special Order together. I know it is probably odd seeing a Democrat up here, but let it be known:

KAY and I go way back. I've known her since the 1990's, when she made history as the first woman Mayor of Fort Worth, while also being a single mom. Even then, she had that Texas grit and determination that's carried her through a lifetime of breaking barriers.

As the first woman to represent the 12th District of Texas, KAY showed what it means to lead with heart and conviction. She's fought for her community every step of the way, never backing down from a challenge. They say, "Don't mess with Texas," but really, don't mess with a Texas woman on a mission. Texas—and this Congress—will miss her.

JOINT EXPLANATORY MATERIAL STATEMENT SUBMITTED BY MR. ROGERS OF ALABAMA, CHAIR OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, ON HOUSE AMENDMENT TO SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5009

The following consists of the joint explanatory material to accompany the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

Section 5 of the Act specifies that this joint explanatory statement shall have the same effect with respect to the implementation of this legislation as if it were a joint explanatory statement of a committee of conference.

In this joint explanatory statement, the provisions of H.R. 8070, the House-passed version of the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025, are generally referred to as "the House bill". The provisions of S. 4638, the Senate Committee on Armed Services committee-reported version of the National Defense Authoriza-

tion Act for Fiscal Year 2025, are generally referred to as "the Senate committee-reported bill". The provisions in the Senate floor manager's package are generally referred to as "a proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill". The final form of the agreements reached during negotiations between the House and the Senate are referred to as "the agreement".

Disclosure of earmarks and congressionally directed spending items

Although not required by the Rules of the House of Representatives, the joint explanatory statement includes a table that lists the congressional earmarks (as defined in paragraph (e) of clause 9 of rule XXI of the House of Representatives) that are contained in the bill or this joint explanatory statement at the request of a Member of the House of Representatives. The bill or this joint explanatory statement does not contain any congressional earmarks at the request of a Senator. Neither the bill nor the joint explanatory statement contains any limited tax benefits or limited tariff benefits as defined in paragraphs (f) or (g) of clause 9 of rule XXI of the House of Representatives.

Summary of discretionary authorizations and budget authority implication

The budget request for national defense discretionary programs within the jurisdiction of the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives for fiscal year 2025 was \$883.7 billion. Of this amount, \$849.5 billion was requested for Department of Defense programs, \$33.8 billion was requested for national security programs in the Department of Energy and the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, and \$378 million for defense-related activities.

The agreement would authorize \$883.7 billion in fiscal year 2025, including \$849.9 billion for Department of Defense programs, \$33.3 billion for national security programs in the Department of Energy and the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, and \$512.4 million for defense-related activities.

The two tables preceding the detailed program adjustments in division D of the accompanying joint explanatory statement summarize the discretionary authorizations in the agreement and the equivalent budget authority levels for fiscal year 2025 defense programs.

Sec. 4—Budgetary effects of this Act

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 4) that would state the budgetary effects of this Act for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-139).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS

TITLE I—PROCUREMENT

SUBTITLE A—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 101—Authorization of appropriations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 101) that would authorize appropriations for procurement at the levels identified in section 4101 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 101).

The agreement includes this provision.

SUBTITLE B—ARMY PROGRAMS

Sec. 111—Centralized Security Monitoring Program for facilities of the Army

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 111) that would require the Secretary of the Army to establish

a centralized security monitoring program for installations and facilities of the Department of the Army. The provision would also require the Secretary of the Army to provide a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives that outlines the plans of the Secretary to implement the centralized security monitoring program.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of the Army to provide a plan to establish centralized security monitoring facilities that includes estimated costs to establish, operate, and maintain these facilities. Further, it would require commencement of the program not later than fiscal year 2027.

Sec. 112—Pilot program on the use of robotic targets to enhance the lethality of the reserve components of the Army

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 111) that would direct the Secretary of the Army to carry out a pilot program under which the Secretary incorporates the use of moving robotic target systems into live fire training provided to select infantry units of the reserve and National Guard components of the Army.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 113—Plan for additional kinetic effectors for low, slow, small unmanned aircraft integrated defeat system of the Army

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 113) that would require the Secretary of the Army to certify at least one additional interceptor and production manufacturer for the U.S. Army's low, slow, small-unmanned aircraft integrated defeat system.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of the Army to develop and implement a plan for the procurement and fielding of additional kinetic effectors for low, slow, small-unmanned aircraft integrated defeat system of the Army.

Sec. 114—Report on procurement of energetic materials from sources outside of the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 112) that would limit the Secretary of the Army from procuring certain end items containing energetic materials that are in production at a Federal Government-owned production facility until the Secretary provides a certification to the congressional defense committees.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would strike the funding limitation and require a report on the procurement of energetic materials from sources outside the United States.

We note that the Department of the Army has been unable to sustain the ammunition industrial base to any level of certainty. Previous munitions budgeting variability led to closures and consolidations of the ammunition industrial base including the Base Realignment and Closure of prominent ammunition production capabilities. Budgeting uncertainty continues today. For example, the U.S. Army programmed to produce 34,380 rounds of 155mm ammunition production in 2014. Today, the U.S. Army is projecting a contractor and organic industrial base to produce a purported 1.2 million rounds of

155mm ammunition by early next year. We note that 1.2 million rounds is a laudable goal that greatly exceeds Army acquisition objectives and is being principally developed to support rearming our allies and partners.

Additionally, we note that the U.S. Army has used the Ukrainian supplemental appropriations to expand contractor operations by direct investment into contractor facilities. We believe that this contractor direct investment was necessary because of the aforementioned budgeting variability and the inability of industry to rely on any level of sustained U.S. Army ammunition investment. Finally, we believe that ammunition production levels may return to previous de minimis level that will cause the industrial base to again contract. We are disturbed that the U.S. Army is unable to articulate the maximum production capacity of the organic industrial base and believe that maximum organic industrial base capacity should be obtained before additional contractor sources are developed. We believe that the organic industrial base needs to be prioritized to ensure long-term capability is maintained. We support the retention of ammunition organic industrial base so that when the inevitable reduction of ammunition production is programmed, a core organic industrial base can be retained for future mobilization.

SUBTITLE C—NAVY PROGRAMS

Sec. 121—Modifications to procurement authorities for certain amphibious shipbuilding programs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 132) that would provide flexibility for procurement authorities for certain amphibious shipbuilding programs.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 130A).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would clarify the authorization to enter into economic order quantity contracts provided in section 129 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) and allow the Navy to use advance procurement authority across the two ship programs.

Sec. 122—Modification of requirement to incorporate advanced degaussing systems into Arleigh Burke class destroyers

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 127) that would delay the required implementation of an advanced degaussing system in the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer from fiscal year 2025 until fiscal year 2028 in order to have this design change match the beginning of the next destroyer multiyear contract.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

We also expect the Navy to exercise due diligence in resolving problems that have arisen in installing an advanced degaussing system on the San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock.

Sec. 123—Extension of prohibition on availability of funds for Navy port waterborne security barriers

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 121) that would amend section 130 (a) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232) by extending the prohibition on the use of funds for waterborne security barriers through fiscal year 2025.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 124—Modification of annual report on cost targets for certain aircraft carriers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 131) that would modify the annual report on cost targets for aircraft carriers to include additional cost data fidelity and subsequent Ford-class aircraft carriers.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 125—Designation of official responsible for autonomous surface and underwater dual-modality vehicles

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 135) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to designate an official who is responsible for autonomous surface and underwater dual-modality vehicles.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 126—Multiyear procurement authority for CH-53K aircraft and T408 engines

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 133) that would provide the Secretary of the Navy with multiyear procurement authority for CH-53K aircraft and T408 engines.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 126) that would authorize the Secretary of the Navy to enter into a block buy contract for CH-53K aircraft and multiyear procurement authority for T408 engines.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 127—Recapitalization of tactical fighter aircraft of the Navy Reserve

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 134) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to assign only to the Navy Reserve all F/A-18E/F Super Hornet aircraft procured using funds appropriated for the Navy for fiscal year 2022 or fiscal year 2023.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require that: (1) Eight F/A-18E/F Super Hornet aircraft from the fiscal year 2023 procurement go to U.S. Navy Reserve; (2) The Secretary of the Navy develop a cost estimate for establishing any of the existing U.S. Navy Reserve fighter squadrons tactically deployable to meet geographical combatant commander operational requirements; and (3) Remove the mandate for establishing a tactically deployable U.S. Navy Reserve F/A-18E/F squadron until the cost estimate is submitted and assessed by Congress.

Sec. 128—Limitation on the construction of the Landing Ship Medium

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 136) that would prohibit the obligation or expenditure of funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act for the procurement of the Medium Landing Ship (LSM) until the Secretary of the Navy certifies that the LSM design is not based on more than 35 percent military specifications. It would also require the Secretary of the Navy to submit a report to the congressional defense committees detailing the differences in cost and construction schedules between a ship design based on military specifications and a design that uses commercial standards and elements.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 123) that would prohibit the Secretary of the Navy from awarding a contract for the LSM program, including construction of the lead ship, until basic and functional design are certified to be complete.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would provide

that: (1) This design completion restriction would not apply to a commercial or non-developmental design for an LSM; and (2) The Navy Service Acquisition Executive could waive the requirements for full and open competition for the lead ship of the LSM program if the design of the LSM were commercial or non-developmental.

Sec. 129—Limitation on availability of funds for Constellation-class frigate program pending certification on basic and functional design

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 122) that would prohibit the Secretary of the Navy from obligating or expending any funds authorized for fiscal year 2025 for the construction of a *Constellation*-class frigate until the Secretary of Defense certifies that 95 percent of functional design drawings have been approved by the designated technical authority. The provision would also require the Comptroller General of the United States to assess the Secretary of Defense's compliance with the requirements and evaluate the completeness of functional design.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with minor technical amendments.

Sec. 130—Limitation on structural improvements and electrical power upgrades for AH-1Z and UH-1Y helicopters

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 137) that would require the Navy to conduct all structural improvement and electrical power upgrades for AH-1Z Viper and UH-1Y Venom helicopters at the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) until the Secretary of the Navy certifies that the plan for carrying out the upgrades elsewhere would result in: (1) Greater performance; (2) Improved on-board electrical capacity; (3) Improved and expanded weapons interfaces; and (4) Improved ease of maintenance.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment to require that the Secretary certify that an alternate source for the upgrades provide matching or improved performance compared to the OEM.

Sec. 131—Annual report on surface ship suppliers

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 125) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to submit an annual report to the congressional defense committees analyzing suppliers of surface ship components.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE D—AIR FORCE PROGRAMS

Sec. 141—Extension of limitations and minimum inventory requirement relating to RQ-4 aircraft

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 137) that would extend the sunset date for section 9062 of title 10, United States Code, regarding RQ-4 aircraft by 1 year until the end of fiscal year 2029.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 142—Annual report on Air Force tactical fighter aircraft force structure

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 136) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to provide an annual report reflecting a 10-year plan for Air Force fighter aircraft force structure, recapitalization, training, and

sustainment of the active and reserve components of the Air Force.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 143—Modifications to inventory requirements for certain aircraft

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 152) that would reduce the number of fighter aircraft that the Air Force would be required to maintain from 1,145 aircraft to a level of 1,106 aircraft. This reduction would account for the planned retirement of 39 primary mission aircraft inventory (PMAI) A-10 aircraft.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 138) that would authorize the Air Force to retire a portion of the current fighter aircraft inventory. The provision would approve the Air Force request to retire the following aircraft: (1) 56 total aircraft inventory (TAI) A-10s; (2) 65 TAI F-15C/Ds; and (3) 11 TAI F-16C/Ds. The provision would not allow the Air Force to divest 26 F-15E or 32 F-22 aircraft.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would include authority to reduce 36 PMAI F-15Cs, and 3 PMAI F-16s. Force structure for the F-15E fleet is addressed elsewhere in the Act.

Sec. 144—Extension of prohibition on certain reductions to inventory of E-3 airborne warning and control system aircraft

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 131) that would require the U.S. Air Force to maintain 16 E-3 Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft until the E-3 AWACS can be replaced by E-7 Wedgetail aircraft, or until the retirement of the E-3 AWACS would create no lapse in U.S. Air Force capabilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 145—Extension of requirements relating to C-130 aircraft

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 153) that would require the Air Force to maintain the C-130 total aircraft inventory at 271 aircraft, with a sunset date of October 1, 2025. It would also extend the prohibition on reducing the C-130 inventory in the Air National Guard through fiscal year 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 146—Management of temporary relocation of B-1 bomber aircraft and personnel

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 132) that would amend section 133 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81), as amended by section 136 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31), to require the Secretary of the Air Force to actively manage the existing B-1 bomber force structure as the fleet transitions to the B-21 bomber.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 147—Consolidation of authorities relating to Air Force landing gear

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 157) that would require the U.S. Air Force to consolidate supply chain management, item management, and delegated engineering authorities of landing gear systems for certain aircraft under the Air Force Sustainment Center.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 148—Recapitalization of air refueling tanker aircraft of the reserve components of the Air Force

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 156) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to replace current Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve air refueling aircraft with an air refueling aircraft that has capabilities equivalent to or exceeding the capabilities of the aircraft being replaced.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would: (1) Require the Secretary of the Air Force to replace reserve component KC-135 aircraft on a one-for-one basis; (2) Prevent the Secretary from moving KC-135 aircraft from another reserve component unit for the purposes of satisfying this one-for-one replacement requirement; (3) Prevent the Secretary from reducing the air refueling tanker inventory of the Air Reserve Components below the force structure level identified in the fiscal year 2025 budget request; and (4) In the event a reserve component unit is assigned a greater number of KC-135s than are to be replaced by KC-46 aircraft, require that any such aircraft remain within the reserve components for redistribution.

Sec. 149—Prohibition on reduction of KC-135 aircraft in PMAI of the reserve components

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 151) that would: (1) Raise the number of air refueling aircraft required to be maintained by the Air Force from 466 to 474; and (2) Prevent the Air Force from reducing the number of primary mission aircraft inventory KC-135 aircraft in the Air Force Guard and Reserve.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would exclude raising the required number of air refueling aircraft.

Sec. 150—Prohibition on retirement of F-15E aircraft and requirement to conduct fighter aircraft capabilities and requirements study

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 154) that would prohibit the retirement of any F-15E tactical fighter aircraft, with certain exceptions, until the Secretary of Defense submits a fighter aircraft capability and requirements study that estimates the number of Air Force fighter aircraft needed to meet the requirements of geographical combatant commanders.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would include a prohibition on retirement of F-15 aircraft through fiscal year 2027.

Sec. 151—Notification of delays in delivery of MH-139 aircraft

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 158) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to notify the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives of any delay in delivery of MH-139 aircraft within 30 days of becoming aware of such delay.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 152—Plan and requirements for fielding air base air defense sites at Air Force installations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1055) that would require the Secretary of the

Air Force to develop a plan to support fielding of air base air defense sites at Air Force installations. This section would further require the Secretary to ensure that no fewer than four sites are fielded by September 30, 2027.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 135).

The agreement includes the House provision, amended to require: (1) The Secretary consult with U.S. Northern Command; and (2) That two of the four air base air defense locations be located in the United States.

Sec. 153—Plan for establishment and maintenance of F-16 simulators at Air National Guard training centers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 159) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force, in coordination with the Director of the Air National Guard, to develop and implement a plan to fully fund the establishment and maintenance of F-16 simulators at training centers of the Air National Guard.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would remove the mandate to implement the plan and require the Secretary and the Air National Guard to provide a cost estimate of a plan to establish F-16 simulators at various locations. We also expect the Secretary of the Air Force and the Director of the Air National Guard to promptly develop and implement a plan that determines the funding required to permanently install required aircraft arresting gear equipment to support operational requirements at the various basing locations transitioning to the F-16 tactical-fighter aircraft.

Sec. 154—Plan for sustainment and recapitalization of Air National Guard fighter fleet

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 134) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to develop a plan for modernizing all 25 fighter aircraft squadrons in the Air National Guard.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary to include: (1) The overall impact on operational considerations and budgets on the ability of the total force to field fighter forces; and (2) The timetable and estimated costs of implementing such a plan.

SUBTITLE E—DEFENSE-WIDE, JOINT, AND MULTISERVICE MATTERS

Sec. 161—Modification to Air Force and Navy use of commercial dual-use parts in certain aircraft and engines

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 171) that would amend section 161 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) to expand coverage to include new parts in the consideration of acquiring spares for use in commercial derivative aircraft and engines and aircraft based on commercially designed aircraft.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 162—Measures to increase supply chain resiliency for small unmanned aerial systems

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 223) that would require the Department of Defense to dismantle and identify the origin of components of a Da Jiang Innovations drone. It also contained a provision (sec. 178) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to conduct a study to identify sources of secure parts for unmanned aircraft systems.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 871) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, the Undersecretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, and the Secretaries of the military departments, to submit a strategy to develop a secure domestic and allied supply chain of critical components for small uncrewed aerial systems.

The agreement includes the House provision (sec. 223) that includes an amendment that would require the Department of Defense to develop an integrated set of measures to identify risks in the small uncrewed aerial systems (sUAS) supply chain and increase resiliency of such sUAS supply chain from domestic and allied sources. These measures would include a requirement for disassembly and analysis of commercially available foreign drone aircraft; development of supply chain framework (including a determination of whether any foreign companies should be added to the list pursuant to 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) as a result of this analysis); and development of a resilient supply chain strategy for sourcing of critical components.

Sec. 163—Policy on qualifications of contractors for into-plane fuel deliveries for heavy-lift aircraft

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 172) that would require the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency to develop and implement a policy that establishes factors for determining the qualifications of fixed-based operators bidding on contracts to provide into-plane fuel deliveries for heavy-lift aircraft at airports with sufficient weight-bearing capacity.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 164—Prohibition on operation, procurement, and contracting related to foreign-made light detection and ranging technology

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 173) that would prohibit the Department of Defense from purchasing or operating covered light detection and ranging technology that was manufactured by the People's Republic of China or another covered foreign entity.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 883) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from operating or entering into contracts for procurement of light detection and ranging technology from covered foreign countries.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 165—Limitation on procurement of F-35 aircraft pending certification on improvements and correction of deficiencies

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 174) that would permit the Secretary of Defense to accept delivery of only 48 of 58 F-35 aircraft authorized for procurement during fiscal year 2025 until the Secretary submits to the congressional defense committees certain corrective action plans and acquisition strategies that will improve research, development, testing, evaluation, production and sustainment issues and deficiencies identified across multiple areas within the F-35 program enterprise. The provision would also require the Secretary of Defense to provide annual updates, for 5 consecutive years beginning on April 1, 2025, for all corrective actions and plans implemented by the Secretary.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 133) that would amend section 226 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to require more information on the plans of the Department of Defense to upgrade the Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) propulsion and thermal management systems.

The agreement includes the House provision with minor technical changes.

We understand that the F-35 prime contractor has committed to investing \$350.0 million of its own resources to improve program execution and increase efficiencies with development, testing, and fielding of new hardware and software capabilities. This, in part, is to address shortages that the prime contractor faces within the program's enterprise. We encourage other major subcontractors participating in the program to also consider investing internal financial resources into the program to enable more efficiencies and greater productivity to accelerate the development, testing, and fielding of new and more advanced capabilities that are required to counter existing and future threats from adversaries.

Sec. 166—Assessments of inventory requirements for air-to-air missiles

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 175) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Navy, in coordination with the commanders of certain geographical combatant commands, to jointly conduct an assessment of the sufficiency of established inventory requirements for air-to-air missiles within the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of each service Secretary. This section would also require the Secretary of the Air Force to conduct a cost-benefit and technical risk assessment of developing and procuring an extended range AIM-120D missile to augment the existing inventories.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 143) that would require an assessment of inventories of air-to-air missile. It would require the Secretaries to develop recommendations to adjust the planned mix of missiles, including an assessment of whether extending the range or capability of existing air-to-air missiles would better support combined combatant command requirements at medium risk.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would add a requirement to submit an unclassified report, which may include a classified annex, to the congressional defense committees not later than April 1, 2025.

Sec. 167—Plan for signals intelligence capabilities of armed overwatch aircraft

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 142) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict and the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, to submit a plan for integrating signals intelligence capabilities on fielded armed overwatch aircraft.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED
Report on Black Hawk helicopter program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 113) that would direct the Secretary of the Army, not later than 30 days after the date on which the budget of the President for fiscal year 2026 is submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, to submit to the congressional defense committees a report on Modernization of the Black Hawk helicopter program of the Army.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct that, not later than 30 days after the date on which the budget of the President for fiscal year 2026 is submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, the Secretary of the Army shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on Modernization of the Black Hawk helicopter program of the Army. The report shall include:

(1) Identification of the program elements and level of funding requested for the Black Hawk Modernization program for the period of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 set forth separately by fiscal year and appropriations account;

(2) Requirements for the program that are sufficient to ensure the Black Hawk helicopters of the Army are systematically modernized to address obsolescence, improve performance, and provide capabilities that ensure relevance in the joint all domain operational environment; and

(3) A program acquisition strategy for Black Hawk Modernization.

Plan for providing certain aircraft to the Army National Guard

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 114) that would require the Secretary of the Army to submit a plan for providing certain aircraft to the Army National Guard.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Army to submit a plan, not later than March 31, 2025, to congressional defense committees for providing the following aircraft to relevant aviation units of the Army National Guard in a manner that is consistent with provision of the same air frames with Active-Duty aviation units and operational requirements. The aircraft described in this subsection are the following:

- (1) AH-64E aircraft;
- (2) MQ-1C M25 aircraft;
- (3) CH-47 aircraft;
- (4) UH-60M aircraft; and
- (5) Future Long-Range Assault Aircraft.

Development of requirement for shipping container production facility at domestic Army installation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 115) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a requirement for the establishment of a shipping container production facility within the United States at an Army installation found to meet feasibility and readiness goals.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the importance of having a secure source of supply for shipping containers in order to meet the deployment and sustainment requirements of the Department of Defense. Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the feasibility and advisability of developing a requirement for the establishment of a shipping container production facility within the United States.

Sense of Congress on aircraft carrier procurement

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 138) that would recommend that the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Navy optimize aircraft carrier acquisition

strategies to balance operational, taxpayer, and industrial interests, revise the Ford-class strategy to align with key analyses and national security goals, and ensure CVN-82 procurement by fiscal year 2028.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 130).

The agreement does not include either provision.

We agree that the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Navy should follow direction in the House and Senate bills.

Limitation on use of funds pending submission of report on plan for long-term Air Force fighter force structure

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 155) that would prohibit the obligation or expenditure of more than 75 percent of travel funds of the Secretary of the Air Force during fiscal year 2025 until the Secretary submits to the congressional defense committees the delinquent report required by section 148(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We are aware that the Air Force had completed the report required by section 148(c) earlier this year, but chose not to release the report in sufficient time to inform the congressional budget process. In order to ensure Congress can conduct thorough oversight of the Department of Defense, the Air Force must be more transparent with the congressional defense committees and must meet reporting deadlines as directed by existing law.

Funding for C-130 modular airborne firefighting system

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 160) that would provide an additional \$20.0 million for the Modular Airborne Firefighting System, offset by a similar reduction from the VC-25B system development and demonstration program.

The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

The specific authorization of appropriations amounts can be found in the funding tables.

Requirement for minimum number of air logistics complexes

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 161) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to continuously operate not less than three air logistics complexes.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the three public Air Force logistics centers play a critical role in support of our national defense by ensuring the readiness and sustainability of the Air Force. The three public logistics centers provide comprehensive maintenance, repair, and overhaul services for a wide range of aircraft, munitions, and weapon systems, ensuring that these assets remain operational and effective. The strategic location and specialized expertise of each of the three public logistics centers enable the Air Force to respond to emerging threats, strengthen our national defense, and ensure that the Air Force maintains air superiority in an evolving global environment.

Modification to multiyear procurement authority for certain critical minerals

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 176) that would modify the multiyear procurement authority for certain critical minerals.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the existing authority of section 152 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) that provides the Department of Defense with the authority for multiyear procurement of domestically processed critical minerals. We continue to work with the Department of Defense on the utility and feasibility of rare earth recycling and note that the House report accompanying this Act included a briefing requirement on the export of end-of-life equipment containing rare earth elements outside the United States.

Sense of Congress on domestic procurement of defense articles for AUKUS partnership

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 177) that would express the sense of Congress regarding domestic procurement of defense articles for the Australia-United Kingdom-United States partnership.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Australia-United Kingdom-United States partnership, known as AUKUS, is critical for establishing a strong and integrated web of defense cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region. We recognize that researching, producing, and procuring defense articles for the AUKUS partnership from within the United States has the potential to enhance domestic defense production capabilities and make for stronger and more resilient allied supply chains. We encourage the Secretary of Defense to continue to promote and encourage domestic manufacturing, supply chains, and research for defense articles that are intended for use by members of the AUKUS partnership, and promote opportunities to integrate partner and domestic capabilities to the extent practicable.

Strategy for Army active protection systems

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 112) that would direct the Secretary of the Army to submit a strategy to the congressional defense committees, not later than September 30, 2025, for the testing, procurement, integration, and fielding of active protection systems on Army ground combat vehicles.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Army, not later than September 30, 2025, to submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the testing, procurement, integration, and fielding of vehicle protection systems on Army ground combat vehicles.

The report shall include:

(1) The status of all vehicle protection systems previously considered, tested, integrated, or procured by the Army;

(2) The status of any Army projects to develop its own vehicle protection system, including an explanation for the Army's decision to compete with commercial alternatives;

(3) The Army's plan to solicit bids for its modular vehicle base kit;

(4) A plan to conduct operational testing of all vehicle protection systems, including any system being developed by the Army, which shall assess:

(a) a shot by each system under the same conditions;

(b) multishot capability;

(c) collateral damage;

(d) damage to witness plates or vehicles;

(e) ability to defeat threats of concern to the Army, including:

(i) full top attack threats;
 (ii) kinetic energy rounds;
 (iii) unmanned aerial systems, by class; and
 (iv) fuzed missiles;
 (f) ability to upgrade each system to address future threats;
 (g) weight and power draw of each system; and
 (h) such other matters as the Secretary determines relevant.

(5) A strategy for the Army to integrate, test, and achieve a program of record for active vehicle protection systems on current and future combat vehicle fleets. In developing the strategy, the Secretary of the Army shall consider the following objectives and factors:

(a) the risks incurred by the Army in its current active vehicle protection system posture of limited integration onto ground vehicle fleets;

(b) lessons learned from active vehicle protection systems in ongoing armed conflicts;

(c) the capabilities of active vehicle protection systems from foreign or domestic entities;

(d) the acquisition and lifecycle costs of each active vehicle protection system identified in section (1) of the report; and

(e) the Army's plan for modularity, including the ability to use the same active vehicle protection system across multiple platforms.

Authority for the procurement, leasing, or chartering of a medium-sized landing ship

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 124) that would authorize the Secretary of the Navy to enter into a contract or other agreement for the procurement, leasing, or chartering of a commercial or non-developmental ship that meets core U.S. Marine Corps requirements for operational sealift and landing troops, equipment, and supplies to a beach.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE II—RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION

BUDGET ITEMS

Stryker Family of Vehicles

We recognize that the Army's eight Stryker Brigade Combat Teams (SBCT) continue to demonstrate their indispensable value in helping the service meet its global commitments. Current Army platform modernization efforts invest in fielding cutting-edge capabilities for combat vehicles in the Infantry and Armored Brigade Combat Teams but do not support platform modernization for SBCTs. We are interested in understanding the Army's long-term investment and modernization strategy as it relates to future SBCT force structure; Stryker vehicle upgrades; elimination of flat bottom hull variants and formations; and other capabilities that Stryker vehicles could host, such as Electromagnetic Warfare (EW), Short Range Air Defense (SHORAD)/Counter-Unmanned Aerial Systems (C-UAS), and mission command systems across the Army. Therefore, we direct the Secretary of the Army to provide a report on the Army's long-term Stryker investment plan to the congressional defense committees not later than March 31, 2025.

SUBTITLE A—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 201—Authorization of appropriations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 201) that would authorize appropriations for research, development, test, and evaluation at the levels identified in section 4201 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 201).

The agreement includes this provision.

SUBTITLE B—PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, RESTRICTIONS, AND LIMITATIONS

Sec. 211—Modification of certain requirements relating to the Joint Energetics Transition Office

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 211) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a budget line for the Joint Energetics Transition Office and establish a course of instruction for the development of energetic materials and ensuring the safety of explosives.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would clarify the budget and funding requirements of the Joint Energetics Transition Office.

Sec. 212—Modification to annual report on unfunded priorities of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 212) that would require the Secretary of Defense to coordinate with the Secretaries of the military departments on military construction projects to be submitted as unfunded priorities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would clarify projects must reach at least 35 percent design complete to be viable.

Sec. 213—Modification to defense laboratory education partnerships

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 213) that would amend section 2194(b) of title 10, United States Code, to permit defense laboratories to provide direct financial assistance for educational partnership agreements.

The Senate committee-reported contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 214—Extension of Global Research Watch Program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 212) that would amend section 4066 of title 10, United States Code, to extend the Global Research Watch program from 2025 to 2035.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 215—Expansion of authority for technology protection features activities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 216) that would amend section 4067 of title 10, United States Code, to expand the authority of the Department of Defense to conduct exportability planning activities to strengthen ally and partner military capability, and improve coalition interoperability.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 216—Modification to personnel management authority to attract experts in science, engineering, and certain other disciplines

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 215) that would improve the ability of the Defense Innovation Unit, Strategic Capabilities Office, Office of Strategic Capital, and the Space Development Agency to attract and more rapidly hire new types of staff.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

We note that the Department of Defense has several direct hire and other personnel management authorities which support the tailored needs of the Department in attracting and retaining personnel in specialized and highly skilled areas. We also understand the challenges of managing those authorities, and coordinating with the Office of Personnel Management to utilize the full range of existing authorities when possible.

Therefore, we direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on the processes and challenges in managing these direct hiring authorities and coordinating with the Office of Personnel Management.

Sec. 217—Codification of the Laboratory Quality Enhancement Program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 217) that would amend subchapter III of chapter 303 of title 10, United States Code, to make permanent the authority for the Laboratory Quality Enhancement Program that was established in section 211 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 218—Modification to consortium on use of additive manufacturing for defense capability development

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 216) that would amend section 223 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) and require the additive manufacturing consortium to develop systems to support certain capabilities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision. The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would clarify that the Department of Defense should utilize the consortium on additive manufacturing to develop a process for the certification of new advanced manufacturing materials and processes for flight critical parts.

Sec. 219—Modification to continuous capability development and delivery program for F-35 aircraft

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 217) that would amend section 225(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to require the Secretary of Defense to procure at least nine new developmental testing aircraft from any production lot of aircraft beginning with Lot 18 or later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 5141).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 220—Modifications to test program for engineering plant of DDG(X) destroyer vessels

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 214) that would amend section 221 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) by requiring the full-scale testing of a minimum of two electric propulsion motor technologies.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision, amended to include a requirement that the systems tested must demonstrated a minimum of 40 megawatts of reserve power.

We also direct the Secretary of the Navy to produce a comprehensive report identifying

the sustainment and life cycle cost of the two electric propulsion motor technologies tested and submit said report to the congressional defense committees by March 1, 2025.

Sec. 221—Improvements relating to defining, identifying, and planning the artificial intelligence workforce of the Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 231) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to fully define and identify the Department of Defense artificial intelligence workforce, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer, and the Chief Information Officer.

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 248) that would require a report on artificial intelligence workforce of the Department of Defense not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 222—Modification to artificial intelligence education strategy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 247) that would amend section 256 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) by adding an additional requirement to the artificial intelligence education program concerning education of the force on artificial intelligence (AI).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer of the Department of Defense to develop distance education courses on AI available to the force within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

Sec. 223—Modification of CVN-73 to support fielding of MQ-25 unmanned aerial vehicle

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 218) that would modify the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232) for the modification of CVN-73 to support fielding of the MQ-25.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 224—Modification to innovators information repository in the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 228) that would modify section 220 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232) by requiring the head of the Defense Technical Information Center to update the innovators information repository with some new data elements.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 225—Duties of Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer Governing Council relating to artificial intelligence models and advanced artificial intelligence technologies

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 242) that would expand the duties of the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer Governing Council.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 226—Ensuring compliance with Department of Defense policy when awarding research grants

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 211) that would amend section 1286 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232) to require Department of Defense (DOD) components to conduct periodic examinations of research awards made to institutions of higher education in order to ensure compliance with current DOD research security policy.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 227—Extension and modification of Directed Energy Working Group

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 246) that would amend section 219(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) to extend the Directed Energy Working Group by 5 years.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment that would add additional program cost details to the reoccurring briefing requirement.

Sec. 228—National Defense Economic Competition Research Council

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 239) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish and charter a council to identify, evaluate, and coordinate research efforts relating to economic competition activities that undermine the defense strategy of the United States and its partners and allies, and require that the council regularly solicit input from the Joint Staff and combatant commands on needs, problem statements, or other topics relating to research on economic competition activities to support their respective areas of responsibility.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 229—Agility Prime Transition Working Group

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 219) that would establish a working group to assist in the transition of hybrid and electric vertical take-off and landing technologies developed under the Air Force's Agility Prime program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 230—Authority for temporary assignment of employees of the Office of Strategic Capital to certain private-sector organizations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 221) that would allow the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Director of Office of Strategic Capital, to carry out a program under which Director arranges for the temporary assignment of an employee of the Office to a qualifying private-sector organization.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 231—Quantum Benchmarking Initiative

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 243) that would require the Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to establish a Quantum Scaling Initiative to rapidly expand and support the development of fault-

tolerant utility-scale quantum computing capability available to the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 232—Expansion of participation in the Digital On-Demand Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 230) that would require the Secretary of Defense to take steps necessary to expand participation in the Digital On-Demand program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 233—Management and utilization of digital data to enhance maintenance activities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 245) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments and the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer of the Department of Defense, to develop and implement policies to manage and utilize data derived from digital data systems for aircraft, ships, and ground vehicles in support of maintenance activity.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 234—Electromagnetic spectrum demonstration program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 235) that would require the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense to test wideband adaptive signal processing for simultaneous transmission and reception of signals on the same electromagnetic spectrum frequency band.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

We believe that Department of Defense access to the electromagnetic spectrum remains vital to national security and homeland defense; and that such interests should frame considerations regarding increasing demand for civilian access to electromagnetic spectrum bands reserved for national security.

We believe that wideband adaptive signal processing shows promise as part of a broader suite of dynamic spectrum sharing (DSS) technologies. We note that the National Spectrum Strategy (NSS) Implementation Plan promotes demonstration of advanced DSS technologies and techniques. We also note strong congressional support for such a demonstration: most recently in the House report accompanying H.R. 2760 (H. Rept. 118-125) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024. We believe that the rapid and thorough conduct of such a demonstration is essential, not just to show the feasibility of additional spectrum access for civilian spectrum users without compromising Department of Defense and intelligence community missions and capabilities, but also to demonstrate the Department of Defense's good-faith and collaboration with industry, academia, and other Federal departments and agencies.

We emphasize the Department of Defense memorandum titled "Dynamic Spectrum Sharing Demonstration," dated September 18, 2024, and support the rapid pace of directed activities. We are aware that the conduct of DSS demonstration requires sustained effort across fiscal years and Department of Defense organizations. Therefore, we

direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than March 1, 2025, to provide a briefing to the Armed Services Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the plan required in the memorandum for developmental prototyping, experimentation, and testing activities related to a DSS demonstration, including anticipated funding requirements for fiscal year 2025 and the future years defense program.

Sec. 235—Competitive demonstration of automated target recognition algorithms

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 213) that would require the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer (CDAO) of the Department of Defense to incorporate into a global information dominance experiment a competitive demonstration of at least two different automated target recognition (ATR) algorithms to determine the most suitable source of development.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment that would require the development of a venue and processes, including a specified set of baseline scenarios, for comparative testing of automated target recognition algorithms to determine mission performance.

We direct the Deputy Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees, not later than February 1, 2025, on the share of resources contributed by relevant offices, including DIU, CDAO, and the military services, to implementation of this section.

Furthermore, we direct the CDAO to provide a report to the congressional defense committees, not later than December 20, 2025, on the development of ATR algorithms across the Department of Defense, including a review of implementation of this section and a status report on the development of approved information technology infrastructure to allow the sharing, training, and use of models.

Sec. 236—Pilot program on development of near-term use cases and demonstration of artificial intelligence toward biotechnology applications for national security

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 241) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, in coordination with the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer, to develop a plan for the establishment of a secure computing and data storage environment to facilitate the testing of artificial intelligence (AI) models trained on biological data and the development and testing of products generated by such models.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 236) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program focused on the development of near-term use cases and demonstrations of AI toward biotechnology applications for national security.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 237—Pilot program on use of artificial intelligence for certain workflow and operations tasks

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 241) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, the Secretary of the Army, Secretary of the Navy, and Secretary of the Air Force, not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to carry out a pilot program to assess the feasibility and advisability of using artificial intelligence-enabled software to opti-

mize the workflow operations for (1) depots, shipyards, or other manufacturing facilities; and (2) contract administration for the Department, including the adjudication and review of contracts managed by the Defense Contract Management Agency.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 238—Limitation on availability of funds for fundamental research collaboration with certain academic institutions

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 225, 226, and 1316) that would prohibit institutions of higher education that conduct research funded by the Department of Defense (DOD) from entering into agreements with covered nations or foreign entities of concern; prohibit funds from being appropriated to any institution of higher education which conducts fundamental research with countries of concern; and require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the feasibility and effects of implementing a prohibition on DOD funds for any individual or institution located in a country of concern.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 218).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

SUBTITLE C—PLANS, REPORTS, AND OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 241—Incorporating human readiness levels into research, development, test, and evaluation activities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 244) that would require the Secretary of Defense to initiate a review of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) Standard 400-2021 to determine whether any materials from this standard can and should be incorporated or referenced in Department of Defense (DOD) procedures and guidance material in order to enhance safety in relation to human factors. The provision would also require the Secretary to conduct preliminary mapping of the current human readiness levels of DOD, based on the ANSI and HFES Standard 400-2021, and how these levels align with the current technology readiness levels of major development and acquisition programs, as defined in section 4201 of title 10, United States Code.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 242—Biotechnology roadmap

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 243) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a biotechnology roadmap to guide efforts of the Department of Defense relating to biotechnology.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 237).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 243—Plan to advance interests of Department of Defense in matters relating to electromagnetic spectrum in international fora

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 232) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a 5-year plan for advancing Department of Defense interests in matters relating to the electromagnetic spectrum in international engagements or fora.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 244—Strategic plan for quantum information science technologies within the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 220) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategic plan to guide the development and maturation of quantum information sciences (QIS) technologies within the Department of Defense and military services and require the Secretary to establish a center of excellence for quantum computing at an existing military service laboratory.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

We are aware of QIS research and development underway across the military service research laboratories and believe this work will be critical to maintaining United States leadership in this emerging technology area. For example, ongoing QIS work taking place at Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) Rome is making strides in advancing the technology readiness level of QIS technologies and developing the requisite technical workforce needed for the United States to lead in QIS. We encourage AFRL and the other service research laboratories to continue these efforts.

Sec. 245—Defense Science Board study on long-term operations and availability of Kwajalein Atoll as a Major Range and Test Facility Base

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 240) that would require the Defense Science Board to assess the feasibility and advisability of designating the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site and United States Army Garrison Kwajalein Atoll as facilities and resources comprising the Major Range and Test Facility Base.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with technical and conforming amendments.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Funding for National Defense Education Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 202) that would increase, by \$5.0 million, the funding for the National Defense Education Program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Authorization of specific funding amounts can be found in the funding tables.

Use of partnership intermediaries to promote defense research and education

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 214) that would clarify the authorities for defense laboratories to enter into partnership intermediary agreements.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Pilot program on establishment of a test and evaluation cell within the Defense Innovation Unit

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 222) that would establish a pilot program within the Defense Innovation Unit to conduct test and evaluation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

The Defense Innovation Unit (DIU) has evolved greatly over the last decade, but we

believe continued maturation of the organization requires a thoughtful approach for its long-term test and evaluation strategy. We recognize the potential challenges DIU may face in test and evaluation including access to range time, adequate data collection, and evaluation tools, as these challenges are pervasive across the test and evaluation community. Because of the nature of its mission to rapidly identify and field capabilities, there is also a challenge in balancing rapid fielding needs with the potential to integrate into the broader, traditional test and evaluation enterprise.

Therefore, we direct the Director of the DIU to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than June 1, 2025, detailing:

(1) DIU's current test and evaluation strategy, to include planned efforts in coordination with the Director of the Test Resource Management Center, the Director for Developmental Test, Evaluation and Assessments, and the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation;

(2) Any barriers or challenges to execution of these plans;

(3) DIU's plans for future test and evaluation activities, including any anticipated spending and staffing estimates;

(4) DIU's planned use of digital ranges or other test infrastructure for software or data systems;

(5) Best practices for test and evaluation for commercial and non-traditional technologies;

(6) Any plans to leverage software solutions to better maximize test data collection and post-test evaluation; and

(7) Any other information the Director deems relevant.

Program on limited objective experimentation in support of Air Force operations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 224) that would require the Commander, Air Force Research Laboratory, to carry out limited objective experimentation (LOE) in coordination with a partnership intermediary.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We are aware of successful LOE activities ongoing at the Air Force Research Laboratory, including through the Northeast Multi-Domain Operations Alliance. We understand this alliance has effectively brought together government and non-government organizations to execute an experimentation initiative to accelerate the development, demonstration, and fielding of innovative capabilities to solve multi-domain operational challenges. We encourage other elements of the Department of Defense's innovation enterprise to leverage these existing partnerships and collaborative regional ecosystems to further develop, experiment, and integrate cross domain solutions across the joint force.

Disclosure requirements for persons performing research or development projects for the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 227) that would amend section 4001 of title 10, United States Code, by adding a new subsection on disclosure requirements.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibition on availability of funds for canine and feline research

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 229) that would prohibit the use of funds for conducting biomedical research or testing using canines or felines.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Study and report on foreign capital disclosure requirements of certain Department of Defense organizations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 242) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to enter into a contract or other agreement with a federally funded research and development center to conduct an independent study on the foreign capital disclosure requirements of organizations of the Department of Defense that routinely engage with commercial entities backed by private equity or venture capital funds.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the desirability of harmonizing capital disclosure requirements across the Department, the Federal Government, and allies and partners. We therefore direct the Secretary of Defense to provide to the congressional defense committees by July 15, 2025, a briefing on the foreign capital disclosure requirements of organizations of the Department of Defense that routinely engage with commercial entities backed by private equity or venture capital funds. The briefing should include the following:

(1) A comparison of current foreign capital disclosure requirements used by organizations within the Department of Defense that engage with commercial entities backed by private equity or venture capital funds, including the Defense Innovation Unit, National Security Innovation Capital, and other such organizations within the Department and across the services;

(2) A description of any business intelligence, due diligence information, classified information, and other information sources available to such organizations to assist the organizations in formulating and executing foreign capital disclosure requirements;

(3) A description of the extent to which such foreign capital disclosure requirements are shared with commercial entities;

(4) A description of best practices for foreign capital disclosure requirements across the Department of Defense, including best practices for flexibly implementing such requirements;

(5) An assessment of the feasibility of harmonizing the best practices as described above across the Department of Defense in a responsive manner;

(6) A description of relevant foreign capital disclosure requirements that are used elsewhere within the Federal Government and by relevant international allies, partners, and organizations;

(7) A description of such other factors as may be relevant to inform the implementation of coordinated, effective foreign capital disclosure requirements across the Department of Defense and international allies and partners; and

(8) Such other information as the Secretary deems appropriate.

Authority for Secretary of Defense to enter into an agreement for an assessment of biotechnology capabilities of adversaries of the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 244) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to conduct an assessment related to biotechnology.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide to the congressional defense committees a report that includes the findings and recommendations of a federally funded research and development center assessment related to biotechnology not later than June 15, 2025. Such report shall include—

(1) A literature review of scientific topics related to biotechnology of military interest;

(2) An evaluation of the scientific capabilities of potential adversaries of the United States, such as the People's Republic of China, Iran, and the Russian Federation, related to biotechnology;

(3) A review of the current gaps and future scientific and technological needs for adversaries of the United States to be successful with respect to biotechnology capabilities; and

(4) Recommendations with respect to useful indications of any advancement of such adversaries regarding such capabilities.

Such report shall be submitted in unclassified form but may contain a classified annex.

Due to the need to inform elements of the Department broadly on the needs and gaps in this technology space, we also urge the Secretary to ensure the assessment underlying the report is transmitted to other relevant offices of the Department of Defense, including the offices of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, and the Office of Net Assessment.

Sense of Congress on research and development of solid rocket motor mixing technology and the missile industrial base

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 245) that would establish a sense of Congress on the research and development of solid rocket motor mixing technologies.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We are aware of new and efficient solid rocket motor mixing technologies that could augment existing domestic production capabilities for solid rocket motors and assist in increasing the production of tactical missiles. We encourage the Department of Defense to pursue research and development of these advanced propellant mixing technologies for solid rocket motor propulsion systems.

Funding for demonstration of high-pressure waterjet cut and capture system to demilitarize underwater munitions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 246) that would increase by \$5.0 million in PE 63779A for the demonstration of high-pressure waterjet cut and capture system to demilitarize underwater munitions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Increase in funding for high-hypersonic detonation propulsion research and technology

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 249) that would increase, by \$5.0 million, the funding for high-hypersonic detonation propulsion research and technology.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Authorization of specific funding amounts can be found in the funding tables.

Increase in funding for adaptive and intelligent adversary-threat models

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 250) that would increase, by \$5.0 million, the

funding for adaptive and intelligent adversary-threat models.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Authorization of specific funding amounts can be found in the funding tables.

Funding for surface and shallow water mine counter-measures

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 251) that would provide an additional \$9.0 million for surface and shallow water mine countermeasures, offset by a similar reduction from the Chalk Coral program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

The specific authorization of appropriations amounts can be found in the funding tables.

Report on potential inclusion of Israel in the national technology and industrial base

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 252) that would require the Secretary of Defense to assess the feasibility and advisability of including Israel in the national technology and industrial base.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than September 30, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of including Israel in the national technology and industrial base (NTIB). The briefing shall include but not be limited to: (1) A detailed assessment of the potential benefits or consequences of including Israel in the NTIB; (2) Any relevant security information that would create obstacles to expand NTIB; (3) Any identified gaps in NTIB that could be resolved by expanding NTIB; (4) Any other matter that the Secretary considers to be relevant. The briefing may include a classified annex.

Plan on hacking for defense expansion

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 253) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a plan for the expansion of the Hacking for Defense program of the Department of Defense over the period of three fiscal years following the date of the plan.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that elements from this provision are addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Report on potential strategic partnership between the Defense Innovation Unit and the Taiwan Ministry of National Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 254) that would require the Secretary of Defense to assess the feasibility and advisability of establishing a strategic partnership between the Defense Innovation Unit and the Taiwan Ministry of National Defense and provide a report on such assessment.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 233).

The agreement does not include either provision.

We direct the Director of the Defense Innovation Unit to submit to the congressional defense committees a report on expanding the geographic presence of the Defense Innovation Unit, including through partnerships with other organizations, not later than April 1, 2025. This report shall include the following:

(1) The current geographic distribution of the personnel and offices of the Defense Innovation Unit, including identification of the number of full-time equivalent civilians and contractors associated with each location;

(2) An assessment of opportunities to leverage other entities to expand geographic presence through current or planned partnerships that can support missions of the Defense Innovation Unit based on the existing geographic and functional footprint of those entities, such as Department of Defense laboratories, program intermediaries, university affiliated research centers, or the activities of the Hacking for Defense program;

(3) A gap analysis between planned expansion of the geographic presence of the Defense Innovation Unit and use of partnerships to achieve nationwide geographic coverage for activities of the Defense Innovation Unit;

(4) The current plan of the Director to expand the geographic presence of the Defense Innovation Unit during the next 5-year period to address the gaps analyzed pursuant to paragraph (3), including resources required and any other policy or regulatory challenges; and

(5) An assessment of both current international partnerships and opportunities to deepen and expand international partnerships, including through expansion of Hacking for Defense program activities.

Sense of Congress on the continuing need for innovation in the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 255) that would express the sense of Congress regarding the continuing need for innovation in the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the importance of a robust innovation ecosystem in strengthening our national security. The U.S. military's innovative capacity in technological areas such as artificial intelligence, quantum information sciences, advanced air mobility, and counter-UAS systems is key to maintaining and improving military readiness. We support continued expansion and growth of innovation ecosystems for both national and economic security needs.

Funding for alternative domestic source C-130J IRSS

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 256) that would increase funding by \$6.0 million for alternative domestic sources for C-130J infrared suppression systems (IRSS), offset by a corresponding reduction in funding for operational system development, industrial base analysis and sustainment support.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

The specific authorization of appropriations amounts can be found in the funding tables.

Funding for virtual engineering for army readiness and sustainment

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 257) that would increase funding for Virtual Engineering for Army Readiness and Sustainment.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Funding for fuel cell multi-modular use utilizing hydrogen

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 259) that would increase, by \$10.0 million, the

funding for Fuel Cell Multi-Modular Use Utilizing Hydrogen.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Authorization of specific funding amounts can be found in the funding tables.

Funding for humanitarian airborne mobile infrastructure capability

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 258) that would increase, by \$4.2 million, the funding for Humanitarian Airborne Mobile Infrastructure Capability.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Authorization of specific funding amounts can be found in the funding tables.

Assignment of Department of Defense responsibility for international collaboration on directed energy weapons

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 215) that would amend section 219 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) by designating the senior Department of Defense official responsible for directed energy, supported by the Joint Directed Energy Transition Office, as the office with primary responsibility for collaboration with international partners on directed energy weapons.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Prohibition on award of research or development contracts or grants to educational institutions that have violated certain civil rights

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 220) that would prohibit the Department of Defense from entering into any new contracts, or agreements, or making any new grant awards to institutions of higher education that have violated title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Public Law 88-352) on or after 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Report on obligations and expenditure rates for basic research

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 234) that would require a report from the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller on the obligation and expenditure rates for Department of Defense basic and applied research.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that a similar reporting requirement was included in the House Report 118-529. We remain concerned with the Department of Defense's obligation and expenditure policies for basic and applied research at academic institutions given the incongruence of the academic year and the federal fiscal year. The committee urges the Department to implement expenditure benchmarks policies that consider delays in allocations to the grantees and are more aligned with the fiscal policies and calendars of academic institutions.

Therefore, we direct the Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller, in coordination with the Comptrollers of the military departments and the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering to submit a report to the congressional defense

committees, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, on the obligation and expenditure rates for Department of Defense basic and applied research that is conducted at institutions of higher education for the previous five fiscal years. The report shall also identify:

(1) The month of obligations and expenditures for basic and applied research conducted at institutions of higher education;

(2) Funds realigned from basic or applied research budget lines due to not meeting obligations or expenditures benchmarks throughout the fiscal year and made available for other purposes; and

(3) A plan to implement revised expenditure benchmarks related to research grants at institutions of higher education.

Plan for optimization of Irregular Warfare Technical Support Directorate

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 238) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a plan to optimize the contributions of the Irregular Warfare Technical Support Directorate in order to enable irregular warfare activities in support of the 2022 National Defense Strategy.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a plan for optimizing the contributions of the Irregular Warfare Technical Support Directorate to the fulfillment of Department of Defense irregular warfare activities in support of the National Defense Strategy. At a minimum, the plan shall address efforts to more effectively—

(1) Address emergent requirements within the year of execution;

(2) Lessons learned from ongoing conflicts where the U.S. is not a direct participant, if feasible;

(3) Focus and prioritize resources to rapidly address Department of Defense user requirements;

(4) Coordinate efforts with the Office of Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics of U.S. Special Operations Command;

(5) Maximize contributions from foreign and non-Department of Defense partners; and

(6) Address other matters deemed relevant by the Secretary.

Directed Energy Roadmap and Activity Funding Report

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 247) that would amend section 219(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) to require a Directed Energy Roadmap and Activity Funding Report annually until 2031.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Pilot program on establishing entities and consortia to conduct prototyping and production of critical and emerging technologies

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 248) that would require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program to establish one or more entities, including consortia, to conduct prototyping and production activities for such critical and emerging technologies as the Secretary shall specify and require the Secretary to use other transaction authority to carry out the program pursuant section 4022 of title 10, United States Code.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We encourage the Department of Defense to use other transaction authority (OTAs), including through consortia, to conduct prototyping and production activities for the Department's 14 critical technology areas. We note that unlike Federal Acquisition Regulation-based contracts, the Department is not required to track the type of business performing on an OTA. We note that elsewhere in this Act we are directing the Department to track awards made through OTAs to provide a better understanding of the types of businesses performing on OTAs.

Report on status of reusable hypersonic technology development activities

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5232) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the status of reusable hypersonic technology development activities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than June 15, 2025, to the congressional defense committees on the status of reusable hypersonic technology development activities in the Department of Defense, including the High Mach Turbine Engine. The briefing should include:

(1) A proposed organizational structure for management of a reusable hypersonic aircraft development program;

(2) An assessment of requirements and timeframe to formalize such proposed organizational structure; and

(3) A cost estimate and timeline for testing key enabling technologies and programs.

Prohibition on research or development of cell culture and other novel methods used for the production of cultivated meat

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5233) that would prohibit the use of funds for the research or development of cell culture or any other novel method used for the production of cultivated meat for human consumption.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE III—OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

SUBTITLE A—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 301—Authorization of appropriations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 301) that would authorize appropriations for operation and maintenance activities at the levels identified in section 4301 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 301).

The agreement includes this provision.

SUBTITLE B—ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Sec. 311—Modification of definition of antenna structure project under Military Aviation and Installation Assurance Clearinghouse for review of mission obstructions

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 313) that would amend section 183a(h)(2)(A) (ii) of title 10, United States Code, to address a technical correction.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 312—Extension of period for cooperative agreements under Native American lands environmental mitigation program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 320) that would extend the period for cooperative agreements under Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program by 3 years.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 313—Extension of requirement to establish a schedule of black start exercises to assess the energy resilience and energy security of military installations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 311) that would extend the requirement to conduct black start exercises from 2027 to 2032.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 314—Change in timeframe for report on ability of Department of Defense to meet requirements for energy resilience and energy security measures on military installations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 342) that would amend the reporting requirement year in section 2029 (g) of title 10, United States Code, by striking 2029 and inserting 2027.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 315—Repeal of limitation on procurement of drop-in fuels; annual report

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 317) that would repeal section 2922h of title 10, United States Code, and require the Secretary of Defense to submit an annual report if a bulk purchase of drop-in fuel was not cost-competitive with traditional fuel, and if the purchase was based on a military requirement or not.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 316—Extension of prohibition on required disclosure

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 312) that would extend the prohibition on required disclosure by prime contractors for 5 years.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would extend the prohibition by 2 years.

Sec. 317—Increase of transfer authority for funding of study and assessment on health implications of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances contamination in drinking water by Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 322) that would extend to fiscal year 2025 the authorization and funding transfer authority for the ongoing study and assessment on human health impacts of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in drinking water by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 318—Initiative to control and combat the spread of coconut rhinoceros beetle in Hawaii

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 315) that would authorize and direct the Secretary of Defense to enhance efforts to support the control, interdiction, research, and

eradication efforts related to the coconut rhinoceros beetle (CRB) on military installations in Hawaii.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment to clarify that interagency and intergovernmental response efforts to control, interdict, monitor, and eradicate the CRB are for military installations in Hawaii.

Sec. 319—Prohibition on implementation of regulation relating to minimizing risk of climate change

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 318) that would prohibit funds from being used by the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2025 to finalize or implement any rule based on the advanced notice of the proposed rulemaking titled “Federal Acquisition Regulation: Minimizing the Risk of Climate Change in Federal Acquisitions.”

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 320—Implementation of Inspector General recommendations relating to oversight of defense fuel support points

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 311) that would direct the Secretary of Defense to implement the recommendations of the Department of Defense Inspector General report, published April 11, 2024, titled, “Audit of the Defense Logistics Agency Oversight of Defense Fuel Support Points” (DODIG-2024-075), not later than May 1, 2026, or report explaining why the Secretary has not implemented those recommendations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 321—Provision by Secretary of the Air Force of meteorological data for Air Force and Army

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 314) that would clarify that the Secretary of the Air Force is required to provide meteorological and environmental services for the Department of the Air Force and meteorological services for the Department of the Army.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE C—LOGISTICS AND SUSTAINMENT

Sec. 331—Joint Safety Council report and briefing requirements

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 341) that would amend section 185 of title 10, United States Code, to require biannual briefings from the Joint Safety Council that includes releasable information regarding any mishap that occurred during such year and identification of any corrective or preventative action implemented pursuant to a recommendation made in a safety or legal investigation report of such a mishap.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 332—Modifications to Comptroller General annual reviews of F-35 sustainment efforts

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 343) that would amend section 357 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) regarding the Comptroller General of the United States’ annual reviews of the F-35 by extending the reporting period and adding sustainment considerations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 333—Plans regarding condition and maintenance of prepositioned stockpiles of Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 331) that would require the Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force to develop a plan to improve inspection procedures of prepositioned stockpiles and conduct biannual inspections of these prepositioned stockpiles.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 334—Warehouse utilization organization alignment

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 331) that would require each Secretary of a military department, and the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency, to provide a briefing on warehouse utilization and organizational alignment.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 335—Authority for Government-owned, Government-operated facilities to access production base support funds

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 332) that would require the Secretary of Defense to prescribe regulations allowing Government-owned, Government-operated facilities to be eligible to receive Production Base Support funds from the U.S. Army.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 336—Pre-positioned stocks of finished defense textile articles

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 356) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to establish pre-positioned stocks of finished defense textile articles needed to support a contingency operation.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE D—REPORTS

Sec. 341—Modification of readiness reports to include total number of combat readiness upgrades or downgrades

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 341) that would amend paragraph (5) of section 482(b) of title 10, United States Code, to modify the readiness reports to Congress to include the total number of upgrades or downgrades of the combat readiness of a unit issued by the unit commander, rather than each unit summary with the rationale from each reporting unit commander.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 342—Extension and expansion of incident reporting requirements for Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 342) that would extend the incident reporting requirement regarding lost and stolen weapons and include the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 343—Annual briefing on operational readiness of 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron prior to commencement of official hurricane season

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 344) that would require the commanding officer of the 22nd Air Force to provide a briefing on the operational readiness of the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

SUBTITLE E—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 351—Extension of authority for Secretary of Defense to use Department of Defense reimbursement rate for transportation services provided to certain non-Department of Defense entities

The budget request for fiscal year 2025 included a proposal to extend the authority, granted in section 2642 of title 10, United States Code, allowing the Secretary of Defense to use the Department of Defense (DOD) reimbursement rate for transportation services provided to certain non-DOD entities. That authority allows DOD to provide transportation services covered by that section at the same rate DOD charges DOD units for similar services. The proposal requested a change in the sunset date from October 1, 2024, to October 1, 2029.

The agreement includes a provision that would extend the sunset date of this authority from October 1, 2024, to October 1, 2026. Furthermore, we direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than April 1, 2025, on how the Department uses this authority, the need for an extension, and any other information the Secretary deems relevant.

Sec. 352—Improvements to FireGuard Program of National Guard

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5351) that would allow the Secretary of Defense to enter into a contract or cooperative agreement with a qualified individual or entity to carry out the duties of the FireGuard Program.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 353—Counter unmanned aerial system threat library

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 335) that would require the Secretary of the Army, through the Joint Counter-small Unmanned Aerial Systems Office, to establish and maintain a threat library, or expand and maintain an existing library, to coordinate efforts across the Department of Defense to counter unmanned aerial systems.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 354—Limitation on availability of funds for travel expenses of Office of Secretary of Defense until submission of certain documents

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 353) that would limit the obligation and expenditure of more than 75 percent of certain funds authorized for travel expenses for the Office of the Secretary of Defense until the Secretary provides to the congressional defense committees certain outstanding reporting requirements.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 355—Anti-lock brake system and electronic stability control kit for certain Army vehicles

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 354) that would require the Secretary of the Army to develop a plan to ensure that all high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles identified in the Tactical Wheeled Vehicle Strategy have been retrofitted with an anti-lock brake system and electronic stability control kit.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would modify the requirement to ensure that all high-mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicles are equipped with anti-lock brake system and electronic stability control kit and extend the timeline to complete the requirement.

Sec. 356—Program for advanced manufacturing in the Indo-Pacific region

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1082) that would establish a pilot program to develop forward advanced manufacturing capability in and for the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 357).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Modifications to pilot program on use of sustainable aviation fuel

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 313) that would amend the Sustainable Aviation Fuel Pilot Program from the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) to ensure the Greenhouse Gases, Regulated Emissions, and Energy Use in Technologies model is used to measure greenhouse gas emissions reductions under the program, promoting increased accuracy in measurements and preventing the exclusion of domestic, agricultural biofuels from the program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 315).

The agreement does not include either provision.

Modification of temporary moratorium on incineration by Department of Defense of perfluoroalkyl substances, polyfluoroalkyl substances, and aqueous film forming foam

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 314) that would amend Section 343(a)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) and end the moratorium on per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) destruction by allowing the Department of Defense to follow the recent guidance put out by the Environmental Protection Agency with regard to the destruction of PFAS.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We strongly encourage the Department of Defense to issue appropriate guidance related to the destruction of PFAS, in accordance with section 343(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81).

Review and plan regarding biosecurity protocols for Hawaii

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 316) that would direct the Department of Defense to review its biosecurity protocols in Hawaii to prevent the introduction and

spread of invasive species and would also direct the Department to create a plan to improve biosecurity protocols in Hawaii and improve coordination with state and local entities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Pilot program to install propane-powered generators at a domestic defense industrial base facility

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 317) that would establish a pilot program to install propane-powered generators at a qualified domestic organic defense industrial base facility.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than April 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of establishing a pilot program to install propane-powered generators at a domestic organic defense industrial base facility. The briefing should include information on current backup power capabilities at installations, any necessary supply and storage infrastructure requirements, any benefits to the resiliency and redundancy of power generation, any costs associated with establishing the pilot, and any other advantages and disadvantages that the Secretary deems relevant.

Stormwater discharge permits for Department of Defense facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 319) that would require the Secretary of Defense to request updated storm water management system permits from the appropriate authorities to allow for best practices to be implemented at storm water outflows and prevent per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances discharge from Department of Defense facilities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Pilot program on improving Marine Corps supply chain and logistics through the integration of artificial intelligence and machine learning software solutions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 332) that would require the Commandant of the Marine Corps to establish a pilot program in the Marine Corps to integrate artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) solutions to solve supply chain and logistics challenges.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that such activities leveraging AI and ML solutions could greatly benefit the Marine Corps by potentially driving down costs and timelines associated with supply chain and logistics challenges. We are aware of numerous commercially developed solutions that could be leveraged to address Marine Corps needs. We encourage the Marine Corps to continue testing and evaluating AI/ML solutions to help address these types of problem sets.

Responsiveness testing of Defense Logistics Agency pharmaceutical contracts

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 333) that would require the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) to amend DLA Instructions 5025.03 and 3110.01 to require DLA Troop Support to coordinate an-

nually with customers in the military departments to conduct responsiveness testing of the DLA's contingency contracts for pharmaceuticals and to include the results of that testing, as reported by customers in the military departments, in the annual reports of the Warstopper Program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We encourage the DLA to require DLA Troop Support to coordinate annually with customers in the military departments to conduct responsiveness testing of the DLA's contingency contracts for pharmaceuticals and to include the results of that testing, as reported by customers in the military departments, in the annual reports of the Warstopper Program.

Investment plan for Department of Defense depots and industrial facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 334) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of each of the military departments, to submit an investment plan that includes detailed information about the minimum annual investment in Department of Defense depots and industrial facilities that is needed to prevent further infrastructure deterioration.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the minimum required annual investments across the future years defense program to arrest further facilities deterioration in government-owned, government-operated depots and industrial facilities that maintain critical equipment and weapons systems. We note the existing requirement in section 2473 of title 10, United States Code, for the secretaries of the military departments to provide annual five-year plans on improvement of depot infrastructure so as to encourage prudent and timely investment. We commend the Department of the Army for their use of this tool to successfully advocate for infrastructure improvements and encourage the other services to follow suit.

Study on firefighter rapid intervention team training and equipment at Department of Defense facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 344) that would require the Department of Defense to conduct a study on the training and equipment of firefighter Rapid Intervention Teams on military facilities to ensure that such teams have up-to-date training and equipment on different crisis scenarios, including port facility fires.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than September 30, 2025, on the training standards for firefighter rapid intervention teams and the use of equipment by such teams at military installations. The briefing shall include: (1) The extent to which, if any, such training and equipment is standard across firefighter rapid response intervention teams on military installations; (2) Whether such training and equipment is sufficient to prepare such teams for fires on ships that dock at military installations; and (3) A description of any incident, if any, that occurred in the

last 10 years in which a firefighter was injured or killed at a military installation and could have been prevented had the firefighters involved received different training or equipment.

Joint Safety Council review of Comptroller General report on fatigue of members of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 345) that would require the Joint Safety Council to review Government Accountability Office (GAO) reports on addressing servicemember fatigue and provide a briefing on steps to address the GAO's findings.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Joint Safety Council (JSC), established under section 185 of title 10, United States Code, to review the issues identified in the report of the Comptroller General of the United States titled "Military Readiness: Comprehensive Approach Needed to Address Service Member Fatigue and Manage Related Efforts" (GAO-24-105917) and provide a briefing, not later than September 1, 2025, to congressional defense committees on steps the JSC is taking to address the findings of the Comptroller General and to reinvigorate efforts to limit the fatigue of members of the Armed Forces. The briefing shall include JSC actions taken related to:

(1) Insufficient oversight authority at the Department of Defense level;

(2) A lack of assigned leadership on fatigue-related matters within the Armed Forces; and

(3) Fragmented fatigue-related research efforts across the Department.

Study on use and presence of toxic chemicals in Panama Canal Zone

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 346) that would require the Armed Forces Pest Management Board to conduct a study on the use and presence of herbicide agents and toxic chemicals by the Department in the Panama Canal Zone during the period beginning on January 1, 1958, and ending on December 31, 1999.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the use and presence of herbicide agents as a result of Department of Defense activities in the Panama Canal Zone between January 1, 1958 and December 31, 1999. The briefing shall include an assessment to determine the degree to which herbicide agents, including those known as "rainbow herbicides", were used, tested, stored, or otherwise dispensed within the Panama Canal Zone while servicemembers were stationed there, as well as any adverse impact on servicemembers by the use of such herbicide agents.

Report on wildfire fighting capabilities of the Department of Defense in Hawaii

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 347) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on wildfire fighting capabilities of the Department of Defense in Hawaii.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025 with an assess-

ment of the wildfire fighting capabilities of the Department of Defense in Hawaii, including any shortfalls in firefighting equipment, facilities, training, plans, or personnel. The briefing shall include a determination of the feasibility and advisability of establishing a wildfire training institute on Oahu, an identification of any additional authorities or resources required to integrate the capabilities of the Department of Defense with the capabilities of other Federal, State, and local emergency responders, and an identification of any memoranda or other agreements between the Department and State, local, Federal, or other disaster response organizations regarding wildland fire mitigation, prevention, response, and recovery.

Briefing on Army organizational clothing and equipment used in cold and extreme cold weather environments

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 348) that would require the Secretary of the Army to provide a briefing on the modernization and sustainment plans of the Army for organizational clothing and equipment used in cold and extreme cold weather environments.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Senate report accompanying S. 4638 (S. Rept. 118-188) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 already directed a briefing requirement on the modernization and sustainment plans of the Army for organizational clothing and equipment used in cold and extreme cold weather environments. We direct the Army to include the House Committee on Armed Services as a recipient of this briefing requirement.

Provision of sports foods and third-party certified dietary supplements to members of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 352) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to use appropriated funds to procure sports foods and third-party certified dietary supplements and distribute such foods and supplements to members of the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Funding for base support

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 353) that would increase, by \$5.0 million, the funding for base support.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Availability of operation and maintenance appropriations for software

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 354) that would amend section 2241(a) of title 10, United States Code, to add a new paragraph that would allow for operations and maintenance funds to be used for acquisition, development, modification, and sustainment of software.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Initiative to control and combat the spread of invasive species

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 312) that would require the Secretary of Defense to enhance efforts to manage, control, and interdict invasive species that exacerbate the risk of wildfire that could affect the readiness of the

Armed Forces, the health and safety of servicemembers, and their families and surrounding communities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of the Department of Defense enhancing efforts through the Integrated Natural Resource Management Plans and other relevant management and operational plans to manage, control, and interdict invasive species, including those that exacerbate the risk of wildfire, that could affect the readiness of the Armed Forces and the health and safety of servicemembers and their families. The briefing shall include: (1) the feasibility and advisability of additional resources and funding for Department of Defense activities in support of managing, controlling, and interdicting invasive species; (2) a review of current Department of Defense protocols and procedures, including gaps and differences between military installations, for biosecurity and efforts to prevent the spread of invasive species on military installations; (3) options to establish early detection and rapid response mechanisms to monitor and deploy coordinated interdiction efforts for any invasive species newly detected on military installations; and (4) a review of post-fire land rehabilitation efforts using native vegetation and other methods to preclude the reestablishment of invasive species.

Study and report on the greenhouse gas and toxic pollutant emissions of the production and utilization of non-tactical vehicles of the Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 316) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the greenhouse gas and toxic pollutant emissions lifecycle in the production and use of electric non-tactical vehicles over the lifetime of the vehicle relative to a comparable model of non-tactical vehicles possessing an internal combustion engine and require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the aforementioned study.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct and submit to the Armed Services Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives a study on the greenhouse gas and toxic pollutant emissions lifecycle in the production and utilization of electric non-tactical vehicles over the lifetime of the vehicle relative to a comparable model of non-tactical vehicle possessing an internal combustion engine. Such study shall include: (1) the estimated reduction in carbon emissions associated with the adoption of electric vehicles across the non-tactical vehicle fleet; (2) a comparative analysis of non-tactical efficiency, maintenance costs, and lifecycle emissions of electric vehicles versus traditional combustion engine vehicles; and (3) a cost-benefit analysis of investing in electric vehicle infrastructure compared to the fully burdened costs, advantages, and disadvantages of internal combustion engines for non-tactical use by the Department of Defense.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 120 days after the Comptroller General's completion of the study to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a

report on the use of non-tactical electric vehicles by the Armed Forces, which shall include: (1) an assessment of non-tactical vehicle capabilities to determine different mission profiles and scenarios supported by electric vehicles and internal combustion vehicles; (2) an estimation of the expected lifespan and durability of electric vehicles under non-tactical conditions, including an evaluation of maintenance requirements and costs associated with the lifetime of the vehicle; (3) an evaluation of the logistical implications of integrating electric vehicles into the non-tactical vehicle fleet, including infrastructure requirements for charging or refueling, compatibility with existing supply chains, and potential challenges relating to spare parts availability and maintenance support; and (4) an identification of risks and challenges associated with the procurement and deployment of electric vehicles, such as technological obsolescence, cybersecurity vulnerabilities, and geopolitical dependencies on critical components.

Interim responses to address releases or threatened releases of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 321) that would codify existing Department of Defense policy for the military services to take action to address any release or threatened release of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Plan for secondary sources in the munitions supply chain

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 334) that would require the Secretary of the Army to develop a plan to provide options to establish secondary domestic production sources at existing arsenals, depots, and ammunition plants of the U.S. Army to address munition supply chain chokepoints.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Army to provide a plan providing options to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2025, to establish secondary domestic production sources at existing arsenals, depots, and ammunition plants of the U.S. Army to address munition supply chain chokepoints. The plan shall draw on existing supply chain mapping conducted by the Department of Defense and other studies conducted by the U.S. Army. The plan shall include an assessment of the feasibility and advisability of expanding the scope of activities at all existing depots, arsenals, and ammunition plants of the U.S. Army to serve as secondary sources for single points of supply chain failure and reopening of any previously closed depots, arsenals, and ammunition plants of the U.S. Army.

Extension of protection of certain facilities and assets from unmanned aircraft

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 352) that would amend section 1301 of title 10, United States Code, to extend the sunset date of the authority of the Department of Defense to counter threats from unmanned aerial systems to United States military forces and facilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Coordination of planning with respect to stockpiles of basic life sustaining and personnel items and equipment

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 355) that would require the Department of Defense to assess whether stockpiles of basic life sustaining personnel items and equipment are sufficient in the event of a protracted conflict scenario.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and each equivalent acquisition officer of the military departments, to conduct an assessment of: (1) Whether total force stockpiles of basic life sustaining personnel items and equipment, as listed below, are sufficient in the event of direct involvement by the United States in a protracted conflict or in more than one large-scale conflict taking place simultaneously in more than one theater; (2) The likely impact on supply chains of procurement by the Department of said items and equipment in a situation so described; and (3) Whether current operational plans of the Armed Forces can be executed in two separate theaters simultaneously without drawing on the same stockpiles of basic life sustaining and personnel items and equipment.

The basic life sustaining personnel items and equipment included in the assessment shall include: (1) Subsistence items, including food and food-related supplies, including condiments, utensils, paper products, and bottled water; (2) Clothing, individual equipment, tentage, organizational tool kits, hand tools, and administrative and housekeeping supplies and equipment; (3) Personal demand items that are non-military sales items; and (4) Such other items as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff may identify.

Upon completion of the assessment, we direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment in coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to jointly submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing the findings and determinations made pursuant to the required assessment. The report shall include at a minimum the availability of stockpiles of weather and terrain appropriate tires for tactical vehicles, as well as mobile extreme weather shelters for maintenance of military vehicles.

The term "protracted conflict" means any armed conflict that extends beyond anticipated timelines set forth or implied in strategic planning documents or operational plans, such that the cumulative effects of hostilities result in the military goals set forth in strategic plans no longer being sufficient to end the conflict.

TITLE IV—MILITARY PERSONNEL AUTHORIZATIONS

SUBTITLE A—ACTIVE FORCES

Sec. 401—End strengths for active forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 401) that would authorize Active-Duty end strength as of September 30, 2025 as follows: Army, 442,300; Navy, 332,300; Marine Corps, 172,300; Air Force, 320,000; and Space Force, 9,800.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 401).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 402—Annual end-strength authorization for the Space Force

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 402) that would re-

quire Space Force end strength authorization to consist of a single number for Space Force active status members; and make corresponding technical and conforming amendments.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 403—Temporary exclusion of mental health care providers from authorized strengths of certain officers on active duty

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1831) that would amend section 523(b) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Department of Defense to exclude certain health care providers from authorized end strengths under such section.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would make the end strength exclusion temporary; and require the Secretary of Defense to provide a legislative proposal to eliminate permanent exclusions to end strength determinations under section 523 of title 10, United States Code.

SUBTITLE B—RESERVE FORCES

Sec. 411—End strengths for Selected Reserve

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 411) that would authorize end strengths for Selected Reserve personnel, including the end strength for Reserves on Active Duty in support of the Reserves, as of September 30, 2025 as follows: Army National Guard, 325,000; Army Reserve, 175,800; Navy Reserve, 57,700; Marine Corps Reserve, 32,500; Air National Guard, 107,700; Air Force Reserve, 67,000; and Coast Guard Reserve, 7,000.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 411) that would authorize end strengths for Selected Reserve personnel, including the end strength for Reserves on Active Duty in support of the Reserves, as of September 30, 2025 as follows: Army National Guard, 325,000; Army Reserve, 175,800; Navy Reserve, 57,700; Marine Corps Reserve, 32,500; Air National Guard, 108,300; Air Force Reserve, 67,000; and Coast Guard Reserve, 7,000.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 412—End strengths for Reserves on active duty in support of the Reserves

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 412) that would authorize end strengths for Reserves on Active Duty in support of the Reserves as of September 30, 2025 as follows: Army National Guard, 30,845; Army Reserve, 16,511; Navy Reserve, 10,132; Marine Corps Reserve, 2,400; Air National Guard, 25,736; Air Force Reserve, 6,311.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 412) that would authorize full-time support end strengths as of September 30, 2025 as follows: Army National Guard, 30,845; Army Reserve, 16,511; Navy Reserve, 10,132; Marine Corps Reserve, 2,400; Air National Guard, 25,982; Air Force Reserve, 6,311.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 413—End strengths for military technicians (dual status)

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 413) that would authorize end strengths for military technicians (dual status) as of September 30, 2025 as follows: Army National Guard, 22,294; Army Reserve, 6,492; Air National Guard, 10,744; Air Force Reserve, 6,697.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 413) that would authorize end strengths for military technicians (dual status) as of September 30,

2025 as follows: Army National Guard, 22,294; Army Reserve, 6,492; Air National Guard, 10,744; Air Force Reserve, 6,697. The Senate provision would also limit the number of temporary military technicians (dual status) to 25 percent of the authorized end strength and prohibit a state from coercing military technicians into accepting an offer of realignment or conversion to any other military status including as a member of the Active, Guard, and Reserve program of a reserve component.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 414—Maximum number of reserve personnel authorized to be on active duty for operational support

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 414) that would authorize—as required under section 115(b) of title 10, United States Code the maximum number of Reserve Component personnel who may be on Active Duty or full-time National Guard duty during fiscal year 2025 for operational support.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 414).

The agreement includes this provision.

SUBTITLE C—AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

Sec. 421—Military personnel

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 421) that would authorize appropriations for military personnel at the levels identified in the funding table in section 4401 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 421).

The agreement includes this provision.

SUBTITLE D—REPORTS

Sec. 431—Annual defense manpower profile report: expansion of justifications for end strengths

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 431) that would amend section 115a of title 10, United States Code, to add new requirements in the annual defense manual profile report as follows: an assessment of the most important threats facing the United States and an explanation of how personnel end strength requests address such threats; the rationale for recommended changes in manpower in the Department of Defense and for each of the geographic combatant commands, respectively; the primary functions or missions of active, reserve, and civilian personnel in each geographic command; an assessment of any areas in which decreases in end strength would not result in decreases in readiness; the actual end strength number for each Armed Service for the prior fiscal year; the percentage shortfall in recruiting by each Armed Service; and the actual number of candidates for service in the Armed Services who were deemed ineligible due to current enlistment standards.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would strike new requirements related to end strength of geographic combatant commands and the actual numbers of candidates whom the Department of Defense deemed ineligible. The amendment would also require certain additional reporting requirements to be linked to the national defense strategy under section 113 of title 10, United States Code.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Exemption of National Guard Bilateral Affairs Officers from active-duty end strength limits and modification of annual reporting requirement regarding security cooperation activities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 415) that would

amend section 115 of title 10, United States Code, to exempt members of the National Guard who serve as bilateral affairs officers as a part of the National Guard State Partnership Program from end strength requirements under such section; and amend section 386 of title 10, United States Code, to specify the congressional committees to whom the Secretary of Defense must submit an annual report under such section.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE V—MILITARY PERSONNEL POLICY
SUBTITLE A—OFFICER POLICY

Sec. 501—Redistribution of general officers of the Marine Corps on active duty

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 502) that would amend section 525(a)(4) of title 10, United States Code, to increase the maximum number of general officers in the Marine Corps authorized to serve above the grade of major general from 17 to 18, and would reduce the maximum number of general officers in the Marine Corps authorized to serve in the grade of major general from 22 to 21.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

We note that this provision would not increase the overall number of general officers authorized for the Marine Corps. Furthermore, the inclusion of this provision does not signify any future interest in increasing the authorization for Marine Corps general officers.

Sec. 502—Authority to exclude additional positions from limitations on the number of general officers and flag officers on active duty

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 504) that would amend section 526 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to designate up to 45 general and flag officer positions for exclusion from the limitations on general and flag officer authorizations in section 525(a) of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would authorize the Secretary to designate up to 35 general and flag officer positions for exclusion from the limitations on general and flag officer authorizations.

Sec. 503—Eligibility for consideration for promotion: time-in-grade and other requirements

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 505) that would amend sections 577, 619, and 14301 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretaries of the military departments concerned to preclude from consideration by a promotion selection board officers and warrant officers who have an established retirement date that is within 90 days after the date the selection board is convened.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 504—Temporary authority to increase the number of nurse officers recommended for promotion

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 503) that would authorize promotion boards to recommend for promotion more than 95 percent, but less than 100 percent, of nurse officers eligible for promotion to major or lieutenant commander if the Secretary of the military de-

partment concerned determines that the greater number is necessary to maintain or improve medical readiness. This authority would expire on December 31, 2030.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 505—Talent management and personnel retention for members of the Armed Forces

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 502) that would amend sections 619 and 14301 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to approve requests by officers to opt out of consideration for promotion, without penalty, due to long initial training pipelines.

The provision would also amend sections 631, 632, 8372, 14504, 14505, and 14506 of title 10, United States Code, to change the mandatory separation date for officers who fail for selection for promotion to the next higher grade for the second time to the first day of the seventh calendar month beginning after the month in which the Secretary concerned publicly releases the promotion board selection results.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 506—Consideration of merit by special selection review boards

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 508) that would amend sections 628a and 14502a of title 10, United States Code, to allow special selection review boards (SSRB) to sustain a promotion board's selection of an officer who is the subject of credible information of an adverse nature when such officer ranks in the top half of an order of merit development by the SSRB. The officer's qualifications would still be required to be comparable in qualification for promotion to those sample officers who were recommended for promotion by that promotion board.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 507—Effect of failure of selection for promotion: captains and majors of the Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force and lieutenants and lieutenant commanders of the Navy

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 506) that would amend section 632(c) of title 10, United States Code, to require the retention on Active Duty of officers otherwise subject to separation for failure for selection for promotion until completion of the officer's Active-Duty service obligation. The provision would also authorize the Secretary of the military department concerned to waive this requirement if the Secretary determines that completion of the Active-Duty service obligation of that officer is not in the best interest of the service.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 508—Modification of authority to separate officers when in the best interest of the service

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 506) that would amend section 1182 of title 10, United States Code, to modify the authority under that section to separate officers under certain circumstances when such separation is in the best interests of the military service.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 509).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 509—Remote appearance before a board of inquiry

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 537) that would amend sections 1185 and 14904 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to permit, in exceptional circumstances, the appearance of an officer before a board of inquiry other than in person, such as by video teleconferencing.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 509A—Marine Corps Deputy Commandants

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 521) that would amend section 8045 of title 10, United States Code, to increase the number of authorized Marine Corps Deputy Commandants from seven to eight.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 509B—Improvements relating to Medical Officer of the Marine Corps position

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 508) that would establish a Medical Officer of the Marine Corps appointed from among flag officers of the Navy.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 509A) that would amend chapter 806 and section 525 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Navy to appoint a Navy rear admiral as the Medical Officer of the Marine Corps and exclude this position from flag officer and active duty strength limitations.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 509C—Vice Chief of Space Operations; vacancy in position of Chief of Space Operations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 504) that would amend chapter 908 of title 10, United States Code, to establish the position of the Vice Chief of Space Operations who will serve in the grade of general. The provision would also provide that the Vice Chief of Space Operations would perform the duties of the Chief of Space Operations during a vacancy in the position of Chief of Space Operations and during the absence of the Chief of Space Operations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 509D—Repeal of active duty service requirement for warrant officer appointments in Air Force and Space Force

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 509) that would repeal section 9160 of title 10, United States Code, which requires 1 year of Active-Duty service for original appointment as a warrant officer in the Department of the Air Force.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 501).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 509E—Removal of officers from a list of Space Force officers recommended for promotion

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 507) that would amend section 20241 of title 10, United States Code, to extend to the Space Force certain restrictions pertaining to removal of officers from a list of officers recommended for promotion.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 509F—Pilot program on peer and subordinate assessments of certain officers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 509A) that would require the Secretary concerned, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, to implement a 5-year pilot program in which certain covered officers of the Armed Forces are assessed by peers and subordinates. The provision would also require the Secretaries concerned to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report regarding such pilot program not later than 3 months after the termination of such program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would make various technical and conforming amendments to the House provision.

SUBTITLE B—RESERVE COMPONENT MANAGEMENT

Sec. 511—Authority to extend military technicians until age 62

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 513) that would amend sections 10216(f) and 14702(b) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the retention of military technicians to age 62, rather than age 60 as authorized in current law. This change aligns authority to retain military technicians with recent changes that allow drill status national guardsmen to be retained until age 62, and supports the retention of experienced military technicians.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 512—Extension of time period for transfer or discharge of certain Army and Air Force reserve component general officers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 514) that would amend section 14314 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize Army and Air Force reserve component general officers to continue serving in an active status or on active duty for up to 60 days after ceasing to occupy a general officer position.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 514).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 513—Expanded authority to continue reserve component officers in certain military specialties on the reserve active-status list

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 512) that would amend section 14701(a) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to selectively continue on the reserve Active-Status list, for up to 40 years of commissioned service, Reserve component officers above the grade of O-2 in designated military specialties.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 512).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 514—Transfer to the Space Force of covered space functions of the Air National Guard of the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 521) that would allow the Secretary of the Air Force, during the transition period, to transfer to the Space Force the covered space functions of the Air National Guard of the United States, subject to section 104 of title 32, United States Code, and section 18238 of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 515) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to transfer such covered space functions to the Space Force without regard to section 104 of title 32, United States Code, and section 18238 of title 10, United States Code.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with technical amendments.

The April 2024 Department of the Air Force report titled “Report on the Feasibility of the Consolidation or Transfer of Space Functions of the National Guard to the Space Force” did not include the 222nd Command and Control Squadron as a “covered space function.” We direct the Secretary of the Air Force, in consultation with the Chief of Space Operations, the Director of the National Reconnaissance Organization (NRO), the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and the Director of the Air National Guard, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, that assesses the organizational future of the 222nd, focusing on options that ensure the unit’s continued support to the NRO while accounting for its broader integration into U.S. space missions. The report shall include an assessment of the following three potential arrangements:

(1) Transfer to the United States Space Force;

(2) Retention within the Air National Guard. This option should assess the feasibility of keeping the 222nd within the Air National Guard and the measures necessary to preserve and enhance its space-related mission in support of the NRO, including any necessary agreements between the 222nd, the National Guard Bureau, and the Space Force; and

(3) Establishment of a hybrid structure involving Both Space Force and Air National Guard Personnel. This option should consider the establishment of a hybrid structure that would combine Space Force and Air National Guard personnel maintain the unique strengths of both organizations.

Sec. 515—Notice to Congress regarding reapportionment of National Guard force structure

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 516) that would authorize the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to exempt any State National Guard from the National Guard Bureau’s leveling initiative within the Air National Guard.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, in consultation with the service secretary concerned, to provide notice to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives at least 60 days in advance of a reapportionment of National Guard force structure, together with a description of the details of the proposed reapportionment.

SUBTITLE C—GENERAL SERVICE AUTHORITIES, DECORATIONS AND AWARDS, AND MILITARY RECORDS

Sec. 521—Technical and conforming amendments relating to members of the Space Force

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 525) that would make technical and conforming amendments related to the Space Force to various sections of titles 10 and 37, United States Code, and to footnote 2 of the table titled “ENLISTED MEMBERS” in section 601 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (Public Law 109-364).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a conforming amendment.

Sec. 522—Modified authority to provide protection to senior leaders of the Department of Defense and other specified persons

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 526) that would amend section 714 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the provision of protective services for former senior leaders of the Department of Defense and other specified persons outside of the United States.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would authorize Secretary of Defense to delegate the authority under section 714 to a level not lower than the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, permit temporary protection under certain circumstances while a final decision is pending, and update congressional notice requirements.

Sec. 523—Improving military administrative review

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 528) that would amend section 1552 of title 10, United States Code, to require publicly available final decisions of the boards for the correction of military records to include a summary of each decision and to be indexed by subject matter.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would establish the effective date of the provision as October 1, 2026.

Sec. 524—Determination of active duty service commitment for recipients of fellowships, grants, and scholarships

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 552) that would amend section 2603(b) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to determine the Active-Duty service obligations for certain members on Active Duty who receive fellowships, grants, and scholarships.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would establish a minimum Active-Duty service commitment for officers who are recipients of fellowships, grants, and scholarships.

Sec. 525—Authority to designate certain separated members of the Air Force as honorary separated members of the Space Force

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 522) that would amend chapter 933 of title 10, United States Code, by adding a new section that would authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to designate certain separated members of the Air Force as Legacy Guardians.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 526—Authorizations for certain awards

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 593) that would waive the time limitations specified in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Roderick W. Edmonds for acts of valor while serving in the Army in World War II; and to authorize the President to award the Distinguished Service Cross to William D. Owens for acts of valor while serving in the Army in World War II.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would waive the time limitations specified in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to Mr. Roddie Edmonds for his valorous actions as then-Master Sergeant Edmonds from January 27 to March 30, 1945.

Sec. 527—Posthumous advancement of General John D. Lavelle, United States Air Force, on the retired list

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 526) that would require the Secretary of Defense to issue a recommendation to the President and the Senate regarding the restoration of the retired rank of Major General John D. Lavelle based on the most recent recommendation of the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a related provision (sec. 592) that would authorize the advancement of Major General Lavelle on the retired list to the grade of lieutenant general. The Senate provision is consistent with, and implements the recommendation of, the report of the Honorable William Webster, who after an extensive review of the historical record and Major General Lavelle's service, recommended that he be advanced on the retired list to the grade of lieutenant general.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE D—RECRUITMENT

Sec. 531—Expansion of report on future servicemember preparatory course

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 539) that would amend section 546(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) by adding additional reporting requirements from the Secretary concerned about the efficacy of the future servicemember preparatory course implemented under such section and any proposed improvements to such preparatory course.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 551) that would amend section 546(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to modify the graduation requirements for a future servicemember preparatory course established under such section.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would fully incorporate the requirements of the Senate provision.

Sec. 532—Promoting military, national, and public service

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 599A) that would amend section 15 of the Military Selective Service Act (50 USC 3813) to update the types of information that the Department of Defense may obtain from the Selective Service System.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 533—Military recruiter physical access to campuses

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 537) that would amend subpart 2 of Part F of title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7901 et seq.) by inserting a new section to require local educational agencies to provide military recruiters the same access to the campus of each secondary school that is provided to any prospective employer, institution of higher education, or other recruiter.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 595).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would substitute the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives for the Secretary of Education as the designated recipient of annual reporting requirements related to compliance with the provision.

Sec. 534—Military Entrance Processing Command: acceleration of review of medical records

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 597) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to develop a 2-year pilot program for joint reserve component support to the United States Military Entrance Processing Command (MEPS) to accelerate the review of recruit medical records.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to implement a program to use health care providers from any component of the Armed Forces to support MEPS by reviewing prospective recruit medical records and to issue a briefing and a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives regarding such program.

Sec. 535—Medical Accession Records Pilot program: notice of termination

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 597A) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a review of military accession standards, and any ongoing plans to modify them, to the congressional defense committees not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to notify the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives at least 1 year prior to terminating the Medical Accessions Records Pilot program.

Sec. 536—Provision of information regarding Federal service to certain persons ineligible to enlist in certain Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 592) that would require the Secretary of Defense to issue regulations within 180 days of the enactment of this Act directing the service secretaries to provide to individuals unqualified to enlist in the Armed Forces information concerning other Federal service for which they may be qualified.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 599B) that would require Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, by not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, to develop and begin offering a course on service opportunities within the defense industrial base and as a Federal civilian employee, to individuals who volunteer to serve in the Armed Forces, but who do not meet accession standards.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 537—Reimbursement of applicants to certain Armed Forces for certain medical costs incurred during military entrance processing

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 533) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to reimburse an individual who applies to join a covered Armed Force for costs incurred by such individual for a medical appointment required for military entrance processing.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would sunset this provision 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act and add a recurring briefing requirement on the scope, costs, and efficacy of this program.

Sec. 538—Authority to modernize recruitment for the Army

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 534) that would require the Secretary of the Army, not later than September 30, 2025, to modernize recruitment for the Army in order to attract and retain fit and ready individuals to serve as members of the Army.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would make this authority permissive and would make other technical and conforming amendments.

We note that the Secretary of the Army has already implemented a recruiting modernization initiative that would substantially comply with the requirements of this provision.

Sec. 539—Program of military recruitment and education at the National September 11 Memorial and Museum

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 536) that would require the Secretary of Defense to seek to enter into an agreement with an entity that operates the National September 11 Memorial and Museum under which such Secretary and such entity carry out a program at the museum to promote military recruitment and education.

A proposed amendment (Senate Amendment 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 5591).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 539A—Maritime workforce promotion and recruitment

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3536) that would enact the Maritime Workforce and Recruitment Act to strengthen the maritime workforce of the United States Coast Guard and United States Navy.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of the Navy, in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, to establish a targeted campaign to educate and recruit potential workers in the maritime sector.

SUBTITLE E—TRAINING

Sec. 541—Improvements to financial literacy training

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 561) that would amend section 992 of title 10, United States Code, to make several updates to the existing requirement for the Secretary of the military department concerned to provide comprehensive financial literacy training.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would strike the reporting requirements and simplify the requirement to provide information related to retirement to military personnel attending financial literacy training.

Sec. 542—Extension of JROTC programs to the Job Corps

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 585) that would amend section 2031 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs to be established at Job Corps centers.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 543—Minimum number of participating students required to establish or maintain a unit of JROTC

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 543) that amend section 2031(b)(1)(A) of title 10, United States Code, to reduce the minimum number of students required to establish a unit of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps to 50 students.

The Senate committee reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 581).

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 544—JROTC waiting list

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 583) that would amend section 2031(c) of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of a military department to maintain a prioritized waiting list of secondary educational institutions that have requested to host a unit of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps and have not yet been approved.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 545—Number of Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps units

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 584) that would amend section 2031 of title 10, United States Code, to increase the minimum and maximum number of required units of the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps to 3,500 and 4,100, respectively. The requirements of this provision would not take effect until October 1, 2026.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 546—Required constitutional law training

The House bill contained a (provision (sec. 549C) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that all commissioned officers of the Armed Forces receive training on the Constitution of the United States prior to commissioning.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 559).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 547—Prohibition on Federal funds for the Department of Defense Countering Extremism Work Group

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1761) that would prohibit the use of Federal funds for the continued operation of the Countering Extremism Working Group, or to implement any of its recommendations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would prohibit the use of funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act to fund the Department of Defense Countering Extremism Working Group established by Secretary of Defense memorandum on April 9, 2021.

SUBTITLE F—MEMBER EDUCATION

Sec. 551—Expansion of international engagement authorities for Service Academies

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 542) that would amend section 347 of title 10, United States Code, subsection (a)(1)(B), by striking “60” and inserting “80.”

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 552—Modification of authority to engage in funded and unfunded law education programs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549L) that would amend section 2004 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize unfunded legal education programs in the military services. Such provision would also amend section 403 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize basic allowance for housing for military members attending a schooling program under section 2004 of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 554) that would amend section 2004 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize unfunded legal education programs in the military services that would not count against the funded legal education programs authorized elsewhere in such section.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would temporarily expand the eligibility for funded educational expenses under section 2004 of title 10, United States Code, to a maximum of 35 members per year for a period of 3 years. The agreement also contains a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 553—Additional admissions authority for the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 544) that would amend section 2114(f)(2) of title 10, United States Code, to increase the number of foreign students participating in military medical exchange programs at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) from 40 to 50 persons at any one time.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would add a new section to chapter 104 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to enroll up to 10 foreign medical students and up to 40 foreign students in all other postdoctoral, postgraduate, and certificate programs of USUHS, subject to certain specified constraints.

Sec. 554—Professional military education: technical correction to definitions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 545) that would amend section 2151(b) of title 10, United States Code, by striking National Defense Intelligence College and replacing it with National Intelligence University.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 555—Distance education option for professional military education

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 555) that would amend section 2154 of title 10, United States Code, to require distance education programs used to satisfy Phase I or Phase II Joint Professional Military Education requirements to include pathways for students to complete these programs in a fully remote status and without requiring any in-person attendance.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would limit the applicability of this provision to members of the reserve component.

Sec. 556—Authority to accept gifts of services for professional military education institutions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 546) that would authorize professional military education institutions to accept gifts of services.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 557—Alternative service obligation for a cadet or midshipman who becomes a professional athlete

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 548) that would authorize service academy graduates to play professional sports and fulfill their service obligation through reserve duty in a recruiting position.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that authorizes a separate alternative service obligation for service academy graduates to play professional sports and limits the number of transfers the Service Secretary could approve each year under such alternative service obligation.

Sec. 558—Service Academies: Boards of Visitors

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549) that would reform the service academies' boards of visitors.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would limit reforms to an updated process for appointment of congressional members of the board of visitors of military service academies.

Sec. 559—Modernizing Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class college tuition assistance program to account for inflation

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 553) that would amend section 16401 of title 10, United States Code, by increasing the financial assistance available to participants in the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class College Tuition Assistance Program from \$5,200 to \$13,800 for any academic year and by reducing the number of eligible participants from 1,200 to 450.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 559A—Information on nominations and applications for military service academies

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 560) that would amend section 575 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) to modify the date for the Department of Defense to establish a uniform online portal for military service academy nominations to December 31, 2026.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 559B—Ensuring access to certain higher education benefits

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549D) that would require the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Education to jointly complete a data matching process to identify certain covered employees of the Department of Defense who made student loan payments eligible for public service loan forgiveness under section 455(m) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087e(m)), and to certify the employment of such individuals and their qualifying payments.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 559C—Service Academies: referral of applicants to the senior military colleges and units of the Senior Reserve Officer Training Corps

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549E) that would require the Secretary of De-

fense to establish a system where an individual may elect to have the Secretary share information regarding the individual with a senior military college.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 559D—Pilot program to provide graduate education opportunities for enlisted members of the Army and Navy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549F) that would require the Secretaries of the Navy and Army to conduct a pilot program for enlisted personnel to enroll in a master's degree program at the Naval Postgraduate School.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would authorize the Secretaries of the Navy and Army to jointly conduct a 6-year pilot program under which certain enlisted personnel of the covered Armed Forces may enroll in a master's degree program at the Naval Postgraduate School. The amendment would also require the Secretary of Defense, prior to the expiration of the 6-year pilot period, to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report that provides an assessment of the success of the pilot, along with any recommendations regarding the continuation of the pilot.

Sec. 559E—Prohibition on use of Federal funds to endorse critical race theory

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1049A) that would prohibit a Department of Defense employee from promoting, endorsing, or advocating certain race-based theories.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would prohibit the use of funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act to be used to promote critical race theory at Department of Defense educational institutions, in military training, or in professional military education.

SUBTITLE G—MILITARY JUSTICE AND OTHER LEGAL MATTERS

Sec. 561—Clarifying amendment to Article 2 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5531) that would amend article 2 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (10 U.S.C. 802) to clarify that retired members of the Space Force who voluntarily retired for length of service are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 562—Authority of special trial counsel with respect to certain offenses occurring before effective date of military justice reforms

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 551) that would amend article 24a of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) (10 U.S.C. 824a) to expand the authority of special trial counsel to exercise jurisdiction over offenses occurring prior to December 28, 2023, as enacted in section 531 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31). This would include the three covered offenses added by sections 541(a) and 541(b) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 542).

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 563—Detailing of appellate defense counsel

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 552) that would amend article 65 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) (10 U.S.C. 865) to require the assignment of appellate defense counsel to review a record of conviction subject to automatic appeal and to be available to represent an accused before the Court of Criminal Appeals if the accused desires such representation. The provision would also require assignment of appellate defense counsel upon the written request of the accused for representation for convictions that do not qualify for automatic review. The provision would also require a complete review of a record of conviction by appellate defense counsel only in those cases where the accused has not affirmatively waived the right to appeal.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 535).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 564—Modification to offense of aiding the enemy under the Uniform Code of Military Justice

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 553) that would amend article 103b of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) (10 U.S.C. 903b) to include providing military education, military training, or giving tactical advice to the enemy as prohibited acts under the UCMJ.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 533).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 565—Removal of marriage as a defense to article 120b offenses

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 540) that would amend article 120b of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (10 U.S.C. 920b) to remove marriage as a defense to the offense of rape and sexual assault of a child.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 566—Consolidation of military justice reporting requirements for the military departments

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 531) that would amend section 946a of title 10, United States Code, to consolidate duplicative military justice reporting requirements.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

The provision does not change the essence of the reporting requirements, it merely consolidates duplicative reports.

Sec. 567—Term of office for judges of the Court of Military Commission Review

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 532) that would amend section 950f of title 10, United States Code, to establish a 10-year term for civilian appellate judges of the Court of Military Commission Review.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 568—Continuity of coverage under certain provisions of title 18, United States Code

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 524) that would make technical and conforming amendments to sections 202 and 209 of title 18, United States

Code, by extending the definition of special government employee to officers of the Space Force.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 569—Correction of certain citations in title 18, United States Code, relating to sexual offenses

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 559) that would amend part I of title 18, United States Code, to correct certain citations contained in that part relating to certain federal sexual abuse offenses.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 569A—Modification of timeline for potential implementation of study on unanimous court-martial verdicts

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 554) that would amend section 536 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to require the Secretary of Defense to provide a description of any milestones or other requirements that would need to be met to enact legislation in calendar year 2025 instead of calendar year 2027 to require unanimous court-martial verdicts.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary's submission to enable enactment by calendar year 2026.

Sec. 569B—Removal of personally identifying and other information of certain persons from the Department of Defense Central Index of Investigations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 557) that would amend chapter 79 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement uniform guidance for the modification of titling and indexing systems to ensure that a record identifying a member or former member of the Armed Forces as the subject of a criminal investigation is removed from such system if that member or former member is cleared of wrongdoing as described.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 541) that would amend section 545 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) to require the Secretary of Defense, not later than October 1, 2025, to establish a process by which a person may request that the person's name, personally identifying information, and other information pertaining to the person be corrected in, or expunged or otherwise removed from, an index item or entry in the Department of Defense Central Index of Investigations.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 569C—Expanded command notifications to victims of domestic violence

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 555) that would amend section 549 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) to require commanders to ensure that a domestic violence victim, or their Special Victims' Counsel or other legal representative, is notified of a disciplinary action taken in a domestic violence case not referred to court-martial.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 536).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 569D—Extension of Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 538) that would amend section 546(f)(1) of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291) to extend the Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces for an additional 5 years.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 569E—Analysis on the advisability of revising Military Rule of Evidence 513

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 558) that would require the Joint Service Committee on Military Justice to develop recommendations for modifying rule 513 of the Military Rules of Evidence (as set forth in part III of the Manual for Courts-Martial) to include diagnoses of a patient and treatments prescribed to a patient as confidential communications subject to the psychotherapist-patient privilege.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 544).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to analyze the advisability of modifying rule 513 to include diagnoses of a patient and treatments prescribed to a patient as confidential communications subject to the psychotherapist-patient privilege. The amendment would also require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the results of this analysis. We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit this report by not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Sec. 569F—Analysis of prohibition on broadcast and distribution of digitally manipulated intimate images under the Uniform Code of Military Justice

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 556) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop recommendations for modifying the offense of indecent viewing, visual recording, or broadcasting under section 920c of title 10, United States Code (article 120c of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) to clarify its applicability to the broadcasting and distribution of digitally manipulated intimate images.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to analyze the feasibility and advisability of, and potential approaches to, modifying the offense of indecent viewing, visual recording, or broadcasting under section 920c of title 10, United States Code (article 120c of the Uniform Code of Military Justice) to clarify its applicability to the broadcasting and distribution of digitally manipulated intimate images, and to provide a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the results of this analysis.

SUBTITLE H—CAREER TRANSITION

Sec. 571—Pathway for individualized counseling for members of the reserve components under TAP

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 565) that would amend section 1142 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary concerned to provide a counseling pathway for members of the reserve component under the Transition Assistance Program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 572—Extension of Troops-to-Teachers Program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 556) that would amend section 1154 of title 10, United States Code, to reduce the total number of stipends authorized to be paid under the troops-to-teachers program to 3,000; and that would extend the mandate for the Secretary of Defense to maintain the troops-to-teachers program until 2029.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would strike the portion of the Senate provision related to limiting Office of the Secretary of Defense travel spending.

Sec. 573—Extension and expansion of report on the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 597) that would direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to conduct a comprehensive study on military grace period reforms, specifically focusing on the impact of unit tasking during the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) on the ability of servicemembers to transition to civilian life.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would modify the reporting requirements in section 552(b) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232) in lieu of adding a new reporting requirement under the House provision. Under the amendment, Section 552(b) of such Act would be amended to extend an annual reporting requirement by 3 years and require such annual report to include information about attendance, exemptions, and implementation challenges related to TAP.

Sec. 574—Military training and competency records

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549H) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a centralized database, to be known as the "Military Training and Competency Database," to record and maintain information relating to training performed by members of the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 529A) that would require the Secretaries of the military departments to provide, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, a training and competency record for members of the Armed Forces. The Senate provision would also require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, on the implementation and usefulness of the records.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

SUBTITLE I—FAMILY PROGRAMS AND CHILD CARE

Sec. 581—Interstate compacts for portability of occupational licenses of military spouses: permanent authority

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1841) that would amend section 1784(h) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Council of State Governments for the purpose of developing

interstate licensure compacts for military spouses.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 582—Military Spouse Career Accelerator program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1842) that would amend section 1784 of title 10, United States Code, to permanently authorize the Military Spouse Career Accelerator program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would terminate this authorization on January 1, 2031.

Sec. 583—Competitive pay for Department of Defense child care personnel

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1811) that would amend section 1792 of title 10, United States Code, to require that employees directly involved in military installation child development programs are paid at rates of pay competitive with market rates for childcare workers within the correlating metropolitan or non-metropolitan statistical area, but not below the Department of Defense minimum compensation rates per pay band to acquire a stable and qualified civilian childcare workforce.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would postpone the effective date of the provision to April 1, 2025.

Sec. 584—Posting of national child abuse hotline at military child development centers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1813) that would amend section 1794 of title 10, United States Code, to revise regulations and processes addressing child abuse and harm to children while attending a military child development center.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would strike the portions of the House provision related to parental notification and remedies.

Sec. 585—Additional information in outreach campaign relating to waiting lists for military child development centers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1814) that would expand the communication campaign established in section 585(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for the Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to include additional information regarding fee assistance for providers who are not nationally accredited but are otherwise eligible under section 1798 of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 586—Expansion of annual briefing regarding waiting lists for military child development centers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1817) that would direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, to provide briefings to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives regarding childcare services at military child development centers.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would add the additional reporting requirement to section

585 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31), and limit the additional reporting requirement to the 20 military installations with the longest waiting lists for childcare.

Sec. 587—Improvements relating to portability of professional licenses of servicemembers and their spouses

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1091) that would amend section 705A of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (Public Law 108-189) to establish policies and processes for interstate reciprocity of professional licenses of servicemembers and their spouses.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would authorize background checks for covered individuals, define “military orders” under this provision, and modify the definition of a “covered license” under this provision.

Sec. 588—Child care services and youth program services for dependents

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1816) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the military departments, to fully fund child care fee assistance programs.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 589—Child care services and youth program services for dependents: period of services for a member with a spouse seeking employment

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1843) that would expand eligibility for unemployed military spouses seeking employment to receive childcare in Department of Defense Child Development Programs, both on and off installation, to 180 days.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 589A—Child development program staffing and compensation model

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1107) that would require the Secretary of Defense to redesign the Department of Defense child development program compensation model and modernize the child development program staffing model.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 578).

The agreement includes the House provision with technical and conforming amendments and an amendment that would require an initial baseline briefing and subsequent annual briefings to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives regarding the planning for and implementation of the modernized staffing model.

Sec. 589B—Inclusive Playground Pilot Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 577) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to establish a pilot program for the design, development, and construction of playgrounds that support families in the Exceptional Family Member Program. Not later than March 28, 2025, the Under Secretary would be required to submit a strategy for the implementation of the program that would detail governance structure, selection of military installations for the program, and objectives.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 579A) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than March 28, 2025, to submit a strategy on developing an inclusive playground pilot pro-

gram to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives. The provision would further direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to establish an inclusive playground as described in the strategy.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than March 1, 2026, to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a plan for the implementation of a military families inclusive playground pilot program. The amendment would also prohibit the implementation of the inclusive playground pilot program until 180 days after the Secretary submits the implementation plan and until such time that funds are obligated for the design, development, and construction of inclusive playgrounds as a minor military construction project.

SUBTITLE J—DEPENDENT EDUCATION

Sec. 591—Advisory committees for Department of Defense domestic dependents schools

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 571) that would amend section 2164 of title 10, United States Code, to establish school advisory committees at domestic schools operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 592—Eligibility of dependents of certain deceased members of the Armed Forces for enrollment in Department of Defense domestic dependent elementary and secondary schools

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5571) that would amend section 2164(j) of title 10, United States Code, to allow the Secretary of Defense to authorize the enrollment of certain dependents in a Department of Defense Education Activity Education program.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 593—Expansion of eligibility for virtual programs operated by Department of Defense Education Activity

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 572) that would amend section 2164(l) of title 10, United States Code, to expand the eligibility for enrollment in virtual education programs offered by the Department of Defense Education Activity.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 594—Authorization for school meal programs at Department of Defense dependent schools

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 573) that would amend section 2164 of title 10, United States Code, and section 1402 of the Defense Dependents’ Education Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-561) to authorize the Secretary of Defense to administer a meal program, consistent with Federal law and standards prescribed by the Secretary of Agriculture, for students enrolled in Department of Defense domestic dependent schools.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 595—Eligibility of certain dependents for enrollment in domestic dependent elementary and secondary schools

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 577) that would add a new section to chapter 208 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a program under which dependents of a full-time, Active Duty member may enroll in covered Department of Defense Education Activity schools on a space-available basis, without regard to whether the member resides on the installation.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 596—Staffing of Department of Defense Education Activity schools to maintain maximum student-to-teacher ratios

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 571) that would amend section 589B(c) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) by striking “2023-2024 academic year” and inserting “2029-2030 academic year.”

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 574).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 597—Enrollment in defense dependents’ education system of children of foreign military members assigned to United Nations Command

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 575) that would amend section 1404A of the Defense Dependents’ Education Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-561) to authorize the enrollment of children of foreign military members assigned to United Nations Command to Department of Defense Education Activity schools.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 598—Certain assistance to local educational agencies that benefit dependents of military and civilian personnel

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 575) that would authorize \$50.0 million for the purpose of providing assistance to local educational agencies with military dependent students and \$20.0 million for local educational agencies eligible to receive a payment for children with severe disabilities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 576) that would authorize \$50.0 million for continuation of the Department of Defense (DOD) assistance program to local educational agencies impacted by enrollment of dependent children of military members and DOD civilian employees. The provision would also authorize \$10.0 million for impact aid payments for children with severe disabilities, using the formula set forth in section 363 of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Public Law 106-398). Furthermore, the provision would authorize the Secretary of Defense to use an additional \$20.0 million for payments to local educational agencies determined by the Secretary to have higher concentrations of military children with severe disabilities.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would reduce the additional payments to local educational agencies at the determination of the Secretary concerned to \$10.0 million.

Sec. 599—Training requirements teachers in 21st century schools of the Department of Defense Education Activity

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 572) that would provide teacher bonuses for

difficult to fill overseas locations, ensure adequate teacher training for 21st century classrooms, and establish a pilot program authorizing a select number of students in Bahrain to attend a local international school through the Department of State regulations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would strike the authorizations for teacher bonuses at high-needs schools and the Bahrain school pilot program.

We note that military dependents who reside overseas must attend a Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) school if available. We have heard complaints that the DODEA schools in Bahrain have had several reported problems with parent-teacher communication, long-term substitute teachers, and dwindling academic offerings. As such, we direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than December 31, 2025, on the administration of DODEA schools in Bahrain. Such report shall include:

(1) The number of classes in Bahrain DODEA schools that had long-term substitute teachers in the last 3 school years, by grade and subject-matter;

(2) The number of Advanced Placement (AP) courses offered in-person in Bahrain DODEA schools over the last 3 school years, by year offered;

(3) An assessment of how AP course offerings in Bahrain DODEA schools compare to other overseas DODEA schools;

(4) An assessment of issues related to communication between the DODEA Bahrain school administrations and parents; and

(5) An assessment of special education capabilities and requirements in the Bahrain DODEA schools.

Sec. 599A—Overseas transfer program for educators in schools operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 574) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Director of the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA), to develop and implement a program whereby teachers at DODEA schools may transfer to overseas locations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary to develop and implement a policy allowing for teachers at overseas DODEA schools to transfer to other overseas DODEA schools. We expect that such policy will adhere to existing law, including being subject to collective bargaining agreements between DODEA and their employees.

Sec. 599B—Parental right to notice of student nonproficiency in reading or language arts

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 578) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that each elementary school operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity notifies the parents of any student enrolled in such school when the student does not score as grade-level proficient in reading or language arts at the end of the third grade based on certain reading and language arts assessments administered by such school.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED
Grade of Surgeon General of the Navy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 501) that would amend sections 525 and 8077

of title 10, United States Code, to require the Surgeon General of the Navy to serve in the grade of O-9.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Removal of exemption relating to Attending Physician to the Congress for certain distribution and grade limitations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 503) that would amend section 525 of title 10, United States Code, to remove the exemption for the Attending Physician to the Congress from the limitation on that officer’s Armed Force for officers serving on Active Duty in grades above brigadier general or rear admiral (lower half).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Modification to grade of Attending Physician to the Congress

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 505) that would amend section 715 of title 10, United States Code, to require that an officer serving as the Attending Physician to the Congress hold the grade of O-6 while so serving.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Inclusion of service in SROTC in the computation of length of service of an officer appointed for completing SROTC

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 507) that would amend section 2106 of title 10, United States Code, to require inclusion of time served in any component of the Armed Forces while attending advanced training under section 2104 of title 10, United States Code, in the computation of length of service of a servicemember.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the House provision would have created a disparity in the treatment of Active-Duty service in length of service calculations between those officers that attended advanced training under section 2104 of title 10, United States Code, while concurrently serving as Active-Duty enlisted members of the Armed Forces; and those officers that were enrolled at designated service schools while concurrently serving as Active-Duty cadets or midshipmen under section 101(d) of title 10, United States Code.

Grades of certain chiefs of reserve components

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 511) that would amend sections 7038, 8083, 8084, and 9038 of title 10, United States Code, to require the chief of each military service reserve component to serve in the grade of lieutenant general or vice admiral.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the chiefs of these reserve components already serve in the grade of lieutenant general or vice admiral.

Feasibility of establishing a unit of the National Guard in American Samoa and in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 513) that would require the Secretary of Defense to determine the feasibility of establishing: (1) A unit of the National Guard in American Samoa; and (2) A unit of the National Guard in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and to report to

Congress within 180 days of the enactment of this Act on the results of this determination.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to assess the feasibility and advisability of establishing units of the National Guard in American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marian Islands, and to submit a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, by not later than April 1, 2025, on the results of this assessment.

Merit-based principles for military personnel decisions in the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 523) that would require all personnel actions within the Department of Defense to be based on individual merit and demonstrated performance.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that section 529C of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) requires that military accessions and promotions be based on individual merit and demonstrated performance.

Next of kin of deceased members of certain armed forces: database; privacy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 524) that would require the Secretary of Defense to issue guidance to establish and maintain a database containing up-to-date contact information for next of kin of deceased servicemembers.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Marine Corps permeability pilot program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 525) that would authorize the Commandant of the Marine Corps to carry out a pilot program under which a member may move between the active reserve components of the Marine Corps more easily.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Space Force Personnel System under chapter 2001 of title 10, United States Code, provides a model for increased permeability of officers between the active and reserve components of the Armed Forces.

Prohibition of requirement in the Department of Defense to wear a mask to stop the spread of COVID-19

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 527) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from requiring an individual to wear a mask on a military installation in the United States to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Elimination of offices of diversity, equity, and inclusion and personnel of such offices

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 528) that would eliminate offices of the Armed Forces and of the Department of Defense established to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Posthumous commission as captain in the regular Army for Milton Holland

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 529) that would posthumously commission Milton Holland, who, while sergeant major of the 5th Regiment, United States Colored Infantry, was awarded the Medal of Honor in recognition of his actions on September 29, 1864, during the Battle of Chaffin's Farm, Virginia.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize and honor Milton Holland for his incredible bravery and valor while serving in the Civil War, for which he was awarded the Medal of Honor. We note that the President currently has the authority to posthumously commission Milton Holland and that the Army is in the process of reviewing this matter.

Authorization of members awarded certain decorations to wear the uniform when not on active duty

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 529A) that would amend section 772 of title 10, United States Code, by adding a new subsection to authorize members awarded certain decorations to wear the uniform when not on Active Duty.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that under section 772 of title 10, United States Code, retired members of the Armed Forces are authorized to wear their uniforms without any restrictions based upon the awards or decorations they received, as are former members of the Armed Services who served honorably in a time of war.

Review of adverse action against a chaplain who requested exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination mandate

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 529B) that would require, not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the establishment of boards under section 1552 or 1553 of title 10, United States Code, as applicable, to review the military personnel record, or the characterization of a discharge or dismissal, of a current or former chaplain in an Armed Force who suffered an adverse personnel action as a result of, arising from, or in conjunction with, requesting a religious exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination mandate.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that sections 526 and 527 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) required the establishment of processes to consider reinstatement, and to review the characterization of discharge, of servicemembers separated solely on the basis of their failure to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

Selective Service System: automatic registration

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 531) that would provide for automatic registration of male citizens and males residing in the United States between the ages of 18 and 26 in the Selective Service System.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained similar provisions (sec. 598, sec. 598A, sec. 598B, sec. 598C and sec. 598D) that would authorize automatic registration for all citizens and persons residing in the United States, as well as make other reforms and technical modifications to the Military Selective Service Act and related statutes.

The agreement does not include either provision.

Prohibition on cannabis testing for enlistment or commission in certain Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 532) that would prohibit cannabis testing as a condition of enlistment or commission in the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 599) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that all prospective recruits and officer candidates undergo testing for controlled substances prior to enlistment or appointment as an officer in the Armed Forces.

The agreement does not include either provision.

Recruitment strategy for members of the Armed Forces who were discharged or dismissed on the sole basis of failure to obey a lawful order to receive a vaccine for COVID-19

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 535) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement a strategy to specifically recruit individuals discharged or dismissed from an Armed Force on the sole basis of failure to obey a lawful order to receive a vaccine for COVID-19 to be reinstated in the Armed Force concerned.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Section 528 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) required the Secretary of Defense to communicate to individuals discharged or dismissed from an Armed Force on the sole basis of failure to obey a lawful order to receive a vaccine for COVID-19 the process by which the individual could be reinstated in the Armed Forces. All military departments have communicated the options for reinstatement to the separated individuals.

Improving oversight of military recruitment practices in public secondary schools

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 538) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees an annual report on military recruitment practices in public secondary schools during calendar year 2024 and each subsequent calendar year.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the data that would be reported under this provision is already collected and available for review by the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives at any time.

Increase to maximum funding for the Regional Defense Fellowship Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 541) that would amend section 345 of title 10, United States Code, to adjust the maximum funding amount for the Regional Defense Fellowship Program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Service Academies: appointments and additional appointees

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 547) that would require that the admissions processes for the military service academies are based on a whole candidate score regardless of race or ethnicity.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Inclusion of certain information in annual military service academy reports

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549A) that would include in annual military

service academy reports the number of substantiated cases of sexual misconduct for which there is reason to believe that a victim was targeted, or discriminated against, or both, for their status in a protected group.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that this data is collected as part of the Armed Forces Workplace and Gender Relations Survey, pursuant to section 481 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by section 591 of the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

Naval Postgraduate School: function

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549B) that would expand the Naval Postgraduate School's (NPS) mission.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize the importance of the Naval Postgraduate School in providing defense-focused graduate education to advance the operational effectiveness, technological leadership, and warfighting advantage of the naval service. We acknowledge that NPS's curriculum and research must continue to adapt to prepare defense leaders with the intellectual capabilities to meet operational and strategic challenges in an increasingly dynamic and complex security environment. Therefore, we direct the Secretary of the Navy to provide a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than December 1, 2025, on the mission of NPS in section 8541 of title 10, United States Code, including:

(1) An assessment of whether the NPS function is sufficient to allow for reform and modernization of NPS curricula and research in response to new strategic environments and emerging technologies;

(2) The feasibility and advisability of expanding the NPS function; and

(3) Any recommendations for changes to the NPS function.

Air Force rapid response language pilot program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549G) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to establish a rapid response language pilot program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize that foreign language skills are a critical mission enabler for signals intelligence and other military activities. We acknowledge the need for the Air Force to provide dynamic language capabilities to respond to unforeseen requirements, conflict surges, humanitarian disasters, or other military needs. This need is underscored by the evolving global security landscape, which necessitates agility in language proficiency across a spectrum of languages, some of which may currently have limited to no capability within the Department of Defense. We note the Air Force's Language Enabled Airman Program (LEAP) currently develops working-level foreign language proficiency for airmen.

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than April 1, 2025, on critical language proficiency in the Air Force. The briefing should include information on the current status of LEAP, other foreign language programs offered to airmen, challenges to increasing language readiness in response to current and emer-

gent needs, a description of the process for coordinating with the Army as the executive agent for contract linguist support, any plans to expand the reach of LEAP or other foreign language programs in the future, and any additional resources needed to support linguist requirements.

Military vehicle operator training program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549I) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a standardized training curriculum for military vehicle operations, encompassing both classroom and practical training components.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize that rollover incidents continue to be an ongoing safety issue for the Army and the Marine Corps. We also note the Marine Corps has instituted multiple lines of effort to address safety mishaps and are interested in hearing about how these efforts have led to changes in training and protocol. Therefore, we direct the Commandant of the Marine Corps and the Chief of Staff of the Army, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on efforts to mitigate vehicle mishaps.

Speech disorders of cadets and midshipmen

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549J) that would require the Superintendents of the military service academies to provide testing for speech disorders to incoming cadets and midshipmen.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Department of Defense provided a directed briefing on this issue in May 2022, detailing the necessity for officers to speak clearly and effectively while leading troops; noting the availability of medical waivers in certain circumstances for physical or medical standards; providing the Reading Aloud Test administered to applicants; highlighting that, on average, only one prospective student per year is denied admission for a speech disorder; and describing the availability of speech therapy.

Annual training on the prevention of sexual abuse for students in the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549K) that would require annual training for Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps participants on prevention of sexual abuse.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the training that would be required under the House provision is already required by section 2031 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by section 552 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

Dive school required element of qualification as a combat controller of the Air Force

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 549M) that would direct the Secretary of the Air Force to require that training to qualify as a combat controller of the Air Force includes dive school.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Air Force changed the requirement for combat controllers to be combat dive qualified from an initial skill to an

advanced skill in 2023. We direct the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2025, on the advisability of restoring dive school qualification as a required element of initial training for combat controllers. The briefing should include information on the justification for changing it to an advanced skill, which, if any, special tactics operators require advanced dive school training, the benefits of dive school training in executing special tactics missions, and any other information the Secretary deems relevant.

Modifications to Transition Assistance Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 561) that would amend section 1142 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary concerned to waive the requirement of pre-separation counseling for servicemembers. Additionally, this section would permit servicemembers who reenlist to receive pre-separation counseling on a space available basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Minimum duration of pre-separation counseling regarding financial planning

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 562) that would amend section 1142 of title 10, United States Code, to add counseling to the financial planning section of the Transition Assistance Program, and to require the financial planning assistance and counseling section to last at least 1 hour.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that servicemembers currently receive financial counseling and training, both during the Transition Assistance Program and throughout their time in service.

Transition Assistance Program: presentation in pre-separation counseling to promote benefits available to veterans

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 563) that would amend section 1142(b) of title 10, United States Code, to require veterans service organizations (VSOs) to provide information to servicemembers participating in pre-separation counseling under the Transition Assistance Program (TAP).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize the critical role that VSOs play in the transition of servicemembers to civilian life and veteran status, particularly in the preparation, presentation, and adjudication of Veterans Affairs (VA) claims. We note that the TAP VA benefits and services course of instruction includes a VA and VSO joint presentation to separating servicemembers on how VSOs can help them navigate VA and state benefit programs, including filing for disability, home loans, and healthcare. The presentation also incorporates a practical exercise to ensure servicemembers can find their local VSO representative. We encourage the Department of Defense to continue to maintain strong and positive relationships with VSOs to facilitate their delivery of services to separating servicemembers.

Establishment of counseling pathway in the Transition Assistance Program for members of certain reserve components of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 564) that would amend section 1142 of title 10, United States Code, to establish a minimum

of one counseling pathway in the Transition Assistance Program (TAP) for members of the Reserve Components of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Space Force.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that TAP counseling pathways for members of the Reserve Component are addressed in a provision located elsewhere in this Act.

Transition Assistance Program: Department of Labor Employment Navigator and Partnership Pilot Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 566) that would require the establishment of a pilot program known as the Employment Navigator and Partnership Pilot Program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Employment Navigator Partnership Program is an existing and successful program of the Department of Labor. The current model is highly effective and provides optimum flexibility for program administration, participants, and partners.

Pilot program on secure, mobile personal health record for members of the Armed Forces participating in the Transition Assistance Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 567) that would direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to commence a pilot program under which Active Duty members of the Armed Forces who are enrolled in the Transition Assistance Program use a covered health record platform to collect their records before separating from Active Duty.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that existing law requires the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs to integrate electronic medical records into the same technology platform. When implemented, this integration will provide seamless transition from the Military Health System to the Veterans Health Administration without the need for a third-party platform to collect sensitive personal and medical information from servicemembers.

SkillBridge: apprenticeship programs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 568) that would require the Department of Defense to conduct a study on the availability of registered apprenticeship positions within the SkillBridge program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than June 1, 2025, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the United States Military Apprenticeship Program. Such report shall include: (1) Information on the trades that are eligible for participation in the program; (2) The number of servicemembers in each military service who are enrolled in the program, disaggregated by trade; and (3) Recommendations for policy or legislative changes to improve the effectiveness of the program, if any.

Transmission of information regarding member's opioid use disorder to Department of Veterans Affairs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 569) that would amend section 1142(d) of title

10, United States Code, to add a requirement for the Secretaries of the military departments to notify the Secretary of Veterans Affairs about the known history of opioid use disorder for any servicemember within 60 days of such member's separation from military service.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on the number of veterans who have their military acquired credentials recognized at the State-level for the civilian workforce

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 569A) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Labor, to submit to Congress a report that builds on the data reported in the "DOD Credentialing Utilization" report from 2018 (3-BB02A16) to better assess the effectiveness of the Credentialing Programs for post-military civilian employment.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Training and internships for transitioning members through institutions of higher education

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 569B) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to conduct outreach to institutions of higher education in order to enter into more agreements with such institutions of higher education for training or internships for members of the Armed Forces pursuant to the SkillBridge program established under section 1143(e) of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Opt-out sharing of information on members retiring or separating from the Armed Forces with community-based organizations and related entities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 569C) that would amend section 570F of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) to authorize servicemembers transitioning off of active duty to opt out of having their information shared with state veterans' agencies.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 558).

The agreement does not include either provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than May 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of establishing a servicemember opt-out option for authorizing the Department of Defense to share the information of servicemembers separating from the Armed Forces with state veterans' agencies.

Addressing mental health issues in the Transition Assistance Program of the Department of Defense and the Solid Start program of the Department of Veterans Affairs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 569D) that would amend section 1142(b) of title 10, United States Code, by expanding the mental health information that must be included in counseling servicemembers under the Transition Assistance Program. The provision would also amend section 6320(b) of title 38, United States Code, to expand the activities of the Solid Start Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs to include providing assistance related to mental health counseling and healthcare through the Veterans Health Administration.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Amendments to pathways for counseling in Transition Assistance Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 569E) that would amend section 1142(c) of title 10, United States Code, to expand the counseling pathways of the Transition Assistance Program to consider the following factors: childcare, employment of other adults in the servicemember's household, the servicemember's location, the effects of operating tempo, and whether the servicemember is an Indian or urban Indian.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Records of a separating member: provision of electronic copies

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 569F) that would amend section 1142 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary concerned to provide electronic medical records to separating servicemembers not later than 30 days before such servicemember's date of separation from military service. The provision would also require the Secretary concerned to provide an electronic copy of separation documents to separating servicemembers not later than 15 days after the date of separation from military service.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

SkillBridge for the submarine industrial base

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 569G) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a survey to determine which such employers in the submarine industrial base are experiencing workforce shortages and use the SkillBridge program to provide members training under such program with such employers.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the vital importance of qualified, skilled workers in the submarine industrial base. We direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of the Navy, to provide a report to the congressional defense committees, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, on how the Department of Defense is using the SkillBridge program to facilitate separating military personnel joining the submarine industrial base to address workforce shortages.

Prohibition on diversity, equity, and inclusion policy bodies for DODEA schools

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 573) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from maintaining or establishing diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) committees, panels, offices, or other related organizations within schools operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Verification of reporting of eligible federally connected children for purposes of Federal impact aid programs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 576) that would require the commanders of each military installation to annually submit written certification to their respective

military departments verifying whether they have confirmed the information contained in all Impact Aid source check forms.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that local commanders do not currently have access to the information necessary to certify Impact Aid at the installation level. We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than June 1, 2025, to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on its progress in working with the Defense Manpower Data Center to gain access to the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System in order to complete the Impact Aid source check verification process.

Instruction in artificial intelligence and machine learning in schools operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 579) that would direct the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Director of the Department of Defense Education Activity, to require that each student of a high school operated by the Activity receives instruction in artificial intelligence and machine learning.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

GAO study on child care services provided or paid for by the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 579A) that would direct the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study to assess the childcare programs of the Department of Defense, including military child development centers, family home day care, Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood, and Child Care in Your Home.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives are awaiting several congressionally-directed studies and reports on childcare programs of the Department of Defense by both the Comptroller General of the United States and the Secretary of Defense. We further note that the Secretary of Defense would be required to submit additional information on childcare waiting lists under a provision elsewhere in this Act.

Prohibition on availability of funds for certain materials in schools operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 579B) that would prohibit the availability of funds for any material that contains, depicts, or otherwise includes pornographic content or any material that espouses, advocates, or promotes gender ideology in schools operated by the Department of Defense Education Activity.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibitions on provision of gender transition services through an Exceptional Family Member Program of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 579C) that would prohibit the provision of gender transition services through the Exceptional Family Member Program of the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on separating members who have health care experience and Medical Reserve Corps

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 579D) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the process by which members of the Armed Forces with healthcare experience transition to civilian life and the number of such members who join the Medical Reserve Corps.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than December 31, 2025, to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the process by which members of the Armed Forces with healthcare experience transition to civilian life and the number of such members who join the Medical Reserve Corps.

Prohibition of TikTok

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 579E) that would prohibit the use of TikTok within Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) schools for instructional purposes.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a briefing, by not later than July 1, 2025, on the use of cell phones within the academic environment, including an assessment of such use on student achievement. The briefing should highlight trends within comparable civilian secondary schools on cell phone use, identify which DODEA schools currently have policies in place restricting use of cell phones, include observations on the impact such restrictions have had on student achievement in such schools, and make recommendations for regulatory or statutory change as the Secretary considers appropriate. Further, the briefing shall consider specifically the use of social media in the learning environment, including specifically the use of TikTok, and its effect on student achievement. We note that the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-328), enacted the No TikTok on Government Devices Act, which instructs the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in consultation with the Administrator of General Services, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Secretary of Defense, to develop standards and guidelines for agencies requiring the removal of TikTok from Federal information technology.

Report on effectiveness of the exceptional family member program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 579F) that would direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report, not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, that includes: (1) The results of a study of the effectiveness of the Exceptional Family Member program authorized under section 1781c(e) of title 10, United States Code, with respect to the manner by which it currently supports individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and (2) Recommendations to improve the program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Study on high-impact tutoring in DODEA schools

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 579G) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report containing the results of a study on high-impact tutoring programs in Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) elementary and secondary schools.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We have heard of the benefits of high-impact tutoring programs, which include programs in math, reading, or both subjects for at least 30 minutes during a school day for at least 3 days per week during the school year, and programs taught by licensed DODEA teachers or paraprofessionals with a student-to-tutor ratio of no more than three-to-one. We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than May 1, 2025, on DODEA tutoring programs, including high-impact tutoring programs. Such briefing shall include—

(1) The total number of existing tutoring programs within DODEA and estimated number of participating students by location;

(2) The total number of existing tutoring programs within DODEA that incorporate high-impact tutoring and estimated number of participating students by location;

(3) A description of how DODEA tutoring programs are funded;

(4) Recommendations for increasing student participation in tutoring programs, including high-impact tutoring programs;

(5) A discussion of any barriers to increasing student participation in such tutoring programs; and

(6) An assessment of the feasibility and advisability of developing a licensed tutoring workforce for DODEA.

Authorization for award of Medal of Honor to E. Royce Williams for acts of valor during the Korean War

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 581) that would waive the time limitations specified in section 8298 of title 10, United States Code, and authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to E. Royce Williams for acts of valor during the Korean Conflict.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We acknowledge and honor Royce Williams's heroism while engaged in aerial combat over the Sea of Japan on November 18, 1952, for which he was awarded the Silver Star.

Authorization for award of the Medal of Honor to Thomas H. Griffin for acts of valor as a member of the Army during the Vietnam War

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 582) that would waive the time limitations specified in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, and authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Thomas Helmut Griffin for his acts of valor as a member of the Army during the Vietnam War.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize and honor the heroism and courage of Thomas Helmut Griffin for his actions in Vietnam from March 1 through March 3, 1969, for which he was awarded the Silver Star.

Authorization for award of Medal of Honor to James Capers, Jr. for acts of valor as a member of the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 583) that would waive the time limitations specified in section 8298 of title 10, United States Code, and authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Capers, Jr. for the acts of valor during the Vietnam War.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize and honor the heroism and courage of James Capers, Jr., for his service in Vietnam during the period of March 31 through April 3, 1967, for which he was awarded the Silver Star.

Authorization of award of Medal of Honor to Gregory McManus for acts of valor

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 584) that would waive the time limitations specified in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, and authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Gregory McManus for his acts of valor as a member of the Army during the Vietnam War.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize and honor the heroism and courage of Gregory McManus during his service in Vietnam, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Authorization for Last Servicemember Standing medal

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 585) that would amend chapter 57 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize a service medal to be known as the "Last Servicemember Standing medal."

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives received a briefing from the Secretary of Defense on March 5, 2024, pursuant to a directed requirement in the conference report (H. Rept. 188-301) accompanying the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024. In this briefing, the Secretary noted that the Department of Defense has a well-established military decorations and awards program based on specific criteria, which results in distinct recognition for each type of action or service. Recognizing a servicemember for being the last person standing would result in duplicate recognition for awards already authorized through the Department's military decorations and awards program.

Eligibility of veterans of Operation End Sweep for Vietnam Service Medal

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 586) that would authorize the Secretaries of the military departments concerned to award the Vietnam Service Medal to a veteran who participated in Operation End Sweep.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We acknowledge the distinguished service of veterans who participated in Operation End Sweep from February 6, 1973 to July 18,

1973, in undertaking the harrowing work of clearing sea mines laid in Vietnamese waters. We value the honorable performance of Operation End Sweep veterans following the cessation of military combat operations in Vietnam.

Authorization of award of Medal of Honor to Joseph M. Perez for acts of valor as a member of the Army during the Vietnam War

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 587) that would recognize the acts of valor by Joseph M. Perez while serving as a Sergeant in the Army in South Vietnam on May 26, 1967, and would waive the time limitation in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the President to award Joseph M. Perez with the Medal of Honor.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize and honor the service, sacrifice, and valor of Joseph M. Perez during his service in Vietnam on May 26, 1967, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

Authorization of award of Medal of Honor to Juan Ogo Blaz for acts of valor while serving as a member of the Army during the Vietnam War

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 588) that would waive the time limitations specified in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Juan Ogo Blaz for acts of valor while serving as a member of the Army during the Vietnam War on January 18, 1969, for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Army is currently reviewing the records of Juan Ogo Blaz to determine whether he should be awarded the Medal of Honor under the requirements of section 586 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328).

Authorization of award of Medal of Honor to Martin A. Maglona for acts of valor while serving as a member of the Army during the Vietnam War

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 589) that would waive the time limitations in section 7274 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to Martin A. Maglona for acts of valor while serving as a member of the Army during the Vietnam War on February 23, 1969.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Army is currently reviewing the records of Martin A. Maglona to determine whether he should be awarded the Medal of Honor under the requirements of section 586 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328).

Modification to annual reports on racial and ethnic demographics in the military justice system

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 591) that would require additional reporting information on administrative actions in the annual reports to Congress on racial and ethnic demographics in the military justice system.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the reporting required by the House provision is already required by section 486 of title 10, United States Code.

Modernization of dress codes and policies on military installations during non-working and non-duty status hours

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 593) that would direct the Secretaries of the military departments to issue guidance, not later than June 1, 2025, to commanders of installations under the jurisdiction of such Secretaries to require the modernization of dress codes or policies for members of the Armed Forces during non-working and non-duty status hours, while on military installations, and for all military dependents on military installations at any time.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the military services currently have policies prescribing dress codes for military members.

Pilot program to allow members in the Department of the Air Force to grow beards

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 594) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to establish a pilot program to allow members of the Air Force and Space Force to grow beards.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Air Force, not later than April 1, 2025, to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the feasibility and advisability of establishing a pilot program to authorize members of the Air Force and Space Force to grow beards. Such briefing shall include the following elements: (1) The evaluation of the Secretary of the compatibility of beards with military equipment that requires an airtight seal, such as a gas mask; (2) An assessment of the effect of beard growth on discipline, morale, and unity within the ranks; (3) A determination whether allowing members to grow beards improves inclusivity, including for members with conditions like pseudofolliculitis barbae or who wish to grow beards for religious purposes; (4) Identifications of any negative perception or bias towards members with beards; and (5) Strategies to mitigate such negative perceptions or bias.

Female members of certain Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense in STEM

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 595) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on how to increase the participation of women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) positions in the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that women are eligible for all military occupational specialties related to STEM, and many women in service work in STEM and STEM-related functions in today's military. Additionally, STEM internship opportunities in the SkillBridge program are already available to members of the Armed Forces transitioning from active duty to civilian life.

Study on benefits of standardizing policies regarding basic allowance for housing and family housing eligibility for members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who are unaccompanied and pregnant

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 596) that would direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of

the military departments, to carry out a study on the policies regarding basic allowance for housing and family housing eligibility for members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty who are unaccompanied and who become pregnant while residing in unaccompanied housing.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than January 1, 2026, on military service policies regarding unaccompanied members of the Armed Forces who become pregnant while residing in unaccompanied housing. Such briefing shall include: (1) An overview of current service policies regarding when unaccompanied members of the Armed Forces who become pregnant while residing in unaccompanied housing become eligible for basic allowance for housing and family housing, respectively; (2) Whether disparities exist between written policies on this topic and the implementation of such policies; (3) Any policy or legislative recommendations to standardize and update such policies across the Armed Forces, as appropriate; and (4) Any costs associated with the implementation of the policy and legislative recommendations in part (3).

Sense of Congress regarding military service by individuals with amputations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 598) that would express a sense of Congress that the Secretary of Defense should issue medical waivers to individuals seeking to serve in the Armed Forces who are precluded from serving solely because of a non service-connected amputation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We acknowledge the honorable and meaningful contributions that individuals with amputations have made to the country while serving in the United States military. We urge the Department of Defense to explore avenues for individuals with non service-connected amputations to serve in support of the nation's defense.

Report on National Guard sexual assault and response prevention training

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 599) that would require the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives containing the number of National Guard members, aggregated by state, that received sexual assault and response prevention training in the preceding calendar year not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act for the initial report and annually by March 30 beginning in 2026.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to submit a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives containing the number of National Guard members, aggregated by state, that received sexual assault and response prevention training in the preceding calendar year by not later than July 1, 2025.

Commercial transition for military aviation mechanics

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 599A) that would direct the Secretary of Defense to create a strategy to support the

transition of military aviation mechanics to commercial aviation mechanics after active duty service.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Entrepreneurship program for servicemembers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 599B) that would require the Secretary of Defense to study the feasibility of establishing a mentoring program for members of the Armed Forces who are interested in becoming entrepreneurs or founding start-up businesses after their active duty service.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that under section 1142(c) of title 10, United States Code, the Department of Defense is currently required to provide unique counseling pathways for members participating in the Transition Assistance Program who are interested in becoming entrepreneurs.

Defense Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion; report

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 599C) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on the organization, activities, and costs associated with the Defense Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on integration of chaplains into activities in the Indo-Pacific region

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 599D) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to Congress assessing the integration of chaplains into Department of Defense activities in the Indo-Pacific region.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Priority in expansion of pilot program to provide financial assistance to members of the Armed Forces for in-home child care

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1815) that would amend section 589 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) to require the Secretary of Defense to give priority to certain remote locations in the expansion of the Child Care in Your Home pilot program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than April 1, 2025, on administrative and cost barriers to expanding the Child Care in Your Home pilot program. Such briefing shall include: (1) An overview of the administrative requirements and costs of the program; (2) An assessment of the feasibility and advisability of expanding the pilot into additional locations, including Fort Drum, New York; Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico; Naval Air Station Lemoore, California; and Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California; and (3) Any other relevant matters that the Secretary deems appropriate.

Briefing on access of members of National Guard to child care services at military child development centers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1818) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing regarding the access of members of the National Guard to childcare services at military child development centers.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than January 1, 2026, on access of members of the National Guard to childcare services at military Child Development Centers (CDC). Such briefing shall include the following elements:

(1) The estimated number of families in the National Guard with children under 12 years of age;

(2) The estimated number of families in the National Guard with children under 12 years in which both parents are members of the National Guard;

(3) The estimated number of single parent households in which the parent is a member of the National Guard;

(4) The average number of days during the year in which a member of the National Guard who has a child under 12 years of age is serving on Active Duty or inactive duty training;

(5) The estimated number of members of the National Guard with a child under 12 years of age who live within 50 miles of a CDC;

(6) The estimated number of National Guard installations located within 50 miles of a CDC; and

(7) Any other relevant matters that the Secretary deems appropriate.

Briefing on implementation of recommendations of Quality of Life Panel

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1854) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a briefing on the implementation of the recommendations in the report, dated April 2024 of the Quality of Life Panel of such Committee.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than January 1, 2026, on the Department of Defense's implementation of the recommendations contained in the report, dated April 2024 of the House Armed Services Committee's Quality of Life Panel.

Longer term and eligibility for appointment to rank of Admiral of Commander of Naval Sea Systems Command

The Senate committee-reported bill contained provisions (sec. 509B, sec. 1047) that would require the Commander of the Naval Sea Systems Command to serve a term of 8 years, and make the Commander eligible for appointment to the rank of admiral during that final 3 years of that service.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provisions.

We note that the Secretary of the Navy currently has the authority to extend the tenure of the Commander of Naval Sea Systems Command, and has done so in the past under certain individual circumstances. Additionally, the Navy is considering the establishment of a new materiel command that

could have implications for the organization of the Navy's systems commands, including Naval Sea Systems Command.

Permanent modification to the Army National Guard and Air National Guard inactive National Guard statute

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 511) that would amend section 303 of title 32, United States Code, to authorize officers to transfer from the Selected Reserve to the Inactive National Guard.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Selective Service Director appointment subject to Senate confirmation

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 523) that would amend section 3809 of title 50, United States Code, to require Senate confirmation of the Director, Selective Service, effective for appointments made 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Modification of persons not qualified for enlistment definition

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 527) that would amend section 504 of title 10, United States Code, to broaden the authorized duties of certain non-citizen individuals who enlist in the Armed Force.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Combat status identifier equivalent for remotely piloted aircraft crew

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 529) that would require the Secretaries of the military departments to establish a status identifier of equivalent merit as a combat status identifier for remotely piloted aircraft crews who conduct combat operations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Exemption of women forced to register for draft from requirements to serve in combat roles

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 529B) that would specify that women drafted into service under the Selective Service System may not be compelled to join combat roles that were closed to women prior to December 3, 2015, train or become qualified in a combat arms military occupational specialty, or join a combat arms unit.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Pre-referral requirements related to sufficiency of admissible evidence

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 534) that would amend Article 34 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (10 U.S.C. 834) to require a written determination by a staff judge advocate or special trial counsel that the admissible evidence will probably be sufficient to obtain and sustain a conviction before a charge can be referred to trial by general court-martial.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Reimbursement of expenses and property damage for victims of designated offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 539) that would amend chapter 53 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to provide payments to victims of designated offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice for unreimbursed expenses directly related to the harm suffered as the result of being victimized, including health care expenses, travel expenses, and expenses for property damage or loss resulting from the designated offense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Investigations of sexual assaults in the National Guard

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 543) that would require the Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces (DACIPAD) to review how states investigate and prosecute allegations of sexual assault with a National Guard nexus, and to make recommendations on improving investigations and reporting of sexual assaults within the National Guard. The provision would require the DACIPAD to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on this review. The provision would also specify that state Adjutants General are senior officials for the purposes of investigating allegations of reprisal.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the DACIPAD to review how states investigate and prosecute allegations of sexual assault with a National Guard nexus and how investigations and reporting of sexual assaults within the National Guard can be improved. The review shall include: (1) An overview of the processes by which states investigate allegations of sexual assault within the National Guard; (2) An assessment of the extent to which, and the effectiveness with which, the Office of Complex Investigations (OCI) within the National Guard Bureau provides assistance to state National Guards in the investigation of such allegations; (3) An assessment of the organizational structure of the OCI and its authority to investigate, including a description of OCI's funding, the number of personnel assigned, and the force mix between military, civilian, and contractor personnel, OCI's relationships with state authorities, and an assessment of whether OCI should be codified in permanent law; and (4) Any other matter that the DACIPAD considers appropriate to review with respect to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assaults with a National Guard nexus.

We direct the DACIPAD to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the results of this review by not later than February 28, 2026.

Inclusion of Space Force professional military education programs in definitions of senior and intermediate level service schools and as covered programs for copyright purposes

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 557) that would amend section 2151(b) of title 10, United States Code, to include Space Force professional military education programs in the list of authorized Department of Defense professional military education institutions.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Support for expanding early child care options for members of the Armed Forces and their families

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 579) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to support eligible childcare providers in their recruitment and retention of childcare employees.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than January 1, 2026, on the feasibility and advisability of entering into an interagency partnership with another Federal agency with the ability to place national service participants and volunteers trained in education services at military child development centers in accordance with applicable national service laws.

Waiver authority for Junior Reserve Officer's training Corps minimum participation requirement

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 582) that would amend section 2031(b) of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of the military department concerned to issue a 5-year waiver of the minimum student participation requirement in order for a school to establish a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) unit, if the school meets all other statutory requirements for JROTC participation.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Authority to award or present a decoration following a congressionally requested review

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 591) that would amend section 1130 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the award of a decoration following a submission of a favorable recommendation for the award, after a 60-day congressional review period.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

National Commission on Quality of Life for the All-Volunteer Armed Force

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 596) that would establish an independent commission in the legislative branch to be known as the Commission on Quality of Life for the All-Volunteer Armed Force.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Department of Defense process for sharing military service data with states

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5521) that would enact the Military and Education Data Integration Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that some secondary schools fail to provide meaningful access to military recruiters. As such, we direct the Secretary of

Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a briefing, not later than April 1, 2025, on the feasibility of developing a secure data sharing process between the Department of Defense and state education agencies. The report shall address, at a minimum, the following: (1) The cost of establishing a database that state education agencies may access; (2) The type of data that the Department of Defense could share with the state education agencies; (3) The type of data that the state education agencies could share with the Department of Defense; and (4) The anticipated benefits of sharing that data for both the Department of Defense and the state education agencies.

Review of special education processes and procedures of Department of Defense Education Activity

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5572) that would require the Director of the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) to review the special education processes and procedures in place within DODEA to locate, identify (through screening or other evidence-based tools), evaluate, and refer children with disabilities from birth to age 21 and provide evidence-based interventions and supports for students with disabilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than January 1, 2026, on special education processes and procedures in DODEA schools. Such briefing shall include the following:

(1) The processes DODEA uses to locate, screen, and identify children with deficiencies in early literacy skill development and specific learning disabilities, particularly dyslexia;

(2) The number of DODEA students with deficiencies in early literacy skills or specific learning disabilities;

(3) The staffing ratio standards, credentials and certifications, and professional development requirements for staff who support children with early literacy deficits and specific learning disabilities, particularly dyslexia;

(4) The curriculum and interventions DODEA uses to support literacy skill development for students with early literacy deficits and specific learning disabilities, particularly dyslexia; and

(5) Any differences in the above-mentioned areas by region or district across DODEA.

Establishment of program to promote participation of foreign students in the Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5595) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a program to promote the participation of foreign students in the Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE VI—COMPENSATION AND OTHER PERSONNEL BENEFITS

SUBTITLE A—BASIC PAY, RETIRED PAY, AND LEAVE

Sec. 601—Reform of basic pay rates

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1801) that would increase basic pay for all

grades by 4.5 percent, except for pay grades E1 through E4, which would increase by an average of 15 percent.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 601) that would reform basic pay rates by increasing monthly basic pay for junior enlisted servicemembers in the grades of E-1 through E-3.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would adjust the pay tables for fiscal year 2025, effective April 1, 2025, to increase junior enlisted pay by 10 percent.

Sec. 602—Policy on postpartum physical fitness tests and body composition assessments

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 601) that would amend section 701(k) of title 10, United States Code, to include pregnancy as a waivable condition for participation in the Physical Fitness Tests and Body Composition Assessments.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would narrow the scope of this provision to apply only to members of the Armed Forces who have given birth, lost a pregnancy, or had a stillbirth.

Sec. 603—Extension of parental leave to members of the Coast Guard Reserve

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 602) that would extend parental leave to members of the Coast Guard Reserve.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 604—Elimination of cap on additional retired pay for extraordinary heroism for members of the Army and Air Force who served during the Vietnam Era

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 604) that would amend sections 1402, 7361, and 9361 of title 10, United States Code, to eliminate the cap on additional retired pay for extraordinary heroism for members of the Army and Air Force who served during the Vietnam era.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 605—Calculation of retired pay for certain officers who served in grade O-9 or O-10 and retired in grade O-8

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 621) that would amend section 1407 of title 10, United States Code, to create a special rule for officers having served in the temporary grades of O-9 or O-10 and who receive a conditional or permanent retirement in the grade of O-8. The provision would require that such officer's final retirement pay be the lower of the amount calculated under the high-three year average formula pursuant to section 1407, or the final pay formula for members of the Armed Forces under section 1406 of title 10, United States Code, as if such officer first became a member of the Armed Forces prior to September 8, 1980.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE B—BONUS AND INCENTIVE PAYS

Sec. 611—One-year extension of certain expiring bonus and special pay authorities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 612) that would extend, through December 31, 2024, certain expiring bonus and special pay authorities relating to Reserve forces; health care professionals; nuclear officers; consoli-

dated special, incentive, and bonus authorities under title 37, United States Code; and temporary increases in rates of basic allowance for housing.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 611).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 612—Increase in accession bonus for health professions scholarship and financial assistance program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 613) that would amend section 2128 of title 10, United States Code, to increase the maximum accession bonus for the health professions scholarship and financial assistance program from \$20,000 to \$100,000.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 613—Increase in maximum skill proficiency bonus amount

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 612) that would amend section 353(c)(2) of title 37, United States Code, to increase the maximum annual skill proficiency bonus authorized under such section to \$55,000.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE C—ALLOWANCES

Sec. 621—Basic needs allowance for members on active service in the Armed Forces: expansion of eligibility; increase of amount

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1804) that would amend section 402b of title 37, United States Code, to expand eligibility for the Basic Needs Allowance to those qualifying households earning up to 200 percent of the Federal poverty guidelines.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 622—Authority to pay basic allowance for housing to junior enlisted members on sea duty

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1805) that would amend section 403(f) of title 37, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of the military department concerned to authorize the payment of a Basic Allowance for Housing to a member of the uniformed services without dependents who is serving in a pay grade below E-6 and is assigned to initial field or sea duty.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 603).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 623—Reimbursement of expenses relating to travel for inactive-duty training and muster duty

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5621) that would require the Secretary of Defense to revise the Joint Travel Regulations maintained under section 464 of title 37, United States Code, to ensure that if a member of a reserve component drives a vehicle of the member to inactive-duty training, the member may be paid a mileage allowance for the mileage driven by the member.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to reimburse members of the reserve component who travel more than 50 miles to attend inactive-duty training and muster duty for their actual

and necessary expenses of travel and transportation; and to pay meals, incidentals, and expenses related to such travel to the same extent specified in regulations prescribed under section 464 of title 37, United States Code, for a member on official travel. The amendment would not be effective until January 1, 2027.

Sec. 624—Expansion of travel and transportation allowance to move or store privately owned vehicles

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1806) that would amend section 453 of title 37, United States Code, to allow the Secretary of Defense to authorize shipment and storage of up to two privately owned vehicles per household during permanent change of station moves to certain non-foreign and foreign overseas duty locations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 625—Extension of authority to pay one-time uniform allowance for officers who transfer to the Space Force

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 614) that would amend section 606 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) to extend the authority for the Secretary of the Air Force to pay a one-time uniform allowance to officers who transfer to the Space Force.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 626—Travel and transportation allowances: prohibition of requirement of zero-emission vehicle

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 623) that would prohibit any travel or transport allowance paid pursuant to the Joint Travel Regulations for the Uniformed Services to require that such travel or transportation be in a zero-emission vehicle.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would ensure that servicemembers with personally-owned zero-emission vehicles are still eligible.

Sec. 627—Evaluation of the rates of the basic allowance for subsistence

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1803) that would require the Secretary of Defense to evaluate the current calculation model for servicemember basic allowance for subsistence and to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives regarding such evaluation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 628—Report regarding the calculation of cost-of-living allowances

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1807) that would require the Secretary of Defense to evaluate the current calculation methods for cost-of-living allowances for locations both inside and outside the continental United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE D—FAMILY AND SURVIVOR BENEFITS

Sec. 631—Expansion of eligibility for certain benefits that arise from the death of a member of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 631) that would amend section 1475(a) of title

10, United States Code, to authorize the payment of a death gratuity and casualty assistance for ROTC cadets who die as the result of a sanctioned training event.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 632—Extension of time for minor survivors to file death gratuity claims

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 622) that would amend section 1480 of title 10, United States Code, to extend the time of eligibility for certain minor survivors to file death gratuity claims for survivor compensation to the date that is the later of 3 years after the affected individual reaches 21 years of age, or 6 years after the death with respect to which the claim is made.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 633—Parent fees at military child development centers for child care employees

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1812) that would amend section 1793 of title 10, United States Code, to require all military services to cover 100 percent of childcare fees for the first child of staff enrolled in the Department of Defense Child Development Program and would authorize the military services to cover up to 100 percent of childcare fees for any additional children of such staff.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 634—Information regarding paternal engagement on website of Military OneSource

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 633) that would amend section 561 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84) to require the Military OneSource website to include information regarding paternal engagement programs.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE E—DEFENSE RESALE MATTERS

Sec. 641—Prohibition on sale of garlic from the People's Republic of China at commissary stores

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 629) that would amend section 2484 of title 10, United States Code, to prohibit the sale in commissary stores of garlic originating from, or processed in, the People's Republic of China.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would limit the restrictions of the provision to fresh or chilled garlic originating from the People's Republic of China.

Sec. 642—Sale of certain supplies of the Navy and Marine Corps to certain former members of the Coast Guard

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 643) that would authorize members of the Coast Guard to purchase certain supplies.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE F—OTHER BENEFITS, REPORTS, AND BRIEFINGS

Sec. 651—Access to broadband internet access service for certain members of the Armed Forces

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 623) that would

amend chapter 134 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to provide, without charge, high-speed internet access and wireless network connections to members of the Armed Forces who reside in unaccompanied housing within the United States.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a policy and issue guidance to the military departments on the implementation of the authority.

Sec. 652—Extension of exclusion of certain employees from Government lodging program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 624) that would amend section 914 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291) to extend the termination date of the pilot program established under that section to December 31, 2029; to exempt certain public shipyard workers from the Department of Defense Government Lodging Program; and to require annual briefings on the use of the exemptions under the program through February 1, 2030.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 653—Promotion of tax preparation assistance programs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 651) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that servicemembers are aware of various tax preparation assistance programs.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would authorize the required tax assistance notification to be provided through electronic means.

Sec. 654—Pilot program to increase access to food on military installations of the Army

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1851) that would increase access to food on military installations by permitting servicemembers who reside in unaccompanied housing on a military installation to use their common access card to pay for meals at dining facilities, restaurants, and commissaries.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Army to implement a pilot program to make food available to certain servicemembers under the pilot program using a common access card or other similar means.

We direct the Secretaries of the Air Force and Navy to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than January 1, 2026, on the feasibility and advisability of implementing a pilot program to increase access to food on military installations of their respective military departments.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Prohibition on exposing members of the Armed Forces to Chinese military company investments through the Thrift Savings Plan

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 603) that would prohibit investment in the Thrift Savings Plan mutual fund window if any mutual fund holds a Chinese military company.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Expansion of bereavement leave

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 605) that would amend section 701 of title 10, United States Code, to expand military bereavement to 12 weeks.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Program to assist servicemembers at risk of suicide

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 606) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the Defense Health Agency, to develop and implement a centralized program to monitor and provide assistance to members of the Armed Forces at risk of suicide who have been recently discharged from health care, as outlined in Recommendation 6.29 of the final report issued by the Suicide Prevention and Response Independent Review Committee.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Incentive pay: explosive ordnance disposal duty

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 611) that would add a new section to chapter 5 of title 37, United States Code, requiring the Secretary of Defense to make certain improvements to incentive pay for explosive ordnance disposal duty.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that in the Senate report accompanying S. 2226 (S. Rept. 118-58) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, the Secretary of Defense was required to examine and make recommendations pertaining to the establishment of an analytical framework for special and incentive pays authorized under title 37, United States Code, and to issue a report on special and incentive pays and such analytical framework to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives. This report is still pending.

Assignment incentive pay for members assigned to Creech Air Force Base and Naval Air Station Fallon

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 613) that would allow the Secretary concerned to designate the assignment of a member of the Armed Forces to Creech Air Force Base, Nevada, or Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada, as an assignment that makes the member eligible for assignment incentive pay under section 307a of title 37, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that in the Senate report accompanying S. 2226 (S. Rept. 118-58) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, the Secretary of Defense was required to examine and make recommendations pertaining to the establishment of an analytical framework for special and incentive pays authorized under title 37, United States Code, and to issue a report on special and incentive pays and such analytical framework to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives. This report is still pending.

Basic needs allowance: exclusion of basic allowance for housing from the calculation of gross household income of an eligible member of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 621) that would modify how gross household

income is calculated for purposes of determining a servicemember's eligibility for a basic needs allowance.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that quality of life measures, including increases in basic pay and other allowances, are addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Basic allowance for housing: pilot program to outsource rate calculation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 622) that would establish a pilot program to evaluate the method by which the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH) rate is calculated.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Secretary of Defense is currently in the process of finalizing the fourteenth Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation, which will address and make recommendations about the method for calculating BAH.

Sense of Congress on increase to the family separation allowance

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 624) that would express the sense of Congress regarding an increase to the family separation allowance.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We urge the Secretary of Defense to review the family separation allowance to determine whether it is adequate to meet the needs of military families and to make adjustments to such allowance as appropriate.

Payment instead of reimbursement for the transportation of certain remains to two locations if the second location is a national cemetery

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 632) that would amend section 1482 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Department of Defense (DOD) to contract for the dignified transportation of the remains of certain servicemembers to a second location if the second location is a national cemetery.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than May 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of amending section 1482 of title 10, United States Code, to require DOD to contract for the transportation of the remains of servicemembers to a second location, if the second location is a national cemetery. Such briefing shall address the following: (1) Current process and reimbursement procedures; (2) Current length of time to process funeral claims; (3) The impact or concerns with contracting law; (4) The means by which the Secretary may improve such process to reduce the time described in item (2); and (5) Any legislative recommendations to improve such processes to reduce the time described in item (2).

Military OneSource for a remarried surviving spouse of a deceased member of the Armed Forces: eligibility; information

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 634) that would expand eligibility of the Military OneSource program to remarried surviving spouses of deceased members of the Armed Forces. Further, it would require the Secretary of Defense to publish and maintain casualty assistance information on the Mili-

tary OneSource website for these surviving spouses.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We understand the important resource Military OneSource is for servicemembers, veterans, and their families. Currently, there are varying timeframes of access to Military OneSource after retirement or discharge, and even after remarriage. We understand that certain portions of Military OneSource require Common Access Card (CAC) access, but it is unclear what requires a CAC versus what does not. To better understand the access concerns and potential benefits of expanding the period of availability, we direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives, no later than September 30, 2025, on: (1) Existing access regulations for Military OneSource; (2) Rationale behind the existing access regulations; (3) Rationale for CAC access on Military OneSource and any relevant security concerns for removing CAC requirements; (4) Recommendations for periods of access for retired and discharged servicemembers and their families, to include any concerns with expanding the timeframe for access; (5) Recommendations for an appropriate timeline for access to Military OneSource that are consistent across varying groups of individuals; and (6) Any relevant legislative changes that are required to adjust access standards.

Guide for survivors to claim the personal effects of a deceased member of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 635) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation of the Secretaries of the military departments and not later than September 30, 2025, to publish and post on the website of Military OneSource a guide regarding how a survivor of a deceased member of the Armed Forces may: (1) Receive the personal effects of such member; and (2) File a claim with the Secretary of the military department concerned if the survivor believes such effects were disposed of incorrectly.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that this information is already provided to the next of kin of a deceased member of the Armed Forces.

Adoption or guardianship assistance for members of the Armed Forces and veterans

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 636) that would amend section 1052 of title 10, United States Code, to expand the eligible assistance to military families that adopt or take legal guardianship of a child.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than April 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of expanding assistance programs available to military members and their families that adopt or take guardianship of a child, including an assessment of whether to expand eligibility for such assistance to include those who take legal guardianship of a child, whether a flat-fee entitlement would be preferable to reimbursing actual costs, and whether and to what extent monetary assistance authorized under existing law should be increased.

Expansion of period of availability of Military OneSource program for retired and discharged members of the Armed Forces and their immediate families

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 637) that would expand the period of eligibility for the Military OneSource program of the Department of Defense of an eligible individual retired, discharged, or otherwise released from the Armed Forces, and for the eligible immediate family members of such an individual.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that Military OneSource eligibility is addressed elsewhere in this report.

Commissary and exchange benefits: expansion for surviving children of members of the uniformed services

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 641) that would amend section 1061 of title 10, United States Code, to expand commissary and exchange benefits to surviving children of members of the Armed Forces regardless of age.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Single-use shopping bags in commissary stores

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 642) that would amend section 2485 of title 10, United States Code, to prevent the Defense Commissary Agency from prohibiting the use of, or charging a fee for, single-use shopping bags in a commissary store.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

MWR retail facilities: use by civilian employees of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 644) that would amend chapter 54 of title 10, United States Code, by adding a new section to authorize certain current and retired civilian employees of the Department of Defense and such employees of the department in which the Coast Guard is operating to use MWR retail facilities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Pilot program to inform members about certain insurance products

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 652) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program to inform servicemembers about supplemental insurance products.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 749) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this act, to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report valuating the feasibility of establishing a program to facilitate access to supplementary insurance designed to help members of the Armed Forces and their dependents with financial expenses not currently covered by existing programs related to screening, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer.

The agreement does not include either provision.

Basic allowance for housing: authorization of appropriations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1802) that would fully fund the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision. The agreement does not include the House provision.

Authority to pay higher rates of partial basic allowance for housing for unaccompanied housing

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 602) that would amend section 2882 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to prescribe and pay to members of the Armed Forces without dependents in military unaccompanied housing higher rates of Partial Basic Allowance for Housing than the rate authorized for under paragraph (o)(2) of such section, not to exceed the full rate of Basic Allowance for Housing for the military housing area concerned.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Extension of travel allowance for members of the Armed Forces assigned to Alaska

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 604) that would amend section 603 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) to reauthorize a travel allowance for military personnel assigned to Alaska during the period of December 1, 2024 to December 1, 2025.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Restrictions on retired and reserve members of the Armed Forces receiving employment and compensation indirectly from foreign governments through private entities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 625) that would amend section 908 of title 37, United States Code, to prohibit retired and reserve members of all branches of the Armed Forces, except the Coast Guard, from accepting employment, and compensation related to that employment, or payments or awards indirectly from a foreign government through a private entity.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that section 9 of article I of the U.S. Constitution already prohibits retired and reserve members of the uniformed services from accepting any compensation from a foreign government or an entity under foreign government control, including commercial entities owned or controlled by a foreign government and foreign public universities controlled by a foreign government.

Retroactive effective date of promotions of senior officers of Armed Forces that were delayed as a result of suspension of Senate confirmation

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 626) that would authorize the provision of back pay to certain military officers who were confirmed by the Senate between December 5, 2023, and December 31, 2023. The provision would authorize pay starting from that date which is later: the date that is 30 days after the officer was placed on the Senate Executive Calendar, or the date on which the Secretary determines the officer would have been appointed to the grade for which they were nominated.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Fertility and adoption demonstration program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 627) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a

fertility and adoption demonstration program to assess the feasibility and advisability of providing cash reimbursement and covered pharmacy benefits to eligible Active-Duty members of the Armed Forces and their dependents.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Selling certain consumer routers and modems on military installations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 628) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that routers and modems sold in any commissary or exchange store are appropriately labeled to inform customers whether or not the router or modem is designed, manufactured, or developed by persons owned, controlled by, or under the influence of a covered nation.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note the House report accompanying H.R. 8070 (H. Rept. 118-529) of the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025, requires the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, not later than December 31, 2024, on the national security risks posed by routers, modems, and devices that combine a modem and router, that are designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by entities owned by or controlled by the People's Republic of China. We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide that briefing to both the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, by the stated date.

TITLE VII—HEALTH CARE PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE A—TRICARE AND OTHER HEALTH CARE BENEFITS

Sec. 701—Access to specialty behavioral health care under TRICARE Prime

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 706) that would require the Secretary of Defense to monitor access standards for specialty behavioral health care. In the event that the Secretary determines that behavioral health care access in a state does not meet or exceed prescribed access standards for more than 12 consecutive months, the Secretary would be required to expand health care accreditation standards in that state to include credentials issued by state-level organizations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 702—Reduction or waiver of cost-sharing amounts under TRICARE pharmacy benefits program for certain dependents enrolled in TRICARE Prime Remote program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 702) that would amend section 1076(g), United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to waive or reduce cost-sharing amounts under the TRICARE pharmacy benefits program for dependents of servicemembers who are enrolled in the TRICARE Prime Remote program and who accompany the member at the expense of the Federal Government.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 703—TRICARE program: waiver of referral requirement under TRICARE Prime for certain care in a military medical treatment facility

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1832) that would amend section 1095f(a) of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to expand direct access to medical appointments in military medical treatment facilities to Active-Duty members who seek certain health care services.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would strike primary and preventive health care services for women from the list of health care services included in the provision.

We note that primary and preventive health care services are already available to Active-Duty members of the Armed Forces without a referral.

Sec. 704—Extension of effective date regarding certain improvements to the TRICARE dental program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 703) that would amend section 1076a of title 10, United States Code, to extend the time to implement required modifications to the premium sharing plans of the TRICARE dental program to January 1, 2027.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 723).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 705—Program to prevent perinatal mental health conditions in pregnant and postpartum members of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 709) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program to assess the feasibility and effectiveness of providing, through military medical treatment facilities, covered protection programs to pregnant and postpartum members of the Armed Forces and covered beneficiaries.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to implement certain programs to reduce the incidence of mental health conditions in pregnant and postpartum members of the Armed Forces and their spouses.

Sec. 706—Guidance on authority to provide travel and transportation allowances for specialty care under exceptional circumstances

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 703) that would require the Secretary of Defense to prescribe regulations, not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, to implement the authority of the Secretary under section 1074i(b) of title 10, United States Code.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary to issue guidance, not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, with respect to the authority of the Secretary under section 1074i(b) of title 10, United States Code.

Sec. 707—Contraception coverage parity under the TRICARE program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 711) that would eliminate cost-sharing for 1 year for any eligible TRICARE beneficiary for contraceptives acquired through retail pharmacies and the national mail order pharmacy.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 731) that

would amend section 1074g of title 10, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Defense from imposing cost share requirements for any covered beneficiary to procure any prescription contraceptive on the uniform formulary, effective October 1, 2034.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would strike the implementation date of October 1, 2034.

Sec. 708—Prohibition of coverage under TRICARE program of certain medical procedures for children that could result in sterilization

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 709) that would amend section 1079 of title 10, United States Code, to prohibit TRICARE from providing to a child, under age 18, affirming hormone therapy, puberty blockers, and any other medical intervention for the treatment of gender dysphoria that could result in sterilization.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would strike the list of specified medical interventions covered by the prohibition on medical interventions that could result in sterilization.

Sec. 709—Demonstration program on cryopreservation and storage of gametes of certain members of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 710) that would establish a one-year pilot program to reimburse Active-Duty servicemembers working in hazardous or isolated conditions for fees associated with the costs of retrieving, shipping, and/or storing gametes at private facilities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would extend the length of the demonstration program to 3 years.

SUBTITLE B—HEALTH CARE ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 711—Identification in patient medical records of affiliation of certain non-Department of Defense health care providers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 721) that would require identification in patient medical records of affiliation of certain non-Department of Defense health care providers.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 712—Extension of enhanced appointment and compensation authority for certain health care providers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1833) that would amend section 1599c of title 10, United States Code, to extend enhanced appointment and compensation authorities for civilian health care professionals for care and treatment of wounded and injured members of the Armed Forces until December 31, 2030.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1103).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 713—Licensure requirement for certain health care professionals providing certain examinations to members of the reserve components

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 704) that would amend section 1094(d)(2) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize licensure portability for health care providers who provide medical services under the Reserve Health Readiness Program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 714—Health care licensure portability for TRICARE network providers providing mental health services to members of the Armed Forces and certain family members

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 701) that would amend section 1094 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to prescribe regulations to allow mental health providers who provide care under the TRICARE program to provide tele-mental health care services to members of the Armed Forces and their dependents without regard to the location of the provider or the patient.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

We direct the Director of the Defense Health Agency (DHA) to provide a briefing, not later than September 30, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the results of a study to determine how to increase access of TRICARE beneficiaries to telehealth services of the DHA.

Sec. 715—Expansion of recognition by the Defense Health Agency of certifying bodies for physicians

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 729) that would direct the Defense Health Agency to expand the recognition of certifying bodies for physicians to a broader range of additional board certifications in medical specialties and subspecialties.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would add to the standards for recognition of other certifying bodies a requirement that such bodies meet other requirements that the Secretary of Defense may establish for purposes of compliance with applicable state laws and the promotion of consistency in coverage and care across the military medical system.

Sec. 716—Waiver with respect to experienced nurses at military medical treatment facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1835) that would authorize the hiring manager of a military medical treatment facility or other health care facility of the Department of Defense to waive any General Schedule qualification standard related to work experience, established by the Office of Personnel Management, for certain nurse or practical nurse applicants for a position in Department of Defense medical treatment facilities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 5741).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 717—Improved implementation of financial relief for civilians treated in military medical treatment facilities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 722) that would require the Secretary of Defense to issue a final rule, or interim final rule, to implement section 1079(b) of title 10, United States Code, relating to financial relief for civilians who receive medical care in a military medical facility; and require the Secretary to hold in abeyance certain claims under this statute until the final rule, or interim final rule, is in effect.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 718—Retention of health care providers: surveys; briefing; reports

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1837) that would direct each of the Secretaries of the military departments to conduct a survey of military health care providers to determine the reasons why military providers remain in service or separate.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE C—MATTERS RELATING TO BRAIN HEALTH

Sec. 721—Establishment of Defense Intrepid Network for Traumatic Brain Injury and Brain Health as program of record

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 712) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish the Defense Intrepid Network for Traumatic Brain Injury and Brain Health as a program of record—subject to milestone reviews and compliance with the requirements established by the provision.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 722—Brain health and trauma program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 743) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on the feasibility of recognizing transitional and residential brain injury treatment programs, approved by non-governmental accreditation bodies, to provide services to members of covered Armed Forces who sustained a brain injury in the course of performing active duty.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 713) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct an intensive comprehensive brain health and trauma demonstration program to provide coordinated, integrated, multi-specialist evaluations, treatment initiation, and aftercare coordination in a highly condensed model for members of the Armed Forces and their families.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require one or more pilot programs for demonstrating the effectiveness of intensive outpatient multidisciplinary specialist treatment and care coordination; mandate the inclusion of Defense Health Agency initiatives related to treatment of traumatic brain injuries; remove the requirement that the study last for four years; and remove the requirement for the Secretary to seek to enter into an agreement with private non-sector organizations.

Secs. 723–725—Matters relating to brain health

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 728 and sec. 731) that would make certain improvements to the Warfighter Brain Health Initiative.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained similar provisions (sec. 711, sec. 1081, and sec. 1093).

The agreement includes the House provisions with an amendment that would remove a requirement in House section 728 for a Comptroller General report; include the substantive requirements of Senate section 711 with technical and conforming changes; include the substantive requirements of Senate section 1093 but without such section's reporting requirements; and incorporate certain requirements related to roles and responsibilities to mitigate, identify, and treat traumatic brain injury from Senate section 1081.

SUBTITLE D—STUDIES, BRIEFINGS, REPORTS, AND OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 731—Treatment of expert medical opinions with respect to medical malpractice claims by members of the uniformed services

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 742) that would amend section 2733a of title 10, United States Code, to require that a medical expert be board-certified in the medical specialty related to the claim for which the individual is providing an expert medical opinion.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense, when using an expert medical opinion to evaluate a medical malpractice claim by members of the uniformed services, to use individuals who are board-certified in the medical specialty associated with the claim or an individual who is highly qualified for claims involving medical, dental, or related health care functions for which board certifications do not apply.

Sec. 732—Annual reports on medical malpractice claims by members of the Uniformed Services

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1731) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on the rates at which Department of Defense awards settlements in medical malpractice claims by members of the uniformed services under part 45 of title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, including (1) a comparison of such rates to the rates at which settlements are awarded in similar civilian medical malpractice claims; and (2) recommendations for improvements to the system for medical malpractice claims by members of the uniformed services.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would amend section 2733a of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to submit an annual report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on medical malpractice claims by members of the Uniformed Services.

Sec. 733—Expansion of license reciprocity for veterinarians of Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 351) that would amend section 1060c of title 10, United States Code, to authorize Department of Defense (DOD) veterinarians to provide veterinary services in any state, the District of Columbia, or a territory or possession of the United States, if the provision of such services is within the scope of the veterinarian's authorized DOD duties.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 743).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 734—Medical countermeasures for overseas personnel of the Department of Defense for acute radiation syndrome and thermal burns

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 723) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish requirements for the procurement and pre-positioning of treatments for acute radiation syndrome and thermal burns incurred by servicemembers assigned to duty locations outside of the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 724).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 735—Establishment of Indo-Pacific medical readiness program

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 734 and 1304) that would require the Under

Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to conduct a study to determine the requirements for combat medical support during a crisis or conflict in the Indo-Pacific.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 721) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a medical readiness program with countries in the Indo-Pacific region for access to foreign medical facilities during peacetime and wartime operations.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would expand the objectives of the program.

Sec. 736—Reports on suicide among members of the Armed Forces and suicide prevention programs and activities of the Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 747) that would amend section 741 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), as amended by section 742 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283), by extending the requirement for the Secretary of Defense to provide annual reports on suicide through January 31, 2031.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

We note that the Department has declined to report suicide information under the existing requirements of section 741 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) when incomplete data exists. In these instances, we urge the Department to include as much information as possible in the report rather than rejecting all data for such years due to incompleteness. We also urge the Department to include raw data in addition to information about rates of suicide as a way to provide some insight on military suicide, even if the full data for a given year is incomplete.

Sec. 737—Study of immune response and other effects on members of the Armed Forces regarding COVID-19 vaccines

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 742) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study to blood test members of the Armed Forces relating to COVID-19 vaccines.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would remove the study mandate and instead require the Secretary of Defense to conduct assessments of existing scientific data related to COVID-19 vaccines; and authorize a study related to such assessments using research volunteers.

Sec. 738—Annual report on recruitment delays relating to medical conditions

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 726) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a plan to address recruitment processing delays associated with the electronic health record system of the Department of Defense; and to implement the recommendations of the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Defense in its report entitled, "Review of the Military Services' Policies and Procedures on the Medical Waiver Process for Recruiting" (DODIG 2023-072).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would strike the portions of the provision related to developing a plan to address recruitment delays and implementing the Inspector General recommendations; and limit the annual

reporting requirement to three years, beginning not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Sec. 739—Plan to improve access by members of the Armed Forces to safe, high-quality pharmaceuticals

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 744) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a plan to ensure access by members of the Armed Forces to safe, high-quality pharmaceutical products and eliminate or mitigate risks in the pharmacy supply chain of the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary to develop a plan to improve access to safe, high-quality pharmaceuticals in coordination with the Military Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Vulnerability Working Group.

Sec. 740—Pilot program on delegation of authority to approve reserve component recruits with certain medical conditions

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 745) that would require the Secretary of Defense to implement a pilot program that authorizes and directs the Secretaries of the military departments to delegate authority to the United States Military Entrance Processing Command to approve a service medical waiver for a set list of otherwise disqualifying conditions.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would limit the number of medical conditions included in the pilot program to three conditions that are regularly or automatically given waivers under existing policy; and limit the scope to military recruits for the Reserve Component.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Assisted reproductive technology for certain members of the Armed Forces and their dependents under TRICARE

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 701) that would provide assisted reproductive technology services to servicemembers and their dependents.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 705) that would amend chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, to require that fertility treatments be covered under TRICARE Prime or TRICARE Select without regard to the sex, sex characteristics, gender identity, sexual orientation, diagnosis, or marital status of a servicemember or dependent.

The agreement does not include either provision.

TRICARE dental plan for the Selected Reserve

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 702) that would amend section 1076a of title 10, United States Code, to provide free dental care to members of the Selected Reserve and their family members.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognized the importance of this issue in section 707 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) which authorized the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on the feasibility of expanding eligibility for TRICARE Reserve Select and the TRICARE Dental Program to all members of the Selected Reserve, their dependents, and non-dependent children under the age of 26—including potential cost effects to the Department of Defense, changes in out-of-pocket

costs to beneficiaries, and effects on other Federal programs.

We are pleased that the Department contracted with a federally funded research and development center to develop the study's methodology and approach and eagerly await the findings and recommendations which are due in December 2024.

Expansion of Wounded Warrior Service Dog Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 705) that would clarify the Wounded Warrior Service Dog Program grant process.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We understand that there were concerns with the previous contracting model for the Wounded Warrior Service Dog Program. The original intent of the program stands and should provide support through competitive grants to eligible organizations that train and furnish service dogs. We encourage the Uniform Services University of Health Sciences to continue supporting the program with such intent.

Reimbursements under the TRICARE program to cancer and children's hospitals for outpatient care of beneficiaries

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 706) that would require the Secretary of Defense to consider the adequacy of the TRICARE network and availability of specialized health care services when evaluating an application for a general temporary military contingency payment adjustment.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than July 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on applications, payments, and adjustments to reimbursement amounts. The briefing should include the following elements:

- (1) A list of payment mechanisms available to the Secretary to make a reimbursement;
- (2) A list of the authorities for such payment mechanisms;
- (3) A list of the payment adjustments that the Secretary may make to a reimbursement amount;
- (4) The factors the Secretary considers when determining whether to make a payment adjustment;
- (5) Whether the Secretary measures the effects of a change to a reimbursement or payment adjustment when determining whether to continue the adjustment;
- (6) Any identified differences in diagnoses or complexity of care for pediatric TRICARE outpatients at children's hospitals and at other hospitals;
- (7) The extent to which differences in such payments reflect differences in the complexity of care for patients; and
- (8) Recently identified trends in the use of children's hospital services by pediatric TRICARE patients.

Notices to a dependent child regarding impending loss of coverage under TRICARE program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 707) that would require the Department of Defense to notify a beneficiary and their military sponsor within one year of their twenty-first birthday about options for TRICARE coverage; and authorize the spouse of a military member to complete identification card renewals for such beneficiaries.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Pilot program to treat pregnancy as a qualifying event for enrollment in TRICARE Select

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 708) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to establish a 5-year pilot program that would designate pregnancy as a qualifying life event under the TRICARE program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Senate report accompanying S. 4638 (S. Rept. 118-188) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 requires the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than February 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the feasibility and advisability of the proposed policy change in the House provision.

TRICARE coverage for increased supply for contraception

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 712) that would require TRICARE coverage for a year's supply of contraceptives for any eligible covered beneficiary.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We understand that the Department of Defense currently has authority to dispense up to a year's supply of contraceptives and that studies have found this to achieve substantial cost savings. We encourage the Defense Health Agency to improve access to contraception by reducing barriers to providing adequate contraceptive supplies.

Prohibition on coverage of certain gender transition procedures and related services under TRICARE program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 713) that would amend chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, by adding a new section that would prohibit the Department of Defense from providing gender transition surgeries and hormone treatments for individuals who identify as transgender.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibition on payment and reimbursement by Department of Defense of expenses relating to abortion services

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 714) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from paying for or reimbursing any fees or expenses, including travel expenses, related to a health care professional gaining a license in a state when the purpose of gaining such license is to provide abortion services.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Mandatory training on health effects of perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 722) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide training to each health care provider of the Department of Defense on the potential health effects of perfluoroalkyl or polyfluoroalkyl substances.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Partnerships with civilian organizations for arthroscopic surgical training

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 724) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish partnerships with public,

private, and non-profit entities to provide short-term arthroscopic surgery training to Department of Defense physicians.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We understand that the Department of Defense (DOD) currently meets training requirements for orthopedic surgeons within the current system. General Medical Education orthopedic surgery residencies and fellowships are the primary avenues for developing advanced arthroscopic skills for DOD surgeons. Surgeons requiring additional advanced arthroscopic skills actively participate in professional medical training courses as part of their ongoing medical education. As new training needs emerge, the military services will assess, develop, and deliver advanced orthopedic training programs. *Women's heart health educational material: development; distribution*

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 725) that would require the Department of Defense to develop and disseminate evidence-based educational materials on women's heart health to both providers and patients in the military health system.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We encourage the Secretary of Defense to ensure that the Department adequately educates patients in the military health system about women's heart health.

Protocol on use of oral rehydration solution

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 726) that would direct the Department of Defense to develop protocols for the use of oral rehydration solution (ORS) in preventing heat casualties, dehydration, and hyponatremia in initial training.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that, pursuant to a requirement in the House report accompanying H.R. 2670 (H. Rept. 118-125) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024, the Secretary of Defense provided a briefing, in January 2024, to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives regarding heat-related injuries to servicemembers during initial entry training. In the briefing, the Secretary comprehensively addressed the Department's use of ORS—noting that ORS remains an important medical therapy to treat medical conditions resulting in dehydration but that ORS is poorly suited as a maintenance solution to correct hypohydration caused by sweat losses during heat exertion. Further, the Secretary noted that existing medical literature does not support the use of ORS to reduce the incidence or severity of heat injury—as ORS is specifically formulated to replace electrolytes lost from disease processes whereas heat injury is not caused by loss of electrolytes.

Study on lifting outpatient rehabilitation therapy maximums

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 727) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on the feasibility of increasing outpatient rehabilitation therapy maximums and examine a range of therapy services, including restorative therapies, for certain members of the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Improvements to TRICARE provider directories

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 729A) that would require a managed care sup-

port contractor that supports TRICARE and maintains a directory of health care providers to verify and update such directory not less than every 90 days; and require the Director of the Defense Health Agency to review these directories not less than once each year.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We understand that the new T-5 health care contracts that will commence health care delivery on or about January 1, 2025, will impose more stringent requirements for provider directories—including a requirement to refresh network provider directories with any updated information at least once every 24 hours.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than July 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the implementation of these new, more stringent contractual requirements and on actions taken by the Department in response to the Government Accountability Office report titled "Defense Health Care: DOD Should Improve Accuracy of Behavioral Health Provider Information in TRICARE Directories" (GAO-24-106588), published on July 08, 2024.

Combating obesity in certain Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 729B) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy to align the obesity-related programs of the Department of Defense with the classification of obesity as a medically accepted disease and conduct an educational campaign to promote awareness, diagnosis, and treatment of obesity as a disease in the covered Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the House report accompanying H.R. 8070 (H. Rept. 118-529) of the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 requires the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than March 1, 2025, to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives on current efforts in the Department of Defense related to obesity.

Podiatrists in the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 729C) that would amend section 532(b) of title 10, United States Code, by inserting "podiatry" after "osteopathy"; and direct the Secretary of Defense to ensure that podiatrists are assigned to the medical corps of each military department.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on medical instrument sterilization

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 729D) that would require the Inspector General of the Defense Health Agency to provide a report on the adequacy of sterilization of medical instruments at medical facilities of the Defense Health Agency.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a report, not later than December 31, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the adequacy of sterilization of medical instruments at medical facilities of the Defense Health Agency. The briefing should include the following elements:

(1) A description of the processes or checks used to ensure medical instruments are sterilized prior to use on patients at medical facilities of the Defense Health Agency;

(2) A description of the policies and processes used to identify and mitigate the use of insufficiently sterilized medical instruments at such medical facilities and the processes and timelines for informing patients of any such near-miss;

(3) An identification of the aggregate number of adverse events or near-misses as a result of insufficiently sterilized medical instruments at such medical facilities during the period beginning on January 1, 2022 and ending on December 31, 2024;

(4) A determination of primary factors that result in insufficiently sterilized medical instruments at such medical facilities;

(5) A description of the extent to which unsterilized medical instruments have impacted the operation of such medical facilities;

(6) An assessment of whether such medical facilities have sufficient:

(a) medical instruments;

(b) medical devices to timely clean and sterilize medical instruments; and

(c) staff to sterilize medical instruments;

(7) An assessment of whether staff at such medical facilities are adequately trained to sterilize medical instruments;

(8) A identification of the number of surgeries at such medical facilities that were delayed or rescheduled as a result of unsterilized medical instruments or unavailability of trained staff to sterilize medical instruments in advance of surgery;

(9) Recommendations to improve the sterilization of medical instruments at such medical facilities, including an identification and evaluation of existing options, such as mobile sterilization units and coordinating with community medical centers to expand surgical capacity; and

(10) Any other relevant matters that the Secretary deems necessary or appropriate.

Study on testosterone levels of members of Army special operations forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 732) that would direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to conduct a 5-year study on the impact of trainings and deployments on testosterone levels of certain covered members of the Armed Forces and the potential repercussions to the long-term health for such members and the readiness of the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than May 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on medical interventions available in the military health system for the treatment of low testosterone—including the Department's current protocols for testing and screening of low testosterone among members of the Armed Forces—and whether and to what extent high-stress operating environments are linked to low testosterone among servicemembers.

Report on use of Agent Orange on Guam

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 733) that would direct the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to provide a report that details when and where Agent Orange was used on the island of Guam and known diseases or disabilities that can result from exposure to Agent Orange.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than December 31, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the use of Agent Orange in Guam.

The briefing should include the following elements:

(1) The exact dates on which Agent Orange was used on Guam;

(2) An identification of any known or suspected sites in Guam that were used to dump Agent Orange;

(3) An identification of any specific area where Agent Orange was used in Guam; and

(4) Any other relevant matters that the Secretary deems necessary or appropriate.

Report on access of TRICARE beneficiaries to network retail pharmacies

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 735) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on beneficiary access to TRICARE network pharmacies under the TPharm5 contract and changes in beneficiary access compared to the TPharm4 contract.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Senate report accompanying S. 2226 (S. Rept. 118-58) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 directed the Comptroller General of the United States to review the TRICARE Pharmacy Benefits Program—including changes in its most recently awarded nationwide pharmacy contract—with respect to its effect on TRICARE beneficiaries' access to medications that they need in a timely manner as prescribed by their physicians. We expect to receive this report in the near future.

Report on copayments for mental or behavioral health care under TRICARE

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 736) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on TRICARE cost sharing for outpatient visits for mental health or behavioral health care.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than April 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the implementation of cost-sharing waivers for mental health outpatient visits under section 701 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

Pilot program to test standalone technology to improve efficiencies in supply-chain management, medical readiness, and medical processes

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 737) that would direct the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program to test and evaluate existing standalone technology to improve supply-chain management, medical readiness, and medical processes.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Pilot program on pre-programming of suicide prevention resources into smart devices issued to members of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 738) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program on pre-programming of suicide prevention resources onto servicemembers' smart devices.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on rate of maternal mortality among members of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 739) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the rate of maternal mortality among members of the Armed Forces and the dependents of such members.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that, in August 2022, the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives received a report from the Department of Defense in response to the Senate report accompanying S. 2792 (S. Rept. 11739) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 that demonstrated consistent high quality of perinatal health care services in the direct care component of the military health system. According to the report, the pregnancy-related mortality ratio in such component was 2.91 deaths per 100,000 live births as compared to 23.80 deaths per 100,000 live births in civilian hospitals. Furthermore, we note that the military health system collaborates with external organizations, such as the Leapfrog Group, to adopt leading practices to decrease maternal mortality further. We commend the providers in the military health system for their efforts to prevent pregnancy-related mortality and encourage them to continue promoting innovative practices to assess and treat maternal mental health conditions.

Annual review and update of online information relating to suicide prevention

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 740) that would require the Secretaries of the military departments to review and certify suicide prevention policies each year as well as update online contact information.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the conference report accompanying H.R. 2670 (H. Rept. 118-301) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 directed the Secretary of Defense to review publicized information on suicide prevention and behavioral health and to provide a briefing, not later than June 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the results of such review.

Report on emergency and trauma care for civilians at military treatment facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 741) that would require the Director of the Defense Health Agency to provide a report on emergency and trauma care for civilians at military treatment facilities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than June 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the efforts of the Director of the Defense Health Agency to address the issues identified in the Government Accountability Office report published on July 7, 2022, titled "Defense Health Care: Actions Needed to Improve Billing and Collection of Debt for Civilian Emergency Care" (GAO-22-104770), including such issues related to inconsistent use of financial relief for civilian emergency patients and the lack of guidance to ensure accurate accounting of billing and collections efforts.

Study and report on mental health care for pilots and aviators

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 744) that would direct the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct a study on the barriers to mental health care for military pilots, aviators, and military air traffic controllers.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Study on tools to diagnose traumatic brain injury in members of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 745) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study of commercial diagnostic tools that screen for traumatic brain injury for potential use by forward-deployed units and in combat zones.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that traumatic brain injury diagnosis and treatment is addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Study on use of routine neuroimaging modalities in diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of brain injury due to blast pressure exposure during combat and training

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 746) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on the feasibility and effectiveness of routine neuroimaging modalities for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of brain injury among members of the Armed Forces due to one or more blast pressure exposures during combat and training.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that, pursuant to a Secretary of Defense memorandum dated August 8, 2024, titled "Department of Defense Requirements for Managing Brain Health Risks from Blast Overpressure," the Department of Defense is already taking steps to mitigate blast exposure during combat and training.

Clarification of responsibilities regarding the integrated disability evaluation system

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 747) that would amend section 1073c of title 10, United States Code, to enhance the operational and administrative control of servicemembers who are being considered by a medical evaluation board or are otherwise subject to the integrated disability evaluation system.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Study on accessibility of mental health care providers and services for active duty members of the Armed Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 748) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study to determine whether and to what extent Active Duty servicemembers have adequate access to mental health care providers and services.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than August 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on whether and to what extent members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty have adequate access to mental health care providers and services.

Requirement to maintain prescription drop boxes at military installations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 749) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that each military installation under the jurisdiction of the Secretary has one or more prescription drop boxes to facilitate the safe disposal of unused prescription drugs—including opioids.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Department of Defense has an existing program that includes drug take-back drop boxes and mail-back envelopes at all military treatment facilities. This program meets the regulatory requirements of the Drug Enforcement Agency and provides an environmentally safe method for disposal of unused and expired medications—including opioids.

Withholding of funds for failure to submit reports on health conditions of members of the Armed Forces on active duty developed after administration of COVID-19 vaccine

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 750) that would amend section 725(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to reduce funds appropriated for the Office of the Secretary of Defense in the event that the Secretary fails to provide the report, prior to the applicable deadline, on health conditions of Active-Duty servicemembers developed after receiving the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine—as required by that provision.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the required study is ongoing and that the initial report is expected to be submitted in a timely manner.

Health care strategy for members who perform duty in a cold weather location

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 751) that would direct the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs to convene a working group of subject matter experts from the extramural community and military health system to develop a strategy and medical research and development requirements to deliver pre-hospital, life-saving interventions for servicemembers who perform duty in cold weather locations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Study on increased telehealth services of the Defense Health Agency

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 752) that would require the Director of the Defense Health Agency to provide a report on a study to increase TRICARE beneficiaries' access to telehealth services.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that, elsewhere in this bill, we authorize the Secretary of Defense to prescribe regulations to allow mental health providers who provide care under the TRICARE program to provide tele-mental health care services to members of the Armed Forces and their dependents without regard to the location of the provider or the patient.

Annual report on implementation of naloxone distribution

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 753) that would amend section 706 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to require the

Secretary of Defense to provide an annual report on the implementation and effectiveness of naloxone distribution to members of the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that section 706 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) requires the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than January 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the implementation of regulations regarding naloxone and fentanyl on military installations.

Funding for Defense Health programs for education and training

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 754) that would authorize an increase in appropriations, by \$25 million, for Defense Health Program education and training—offset by a corresponding reduction in Base Operations/Communications funding.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Referral of a member of the Armed Forces to a TRICARE provider for urgent behavioral health services

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1834) that would require the Secretary of Defense to refer certain beneficiaries to a TRICARE provider in the event that the Secretary cannot provide urgent behavioral health services in a military treatment facility during the three-day period after the services are requested.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Pilot program for hiring health care professionals

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1836) that would establish a pilot program at three military treatment facilities to hire health care professionals under the provisions of title 38, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that Department of Defense authority to exercise authorities available to the Department of Veterans Affairs under chapter 74 of title 38, United States Code, for purposes of the recruitment, employment, and retention of civilian health care professionals, is extended elsewhere in this Act.

Expansion of eligibility for hearing aids to include children of retired members of the uniformed services enrolled in family coverage under TRICARE Select

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 704) that would amend section 1077 of title 10, United States Code, to expand eligibility for hearing aids to include children of retirees enrolled in family coverage under TRICARE Select.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Assessment on options for inclusion of assisted reproductive technology as services covered under the TRICARE program for members of the Armed Forces and dependents

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 707) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct an assessment of options for establishing within the military healthcare system a benefit

program for in vitro fertilization and associated services for Active-Duty members of the Armed Forces and their dependents.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Restriction on performance of sex change surgeries

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 708) that would amend chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, to prohibit the use of funds available to the Department of Defense and any Department of Defense facility to perform or facilitate sex change surgeries.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Establishment of public user satisfaction targets related to electronic health record of Defense Health Agency

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 725) that would require the Director of the Defense Health Agency to establish: (1) Public user satisfaction targets for the electronic health records of the Defense Health Agency (DHA), and (2) Continuous customer feedback mechanisms to better understand issues relating to electronic health records of DHA.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Pregnancy prevention assistance at military medical treatment facilities for sexual assault survivors

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 732) that would amend chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to promptly furnish to sexual assault victims at each military medical treatment facility information about emergency contraceptives approved by the Food and Drug Administration as well as additional information about contraception and the rights of sexual assault survivor confidentiality.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than April 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the resources, information, and counseling support provided to sexual assault victims at military medical treatment facilities.

Education on family planning for members of the Armed Forces

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 733) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a uniform standard curriculum for education programs on family planning for all members of the Armed Forces.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Inclusion of comprehensive contraceptive counseling in health assessment forms

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 734) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to revise the periodic health assessment and pre-deployment health assessment forms of the Department of Defense to include an opt-in for members of the Armed Forces to receive comprehensive contraceptive counseling.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Infectious disease wastewater surveillance system of Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 746) that would require the development and implementation of an infectious disease wastewater surveillance system of the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

Report on plan for testing for helicobacter pylori for certain members of the Armed Forces

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 748) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on a plan, cost estimate, and feasibility study for testing for helicobacter pylori among certain members of the Armed Forces.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Report on biologic vascular repair

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5742) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the status of developing and integrating innovative biological vascular repair solutions as standard protocol in military trauma care.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that the House report accompanying H.R. 8070 (H. Rept. 118-529) of the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 directed the Secretary of Defense to submit a briefing, not later than January 31, 2025, to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives on the status of integrating biologic vascular repair solutions as standard protocol in military trauma care—including field-testing and assessment of long-term benefits. We direct the Secretary to provide this briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Study on effectiveness of hearing loss prevention programs

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5743) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on the effectiveness of hearing loss prevention programs of the Department of Defense in reducing hearing loss and tinnitus prevalence among members of the Armed Forces and veterans.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Review on use of monoclonal antibodies for the prevention, treatment, or mitigation of symptoms related to mild cognitive impairment or Alzheimer's disease

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5744) that would require the Secretary of Defense to review the policy manual for the TRICARE program relating to the exclusion of the use of monoclonal antibodies for the prevention, treatment, or mitigation of symptoms related to mild cognitive impairment or Alzheimer's disease.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to conduct a review, not later than July 1, 2025, to determine whether reliable evidence establishes that monoclonal antibodies are proven safe and effective for the prevention, treatment, or mitigation of symptoms related to mild cognitive impairment or Alzheimer's disease. Further, we direct the Secretary to submit a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives that:

(1) Outlines the review process of the Department for including or excluding the use of monoclonal antibodies;

(2) Assesses whether the policy of the Department aligns with current science;

(3) Indicates whether the Military Health System has or is currently restricting access of beneficiaries under the TRICARE program to therapies for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease that are approved by the Food and Drug Administration; and

(4) Indicates whether there are any disparities in treatment for Alzheimer's disease under the TRICARE program in different care delivery settings.

TITLE VIII—ACQUISITION POLICY, ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT, AND RELATED MATTERS

SUBTITLE A—ACQUISITION POLICY AND MANAGEMENT

Sec. 801—Modifications to guidelines and collection method for acquisition of cost data

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 875) that would amend section 3227 of title 10, United States Code, to change the threshold on the requirement to collect cost data from acquisition programs greater than \$100.0 million to acquisition programs that exceed the major systems threshold defined in section 3041 of title 10, United States Code.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 802—Limitation on certain options for cost contracts

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 821) that would amend section 3322 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize only one low-rate initial production lot using fixed price-type options on cost-type contracts.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 803—Treatment of unilateral definitization of a contract as a final decision

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 822) that would amend section 3372(b) of title 10, United States Code, to treat the unilateral definitization of a contract by the Department of Defense as the final decision for the purposes of any future appeal by a contractor at the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals or the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 804—Middle tier of acquisition for rapid prototyping and rapid fielding

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 805) that would amend chapter 253 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to es-

tablish guidance for a middle tier of acquisition authority for rapid prototyping and rapid fielding and create an expedited process within the rapid prototyping pathway as long as operational capability is fielded within a 5-year period.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 805—Revision and codification of software acquisition pathways

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 833) that would require procurement programs for unmanned aircraft systems to use separate, parallel acquisition pathways for hardware and software, to the maximum extent possible.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 808).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would allow the Department of Defense to use the software acquisition pathway for nondevelopmental hardware which software is embedded in.

Sec. 806—Streamlining of Milestone A requirements

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 802) that would amend section 4251 of title 10, United States Code, to streamline the Milestone A approval process for a Major Defense Acquisition Program to enter the technology maturation and risk reduction phase.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 807—Streamlining of Milestone B requirements

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 801) that would modify section 4252 of title 10, United States Code, to streamline the Milestone B approval process for major defense acquisition programs by focusing decisions on risks in each program and reducing redundant and unnecessary documentation burdens on program managers.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 803).

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 808—Notice of contract cancellation or termination relating to remote or isolated installations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 803) that would require the Department of Defense to notify Congress when cancelling or terminating a contract, if it involves a reduction in employment of 100 contractor employees or 50 remote and isolated installation contractor employees.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 809—Cost growth reports for major acquisition programs that are highly sensitive classified programs

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 804) that would amend section 4201 of title 10, United States Code, to remove the exemption of special access programs from the definition of a major defense acquisition program and from the Nunn-McCurdy determination and analysis process.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would, for sensitive classified programs that would otherwise qualify as a major defense acquisition program under section 4201 of title 10, United

States Code, and which have started system development and demonstration, require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, to establish guidance requiring that the service acquisition executive submit to the congressional defense committees a cost growth report for such a program when the estimated unit cost for such program has increased by a percentage equal to or greater than the threshold limits found under section 4371 of title 10, United States Code. In addition, the agreement would require that, for programs that exceed the critical cost growth threshold in section 4371 of title 10, United States Code, the service acquisition executive follow procedures under sections 4376 and 4377 of title 10, United States Code.

SUBTITLE B—AMENDMENTS TO GENERAL CONTRACTING AUTHORITIES, PROCEDURES, AND LIMITATIONS

Sec. 811—Repeal of and modification to certain defense acquisition laws

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 880) that would make technical amendments to sections 3221, 3225, 3671, 4141, 4204, 4211, 4505, and 4816 of title 10, United States Code, by repealing outdated sections of code and make technical amendments to certain sections of multiple National Defense Authorization Acts.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would keep the repeal of outdated sections of code in this section and move the technical amendments of code to another section of this agreement.

Sec. 812—Modification to limitation on acquisition of excess supplies

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 878) that would amend section 3070 of title 10, United States Code, to change the limitation on the obligation against a stock fund that would likely result in on-hand inventory of supplies from 2 years of operating stocks to 5 years for supplies related to ship maintenance, repair, and overhaul.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 813—Modifications to Comptroller General assessment of acquisition programs

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 874) that would amend section 3072 of title 10, United States Code, to modify the Comptroller General of the United States annual assessment of Department of Defense acquisition programs, which is provided to the congressional defense committees, to expand the purview of programs and initiatives reviewed by the Comptroller General.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 814—Modifications to commercial product and commercial service determinations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 811) that would clarify that a contracting officer may presume that a prior commercial product determination shall serve as a determination for subsequent procurements of components or parts associated with such commercial products and services procured in support of such commercial product for components or parts thereof.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would extend a

determination of commerciality to items procured under subcontracts, provided that the Department of Defense contracting officer approves the determination, and extend a determination of commerciality to products that may have changed a part number, but provide substantially the same functionality.

Sec. 815—Application of recent price history to cost or pricing data requirements

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 812) that would require Department of Defense contracting officers to rely upon historical data of recent prices paid in determining whether the costs of a subcontract, a purchase order or a modification to a subcontract or purchase order are fair and reasonable under certain circumstances.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 816—Modifications to authority to carry out certain prototype projects using other transaction authority

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 801) that would amend section 4022 of title 10, United States Code, to designate the head of contracting activity as the approval authority for the use of other transaction authority (OTA) between \$100.0 million and \$500.0 million, and the service acquisition executive as the approval authority for OTAs in excess of \$500.0 million and extend the OTA pilot program for installation or facility prototyping to 2030.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would strike the extension of the OTA pilot program for installation or facility prototyping as this extension is dealt with in another section of this bill.

Sec. 817—Clarification of other transaction authority for follow on production

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 814) that would clarify that follow on production awards may be provided for in a transaction entered into under section 4022 of title 10, United States Code, for a prototype project.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 818—Clarification of other transaction authority for facility repair

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 815) that would modify limitations for usage of Other Transaction Authority to clarify that facility repair is not subject to the same limitation as military construction.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would extend the expiration date of the authority.

Sec. 819—Open interface standards for contracts of the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 879) that would require the Secretary of Defense to make publicly available the open interface standards for contracts awarded by the Secretary, unless the service acquisition executive with respect to a specific contract submits to the Secretary a request to not disclose such standards.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 820—Updates to earned value management system requirements

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 823) that would

amend section 827 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to update the appropriate policies for earned value management (EVM) to increase contract value thresholds associated with requiring EVM on cost or incentive contracts from \$20.0 million to \$50.0 million, and increase the contract value threshold for a contractor to use an EVM system from \$50.0 million to \$100.0 million.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 821—Inclusion of Japan and the Republic of Korea in contested logistics demonstration and prototyping program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 877) that would amend section 842(h)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) by adding Japan and the Republic of Korea to the contested logistics demonstration and prototyping program.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 822—Avoidance of use of lowest price technically acceptable source selection criteria for procurement of munitions response services

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 817) that would amend section 880(c)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2019 (Public Law 115232) to include “munitions response services” for avoidance of lowest price technically acceptable source selection.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 823—Use of fixed-price type contracts for certain shipbuilding programs

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 826) that would amend section 818 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (Public Law 109-364) to limit the number of ships that can be procured under fixed-price type options to no more than two if the contract includes detail design and construction for the lead ship.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 824—Extension of temporary authority to modify certain contracts and options based on the effects of inflation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 818) that would extend the temporary authority for modifying contracts for inflation until December 31, 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE C—PROVISIONS RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Sec. 831—Modification to the term of appointment of the President of the Defense Acquisition University

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 917) that would amend section 1746(e) of title 10, United States Code, to remove the term limit for the President of the Defense Acquisition University.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would create a

3 year term for the President of the Defense Acquisition University serving on January 1, 2025.

Sec. 832—Updated acquisition and sustainment training

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 831) that would require the Defense Acquisition University training curriculum for program executive officers, program managers, general officers, and flag officers to be periodically updated to include innovative best practices of the private sector and recently provided acquisition authorities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to develop field teams to train acquisition and sustainment personnel on rapid acquisition procedures in the course of executing defense acquisition programs.

Sec. 833—Extension of demonstration project relating to certain acquisition personnel management policies and procedures

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6101) that would amend section 1762(g) of title 10, United States Code, to extend the demonstration project on acquisition personnel management to 2031.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

We direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to enter into a contract with a federally funded research and development center to conduct an assessment of the Acquisition Demonstration program and to provide a report, not later than March 1, 2026, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the results of that assessment. The assessment should include the following:

- (1) A description of the workforce included in the project, including demographics, geographic distribution and job categorizations;
- (2) An explanation of the flexibilities used in the project to appoint individuals to the acquisition workforce and whether those appointments are based on competitive procedures and recognize veteran's preferences;
- (3) An explanation of the flexibilities used in the project to develop a performance appraisal system that recognizes performance and offers opportunities for improvement;
- (4) The steps taken to ensure that such a system is fair and transparent for all employees in the project;
- (5) How the project allows the organization to meet mission needs;
- (6) An analysis of how the flexibilities described in subparagraphs (2) and (3) above are used, and what barriers have been encountered that inhibit their use;
- (7) Whether there is a process for:
 - (a) ensuring ongoing performance feedback and dialogue among supervisors, managers, and employees throughout the performance appraisal period; and
 - (b) setting timetables for performance appraisals;
- (8) The project's impact on career progression;
- (9) The project's appropriateness or inappropriateness in light of the complexities of the workforce affected;
- (10) The adequacy of the training, policy guidelines, and other preparations afforded in connection with using the project;
- (11) Whether there is a process for ensuring employee involvement in the development and improvement of the project;
- (12) Cost of conversion of employees out of the personnel system, including detailing the

difference in employee pay, into a civilian personnel system pursuant to section 1762(h) of title 10, United States Code;

(13) Recommendations for improvements to address any findings within the assessment; and,

(14) The consistency of organizational business rules for the implementation of the demonstration project across the Department of Defense.

Sec. 834—Performance incentives related to commercial product and commercial service determinations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 832) that would direct the Secretary of Defense to establish and maintain performance incentives for contract officers and program managers for requesting support from Defense Contract Management Agency, Defense Contract Audit Agency, and other Department of Defense experts in making commercial product or commercial service determinations prior to contract solicitation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would clarify that under the commercial item preference in section 3453 of title 10, United States Code, the Department of Defense shall establish performance incentives for appropriate personnel to adhere to the commercial item preference, where possible.

Sec. 835—Modification to extramural acquisition innovation and research activities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 872) that would amend section 4142 of title 10, United States Code, to eliminate the position of the director for extramural acquisition innovation and research activities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 836—Prohibition on the transfer of certain data on employees of the Department of Defense to third parties

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 811) that would amend section 4662 of title 10, United States Code, to tighten the restrictions on a defense contractor's ability to sell or transfer certain data on Department of Defense employees to third parties by narrowing the Secretary of Defense's authority to waive the general restriction. Under this amendment, the Secretary could waive the general prohibition only on a case-by-case basis as necessary in the interest of national defense, while ensuring such waiver poses minimal privacy risk to the employee.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would clarify that section 4662 of title 10, United States Code, does not apply when the transfer of such data would otherwise be authorized under another provision of law. We note that the public availability of the report required by this provision is already governed by the requirements of section 122a of title 10, United States Code.

Sec. 837—Modifications to contractor employee protections from reprisal for disclosure of certain information

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 873) that would amend section 4701 of title 10, United States Code, to enhance protections for whistleblowers by ensuring that they are fully informed of the final disposition of their reprisal allegation, and what actions, if any, have been ordered to make them whole.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 838—Detail authority for Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to provide technology transition support

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 219) that would authorize the Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to provide qualified personnel to a military department to support transition of DARPA-developed technology to such military department, if requested by the Principal Technology Transition Advisor of that military department.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would limit such detail assignments to 1 year, with the option to extend for an additional 6 months.

Sec. 839—Employment transparency regarding individuals who perform work in, for, or are subject to the laws or control of the People's Republic of China

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 853) that would amend section 855 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) to add a new disclosure requirement for reporting any software vulnerability to the U.S. affiliate at the same time.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 840—Designation of program executive office for acquisition of open-source intelligence tools for Army

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 809) that would identify responsibilities for a Program Executive Office (PEO) for acquisition of open-source intelligence tools for the U.S. Army, should the Secretary of the Army designate an existing PEO to be responsible for open-source intelligence tools.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE D—PROVISIONS RELATING TO SUPPLY CHAINS AND DOMESTIC SOURCING

Sec. 841—Enhancing requirements for information relating to supply chain risk

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 841) that would allow the Secretary of Defense to delegate supply chain risk management authority to defense agency directors, remove the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment and Chief Information Officer joint recommendation requirement, the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security risk assessment requirement, and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment concurrence requirement for supply chain risk management acquisition decisions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 842—Domestic production of stainless steel flatware and dinnerware

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 821) that would add domestically produced stainless steel flatware to the requirement to buy certain articles from American sources.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 843).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 843—Clarification of exception to Berry Amendment requirements for procurement of vessels in foreign waters

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1025) that would amend section 4862 of title 10, United States Code, to explicitly permit the acquisition of non-domestic items—not only by vessels in foreign waters, but also by other Department of Defense activities that are making purchases on behalf of vessels operating in foreign waters.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 844—Technical edits to sourcing requirements for strategic materials and sensitive materials

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 879) that would amend sections 4863 and 4872(c)(2) of title 10, United States Code, to clarify waiver authorities regarding the sourcing requirements for strategic and sensitive materials and better align these sections of code.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 845—Amendment to requirement to buy strategic materials critical to national security from American sources

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 842) that would amend the requirement to buy strategic materials critical to national security from American sources by inserting “qualifying” and defining a qualifying foreign government as the government of a country with which the United States has in effect a reciprocal defense procurement Memorandum of Understanding.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would qualify the term qualifying foreign government.

Sec. 846—Modification to miscellaneous limitations on the procurement of goods other than United States goods

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 843) that would set requirements for domestic medium-speed marine diesel engine procurement.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 847—Inclusion of recycled and reused minerals and metals in preference for sourcing of strategic and critical materials

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 845) that would direct the Department of Defense to source materials derived from recycled and reused minerals and metals within the National Technology and Industrial Base.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 844).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 848—Domestic nonavailability determinations list

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 841) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to disclose publicly all domestic nonavailability determinations (DNADs) on an annual basis, and would establish a process for the periodic reevaluation of DNADs.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require

the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to develop and maintain a list of all DNADs, provide the list to Congress annually, and develop a plan for sharing the list with industry.

Sec. 849—Supply chain illumination incentives

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 847) that would direct the Secretary of Defense to develop and implement incentives to encourage contractors of the Department of Defense to implement and use policies, procedures, and tools that allow assessment and monitoring of supply chains for vulnerabilities, security, and noncompliance risks.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 850—Report and updated guidance on continued risk management for pharmaceutical supply chains of Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 844) that would amend section 3241 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Department of Defense to include temperature monitoring as a factor in its pharmaceutical supply chain.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 848) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to provide a report on existing information streams related to key starting materials for pharmaceuticals that the Department of Defense relies on—including any limitations on the ability of the Secretary of Defense to obtain, analyze or monitor such pharmaceutical supply chains.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment to include data on temperature monitoring across the pharmaceutical supply chain as an element of the required report.

SUBTITLE E—PROHIBITIONS AND LIMITATIONS ON PROCUREMENT

Sec. 851—Prohibition on contracting with covered entities that contract with lobbyists for Chinese military companies

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 802 and sec. 881) that would prohibit the Department of Defense from contracting with companies that retain lobbying firms that also lobby for Chinese military companies as defined by the Department of Defense’s 1260H list, and require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report containing the results of a study on the national security risks posed by consulting firms who simultaneously contract with the Federal Government and the Chinese government or its proxies or affiliates.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision which would prohibit the Department of Defense from contracting with companies that retain lobbying firms that also knowingly lobby for Chinese military companies as defined by the Department of Defense’s 1260H list.

We direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to the congressional defense committees, not later than one year after the enactment of this Act, on the national security risks posed by consulting firms who simultaneously contract with the Department of Defense and the Chinese government or its proxies or affiliates. This report shall:

(1) Assess the extent to which the Department of Defense collects information on contracts performed on behalf of the Chinese government or its proxies or affiliates by consulting firms that hold or have held contracts with the Department of Defense, and

whether such information includes specific projects and deliverables of such contracts;

(2) Evaluate the extent to which the Department of Defense has assessed the risks posed by American consulting firms’ work for the Chinese government and its proxies or affiliates, including an assessment of risk of deliberate or inadvertent sharing of confidential or proprietary information that may be used for Chinese economic or military advantage;

(3) Identify relevant contract clauses, procedures, and information used by the Department of Defense to identify, evaluate, and resolve organizational conflicts of interest when awarding consulting contracts;

(4) Identify challenges faced by the Department of Defense to identify, evaluate, and resolve organizational conflicts of interest, including determining whether the offeror or potential contractor also performs work for China; and

(5) Identify steps the Department of Defense takes to monitor contractor compliance with any contract clauses, terms or conditions intended to resolve identified conflicts of interest.

Sec. 852—Notification of changes to certain transportation contracts

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 806) that would prohibit the Department of Defense from waiving safety and security requirements for truck drivers and motor carriers that transport munitions for the Department.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees prior to implementing any change in safety and security requirements for munitions transportation contracts.

Sec. 853—Prohibition on procurement of covered semiconductor products and services from companies providing covered semiconductor products and services to Huawei

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 807) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from entering into or renewing a contract for the procurement of any covered semiconductor products and services for the Department of Defense with any entity that provides covered semiconductor products and services to Huawei.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 854—Prohibition on contracts for online tutoring services

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 809C and sec. 1047) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from entering into a contract for online tutoring services which could result in personal data of citizens of the United States being transferred to the control of the People’s Republic of China.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 886).

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 855—Limitation on availability of funds for covered contractors engaged in an anti-Israel boycott

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 645) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from knowingly permitting the sale of goods from any entities that has engaged or engages in a boycott of Israel.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from knowingly

permitting the sale of goods from any entities that has engaged or engages in a boycott of Israel and has a total volume of sales exceeding \$10 million.

Sec. 856—Procurement of cleaning products

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 804) that would require the Department of Defense to procure cleaning products, as identified by the Safer Choice program, to the maximum extent practicable.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 857—Plan for production of covered munitions for procurement by the Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 881) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program for the licensed production by commercial companies of munitions, munitions test platforms, and mission systems for munitions.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 858—Procurement of covered hearing protection devices

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 854) that would allow the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the head of the Hearing Center of Excellence, to enter into one or more contracts to procure covered hearing protection devices for all members of the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

SUBTITLE F—INDUSTRIAL BASE MATTERS

Sec. 861—Codification and modification of pilot program to accelerate the procurement and fielding of innovative technologies

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 141) that would amend section 834 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) to permit the issuance of not more than two solicitations for proposals with no restrictions on type of business.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 862—Program for distribution support and services for contractors

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 853) that would authorize a program that allows the Secretary of Defense to provide storage and distribution services for contractors of the Department of Defense for 15 years.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 876).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 863—Extension of the pilot program for streamlining awards for innovative technology projects

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 825) that would amend section 873 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 11492) to extend the pilot program for streamlining awards to small businesses and nontraditional defense contractors for innovative technology projects to 2029.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 864—Use of capability-based analysis of price of goods or services offered by non-traditional defense contractors

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 824) that would create a pilot program to allow Department of Defense contracting officers to consider a wider range of analyses in their price reasonableness determinations for products and services offered by small businesses and non-traditional defense contractors.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 865—Qualification of industrial capabilities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 842) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, to establish a pilot program to expedite the qualification of key technologies critical to weapons programs, such as energetics and solid rocket motors and direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to provide a briefing on the implementation of this pilot program and annual reports detailing the streamlined qualification process and programs that are utilizing this process.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments and the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency, to establish a process to rapidly qualify industrial capabilities for combat deployment.

Sec. 866—Solid rocket motor industrial base

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 846) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, acting through the Director of the Joint Production Accelerator Cell and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy, to develop a roadmap for the desired state of the solid rocket motor industrial base to support existing and planned munitions programs.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, acting through the Director of the Joint Production Accelerator Cell and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy, to submit to the congressional defense committees a strategy for ensuring the United States defense industrial base can meet solid rocket motor (SRM) requirements for current and future Service programs of record. It would also require the Secretary of Defense to contract with a federally funded research and development center to conduct a review of the SRM industrial base.

Sec. 867—Promulgate guidance relating to certain Department of Defense contracts

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 873) that would require the Secretary of Defense to issue guidance on the governance and oversight of the contracts of the Department of Defense that support or enable sensitive activities not later than January 31, 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE G—SMALL BUSINESS MATTERS

Sec. 871—Pilot program for the participation of military research and educational institutions in the STTR program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 862) that would amend the definition of research institution in section 9(e)(8) of the Small Business Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 863).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 872—Department of Defense pilot program for preliminary calculation estimates for certain programs

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 864) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program for calculating required budget expenditures for certain programs of the Department of Defense that only receive their funding allocations after a final appropriations bill is enacted.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 873—Boots to Business Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 869) that would establish the “Boots to Business Program” to provide entrepreneurship training to covered individuals.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 874—Establishment of pilot program for access to shared classified commercial infrastructure

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 865) that would require the Secretary of Defense to expand existing pilot programs to not fewer than six locations at which small business concerns, contractors of the Department of Defense, and institutions of higher education may access shared commercial classified infrastructure.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1547).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 875—Accessibility and clarity in covered notices for small business concerns

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 864) that would require the Department of Defense write contract solicitations in plain language.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 876—Small Business Bill of Rights

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 862) that would require the Secretary of Defense, through the Small Business Integration Working Group, to develop and adopt a Small Business Bill of Rights for the Department of Defense to ensure small business customer service issues and conflicts are resolved expeditiously.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

SUBTITLE H—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 881—Clarification of waiver authority for organizational and consultant conflicts of interest

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 871) that would amend the Federal Acquisition Regulation to clarify that a waiver granted for an organizational conflict of interest must include written justification and cannot be delegated below the level of the deputy agency head.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the provision.

Sec. 882—Reverse engineering or re-engineering for production of items

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 822) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments and the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency, to carry out a pilot program to assess the feasibility and advisability of producing parts through reverse engineering or re-engineering.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 883—Procurement of Department of Defense batteries

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 855) that would require the Department of Defense to procure lithium-ion batteries produced in the United States or in allied nations beginning in 2026.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 888).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Department of Defense to coordinate a Department-wide approach to establish a battery strategy to further leverage the advancements of domestic and allied commercial industry.

Sec. 884—Advisory panel on the requirements process of the Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 806) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish an advisory panel to provide recommendations on the effectiveness of the Department of Defense requirements process and develop options for reform.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 885—Proposal for payment of costs for certain Government Accountability Office bid protests

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 872) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a pilot program to determine the effectiveness of requiring a contractor to reimburse the Department of Defense for costs incurred in processing covered protests.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would increase the threshold for allowable Department of Defense

(DOD) protests from \$25 million to \$35 million and require the Government Accountability Office and DOD to develop enhanced plea standards for DOD contracts, a standard cost to the government of a protest based on contract size, and benchmark foregone profit rates of the awarded contractor.

Sec. 886—Briefings, certification, and limitation on availability of funds related to fuel services financial management contracts

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 805) that would prohibit the Department of Defense from entering into a contract with a fuel service provider to oversee the financial management of the Department of Defense's fuel network.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 887—Implementation of Comptroller General recommendations relating to certain spare parts for F-35 aircraft

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 878) that would require the Secretary of Defense to take such actions as may be necessary to implement the recommendations of the Comptroller General of the United States contained in the report entitled, "F-35 Program: DOD Needs Better Accountability for Global Spare Parts and Reporting of Losses Worth Millions". The provision would require a report from the Secretary on the progress of the implementation no later than one year after enactment of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, amended to require that the implementation report from the Secretary be submitted no later than December 31, 2025.

Sec. 888—Tracking awards made through other transaction authority

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 861) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to establish a pilot program that would enable the Department of Defense to track the number and funding amounts of awards to small businesses and non-traditional defense contractors through the use of other transaction authorities, including those carried out through consortia.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would clarify that the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment shall track the number and funding amounts of awards to small businesses and non-traditional defense contractors through the use of other transaction authorities going forwards, instead of a pilot program.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Updated guidance on planning for global demand

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 808) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to ensure that the program guidance for major defense acquisition programs are revised to integrate planning for global demand under foreign military sales, direct commercial sales, and other relevant transfer authorities to capture and plan for international demand.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that section 4211 of title 10, United States Code, requires program acquisition strategies to account for international involvement, including foreign military sales and cooperative opportunities.

Budget recommendations for multiyear procurement of priority items

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 809A) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Comptroller General of the United States to include an annex with recommendations on multi-year procurement of priority items along with the budget materials submitted to Congress in support of the annual budget request of the President.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibition on certain Chinese e-commerce purchases

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 809B) that would prohibit the Department of

Defense from obligating or expending funds to acquire any good from Temu or Shein or through a service operated by either such entity.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Review panel on fair and reasonable pricing and contract oversight

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 809D) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a review panel on fair and reasonable pricing and contract oversight of sole-source contracts for munitions and weapons systems contracts, including related contracts for services and spare parts.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We continue to have concerns that the Department is not adequately able to reach fair and reasonable pricing with sole source suppliers. We recognize the Department provided comprehensive findings on cost or pricing data oversight, reviews, audits, and inspections conducted by the Inspector General consistent with the direction from the Joint Explanatory Statement for House-passed section 895 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024. We also recognize the study provided by the Director of Defense Pricing, Contracting and Acquisition Policy on the Truth in Negotiations Act as part of the Defense Contract Finance Study. While the findings provide important insights, we believe there is room for further improvement to the Department's contract negotiation practices. In particular, we believe that cost or pricing data challenges associated with sole source suppliers often result from inadequate data rights analysis, ordering, inspection, and enforcement. Moreover, barriers to competition are created by difficult to navigate qualification and test procedures and government-unique flow-down clauses. Therefore, we direct the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees, not later than March 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of creating a panel composed of both government officials and industry representatives that would comprehensively evaluate the challenges to, and potential solutions for, ensuring fair and reasonable prices are received by the Department of Defense.

Elimination of late cost and pricing data submission defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 813) that would require contractors to provide all cost and pricing data relevant to an award prior to contract agreement.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Special operations forces procurement authority

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 816) that would provide U.S. Special Operations Forces with special procurement authority, allowing certain procurements to be treated as being conducted outside the United States and adjusting monetary thresholds for such procurements.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict and the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, not later than March 1, 2025, to jointly provide the congressional defense committees a briefing on any

recommended changes to procurement authorities necessary to support activities by special operations forces, to include those that are conducted outside of contingency operations declared by the Secretary of Defense.

Limitation on availability of funds for chiller class projects of the Department of the Air Force

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 819) that would prohibit noncompetitive procurement of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning chillers at installations of the Air Force until the Secretary of Defense submits a certification to congressional defense committees.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Air Force, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the business case for use of a non-competitive justification and approval process for chiller class projects within the Department of the Air Force. The briefing should include, at a minimum, a discussion of how the Air Force is measuring the impacts of standardization, to include life-cycle costs, cost-avoidance if applicable, and sustainment timelines at the installations at which this process has been used.

Regulations applicable to combat footwear of members of all branches of the armed forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 820) that would require the Secretary of Defense to issue regulations prohibiting any member of the Armed Forces from wearing optional combat boots as part of a required uniform unless the optional combat boots are entirely manufactured in the United States and are manufactured from materials only sourced from the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Senate report accompanying S.4638 (S. Rept. 118-188) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 included a requirement for the Secretaries of the military departments to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees, not later than March 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of changing regulations to ensure that boots worn by servicemembers are entirely manufactured in the United States.

Pilot program for program management offices to compete in rehabilitating at-risk programs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 834) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to establish a pilot program to test the feasibility and reliability of using two program management offices to compete in managing programs for rapid fielding.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of establishing a process for acquisition programs to have competing Department of Defense program managers to promote competition.

Report relating to certain domestic nonavailability determinations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 846) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the procurement of fire-resistant fiber blend fabric and a report on the process for making, reviewing, and terminating or modifying domestic nonavailability determinations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the Senate report accompanying the Senate committee-reported bill directs the Secretaries of the military departments to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives on "Domestic Nonavailability Determinations." Furthermore, we direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, to include the following additional components in that briefing not later than April 1, 2025:

(1) Information on the availability of domestic sources for fire-resistant fiber blend fabric for the production of uniforms;

(2) A description of any contract the Secretary or a Secretary of a military department has entered into for the procurement of fire-resistant fiber blend fabric from a domestic source in the three-year period preceding the date of the briefing, including any contracts with specifications for a specific blend;

(3) A comparison of fire-resistant fiber blends with and without the inclusion of fire-resistant rayon;

(4) The process of making a domestic nonavailability determination (DNAD) pursuant to section 4862

(c) of title 10, United States Code, including the average length of time to make such determination and if the Department factors in a single domestic source as a justification to provide a DNAD;

(5) The process of reviewing such determinations, including factors that trigger the initiation of a review, and the timelines associated with each such review; and

(6) The process by which Secretary determines whether to terminate or modify such determination.

Study on use of off-the-shelf information technology products from foreign adversary countries

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 848) that would require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a study on the use by the Department of Defense of off-the-shelf information technology products that were manufactured, produced, or assembled by a covered company and provide a report on the findings of the study.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Entrepreneurial Innovation Project designations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 851) that would amend chapter 303 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Armed Forces to identify promising research programs of the Small Business Innovation Research Program or Small Business Technology Transfer Program for inclusion in the future budgets and plans of the Department of Defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Modification to procurement requirements relating to rare earth elements and strategic and critical materials

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 852) that would amend section 857 of the

James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) to include a supply chain disclosure requirement for large-capacity batteries.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We remain concerned about the Department of Defense and the defense industrial base's continued reliance on non-allied manufacturers for their battery requirements. While there have been ongoing efforts to create alternative sources, to include Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment and Defense Production Act of 1950 (Public Law 81-774) investments, the Department has been hamstrung by bureaucratic processes and inconsistent funding. The recent imposition of Chinese sanctions on United States defense companies may further limit access to necessary materials. We urge the Department to continue to prioritize investment and standardization in battery supply chains.

Impact assessment of Manufacturing Innovation Institutes on the defense industrial base

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 856) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit an assessment of the impact of continued investment in Department of Defense sponsored manufacturing innovation institutes on the defense industrial base in the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on competition and equipment repair

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 857) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on competition and equipment repair.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Department of Defense contracting goals for small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 861) that would set Department of Defense goals for contracting to veteran owned small businesses.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Training on increasing Federal contract awards to small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 863) that would require the Department of Defense to engage the Small Business Administration to conduct training for procurement personnel on how to increase awards made to service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Memorandum of understanding relating to Department of Defense critical technology area opportunities for small business concerns

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 866) that would require the Secretary of Defense and Administrator of the Small Business Administration to increase information sharing on contract opportunities available for small business relating to Department of Defense critical technology areas.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

COLLABORATE Memorandum of Understanding Report

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 867) that would require the Assistant Administrator for the Office of Entrepreneurial Development of the Small Business Administration and the Director of Small Business Programs of the Department of Defense to submit a report on the memorandum of understanding between the Small Business Administration and the Department of Defense entered into on December 2, 2022.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Modification to initiatives to support small businesses in the national technology and industrial base

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 868) that would modify section 861 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) by requiring the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy to provide a report on the activities undertaken by the National Technology and Industrial Base and require a report on the overall efficacy of the small business strategy.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on bundled contracts of the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 869A) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the effects of awarding bundled contracts on the Department of Defense and small business concerns and the potential effects of reducing the number of bundled contracts awarded.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than April 1, 2025, on the effects of awarding bundled contracts (as defined in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632)) on the Defense Logistics Agency and small businesses and the potential effects of reducing the number of bundled contracts awarded.

Framework for the efficient and secure procurement of food service products

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 874) that would require a framework from the Department of Defense to improve the security of supply chains for food service products.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of requiring all disposable food service products procured for use by the Department of Defense to be compostable and produced domestically. The briefing should include a potential timeline required to implement this requirement, any existing laws and regulations establishing domestic acquisition preferences or requirements that may be affected by the requirement, a cost analysis of implementing the requirement, and any other information the Secretary deems relevant.

Plan for identifying and replacing syringes of concern

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 875) that would require the Department of

Defense, in coordination with the Defense Logistics Agency and Defense Health Agency, to develop and implement a plan to review the Department's inventory and supply chain for medical syringes that have been subject to a Food and Drug Administration Import Alert or meet the conditions of a Food and Drug Administration Safety Communication.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on domestic sites for rare earth element mining

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 876) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense to provide a report containing a list of domestic sites for rare earth element mining.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than March 1, 2026, in consultation with the Secretary of Interior, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the extent to which the two departments confer with each other on expertise related to domestic sites for rare earth mining. The briefing shall include, but not be limited to, the following focus areas regarding rare earth elements: (1) Existing domestic sites that have received Federal investment and their status of development; (2) Areas that may have a high potential for containing deposits and where new or additional mining operations could be established or are suitable; and (3) Existing limitations for expanding and funding domestic sites for rare earth element mining.

Prohibition on entering into contracts with a person engaged in a boycott of the State of Israel

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 877) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from entering into a contract with a person if such person is engaged in an activity that is politically motivated and is intended to penalize or otherwise limit significant commercial relations specifically with Israel or persons doing business in Israel or in Israeli-controlled territories.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Assessment of compliance with Global Household Goods Contract requirements

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 880) that would require the Commander, United States Transportation Command to conduct an assessment of the performance of contractors under the Global Household Goods Contract (GHC) in meeting the applicable requirements for capacity and quality in such contract during the period beginning on May 1, 2025, and ending on August 31, 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Commander, United States Transportation Command to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than November 1, 2025, assessing the performance of the Global Household Goods Contract in meeting the following:

(1) Requirements for capacity and quality in such contract during the period beginning on May 15, 2025 and ending on September 30, 2025;

(2) Servicemember feedback since the beginning of GHC implementation;

(3) An updated progression schedule for continued phase-in of domestic and international household goods shipments at future locations; and

(4) An update on the duration, retention, and sunset of existing Tender of Service program services.

Prohibition on funding for covered entities and nonprofit organizations or other entities that engage in covered behavior

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 882) that would prohibit the use of funds for covered entities and nonprofit organizations that engage in covered behavior.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibitions relating to covered distributed ledger technology and blockchain equipment or services

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 883) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense to enter into, extend or renew a contract or other agreement for, any equipment, system, or service that uses covered distributed ledger technology and blockchain equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of such equipment, system, or service; or critical technology as part of such equipment, system, or service.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on contract goal for the AbilityOne program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 884) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the contract goal for the AbilityOne program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the value of the AbilityOne program as one of the largest sources of employment in the United States for people who are blind or have significant disabilities. In section 898 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328), we directed the Secretary of Defense to establish the "Panel on Department of Defense and AbilityOne Contracting Oversight, Accountability and Integrity" of senior level representatives from Department of Defense agencies, the U.S. AbilityOne Commission, and other Federal agencies and organizations. We note that the existing 0.5 percent AbilityOne contracting goal for the Department of Defense has remained unchanged since the recommendations of this panel. We recognize that the AbilityOne Commission and the Secretary of Defense are reviewing proposals to increase the threshold.

Report on small purchases of critical minerals and magnets

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 885) that would require the Director of the Defense Contract Management Agency to provide a report detailing the dollar amount of covered materials manufactured in the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation and acquired by the Department of Defense through contracts valued at or below the simplified acquisition threshold during the period beginning on January 1, 2020.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2025, on

the amount of strategic materials that have been manufactured in China and Russia and acquired by the Department of Defense since January 1, 2020. For the purposes of the report, strategic materials include: samarium-cobalt magnets, neodymium-iron-boron magnets, tungsten metal powder, tungsten heavy alloy, tantalum metals and alloys, aluminum-nickel-cobalt magnets, and any metals listed in section 4863(1) of title 10, United States Code. The report shall include recommendations for the Department of Defense to improve its ability to track the manufacturing of such strategic materials.

Limitation on availability of funds for installation of photovoltaic modules

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 886) that would prohibit the use of funds for the Department of Defense from being used for a contract for the installation of photovoltaic modules at any facility or real property of the Department of Defense unless the contract contains a provision prohibiting the procurement of such photovoltaic modules from a foreign entity of concern.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the existing requirements for the purchase of domestically sourced items via sections 4862, 4863, and 4864 of title 10, United States Code.

Study and report on shipping containers and specialty shipping containers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 887) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of Transportation, to provide a report that contains the results of a study on shipping containers and specialty shipping containers.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Modification to submission of certified cost or pricing data

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 807) that would amend section 3705 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Department of Defense to provide a notification if contractors have multiple instances of denying the Department cost or pricing data when requested in the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System used by contracting officers.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Ensuring competition in artificial intelligence procurement

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 810) that would specify certain policies related to the use and protection of training data in artificial intelligence procurements to protect government furnished training data.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that elements of this provision are addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Modifications to commercial product and commercial service determinations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 827) that would amend sections 3456 and 3703 of title 10, United States Code, to: (1) Require Department of Defense (DOD) contracting officers to submit a written memorandum to a contractor summarizing the determination of the commerciality of a product or service

within 30 days of the determination being made, rather than 30 days after contract award; (2) Extend a determination of commerciality to items procured under subcontracts, provided that the DOD contracting officer approves the determination; and (3) Extend a determination of commerciality to products that may have changed a part number, but provide substantially the same functionality.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Requirement for contractors to provide reasonable access to repair materials

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 828) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from entering into a contract for the procurement of a good or service unless the contractor agrees to provide fair and reasonable access to all repair materials, including parts, tools, and information.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Process for consulting on national security import reviews

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 845) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a process for investigating and reporting on the national security implications of imports when asked to consult by another Federal agency and require the Secretary to submit an annual report regarding the national security risks posed by the reviewed imports.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 (Public Law 87-794) requires the Department of Commerce to seek interagency input when conducting import reviews. We note that under this process, the Department of Defense should provide input on any national security concerns regarding industries of importance to the Department of Defense and the defense industrial base.

Pharmaceutical supplier compliance with data submission requirements

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 847) that would direct the Director of the Defense Logistics Agency to require, to the extent feasible, every contractor supplying pharmaceuticals to the Department of Defense to submit the amount of each listed drug manufactured, prepared, propagated, compounded, or processed for commercial distribution to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), as required by section 510(j)(3) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Public Law 117-9), as added by section 3112(e) of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (Public Law 116-136).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We expect pharmaceutical providers to ensure their compliance with this requirement from the FDA, and encourage the Department of Defense to ensure their contractors' compliance with this reporting.

Report on impact of mergers and acquisitions on the defense industrial base

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 849) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy to submit a report to the congressional defense committees on the policies and procedures of the Department of

Defense relating to mergers and acquisitions and how these impact the defense industrial base.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that a similar reporting requirement was included in the House Report 118-529.

Transparency in acquisition waivers issued by the Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 851) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy to publish all non-sensitive information regarding acquisition waivers granted by the Department of Defense on a publicly accessible website and provide an annual briefing on all waivers granted by the Department of Defense in the previous calendar year.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We remain concerned that there is no visibility into national security waivers, and therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives, no later than January 1, 2026, on all national security waivers granted by the Department of Defense in the previous calendar year. The briefing may be submitted in a classified form. We expect the Under Secretary of Defense of Acquisition and Sustainment to promulgate necessary guidance to the military services regarding proper reporting of national security waivers for the purposes of this briefing requirement.

Report on capacity to increase domestic industrial production and procurement of strategic and critical materials

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 852) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report that assesses the capacity to increase domestic industrial production and procurement of strategic and critical materials during peacetime and in the event of a national emergency.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than July 1, 2025, on the Department's capacity to increase domestic industrial production and procurement of strategic and critical materials. The briefing shall include but not be limited to: (1) Recommendations regarding increasing the role of the Secretary of Defense in the production and procurement of strategic and critical materials from domestic sources; and (2) Ongoing or previous efforts by the Department of Defense to integrate its responsibilities with the responsibilities of other Federal Agencies related to increasing domestic industrial production and procurement of strategic and critical materials during peacetime and in the event of a national emergency.

Department of Defense manufacturing authorities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 854) that would require the Secretary of Defense to enter into contracts for the domestic manufacture of certain prescription drugs if Department of Defense requirements for such drugs cannot be met by other means.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Reports on Joint Warfighter Cloud Capability contracts

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 884) that would require the Director of the Defense Information Systems Agency, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and on a biannual basis thereafter until September 30, 2030 to produce a report on the contracts relating to the Joint Warfighter Cloud Capability entered into by the Department of Defense 2022 for commercial cloud services for the Department.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Phase-out of computer and printer acquisitions involving entities owned or controlled by China

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 885) that would require the Secretary of Defense to phase-out the procurement of computers and printers that are manufactured by an entity that is owned by the government of the People's Republic of China or under the influence of the government of the People's Republic of China.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 Conference Report (H. Rept. 118-301) addressed the Department of Defense's risk-based approach to the procurement of information technology. We are also aware that the cyber threat landscape is constantly changing, with new threats emerging on a regular basis. We believe that the Department should account for new cyber threats in its procurement of information technology and take appropriate steps to ensure that it fully mitigates the cybersecurity risks of acquiring computers and printers from entities owned or controlled by entities in the People's Republic of China.

Requirement to procure domestically produced generic drugs

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 887) that would prohibit the purchase of certain generic drugs needed by the Department of Defense from non-domestic or non-Trade Agreement Act of 1979 (Public Law 96-39) compliant sources after October 1, 2025, unless a determination is made that such drugs are not otherwise available in satisfactory quality and sufficient quantity to meet military needs, or when needed at market prices.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We remain deeply concerned regarding the supply chains for pharmaceutical products that are necessary for warfighter readiness. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) included section 860 that focused on determining supply chain vulnerabilities, and the Department of Defense (DOD) has made improvements in identification of problematic sources. We are aware that the Department is limited by the data that industry provides to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration regarding sources of active pharmaceutical ingredients and other data. While the DOD has a vested interest in ensuring the security of their supply chains, the Department of

Health and Human Services (HHS) is responsible for the integrity of the pharmaceutical industrial base. We are aware that HHS has the authority to use the Defense Production Act for investment in the domestic pharmaceutical industrial base. Improving the supply chains for pharmaceuticals should be a government-wide effort.

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than May 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on:

(1) Challenges that DOD experiences working with the interagency on receiving proper data on pharmaceutical supply chains, to include potential solutions;

(2) Ongoing discussions or efforts, if any, on utilizing the Defense Production Act authority under DOD or HHS for warfighter necessary pharmaceutical products;

(3) The feasibility and advisability of establishing an acquisition preference to encourage domestic or allied sourcing of pharmaceutical products, to include what the framework could look like; and

(4) Any other relevant items that the Secretary of Defense deems appropriate.

Prohibition on procurement and commissary sales of seafood originating or processed in China

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 889) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from entering into a contract for the procurement of seafood that originates or is processed in the People's Republic of China for use in military dining facilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that there is a reporting requirement elsewhere in the Act that covers this topic.

Extension of post-government restrictions on senior Department of Defense officials seeking employment with defense contractors

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 890) that would amend section 847(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181) to increase the length of time from two to four years that certain former employees must obtain a written opinion on post-Government employment restrictions before accepting employment with a Department of Defense contractor.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that the the Department of Defense Inspector General has reviewed the Departments compliance with section 847 four times since 2010 and found that the Department's processes, timeliness, and substance of opinions fully comply with the requirements of this statute.

Amendments to contracting authority for certain small business concerns

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5861) that would amend the contracting authority for certain small business concerns.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include Senate provision.

Repeal of bonafide office rule for 8(a) contracts with the Department of Defense

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5864) that would repeal the bonafide office rule for 8(a) contracts with the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Report on ability of Department of Defense to identify prohibited seafood imports in supply chain for food procurement

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5871) that would require the Inspector General of the Department of Defense to provide a report assessing whether the Department has policies and procedures in place to verify that the food the Department procures does not include seafood originating in the People's Republic of China.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Inspector General of the Department of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a report assessing whether the Department has policies and procedures in place to verify that the food the Department procures does not include seafood originating in the People's Republic of China the importation of which is prohibited under section 307 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (Public Law 71-361).

TITLE IX—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

SUBTITLE A—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE AND RELATED MATTERS

Sec. 901—Requirement to notify Congress when Deputy Secretary of Defense is performing functions and duties of Secretary of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 901) that would amend 132(b) of title 10, United States Code, to require the Deputy Secretary of Defense to notify specified congressional committees, not later than 24 hours before certain planned transfers of functions and duties or 24 hours after any unplanned transfer of such functions and duties, when the Secretary dies, resigns, or is otherwise unable to perform the functions and duties of the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 902—Establishment of Department of Defense performance improvement officer

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 909) that would reestablish the Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense and elevate the Director of Administration and Management to such position.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would codify the position of the Performance Improvement Officer to support the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense for management-related activities within the Department of Defense, including issuing guidance chartering that position and designating that position as a co-chair for the Defense Business Council under section 2222 of title 10, United States Code.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the congressional defense committees, not later than September 1, 2025, containing a study identifying the appropriate staffing requirements in support of the role of the Performance Improvement Officer in overseeing the Defense Management Institute under section 133 of title 10, United States Code.

Sec. 903—Enhanced coordination on international cooperation activities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 904) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy to include the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for International and Industry Engagement in the planning for, or attendance at, any meetings with foreign partners or allies related to foreign military sales or certain other international armament cooperation activities; and require a study by a nonprofit organization on the sufficiency of organization, resourcing, manning and training within the Department of Defense to support increased demand for security cooperation activities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate committee-reported provision with an amendment that would modify the responsibilities of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment in section 133b of title 10, United States Code to specify the responsibilities of that office for international armaments cooperation activities, as well as establish not less than two cross functional teams to help improve coordination across elements within the Department of Defense.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate, not later than May 15, 2025, on the interim plans for establishment and execution of the cross-functional teams for international cooperation as required by subsection(b) of the provision, including the proposed geographic and functional areas and proposed composition.

Sec. 904—Increase in authorized number of Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 902) that would amend section 138(e) of title 10, United States Code, to increase the authorized number of Deputy Assistant Secretaries of Defense from 60 to 62.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

We recommend that the Department of Defense use these two positions to further strengthen the capabilities of the office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy (ASD(IBP)). The office of the ASD(IBP) has assumed increased responsibility, and the demands placed on the office warrant commensurate growth in leadership positions. For example, we note the interagency's increased reliance on the office of the ASD(IBP) to provide economic analysis and merger and acquisition reviews has not been met with a comparable increase in manning resources for government positions to maintain adequate control over increasing contractor positions.

Sec. 905—Modifications to the Office of Strategic Capital

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 913) that would make permanent the authority for the Office of Strategic Capital to provide capital assistance, as well as make technical changes that eliminate the non-federal funding requirement and the list of specific technologies to focus investment.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate committee-reported provision with an amendment that would adjust the sunset deadline only for the capital assistance authorities, as well as make some minor technical and confirming edits.

Sec. 906—Limitation on availability of funds until Department of Defense complies with certain legal requirements

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 924) that would limit funds authorized to be obligated or expended by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs until the Deputy Secretary of Defense certifies that the Department of Defense has implemented Section 805 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) and Section 1046 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate committee-reported provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 907—Matters relating to Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 903) that would require the Secretary of Defense to institutionalize the "service secretary-like" role of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict by updating Department of Defense policies and processes, and developing a long-term staffing plan for the Secretariat for Special Operations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 908—Inclusion in defense planning guidance of guidance on size, structure, and posture of special operations forces

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 906) that would require the Secretary of Defense to include guidance with respect to the size, structure, posture, and other force development planning priorities specific to special operations forces in the annual Defense Planning Guidance issued by the Secretary.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 909—Review of roles and responsibilities of the Chief Talent Management Officer and the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 901) that would create the Chief Talent Management Officer who will serve as the principal staff assistant to the Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense on matters relating to total force talent management within the Department of Defense, concerning both military and civilian personnel.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to enter into an agreement with a qualified organization to review the roles and responsibilities of the Chief Talent Management Officer and the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness and to report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the results of this review by no later than January 1, 2026.

Sec. 910—Plan for adequate staffing of Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy and Joint Production Accelerator Cell

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 908) that would re-

quire the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees a plan for adequate staffing for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy and the Joint Production Accelerator Cell.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

SUBTITLE B—OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT MATTERS

Sec. 921—Department of Defense Senior Intelligence Oversight Official

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 930) that would require the Secretary of Defense, or a designee of the Secretary determined by regulations prescribed by the Secretary, to designate a civilian employee of the Department of Defense in the Senior Executive Service to serve as the Senior Intelligence Oversight Official.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 922—Codification of the Joint Federated Assurance Center

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 912) that would amend subchapter III of chapter 303 of title 10, United States Code, to make permanent the authority for the Joint Federated Assurance Center originally established in section 937 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113-66).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 923—Codification of additional staff corps of the Navy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 926) that would amend section 8090 of title 10, United States Code, by adding the Supply Corps, Civil Engineer Corps, Nurse Corps, and the Medical Service Corps to the statutory staff corps of the Navy.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 924—Establishment of Office of Expanded Competition

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 911) that would amend chapter 903 of title 10, United States Code, to establish an Office of Expanded Competition within the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 925—Counter unmanned aerial systems task force

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 902) that would require the Secretary of Defense to designate an executive agent responsible for providing oversight of the efforts of the Department of Defense to counter small, unmanned aircraft and systems and associated training and technology programs.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 916).

The agreement includes the Senate provision, amended to require the Secretary to submit a training report.

Sec. 926—Affiliate relationships between Army Special Operations forces and combat-enabling units of general purpose forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1044) that would prohibit the Department of Defense from reducing U.S. Special Operations Forces end strength for 2 years beginning January 1, 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 919).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of the Army and the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict to jointly submit to the congressional defense committees a report assessing the feasibility and advisability of establishing formal affiliate relationships between units of the Army special operations forces and combat-enabling units of the Army general purpose forces for the purpose of enhancing military readiness and effectiveness. The provision would also prohibit the obligation or expenditure of funds in fiscal year 2025 to complete force structure reductions to Army special operations forces announced by the Army on February 27, 2024, as part of the Total Army Analysis process until the required report is provided to the congressional defense committees.

Sec. 927—Force sizing methodology

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 905) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a methodology for analyzing U.S. military force sizing necessary to conduct activities of the Department of Defense in support of strategic competition.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Elimination of the Chief Diversity Officer of the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 903) that would repeal section 147 of title 10, United States Code, with the result of disestablishing the Chief Diversity Officer of the Department of Defense, and would prohibit the establishment of like offices in the future.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Designation of senior officials responsible for contested logistics posture management

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 921) that would designate the Undersecretary for Acquisition and Sustainment as the senior defense official responsible for managing contested logistics posture management and mandate the military departments designate a senior civilian official to manage the same responsibilities for their respective services.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Eligibility of Chief of the National Guard Bureau for appointment as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 922) that would amend section 152(b) of title 10, United States Code, to make the Chief of the National Guard Bureau eligible for appointment as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Army Electronic Warfare Center of Excellence

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 925) that would direct the Secretary of the Army to establish and operate an Electronic Warfare Center of Excellence within the Army Training and Doctrine Command.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Membership of Commandant of the Coast Guard on the Joint Chiefs of Staff

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 929) that would amend section 151 of title 10, United States Code, to include the Commandant of the Coast Guard as a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize the importance of close coordination among the senior leadership of the Armed Forces. We understand that many of the issues addressed by the JCS pertain to significant Department of Defense equities that do not involve the Coast Guard. However, on those issues with Coast Guard equities, the Commandant or the Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard is present and participates in those discussions and decisions.

Inclusion of Mexico in the area of responsibility of the United States Southern Command

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 928) that would require the Secretary of Defense to transfer Mexico to U.S. Southern Command's area of responsibility.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Feasibility report on establishment of a Defense Industrial Revitalization Board

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 927) that would require a report on the feasibility and advisability of establishing an advisory board within the Department to regularly assess the state of the Department's defense industrial base efforts and to help coordinate efforts to address industrial base challenges.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 850).

The agreement does not include either provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, on the feasibility and advisability of establishing a Defense Industrial Revitalization Board which would be responsible for ensuring the defense industrial base is prepared to meet Department of Defense wartime production. The purpose of this board would be to:

- (1) Assess the health of the defense industrial base;
- (2) Identify critical shortages and impediments to production of critical munitions and other war materials;
- (3) Identify required production rates for critical munitions;
- (4) Oversee and deconflict Department and service efforts to improve defense industrial capacity;
- (5) Develop a comprehensive plan that details immediate steps that can be taken to increase the capacity of the defense industrial base;
- (6) Utilize existing supply chain mapping efforts to identify single points of failure that impact munitions and critical weapons platforms and identify funding mechanisms to create second sources or other resilience measures, with a focus on those munitions necessary for a potential war in the Pacific; and
- (7) Utilize existing supply chain mapping efforts to identify reliance on foreign adversaries within critical munitions supply chains and recommend amelioration efforts. Such a board should be composed of the following, but not limited to:

- (1) Relevant Department of Defense acquisition, research and engineering, and controller personnel;

(2) Service acquisition executives and program managers;

(3) Defense industry representatives;

(4) Relevant think tank experts;

(5) Representatives from the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment;

(6) Representatives from the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering; and

(7) Representatives from the Defense Innovation Unit.

Establishment of the Drone Corps as a basic branch of the Army

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 924) that would establish a Drone Corps as a basic branch of the Army.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Designation of Deputy Under Secretary of the Army as principal official responsible for explosive ordnance disposal

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 923) that would designate the Deputy Under Secretary of the Army as the Principal Official in the Army Secretariat accountable for the Army's explosive ordnance disposal enterprise.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We acknowledge the ongoing interest in the structure and authorities related to the explosive ordnance disposal enterprise and welcome continued dialogue on these matters.

Addition of Performance Improvement Officer as co-chair of Defense Business Council

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 914) that would amend section 2222(f) of title 10, United States Code, to include the Department of Defense Performance Improvement Officer as a co-chair of the Defense Business Council.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Plan for permanent establishment of Special Reconnaissance and Enabling Command

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 918) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict and the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, to submit to the congressional defense committees a plan for permanently establishing the Special Reconnaissance and Enabling Command (SREC).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict and the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a plan for establishing and maintaining the SREC. The plan required by subsection shall, at a minimum, include the following:

- (1) An articulation of the mission and tasks assigned to the SREC;
- (2) An explanation of how the SREC fits organizationally within the U.S. Special Operations Command;
- (3) An identification of the personnel, resources, and authorities, including any gaps, necessary to support the SREC; and
- (4) Any other matters the Assistant Secretary and the Commander consider appropriate.

Feasibility study on expanding the services provided by the Air Force Office of Commercial and Economic Analysis

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 920) that would require the Secretary of Defense to complete a study on the feasibility and advisability of expanding the services of the Office of Commercial and Economic Analysis (OCEA), including an estimate of the costs of such expansion.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note the cost-effective success of the OCEA office in providing crucial business intelligence to various actors within the U.S. Government to help inform thinking about the broader economic implications of certain acquisition decisions. We note that historically such decisions have focused primarily on the national security impacts, but with less emphasis or in-depth understanding of the larger economic consequences that should inform those national security decisions. We applaud the Air Force for fostering the creation of a critical mass of such economic, financial and industrial policy expertise to help improve decision-making in the Department.

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on the feasibility of expanding the scale and type of services offered by OCEA, including a cost estimate for such expansion, and submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than June 1, 2025.

We direct the Secretary to include in this report the possibility of expanding OCEA to provide additional commercial and economic analysis more broadly to other Department of Defense (DOD) components, including trend analysis. This report should also examine the feasibility of OCEA servicing as a data hub for providing additional business intelligence data historically purchased by components of the Department from commercial sources, including firmographic and ownership information of commercial actors, documentation submitted by importers and exporters, ownership information pertaining to intellectual property rights, and information relating to mergers and acquisitions.

We also note the creation of a National Defense Economic Competition Research Council elsewhere in this bill, of which OCEA will be a member. The study should address OCEA's ability to contribute to the research tasks identified in that provision.

Senior Integration Group for Indo-Pacific Region

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 918) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a Senior Integration Group for the Indo-Pacific Region.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We strongly support the Department's use of Senior Integration Groups or similar cross-functional teams to integrate activities below the levels of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense. We encourage the Department to consider establishing such a forum to address the multifaceted aspects of national defense challenges in the Indo-Pacific region in coordination with U.S. allies and partners.

Defense Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion Renewal

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 923) that would limit the authority of the Secretary of Defense to

renew the Defense Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion until 120 days after submitting a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives detailing a justification for such renewal.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE X—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SUBTITLE A—FINANCIAL MATTERS

Sec. 1001—General transfer authority

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1001) that would allow the Secretary of Defense, with certain limitations, to make transfers between amounts authorized for fiscal year 2025 in division A of this Act. This provision would also limit the total amount transferred under this authority to \$6.0 billion.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 1001).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 1002—Repeal of audit incentive element in report requirement of Financial Improvement and Audit Remediation Plan

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1003) that would amend section 240b of title 10, United States Code, to exclude audit incentives from the reporting requirement in the Financial Improvement and Audit Remediation Plan.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1003—Authority to use Defense Modernization Account funds for time-sensitive equipment modernization

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1005) that would amend section 3136(d) of title 10, United States Code, to expand authorized uses of the Defense Modernization Account to the procurement and integration of commercial technologies and services for satisfaction of certain requirements and provision of infrastructure projects that accelerate the fielding and adoption of new capabilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1004—Extension of audit requirement for Department of Defense components.

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1005) that would reduce the discretionary budget authority available for the Department of Defense, the military department, or the Defense Agency if the respective entity has not submitted a financial statement for the previous fiscal year, or if such financial statement has not received either an unqualified or a qualified audit opinion by an independent external auditor.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that extends by one year the existing requirement in section 1004(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 11831) that each component of the Department of Defense shall be subject to an independent audit and if any such component fails to be subject to such an audit during any fiscal year through 2034, it shall have 1.5 percent of unobligated amounts available for the component cancelled and returned to the general fund of the Treasury for deficit reduction.

Sec. 1005—Revision of Department of Defense financial management regulation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1002) that would require the Under Secretary

of Defense (Comptroller) to revise the Department of Defense Financial Management Regulation to ensure that the regulation is consistent and clear throughout, includes updated guidance with respect to legislative and regulatory requirements, and does not include guidance subject to change annually in an annual appropriations act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1002).

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1006—Establishment of cross-functional team to oversee implementation of recommendations of Commission on Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution Reform

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1003) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a cross-functional team for the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution Reform.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 915).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

We encourage the Secretary of Defense to coordinate with the following officials when establishing the cross-functional team: (1) The Deputy Secretary of Defense; (2) The Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller); (3) The Under Secretary of Defense for Policy; (4) The Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering; (5) The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment; (6) The Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation; (7) The Director of Administration and Management; (8) The Chief Information Officer; (9) The Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer; (10) The Secretaries of the military departments; (11) The comptrollers of the military departments; and (12) The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

We direct the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) to include the following elements in the reports and briefings required by this provision: (1) An assessment of the status of the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution Reform; (2) An identification of the official or officials responsible for the implementation of each such recommendation; (3) A description of the timeline and actions for implementation; (4) The rationale and justification for any decision not to implement such a recommendation; (5) Recommendations for actions to reform and modernize the planning, programming, budgeting, and execution process in addition to the recommendations of the Commission; (6) Performance metrics for measuring the effectiveness of recommendations that have been implemented; (7) A comprehensive budget justification display reflecting the resources required to implement the recommendations, resources requested in the Department of Defense budget, and resources needed in subsequent fiscal years; and (8) An assessment of legislative, regulatory, and administrative barriers to implementation of the recommendations and the need for changes to legislative authorities required for implementation of the recommendations.

We also encourage the Department to use one of the general and flag officer billets authorized elsewhere in this Act if a senior military officer is chosen to serve as director of the cross-functional team.

Sec. 1007—Use of technology using artificial intelligence to facilitate audit of the financial statements of the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2025

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1006A) that would require the Secretary of

Defense and the Secretaries of the military departments to encourage, to the greatest extent practicable, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) or machine learning (ML) for audits of Department of Defense financial statements.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives that includes a description of the use of AI or ML technologies for audits of Department of Defense financial statements—including an update on the implementation of the strategy titled “2023 Data, Analytics, and Artificial Intelligence Adoption Strategy” (dated June 27, 2023).

SUBTITLE B—COUNTERDRUG ACTIVITIES

Sec. 1011—Support for counterdrug activities affecting flow of drugs into United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1008) that would require the Secretary of Defense to prescribe guidance to prioritize counterdrug activities affecting drug flows into the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1012—Authority for detection and monitoring of illegal drugs regardless of destination

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1007 and 1010) that would modify Department of Defense support for counterdrug and counter transnational organization activities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 351).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1013—Review, assessment, and analysis of governance structure and strategy of Department of Defense counter-narcotics and counter-transnational organized crime activities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1059) that would require the Secretary of Defense to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to conduct an independent review, assessment, and analysis of the governance structure of the counter-narcotics and counter-transnational organized crime activities of the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would expand the independent review to include an assessment of the strategy of the Department of Defense for counter-narcotics and counter-transnational organized crime.

SUBTITLE C—NAVAL VESSELS AND SHIPYARDS

Sec. 1021—Briefing required in the event of a proposed reduction in battle force ships as part of the annual naval vessel construction plan and certification

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1011) that would require the Navy to be consistent in the first 10-year planning window of the annual 30-year Shipbuilding Report to Congress.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require an assessment in the event of a proposed reduction in battle force ships as part of the

annual naval vessel construction plan and certification.

Sec. 1022—Modification of authority to purchase used vessels under the National Defense Sealift Fund

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 128) that would amend section 2218 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Navy to buy up to 13 used, foreign-built vessels to modernize the Ready Reserve Force.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision, modified to allow for the purchase of up to 10 foreign-built vessels.

Sec. 1023—Modifications to ship repair authorization

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1013) that would require the Navy to solicit ship repair contracts on a coast-wide basis to only those that are projected to last more than 18 months.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, amended to require the Navy to solicit ship repair contracts on a coast-wide basis to only those that are projected to last more than 12 months. We expect the Navy to produce a report after one year of implementation of this revised limit on the price differential between the current 10-month limit and the new 12-month limit.

Sec. 1024—Improving Navy assessments required prior to start of construction on first ship of a shipbuilding program

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1014 and sec. 1015) that would require: (1) Congressional certification prior to the start of construction on the first ship of a shipbuilding program; and (2) The Navy to improve analysis and assessment of decisions made prior to the start of construction on first ships of a Navy shipbuilding program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1021).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require a certification to Congress prior to start of construction on first ship of a shipbuilding program.

Sec. 1025—Prohibition on contracting with shipyards controlled by a foreign adversary country

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 809) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from entering into any contract or other agreement with a shipyard controlled by a foreign adversary.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1026—Exception to prohibition of overhaul, repair, or maintenance of certain vessels in shipyards outside the United States or Guam

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1016) that would amend section 8680 of title 10, United States Code, to allow the Navy to perform preventative maintenance that is required while a ship is on deployment and is limited to 21 days or less to conduct that maintenance in a shipyard outside the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 323) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to conduct a pilot program, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to perform maintenance and repair on forward-deployed naval force ships in foreign shipyards during scheduled maintenance and repair periods. The provision would: (1) Ter-

minate the pilot program after 3 years; (2) Require the Secretary of the Navy to produce an annual report during the pilot program; and (3) Require the Secretary to provide that report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would allow the Navy to perform corrective and preventative maintenance on a Navy ship overseas for a period of up to 21 days, provided that the cumulative maintenance performed on ships from a particular homeport does not exceed 2% of the average workload over the previous three years for the same homeport.

We recommend that the Navy use any such short maintenance periods, as the situation allows, to conduct necessary ship-checks to support post-deployment, U.S.-based maintenance availabilities. Proper use of these windows in foreign shipyards should allow the Navy to complete all necessary maintenance planning 360 days prior to a U.S.-based maintenance availability.

Sec. 1027—Strategy on development of naval rearm at sea capability

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1017) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to submit to the congressional defense committees a strategy for delivering a particular rearm at sea capability to the surface fleet of the United States Navy.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, modified to focus on the capability to rearm at sea, rather than a particular solution to achieve that capability.

Sec. 1028—Authority to use incremental funding to enter into a contract for the construction of a Virginia-class submarine program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1018) that would provide incremental funding authority for an additional Virginia-class submarine in fiscal year 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 129) that would also increase funding for the Virginia-class submarine program with offsets from elsewhere in the Navy budget. The agreement includes the House provision with various technical amendments and an amendment to stipulate that funds available from a change to the contracting approach may only be used to provide for an increase in wages for the shipbuilder workforce or an increase in non-executive level salaries.

We are concerned with the lack of transparency that has occurred between the Navy and Congress over the last 18 months. The Navy negotiated a funding strategy with industry that would have addressed cost growth, future cost to complete, workforce wage increases and infrastructure investments at both shipyards. The Navy did this in isolation and failed to not only inform Congress but also the Office of Management and Budget.

As a result of the lack of communication, the Office of Management and Budget has not moved the strategy forward and Congress has been denied the opportunity to review the strategy's documentation and details. To remedy the deficiencies, the Office of Management and Budget asked Congress for significant emergency appropriations in fiscal year 2025 to support a plan that will require an undisclosed amount of additional appropriations above the future years' estimates in the President's Budget for fiscal year 2025. At no point during the normal budgeting and legislative process did the Navy inform Congress that there was large cost growth on the fiscal year 2024 submarines and the one fiscal year 2025 submarine being requested. Unfortunately, the

lack of communication regarding program challenges and potential solutions has left Congress with few options to address this situation and likely none that will rectify it going forward.

We recognize that Congress has responsibility for oversight of the executive branch including access to information on how final decisions were reached, particularly for decisions of strategic importance where the dollar value of such a decision far surpasses the major defense acquisition program threshold. Denial of requests for information and veiled threats of reprisals against briefers to Congress who may provide requested information creates a dangerous precedent that is out of line the checks and balances inherent to the branches of government of the United States.

Sec. 1029—Authority to use incremental funding to enter into a contract for the construction of an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer

We recommend a provision that would authorize the Secretary of the Navy to enter into an incrementally funded contract for the construction of an Arleigh Burke-class destroyer.

Sec. 1030—Pilot program on use of automated inspection technologies at shipyards

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1019) that would authorize a pilot program to procure automated inspection technologies for maintenance inspections of naval vessels and upgrade information technology infrastructure to support integrating these technologies.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1031—Requirements for the unmanned maritime autonomy architecture

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1022) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to provide a forum on unmanned maritime autonomy architecture to facilitate industry participation in the creation and management of modular open systems architecture and associated standards for maritime unmanned systems.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1032—Competitive demonstration of large and extra large unmanned underwater vehicles

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1023) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to conduct a competitive demonstration of extra large unmanned underwater vehicles—including non-developmental items from commercial or foreign partner sources.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would include in the demonstration large unmanned underwater vehicles in addition to extra large unmanned underwater vehicles.

Sec. 1033—Requirement for mature ship design

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1026) that would:

(1) Amend section 231 of title 10, United States Code, to require senior technical authority determination of commercial or non-governmental standard approval, or contract solicitation allowance, prior to incorporation of such assumptions into shipbuilding cost estimates;

(2) Require the Secretary of the Navy to adopt certain recommendations of the Government Accountability Office;

(3) Amend section 8669a of title 10, United States Code, to require source selection for new classes of vessels to emphasize the realism of the ability of offerors to deliver program requirements on schedule;

(4) Amend section 8669b of title 10, United States Code, to require collaboration between the Naval Systems Engineering and Logistics Directorates of Naval Sea Systems Command and the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfare Systems with respect to use of funds from the start of the requirements process; and

(5) Amend section 231(b) of title 10, United States Code, to require an explanation of reductions to the procurement of a class of vessels in the future years defense program from year-to-year.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of the Navy to implement recommendations 1, 3, 4, and 6 in the report of the Government Accountability Office titled, “Navy Shipbuilding: Increased Use of Leading Design Practices Could Improve Timeliness of Deliveries”, and dated May 2, 2024 (GAO-24-105503).

In addition, we direct the Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development, and Acquisition, in coordination with the Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), to provide a report, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives that details the following:

(1) All references to external specifications regardless of source—including military specifications, NAVSEA instructions, American Bureau of Shipbuilding and other standards—that were included on the *Constellation*-class frigate solicitation for detail design and construction;

(2) Which specifications in paragraph (1) allowed for alternative specifications—including alternative specifications conditional on NAVSEA approval;

(3) How many alternative specifications allowed in paragraph (2) were recommended by the awarded contractor in their proposed response to the solicitation for the *Constellation*-class frigate detail design and construction contract in comparison to how many alternative specifications were ultimately approved by NAVSEA;

(4) An explanation for why such alternative specifications in paragraph (3) were not approved by NAVSEA;

(5) The status of all requests for equitable adjustments that the Navy received on the *Constellation*-class frigate;

(6) An unaltered statement from the awarded contractor of the *Constellation*-class frigate of the findings provided in paragraphs (1) through (5) above; and

(7) Proposed actions for how best value tradeoffs will be improved in source selections for shipbuilding contracts.

SUBTITLE D—COUNTERTERRORISM

Sec. 1041—Extension of prohibition on use of funds for transfer or release of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1031) that would prohibit the use of any funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2025, to transfer or release detainees at U.S. Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1031).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1042—Extension of prohibition on use of funds to construct or modify facilities in the United States to house detainees transferred from United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1032) that would prohibit the use of any funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense to be used during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2025, to construct or modify any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any detainee transferred from U.S. Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1032).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1043—Extension of prohibition on use of funds for transfer or release of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to certain countries

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1033) that would prohibit the use of funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this act and ending on December 31, 2025, to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release of any individual detained at U.S. Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to Libya, Somalia, Syria, Yemen, and Afghanistan.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1033).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1044—Extension of prohibition on use of funds to close or relinquish control of United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1034) that would prohibit the use of any funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2025 for the closure or abandonment of United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the relinquishment of control of Guantanamo Bay to the Republic of Cuba, or the implementation of a material modification to the Treaty Between the United States of America and Cuba signed in the District of Columbia on May 29, 1934, that constructively closes United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1034).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE E—MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITIES AND LIMITATIONS

Sec. 1051—Authority to contribute to innovation fund

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1041) that would amend subchapter II of chapter 138 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to contribute to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Innovation Fund up to \$200,000,000 per year over a 10-year period.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment that would limit such funding for a 5-year period.

Sec. 1052—Extension of authority for reimbursement of expenses for certain Navy mess operations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1043) that would extend the authority for reimbursement for certain Navy mess operations until September 30, 2030.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 333).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1053—Assessments of casualties and fatalities during hostilities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1044) that would prohibit the Department of Defense from citing casualty and fatality data from terrorist organizations as authoritative in public assessments during hostilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1054—Establishment of major mishap incident designation classification for Department of Defense incidents

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1045) that would establish a new mishap designation classification for serious mishap incidents resulting in \$500.0 million or more in damage, causing at least five fatalities, or otherwise designated by the Secretary of the military department concerned; and establish investigatory and accountability standards for such mishaps.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would eliminate the requirement for mandatory separation for misconduct contributing to the mishap, and clarify the definition of major mishap to include elements of complexity in the underlying incident.

Sec. 1055—Prohibition on use of funds for EcoHealth Alliance and the Wuhan Institute of Virology

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1045) that would prohibit funds authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2025 for work performed in the People's Republic of China by EcoHealth Alliance, Inc. or any of its affiliates.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1265).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would prohibit Department of Defense funds for fiscal year 2025 for any work performed by EcoHealth Alliance, Inc., including by: any subsidiary of EcoHealth Alliance, Inc.; any organization directly controlled by EcoHealth Alliance, Inc.; any individual or organization subgrantee or subcontractor of EcoHealth Alliance, Inc.; and prohibits funds for fiscal year 2025 for the Wuhan Institute of Virology for any purpose.

Sec. 1056—Prohibition on Department of Defense transportation of currency to Taliban or Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1046) that would prohibit any funds authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Defense being made available for the operation of any Department of Defense aircraft to transport currency or other items of value to the Taliban.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1057—Prohibition on use of funds for Badr Organization and related organizations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1049E) that would prohibit the Department of

Defense to make any amounts appropriated available, directly or indirectly, to the Badr Organization.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1058—Limitation on use of funds pending provision of briefing on reliance of People's Liberation Army on imported fossil fuels for energy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1059) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on the feasibility of implementing naval blockades of shipments of fossil fuels to China in the event of an armed conflict with the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would limit the obligation or expenditure of more than 85 percent of the funds available for the Office of the Secretary of Defense for travel expenses until the Secretary provides to the congressional defense committees the briefing regarding the reliance of the People's Liberation Army on imported fossil fuels for energy, as directed by the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

Sec. 1059—Prohibition on use of funds to support entertainment projects with ties to the Government of the People's Republic of China

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1317 and sec. 1709) that would prohibit the use of funds to support any entertainment company or project owned or controlled by the Chinese Communist Party, the People's Republic of China, or the People's Liberation Army that has used, produced, or co-produced content for propaganda purposes.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1043).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE F—STUDIES AND REPORTS

Sec. 1061—Chief of Navy Reserve annual report

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1052) that would amend section 8083 of title 10, United States Code, to require an annual report from the Chief of Navy Reserve.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1062—Modification and extension of requirement for combatant command risk assessment for airborne intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1060) that would amend section 1061 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) to include cancellation of an intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance system as an event that would trigger a combatant commander assessment; and to extend the sunset date of the provision to December 31, 2032.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1063—Extension of briefing requirement regarding civil authorities at the Southwest border

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1053) that would extend, through December 31, 2027, a quarterly briefing requirement on Department of Defense support to civil authorities at the southwest border.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would adjust the extension to December 31, 2025.

Sec. 1064—Extension of annual report on civilian casualties in connection with United States military operations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1053) that would extend the annual report on civilian casualties by 5 years.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1054).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1065—Review of irregular warfare authorities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1052) that would require the Secretary of Defense to review the authorities relevant to the conduct of Department of Defense irregular warfare activities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1066—Reports on approval and deployment of lethal autonomous weapon systems

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1062) that would require the President to submit an annual report related to the approval and waiver processes for lethal autonomous weapon systems under current Department of Defense policy.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1067—Congressional notice regarding executive orders issued at the direction of the President or the Secretary of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1056) that would require a review and report of certain Department of Defense orders involving the use of lethal force.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide the congressional defense committees with recurring briefings on executive orders and to provide those committees with certain notices and disclosures.

Sec. 1068—Mobility capability requirements study

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1054) that would require the Commander, U.S. Transportation Command to submit a report and provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services 1 year after enactment of this Act, with an interim report and briefing 6 months after enactment of this Act, to assess the operational risk for meeting the mobility requirements of the geographic combatant commanders.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, modified to require only a briefing 6 months after enactment of this Act.

Sec. 1069—Biodefense posture reviews

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1051) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a comprehensive examination of the biodefense policies, practices, programs, and initiatives of the Department of Defense every 4 years.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 907).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct two reviews, not later than December 31, 2026 and

December 31, 2029, and provide a briefing on each review.

Sec. 1070—Briefings on attempts by aliens and foreign actors to access military installations without authorization

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1066) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and on an annual basis thereafter, to submit to the congressional defense committees a report that identifies, with respect to the one-year period preceding the date of the report, the number of instances in which an alien not lawfully present in the United States (1) attempted to enter a military installation in the United States; or (2) gained entry to such an installation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would change the recurring annual report to an annual briefing through 2027, limit the recipients of the briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, and include information about the identities of covered persons unlawfully attempting to gain access to military installations.

Sec. 1071—Report on resourcing of Arctic Strategy

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1069A and sec. 1241) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report to the congressional defense committees and the congressional research agencies on cost data for the Arctic Strategy for each fiscal year 2026 through 2031 and require the inclusion of Special Operations Forces in planning and strategy relating to the Arctic region.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1063).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would modify the cost data required and set the reporting requirement through fiscal year 2028.

Sec. 1072—Analyses and reports on air superiority of the Joint Force

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1056) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct or sponsor an analysis of how the air superiority mission will be secured for the Joint Force in the 2030s and 2040s.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would also require the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to provide a separate report on the requirements for air superiority capacity.

Sec. 1073—Exercise for countering unmanned aerial systems

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1058) that would require the Secretary of Defense to plan and execute a full-scale counter unmanned aerial system response exercise in Department of Defense special use airspace by July 1, 2025.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would extend the deadline for conducting the exercise until December 1, 2025, and extend the deadline for the Secretary's report until March 1, 2026.

Sec. 1074—Report on operational plans of the Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1065) that would require the Secretary of Defense to complete a review of the operational plans of the De-

partment of Defense and outline any shortfall in personnel, equipment, munitions, infrastructure, or material required to execute such operational plans.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would modify the elements of the review and require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report to the congressional defense committees on the results of the assessment.

Sec. 1075—Quarterly reports on funerals at Arlington National Cemetery on hold until caisson services resume

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1073) that would amend section 7721 of title 10, United States Code, that would require the Secretary of the Army to submit a monthly report on the status of families that are awaiting caisson support for funeral services at Arlington National Cemetery.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would modify the reporting requirement to quarterly frequency and further defines report termination requirements.

Sec. 1076—Plan for enhancement of special operations riverine capability

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1083) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict and the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM), to provide a plan for the sustainment and enhancement of a special operations riverine capability within SOCOM through fiscal year 2035.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

We believe that there is significant potential for unmanned maritime capabilities to provide special operations forces with asymmetric warfighting advantages and strongly encourage SOCOM to continue research and development of such capabilities to fulfill special operations-peculiar requirements.

Sec. 1077—Annual report on Postsecondary Education Complaint System

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1723) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide to Congress and make publicly available on the Department of Defense's website an annual report on the Postsecondary Education Complaint System.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with technical amendments and an amendment that would limit the recipients of the annual reports to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

Sec. 1078—Study and report on Department of Defense use of unmanned ground vehicle systems manufactured by certain foreign entities

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6067) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on Department of Defense use of covered unmanned ground vehicle systems made by covered foreign entities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would condition a prohibition on covered unmanned ground vehicles on a recommendation from the Secretary of Defense.

SUBTITLE G—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 1081—Introduction of entities in transactions critical to national security

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1088) that would amend section 1047 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) to authorize the Secretary of Defense to convene private companies to discuss market trends and opportunities abroad.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1082—Installation energy plans and assessment for reduction of reliance on Russian energy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1073) that would amend section 1086 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) to apply to all operating bases within U.S. European Command and limit the obligation and expenditure of certain funds authorized for travel expenses for the Office of the Secretary of Defense until the Secretary provides the required report.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1083—Extension of the National Commission on the Future of the Navy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1074) that would extend the authorization for the National Commission on the Future of the Navy from until July 1, 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1024) that would extend the authorization for the National Commission on the Future of the Navy until January 15, 2026.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1084—Modification of National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1075) that would amend section 1091 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) to extend the authority of the National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology to appoint members, the due date for its final report, and its termination date.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1082).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1085—Modification of defense sensitive support notification requirement

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1076) that would amend section 1055(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) to modify the congressional notification requirement to a quarterly summary of routine defense sensitive support provided to non-Department of Defense Federal departments or agencies and permit time-sensitive and extraordinary security protections support congressional notifications after conclusion of the supported activity or simultaneously with the execution of the supported activity.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would allow a quarterly summary of routine defense sensitive support provided to non-Department of Defense Federal departments or agencies in lieu of the existing congressional notification requirement each time such support is provided by the Department of Defense.

Sec. 1086—Plan for additional skill identifiers for Army Mountain Warfare School

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1079) that would require the Secretary of the Army to establish certain additional skill identifiers for Army Mountain Warfare School courses.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would limit eligibility for certain skill identifiers to enlisted members, warrant officers, and commissioned officers, respectively.

Sec. 1087—Establishment of Department of Defense Working Group on Multilateral Artificial Intelligence Coordination

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1090) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a working group, to be known as the “Multilateral Artificial Intelligence Working Group,” to develop and coordinate an artificial intelligence initiative among the allies and partners of the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1283).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1088—Resumption of caisson services at funeral services at Arlington National Cemetery

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1072) that would require the Secretary of the Army to start conducting funerals with caisson services at Arlington National Cemetery or enter into a contract to provide such services.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would condition resumption of such caisson services.

Sec. 1089—Liaison with Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems Task Force

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1087) that would require the Director of the All-Domain Anomaly Resolution Office to designate a liaison to the Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems Task Force to improve coordination in areas of shared responsibility.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1090—Responding to unmanned aircraft systems incursions

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1057) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop—as part of the National Defense Strategy required under section 113(g) of title 10, United States Code—a holistic strategy for countering unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and the threats that such systems pose to facilities, personnel, and assets of the Department of Defense in the United States and overseas; and authorize the Secretary of Defense to provide support to Federal, state, and local government agencies for detection, identifying, and monitoring of UAS that cross the northern and southern borders of the United States.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require a Department of Defense strategy for countering unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) technology and the threats such technology poses to facilities, personnel, and assets of the Department of Defense in the United States. The amendment also requires an assessment and report on the Department of

Defense’s existing counter-UAS enterprise, a compilation of any recommended changes to the Department’s counter-UAS enterprise, recommendations for requirements for the Department of Defense to pre-coordinate planned actions in response to anticipated types of UAS incursions with other relevant Federal departments and agencies, and any other information the Secretary deems relevant.

We agree that U.S. troops have the inherent right of self-defense, including from UAS attacks, wherever they may be.

Sec. 1091—Prioritization of accreditation of sensitive compartmented information facilities supporting DX-rated programs

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1089) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a framework for prioritized review, accreditation, and reaccreditation of sensitive compartmented information facilities and classified communications at certain facilities supporting DX-rated programs.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1092—Establishment of national security capital forum

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1078) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a forum to facilitate information exchange related to transactions or potential transactions of the Office of Strategic Capital.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1090).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1093—Implementation of Comptroller General recommendations relating to the food program of the Department of Defense

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5352) that would require the Secretary of Defense to implement the recommendations of the Comptroller General of the United States contained in the report published by the Comptroller General in June 2024 and titled “DOD Food Program: Additional Actions Needed to Implement, Oversee, and Evaluate Nutrition Efforts for Service Members” (GAO-24-106155) or if not, to provide a report explaining why the Secretary has not implemented these recommendations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1094—Pilot program to provide military aircraft support to air shows

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1092) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, to establish a pilot program to provide military aircraft and aerial demonstration teams in support of air shows located in rural or small market areas.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a 1-year pilot program under which the Secretary shall provide military aircraft and aerial demonstration teams in support of air shows located in rural or small market areas.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED
Congressional notification of transfer of funds

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1004) that would require the Secretary of De-

fense to provide a notice of transfer whenever the Secretary transfers amounts under the authority of section 2214 of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the congressional defense committees receive notifications and conduct robust oversight of transfers of Department of Defense funding.

Oversight requirements for Financial Improvement and Audit Remediation Plan

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1006) that would amend section 240b(b) of title 10, United States Code, to require the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) to provide a briefing on the status of the corrective action plan.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that section 240 of title 10, United States Code, contains robust recurring reporting requirements on the financial audit.

Report on Department of Defense operational planning to defeat Mexican drug cartels

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1009) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on Department of Defense operational planning to defeat Mexican drug cartels.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Department of Defense, in conjunction with other U.S. departments and agencies, supports the continuing national priority to identify, disrupt, and degrade transnational criminal networks that pose threats to U.S. national security, including Mexican transnational criminal organizations (TCOs), which remain a major criminal threat to the United States. We note that in addition to working with other U.S. departments and agencies, the Department of Defense conducts security cooperation activities with the Government of Mexico to build the capacity of the Mexican armed forces to counter TCOs.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit an assessment, not later than April 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives regarding:

(1) Specific military assets, capabilities, and competencies of the Mexican armed forces associated with and relevant to efforts to counter TCOs operating in Mexico, including any DoD assessments of recent Mexican military operations against transnational criminal organizations;

(2) An identification of any gaps in the assets and capabilities of the Mexican armed forces for which the Department of Defense could focus future security cooperation efforts;

(3) A review of the Department of Defense’s counter-narcotics support to the Mexican armed forces, including an assessment on the effectiveness of such support and a description of potential areas of expansion in cooperation between the Department of Defense and the Mexican armed forces; and

(4) Any other matter the Secretary deems appropriate.

The assessment should be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

Sale or donation of excess Department of Defense personal property for drug surveillance and interdiction

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1010A) that would amend section 2576a(d) of

title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense preference transferred property for counterdrug surveillance and interdiction by local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement agencies within 100 miles of the United States-Mexico border that have an annual budget of not more than \$200.0 million.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Minimum number of public naval shipyards

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1012) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to operate not fewer than four public naval shipyards.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the four Navy public shipyards play a critical role in support of our national defense by providing crucial repair, maintenance, and modernization services for the Department of the Navy. The four public shipyards ensure that our naval fleet remains operational and capable of meeting evolving threats, thereby sustaining the Navy's readiness and strategic capabilities. By employing skilled workers and advanced technologies, the shipyards facilitate necessary overhauls and upgrades, which are vital for maintaining the effectiveness of both surface ships and submarines. The capacity of the four public shipyards to rapidly respond to emerging needs also improves the Navy's ability to project power globally, ensuring that our nation remains prepared to defend its interests and allies.

Prohibition on availability of funds for retirement of guided missile cruisers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1020) that would prohibit the retirement of the guided missile cruisers USS *Shiloh* (CG-67) and USS *Lake Erie* (CG-70).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We believe that the Navy's recent announcement of the extension of service lives of three guided missile cruisers means that the Navy should be able to maintain sufficient guided missile cruiser capability without the need to extend the lives of CG-67 and CG-70.

We direct the Secretary of the Navy to submit an assessment, not later than June 1, 2025, of the advisability and feasibility of using a decommissioned Navy guided missile cruiser as a platform for an open architecture testbed for novel digital technologies, software, and systems to enable continuous testing, validation, and integration of emerging technologies that will be made available to private industry, academic institutions, and nonprofit organization to deliver capabilities that are not funded by the federal government subject to security and operational requirements.

Sense of Congress regarding naming warships after Navy Medal of Honor recipients

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1021) that would provide a Sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Navy should name warships after Navy recipients of the Medal of Honor from World War I to the present.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Study related to recruitment and retention of apprentices at public shipyards

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1022) that would require the Commander of

United States Naval Sea Systems Command to submit a study to Congress relating to the recruitment and retention of apprentices at public shipyards.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Navy to assess the adequacy of recruitment and retention of apprentices across the four public shipyards, and to provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a briefing on this assessment that includes: (1) summarized data, disaggregated by shipyard, relating to recruiting and retention of apprentices across the public shipyards, including demographic information on applicants, recruiting incentives offered, apprenticeship completion rates for accepted applicants, the average duration of service for graduates of an apprenticeship, and reasons why individuals voluntarily left the program; (2) an assessment of the feasibility of sharing apprenticeship data across the public shipyards and allowing apprentices to transfer between shipyards; (3) any other matter the Secretary determines is relevant to assess the adequacy of recruiting and retention in the shipyard apprenticeship program.

Sense of Congress regarding naming of naval vessel after Lieutenant General Richard E. Carey

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1023) that would provide a Sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Navy should name the Spearhead-class expeditionary fast transport vessel of the United States Navy that has been ordered (Hull Number T-EFP-16) in honor of Lieutenant General Richard E. Carey.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Sense of Congress regarding naming of naval vessel after Major James Capers, Jr.

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1024) that would provide a Sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Navy should name a vessel of the United States Navy the "U.S.S. Major James Capers Jr." in honor of Major James Capers, Jr.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Sense of Congress regarding naming a naval vessel after William B. Gould

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1025) that would provide a Sense of Congress that the Secretary of the Navy should name a commissioned naval vessel after formerly enslaved sailor and Civil War veteran, William B. Gould, to honor his strength of character and faithful service to the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibition on operation of connected vehicles designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by persons owned by, controlled by, or subject to the jurisdiction of a foreign entity of concern on Department of Defense property

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1048) that would ban connected vehicles that are designed, developed, manufactured, or supplied by foreign entities of concern that pose an undue or unacceptable risk to national security from entering U.S. military bases and Department of Defense installations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Department of Commerce has recently announced a proposed rule that would prohibit the import and sale in the United States of connected vehicles, or component parts, with sufficient nexus to foreign entities of concern. We further note, that malicious access to these vehicles and systems presents a particular risk to Department of Defense installation security. Acknowledging the on-going rulemaking, we note that should these systems enter the United States market via vehicles not manufactured by foreign entities of concern, there may be practical challenges related to identification of these vehicles at entry control points, which the Department will have to manage. Accordingly, we direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on both the Department's views of the proposed rulemaking and how the Department would mitigate risk should these systems be allowed into the United States' automobile market.

Prohibition on Department of Defense transport of Palestinian refugees to the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1049) that would prohibit the use of funds for the transport of Palestinian refugees to the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained provisions (sec. 1048 and sec. 2855) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from using any asset, facility, or installation of the Department of Defense for transport or processing of any individual from the West Bank or Gaza who is not a United States citizen, the immediate family member of a United States citizen, or a former United States government employee, for the purposes of resettlement in the United States.

The agreement does not include the House or Senate provisions.

Limitation on authority of Armed Forces to detain citizens of the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1049B) that would limit the authority of Armed Forces to detain citizens of the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibition on use of funds to cut services provided at certain combat training readiness centers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1049C) that would prohibit the use of funds from being used to cut any service provided by a combat training readiness center operated by the Air Force National Guard at certain locations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize the importance of the Air Force Combat Readiness Training Centers (CRTCs). We note the Administration is not planning on closing any CRTCs in Fiscal Year 2025 and encourage the Department of the Air Force to keep the congressional defense committees apprised of any potential changes to the scope or mission of the CRTCs.

Elimination of discretion of military chain of command and senior civilian leadership with respect to display of flags

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1049D) that would amend section 1052(d)(1)(N)

of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) by striking subparagraph (N) to eliminate a commander's authority to approve a flag unauthorized by statute.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Suspension or revocation of certain permissions to access classified information

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1049F) that would require the Secretary of Defense to suspend or revoke a security clearance held by a covered individual if such individual has expressed support for a terrorist organization or engaged in a demonstration supporting a terrorist organization.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the current security clearance forms for initiating a background investigation already include questions on support for terrorist organizations. We urge the Department to continue to place focus on these questions during the adjudication process, which provides the proper forum for making decisions regarding such background investigation concerns.

Report on price elasticity of labor supply at shipyards and supplier firms

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1058) that would require a report on price elasticity of labor supply at shipyards and supplier firms.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Navy to submit a report to the congressional defense committees, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, on the price elasticity of the labor supply for the industrial base for building and maintaining naval vessels, including at private-sector shipyards, public-sector naval shipyards, and supplier firms. This report shall include:

(1) The full cost of hiring and training workers at shipyards and supplier firms;

(2) The extent to which retention of workers at shipyards and supplier firms may be improved by changes in pay and benefits for those workers;

(3) The potential impact of such increases in pay and benefits on costs for procuring and maintaining naval vessels with consideration of any increased labor productivity that may result from improved retention; and

(4) Recommendations for any extraordinary relief or other contractual mechanisms that may be appropriate for shipbuilding programs to increase pay and benefits for workers at shipyards and supplier firms.

Comptroller General review of food waste at Department of Defense and Coast Guard facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1060) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a review of food waste at Department of Defense installations and Coast Guard locations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on any current or planned efforts by the Depart-

ment of Defense to decrease food waste on military installations. The briefing shall include any current or planned efforts by the Department to track food waste across its facilities, any analysis conducted by the Department to determine the causes of any food waste at such facilities, any Department policies regarding the management of food waste, and any challenges or partnerships with other Federal agencies to reduce food waste.

Study on feasibility of establishment of Centers of Excellence for Servicewomen's Health

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1061) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing one or more centers of excellence for servicewomen's health, pursuant to the authority under section 1073d(b) of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We encourage the Secretary of Defense to establish centers of excellence for servicewomen's health under existing authorities.

Report on fielding certain wearable devices for impact protection against traumatic brain injury

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1063) that would require the Secretary of the Army to provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report regarding the fielding of wearable devices for impact protection.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Utilization of office space by the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1064) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a written report to the Administrator of the General Services Administration regarding the utilization of office space by the Department of Defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include House provision.

We remain committed to ensuring efficient use of resources across the Department of Defense, with a particular focus on maximizing the effective use of space. We recognize that maintaining oversight of facility utilization is critical to optimizing space allocation and reducing unnecessary expenditures, allowing more resources to be allocated to mission-essential activities. Additionally, we note that this agreement includes a provision from the House bill (sec. 2838) that would require the Department of Defense to decrease expenditures on leased facilities by 25 percent over the next 5 years.

Feasibility study on establishment and maintenance of Department of the Air Force training center at Eaker Air Force Base, Blytheville, Arkansas

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1065) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a report on the feasibility and advisability of a reactivation of Eaker Air Force Base in Blytheville, Arkansas to serve as an Air Force Training Center.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of

using Eaker Air Force Base as an Air Force Training Center. The briefing shall include an assessment of: existing facilities, any relevant strategic geography of the location, the overall cost to the Department of Defense, and if the National Cold War Center poses any logistical or security concerns for any future training operations.

Study on use of space-available travel for donated human organs

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1067) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a feasibility study regarding the transport of human organs by organ procurement organizations under the space-available travel program under section 2641b of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives not later than September 30, 2025, on the feasibility and advisability of establishing a program to provide for the transport of human organs by organ procurement organizations under the space-available travel program.

Study and report on Department of the Navy policies with respect to net metering

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1068) that would require the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Energy, Installations, and Environment) to carry out a study on net metering.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Navy to provide a briefing to the Armed Services Committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on net metering policies and practices within the Department of the Navy. The briefing shall include, at a minimum:

(1) A summary of the Department of the Navy's current policies and procedures regarding net metering;

(2) A list of each military installation under the Secretary of the Navy's jurisdiction that uses net metering;

(3) A review of practical methods and approaches at each installation for implementing net metering, focusing on operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness; and

(4) Recommendations from the Secretary of the Navy on potential actions to maximize the operational value of net metering for its installations.

Briefing on Department of Defense program to protect United States students against foreign agents

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing on the Department of Defense program to protect United States students against foreign agents.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees by June 15, 2025 on the updated status of the program described in section 1277 on the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91), including an assessment on whether the program is beneficial to students interning, working part-time, or in a program that will result in employment post-graduation with Department of Defense components and contractors.

Report on training and safety program for operation of assault amphibious vehicles

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069B) that would require the Secretary of the Navy, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the feasibility, advisability, and potential benefits of establishing a training and safety program for the operation of assault amphibious vehicles.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize the efforts of the Marine Corps to improve the safe operation of both the assault amphibious vehicle (AAV) and amphibious combat vehicle (ACV). Therefore, we direct the Secretary of the Navy, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a briefing on the actions taken to improve the training and safety program for the operation of the AAV and ACV.

Updates to national biodefense strategy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069C) that would require the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to revise, update and provide the most recent version of the national biodefense strategy and associated implementation plan required under section 1086 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the administration issued an updated National Biodefense Strategy and Implementation Plan for Countering Biological Threats, Enhancing Preparedness, and Achieving Global Health Security in October of 2022 and that the Department of Defense published its Biodefense Posture Review in August of 2023. We believe that the administration and the Department of Defense should routinely update the National Biodefense Strategy and the Biodefense Posture Review as threats and capabilities change to ensure that U.S. capabilities keep pace with the threat environment as directed in section 1069 of this bill.

Report on modifications of expeditionary transfer dock ships

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069D) that would require the Chief of Naval Operations, in consultation with the Commandant of the Coast Guard, not later than March 1, 2025, to submit to the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on recommended modifications to the Expeditionary Transfer Dock Ships that will best enable at-sea sustainment of Joint Interagency Task Force South (JIATF-South) partner nation patrol vessels and United States Coast Guard Fast Response Cutters.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We agree that the Chief of Naval Operations, in consultation with JIATF-South, should develop recommended modifications to the Expeditionary Transfer Dock Ships that could improve our ability to provide at-sea sustainment of JIATF-South partner nation patrol vessels.

Report on military and weapons lost during withdrawal from Afghanistan

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069E) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report that includes an accounting of all the military equipment and weapons lost to the Taliban during the withdrawal of the United States Armed Forces from Afghanistan.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the requirement in this provision is addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Assessment of the health care system supporting military installations in the R-2508 airspace

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069F) that would direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments concerned, to develop an assessment of the health care system supporting the military installations within the R-2508 Airspace to ensure adequate health care for the civilian and military workforce.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

GAO review and report on biological weapons experiments on and in relation to ticks, tick-borne disease

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069G) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to provide a report on Department of Defense research regarding biological weapon experiments on and in relation to ticks and tick-borne disease.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that we have addressed similar provisions in prior National Defense Authorization Acts—specifically, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92), the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283), and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81).

Assessment of influence of China in Pacific Island nations

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1069H, sec. 1243, and sec. 1314) that would modify the Department of Defense's annual report on Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China required by section 1202 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (Public Law 106-65) to include among its report elements the influence of China in Pacific Island nations, the relationship between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and developments concerning the Tibetan Plateau. The House bill also contained a provision (sec. 1069J) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to Congress on the use of rifle-toting robot dogs by China.

The Senate bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1262) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide the congressional defense committees with a report on corruption in the People's Liberation Army.

The agreement does not include these provisions.

We believe future iterations of the Department of Defense's annual report on Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China required by section 1202 of Public Law 106-65 should include, to the extent feasible, an analysis of influence of China in Pacific Island nations, the

relationship between the People's Republic of China and the Islamic Republic of Iran, developments concerning the Tibetan Plateau, corruption in the People's Liberation Army, and the threat to the national security of the United States posed by China's development of advanced technologies, including robotics.

Comptroller General study on use of unmanned vehicles to reduce Department of Defense expenses

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069I) that would require Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to assess ways unmanned vehicles can reduce overall operating expenses and costs at the Department of Defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to assess ways unmanned vehicles can reduce overall operating expenses and costs at the Department of Defense. Such study shall include:

(1) An analysis of unmanned ground and air systems and a comparison of the capability, capacity, and operating cost tradeoffs associated with each such system and those associated with similar manned technologies or systems;

(2) Recommendations regarding new areas in which unmanned technology could supplant or complement manned systems in order to reduce overall force operating costs; and

(3) Such other matters as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

Furthermore, we direct the Comptroller General to provide an interim briefing on this study to the congressional defense committees, not later than March 31, 2025, with a final report to be provided at an agreed upon time.

Study on testing of foreign adversary highly autonomous vehicles

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069K) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the relevant Federal agencies, to conduct a study on the effects on the national security of the United States of highly automated vehicles associated with foreign adversary countries operating or testing in the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

In light of the Department of Commerce's recently proposed rule to ban imports and sales of vehicles with certain vehicle connectivity system or automated driving system technology with a link to the People's Republic of China or Russia, the managers believe this study would be better conducted by the Department of Commerce rather than the Department of Defense.

Report on effectiveness of the Optimizing the Human Weapon System Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069L) that would require the Secretary of the Army to provide a report on the Optimizing the Human Weapon System Program of the Army.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Army, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a briefing that includes:

(1) An analysis of the effectiveness of the Optimizing the Human Weapon System Program of the Army; and

(2) Recommendations for improving and expanding the Program.

Comptroller general study on dredging capacity and port readiness

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069M) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study to assess the capability and capacity of the Department of Defense to complete harbor and channel dredging at seaports that require such dredging.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We agree with the concerns expressed in the Senate report accompanying S. 4638 (S. Rept. 118-188) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 recognizing that strategic seaports designated under the Strategic Seaport Program are critical transportation nodes necessary to support U.S. military rapid deployment requirements. We understand that there may be insufficient U.S. dredging capacity that has created a backlog in federal navigation maintenance work limiting the readiness of some seaports. We agree that the Commander, U.S. Transportation Command should provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on impacts that reduced dredging capacity may have had on designated strategic seaports. The briefing should identify any operational impacts of reduced dredging of designed strategic seaports, and if applicable, provide recommendations on the prioritization of available dredging capacity.

Report on red flags missed in Janet Yamanaka Mello fraud scheme

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069N) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on the fraud scheme perpetrated by Janet Yamanaka Mello, a civilian employee of the Department of the Army, who was indicted and pleaded guilty to stealing over \$100 million in Army funds.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on Navy use of immersive learning capabilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069O) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to provide a report on the Navy's use of immersive learning capabilities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Senate Report accompanying this Act directed the Secretary of the Navy to deliver a briefing not later than January 1, 2025 on extended reality training. We further direct this briefing to be delivered to the Armed Services Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives. Additionally, we direct the Secretary of the Navy to submit a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on how extended reality (XR) training capabilities have been, or potentially could be, integrated into training across the U.S. Navy. The briefing shall include any efforts of the U.S. Navy to coordinate with the U.S. Air Force on lessons learned related to XR training, an identification of any relevant XR training strategies, and any limitations or barriers to XR training integration, to include ensuring compliance with relevant cybersecurity requirements. We note the Sec-

retary may combine these two briefings into one, if appropriate.

Department of Defense report on potential cost savings from use of artificial intelligence

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1069P) that would require the Undersecretary of Defense (Comptroller) to provide a report on the potential cost-savings of incorporating artificial intelligence (AI) and multi-domain, attributable autonomous, semi-autonomous, unmanned systems, capabilities and processes into the military department and the civilian workforce of the Department of Defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that there are clear indications that the use of AI systems will contribute to mission effectiveness, as well as cost effectiveness, of military operations. Because of the pervasive application of AI across the defense enterprise, we further note the difficulty in obtaining high fidelity information on the broad cost-savings that might accrue. We believe that the Department should focus on specific use cases to estimate cost savings and that such anecdotal information should inform broader extrapolation for decision-makers.

Expedited access to certain military installations of the Department of Defense for Members of Congress and certain Congressional employees

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1071) that would authorize expedited access to military installations for members of Congress and certain congressional employees.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than March 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on any proposed updates or changes to procedures regarding ongoing efforts by the Department to finalize military installation access procedures for members of Congress and congressional staff.

Air Force Technical Training Center of Excellence

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1072) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to operate a Technical Training Center of Excellence.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a briefing, not later than April 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the feasibility and advisability of establishing a Technical Training Center of Excellence.

The briefing should include:

- (1) Any costs associated with standing up the Center;
- (2) Impacts on planned reorganization from Air Education and Training Command to Airman Development Command;
- (3) Effects on current responsibilities of the Air Force with regard to training maintainers; and
- (4) Any other benefits or consequences that the Secretary deems relevant.

Post-employment restrictions for participants in certain research funded by the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1077) that would prohibit principal investiga-

tors of Department of Defense-funded research into critical and emerging technologies at institutions of higher education from seeking or accepting employment with certain foreign entities for a period of 10 years after the end of their involvement in such research.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Tabletop exercise on extreme weather events in the Indo-Pacific region

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1080) that would require the Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, to conduct at least one tabletop exercise to assess the ability of the U.S. Armed Forces and the military and naval forces of allies and partners to confront aggressive adversarial threats in the Indo-Pacific region while simultaneously confronting extreme weather hazards.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We expect that the Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) will conduct one or more tabletop exercises in calendar year 2025, to assess the ability of the U.S. Armed Forces and the military and naval forces of allies and partners of the United States to confront aggressive adversarial threats in the Indo-Pacific region while simultaneously addressing the effects of extreme weather. At a minimum, any such exercise should examine:

(1) The resilience of U.S. weapons, systems, force posture, and command and control to withstand extreme weather events during a contingency in the Indo-Pacific region;

(2) The ability of the U.S. Armed Forces to conduct logistics during an extreme weather event, including the ability to resupply U.S. forces, allied and partnered forces, and affected civilian populations;

(3) The resiliency of USINDOPACOM to withstand extreme weather events;

(4) The ability of USINDOPACOM to continue operations with a partial or complete loss of overseas critical infrastructure due to extreme weather;

(5) The ability of the U.S. Armed Forces, in coordination with allies and partners, to resist force or other coercion by an aggressor during extreme weather, including potential scenarios involving command and control that is affected or impaired by extreme weather conditions;

(6) The effectiveness of air defense capabilities to deter missile threats from the People's Republic of China or the Democratic People's Republic of Korea during extreme weather;

(7) The ability of military and naval forces to operate in every domain during extreme weather; and

(8) The extent to which ground-based targeting and firing would be affected by extreme weather in the Indo-Pacific region.

Furthermore, in conducting any such tabletop exercise, we suggest that the Commander, USINDOPACOM, consider utilizing, as appropriate, the expertise and facilities of a postsecondary education institution of the Department of Defense. We also urge the Commander, USINDOPACOM, to consider the participation of other appropriate departments and agencies of the Federal Government, state and local governments, and outside experts, as appropriate, in the conduct of such tabletop exercises.

Lastly, we direct the Commander, USINDOPACOM to provide a briefing, not later than March 31, 2026, to the congressional defense committees on all tabletop or other exercises conducted by

USINDOPACOM in calendar year 2025 that assessed the ability of the U.S. Armed Forces and the military and naval forces of allies or partners of the United States to confront threats in the Indo-Pacific region while simultaneously addressing the effects of extreme weather.

Pilot program on Army readiness in contested logistics environments

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1081) that would establish a pilot program, through the Combat Training Directorate, to ensure that all troops at Army schools train on all expeditionary basing systems.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Assessment regarding antifouling coatings

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1084) that would require the Department of Defense to assess the feasibility of alternatives to copper-based antifouling coatings.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than March 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the feasibility and advisability of moving away from copper-based antifouling coatings.

The briefing should include:

(1) A notional timeline to remove existing copper-based antifouling coatings from naval vessels by January 1, 2028;

(2) Criteria for antifouling effectiveness, measured by the duration of time such coating prevents biological adhesion, corrosion, and degradation of vessel surfaces, environmental damage caused by shedding and leaching of the coating, and the effect of the coating on fuel efficiency and vessel speed; and

(3) An evaluation of whether a new antifouling coating standard could reduce time and costs associated with maintenance, while also being environmentally sound.

Prior to the briefing, the Secretary should evaluate commercially available products, technologies, applications, and services that could be used to improve combat readiness by decreasing the need for re-application of antifouling coatings.

Authorization to use nonelectric vehicles at Yuma Proving Ground

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1085) that would require the Secretary of Defense to authorize members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense at Yuma Proving Ground to use nonelectric vehicles in the performance of their duties.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that such members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense may use non-electric vehicles in the performance of their duties.

Sense of Congress relating to expenditures for certain military housing

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1086) that would express the sense of Congress relating to expenditures for certain military housing.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

University Centers for Arctic National Security Studies

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1087) that would require the Secretary of De-

fense to establish or designate one or more University Centers for Arctic National Security Studies at institutions of higher education.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Psychological performance training in performance mindset

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1088) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide an annual report on training for, and performance in, high-stress environments.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We understand that long-term exposure to high-stress environments can leave servicemembers in suboptimal performance states possibly leading to compromised performance abilities and negative behaviors. The Air Force trains on the development of proactive psychological performance skills and strategies for psychological flexibility and mental strength. We recognize potential benefits to training to develop and maintain psychological performance skills and mental resilience.

We, therefore, direct the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a briefing, not later than April 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the following:

(1) Efforts conducted previously or currently at Air Force Global Strike Command and Air Force Air Mobility Command to train airmen in psychological health and performance;

(2) Outcomes of such training effort to include any relevant airmen feedback;

(3) Costs associated with providing such training services;

(4) Efforts, if any, to budget and plan for expanding psychological performance skill training; and

(5) Any other relevant matters that the Secretary determines appropriate.

Declassification review of documents relating to involvement of United States in 1973 coup in Chile

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1091) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a declassification review of documents relating to the involvement of the United States in the 1973 coup d'état in Chile.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Capacity building and security cooperation with Mexico to counter threats posed by transnational criminal organizations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1011) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a plan for training members of the U.S. Armed Forces combined with members of the Mexican Armed Forces.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Authority of Department of Defense in surveillance of southwest border of United States

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1012) that would authorize the Department of Defense to share information collected as part of operations at the southwest border in support of Federal departments or agencies, with other Federal, state, or local authorities who are not receiving support from the Department

of Defense, but who are also tasked to monitor movements to, or across, the southwest border.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Treatment by Department of Defense of request for support at southwest border of United States

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1013) that would require the Secretary of Defense to prioritize requests for support at the southwest border that are timely and define required capabilities for support.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Protection against misuse of Naval Special Warfare Command insignia

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1041) that would amend chapter 891 of title 10, United States Code, to prohibit the unauthorized use of certain Naval Special Warfare insignia and authorize a fine of not more than \$20,000 for each violation.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Requirements relating to payments by the Department of Defense for qualifying injuries to the brain

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1046) that would limit the obligation or expenditure of not more than 75 percent of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act for travel expenses of the Office of the Secretary of Defense until the Secretary meets requirements relating to payments by the Department of Defense for qualifying injuries to the brain.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note the progress in the federal rule-making process required for the Department of Defense to implement section 901(i) of division J of the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2020 (22 U.S.C. 2680b(i)) and that the Department intends to start providing payments authorized under such section in fiscal year 2025.

Report on Panama Canal security

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1051) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the vulnerabilities, safety, and security of the Panama Canal.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit a report, not later than May 30, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the vulnerabilities, safety, and security of the Panama Canal related to U.S. defense priorities, and that include the following elements:

(1) Identification of authority limitations in the conduct of security cooperation activities related to the Panama Canal area;

(2) An assessment of Department of Defense and U.S. Coast Guard limitations to identify, understand, and respond to threats and risks associated with the safe and secure operation of the canal;

(3) Identification of Panamanian partner capabilities and limitations, response posture, cross-sector security coordination, policy and procedures, and other factors that

could challenge partner support to more intensive U.S. Coast Guard vessel (wartime and auxiliary) transit requirements;

(4) Identification of Panamanian laws and inter-Panamanian institutional policy and territorial jurisdiction that affect the ability of the Department of Defense to support securing and defending the canal;

(5) Identification of risks in relation to the Panama Canal Neutrality Treaty that could affect priority of U.S. transits during steady state, in crisis, and in conflict;

(6) An assessment of the interoperability of Panamanian and U.S. security forces if support is requested to defend the canal area, and recommendations on how to organize, train, and equip U.S. forces, partner forces, and ensure bilateral preparedness;

(7) Identification of external threats to and malign influence on the independence of the canal and its operations in steady state, in crisis, and in conflict;

(8) Identification of statecraft or foreign-backed entity capabilities, strategies, and limitations to disrupt regular canal operations to achieve military effects on U.S. force and sustainment flow—including by kinetic and non-kinetic means, cyber and information operations, and condition-setting;

(9) Identification of logistical, force protection, and other throughput challenges to ensuring U.S. force and sustainment flow via the canal and canal area when uncontested by other state actors and in support of a major contingency in another theater of operation;

(10) An assessment of the resilience of the canal system in the event of an accident, basic security incident, or climate-induced or other water management challenge that may impede throughput;

(11) Recommendations for U.S. defense investments to enhance the capabilities of Panama to ensure the safety and security of the canal area; and

(12) An assessment of the canal's information technology and operational technology infrastructure and systems.

Consideration of protracted conflicts in planning assumptions

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1061) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities to deliver to the Secretary of Defense defense planning scenarios that include protracted conflicts of at least 6, 12, and 24 months as planning assumptions.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Study on combat accomplishments of remotely piloted aircraft crew

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1062) that would require the Secretary of Defense to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to conduct an independent study to identify opportunities to provide more support services to, and greater recognition of, combat accomplishments of remotely piloted aircraft crew.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Comptroller General of the United States to provide a report, not later than January 1, 2026, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives regarding support services available to, and recognition of combat accomplishments of, remotely piloted aircraft (RPA) crew.

The report should include:

(1) How members of RPA crews who have conducted combat operations are identified;

(2) Existing procedures in the military departments for documenting RPA crew members who have conducted combat operations;

(3) An assessment of whether establishing a new status identifier for RPA crews would improve in documentation, recognition, or support of RPA crew members who have conducted combat operations;

(4) An overview of individual and campaign decorations and awards available to RPA crews;

(5) An assessment of post-separation health benefits available to RPA crew members who have conducted operations; and

(6) Any other relevant recommendations, observations, or information that the Comptroller General deems appropriate.

Assessment of impact of transnational organized crime on military drug overdoses

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1064) that would require the directors of the military criminal investigation organizations to provide an assessment of the types of drugs responsible for drug overdoses on military installations, the origin of those drugs, and the impact of the drug overdoses to military readiness.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that transnational criminal organizations have developed significant fentanyl production and trafficking infrastructure that facilitates significant drug problems and associated overdose deaths in the United States, and that which affects Americans in general has the potential to affect Department of Defense specifically.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with directors of the military criminal investigation organizations and the Director of the Defense Health Agency, to provide a briefing, not later than July 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the number of service-member deaths attributable to drug overdoses found to be caused—in whole or in part—by fentanyl from January 1, 2018 through January 1, 2024, and the extent to which illicit fentanyl inhibits the readiness of the Armed Forces.

For the purposes of this briefing, the term “military criminal investigation organizations” means:

(1) The Criminal Investigation Division of the Army;

(2) The Criminal Investigative Service of the Navy; and

(3) The Office of Special Investigations of the Air Force.

Report on undersea cable posture

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1066) that would require the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense to provide a report on the threats, defense, and resilience of undersea cables used by the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense (DOD-CIO) to submit a classified report, not later than December 30, 2025, to the congressional defense committees on the threats, defense, and resilience of undersea cables used by the Department of Defense. The report should include the following elements:

(1) An assessment of the threats (i.e., physical, cyber, supply chain, and foreign ownership) to undersea cables owned or used by the Department of Defense—including:

(A) The current procedure when threats to such cables are identified by or reported to

the Department of Defense (Office of Naval Intelligence (ONI) lead; the Joint Staff, and U.S. Cyber Command supporting);

(B) The extent to which such cables are owned and operated solely by the Department of Defense, reported by agency or military department (DOD-CIO Management Office lead);

(C) The extent to which such cables are owned and operated by non-government or commercial entities, but contracted to support the Department of Defense, reported by agency or military department (ODNI lead, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisitions and Sustainment supporting);

(D) A list of Department of Defense missions that would be most severely disrupted by a loss of undersea cable capabilities (combatant commands lead prioritization); and

(E) Intelligence gaps concerning threats to such cables (ODNI lead)

(2) The Department of Defense's strategy to protect critical subsea cables and an assessment of the Department's ability to execute that strategy—including for cables not owned by the Department of Defense (DOD-CIO);

(3) An assessment of the Department of Defense's ability to restore critical subsea cable capabilities based on damage to or interdiction of existing undersea capabilities (DOD-CIO);

(4) An assessment of the Department of Defense's ability to execute processes to prioritize and support restoration efforts in the event that subsea cable capabilities are lost (DOD-CIO);

(5) Alternative capabilities to negate or mitigate the loss of critical undersea cable capabilities—including a primary, alternate, contingency, and emergency communication plan (DOD-CIO);

(6) A strategy for prioritizing Department of Defense missions in the event that undersea cable capabilities are lost (DOD-CIO);

(7) An assessment of support required from other Federal Government, private sector, and foreign partners to defend, maintain, and restore undersea cable capabilities (DOD-CIO) and

(8) An assessment of new or additional capabilities or authorities required to adequately defend, monitor, maintain or restore undersea cable capabilities (DOD-CIO)—including, if additional capabilities are required, an estimated budget to support.

Plan for procurement of military working equids for the Caisson Platoon of the 3rd Infantry Regiment of the Army

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1071) that would require the Secretary of the Army to provide a plan for the procurement of military working equids for the caisson platoon.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Army to provide a report, not later than March 31, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives that details the Army plan for the procurement of military working equids for the Caisson Platoon of the 3rd Infantry Regiment of the Army. In developing the plan, the Secretary of the Army should consult with at least two nationally recognized equid experts.

Land for operations and training of Caisson Platoon of the 3rd Infantry Regiment of the Army

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1074) that would amend section 366 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to require the Secretary of

the Army to consider land in Virginia and West Virginia when contemplating land acquisition in support of the Caisson Platoon.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Plan for recapitalization of special operations surface combatant craft

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1084) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict and the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, to provide a plan for special operations surface combatant craft at end of service life for conversion into unmanned systems, as appropriate, to support experimentation and employment of manned-unmanned teaming capabilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict and the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, to jointly submit a plan, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to the congressional defense committees for converting special operations surface combatant craft at the end of service life into unmanned systems, as appropriate, to support experimentation and the use of manned-unmanned teaming capabilities.

Homeland defense planning requirements

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1085) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Strategy, Plans, and Capabilities to provide a report on defense critical assets in the United States that are likely targets for kinetic or non-kinetic attacks in the event of a major conflict with an adversary.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs, in consultation with the Commander, U.S. Northern Command, the Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, and the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, to submit an assessment, not later than April 1, 2025, to the congressional defense committees of the personnel and capabilities requirements for providing Department of Defense support to civil authorities in the event of a major foreign attack on the homeland.

The report should include:

(1) The Department's assessment of its existing capabilities for responding to an attack that impacts multiple domestic jurisdictions—including states, territories, and the District of Columbia;

(2) The number of personnel available to respond to such an attack;

(3) The availability of such personnel to respond to such an attack when Departmental personnel are forward deployed; and

(4) Additional authorities or personnel that would enable the Department to support civil authorities while simultaneously carrying out its other missions in the event of a major attack on the homeland.

Authority to provide contracted assistance to secure the southern land border of the United States

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1086) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to enter into services contracts to provide Department of Defense assistance to U.S. Customs

and Border Protection to increase ongoing efforts to secure the southern land border of the United States.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Preferred alternative for the Ambler Mining District in Alaska

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1094) that would require the Secretary of the Interior to select a preferred alternative relating to the provision of access to the Ambler Mining District in Alaska, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Report on portable, drone-agnostic munitions

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6031) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the feasibility and cost of acquiring and fielding portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of the Army provide a report, not later than October 31, 2025, to the congressional defense committees on the feasibility and cost of acquiring and fielding portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions. The report should include:

(1) The potential use of portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions to augment small unit tactics and lethality in the ground combat forces—including:

- (a) trench warfare;
- (b) countermine operations;
- (c) anti-armor uses; and
- (d) anti-personnel uses;

(2) The capability for portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions to have a dual tactical capacity to explode in the air or on impact;

(3) The cost-effectiveness, affordability, and domestic production capacity of portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions in comparison to one-way small uncrewed aerial systems;

(4) The use of portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions in the Ukraine conflict and best practices learned;

(5) The potential use of portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions in the defense of Taiwan;

(6) Procurement challenges, legal restrictions, training shortfalls, operational limitations, or other impediments to fielding portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions at the platoon level;

(7) A plan to equip platoon-sized ground combat formations in the close combat force with portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions at a basis of issue including a proposed timeline and fielding strategy;

(8) A plan to equip such other ground combat units with portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions;

(9) The capacity of the domestic defense industrial base to produce portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions;

(10) The capacity of the industrial bases of foreign partners to produce portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions;

(11) The feasibility of fielding portable, drone-agnostic droppable munitions in support of the findings of the report required by section 1071 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

Briefing on a second pilot program for advanced reactors

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported

bill contained a provision (sec. 6047) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing on a pilot program to provide resilience for critical infrastructure at Department of Defense facilities with high energy intensity requirements through a contract with a commercial entity to site, construct, and operate at least one licensed reactor, capable of producing at least 60 megawatts of power—at a facility selected for purposes of the pilot program by December 31, 2029.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than June 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives describing the requirements for, and components of, a pilot program to provide resilience for critical national security infrastructure at Department of Defense (DOD) facilities with high energy intensity requirements by contracting with a commercial entity to site, construct, and operate at least one licensed reactor, capable of producing at least 60 megawatts of power—at a facility selected for purposes of the pilot program by December 31, 2029.

In regards to such a briefing, the Secretary of Defense should: (1) Consult with the Secretary of Energy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the Administrator of the General Services Administration; and (2) Submit the briefing in unclassified form, but may include a classified appendix.

The briefing should address how to explore a public-private partnership for the reactor to reduce ratepayer costs and avoid financial risk to DOD's mission. The briefing should also include:

(1) Identification of potential locations to site, construct, and operate a reactor—either at a commercial site that serves DOD's critical mission interests, or at a DOD facility that contains critical national security infrastructure that the Secretary determines may not be energy resilient;

(2) Assessments of different nuclear technologies—including technologies capable of producing at least 60 megawatts of power—to provide energy resiliency for critical national security infrastructure;

(3) A survey of potential commercial stakeholders with which to enter into a contract under the pilot program to construct and operate a licensed micro-reactor and, if appropriate, share offtake needs;

(4) Options to enter into long-term contracting—including various financial mechanisms for such purpose;

(5) Identification of requirements for reactors to provide energy resilience to mission-critical functions at facilities;

(6) An estimate of the costs of the pilot program;

(7) A timeline with milestones for the pilot program;

(8) An analysis of the existing authority of DOD to permit the siting, construction, and operation of a reactor;

(9) Recommendations for any legislative changes necessary for DOD to permit the siting, construction, or operation of a reactor;

(10) A strategy for deploying additional reactors at other sites—including through public-private partnerships; and

(11) A plan for implementing the pilot program—to begin implementation not later than 3 months after submission of the briefing.

Red Hill Health Registry

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported

bill contained a provision (sec. 6052) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a Red Hill incident exposure registry to collect data on health implications of petroleum-contaminated water for impacted individuals and potentially impacted individuals on a voluntary basis.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that legislation is not required to establish such a registry. In June 2024, the Secretary of Defense executed a 5-year cooperative agreement with a university to establish and maintain an independent registry of individuals who were exposed to, or at risk of exposure to, the Red Hill fuel release.

Requirement to include implementation plan in strategy to respond to unmanned aircraft systems incursions

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6057) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a plan to expedite the testing, demonstration and validation of technologies that support the strategy required under subparagraph (A) of section 1057(a)(1).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Records preservation processes for certain at-risk Afghan allies

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6073) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a process for individuals to apply for classification as an Afghan ally.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE XI—CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

Sec. 1101—Pilot program for the temporary exchange of information technology personnel

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1004) that would amend section 1110 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84) to authorize the Secretary of Defense to include in the exchange program such personnel performing financial management or budgetary tasks for private-sector software-focused companies.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1102—Extension of authority for non-competitive appointments of military spouses by Federal agencies

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1101) that would extend authority for non-competitive appointments of military spouses by Federal agencies until December 31, 2033, and require the Department of Defense to submit an annual report on the use of this authority.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1110) that would make permanent the authority of Federal agencies to make noncompetitive appointments of military spouses in the civil service under section 3330d of title 5, United States Code.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment relating to the reporting requirements.

Sec. 1103—Extension of living quarters allowance to civilian DOD employees in positions with critical shortages stationed in Guam

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1102) that would authorize the Secretary of

Defense to provide a living quarters allowance to all Department of Defense (DOD) civilian employees with permanent duty in Guam.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would limit the use of this authority to DOD civilian employees filling positions determined by the Secretary to be critically short. The amendment would also sunset the authority on January 1, 2034.

Sec. 1104—One-year extension of authority to waive annual limitation on premium pay and aggregate limitation on pay for federal civilian employees working overseas

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1103) that would amend section 1101 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417), as most recently amended by section 1105 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31), to extend for 1 year the authority of heads of executive agencies to waive the limitation on the aggregate of basic and premium pay of employees who perform work supporting certain military or contingency operations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1101).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1105—One-year extension of temporary authority to grant allowances, benefits, and gratuities to civilian personnel on official duty in a combat zone

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1104) that would extend for 1 year the discretionary authority of the head of a Federal agency to provide allowances, benefits, and gratuities comparable to those provided to members of the Foreign Service to the agency's civilian employees on official duty in a combat zone.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1102).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1106—Pilot program for overseas work-period for DOD competitive service positions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1105) that would remove the 5-year time limitation on civilian employees serving in a competitive position overseas and that require the Department of Defense to provide an annual report on the impacts of the removal of the time limit on recruiting and retention.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would authorize the first O-6 in an employee's chain-of-command to approve a one-time 5-year extension for an employee to continue serving in an overseas duty assignment. The amendment would also require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the Department's use of the authority provided by this section, first due December 31, 2025, and annually thereafter for five years. Finally, the amendment would sunset the authority provided by this section 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act.

Sec. 1107—Employment and compensation of civilian faculty members at Inter-American Defense College

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1109) that would amend section 1595(c) of title 10, United States Code, to add the United States Element of the Inter-American Defense College to the list of covered Department of Defense educational institutions at which the Secretary of Defense is

authorized to employ and compensate civilian faculty as the Secretary considers necessary.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1107).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1108—Treatment of veterans who did not register for the selective service

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1111) that would amend section 3328 of title 5, United States Code, to establish eligibility for Federal civilian employment for veterans who failed to register for selective service, but who provide evidence of their qualifying military service to the executive agency in which the veteran seeks an appointment.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 522).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1109—Increase in military leave accrual and accumulation for Federal employees

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1112) that would amend section 6323 of title 5, United States Code, to increase military leave accrual and accumulation for Federal civilian employees from 15 to 20 days per year.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1110—Sufficient firefighter personnel covered installations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1118) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure a minimum number of firefighter personnel are on duty at each covered installation to maintain optimum manning and optimum level of service to safeguard life and property at such covered installation and a risk assessment may not be used to limit the number of firefighter personnel at a covered installation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would ensure that a sufficient number of firefighter personnel are on duty at each covered installation to maintain manning and service necessary to safeguard life and property.

Sec. 1111—Extension of direct hire authority for domestic industrial base facilities and Major Range and Test Facilities Base

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1104) that would amend section 1125 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) to extend the sunset date of the underlying direct hire authority for domestic industrial base facilities and major range and test facilities through the end of fiscal year 2030. Further, the provision would amend section 1102 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91) to extend a briefing requirement on the use of the direct hire authority through the end of fiscal year 2030.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1112—Modifications to the John S. McCain Strategic Defense Fellows Program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1108) that would amend section 932(f) of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232) to authorize the Secretary of Defense to make a non-competitive appointment or conversion of a successful program participant into a vacant position in the competitive or excepted service within the Department of Defense (DOD),

when the Secretary determines that such appointment or conversion will contribute to the development of highly qualified future senior leaders for the DOD.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1113—Modification of pilot program on dynamic shaping of the workforce to improve the technical skills and expertise at certain Department of Defense laboratories

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1109) that would amend section 1109 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92) to clarify that the early retirement incentives authorized for the dynamic workforce reshaping pilot program at Department of Defense science and technology reinvention laboratories are available for employees covered by the Federal Employees' Retirement System and not just those covered by the Civil Service Retirement System.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1114—Continuity of coverage under certain provisions of title 5, United States Code

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1111) that would amend section 6323 of title 5, United States Code, to make technical and conforming amendments related to military leave for Federal employees for certain members of the Space Force.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1115—Limitation on establishment of new diversity, equity, and inclusion positions; hiring freeze

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1116) that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from establishing any new positions within the Department of Defense with responsibility for matters relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion, or fill any vacancies in positions in the Department with responsibility for such matters.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1113).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would prohibit the Secretary of Defense from establishing any new billet, or filling any vacancies in existing billets, that have responsibility for matters relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion until the report required by section 529B of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) is delivered to Congress by the Comptroller General of the United States, or one-year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Waiver of limitation on appointment of recently retired members of armed forces to DOD competitive service positions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1106) that would waive the 180-day limitation on appointment of recently retired members of the Armed Forces to the Department of Defense competitive service positions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Department of Defense and the military departments may hire recently retired military personnel within the described 180-day window providing hiring managers comply with competitive processes

established by the Office of Personnel Management.

Mandatory public disclosures by newly nominated civilians for senior positions in the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1108) that would require newly nominated civilians for senior positions in the Department of Defense (DOD) to make certain mandatory financial disclosures available on a publicly accessible website.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that as part of the Senate Armed Services Committee's process for considering civilian nominations to senior positions within DOD requiring Senate confirmation, information of the type described in the House provision is provided to the Committee for its and the Senate's use in the course of the Senate discharging its obligation to provide advice and consent on these nominations.

Supplemental guidance for MCO competitive service positions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1110) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Director, Office of Personnel Management (OPM), and the Secretaries of the military departments, to establish supplemental guidance for qualification standards for mission critical competitive service positions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Department of Defense is struggling to recruit and retain civilians in mission critical occupations. This shortage can result in harmful impacts to our national security, and negatively impact morale, training, and readiness. Despite numerous efforts to alleviate these issues, including providing direct hire authority and pay and compensation incentives, civilian shortages in mission critical occupations persist. We note that shortages are further exacerbated by recruiting and retention protocols across the government, including long timelines for the OPM to approve or disapprove proposed incentives.

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments and the Director, OPM, to provide a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, no later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, on alleviating civilian shortages for mission critical occupations across the Department. The report should include the following: (1) An established list of mission critical occupations across the services in which a civilian shortage has negatively impacted readiness across the last 3 years, and positions that are projected to persist or develop in the next 3 years, including information on the number of personnel shortages and efforts to recruit and retain these occupations; and (2) An assessment of the feasibility and advisability of OPM delegating the authority to service secretaries to establish supplements to General Schedule Classification and Qualification Standards and waive or adopt occupational requirements under such mission critical occupations, in order to expedite and streamline the process to provide incentives to mission critical occupations across the Department.

Flexibilities for Federal employees who are armed forces spouses

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1113) that would provide additional flexibili-

ties for Federal employees who are also spouses of members of the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We understand that military spouses face significant challenges finding employment. We direct the Secretary of Defense, consistent with ongoing actions directed by Executive Order 14100, Advancing Economic Security for Military and Veteran Spouses, Military Caregivers, and Survivors, to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, no later than April 1, 2025, on: (1) Ongoing efforts to eliminate barriers to flexible work options for military spouses, to include telework; (2) Options to adjust Department of Defense policies to retain military spouses in existing positions in a telework capability; (3) Data regarding existing military spouse employment with the Department of Defense and military services; (4) Ongoing challenges with utilizing military spouse preferences to include the overseas direct hire authority; and (5) Any other matters the Secretary determines relevant.

GAO report on home-based businesses at remote military installations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1114) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to assess and submit a report to the Secretary of Defense on home-based businesses operating at remote and isolated installations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Expand Department of Defense civilian employment

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1115) that would direct the Secretary of Defense to ensure that, to the extent practicable, each commercial position in the Department of Defense, or an element of the Department, is filled by a civilian employee of the Department or performed by a contractor of the Department, within 5 years of the enactment of this section.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

OMB employment form requirement for DOD contractors

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1117) that would require all individuals hired by Department of Defense contractors under Department contracts to use the Declaration for Federal Employment Form OMB No. 3206-0812, typically used by Federal civilian employees.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives by no later than April 1, 2025, on the number of instances over the past 10 years of Federal civilian employees whose Federal employment was terminated by reason of serious misconduct and then were rehired by a defense contractor for placement within the same office.

Report on reducing misconceptions about mental health and security clearance eligibility

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1853) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on

the Department's activities to inform members of the Armed Forces about how mental health affects security clearance eligibility.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We remain concerned about how misperceptions regarding the impact of mental health issues on security clearance eligibility might influence the willingness of military service members to seek necessary mental health treatment. We believe better communication on how such information is used in the process, including guardrails and clear guidance to the workforce, is important to destigmatize mental health care for those military service members who might benefit from such care, but also recognize the importance of maintaining their clearance for the duration of their career.

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, by June 1, 2025, on the Department's activities to inform members of the Armed Forces about how mental health information is used in the security clearance eligibility process. Such briefing shall include:

(1) The Department's outreach and education activities to inform members of the Armed Forces about how questions regarding mental health care are used in the security clearance and adjudication process and the guidelines used to differentiate routine care from possible disqualifying events;

(2) The Department's outreach and education activities to ensure that health care providers in the military health system, non-medical counselors, TRICARE providers, and other relevant personnel convey accurate information to members of the Armed Forces regarding mental health and security clearance eligibility;

(3) The guardrails on the use of such information incorporated into guidance to the workforce for security clearance review and adjudication activities, and how questions or information regarding mental health care are used in continuous vetting processes; and

(4) Description of appeals processes available to military service members to dispute any decisions made related to mental health care events and how such information may have been used in the security clearance and adjudication process.

Removal of Direct Support Activities from personnel limitation on the Office of the Secretary of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1105) that would amend section 143(b) of title 10, United States Code, to modify the definition of personnel within the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) contained in that subsection, and to which the personnel limitation contained in section 143 applies, to no longer include military and civilian personnel assigned to, or employed by, direct support activities of the OSD or the Washington Headquarters Services.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Authority to provide increased voluntary separation incentive pay for civilian employees of the Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1106) that would amend section 9902 of title 5, United States Code, to increase the maximum amount of voluntary separation incentive pay for Department of Defense civilian employees from \$25,000 to \$40,000.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Modification of direct hire authority for domestic defense industrial base facilities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1112) that would amend section 1125 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) to include positions within the Navy Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion, and Repair under the direct hire authority for the domestic defense industrial base authorized by that section.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We encourage the Department of the Navy to work with the Office of Personnel Management to acquire the desired authority through existing regulatory means.

Prohibition on considering applicant's commitment to diversity, equity, or inclusion in hiring process for certain positions at Department of Defense educational institutions

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1114) that would prohibit the Department of Defense (DOD) from requiring or considering a diversity statement from an applicant for employment at a DOD educational institution.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE XII—MATTERS RELATING TO FOREIGN NATIONS

SUBTITLE A—ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

Sec. 1201—Modification of authority to build capacity of foreign security forces and modification of support for execution of bilateral agreements concerning illicit transnational maritime activity in Africa

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1237 and sec. 1601) that would amend subsection 333(a) of title 10, United States Code, authority to build capacity of foreign security forces, to include space domain awareness, defensive space operations, and counter-illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing operations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1202).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would modify subsection 333(g) of title 10, United States Code, to extend the availability of funds for programs across fiscal years, and modify section 1808 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

Sec. 1202—Modification of authority for Naval Small Craft Instruction and Technical Training School

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1204) that would amend section 352 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize payment of fixed costs associated with the Naval Small Craft Instruction and Technical Training School from amounts made available for operation and maintenance, procurement, and military construction, among other modifications.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1203—Assessment, monitoring, and evaluation of programs and activities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1202) that would modify a requirement for the Secretary of Defense to provide reports on assessment, monitoring, and evaluation of security cooperation programs and other related activities of the Department of Defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1204—Quarterly briefings on counterterrorism operations, irregular warfare, and sensitive activities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1281) that would amend section 485 of title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to provide the congressional defense committees with quarterly briefings on counterterrorism, irregular warfare, and other sensitive activities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1205—Extension of modification to authority to provide support for conduct of operations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1213) that would extend and modify an increase in the limitation on the aggregate value of all logistic support, supplies, and services provided to friendly foreign countries for the conduct of operations under section 331 of title 10, United States Code, through fiscal year 2026.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with various technical and clarifying amendments extending and modifying an increase in the limitation on the aggregate value of all logistic support, supplies, and services provided to friendly foreign countries for the conduct of operations under section 331 of title 10, United States Code, through fiscal year 2026, and requiring an annual report under section 386 of title 10, United States Code.

We understand that the United States Government and members of the Multinational Security Support (MSS) Mission in Haiti have publicly expressed a desire to transition the MSS mission to the United Nations or a similar multinational structure. We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, on Department of Defense support under section 331 of title 10, United States Code, for the MSS Mission in Haiti. Such report shall, at a minimum, include the following:

(1) A list of countries participating in the MSS Mission in Haiti that are eligible for Department of Defense support under section 331 of title 10, United States Code;

(2) A description of the type, cost, and duration of support to be provided;

(3) A description of the United States national security interests supported by such mission;

(4) A description of known contributions to such mission by the international community; and

(5) With respect to such mission, a plan for the transition from support provided by the Department of Defense to support provided by other elements of the United States Government and international partners.

We also direct the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, that includes a summary of support provided under section 331 of title 10, United States Code, during fiscal years 2023 and 2024. Such report required shall include, at a minimum, the following:

(1) A description of operations so supported in each such fiscal year; and

(2) A list of recipients of such support, including a description of the type and associated cost of such support.

Sec. 1206—Extension of authorities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained provisions (sec. 1208 and sec. 1215) that would extend section 1208 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) and section 1210 (E) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) through 2027.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provisions with technical amendments.

Sec. 1207—Extension and modification of defense operational resilience international cooperation pilot program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1204) that would extend the Defense Operational Resilience International Cooperation (DORIC) pilot program through 2027.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1209) that would extend the DORIC pilot program through 2030 and increase the annual cap on expenditures under the authority to \$15.0 million per year.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would extend the DORIC pilot program through 2027 and increase the annual cap on expenditures under the authority to \$15.0 million per year.

The DORIC pilot program authorizes engagement with military forces of partner countries on defense-related environmental and operational energy issues in support of the theater campaign plans of the geographic combatant commands. We note that the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) clarified that DORIC can be used for the provision of sustainment and non-lethal assistance, including training, defense services, and supplies (including consumables). We encourage the Department of Defense to focus the use of the DORIC authority on high-payoff projects with foreign partners that have clearly defined operational relevance and a need for such assistance, even if such an approach results in the Department funding fewer projects on an annual basis. We understand these high-payoff projects may be more expensive on a per-project basis and note the agreement would increase the overall cap on the authority to \$15.0 million per year in anticipation of these requirements. Given the limited nature of this authority, funds executed under this authority must be strictly prioritized to achieve the greatest benefit for the geographic combatant command and partner.

Sec. 1208—Acceptance and expenditure of contributions for multilateral security cooperation programs and activities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1201) that would amend subchapter I of chapter 16 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense to accept, retain, and expend contributions, including money, personal property, and services, from one or more foreign governments, to carry out security cooperation activities in which the foreign partner, or partners, share a national security interest with the United States.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to accept, manage, and expend contributions, including

funds, defense articles, and defense services, from foreign governments for mutually agreed upon purposes to carry out security cooperation programs and activities pursuant to certain authorities. The authority provided by the provision would expire on December 31, 2029.

Sec. 1209—Temporary authority to provide training to military forces or national security forces of Costa Rica and Panama

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1210) that would authorize U.S. general purpose forces conducting training with friendly foreign countries under section 321 of title 10, United States Code, notwithstanding subsection (a)(2) of that section, to train the military forces or national security forces of Costa Rica and Panama and pay for specified expenses related to such training and exercises from the date of the enactment of this Act through December 31, 2030.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1210—Improvements to defense acquisition workforce for foreign military sales

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1289) that would require the Secretary of Defense to issue guidance to the defense acquisition workforce and the security cooperation workforce governing the execution of foreign military sales (FMS) and establish a FMS Continuous Process Improvement Board to serve as an enduring structure within the Department of Defense to advise the Secretary on ways to improve the FMS process of the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to enter into a contract with a federally funded research and development center to assess the feasibility and advisability of establishing a dedicated Department of Defense contracting capacity to support the FMS process, and provide a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than December 1, 2025. We note that the study required by this section should focus on the need, if any, to create a cadre of specialized contracting officers dedicated to the FMS process, not on the creation of a new process for adjudication of foreign military sales. The agreement would also establish a FMS Continuous Process Improvement Board to advise the Secretary of Defense on matters relating to the FMS process.

SUBTITLE B—MATTERS RELATING TO ISRAEL

Sec. 1211—Statement of policy ensuring Israel's defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1232) that would state that it is the policy of the United States to work with Israel to ensure adequate defense against Iran and its proxies.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Government of Israel where feasible, to submit a report to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate not later than June 1, 2025, on the extent to which Israel was subject to aerial attacks, from rockets or missiles between October 7, 2023 and December 31, 2024, that Israel coun-

tered by deploying or utilizing not less than 50 Iron Dome interceptors, David's Sling or Arrow defense systems. The report shall include:

(1) A listing of the number of deployments of Iron Dome interceptors, David Sling or Arrow defense systems during the reporting period;

(2) A listing of the estimated cost of deploying Iron Dome interceptors during the reporting period;

(3) An identification of components or munitions required for the replenishment of Iron Dome interceptors, David's Sling or Arrow defense systems that were deployed or utilized to counter attacks during the reporting period;

(4) An estimate of the costs for any such replenishment;

(5) A listing of any requests made by the Government of Israel to the Government of the United States for any such replenishment, and the response to any such requests; and

(6) An estimate of the timeframe under which the United States resupplied Israel with such defense systems.

Sec. 1212—Modification of United States-Israel anti-tunnel cooperation

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1206) that would amend section 1279 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92) to expand cooperation with Israel to improve anti-tunneling technologies and increase the limit on the amount authorized for such activities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1213—Requirement to conduct subterranean warfare military exercises

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1233) that would require military exercises in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility to conduct an annual counter-tunneling exercise with Israel.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1214—Strategic partnership on defense industrial priorities between the United States and Israel

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1249) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a partnership between the Defense Innovation Unit and appropriate counterparts of Israel.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1215—Establishment of program between the United States and Israel for military trauma education and training

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1235) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish an education and training program to be known as the "United States and Israel Trauma and Amputee Rehabilitation Education and Training Program."

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

SUBTITLE C—MATTERS RELATING TO THE NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

Sec. 1221—Key partners for Middle East Regional Integration Military Subject Matter Expert Exchange Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1216) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with other relevant

agencies and using existing authorities, including section 311 of title 10, United States Code, to establish a subject matter expert exchange program between U.S. military forces and ally and partner forces of the Middle East working to advance regional integration.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1211).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1222—Extension and modification of annual report on military power of Iran

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1212) that would amend section 1245 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84) to include additional reporting requirements on the military power of Iran.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1223—Modification of report on the military capabilities of Iran and related activities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1220A) that would amend section 1227 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) to modify the report on the military capabilities of Iran and related activities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1224—Prohibition on providing funding to Iranian entities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1219) that would prohibit funds to be made available, directly or indirectly, to Iranian entities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1225—Notification relating to arms trafficking by Iran

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1225) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide notification to the congressional defense committees after any identified transfer of weapons or related materials by Iran to an Iranian-linked group or a second country outside the territory of Iran.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1226—Assessment and plan with respect to equipment provided to Kurdish Peshmerga forces

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1226) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and every 120 days thereafter, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives assessing whether equipment provided under section 1236 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291) and designated for Kurdish Peshmerga forces is being provided in a timely manner, and a plan for resolving any delay of such equipment intended for Kurdish Peshmerga forces.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would additionally direct the Secretary of Defense to notify the congressional defense committees every 120 days regarding the rationale for

the delay of the plan of action to equip and train Iraqi security forces and Kurdish Peshmerga forces to defend against attack by missiles, rockets, and unmanned system pursuant to section 1266 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) until such plan is delivered. The provision is further amended to clarify that the requirements directed pursuant to this section are not intended to overturn or impede the current United States policies toward Iraq.

We remain concerned about the increasing threat environment from air and missile threats against the Iraqi people, the territory of Iraq, and the coalition forces who remain in Iraq at the invitation of the Iraqi government to assist Iraqi and Kurdish forces. We urge the Secretary of Defense to provide the plan of action without further delay.

Sec. 1227—Extension of authority for reimbursement of certain coalition nations for support provided to United States military operations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1205) that would amend section 1233 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Public Law 110-181) to increase the limitation on authority for funding from \$15.0 million to \$75.0 million and extend the authority for reimbursement of certain coalition nations for support provided to U.S. military operations through December 31, 2025.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1228—Extension and modification of security briefings on Afghanistan

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1282) that would amend section 1092 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) to extend the requirement for security briefings on Afghanistan and modify the briefing dates through December 31, 2026.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1229—Notifications regarding terrorist groups in Afghanistan

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1286) that would require the Secretary of Defense to notify the congressional defense committees within 30 days of identifying any new training facility in Afghanistan that is operated or staffed by al-Qaeda, ISIS Khorasan, or other United States designated terrorist organizations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1230—Extension of authority to support operations and activities of the office of security cooperation in Iraq

The agreement includes a provision that would extend the authority to support operations and activities of the Office of Security Cooperation in Iraq for an additional year.

Sec. 1231—Extension and modification of authority to provide assistance to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1211) that would extend the existing authority under section 1236 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291) by 1 year to continue providing support to partner forces in Iraq to defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and help ensure ISIS cannot resurge.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1222).

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

We note the current threat environment in Iraq, including an uptick in malign activity by ISIS and unmanned aerial system attacks from Iranian militia groups. We further note that in September, the U.S.-Iraq Higher Military Commission announced the transition of the global coalition to defeat ISIS to a bilateral security relationship with the Government of Iraq. We commend the work of the members of the Counter-ISIS coalition to degrade and defeat ISIS, including the Iraqi Security Forces and Peshmerga Forces.

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the congressional defense committees not later than March 1, 2025, to provide further details on how the transition of the global coalition to defeat ISIS could impact, interact, or coincide with the Counter-ISIS Train and Equip Fund program.

Sec. 1232—Extension of authority to provide assistance to vetted Syrian groups and individuals

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1212) that would extend existing authority under section 1209 of the Carl Levin and Howard P. “Buck” McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015 (Public Law 113-291) by 1 year to provide assistance to vetted Syrian groups for countering the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria in Syria.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1221).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1233—Statement of policy on recognition of the Assad regime

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1226) that would prohibit the recognition of Bashar al-Assad or any government in Syria that is led by Bashar al-Assad, oppose recognition of an Assad regime by other governments, and prohibit Federal officials from taking any action or expending any funds that would recognize or otherwise imply recognition of the Assad regime.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment, noting that it is the policy of the United States to not recognize or normalize relations with any government of Syria that is led by Bashar al-Assad due to the Assad regime’s ongoing crimes against the Syrian people.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Modification of Department of Defense State Partnership program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1201) that would extend, by a year, the period of performance of activities pursuant to the Department of Defense State Partnership Program under section 341(e)(1)(A) of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Modification of Department of Defense support to stabilization activities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1203) that would amend section 1210A of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) to require that Department of Defense support for stabilization activities be provided on a reimbursable basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1207) that would amend section 1210A of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) to extend the authority of the Department of Defense to support stabilization activities through December 31, 2026.

The agreement does not include either provision.

Report on compliance by the Department of Defense with the limitation on military-to-military exchange or contact with representatives of the Chinese People's Liberation Army

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1205) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report that describes compliance by the Department of Defense with the limitation on military-to-military exchange or contact with representatives of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) of the People's Republic of China under section 1201 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (Public Law 106-65).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than March 1, 2025, to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees on the risk that the PLA could gain indirect knowledge of United States military capabilities or operational tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs) through their engagement with allies and partners of the United States. The briefing shall also include an explanation of efforts by the Department of Defense to mitigate the compromise of such capabilities and TTPs by the PLA, including the conduct of end-use monitoring.

General Thaddeus Kosciuszko memorial exchange program for Polish-American defense cooperation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1206) that would require the Commander, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, to carry out a training program pursuant to section 322 of title 10, United States Code, between special operations forces under the jurisdiction of the Commander and special forces of the Polish Army.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on cooperation between the National Guard and the Republic of India

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1207) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the feasibility and advisability of enhanced cooperation between the National Guard and the Republic of India.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives regarding the feasibility and advisability of enhanced defense cooperation between the United States and the Republic of India. Such briefing shall include the following elements:

(1) A description of the cooperation between the United States military and the Indian military during the 10 preceding calendar years, including mutual visits, exercises, training, and equipment opportunities;

(2) An evaluation of the feasibility and advisability of enhancing defense cooperation between the United States and the Republic of India on a range of activities, including:

- (a) disaster and emergency response;
- (b) cyber defense and communications security;
- (c) military medical cooperation;

- (d) mountain warfare;
- (e) jungle warfare;
- (f) counterinsurgency;
- (g) counterterrorism;
- (h) cultural exchange and education of members of the United States military in Hindi; and

(i) programs for United States military advisors to assist in training the reserve components of the military forces of India.

(3) Recommendations to enhance such cooperation and improve interoperability, including through familiarization visits, cooperative training and exercises, and co-deployments;

(4) Identification of States that may serve as potential partners with India through a State partnership under section 341 of title 10, United States Code; and

(5) Any other matter the Secretary of Defense or Secretary of State deems appropriate.

Help Israel Recover the Hostages

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1214) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Director of National Intelligence, to provide a briefing that contains an overview of United States diplomatic, military, and intelligence support for Israel as it works to release the hostages.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Director of National Intelligence, to provide a briefing, along with the Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs, to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the congressional intelligence committees, not later than March 1, 2025, that contains an overview of United States diplomatic, military, and intelligence support for Israel as it works to release the hostages.

The briefing shall cover the following, relating to supporting the release of the hostages:

(1) An overview of United States military assistance to Israel;

(2) How the United States military is assisting the Israeli military on hostage rescue planning and recovery efforts;

(3) An overview of United States personnel embedded or regularly liaising with Israel's military and diplomatic officials in support of hostage release;

(4) A description of how the United States is leveraging partner nations to assist with hostage release efforts; and

(5) Any other forms of assistance provided the Secretary determines relevant to Israel's efforts to release the hostages.

Statement of Congress relating to Israel and the hostages held by Hamas

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1215 and sec. 1217) that would express a statement of Congress relating to Israel and the hostages held by Hamas and that would express a sense of Congress regarding Israel.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provisions.

We strongly condemn the October 7th, 2023, attacks by Hamas on the people of Israel, during which approximately 1,200 people were murdered, including 46 U.S. citizens, and over 250 people were taken hostage, including 12 Americans. We urge the release of the remaining hostages, as well as a durable solution to the security challenges facing Israel, including from Iran and Iranian linked groups.

We note that since 1948, Israel has been one of the strongest friends and allies of the United States. We further note that Israel is a stable, democratic country in a tumultuous region. We affirm that it is essential to the strategic interest of the United States to continue to offer security assistance and related support to Israel, which is vital as Israel confronts a number of threats, including those stemming from Iran and Iranian linked groups.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees, not later than February 1, 2025, outlining an overview of United States diplomatic, military, and intelligence support for Israel in support of Israeli efforts to secure the release of the hostages captured by Hamas in the wake of the October 7, 2023, attacks. The briefing shall include:

(1) An overview of United States military assistance to Israel in support of hostage recovery efforts;

(2) A description of assistance provided by the United States military to the Israeli military related to hostage rescue planning and recovery efforts;

(3) A description of intelligence sharing efforts in support of hostage release efforts;

(4) A description of the number of United States personnel embedded or regularly liaising with Israel's military, intelligence, and diplomatic officials and the types of activities in which such personnel are engaged;

(5) A description of how the United States is leveraging partner nations to assist with hostage release efforts; and

(6) A description of any other forms of assistance provided by the United States to Israel that are determined relevant to Israel's efforts to release the hostages.

Study and report on international security measures on the border between Gaza and Egypt

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1218) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to conduct a study on steps that Israel, Egypt, and the United States can take to enhance security measures on the border between Gaza and Egypt to ensure Hamas and other actors do not use tunnels or methods via the Mediterranean Sea to smuggle weapons and illicit goods.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, not later than March 1, 2025, outlining steps that Israel, Egypt, and the United States can take to enhance international security measures on the border between Gaza and Egypt to ensure Hamas and other actors do not use tunnels or methods via the Mediterranean Sea to smuggle weapons and illicit goods. The report shall include a detailed description and map indicating existing tunnels on the border between Gaza and Egypt.

Report on agreements made by the United States with the Taliban

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1220) that would require the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, to provide a report on agreements made by the United States with the Taliban.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Briefing on Iranian support for non-state actors in North Africa

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1220B) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing on Iranian support for non-state actors in North Africa.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than May 1, 2025, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on Iran's support for non-state actors in North Africa and any threats that such support may pose to U.S. allies, partners, and interests in the region.

Sense of Congress

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1221) that would express the sense of Congress regarding the Al-Tanf Garrison.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the requirement in this provision is addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Strategy to protect the Al-Tanf Garrison

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1222) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy on the protection of United States and partner forces at Al-Tanf Garrison in Syria from the threat of Iran-backed militias, the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham, the Russian Federation, and the Assad regime.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to submit a report to the congressional defense committees, not later than June 1, 2025, that may include a classified annex, related to activities in Syria. The report should include the following elements:

(1) The number and description of attacks by Iran-backed militias at Al-Tanf Garrison and other United States positions in Syria between October 7, 2023 and December 31, 2024;

(2) Department of Defense humanitarian assistance efforts including for internally displaced persons at the Al-Rukban camp;

(3) Russian violations of deconfliction agreements with the United States in Syria including Al-Tanf Garrison;

(4) Assad regime assistance, communication, and facilitation to ISIS;

(5) Assad regime assistance, communication, and facilitation to Iran-back militias in Syria;

(6) The number of jihadist prisoner releases and contributions of released prisoners to ISIS;

(7) Assad regime financing of ISIS, including the Syrian banking system in ISIS-held territory;

(8) Russian support for Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) in Syria, including materiel or military transfers between Russia and the IRGC and efforts to evade United States sanctions;

(9) Russian military support for Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq (AAH), Harakat al-Nujaba (HAN) and Akram 'Abbas al-Kabi, and Kata'ib Sayyid al-Shuhada (KSS).

Report and strategy on the Assad regime's relationship with ISIS

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1223) that would require the Secretary of De-

fense, in consultation with the head of the Defense Intelligence Agency, to submit a report describing the Assad regime's cooperation, assistance, and association with the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the requirement in this provision is addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Strategy to counter the Assad regime's support and cooperation with Iran-backed militias in Syria

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1224) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to develop and submit a strategy on the use of its existing authorities to disrupt and degrade threats to the national security of the United States caused by Iran-backed militias in Syria.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to submit a report to the congressional defense committees, not later than June 1, 2025, that may include a classified annex, on Iran-backed militias in Syria. The report should include the following elements:

(1) Existing and required authorities and resources to detect, monitor, and counter Iran-backed militias in Syria and protect United States servicemembers from Iran-backed militia attacks;

(2) The Assad regime's knowledge, facilitation, or tolerance of Iran-backed militia attacks against United States servicemembers after October 7, 2023;

(3) Freedom of movement of Iranian proxies, particularly between Abu Kamal and the deconfliction zone in eastern Syria, and the operational implications;

(4) Efforts and capabilities of Iran-backed militias to transport weapons and weapons systems from Syria into Lebanon;

(5) Iran's efforts and capabilities to sustain military threats on United States positions in Syria and maintain support to Hezbollah from Syria.

Report and strategy on Russia's support for foreign terrorist organizations in Syria

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1225) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to develop and submit a report and strategy to utilize existing authorities to counter the Russian Federation's support of foreign terrorist organizations and specially designated global terrorists in Syria.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the requirement in this provision is addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Appropriate congressional committees defined

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1227) that would define the appropriate congressional committees.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

United States-Israel PTSD Collaborative Research

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1234) that would establish a grant program to increase collaborative research between the United States and Israel on post-traumatic stress disorder.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

As noted in the Joint Explanatory Statement to accompany the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263), the United States and Israel have cooperated in the field of medical research since 1978, to include post-traumatic stress disorder.

Sense of Congress on the importance of the Iron Dome system

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1236) that would express the sense of Congress on the Iron Dome system.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We strongly support the efforts of the Department of Defense to assist Israel in defending its population from rocket and missile attacks with the Iron Dome system.

Report on training of Ukrainian armed forces

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1238 and sec. 1240) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on U.S. efforts to train the Ukrainian Armed Forces in the United States as well as information on casualty figures in the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provisions.

We note the importance of Congress continuing to receive detailed information on the Ukrainian military's performance, including U.S. efforts to date to train the Ukrainian Armed Forces as well as casualty figures for the Russian Armed Forces and Ukrainian Armed Forces, respectively. Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees, not later than May 1, 2025, a report on the Ukrainian Armed Forces that includes:

(1) A description of the training of Ukrainian Armed Forces by the United States since February 2022, including the approximate number of Ukrainian Armed Forces personnel trained and the locations of the training, with a focus on training conducted in the United States;

(2) A description of F-16 pilot and maintenance training provided in the United States to the Ukrainian Armed Forces since February 2022;

(3) The estimated total cost of training for the Ukrainian Armed Forces by the Department of Defense since February 2022, disaggregated by fiscal year; and

(4) An estimate of the casualties and major equipment losses of the Ukrainian Armed Forces and Russian Armed Forces since February 2022.

Sense of Congress on defense by NATO member states

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1239) that would express the sense of Congress regarding the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1237).

The agreement does not include the House or Senate provisions.

We celebrate that in April 2024, the NATO alliance marked 75 years since its foundation. In those 75 years, NATO has remained the strongest and most successful military alliance in the world, founded on a commitment by its members to uphold the principles of democracy, individual liberty, and the rule of law. The success of NATO is critical to advancing United States national security objectives in Europe, the Indo-Pacific

region, and around the world. The United States remains steadfast in its ironclad commitment to NATO as the foundation of transatlantic security and to upholding its obligations under the North Atlantic Treaty, including its commitment to collective defense under Article 5 of the Treaty.

We welcome the addition of Finland and Sweden as the 31st and 32nd members of the alliance, respectively. Both countries are security providers, and their inclusion has made the alliance stronger and enhanced collective security by increasing alliance capabilities, particularly in the Baltic Sea region and Northern Europe.

We urge NATO member countries that have not yet met the 2 percent defense spending pledge, as agreed to at the 2014 Wales Summit, to meet the spending target as expeditiously as possible and stress the importance of the affirmation at the 2023 Vilnius Summit that defense spending of at least 2 percent of gross domestic product (GDP) be seen as a minimum investment. We also urge allies to continue to allocate at least 20 percent of their defense budgets on major equipment, including research and development.

We note that the regional plans, agreed to by all NATO member countries at the Vilnius Summit in 2023, provide important clarity on the forces, capabilities, and readiness levels needed to defend NATO. We also note that to implement these plans and meet allied capability targets, NATO members will need to spend more than 2 percent of GDP on their defense.

We urge allies to continue making efforts to address the challenges posed by the coercive policies of the People's Republic of China that undermine the interests, security, and shared values of the alliance.

We encourage the United States and fellow NATO allies to continue to expand cooperation efforts on cybersecurity issues to prevent adversaries and criminals from compromising critical systems and infrastructure.

We note that the unprovoked and illegal full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation has fundamentally altered the transatlantic security landscape and necessitates the full attention of the transatlantic alliance to ensure United States and allied interests and to enable Ukraine's self-defense.

We further affirm that the United States and fellow NATO allies and partners should continue efforts to deliver needed assistance to Ukraine as Ukraine fights against the illegal and unjust war of the Russian Federation and note that United States investments under the European Deterrence Initiative remain critically important to deter the Russian Federation from expanding its war of aggression beyond Ukraine.

We recognize that Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania continue to serve as model allies, including through their defense investments, modernization of key capabilities, and their steadfast assistance to Ukraine, among myriad other examples. We encourage the Defense Department to continue robust support for efforts to advance Baltic stability and security.

We remain concerned about the dynamic security situation in the Western Balkans and believe that military-to-military cooperation among the United States, the European Union, and fellow NATO allies to maintain peace and security in the Western Balkans is critically important.

We condemn the efforts of the Russian Federation to assert military, political, and economic dominance in the Black Sea. Such actions threaten the peace and stability of the littoral countries of the Black Sea, including NATO allies Bulgaria, Romania, and Türkiye, and should remain a focus area for the NATO alliance.

Report on allied contributions to the common defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1242) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on allied contributions to the common defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that elements of this provision related to the military capabilities of allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific and their contributions to mutual security objectives are addressed elsewhere in the report accompanying this Act. We also note that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) collects defense expenditure data from allies and publishes it on a regular basis. We further note that NATO also publishes information on NATO operations and missions in which the Armed Forces of the United States and NATO allies participate.

Sense of Congress on international defense exhibitions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1244) that would express the sense of Congress regarding international defense exhibitions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Court of Commerce of Paris ruled in June 2024 that the provisions that were imposed on Israeli companies for their participation in the Eurosatory Exhibition were illegal. Unfortunately, the Court acted too late for Israeli companies to participate.

Report and strategy for United States involvement in Ukraine

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1245) that would require the President to provide a report on a strategy for United States involvement in Ukraine.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on multilateral exercises in the eastern Mediterranean

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1246) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on multilateral exercises in the eastern Mediterranean.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on certain assistance to Ukraine

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1247) that would require a report on United States assistance to Ukraine.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees, not later than May 1, 2025, a report that includes:

(1) The total amount of remaining presidential drawdown authority pursuant to section 506(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and a plan for using any remaining authority;

(2) The total amount of obligated, committed, and remaining funds for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (USAI), and a plan for using any remaining USAI funding;

(3) The total amount of obligated, committed, and remaining funds for the replenishment of defense articles provided to Ukraine under presidential drawdown au-

thority, and a plan for using any remaining replenishment funding; and

(4) A summary of USAI and replenishment contracts in support of the Ukraine response since January 1, 2022.

Military cooperation with Morocco

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1248) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on how the United States can improve its interoperability and cooperation with Morocco through the African Lion exercise to continue to address the growing threats in Africa.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We recognize the twentieth anniversary of the African Lion exercise hosted by Tunisia, Morocco, Senegal, and Ghana. African Lion is U.S. Africa Command's largest joint, all-domain, multi-component, multinational exercise. African Lion builds and maintains interoperability with African and North Atlantic Treaty Organization partners and improves international efforts to meet security challenges together.

We note the importance of the continuation of the African Lion exercise in future years, including efforts to build readiness to respond to crises and contingencies in Africa and address security challenges around the world. We also note the importance of the United States-Morocco security relationship and believe that close cooperation between the United States and Morocco is critical to regional security.

Report on military activities of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China in the Arctic region

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1250) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on military activities of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China in the Arctic region.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that issues pertaining to the military activities in the Arctic region of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China are covered in annual Military Power Reports. We also note that the United States' response to these activities is outlined in the 2022 National Strategy for the Arctic Region and the 2024 Department of Defense Arctic strategy. We expect the Secretary of Defense to continue to cover such issues in future Military Power Reports, including any efforts by the Russian Federation and People's Republic of China to advance their respective or joint military and security strategies in the Arctic by:

(1) Exploiting Arctic science and technology cooperation, agreements, or research partnerships for military or intelligence purposes; or

(2) Co-opting, manipulating, or undermining Arctic-focused multilateral organizations, non-government organizations, or native or indigenous communities.

Report on cooperative efforts to stop unmanned aerial systems

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1251) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the status of cooperation between the United States and Israel on efforts to counter threats by Iran in the form of unmanned aerial systems.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit a briefing, not later than March 1, 2025,

to the congressional defense committees as to the status of cooperation between the United States and Israel on efforts to counter threats from the Government of Iran, including the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and any Iran-backed group operating in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, or Yemen specifically associated with the employment of unmanned aerial systems, including loitering munitions otherwise known as “suicide” or “kamikaze” drones.

Authority to build capability and capacity of foreign civilian medical support entities for resilience in crisis and conflict

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1203) that would amend subchapter IV of chapter 16 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to provide non-lethal assistance, in the form of medical training and equipment, to allied and partner nation civilians to build that nation’s medical support capability and capacity in preparation for crisis or conflict.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Plan to modernize and streamline information technology systems relating to end-use monitoring functions of Defense Security Cooperation Agency

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1212) that would require the Director of the Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) to provide a plan to modernize and streamline the information technology infrastructure for end-use monitoring.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Director of DSCA to submit a report, not later than June 30, 2025, to the congressional defense committees on progress toward modernizing and streamlining the information technology systems, infrastructure, and software used to track defense article transfers and carry out DSCA end-use monitoring.

The report should include the following:

(1) A list of each information technology system used by the DSCA to track transfers of defense articles and carry out end-use monitoring;

(2) An assessment as to whether such software or information systems encounter ongoing coding issues, provide the required data to, or are interoperable with, the Security Cooperation Information Portal and the extent to which data is shared or received from other relevant Federal agencies;

(3) An assessment of whether the workforce is regularly entering data into such information technology systems and metrics for measuring the frequency, quantity, and quality of data entry;

(4) An assessment regarding whether such systems are sufficiently user-friendly, including whether the systems rely on manual entry to carry out critical functions, such as populating and updating databases; if not, what efforts are in place to address usability issues;

(5) A description of each DSCA initiative to improve its information technology systems or software related to defense article tracking and end-use monitoring;

(6) An updated timeline and milestones for DSCA to update software and achieve a modern and streamlined ability to track defense article transfers and conduct end-use monitoring;

(7) Cost estimates for software development updates or procuring and operating and maintaining any such systems; and

(8) Any other matter that the Director considers relevant.

Defense cooperation with Georgia

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1214) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to conduct a review to assess whether continued defense cooperation with Georgia aligns with United States security interests.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that in May 2024, the Administration announced a comprehensive interagency review of all bilateral cooperation with the Republic of Georgia in response to concerns about the Government of Georgia’s recent conduct. We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the results of the review for Department of Defense lines of effort and priorities not later than March 1, 2025.

Preservation of security and stability in northeast Syria

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1223) that would require the Secretary of Defense to certify that vetted Syrian groups and individuals are able to meet certain milestones in order to reduce the total number of United States Armed Forces serving in northeast Syria to fewer than 400 personnel.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Report on, and prohibition on use of funds to support, terrorist organizations in Iraq

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1224) that would require the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency to report to the congressional defense committees, the Secretary of State, and the Secretary of the Treasury on the affiliates of the Badr Organization in Iraq and would also prohibit any funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act from being used to support the Badr Organization and its designated affiliates.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency to submit a report to the congressional defense committees, not later than June 1, 2025, that includes a determination of whether additional militant organizations have splintered from, or developed as offshoots of, the Badr Organization, Asa’ib Ahl al-Haq, Kata’ib Hezbollah, or any other organization designated as a foreign terrorist organization under section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1189) that receives funding from the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. The report should include:

(1) A list of such militant organizations;

(2) A description of the involvement of the offshoots in attacks on United States forces, partner and allied forces, in Iraq;

(3) A description of the involvement of the offshoots in human rights violations; and

(4) A description of the connections of the offshoots to foreign terrorist groups, including an assessment of the links between the Badr Organization and Iran’s Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, Hezbollah, Asa’ib Ahl al-Haq, Kata’ib Hezbollah, or any other organization designated as a foreign terrorist organization.

Modification of annual report on military power of Iran

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1227) that would

amend section 1245 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 111-84) to include an assessment of the support provided by Iran, and proxy groups affiliated with Iran, to non-state actors in the Maghreb region.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that the requirement in this provision is addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Modification of Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1232) that would amend section 1250 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92) to provide an additional 2 years for the period of performance across fiscal years under the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative (USAI). The provision would also waive section 2571 of title 10, United States Code, with respect to the use of reimbursable support from one component of the Department of Defense to perform work on behalf of another component in support of USAI.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Report on efforts to identify, disseminate, and implement lessons learned from war in Ukraine

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1235) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on the efforts by the Department of Defense to identify, disseminate, and implement lessons learned from the war in Ukraine.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on Department of Defense efforts to identify, disseminate, and implement throughout the Department lessons learned from the war in Ukraine, not later than March 31, 2025. The report shall include the following:

(1) A description of the processes by which the Secretary of Defense, the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Secretaries of the military departments, and the heads of Department of Defense components are making efforts to identify, disseminate, and implement throughout the Department lessons learned from the war in Ukraine, including a description of any working group or other initiative established or tasked to focus on such efforts and the respective structure and focus area of any such group or initiative;

(2) A detailed summary of significant findings and recommendations resulting from such lessons-learned efforts; and

(3) An identification of the Department organizations with lead responsibility for the implementation of each such significant recommendation, and a timeline with milestones for implementation.

Review, report, and plan regarding logistics networks in North America and Europe

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1236) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a review of the adequacy of the logistics networks in North America and Europe to support the operational and contingency plans of the U.S. European Command.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to commence a review of the adequacy of the logistics networks in North America and Europe for supporting the operational and contingency plans of the U.S. European Command not later than March 15, 2025. The review shall include:

(1) An identification of critical logistical nodes in North America and Europe necessary to support the operational and contingency plans of the U.S. European Command;

(2) An identification of additional critical logistical nodes that may be necessary to support such plans, including any access, basing, or overflight agreements with foreign partners that may be necessary; and

(3) An assessment of the capacity of the logistical nodes identified under paragraphs (1) and (2) to meet the time-phased force and deployment requirements of such plans, including the facilities and equipment necessary to support such requirements.

Based on the review, we further direct the Secretary to submit a report and plan to the congressional defense committees not later than June 15, 2025. The report shall include a summary of the results of the logistics adequacy review. The plan shall include timelines and assigned responsibilities for addressing any deficiencies in the logistics networks described in that subsection.

Report on defense industrial base cooperation with Ukraine and other allies and partners in Europe

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1238) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on efforts to enhance United States defense industrial base cooperation with Ukraine and other allied partners in Europe.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note the importance of defense industrial base cooperation between the United States, our allies, and Ukraine to deter further Russian aggression and increase production. Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, to submit to the congressional defense committees, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, a report on efforts to enhance United States defense industrial base cooperation with Ukraine and with other allies and partners in Europe. This report shall include:

(1) A detailed list of objectives for enhancing United States defense industrial base cooperation with Ukraine and other allies and partners in Europe, and timelines and metrics for evaluating the attainment of such objectives;

(2) An assessment of the current state of United States defense industrial base cooperation with Ukraine and other allies and partners in Europe, including the status of co-development, co-production, and technical data exchange efforts;

(3) A description of ongoing and planned initiatives, programs, and activities designed to strengthen United States defense industrial base cooperation with Ukraine and other allies and partners in Europe;

(4) A description of initiatives identified by the Ukraine Deal Team announced at the United States-Ukraine Defense Industrial Base conference on December 6, 2023;

(5) A description of any statutory, regulatory, or policy challenges that inhibit closer United States defense industrial base cooperation with Ukraine and other allies and partners in Europe; and

(6) Recommendations relating to United States defense industrial base cooperation.

Indo-Pacific multilateral security assistance initiatives

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1242) that would require the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to engage with appropriate officials from Japan, Australia, and the Republic of Korea for the purpose of establishing multilateral security assistance initiatives with the national security forces of mutual foreign partners in the Indo-Pacific region.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Implementation plan to support establishment of regional contingency stockpile for Taiwan

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1252) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to submit a multiyear implementation plan for Department of Defense activities necessary to support the establishment of a regional contingency stockpile for Taiwan pursuant to section 5503(b) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that the President has been authorized to establish a regional contingency stockpile for Taiwan pursuant to section 5503(b) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 and that the Department of Defense would be expected to perform certain functions if that authority is exercised. Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to provide, not later than March 31, 2025, to the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, a report on Department of Defense activities that would be necessary to support the potential establishment of such a regional contingency stockpile. The report should include: (1) A description of any international agreement that would be required to enable the establishment of such a stockpile; (2) A list of Department of Defense equipment and supplies, including the estimated quantities of such equipment and supplies, that would be required to establish such a stockpile; (3) An identification of any supplemental authorities that would be necessary for the Department of Defense to support the establishment of such a stockpile; (4) The identification of any other Department of Defense resources that would be necessary to establish such a stockpile; and (5) Any other matter the Secretary of Defense considers relevant.

Assessment of use of Department of Defense facilities in Guam as multinational training locations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1255) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit an assessment of the feasibility and advisability of using existing Department of Defense facilities in Guam to host training detachments of the military forces of foreign partner countries on a permanent or rotational basis.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the en-

actment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees an assessment of the feasibility and advisability of using existing Department of Defense facilities in Guam to host training detachments of the military forces of foreign partner countries on a permanent or rotational basis. The required assessment shall include the following:

(1) A description of the manner in which using existing Department of Defense facilities in Guam to host training detachments of the military forces of foreign partner countries on a permanent or rotational basis may support the objectives of the National Defense Strategy;

(2) A description of the benefits of hosting such detachments at such facilities, including opportunities to conduct bilateral and multilateral exercises;

(3) An identification of the facilities improvements necessary to support such detachments at such facilities on a permanent or rotational basis, including improvements necessary for operational, support, and quality-of-life purposes;

(4) An identification of any memorandum of understanding or other agreement necessary to enable the hosting of such detachments at such facilities on a permanent or rotational basis;

(5) A description of any challenges to hosting such detachments at such facilities on a permanent or rotational basis, including any counterintelligence or other consideration and potential actions to mitigate such challenges; and

(6) Any other matter the Secretary considers relevant.

Report on costs of meeting certain requirements of foreign partners relating to agriculture, fisheries, and forestry

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1256) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on requirements relating to agriculture, fisheries, and forestry imposed by the government of a foreign partner on personnel and equipment of the U.S. Armed Forces in the area of operations of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a report on requirements relating to agriculture, fisheries, and forestry imposed by the government of a foreign partner or U.S. state or territory, on personnel and equipment of the U.S. Armed Forces in the area of operations of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. At a minimum, the required report shall include:

(1) A description of each requirement relating to agriculture, fisheries, or forestry imposed by the government of a foreign partner or U.S. state or territory on personnel and equipment of the U.S. Armed Forces in the area of operations of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, including an identification of the applicable foreign partner.

(2) An estimate of the annual cost to the Department of Defense associated with meeting such requirements, including the number of days of labor by Department of Defense officials associated with meeting such requirement;

(3) An assessment of the readiness cost of no longer being able to operate or train at the given location;

(4) An estimate of the strategic impact of not being able to use the port, installation, or training facility due to a lack of compliance with the requirements delineated in (1);

(5) A description of efforts to mitigate such costs, including, but not limited to, forward deployment of equipment and consultations with applicable foreign partners, states, or territories; and

(6) Any other matter the Secretary considers relevant.

The required report shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

Returning civic action teams to the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1257) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on the activities of civic action teams in the Republic of Palau under the Palau Compact of Free Association Act (Public Law 99-658) and the feasibility and advisability of restoring the presence of civic action teams in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, as authorized under the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-239) and the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-188).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We support the restoration of civic action teams in the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia, if deemed feasible and advisable by the Secretary of Defense.

Annual report on military capabilities of allies and partners in Indo-Pacific region

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1259) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report in each of the next 5 years regarding the military capabilities of allies and partners of the United States in the Indo-Pacific region.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than July 1, 2025, to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the defense capabilities of allies and partners of the United States located in the Indo-Pacific region, including treaty allies of the United States, countries that host a significant U.S. military presence, and any other foreign partner with which the United States maintains a significant defense relationship.

The report shall include the following:

(1) A description of the size, posture, capabilities, and readiness of the defense forces of the ally or partner.

(2) A description of significant defense objectives and activities of the ally or partner.

(3) An assessment of:
(a) the defense-related contributions of the ally or partner to the achievement of mutual defense objectives; and

(b) the ability of the ally or partner to participate in bilateral or multilateral military or naval operations with the U.S. Armed Forces; and

(4) A description of any other security development relating to the defense capabilities of the ally or partner that the Secretary of Defense considers to be relevant to U.S. national security.

The required report may be submitted in classified form with an unclassified summary.

Review, report, and plan on adequacy of logistics network in Indo-Pacific region

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1260) that would re-

quire the Secretary of Defense to conduct a review of the adequacy of the logistics network in the Indo-Pacific region for supporting the operational and contingency plans of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. The provision would also require the Secretary to provide a plan to the congressional defense committees that includes timelines and assigned responsibilities for addressing any deficiencies in the logistics network identified during the review.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to commence a review of the adequacy of the logistics network in the Indo-Pacific region for supporting the operational and contingency plans of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. At a minimum, the review shall include:

(1) An identification of critical logistical nodes in the Indo-Pacific region necessary to support the operational and contingency plans of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command;

(2) An identification of additional critical logistical nodes that may be necessary to support such plans, including any access, basing, and overflight agreements with foreign partners that may be necessary; and

(3) An assessment of the capacity of the logistical nodes identified under paragraphs (1) and (2) to meet the time-phased force and deployment requirements of such operational and contingency plans, including the facilities, equipment, infrastructure other than Department of Defense infrastructure (including airports, seaports, railways, and roads), and workforce necessary to support such requirements.

Furthermore, we direct the Secretary, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit a report to the congressional defense committees that includes detailed findings from the required review and a plan, including timelines and assigned responsibilities, for addressing any identified deficiencies of the logistics network in the Indo-Pacific region necessary to support the operational and contingency plans of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command. The required report and plan may be submitted in classified form.

Fielding of a common operating picture with Taiwan

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1260) that would require the Secretary of Defense to seek to engage with appropriate officials of Taiwan for the purpose of fielding capabilities to provide to the military forces of Taiwan and the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command a common operating picture.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We support the fielding of capabilities to provide to the military forces of Taiwan and the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command with a common operating picture, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3301 et seq.).

Report on cooperation between the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1271) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a one-time report regarding the military cooperation between the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China, and the implications of such cooperation for the national security interests of the United States.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees, not later than July 1, 2025, a report assessing defense cooperation among the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. The report shall include:

(1) A description of the changes in the nature of the defense relationships among the four countries since February 1, 2022;

(2) A review of military cooperation among the four countries, including military exercises, technical cooperation and technology sharing, weapons sales or donations, military-to-military dialogues, and military or technical lessons learned as a result of the Russian war in Ukraine and the conflict in the Middle East;

(3) An assessment of the extent to which specific military cooperation among the four countries may complicate routine U.S. operations;

(4) A review of supply chain cooperation among the four countries in furtherance of their national security objectives;

(5) A review of any cooperation among the four countries regarding nuclear technology; and

(6) An assessment of the likely trajectories of defense cooperation among the four countries through 2026.

Report on Department of Defense role in supporting international legal operations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1284) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on Department of Defense support for whole-of-government efforts to identify and expose malign actors' international legal operations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We are concerned that foreign interpretations or applications of law that deliberately challenge the rules-based international order, such as those of the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, may directly or indirectly undermine the national security interests of the United States and its allies and partners.

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to the congressional defense committees assessing the nature and effect of any foreign interpretation or application of law that deliberately challenges the rules-based international order and that materially undermines the national security interests of the United States and its allies and partners.

The briefing should include a description of the methodology that the Department of Defense uses to determine whether:

(1) Foreign interpretations or applications of law that deliberately challenge the rules-based international order are directly or indirectly counter to the national security interests of the United States and its allies and partners;

(2) The effects of any such foreign interpretations or applications of law materially undermine the national security interests of the United States and its allies and partners; and

(3) Challenges posed by any such foreign interpretations or applications of law that materially undermine the national security interests of the United States and its allies and partners can be mitigated through Department of Defense support for whole-of-government efforts.

Report and briefing on security implications of water scarcity and food security for United States Central Command

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1285) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report and provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees on the feasibility and advisability of including water scarcity and food security in the risk assessments and operational plans for the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Report and briefing on Al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1287) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit a report and provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees on the operational value of Al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar, taking into account its relationship with Hamas and other terrorist organizations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit a report and provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees, not later than June 1, 2025, on the operational value of the Al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar, taking into consideration the presence of Hamas and other United States-designated terrorist organizations in Qatar. The report and briefing shall include:

(1) Whether the presence of Hamas and other United States-designated terrorist organizations in Qatar undermines the national security interests of the United States;

(2) The operational value of the Al-Udeid Air Base in Qatar;

(3) The effect on United States Air Force operations in the Middle East if the United States were to redeploy members of the United States Air Force from Al-Udeid Air Base; and

(4) The resources that would be required to redeploy members of the United States Air Force from Al-Udeid Air Base.

Independent assessment of technology release and foreign disclosure reform initiative

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1290) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an independent assessment of the Department of Defense technology release and foreign disclosure reform initiative required by section 918 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an independent assessment of the Department of Defense's technology release and foreign disclosure reform initiative required by section 918(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31). The Comptroller General shall submit a report to the congressional defense committees on the results of this assessment not later than 1 year after the Department submits the report required under paragraph (1) of section 918(d).

Modification of Regional Centers for Security Studies to provide authority specific to Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported

bill contained a provision (sec. 6202) that would modify section 342(i) of title 10, United States Code, to include the Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies as a regional center for security studies.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than March 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, on:

(1) The number and percentage of attendees from developing countries and, separately, the number and percentage of attendees from non-developing countries, at the Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies and the other Regional Centers authorized by section 342 of title 10, United States Code;

(2) Any recommendations for changes to policy or guidance regarding waiving of non-developing country costs or waiving other reimbursable costs of conferences, seminars, courses of instruction, or similar educational activities at the Centers;

(3) The total amount of costs that would be waived should recommended changes to policy or guidance for the Centers be implemented, disaggregated by country; and

(4) Any other information the Secretary deems appropriate.

For the purpose of the required briefing, the terms "developing country" and "non-developing country" shall have the meaning prescribed under applicable provisions of chapter 16 of title 10, United States Code.

Extension and modification of lend-lease authority to Ukraine

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6231) that would extend the lend-lease authority to Ukraine as well as require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report that includes a description of the defense articles loaned or leased to the Government of Ukraine, or to the government of an Eastern European country impacted by the Russian Federation's invasion of Ukraine, under such authority and a strategy and timeline for recovery and return of such defense articles.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Prohibition on use of funds for Wuhan Institute of Virology or EcoHealth Alliance

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6243) that would prohibit Department of Defense funding for the Wuhan Institute of Virology, and EcoHealth Alliance, Inc. and any of its subsidiaries.

The House bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1707).

The agreement does not include either provision.

We note that other provisions regarding this matter are contained elsewhere in this Act.

TITLE XIII—OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO FOREIGN NATIONS

SUBTITLE A—MATTERS RELATING TO EUROPE AND RUSSIA

Sec. 1301—Modifications to North Atlantic Treaty Organization Special Operations Headquarters

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1234) that would amend section 2350r of title 10, United States Code, to update the name of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Special Operations Headquarters to the NATO Allied

Special Operations Forces Command (SOFCOM), in accordance with the NATO decision to modify the title and would also increase the funding authorized in support of SOFCOM from \$50.0 million to \$55.0 million.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1302—Extension and modification of training for Eastern European national security forces in the course of multilateral exercises

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1233) that would amend section 1251 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92) to extend the authority to train Eastern European national security forces in the course of multilateral exercises through December 31, 2027, and would also modify the authority to include the Republic of Cyprus among the list of countries eligible to receive such training.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1303—Extension of prohibition on availability of funds relating to sovereignty of the Russian Federation over internationally recognized territory of Ukraine

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1231) that would amend section 1245(a) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-236) to extend the prohibition of funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act for fiscal year 2025 from being obligated or expended to implement any activity that recognizes the sovereignty of the Russian Federation over the internationally recognized territory of Ukraine.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1304—Prohibition on New START Treaty information sharing

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1231) that would prohibit the Department of Defense from providing notifications, biannual data exchange, inspection activities, or telemetric activities to the Russian Federation in relation to the New START Treaty, but provide a waiver on certain conditions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE B—MATTERS RELATING TO THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION

Sec. 1311—Sense of Congress on defense alliances and partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1089, 1311, and 1312) that would express the senses of Congress regarding cooperation with the Philippines on maritime security, and South Korea and Taiwan defense relations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1263) that would express the sense of Congress regarding the importance of alliances and partnerships in the Indo-Pacific region.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1312—Modification of Indo-Pacific Maritime Security Initiative

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1245) that would authorize support under the Indo-Pacific Maritime Security Initiative to foreign non-military governmental organizations that have

maritime security missions among their functional responsibilities when assistance is necessary to enable the integration of the activities of governmental organizations with the national military or other security forces of a foreign partner.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1313—Extension and modification of Pacific Deterrence Initiative

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1301) that would extend the authority for the

Pacific Deterrence Initiative (PDI) and extend the requirements for reports and plans under the initiative.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1243).

The agreement includes the House provision.

The conferees strongly support PDI as means to prioritize Department of Defense efforts in support of enhancing U.S. deterrence and defense posture, reassuring allies and partners, and increasing readiness and capability in the Indo-Pacific region, primarily west of the International Date Line.

We direct that, in future years, the PDI and the independent assessment of the Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, required by section 1251 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283), as amended, fully account for the requirements of U.S. Forces-Korea and U.S. Forces-Japan.

The budgetary display below captures investments included in this Act that support the objectives of the PDI.

PACIFIC DETERRENCE INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program	FY 2022 Authorized	FY 2023 Authorized	FY 2024 Authorized	FY 2025 Authorized
MODERNIZED AND STRENGTHENED PRESENCE					
Missile Procurement, Army					
0214401A	Patriot Mods		6,700	67,526	
0604319A	Indirect Fire Protection Capability			46,360	
0208082A	Lower Tier Air Missile Defense Sensor			65,000	
0208030A	PrecisionStrike Missile (PrSM)			58,000	
0605456A	MSE Missile			67,000	
C91521	Family of Low Altitude Unmanned Systems				120,599
Other Procurement, Army					
152	Theater MSV-L ships	76,660	104,676		
B00010	USARPAC MDTF M-Drive	2,500			
0214400A	IAMD Battle Command System		69,000	15,000	69,202
0211700A	Night Vision Devices		9,298		4,508
0214400A	Sentinel Mods		91,000		
0216300A	Army Watercraft Esp		30,113	19,459	6,469
0804734A	Multi-Domain Intel			6,600	
0219900A	Training Devices, Nonsystem			12,300	9,829
020700A	Synthetic Training Environment			4,000	
Other Procurement, Navy					
0201490N	Operating Forces Ipe				3,000
29	INDOPACOM UFR—Mission Network				17,500
Procurement, Defense Wide					
0208902C	Guam Defense System	40,000	26,514	169,627	22,602
0908775D8Z	Agile Procurement Transition Pilot				70,000
Operation and Maintenance, Army					
111087	GFMAP Directed Missions	97,700	122,574		
121034	USARPAC Processing, Exploitation, and Dissemination	39,000	39,000	39,236	4,849
121018	USARPAC MDTF Cloud Services	3,500	3,951		
0203803A	Force Readiness Operations Support		939	1,403	788
0202218A	Force Readiness Operations Support		5,927	21,127	24,435
0202218A	Force Readiness Operations Support			6,086	
0605040A	Cyberspace Activities—Cyberspace Operations			1,500	2,104
0202116A	Maneuver Units			96,000	
240	INDOPACOM UFR—Theater Campaigning		18,790	360,000	
0804734A	Training & Recruiting/Specialized Skills Training			2,100	
0202614A	Operating Forces/Tactical SIGINT/PED Enhancements			46,000	39,071
0202218A	Operating Forces/Force ReadinessOps Support			430	5,573
Operation and Maintenance, Navy					
1CCS	INDOPACOM MISO	8,984			
1CCS	INDOPACOM UFR—MISO	28,000			
1CCH	Service Support to INDOPACOM	30,003	28,813		
1CCM	Service Support to INDOPACOM (Sub-Reg Campaign Plan)	53,398	50,304		
1CCM	Service Support to INDOPACOM (Other Core Missions)	12,593	12,695		
0201490N	Combatant Commanders Core Operations		5,613	1,200	20,323
0901086N	Combatant Commanders Core Operations				400
0201160N	Combatant Commanders Direct Mission Support			62,851	51,866
0201114N	Cyberspace Activities			2,484	2,613
0201490N	Combatant Commanders Core Operations			13,809	
0201114N	Combatant Commanders Direct Mission Support			10,000	
0201204N	Combatant Commanders Direct Mission Support			12,812	8,600
0201114N	Combatant Commanders Direct Mission Support				43,970
0303103N	Combatant Commanders Direct Mission Support			4,138	10,870
0303140N	Cyberspace Activities				2,100
0204304N	Weapons Maintenance				21,900
0204282N	Cyberspace Activities			1,500	
1CCM	MPE: Service Support to Other Nations INDOPACOM	16,194	16,518		
1CCM	INDOPACOM UFR—Critical Manpower Positions	4,600			
1CCM	INDOPACOM UFR—Enhanced ISR Augmentation	41,000			
1D4D	Missile Defense, Navy Area	88,817	120,567		
1A1A	Unit Deployment Program	135,653	134,625		
1A1A	Marine Expeditionary Unit	35,334	35,065		
1A1A	III MEF Operating Budget		298,430		

PACIFIC DETERRENCE INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program	FY 2022 Authorized	FY 2023 Authorized	FY 2024 Authorized	FY 2025 Authorized
1A1A	Mission and Other Flight Operations		468,120	524,946	533,284
MISC	Weapons Maintenance		153	361	932
1CCM	INDOPACOM UFR—Theater Campaigning		18,067	36,000	53,000
1CCM	INDOPACOM UFR—Mission Network				106,500
0203498N	Combat Support Forces			93	190
0205604N	MASF				15,500
Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps					
1A1A	III MEF Operating Budget		298,430		
1A1A	Operational Forces: Marine Rotational Force-Darwin	45,000	46,350		
1A1A	Unit Deployment Program	48,000	56,932		
1A1A	Marine Expeditionary Unit	4,526	3,755		
BSS1	Base Operating Support		110,335		
1A1A	INDOPACOM UFR—Theater Campaigning		14,093	8,000	47,000
0202056M	Base Operating Support			2,861	3,422
0202057M	Base Operating Support			1,027	1,225
0206479M	Base Operating Support			70,782	58,719
0208212M	Base Operating Support			4,022	4,140
0208532M	Base Operating Support			2,511	3,003
0208534M	Base Operating Support			3,596	3,642
0208538M	Base Operating Support			240	245
0208540M	Base Operating Support			4,181	4,188
0208541M	Base Operating Support			1,983	2,023
0208550M	Base Operating Support			26	3,060
0208553M	Base Operating Support			843	984
0208853M	Base Operating Support			955	1,074
0208854M	Base Operating Support			866	986
0360111M	Base Operating Support			3,061	
0390110M	Base Operating Support			7	7
0701111M	Base Operating Support			707	727
0708542M	Base Operating Support			5,151	5,915
0808519M	Base Operating Support			14,163	14,538
0808520M	Base Operating Support			8,064	9,083
0808530M	Base Operating Support			18,836	12,921
0901212M	Base Operating Support			2,043	89
0202150M	Operational Forces			61,233	52,809
0206126M	Operational Forces			22,001	22,566
0206211M	Operational Forces			95,617	86,924
0206312M	Operational Forces			210,835	227,791
0206315M	Operational Forces			17,965	29,346
0305251M	Operational Forces			500	700
Operation and Maintenance, Air Force					
011A	Improve Posture and Presence	130,970	149,482	137,361	142,513
011C	Improve Posture and Presence	146,597	154,439	93,360	97,504
011M	Improve Posture and Presence	291,000	395,393	422,334	427,801
011W	Improve Posture and Presence	1,076,000	1,224,185	1,329,927	1,261,508
011Y	Improve Posture and Presence	819,655	798,902	777,034	826,916
011Z	Improve Posture and Presence	534,646	584,742	387,804	416,631
012C	Improve Posture and Presence	88,192	89,956	56,539	54,974
012D	Improve Posture and Presence			1,704	25,010
012F	Improve Posture and Presence	862	880	1,793	1,832
042A	Improve Posture and Presence	2,186	2,229	521	1,581
042B	Improve Posture and Presence			276	161
021A	INDOPACOM UFR—Theater Campaigning		18,917	104,000	89,500
0208064F	Cyberspace Activities			1,500	2,100
0305834F	Cyberspace Activities				22,910
0207969F	Primary Combat Forces			96,000	96,000
Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide					
011A	MDA: Guam THAAD Battery & AN/TPY-2 Radar	12,800	12,536	12,464	12,729
011A	MDA: USFK THAAD Battery & AN/TPY-2 Radar	13,000	8,728	14,141	14,441
011A	MDA: Japan FBM TPY-2 (Radar 1 and 2)	24,900	29,476	24,483	25,016
1PLR	SOC/PAC/SOCKOR Operations and Support	37,027	45,685	31,094	35,209
1GTM	INDOPACOM UFR—Information Operations		27,500		
1PLR	INDOPACOM UFR—Theater Campaigning		9,034		
0208085JCY	Cyberspace Operations			10,800	2,700
0305251JCY	Cyberspace Operations			4,500	4,621
0306250JCY	Cyberspace Operations			21,520	30,580
Research and Development, Army					
0604114A	Lower Tier Air Missile Defense (LTAMD) Sensor			383,688	30,285
0604759A	Major T&E Investment		3,109	3,197	3,269
0604820A	Radar Development			15,066	
0604827A	Soldier Systems—Warrior Dem/Val				16,363
0605457A	Army Integrated Air and Missile Defense (AIAMD)		80,000	37,826	192,481
0605235A	Strategic Mid-Range Capability		5,016	40,177	721
0606002A	Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site			22,382	22,880
0607865A	Patriot Product Improvement			46,545	15,030
0604741A	Air Defense Command, Control and Intelligence			1,004	
060504A	Cyber Space Activities			1,500	
0604037A	Classified Programs			10,000	

PACIFIC DETERRENCE INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program	FY 2022 Authorized	FY 2023 Authorized	FY 2024 Authorized	FY 2025 Authorized
0605235A	System Dev, Demo/Strategic MRC			395,000	721
0605231A	System Dev, Demo/PrSM			196,000	
Research and Development, Navy					
0603734N	INDOPACOM UFR—Non-Traditional F2T2 Capability				400,000
0604601N	INDOPACOM UFR—Sea Urchin powered quickstrike mines		10,000		
0604601N	INDOPACOM UFR—Hammerhead		47,500		
0604231N	Command and Control Systems				2,309
Research and Development, Air Force					
0102417F	Talon TACMOR Palau	42,300		5,111	
0207325F	INDOPACOM UFR—JASSM software update		12,000		
0207142F	F-35 Squadrons			42,361	
0401218F	KC-135s			23,894	
0207412F	Control and Reporting Center				2,012
Research and Development, Defense-Wide					
0603892C	INDOPACOM UFR—Guam Defense System				89,200
0603915C	INDOPACOM UFR—Guam Defense System				14,400
0604102C	INDOPACOM UFR—Guam Defense System	60,000		147,000	
0604102C	INDOPACOM UFR—Joint Fires Network			174,000	
0604250D8Z	INDOPACOM UFR—Sea Urchin powered quickstrike mines		30,000		
0604102C	Guam Defense Development		383,486	385,132	399,787
0604102C	INDOPACOM UFR—Guam Defense System				76,500
0603892C	AEgis BMD		45,000	80,400	165,530
0604878C	Aegis BMD Test			42,062	6,078
0604878C	INDOPACOM UFR—Guam Defense System				1,200
0603896C	Ballistic Missile Defense Command & Control, Battle Management & Comm.		20,000	38,490	53,468
0604879C	Ballistic Missile Defense Sensor Test			17,452	4,879
0603915C	Ballistic Missile Defense Targets			53,029	68,323
0603914C	Ballistic Missile Defense Test		7,000	15,044	
0603890C	BMD Enabling Programs		18,000	441	690
0208059JCY	CYBERCOM Activities			21,680	
0208085JCY	Robust Infrastructure and Access				2,300
0306250JCY	Cyber Operations Technology Support			7,480	21,420
0605027D8Z	Agile Procurement Transition Pilot				7,564
Subtotal, MODERNIZED AND STRENGTHENED PRESENCE		4,091,597	6,460,542	8,072,140	7,059,351
EXERCISES, TRAINING, EXPERIMENTATION					
Other Procurement, Army					
0219900A	Training Devices			16,300	9,829
Other Procurement, Navy					
0204571N	Weapons Range Support Equipment			30,000	
0204571N	Training and Education Equipment			31,500	32,500
0208550N	Training and Education Equipment			28,960	
0201490N	Operating Forces Ipe		2,800	3,000	26,464
Procurement, Marine Corps					
0206335M	Common Aviation Command and Control System			2,000	
0360110M	Marine Corps Enterprise Network (MCEN)			6,600	
Other Procurement, Air Force					
0207429F	Combat Training Ranges				193,791
0207430F	Base Maintenance Support Vehicles				47,105
0208028F	Base Maintenance Support Vehicles				147,238
0208028F	Cargo and Utility Vehicles				5,078
0204424F	Engineering and EOD Equipment				153
Operation and Maintenance, Army					
115	Land Forces Operations Support	4,419	4,722		
115012	Exportable Combat Training Center Rotations	234,661			
114	Theater Level Assets for Exercises	195,827	214,000		
0305169A	Servicewide Communications			9,645	8,835
0202158A	Echelons Above Brigade		13,538	7,520	
0202214A	Force Readiness Operations Support		25,580	105,908	93,810
0202218A	Force Readiness Operations Support		4,851	3,114	
0202117A	Maneuver Units		397,574	24,953	23,442
0202212A	Force Readiness Operations Support			11,850	8,580
0202548A	Theater Level Assets				325,649
0303030A	Force Readiness Operations Support				1,085
Operation and Maintenance, Navy					
1CCM	Pacific Multi-Domain Training and Experimentation Capability		66,519		
1CCM	INDOPACOM UFR—Pacific Multi-Domain Training and Experimentation Capability	59,410	19,000		
1CCM	INDOPACOM UFR—Wargaming Analytical Tools	88,000	22,000		
0201114N	Planning, Engineering, and Program Support			1,400	1,400
0204140N	Combat Support Forces			1,510	1,510
0201114N	Combatant Commanders Direct Mission Support			58,324	75,925

PACIFIC DETERRENCE INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program	FY 2022 Authorized	FY 2023 Authorized	FY 2024 Authorized	FY 2025 Authorized
0204571N	Warfare Tactics		9,000	45,720	37,943
	Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps				
1A1A	MARFORPAC Training Exercise Employment Plan	44,071	46,593		
0201204M	Base Operating Support			500	
0208212M	Base Operating Support			28,810	6,110
0206335M	Field Logistics			500	500
0206211M	Operational Forces				4,564
0206312M	Operational Forces		43,593	34,950	35,225
0206315M	Operational Forces			19,200	21,171
	Operation and Maintenance, Air Force				
011D/044A	Exercises, Training, and Experimentation	6,998	6,210	177,747	175,138
012D	Exercises, Training, and Experimentation	197	202		
011R	Exercises, Training, and Experimentation			13,300	
011Z	Exercises, Training, and Experimentation			300	34,000
012A	Exercises, Training, and Experimentation			1,000	1,000
032C	Exercises, Training, and Experimentation	588	762	794	809
033C	Exercises, Training, and Experimentation	3,713	3,787	5,102	4,611
033D	Exercises, Training, and Experimentation	460	469		
0207603F	Air Operations Training			74,000	29,000
0207701F	Air Operations Training			66,192	37,393
0207479F	Base Support				34,000
0207500F	Base Support			300	
0202176F	Facilities Sustainment, Restoration & Modernization			13,300	193,754
0305114F	Global C3I and Early Warning			1,000	1,000
	Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide				
0804768J	Joint Chiefs of Staff—JTEEP		173,000	173,000	186,837
8PL1	INDOPACOM UFR—Joint Exercise Program	35,100			
1PLR	SOCPAC/SOCKOR Exercises	22,573	18,386	19,164	21,202
	Research and Development, Navy				
0605853N	Management, Technical, International Support		15,819	20,336	23,810
	Research and Development, Army				
0532545A	Systems Dev & Demo/Theater level assets			2,700	
0607312A	Operational Systems Development			1,500	
0604121A	AdvComponent Dev & Prototype/Synthetic Training Environment			2,500	
0605301A	Army Kwajalein				285,940
0604715A	Non-system Training Devices				6,212
	Research and Development, Defense-wide				
0604250D8Z	Advanced Innovative Technologies		906,858	970,526	910,426
0604790D8Z	Rapid Defense Experimentation Reserve				53,149
0604331D8Z	Rapid Prototyping Program				65,400
0603941D8Z	Test & Evaluation Science & Technology			10,000	
	Subtotal, EXERCISES, TRAINING, EXPERIMENTATION	696,017	2,004,846	2,025,025	3,171,588
	INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS				
	Military Construction, Navy				
	Guam P-519 X-Ray Wharf Berth 2	51,900			
	Guam Joint Communication Upgrade (INC)	84,000		31,330	
	Japan Yokuska Pier 5 (Berths 2 and 3) (INC)	15,292			
	Japan Yokuska Ship Handling & Combat Training Facilities	49,000			
	INDOPACOM UFR: PDI Planning and Design	68,000	50,000		
	Australia Aircraft Parking Apron (INC)		72,446	134,624	
	Hawaii Missile Magazines		10,000		
	Guam Brown Tree Snake Exclusion Barrier South		14,497		
	Guam Ground Combat Element Inf Btn 1 & 2 Fac		69,314		
	Guam 9th Engineer Support Battalion Ops. Fac.		35,188		
	Guam 9th Eng Supp Battalion Equip & Main Fac		41,590		
	Japan Kadena Marine Corps Barracks Complex		31,300		
	Japan Kadena Marine Corps Bachelor Enlisted Quarters		29,100		
	Planning & Design, Marine Corps		59,700	25,849	36,174
	Planning & Design, Navy			62,195	349,709
	INDOPACOM UFR: Planning & Design			69,000	
	Guam 9th ESB Training Complex			27,536	
	Guam Artillery Battery Facilities			137,550	
	Guam Consolidated MEB HQ/NCIS PHIL			19,740	
	Guam Joint Consol. Comm. Center (INC)			107,000	
	Guam Missile Integration Test Facility			56,140	
	Guam Satellite Communications Facility (INC)			56,159	
	Guam Training Center			89,640	
	Australia Darwin Aircraft Maintenance Hangar				32,380
	Australia Darwin Maintenance Support Facilities				62,320
	Guam Earth Covered Magazines				42,439
	Guam Defense Access Roads				100,000
	Guam HSC-25 Hangar Replacement				50,000

PACIFIC DETERRENCE INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program	FY 2022 Authorized	FY 2023 Authorized	FY 2024 Authorized	FY 2025 Authorized
	Minor Construction, Marine Corps				37,800
	Minor Construction, Navy				63,400
	Military Construction, Air Force				
	RAAF Darwin Sq Ops Facility	7,400			
	RAAF Tindal Aircraft Maint Spt Fac	6,200			
	RAAF Tindal Sq Ops Facility	8,200			
	Guam LRM Anderson Airfield Dmg Repair Warehouse	30,000			
	Guam LRM Anderson Hayman Munitions Storage Igloos MSA 2	9,824			
	Guam LRM Anderson Munitions Storage Igloos IV	55,000			
	Alaska JB Elmendorf-Richardson Extend Runway (Inc.)	79,000		107,500	
	Japan Kadena Airfield Damage Repair Storage Facility	38,000			
	Japan Kadena Helicopter Rescue Ops Maintenance Hangar	35,000	71,000		
	Japan Kadena Replace Munitions Structures	26,100			
	Japan Misawa Airfield Damage Repair Facility	25,000			
	Japan Yokota Construct CATM Facility	25,000			
	Japan Yokota C-130J Corrosion Control Hangar	67,000	10,000		
	Planning and Design	27,200	12,424		
	INDOPACOM Add—Planning and Design	20,000			
	Japan Kadena Theater A/C Corrosion Control Ctr (INC)		17,000		
	Mariana Islands Tinian Fuel Tanks w/Pipeln & Hydrant Sys (INC)		92,000	21,000	
	Mariana Islands Tinian Airfield Development Phase 1 (INC)		58,000	26,000	
	Mariana Islands Tinian Parking Apron (INC)		41,000	32,000	
	RAAF Tindal Aircraft Maintenance Support Facility			17,500	
	RAAF Darwin Squadron Operations Facility			26,000	
	RAAF Tindal Squadron Operations Facility			20,000	
	RAAF Tindal Bomber Apron			93,000	
	Japan Kadena Helo Rescue Ops Maintenance Hangar Inc 3			46,000	
	Guan North Aircraft Parking Ramp (Inc)			109,000	
	Japan Kadena Theater A/C Corrosion Control Ctr, Inc			42,000	
	Philippines Cesar Basa Transient Aircraft Parking Apron			35,000	
	FSM Yap Runway Extension				96,000
	FSM IAP Runway Extension				50,000
	FSM Yap Airfield Pavement Upgrades				50,000
	FSM Port and Harbor Improvements				50,000
	Japan Kadena Theater A/C Corrosion Control Ctr, Inc				57,700
	Japan Kadena Communications Center Design				9,000
	Palau TACMOR Utilities and Infrastructure Support				20,000
	Palau Harbor Wharf Improvements				50,000
	Design				117,590
	Minor Construction				19,000
	Military Construction, Army				
	Hawaii Ammunition Storage	51,000			
	Japan Vehicle Maintenance Shop	0	80,000		
	Guam National Guard Readiness Center Addition	34,000			
	Guam Battalion Headquarters				47,000
	Guam Environmental Mitigation				23,000
	Guam Forward Operating Sites				75,000
	INDOPACOM Minor Construction Pilot				66,600
0901211A	Planning & Design		11,000	11,000	26,011
	Minor Construction				8,000
	Military Construction, Defense-Wide				
	Hawaii JBPHH Primary Electrical Distribution		25,000		
	Japan Iwakuni Fuel Pier	57,700			
	Japan Kadena Truck Unload Facilities	22,300			
	Japan Kadena Operations Support Facility	24,000			
	Japan Misawa Additive Injection Pump and Storage Sys	6,000			
	Japan Yokota Hangar/AMU	33,100			
	Japan Iwakuni Bulk Storage Tanks PH 1		85,000		
	Japan Yokota Bulk Storage Tanks PH 1 (INC)		44,000		
	Japan Yokota Operations and Warehouse Facilities		72,154		
	Guam Electrical Distribution System		34,360		
	MDA: Planning & Design		39,000	1,035	
	MDA: Planning & Design		33,360		
	INDOPACOM Add—Unspecified Minor MILCON		16,130		
0804768J	Exercise Related Minor Construction			7,659	4,331
	SOF Maintenance Hangar			88,900	
	SOF Composite Maintenance Facility			11,400	
	INDOPACOM Add—Military Construction Pilot Program			150,000	
	INDOPACOM Add—Unspecified Minor MILCON			62,000	
	Guam Command Center				147,212
	Guam EIAMD, PH 1				238,267
	Japan Camp Fuji Microgrid and Backup Power				45,870
	Military Construction, INDOPACOM				
	INDOPACOM Minor Construction Pilot				150,000
	Other Procurement, Army				
0310700A	Automated Data Processing Equip				8,015

PACIFIC DETERRENCE INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program	FY 2022 Authorized	FY 2023 Authorized	FY 2024 Authorized	FY 2025 Authorized
Operation and Maintenance, Army					
0202021A	Land Forces Systems Readiness			50	
0202219A	Force Readiness Operations Support				14,200
0305103A	Cyberspace Activities—Cyberspace Operations				9,300
0202117A	Maneuver Units				62
Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard					
0305103A	Cyberspace Activities—Cyberspace Operations				500
Operation and Maintenance, Air Force					
	Infrastructure Improvements	404,265	412,350	256,049	256,219
0202176F	Facilities Sustainment, Restoration & Modernization			199,907	193,754
0204424F	Other Combat Ops Spt Programs			1,009	1,105
0208028F	Other Combat Ops Spt Programs				61,360
Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps					
BSM1	Facilities Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization	112,136	127,167		
BSM1	Facilities Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization			4,101	30,000
BSM1	Facilities Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization			93,744	85,912
Operation and Maintenance, Navy					
0201114N	Planning, Engineering, and Program Support		63,660	66,320	66,325
Operation and Maintenance, Defense Wide					
1PLV	SOC/PAC/SOKCOR Equipment Support, Operations, & Sustainment	5,085	2,294	915	8,190
Subtotal, INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS		1,476,702	1,760,034	2,345,852	2,859,745
LOGISTICS AND PREPOSITIONING OF EQUIPMENT					
Other Procurement, Army					
151	Army Watercraft	26,687	47,889		
0216300A	Maneuver Support Vessel (MSV)		104,676	91,043	
0216300A	Distribution Systems, Petroleum & Water			7,800	7,975
9999	Classified Programs				136,962
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force					
0202834F	Aircraft Replacement Support Equipment			17,877	
Other Procurement, Air Force					
0305114F	Air Traffic Control & Landing Sys			21,000	
0207429F	Combat Training Ranges			47,800	
0207604F	Combat Training Ranges			241,660	
0204424F	Engineering and EOD Equipment			140	153
0208028F	Engineering and EOD Equipment			9,543	
0208031F	Fuels Support Equipment (FSE)			186,818	2,652
0401135F	Mobility Equipment			105,655	3,845
0207430F	Base Maintenance Support Vehicles			4,074	
0208028F	Base Maintenance Support Vehicles			141,589	
0208028F	Cargo and Utility Vehicles			4,655	
0901279F	Fire Fighting/Crash Rescue Vehicles			13,260	
0702831F	Joint Light Tactical Vehicle			39,543	
0208028F	Materials Handling Vehicles			8,399	
0208028F	Runway Equipment			2,110	
0208028F	Special Purpose Vehicles			51	
0702831F	Special Purpose Vehicles			72,396	
Operation and Maintenance, Army					
0208031A	Army Prepositioned Stocks	63,457	52,652	54,148	54,498
0406030A	Army Prepositioned Stocks		1,587	1,635	1,425
0406029A	Strategic Mobility		8,092	16,248	16,646
Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve					
0532538A	Echelons Above Brigade				34
Operation and Maintenance, Navy					
1CCH	Movement Coordination Center		4,200		
1CCY	INDOPACOM UFR—Movement Coordination Center	500	2,400		
1CCY	Logistics Support Activities	7,033	8,520		
1D4D	Logistics Support Activities	53,355	49,754		
0201490N	Combatant Commanders Core Operations			4,200	
0201114N	Combatant Commanders Direct Mission Support			8,100	28,039
0702898N	Weapons Maintenance			1	1
9999	Classified Programs				1,014,940
Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps					
1B1B	MARFORPAC Maritime Prepositioning Force—MARCORLOGCOM	2,206	2,568		
1B1B	Maritime Prepositioning			2,295	39,938
Operation and Maintenance, Air Force					
011D	Improved Logistics and Prepositioning of Equipment			93,475	82,110

PACIFIC DETERRENCE INITIATIVE AUTHORIZATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program	FY 2022 Authorized	FY 2023 Authorized	FY 2024 Authorized	FY 2025 Authorized
012A	Improved Logistics and Prepositioning of Equipment	103,785	109,684	65,739	67,923
012C	Improved Logistics and Prepositioning of Equipment			164,451	9,164
021A	Improved Logistics and Prepositioning of Equipment	26,662	30,131	24,848	29,996
021D	Improved Logistics and Prepositioning of Equipment	5,501	7,665	2,924	3,050
041A	Improved Logistics and Prepositioning of Equipment	60,126	57,966	1,009	1,031
042G	Improved Logistics and Prepositioning of Equipment	10,572	12,284	25,447	33,947
	Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide				
0908775D8Z	Agile Procurement Transition Pilot				15,000
	Subtotal, LOGISTICS AND PREPOSITIONING OF EQUIPMENT	359,884	500,068	1,479,933	1,549,329
	DEFENSE AND SECURITY CAPABILITIES OF ALLIES AND PARTNERS				
	Other Procurement, Army				
0210300A	CBRN Defense		1,272	1,580	1,242
9999	Classified Programs			2,148	2,170
	Operation and Maintenance, Air Force				
834010/012F/1CCM	MPE/Bices	15,050	17,120		
012A	Building Defense and Security Capabilities of Allies and Partners			4,357	1,773
043A	Building Defense and Security Capabilities of Allies and Partners	405	548	548	48
044A	Building Defense and Security Capabilities of Allies and Partners	1,518	3,128	3,240	3,307
0303150F	Global C3I and Early Warning		30,000		
	Operation and Maintenance, Army				
111087	SFAB/MDTF Deployments	48,000	110,000	24,953	10,210
0202219A	Force Readiness Operations Support		5,000		
0202614A	Force Readiness Operations Support			39,236	
411	Security Programs			2,170	2,170
	Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard				
0509399A	Admin and Servicewide Activities			7,000	
	Operation and Maintenance, Navy				
1CCM	Mission Partner Environment		36,268		
1CCM	INDOPACOM UFR—Mission Partner Environment	50,170			
1CCM	INDOPACOM UFR—Future Fusion Centers	3,300			
1CCM	INDOPACOM UFR—Joint Training Team			28,000	49,000
0201490N	Combatant Commander Core Operations		19,000	19,500	2,720
0201492N	Combatant Commander Core Operations			5,170	5,321
1CCH	INDOPACOM UFR—Asia Pacific Regional Initiative		8,000		
0201114N	Combatant Commanders Direct Mission Support		19,750	44,750	49,250
1001004N	Combatant Commanders Direct Mission Support		16,518	33,696	8,139
0204217N	Weapons Maintenance		40,299	43,575	41,999
	Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide				
1002200T	DSCA Sec. 333/332/MSI	370,095	416,393	515,707	
1002201T	Defense Security Cooperation Agency				450,957
1002201T	Taiwan Security Cooperation Initiative				300,000
1150491BB	Special Operations Command Theater Forces		9,523	10,144	10,351
	Subtotal, DEFENSE AND SECURITY CAPABILITIES OF ALLIES AND PARTNERS	488,538	732,819	783,604	938,657
	Total	7,112,738	11,458,309	14,706,554	15,578,670

Sec. 1314—Indo-Pacific extended deterrence education pilot program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1247) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense, using the authorities provided in chapter 16 of title 10, United States Code, and other applicable statutory authorities available to the Secretary, to establish a pilot program, including an international defense personnel exchange program, to support the education of covered personnel of Australia, Japan, or the Republic of Korea in matters related to nuclear deterrence, nuclear strategy, nuclear defense strategy, or other related matters.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

SUBTITLE C—MATTERS RELATING TO TAIWAN

Sec. 1321—Modification of reporting requirement for transfer of defense articles and defense services to Taiwan

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1251) that would amend paragraph (3) of section 1259A(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91) to clarify that the required report may be submitted in classified form.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1322—Establishment of program between the United States and Taiwan for military trauma care

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1246) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to seek to

engage with appropriate officials of Taiwan for the purpose of establishing a joint program on military trauma care and research consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96-8).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would authorize the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to establish a joint program on military trauma care with appropriate personnel of the military forces of Taiwan, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act.

Sec. 1323—Taiwan security cooperation initiative

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1241) that would authorize the Indo-Pacific Security Assistance

Initiative, under which the Secretary of Defense would be authorized to provide the foreign military and national security forces and ministries of defense, or security agencies serving a similar defense function, of foreign partners in the Indo-Pacific, and regional organizations with security missions in the Indo-Pacific region, with security assistance utilizing the authorities provided in chapter 16 of title 10, United States Code, and other applicable statutory authorities available to the Secretary.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would authorize the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to provide the military, central government security forces, and central government security agencies of Taiwan and civilian central governmental entities of Taiwan that have among their functional responsibilities the support of military and central government security forces with appropriate assistance to enable Taiwan to maintain sufficient self-defense capabilities consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96-8).

Sec. 1324—Sense of Congress regarding invitation to Taiwan to the Rim of the Pacific exercise

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1318) that would require the Secretary of Defense to invite the naval forces of Taiwan to any Rim of the Pacific Exercise that is to take place following the date of enactment of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would express the sense of Congress that the naval forces of Taiwan may be invited to participate in the Rim of the Pacific exercise, as appropriate, conducted in 2025.

SUBTITLE D—COORDINATING AUKUS
ENGAGEMENT WITH JAPAN

Sec. 1331—Definitions

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6299D) that would define certain terms related to the Australia, United Kingdom, United States partnership.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1332—Sense of Congress

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6299E) that would express the sense of Congress regarding the Australia, United Kingdom, and United States partnership and Japan.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1333—Engagement with Japan on AUKUS Pillar Two Cooperation

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6299F) that would require the State Australia, United Kingdom, United States (AUKUS) Coordinator to jointly engage directly with the relevant stakeholders in the Government of Japan on AUKUS Pillar Two.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1334—Assessment of Potential for Cooperation with Japan on AUKUS Pillar Two

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported

bill contained a provision (sec. 6299G) that would require the Secretary of State, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Defense, to submit a report assessing the potential for cooperation with Japan on Pillar Two of the Australia, United Kingdom, and United States partnership.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

SUBTITLE E—MATTERS RELATING TO EAST
ASIA

Sec. 1341—Extension and modification of authority to transfer funds for Bien Hoa dioxin cleanup

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1244) that would extend the authority of the Secretary of Defense to transfer funds to the Secretary of State for the Bien Hoa dioxin cleanup in Vietnam through fiscal year 2025 and increase the amount that can be transferred to \$30.0 million per year.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1342—Modification of cooperative program with Vietnam to account for Vietnamese personnel missing in action

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1264) that would amend section 1245 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) to make various modifications to a cooperative program with Vietnam to account for Vietnamese personnel missing in action, and to extend the program to 2031.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1343—Plan for establishment of a joint force headquarters in Japan

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1248) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide the congressional defense committees with a plan for the establishment of joint force headquarters subordinate to U.S. Indo-Pacific Command in Japan, Australia, and any other locations the Secretary determines necessary.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a plan to reconstitute U.S. Forces Japan as a joint force headquarters consistent with the Joint Statement of the Security Consultative Committee released on July 28, 2024.

Sec. 1344—Plan for Department of Defense activities to strengthen United States extended deterrence commitments to the Republic of Korea

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1249) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to submit a plan to strengthen United States extended deterrence commitments to the Republic of Korea in each of the next 5 years.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1345—Plan and annual report relating to trilateral defense cooperation with Japan and the Republic of Korea

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1250) that would re-

quire the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to submit a plan for advancing trilateral security cooperation among the United States, Japan, and the Republic of Korea and require annual updates on such trilateral security cooperation activities through 2029.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1346—Modification of public reporting of Chinese military companies operating in the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1302) that would require a printed justification in the Federal Register to accompany the annual listing decisions in accordance with section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283).

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1303) that would modify the requirement for the Department of Defense to maintain a Chinese military company list in accordance with Section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283).

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1307) that would require the Secretary of Defense to make the list required under section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 to be in both English and in Mandarin Chinese.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1258) that would amend section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) to clarify the public reporting requirements regarding Chinese military companies operating in the United States.

The agreement includes consolidation of the House provisions, along with additional clarifying amendments.

Sec. 1347—Strategy to address malign activities by the People's Liberation Army

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1254) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a transregional strategy for exposing and, as appropriate, countering malign activities by the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a transregional, multi-functional, and multi-domain strategy to coordinate activities among combatant commands for identifying and, if necessary and appropriate, addressing malign activities by the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China. The provision would also require the Secretary to designate, within each combatant command (other than the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command), an official liaison for coordinated transregional, multi-functional, and multi-domain efforts to address malign activities by the People's Liberation Army.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Prohibition on use of funds to promote a "one country, two systems" solution for Taiwan

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1305) that would prohibit the use of funds to be used to promote a "one country, two systems" solution for Taiwan.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Modification of Prohibition on Participation of the People's Republic of China in Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) Naval Exercises

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1306) that would modify the prohibition on participation of the People's Republic of China (PRC) in Rim of the Pacific naval exercises. The House bill also contained a provision (sec. 1308) that would modify the prohibition on participation of the PRC in Rim of the Pacific naval exercises by adding the exception of the PRC holding an internationally-recognized, free and fair presidential election.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provisions.

Consideration of Taiwan for enhanced defense industrial base cooperation

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1253) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, to take measures to ensure that Taiwan is appropriately considered, consistent with the Taiwan Relations Act (Public Law 96-8), for enhanced defense industrial base cooperation activities aligned with the United States National Defense Industrial Strategy to expand global defense production, increase supply chain security and resilience, and meet the defense needs of Taiwan.

The House bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1313).

The agreement does not include these provisions.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, to conduct a study on the feasibility and advisability of entering into one or more defense industrial agreements with Taiwan. In conducting the study, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, shall consult with representatives of Taiwan and industry, as appropriate. At a minimum, the study shall:

(1) Evaluate the strategic benefits and implications of entering into a defense industrial agreement with Taiwan, including with respect to:

(a) long-term supply chain security and resilience;

(b) mutual supply of defense goods and services;

(c) supply of regional maintenance, repair, and overhaul capabilities and any other support capability the Secretary considers appropriate; and

(d) the promotion of interoperability;

(2) Account for the legal, economic, and defense policy aspects of a closer defense procurement partnership between the United States and Taiwan;

(3) Identify defense capabilities developed and produced in Taiwan that:

(a) may benefit from defense industrial agreements between the United States and Taiwan; and

(b) may require expedited technology release and disclosure for components produced in the United States; and

(4) Identify defense capabilities developed in the United States with respect to which co-production in Taiwan may support the resilience of the defense industrial base of Taiwan.

Furthermore, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report with a classified annex on the results of the study, including lists of the defense capabilities identified under elements (c) and (d).

Designation of official responsible for coordination of department of defense efforts to monitor People's Liberation Army overseas basing efforts

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1315) that would require the Secretary of Defense to designate an official within the Department of Defense to be responsible for coordination of Department efforts to monitor the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) overseas basing efforts.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees that, at a minimum, identifies the Department of Defense official or officials responsible for:

(1) Monitoring the PLA's network of overseas military bases and its global pursuit of military access agreements;

(2) Representing the Department of Defense in the interagency process on such matters; and

(3) Consulting regularly with the congressional defense committees to keep such committees fully informed on all matters relating to such responsibilities.

Report on feasibility of developing and deploying asymmetric naval assets in defense of Taiwan

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1319) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, to submit a report on the feasibility of developing and deploying asymmetric naval assets in Taiwan.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies as appropriate, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to provide the congressional defense committees, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives a briefing on:

(1) The feasibility of developing and deploying asymmetric naval assets for a potential defense of Taiwan;

(2) Whether Taiwan's ability to deter a maritime invasion by the People's Republic of China would be enhanced by deployment of small, high-speed, long-range (200 or more nautical miles), extreme-weather-capable, reduced-radar-signature boats with the capacity for launching missiles, addressing subsurface threats or delivering and recovering small troop units to coastal and littoral locations in the vicinity of the Taiwan Strait, and, if so, in what number and in what configurations;

(3) Whether existing and planned Tuo Chiang class catamaran-hulled corvettes are naval assets capable of fully meeting the needs of an effective asymmetric naval defense strategy; and

(4) The vulnerability of Taiwan's existing larger-platform surface naval fleet, including *Keelung*-class destroyers, *Cheung Kung*-class frigates, *Chi Yang*-class frigates, and *Kang Ding*-class frigates.

Report on impact of the malign influence of China and Russia

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1320) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the heads of other Federal departments and agencies as necessary, to submit to the Committees on

Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report that includes a detailed assessment of the impact of the malign influence of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation in Africa, South America, Central America, and the Caribbean on the national security and economic interests of the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to ensure that future iterations of the Department of Defense's annual report on Military and Security Developments Involving the People's Republic of China required by section 1202 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (Public Law 106-65) and the Russia Military Power Report produced by the Defense Intelligence Agency include assessments of the impact of the malign influence of the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation, respectively, in Africa, South America, Central America, and the Caribbean on the national security and economic interests of the United States.

Report on support for Taiwan's military preparedness

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1321) that would require the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Treasury, and the Director of National Intelligence, to submit a report on deterrence in the Taiwan Strait.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that annual reports required by the Taiwan Enhanced Resilience Act in section 3351(f) of title 22, United States Code, address matters related to the defense of Taiwan, including an assessment of the commitment of Taiwan to implement a strategy that will deter and, if necessary, defeat military aggression by the People's Republic of China.

TITLE—XIV OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

SUBTITLE A—MILITARY PROGRAMS

Sec. 1401—Working capital funds

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1401) that would authorize appropriations for the defense working capital funds at the levels identified in section 4501 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 1401).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 1402—Chemical agents and munitions destruction, defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1402) that would authorize appropriations for Chemical Agents and Munitions Destruction, Defense at the levels identified in section 4501 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 1402).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would strike subsection (b)(2), at the request of the Department of Defense.

Sec. 1403—Drug interdiction and counter-drug activities, defense-wide

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1403) that would authorize appropriations for Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense-wide at the levels identified in section 4501 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 1403).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 1404—Defense Inspector General

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1404) that would authorize appropriations for

the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense at the levels identified in section 4501 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 1404).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 1405—Defense Health Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1405) that would authorize appropriations for the Defense Health Program at the levels identified in section 4501 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 1405).

The agreement includes this provision.

SUBTITLE B—NATIONAL DEFENSE STOCKPILE

Sec. 1411—Restoring the National Defense Stockpile

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 1411 and sec. 1412) that would direct the National Defense Stockpile Manager to procure strategic and critical materials from domestic sources to the maximum extent practicable.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1411).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require a plan to fully fund existing National Defense Stockpile requirements.

We expect the Secretary of Defense to adhere to the requirements codified in 50 U.S.C. 98h-6 regarding purchasing, or making a commitment to purchase, strategic and critical materials of domestic origin when such materials are needed for the stockpile.

Sec. 1412—Consultations with respect to environmental review of certain projects relating to availability of strategic and critical materials for acquisition for National Defense Stockpile

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1413) that would require the Secretary of Defense to consult with the head of any cooperating agency or participating agency responsible for the environmental review for the project in the case of a covered project that will result in an increase in the availability of strategic and critical materials for acquisition for the National Defense Stockpile.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1413).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE C—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 1421—Extension of authorities for funding and management of Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund for Captain James A. Lovell Health Care Center, Illinois

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1421) that would amend section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public Law 11-84) to extend the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund from September 30, 2024, to September 30, 2025. The provision would also the transfer of \$162.5 million to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund for operations of the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained similar provisions (sec. 741 and sec. 1423).

The agreement include the House provision with an amendment that would extend the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund to September 30, 2026.

Sec. 1422—Eligibility of Space Force officers for membership on Armed Forces Retirement Home Advisory Council

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1422) that would amend section 1502 of the

Armed Forces Retirement Home Act of 1991 (Public Law 101-510) to add the Deputy Chief of Space Operations for Human Capital and the Chief Master Sergeant of the Space Force as members of the Armed Forces Retirement Home Advisory Council.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1421).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1423—Armed Forces Retirement Home: availability of licensed practitioners

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1422) that would amend section 1513 of the Armed Forces Retirement Home Act of 1991 (Public Law 101-510) to require the Armed Forces Retirement Home (AFRH) to have appropriate licensed independent health care practitioners available during the daily business hours of the facility and on-call at other times. The provision would also authorize the Secretary of Defense to enter into agreements to facilitate payments from the Department of Defense (DOD) to the AFRH for health care services provided to covered DOD beneficiaries at AFRH facilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would that amend section 1513 of the Armed Forces Retirement Home Act of 1991 (Public Law 101-510) to require the AFRH to have appropriate licensed practitioners available during the daily business hours of the facility and on-call at other times.

We understand there are challenges with the financial stability of the AFRH. The AFRH provides healthcare services to its residents, but is not reimbursed for providing this care by the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, or Medicare.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, no later than April 1, 2025, on the legal and policy issues related to the inability to provide reimbursement for AFRH resident healthcare, including the application of section 1113 of title 10, United States Code. The briefing shall include any regulatory, policy, or statutory changes necessary to authorize reimbursement to the AFRH for providing this care.

Sec. 1424—Authorization of appropriations for Armed Forces Retirement Home

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1423) that would authorize an appropriation of \$69.5 million from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund for fiscal year 2025 for the operation of the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1424).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would authorize an appropriation of \$100.5 million from the Armed Forces Retirement Home Trust Fund for fiscal year 2025 for the operation of the Armed Forces Retirement Home.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Storage of strategic and critical materials in National Defense Stockpile

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1412) that would amend the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act (50 U.S.C. 98 et seq.) to authorize the Stockpile Manager to enter into leases for the storage of strategic and critical materials in the National Defense Stockpile.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We understand that the authority to enter into leases already exists in 50 U.S.C. 98e and is more expansive.

TITLE XV—CYBERSPACE-RELATED MATTERS

SUBTITLE A—CYBER OPERATIONS

Sec. 1501—Modification of prohibition on purchase of cyber data products or services other than through the program management office for Department of Defense-wide procurement of cyber data products and services

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1625) that would amend section 1521(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81) by adding an additional exemption to the prohibition of this section.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1502—Department of Defense Information Network subordinate unified command

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1503) that would require the Secretary of Defense to designate the Joint Force Headquarters-Department of Defense Information Network as a subordinate unified command under the United States Cyber Command.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1602).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1503—Establishment of the Department of Defense Hackathon program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1502) that would require the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer of the Department of Defense, in coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense, to establish a program to be known as the Department of Defense Hackathon Program, under which the commanders of combatant commands and the Secretaries of the military departments are required to carry out not fewer than four Hackathons each year.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1504—Support for cyber threat tabletop exercise program with the defense industrial base

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1604) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Cyber Policy, in consultation and coordination with the Commander of United States Cyber Command, the Commander of United States Northern Command, the Commander of the Army Interagency Training and Education Center, and such other individuals as the Assistant Secretary considers appropriate, to develop tabletop exercise packages oriented towards training stakeholders to prepare the homeland for adversary cyber-attacks precipitating or during a time of conflict or war.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require that the exercise program to be established include both a series of tabletop exercises to be conducted by the Department of Defense, as well as tabletop exercise packages that can be provided to defense industrial base organizations that they could run themselves, as well as some clarification on participants and their roles in this exercise program.

Sec. 1505—Accounting of cloud computing capabilities of the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1504) that would require the Chief Information Office of the Department, in coordination with the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer of the Department, to provide to the congressional defense committees a report listing the current and planned cloud elements of the Department, as well as a roadmap for future activities and related contracting details.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

SUBTITLE B—CYBERSECURITY

Sec. 1511—Termination of reporting requirement for cross domain incidents and exemptions to policies for information technology

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1721) that would amend section 1727 of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) by adding a new subsection.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1512—Information technology programs of the National Background Investigation Service

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1619) that would authorize the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in consultation with the Security, Suitability, and Credentialing Performance Accountability Council Principals, to adjust the assignment of milestone decision authority or program management for the National Background Investigation Services.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1513—Guidance for application of zero trust strategy to Internet of Things hardware used in military operations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1614) that would require the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to develop guidance for how the Department of Defense zero trust strategy applies to Internet of Military Things hardware, including human-wearable devices, sensors, and other smart technology; and the role identity, credential, and access management technologies serve in enforcing such a zero trust strategy.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1514—Management and cybersecurity of multi-cloud environments

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1612) that would require the Secretary of Defense acting through the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Defense, to develop a strategy for the management and cybersecurity of the Joint Warfighting Cloud Capability and other multi-cloud environments, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1515—Protective measures for mobile devices within the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1511) that would require the Secretary of De-

fense to carry out a detailed evaluation of the cybersecurity products and services for mobile devices to identify products and services that may improve the cybersecurity of mobile devices used by the Department of Defense, including mitigating the risk to the Department of Defense from cyber attacks against mobile devices.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1622).

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE C—INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND DATA MANAGEMENT

Sec. 1521—Usability of antiquated and proprietary data formats for modern operations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1521) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, to develop a strategy for the Department of Defense, including each of the military departments, to implement and use modern data formats as the primary method of electronic communication for command and control activities and for weapon systems, including sensors associated with such weapon systems; and which accounts for specific needs of each military department with respect to such implementation and use of modern data formats; and an associated five-year roadmap for implementation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

We note that the diversity, age and complexity of Department of Defense (DOD) information technology (IT) systems poses a unique challenge to creating a truly integrated, interoperable and efficient information network capable of operating at speeds and with the adaptability to outpace and out-decide our adversaries. The length of time many key DOD information technology systems have remained in use, as well the centrality of many of these systems around which new capabilities have to be added and upgraded, is a unique engineering challenge. Just as an example, the reliance on outmoded and antiquated data formats such as Extensible Markup Language, Variable Message Format, Tactical Data Links, or Tactical Digital Information Links, means that many systems cannot take full advantage of technological capabilities of new artificial intelligence, data processing, or bandwidth efficient components, effectively self-limiting performance gains for our warfighters.

We believe a better understanding of where DOD IT systems are reliant on such formats and a concerted plan to identify and address the risks from such formats is a critical first step to make a truly integrated and effective data fabric for the Department.

Sec. 1522—Modernization of the Department of Defense's Authorization to Operate processes

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1522) that would require the Department of Defense to improve and streamline the processes regarding the "Authority to Operate" for information technology.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1621).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1523—Update of biometric policy of Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1613) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security to update the biometric policy of the Department of Defense, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment that would require this policy to be updated not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SUBTITLE D—ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Sec. 1531—Artificial Intelligence Human Factors Integration Initiative

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1616) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, in coordination with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment and the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer of the Department of Defense, to establish an initiative to improve the human usability of artificial intelligence systems and artificial intelligence-derived information through the application of cognitive ergonomics techniques; and ensure design tools and metrics are available for programs to ensure human factors considerations are included for artificial intelligence systems adopted by the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1532—Advanced computing infrastructure to enable advanced artificial intelligence capabilities

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5234) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish an advanced computing infrastructure program within the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1533—Cost budgeting for artificial intelligence data

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1620) that would require the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer (CDAO) of the Department of Defense, in consultation with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment and the Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation, to develop a plan to ensure the budgeting process for programs containing artificial intelligence components includes estimates for the types of data, and estimated costs for acquisition and sustainment of such data required to train, maintain, or improve the artificial intelligence contained within such programs.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1534—Evaluation of Federated Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Weapon Systems Center of Excellence

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5231) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a center of excellence to support the development and maturation of artificial intelligence-enabled weapon systems.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

SUBTITLE E—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 1541—Oversight and reporting on the Mission Partner Environment and associated activities within the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1537) that would establish an improved oversight mechanism for the Department of Defense activities related to the Mission Partner Environment.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1617).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1542—Extension of certification requirement regarding contracting for military recruiting

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1531) that would amend section 1555 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to modify the certification requirements to the Secretary of Defense and strike the sunset clause.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment to extend section 1555 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 for an additional year.

Sec. 1543—Prohibition on disestablishment or merger of officer career paths within the Cyber Branch of the United States Army

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1535) that would prohibit disestablishment or merger of officer career paths within the Cyber Branch of the United States Army.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of the Army to provide notice to Congress prior to taking any action to disestablish or merge the Cyber Warfare and Cyber Electromagnetic Warfare officer career paths within the Cyber Branch of the Army.

Sec. 1544—Independent assessment of cyber organizational models

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1536) that would require the Secretary of Defense to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to conduct an evaluation regarding the advisability of either establishing a separate Armed Force in the Department of Defense dedicated to operations in the cyber domain or refining and further evolving the current organizational approach for United States Cyber Command.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1606).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

We note that finding the optimal structure for cyber operations continues to be a work in progress. We also recognize that such evolution is even more difficult when those forces are fully engaged in a demanding training environment, competition with the private sector for a limited workforce pool, and complicated by a constant, demanding and high intensity operational tempo. We believe that an independent, outside examination of these challenge may provide valuable insights to inform decision-makers on future force design concepts.

In executing the study required by the section, we encourage the National Academies to leverage fully the findings from previous relevant assessments, analyses, and studies conducted by the Secretary of Defense, the Comptroller General of the United States, or other entities, as well as lessons learned from the creation of Space Force, and from the establishment of foreign partner cyber organizations. We also encourage them to

seek views and perspectives of members of the Armed Forces in the Department of Defense, across grades and specialties in cyber, to better understand the historical performance and efficacy of the Armed Forces in the Department of Defense in devising and implementing recruitment and retention policies in the cyber field.

We observe that the study required will be a major challenge for participants within the National Academies, some of whom may not have deep operational experience in military cyber missions. Scoping the study to focus on key questions will be critical, and we recognize that the participants should have the flexibility to pursue topics based on their collective judgement. While this list is not intended to be exhaustive or directive, we do hope it will provide some loose vectoring that will help them as they develop their study approach.

As part of this study, we encourage the National Academies panel to examine some or all of the following issues, including:

(1) What is the optimal force size of qualified cyber professionals to satisfy existing and projected requirements of the Department of Defense, and how are these variables most likely to change?

(2) Does the Department have an adequate delineation of which fields are cyber-relevant, and how might this be most likely to change?

(3) Is the Department's current understanding and definition of cyber operations adequate to future challenges and opportunities?

(4) What options exist to improve training requirements, outputs, and programs in support of cyberspace operations?

(5) How could the Department improve recruiting and retention of qualified officers and enlisted members of the Armed Forces in the Department of Defense in cyberspace operations and related and supporting fields?

(6) How might the Department better utilize reserve component forces in support of cyberspace operations?

(7) What approaches could improve force readiness?

(8) How should the Department structure itself for acquisition and provision of cyber capabilities in support of cyberspace operations?

(9) How should the Department approach compensation, including pay and other benefits, among military members and civilians serving in and qualified for work roles in support of cyberspace operations, especially in light of competition with the private sector, and how should this approach be common with or differ from those for other high-demand work roles?

(10) How could the Department improve professional military education content and curricula focused on the cyber domain?

(11) Does increased optimization for cyberspace operations incur cost, risk, efficiency, or other tradeoffs to other missions and responsibilities of the Department, or elsewhere within the national security community?

Sec. 1545—Limitation on availability of funds for the Joint Cyber Warfighting Architecture

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1623) that would limit funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act for fiscal year 2025 for the Joint Cyber Warfighting Architecture, until the date on which the Commander of United States Cyber Command provides the plan required.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1546—Risk framework for foreign mobile applications of concern

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1746) that would require the Secretary of Defense to create categorical definitions of foreign mobile applications of concern with respect to personnel or operations of the Department of Defense, distinguishing among categories such as applications for shopping, social media, entertainment, or health; and create a risk framework with respect to Department personnel or operations that assesses each foreign mobile application (or, if appropriate, grouping of similar such applications) that is from a country of concern for any potential impact on Departmental personnel and Departmental operations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1547—Joint partner-sharing network capabilities for Middle East defense integration

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1615) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a strategy for improved cooperation between the United States and Middle Eastern allies and partners to improve partner sharing network capabilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with clarifying amendments.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Access to national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1533) that would require the Department of Defense (DOD) Chief Information Officer to implement access to the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline from all Department facilities and report to Congress when complete.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that all DOD Defense Service Network (DSN) phones now have the ability to access the Veteran's Crisis Line (988) from anyplace on the globe without dialing any additional digit. We also note that the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system does not currently transmit detailed caller location, like a 911 call, and that 988 geolocation poses significant challenges—most notably time and funding.

We therefore direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2025, describing the approximate cost and timeline required to modernize DOD systems to facilitate geolocated 988 services for DSN phones. Such briefing should address issues related to architecture, manpower, implementation timelines, funding, and interoperability.

Assessment of feasibility of engaging in cooperative activities with allies to mitigate cyber threats to certain undersea cables

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1601) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct an assessment to determine the feasibility of engaging in cybersecurity cooperation activities with international partners and allies of the United States to mitigate cyber threats to undersea cables that originate and terminate outside of the United States.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Assessment of innovative data analysis and information technology solutions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1523) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing the results of an assessment of the implementation by the Department of Defense of innovative data analysis and information technology solutions that could improve risk management, agility, and capabilities for strategic defense purposes.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Authority to accept voluntary and uncompensated services from cybersecurity experts

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1501) that would amend section 167(d) of title 10, United States Code, to add a new paragraph that would allow for the acceptance of voluntary services from cybersecurity experts.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Briefing on course of education and pilot program on authentication of digital content provenance for certain Department of Defense media content

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1624) that would amend section 1524 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) by adding new paragraphs for an interim and final briefing on the training content developed under this provision.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Comptroller General of the United States assessment of cyber command protection of privacy and civil liberties procedures and training requirements for cyber operators

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1605) that would direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an assessment of planning procedures available for cyber operations forces to ensure the protection of privacy and civil liberties of United States persons on the conduct of cyber operations and report the results to Congress.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We agree that no later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct an assessment of the training and certification processes and planning procedures available for Cyber Operations Forces to ensure that the privacy and civil liberties of United States persons are protected in the conduct of military cyber operations, and submit the findings of that assessment to Congress.

We also agree that the assessment conducted by the Comptroller General should address the following:

(1) What guidance, instructions and training are available for United States Cyber Command Cyber Operations Forces for protecting privacy and civil liberties of United States persons in the conduct of lawful, authorized cyber military operations;

(2) How such members are trained to protect such rights;

(3) The process for integrating protection of such rights in the planning and conduct of military cyber operations to minimize or mitigate interference with such rights;

(4) The role of the external oversight, such as the Office of the Inspector General, in monitoring such training and certification requirements; and

(5) How such instructions and trainings identified address the execution of military cyber operations related to Defense Support of Civil Authorities tasks, including the cyber defense of domestic critical infrastructure.

Comptroller General report on efforts to protect personal information of Department of Defense personnel from exploitation by foreign adversaries

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1627) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to brief the appropriate congressional committees on Department of Defense efforts to protect personal information of its personnel from exploitation by foreign adversaries.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We understand that the Comptroller General of the United States has initiated work on this topic as a result of last year's National Defense Authorization Act. We eagerly await the results of this review.

Consolidation of briefing requirements relating to the relationship between the National Security Agency and United States Cyber Command

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1618) that would amend subsection (c) of section 1642 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328), as added by section 1636 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) to require the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, not later than March 1, 2025 and annually thereafter until March 1, 2028, to provide the appropriate committees of Congress a briefing on the relationship between the National Security Agency and United States Cyber Command.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Cyber table top exercises with organizations in defense industrial base

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1611) that would require the Executive Director of the Department of Defense Cyber Crime Center, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to develop and carry out a plan to conduct cyber table top exercises with organizations in the defense industrial base not less frequently than twice each year until December 31, 2030.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that elements of this provision are incorporated elsewhere in this Act.

Department of Defense use of large language models

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1538) that would require the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Chief Digital and Artificial Intelligence Officer of the Department of Defense, to coordinate and accelerate the adoption of large language models by the Department of Defense by improving the access and quality of the existing structured and unstructured data of the Department to ensure such data is immediately

ready to use in conjunction with machine learning applications being developed, tested, or in production by the Armed Forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that elements of this provision are addressed elsewhere in this Act.

Improvements relating to cyber protection support for Department of Defense personnel in positions highly vulnerable to cyber attack

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1626) that would amend section 1645 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) to clarify that the scope of this authority includes personal accounts, as well as personal technology, of personnel eligible for such cyber protection support.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Limitation on availability of travel funds

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1534) that would limit the obligation and expenditure of more than 75 percent of certain funds authorized for travel expenses for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Office of the Secretary of Army, Office of the Secretary of Navy, and Office of the Secretary of the Air Force until their fulfillment of certain legislative requirements related to cyberspace.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that, with the assumption of the new Assistant Secretary of Defense for Cyber Policy (ASD(CP)), there has been renewed focus and attention on responding to congressionally directed reporting requirements in a more timely, thorough, and fulsome manner. We have been concerned for several years that the backlog of requests has hindered the ability of the relevant committees to properly exercise oversight of this critical and dynamic domain. We note the ASD(CP)'s promising efforts to institutionalize the processes in a short time frame, and are optimistic about such efforts in the future. While we remain concerned that such a legislative backlog could develop again in the future, we are optimistic that the focus of the ASD (CP) can ensure that legislative requirements are afforded the proper levels of attention going forward. We look forward to continued engagement and partnership on these topics in the future.

Report on State National Guard cyber units

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1539) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the feasibility of establishing a cyber unit in every National Guard of a state to ensure the ability of a State to quickly respond to cyber-attacks in such state.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on total force generation for the Cyber-space Operations Forces

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1532) that would amend section 1533(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) by adding a new paragraph to require any supporting analyses conducted by other entities, including federally funded research and development centers, related to total force generation for cyber operations forces.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Report on user activity monitoring programs of the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1540) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a report on user activity monitoring programs of the Department of Defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees, not later than April 15, 2025, a briefing on user activity monitoring programs of the Department of Defense. Such briefing shall include:

(1) A description of the implementation and enforcement of the requirements of section 1537 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31);

(2) A detailed description of the status of user activity monitoring on the Non-classified Internet Protocol Router Network;

(3) A comprehensive accounting of the funds made available for user activity monitoring on the Non-classified Internet Protocol Router Network in fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024;

(4) Plans for deployment of user activity monitoring programs, including appropriate sensing, data retention and integration into other cybersecurity applications, on Secret Internet Protocol Networks; and

(5) Information on how any such user activity monitoring programs might deviate from the minimum standards outlined in the National Insider Threat Policy and Minimum Standards for Executive Branch Insider Threat Programs; the Committee on National Security Systems Directive 504 (issued on February 4, 2014, relating to the protection of national security systems from insider threats); or the Department of Defense Directive 5205.16 (issued on September 30, 2014, relating to the insider threat program of the Department of Defense).

TITLE XVI—SPACE ACTIVITIES, STRATEGIC PROGRAMS, AND INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

SUBTITLE A—SPACE ACTIVITIES

Sec. 1601—Modification of Air Force space contractor responsibility watch list

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1604) that would amend section 1612 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91) to elevate the management of the contractor responsibility watch list to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1501).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would further clarify the conditions and reporting for placing a contractor on the contractor responsibility watch list as well as specific conditions on the delegation of such authority if required.

Sec. 1602—Establishment of Commercial Augmentation Space Reserve

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1602) that would establish a program known as the “Commercial Augmentation Space Reserve” to procure space products and services for the reserve use of the Department of Defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1506).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would remove

certain exemptions for competition in contracting and cost accounting standards; and require the Secretary of Defense to consult with the Secretary of the Air Force to conduct a study related to the program.

Sec. 1603—Space Force satellite ground systems

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1504) that would amend chapter 135 of title 10, United States Code, to require completion and operation of satellite ground systems before associated satellite launches; but authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to waive this requirement for national security purposes as necessary.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1604—Modification of notification of foreign interference of national security space

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1505) that would amend section 2278 of title 10, United States Code, by simplifying the requirements for the Commander, U.S. Space Command to notify the congressional defense committees of each foreign attempt to interfere with national security space capabilities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1605—Modifications to National Security Space Launch program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1603) that would extend the requirement for the Department of Defense to use the National Security Space Launch program, to the extent practical, to procure launch services through September 30, 2029.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1606—Comptroller General review regarding Global Positioning System modernization and other positioning, navigation, and timing systems

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1508) that would modify reporting and briefing requirements for the Comptroller General of the United States on the Global Positioning System (GPS) III space segment, the GPS operational control segment, and Military GPS user equipment acquisition programs.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1607—Senior Advisor for Space Command, Control, and Integration

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1507) that would require the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration to designate a Program Executive Officer for Space Command, Control, and Integration to oversee U.S. Space Command’s requirements for a system to support a combined operations center at the National Space Defense Center.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Assistant Secretary for Space Acquisition and Integration to name a Senior Defense Advisor for Space Command, Control and Integration to meet the integration requirements of the combatant commands. The amendment would also require the Space Acquisition Council to assess annual fulfillment of space command, control and integra-

tion requirements of U.S. Space Command and brief the congressional defense committees on activities taken over the past fiscal year and over the future years defense program in meeting those requirements.

Sec. 1608—Pilot program to demonstrate hybrid satellite communication architecture

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1606) that would require the Commander, Space Systems Command, U.S. Space Force, to implement a pilot program to demonstrate a hybrid space architecture by integrating military and commercial communication systems.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would strike the sense of Congress and require the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration to implement the pilot program.

Sec. 1609—Middle East integrated space and satellite security assessment

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1607) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct an assessment of space and satellite security to identify opportunities for multilateral agreements to protect ally and partner countries in the area of responsibility of the U.S. Central Command from hostile activities against space systems of the United States or those ally and partner countries.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1288).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1610—Annual briefing on commercial space strategy of the Space Force

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1605) that would require the Chief of Space Operations to provide a briefing on commercial solutions for the mission areas identified in the U.S. Space Force Commercial Space Strategy published in April 2024.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

SUBTITLE B—DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AND INTELLIGENCE-RELATED ACTIVITIES

Sec. 1611—Extension and modification of authority to engage in certain commercial activities as security for intelligence collection activities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1611) that would amend section 431(a) of title 10, United States Code, by striking “December 31, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2029” and require pre-coordination with the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency using agreed upon procedures.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1542).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would extend the authority contained in section 431(a) of title 10, United States Code, through December 31, 2028.

Sec. 1612—Cyber intelligence capability

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1603) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a dedicated cyber intelligence capability to support the requirements of United States Cyber Command, the other combatant commands, the military departments, defense agencies, the Joint Staff, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense for foundational, scientific and technical, and all-source intelligence on cyber technology development, capabilities, concepts of operation, operations, and plans and intentions of cyber threat actors.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment that would require the establishment of a dedicated cyber intelligence capability rather than a center.

We note our continued support for the establishment of a cyber intelligence capability within the Department of Defense. We recognize that there are pockets of people with useful analytical expertise spread across the existing service intelligence centers that will have valuable experience and analytic contributions to the cyber intelligence mission, so the idea that such contributions may go beyond any single center is understandable. We believe that as the Department formulates a plan for addressing this provision, it is important to carefully consider what constitutes a “cyber intelligence capability.” We believe that capability should include existing centers where relevant expertise exists, but should also focus fundamentally on how to build and maintain the new and emerging types of technical knowledge and expertise that is needed by the cyber operations community, but that does not currently exist anywhere in the Department in the scale or depth that is required. Based on recent experience and the emerging results from current cyber pilots, we do not believe that existing all-source intelligence centers alone will be sufficient for the intelligence needs of cyber operators in the future.

Sec. 1613—Authority of Army Counterintelligence Agents

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1612) that would amend section 7377 of title 10, United States Code, to provide special agents of the Army Counterintelligence Command with the authority to execute warrants and make arrests.

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 6541) that would provide the same authority, but would further terminate this authority 4 years after enactment of this Act. The Senate provision would also require annual briefings on the Army’s use of this authority.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1614—Extension and modification of defense intelligence and counterintelligence expense authority

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1042) that would extend the authorization from section 1057 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) for the expenditure of funds for Department of Defense intelligence and counterintelligence activities from 2025 to 2030 and increase the amount of expenditures the Secretary of Defense may delegate from \$100,000 to \$125,000.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1543).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would codify section 1057 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) for the expenditure of funds for Department of Defense intelligence and counterintelligence activities as section 429a of title 10, United States Code, and increase the amount of expenditures the Secretary of Defense may delegate from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

Sec. 1615—Intelligence advice and Department of Defense support for Government of Israel in the defeat of Hamas

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1546) that would require the Secretary of Defense and the Direc-

tor of the Defense Intelligence Agency to provide the Government of Israel defense intelligence, advice, and support to the extent practicable, and consistent with United States objectives, to support Israel’s pursuit of the lasting defeat of Hamas, and to assist Israel in either capturing or killing senior Hamas officials.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

SUBTITLE C—NUCLEAR FORCES

Sec. 1621—Establishment of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Deterrence, Chemical, and Biological Defense Policy and Programs; improvements to processes of the Office of the Secretary of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1525) that would amend section 138(b)(4) of title 10, United States Code, to restructure the position of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear, Chemical, and Biological Defense Programs (ASD(NCB)) into the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Deterrence Policy and Programs; and consolidate the principal policymaking, programmatic, and resourcing responsibilities for U.S. nuclear forces within the Office of the Secretary of Defense into the restructured office.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with amendments that adjust the scope of responsibilities, change the name of the position to Assistant Secretary of Defense for Nuclear Deterrence, Chemical, and Biological Defense Policy and Programs, as well as other technical and conforming amendments.

We note that the Department of Defense is in the process of modernizing and evolving the U.S. nuclear deterrent to adapt to changing international security conditions. We agree that such efforts should not be substantially perturbed by lengthy delays in implementing this adjustment to the organizational oversight structure for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. In order to minimize disruption, we believe that the reorganized office should utilize the existing, purely administrative support relationships (e.g., human resources, budgeting, etc.) of an existing office of the Office of the Secretary of Defense to the maximum extent practicable. We also note that this reorganization is intended in part to better provide the Secretary of Defense and their staff with the policy, programmatic, operational, and resourcing information required to fully execute the responsibilities of principal civilian adviser for nuclear issues and expect Department of Defense Components will ensure such information is provided in a complete and transparent manner. We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the congressional defense committees on interim steps to implement the changes directed by this provision by March 1, 2025, and brief the committees on final implementation measures not later than July 1, 2025.

Sec. 1622—Extension and modification of certifications regarding integrated tactical warning and attack assessment mission of the Department of the Air Force

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1502) that would amend section 1666 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) to provide the Secretary of Defense a waiver for annual certification of the Integrated Tactical Warning and Attack Assessment System; and exempt the Secretary from certain requirements on condition that the Secretary certifies that re-

sources are, and will be, available to remediate any deficiencies related to such system.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1623—Periodic updates on the modernization of the Strategic Automated Command and Control System

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1518) that would amend section 1644 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to direct the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a recurring briefing on the development of a replacement for the Strategic Automated Command and Control System by the date that the LGM-35A Sentinel intercontinental ballistic missile program reaches initial operational capacity.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1624—Modified requirements for report on the plan for the nuclear weapons stockpile, nuclear weapons complex, nuclear weapons delivery systems, and nuclear weapons command and control system

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1042) that would amend section 492a of title 10, United States Code, to modify reporting requirements regarding nuclear weapons.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1625—Matters relating to pilot program on development of reentry vehicles and related systems

The Senate committee-reported bill contained provisions (sec. 1517 and 1523) that would amend section 1645 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to direct the Secretary of the Air Force to provide a recurring briefing on the activities of a reentry vehicle pilot program; and expand the authorization for the pilot program to include the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Navy.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provisions with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1626—Expansion of nuclear long range standoff capability

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1628) that would authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to restore nuclear capability to B-52 bombers that had been previously modified to carry only conventional weapons in compliance with the New START Treaty.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained similar provisions (sec. 1522 and 1524).

The agreement includes the Senate provisions with an amendment that would change the requirement for conversion from directive to permissive and make other technical and confirming changes.

Sec. 1627—Matters relating to the nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1621) that would make certain technical changes related to the nuclear-armed, sea-launched cruise missile program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1513) that would amend section 1640 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to modify the direction to establish a joint program between the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense to develop a nuclear-armed sea-

launched cruise missile (SLCM-N); require the Secretary of the Navy to establish a program element and program office for the SLCM-N development program; and limit the amount of funds that may be obligated or expended by the Secretary of the Navy for travel expenses to not more than 50 percent until the Secretary of the Navy certifies certain actions to implement the SLCM-N development program.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would make technical and conforming changes, consolidate certain requirements, and adjust the limitation on funding to not more than 90 percent of specified funds.

Sec. 1628—Availability of Air Force procurement funds for heat shield material for Mark 21A reentry vehicle

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1519) that would authorize the Secretary of the Air Force to enter into life-of-program contracts for the procurement of mark 21A reentry vehicle heat shield materials and related processing activities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1629—Conditional requirements for Sentinel intercontinental ballistic missile program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1625) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to ensure that Federal Government oversight of the Sentinel intercontinental ballistic missile program meets certain criteria in the event that the program receives a certification under subsection 4376(b) of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment to require a report in the event that the program receives a revised Milestone B approval, as well as other technical and conforming amendments.

Sec. 1630—Prohibition on reduction of intercontinental ballistic missiles of the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1624) that would prohibit the use of funds authorized for fiscal year 2025 to reduce the number of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) of the United States below 400 or reduce the alert level of the ICBM force; but provide an exception to this prohibition for activities related to maintenance, sustainment, and replacement, or activities to ensure safety, security, or reliability.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1515); and a proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 8112) that would express the sense of Congress that the modernization of the ground-based leg of the nuclear triad of the United States is vital to the security of the homeland.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1631—Limitation on use of funds for altering Air Force Global Strike Command

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 921) that would prohibit the use of funds authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2025 for altering or adjusting the existing composition, roles, or responsibilities of Air Force Global Strike Command for the development of military requirements for strategic deterrence or the execution of Joint Forces Air Component Command support responsibilities for U.S. Strategic Command until 90 days after the Secretary of the Air Force, in consultation

with the Commander, U.S. Strategic Command, provides a plan to the congressional defense committees to ensure that future adjustments to the composition, roles, or responsibilities of Air Force Global Strike Command will not adversely affect the meeting the operational requirements of U.S. Strategic Command or activities of the Department of Defense to achieve presidential nuclear employment guidance objectives.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1632—Limitations on use of funds to dismantle B83-1 nuclear gravity bomb

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1623) that would limit the obligation and expenditure of more than 80 percent of certain funds authorized for travel expenses for the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering until the submission of the strategy required by section 1674(b)(1)(3) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263); and limit the use of funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2025 for the dismantlement of the B83-1 nuclear gravity bomb, with certain exceptions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1633—Limitation on availability of funds pending submission of plan for decreasing the time to upload additional warheads to the intercontinental ballistic missile fleet

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1520) that would limit the obligation and expenditure of more than 70 percent of certain funds authorized for travel expenses for the Secretary of the Air Force until the Secretary provides the plan required by section 1650 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) for decreasing the time to upload additional warheads to the intercontinental ballistic missile fleet.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would adjust the limitation to not more than 80 percent of specified funds.

Sec. 1634—Limitation on availability of funds pending submission of information on options for enhancing National Nuclear Security Administration access to the defense industrial base

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1521) that would limit the obligation and expenditure of more than 80 percent of certain funds authorized for travel expenses for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy until the Assistant Secretary provides a required briefing on enhancing the National Nuclear Security Administration's access to the defense industrial base.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would adjust the limitation to not more than 90 percent of specified funds.

Sec. 1635—Defense Industrial Base workforce development strategy

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1541) that would direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a strategy to develop a skilled manufacturing and high-demand vocational trade workforce in support of the national technology and industrial base and nuclear security enterprise.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with technical and conforming amendments.

Sec. 1636—Long-term plan for strategic nuclear forces during delivery vehicle transition

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1622) that would require the Commander, U.S. Strategic Command to provide a baseline strategy, biennially through 2031, on deployed strategic nuclear warheads.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1637—Reports and briefings on recommendations of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1626) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide annual reports and briefings on implementation of the recommendations of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States, established under section 1687 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained similar provisions (sec. 1511 and 1512).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would make technical and conforming changes.

Sec. 1638—Sense of Congress with respect to use of artificial intelligence to support strategic deterrence

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1627) that would affirm the current policy of maintaining a human “in the loop” for critical actions that inform and implement presidential decisions on nuclear weapon employment.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would add a sense of Congress and modify the statement of policy with respect to artificial intelligence and the integrity of nuclear safeguards.

SUBTITLE D—MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAMS

Sec. 1641—Expansion of certain prohibitions relating to missile defense information and systems to apply to People's Republic of China

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1631) that would expand existing prohibitions related to sharing certain missile defense information with the Russian Federation to also include the People's Republic of China.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1642—Additional missile defense site for protection of United States homeland

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1633) that would require the Director of the Missile Defense Agency to establish, by 2031, a fully operational third continental ballistic missile interceptor site on the east coast of the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment.

Sec. 1643—Advice and assistance regarding enhancement of Jordanian air and missile defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1512) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a strategy to improve cooperation between allies and partners in the

Middle East with respect to air and missile defense efforts.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1536) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Commander, U.S. Central Command, to work cooperatively with the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to establish further capabilities for countering air and missile threats from Iran and Iranian-linked groups.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would authorize the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State and the Commander of U.S. Central Command, to seek to advise and assist the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan with respect to countering certain air and missile threats. The provision would also require the Secretary of Defense to assess the feasibility of including Jordan in a multinational integrated air and missile defense architecture.

Further, we direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on implementation of section 1658 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263; 136 Stat. 2951), including an update to the strategy required in subsection (b).

Sec. 1644—Iron Dome short-range rocket defense system and Israeli cooperative missile defense program co-development and co-production

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1533) that would authorize funding for the procurement of the Iron Dome short-range rocket defense system, David's Sling weapon system, and Arrow 3 Upper Tier Interceptor program as outlined under the Memorandum of Agreement Between the Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense of the State of Israel Concerning Iron Dome Defense System Procurement.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1645—Limitation on availability of funds with respect to certain missile defense system governance documents, policies, and procedures

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1632) that would limit the obligation and expenditure of more than 90 percent of certain funds authorized for travel expenses for the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering until the Under Secretary certifies rescission of the Directive Memorandum 20-002 relating to "Missile Defense System Policies and Governance" pursuant to section 1667 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1646—Congressional notification requirement with respect to incidents that affect availability of United States homeland missile defenses

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1532) that would require the Secretary of Defense to notify the congressional defense committees not later than 24 hours after a major incident affecting the availability of the United States homeland missile defense system.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1647—Plan for comprehensive ballistic missile defense radar coverage of Guam

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1534) that would require the Secretary of the Army to provide a plan to ensure radar coverage of Guam for defense against simultaneous ballistic missile threats from the People's Republic of China and North Korea.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1648—Annual briefing on missile defense of Guam

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1535) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment to provide an annual briefing, concurrent with the transmittal of the President's budget request, on missile defense of Guam until the overall missile defense of the island reaches full operational capability.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 1649—Organization and codification of provisions of law relating to missile defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1537) that would amend part I of subtitle A of title 10, United States Code, to establish a new chapter regarding missile defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would repeal certain outdated requirements.

SUBTITLE E—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 1651—Cooperative threat reduction funds

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1642) that would authorize \$350.1 million to be appropriated for the Department of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Program and allocate specific funding for component programs; and specify that funds authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Defense for the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program, established under the Department of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Act (50 U.S.C. 3711), would be available for obligation for fiscal years 2025 through 2027.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1301).

The conference agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1652—Temporary continuation of requirement for reports on activities and assistance under Department of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1302) that would amend section 1080(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92) to reinstate an annual reporting requirement for the Department of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Program through calendar year 2030.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1653—Modification to annual assessment of budget with respect to electromagnetic spectrum operations capabilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1641) that would amend section 503 of title 10, United States Code, related to an annual assessment of the budget with respect to mod-

eling and simulation capabilities for joint electromagnetic spectrum operations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a related provision (sec. 1548) that would make technical corrections to chapter 25 of title 10, United States Code.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would make technical and conforming changes.

We note that the additional technical corrections are addressed elsewhere in this agreement.

Sec. 1654—Modification of milestone decision authority for space-based ground and airborne moving target indication systems

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1503) that would amend section 1684 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) to modify the milestone decision authority for space-based ground and airborne moving target indication systems to oversee program cost and execution baseline; and require the service acquisition executive for the Air Force for space systems and programs to designate a program executive office for space-based air and ground moving target indication.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to be the milestone decision authority for space-based moving target indication primarily funded by the Department of Defense and require the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to provide to congressional defense committees, not later than May 31, 2025, a date for the initial operating capability of a spaced-based ground moving target indication system.

Sec. 1655—Designation of a senior defense official responsible for establishment of a national integrated air and missile defense architecture for the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1057) that would require the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to provide a report on current or new sensor and interceptor capabilities for defending critical infrastructure.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1531).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would eliminate reporting requirements and require the Secretary of Defense to designate a senior official to be responsible for a national integrated air and missile defense architecture for the United States.

We direct the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, through the designated official, to provide a briefing, not later than December 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the development of an integrated air and missile defense architecture for defending the homeland. At a minimum, the briefing shall include:

(1) Identification of terrestrial, maritime, orbital, and cyber technological capabilities to address non-ballistic and ballistic missile threats to the homeland and any associated critical infrastructure assets, including the sensor, command and control, and missile defeat systems required for the operation of an integrated missile defense architecture for the United States during the 10-year period starting on the date of the enactment of this Act;

(2) Technological requirements to ensure compatibility with the integrated air and missile defense capabilities of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the integrated air and missile defense architecture in the Indo-Pacific region that is under development as of the date of the enactment of this Act;

(3) Integrated, time-phased development, procurement, and deployment schedule for the systems comprising the specified architecture;

(4) Initial cost estimates for development and procurement of the required assets;

(5) Development and integration risk of the proposed architecture;

(6) Personnel required to operate the proposed architecture, including opportunities for reducing the anticipated personnel requirements through increased use of automation; and

(7) Any other matters the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff consider appropriate.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Assessment of updated force sizing requirements

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1514) that would require the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to provide a strategy to deter and defend against simultaneous aggression from two near-peer nuclear competitors.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to provide a strategy to the congressional defense committees, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, that enables the United States to concurrently:

(1) Achieve the nuclear employment objectives of the President against any adversary that conducts a strategic attack against the United States or its allies;

(2) Hold at risk all classes of adversary targets described in the nuclear weapons employment guidance issued by the President as of the date of the enactment of this Act;

(3) Defend against simultaneous aggression by two near-peer nuclear-armed competitors; and

(4) Provide a credible defense against limited long-range strikes against the United States homeland.

The strategy, in classified form with an unclassified summary, should include:

(1) An assessment of the quantities and types of forces necessary to implement such strategy;

(2) Pursuant to section 491 of title 10, United States Code, a description of the classes of targets necessary to hold at risk via nuclear forces in order to achieve the requirements of the United States Strategic Command and the deterrence and assurance objectives of the United States;

(3) A projection of the planned growth in potential target quantities due to the expansion and diversification of likely adversary capabilities during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(4) A comparison of the quantities and various employment options available in the nuclear weapons stockpile of the United States since January 1, 1991, and options that are expected to be available during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on the date that is 10 years after the date of the enactment of this Act;

(5) An assessment of the impact of delays in ongoing or planned modernization of nuclear, missile defense, space, or conventional long-range strike programs of the United States; and

(6) Any other factors the Secretary or the Chairman believe pertinent for assessing force sizing requirements.

Briefing on capabilities in cislunar space

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1609A) that would require the Chief of Space

Operations to provide a report on requirements and research and development for cislunar space domain awareness.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Chief of Space Operations to provide a briefing, not later than June 30, 2025, to the congressional defense committees that includes a description of:

(1) Requirements for cislunar space domain awareness capabilities;

(2) The plan of the Department of Defense for researching and developing technologies for cislunar space domain awareness; and

(3) Progress of the Department of Defense in coordinating with the Cislunar Technology Strategy Interagency Working Group to achieve the objectives set forth in the publication of the Working Group titled “National Cislunar Science and Technology Strategy” and dated November 2022.

Briefing on space-related waveform and datalink capabilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1609) that would require the Chief of Space Operations and the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration to provide a briefing on resourcing and enabling an architecture to connect the various communication architectures of the Space Force.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Chief of Space Operations and the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration to provide a briefing, not later than February 29, 2025, to the congressional defense committees on a plan to resource and enable an architecture to connect, with operationally relevant interoperability, the following:

(1) The communication architectures of the Space Force, including the Space Development Agency Proliferated Warfighter Space Architecture as well as the United States Space Force Satellite Control Network;

(2) Protected tactical enterprise services;

(3) Evolved strategic satellite communications;

(4) Narrowband satellite communications;

(5) Wideband satellite communications; and

(6) Such other systems as the Chief of Space Operations and the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration determine appropriate.

Limitation on use of funds for certain unreported programs

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1544) that would prohibit the obligation or expenditure of funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act for fiscal year 2025 on any classified program involving unidentified anomalous phenomena that has not been briefed to the appropriate committees of Congress and congressional leadership.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We recognize the concerns by many in Congress over adequate reporting and oversight for activities related to unidentified anomalous phenomena, but note that current statute in section 119 of title 10, United States Code, specifically provides for the legal restrictions and protections necessary to ensure that Congress can exercise its responsibilities. Adding additional funding limitations cannot make it more illegal to withhold or obfuscate information regarding such

programs from Congressional view, but could potentially have other unintended or unforeseen that could impact programs beyond the scope of activities that were addressed in the provision.

Plan for improvement of Space Force satellite control network

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1608) that would require the Chief of Space Operations to provide a plan for modernizing the satellite control network of the U.S. Space Force.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Chief of Space Operations, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration, to submit a comprehensive plan, not later than March 31, 2025, to the congressional defense committees on modernizing the satellite control network of the Space Force. The plan should include:

(1) The actions and resources required to modernize and sustain a resilient, multi-mission, multi-orbit satellite control network for the Space Force;

(2) Life-cycle sustainment measures that include technical refresh efforts to enable dynamic space operations;

(3) Assessments of current and planned architectural hardware capabilities, across the range of classification levels, and an explanation of how such capabilities are expected to be addressed in future budget requests;

(4) Plans for incorporating commercial capabilities into the network, as appropriate; and

(5) Mechanisms through which the Space Force may use existing funding to accelerate the rapid adoption of capabilities and life-cycle sustainment efforts to quickly modernize the satellite control network.

Preparations for possible deployment of additional intercontinental ballistic missiles

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1516) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to develop a plan for deploying up to 450 Sentinel intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), rather than the 400 Minuteman III ICBMs currently deployed; and direct the Program Executive Officer for Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles to develop an alternative acquisition strategy for the Sentinel ICBM weapon system for deployment of 450 Sentinel ICBMs.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct that, not later than September 1, 2025, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in coordination with the Secretary of the Air Force, the Commander, United States Strategic Command, the Administrator for Nuclear Security, and the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, shall provide a briefing regarding the deployment of up to 450 Sentinel ICBMs during the planned life of the Sentinel ICBM weapon system, in the event that a presidential decision be made to increase the number of deployed ICBMs.

The report shall include a description of necessary changes to the revised Milestone B acquisition strategy for deploying 450 Sentinel ICBMs, including:

(1) Procurement of booster sets, reentry vehicles, ground support and maintenance equipment, nuclear weapons components, and countermeasures to accommodate the continuous deployment of 450 Sentinel ICBMs during the planned life of the system and satisfy anticipated testing requirements;

(2) Impacts to associated ongoing command, control, and communications modernization programs;

(3) Initial acquisition cost estimates and deployment timelines necessary to accomplish the above; and

(4) Any treaty or policy implications for consideration in the event that presidential direction is given to deploy additional ICBMs.

Report on roles and responsibilities relating to defense against hypersonic threats

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1643) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on roles and responsibilities related to defense against hypersonic threats.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to deliver a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on the roles and responsibilities related to defending against hypersonic threats including the following elements:

(1) A description of the roles and responsibilities of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the military departments, the Joint Staff, the combatant commands, Defense Agencies, and Department of Defense Field Activities;

(2) An assessment of any duplication of effort or gaps identified in paragraph (1);

(3) A recommendation with respect to designating a single entity with acquisition authority with respect to the capability to defend the homeland from hypersonic threats; and

(4) Such other matters as the Secretary considers relevant.

Sense of Congress on the development of very low earth orbit spacecraft

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1609B) that would express the sense of Congress that the Department of Defense should continue to construct a hybrid space architecture that integrates advanced commercial technologies for very low earth orbit spacecraft.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We find that:

(1) The Space Force has demonstrated its commitment to building a resilient, safe, and secure space architecture and incorporating transformational commercially developed space technologies to accelerate the fielding of capabilities, including in very low earth orbit;

(2) Advancements in propulsion systems, materials science, affordable launch costs, and orbital management techniques have opened up new possibilities for utilizing very low earth orbit for various purposes, including ultra-high-resolution reconnaissance, low latency communication, and improved space domain awareness;

(3) Congress and the Department of Defense should continue to pursue these efforts in support of the National Defense Strategy and the Commercial Space Strategy of the Space Force to accelerate the purposeful pursuit of hybrid space architectures; and

(4) The Space Force should continue to scale up these efforts and further explore the benefits of very low earth orbit spacecraft development to improve responsiveness, enhance image resolution, generate orbital diversity, and increase resilience against space debris and other threats.

Report on Space Force use of nuclear thermal propulsion and nuclear electric propulsion space vehicles

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1609C) that would require the Chief of Space

Operations to provide a report on Space Force use of nuclear thermal propulsion and nuclear electric propulsion space vehicles.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Chief of Space Operations to provide a briefing to the congressional defense committees, not later than March 31, 2025, on the Space Force use of nuclear thermal propulsion and nuclear electric propulsion space vehicles to include:

(1) Description of how the Space Force uses such vehicles currently and plans to use such vehicles in the future; and

(2) Potential benefits that such vehicles can provide to bolster the national security of the United States.

Sensitive compartmented information facility accreditation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1613) that would require the Secretary of Defense to assign responsibility to the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency for the accreditation of sensitive compartmented information facilities for all components of the Department of Defense (DOD)—including the military departments, except with respect to the National Security Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We remain concerned that the current processes for accrediting and reaccrediting secure compartmented information facilities (SCIF), while vitally necessary, may also contribute to backlogs in work and nearly insurmountable barriers for many small and nontraditional defense companies. Many of the concerns regarding backlogs and unnecessarily extended timelines to achieve accreditation or reaccreditation are based on anecdotal evidence. However, valid, comprehensive and longitudinal data on the scope and the scale of the problem has been difficult to ascertain. We believe that a comprehensive data collection program centered on this process, similar to the development and measurement of procurement administrative lead time to baseline the acquisition process, is necessary before considering any potentially disruptive organizational changes.

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense, through the Department of Defense Performance Improvement Officer in coordination with the Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, to provide a briefing, not later than June 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the Department's activities to improve the timeliness and effectiveness of the SCIF accreditation and reaccreditation processes across the Department of Defense. The briefing should include:

(1) Current data, including baseline goals or benchmarks, for the timelines for conducting SCIF accreditation and reaccreditation by Department of Defense components with delegated responsibility for accreditation actions;

(2) Identification of gaps in such data collection, and plans to close such gaps;

(3) Development of measurable goals or other benchmarks for delegated components to identify bottlenecks in the process and close gaps in data collection and data quality;

(4) Recommendations for improving input, data or other feedback from entities undergoing the accreditation or reaccreditation process in order to identify process improve-

ments that may decrease timelines and increase quality of the outputs of the process; and

(5) Recommendations for policy improvements or policy guidance needed to institutionalize such data collection and process improvements, including through the use of databases, automated analysis tools or other automation to streamline data collection, analysis and transparency.

Resilience of position, navigation, and timing technologies and services

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1509) that would require any position, navigation, and timing technology and service procured, or otherwise acquired by the Department of Defense, to be able to acquire, track, and provide accurate position, navigation, or timing information when L1 Signals or L2 Signals are jammed, spoofed, blocked, or subject to harmful interference.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note that the Department of Defense despite more than a decade of congressional direction, delays, and billions in cost overruns continues to resist adequately addressing the resilient position, navigation, and timing needs of the services. The Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383) directed the Department of Defense to transition all receivers to the more resilient M-Code, and this has still not happened. Modern resilient Global Positioning System (GPS) satellites still do not have secure ground architecture fielded, despite several years of work and a Nunn-McCurdy breach.

Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense to provide an assessment accompanied by a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2025, on the status of fielding resilient position, navigation, and timing technology and service across the Department.

The assessment and briefing shall include:

(1) Feasibility, projected cost, and timeline to require all position, navigation, and timing technology and service procured or otherwise acquired by the Department of Defense to have the ability to acquire, track, and provide accurate position, navigation, or timing information if L1 Signals and L2 Signals are jammed, spoofed, blocked, or subject to harmful interference;

(2) Status of M-Code resilient receiver deliveries to the weapons systems and people that require them, to include a plan to field these receivers on an operationally relevant timeline;

(3) Current schedule and status of full operational capability of the ground station to GPS III/F, the advanced GPS satellite transmitting M-Code, known as OCX;

(4) Plans to include commercial position, navigation, and timing technologies in future DOD resilient precision, navigation, and timing efforts; and

(5) Update on any efforts to incorporate non-traditional and non-space-based resilient position, navigation, and timing information into DOD operations.

TITLE XVII—OTHER DEFENSE MATTERS
Sec. 1701—Technical and conforming amendments

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1741) that would make technical and conforming amendments to existing law.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment to include additional technical and conforming amendments to existing law.

Sec. 1702—Modification of humanitarian assistance authority

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1701) that would modify the authority for humanitarian assistance under section 2561 of title 10, United States Code, to stipulate that such authority shall be used overseas and would also require the Secretary of Defense to provide a notice before providing certain humanitarian assistance pursuant to section 2561 of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a notice before providing certain humanitarian assistance pursuant to section 2561 of title 10, United States Code.

Sec. 1703—Display of United States flag for patriotic and military observances

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1743) that would amend section 8(c) of title 4, United States Code, to modify the requirements concerning the display of the flag of the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would expand the authorization under this provision to all Americans displaying the flag as a part of a military or patriotic observance.

Sec. 1704—Exclusion of oceanographic research vessels from certain sourcing requirements

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1702) that would exclude naval oceanographic research vessels operated by academic institutions from certain sourcing requirements.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, modified to extend the exclusion to all oceanographic research vessels.

Sec. 1705—Expanding cooperative research and development agreements to partnerships with United States territorial governments

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6068) that would amend section 12 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 to include territorial governments.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1706—Use of royalty gas at McAlester Army Ammunition Plant

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6070) that would require the Secretary of Energy to accept in-kind royalty gas from leases on the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant and to sell such royalty gas to the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 1707—Report on Iranian oil sales proceeds

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1728) that would require the President to provide a report on Iranian oil sales proceeds.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 1708—Prohibition on use of funds for temporary pier in Gaza

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1705) that would prohibit the use of funds for constructing or maintain a pier off the coast

of Gaza. The House bill also contained a provision (sec. 1749) that would prohibit the use of funds for the construction of a Gaza port.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 1709—Analysis of certain unmanned aircraft systems entities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1722) that would require the Secretary of Defense to investigate drone companies from the People's Republic of China for potential listing on the Chinese military company list in accordance with section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) and add Shenzhen DJI Sciences and Technologies Company to the Federal Communications Commission's Covered List.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Annual report on Department of Defense assistance to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and Department of Homeland Security on northern border security

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1734) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide an annual report on Department of Defense assistance to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Homeland Security to secure the northern border of the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Hemispheric Affairs to submit a report, not later than April 1, 2025, to the congressional defense committees on the assistance that the Department of Defense currently provides to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Department of Homeland Security to secure the northern border of the United States.

Assessment of the accuracy of Gaza Ministry of Health casualty reporting

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1733) that would require the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency to submit a report assessing the accuracy of the reporting of the Gaza Ministry of Health.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2025, and provide a briefing, not later than September 1, 2025, assessing the accuracy of the reporting of the Gaza Ministry of Health. The report and briefing shall include:

(1) The total casualty figures reported by the Ministry; and

(2) The information disseminated by the Ministry of casualties grouped by age and gender.

Briefing on institutional capacity building of countries within United States Africa Command area of responsibility

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1765) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing on the adequacy of institutional capacity building in countries within the area of responsibility of the United States Africa Command (USAFRICOM) to strengthen governance in the defense sectors of such countries.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that increasing economic and military presence by Russia and the People's Republic of China and the malign activities of violent extremist organizations threaten stability and other U.S. national security interests in Africa. USAFRICOM is committed to building strategic partnerships with African partners and bolstering stability on the continent. One critical component of such efforts is institutional capacity building (ICB) programing that helps partners strengthen governance in the defense sectors and reinforce shared commitments to democracy, transparency, and the rule of law. We encourage the Department of Defense to ensure ICB efforts remain a critical component of all security cooperation programs.

Certification and reports on South Africa

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1725) that would require the President to certify to certain congressional committees whether South Africa has engaged in activities that undermine United States national security or foreign policy interests. The provision would also require a report to accompany such certification providing a justification for the determination. It would require the President to conduct a review of the bilateral relationship between the United States and South Africa, and to deliver a report that includes the findings of the review. The provision would also require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report on U.S. defense cooperation with South Africa.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We are concerned by South Africa's growing cooperation with the Governments of Iran, the People's Republic of China, and Russia. Therefore, we direct the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, not later than April 1, 2025, on defense cooperation between the United States and South Africa. The briefing shall include:

(1) A discussion of military exercises and security cooperation between the United States and South Africa;

(2) A summary of South Africa's defense cooperation with Iran, the People's Republic of China, and Russia;

(3) An analysis whether South Africa's military activities are consistent with United States national security and military interests; and

(4) Any other issues the Secretary considers appropriate.

Combating illicit tobacco products

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1704) that would establish a process for approving the sale of certain Electronic Nicotine Delivery System products or oral nicotine products at military commissaries and exchanges.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments, to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on steps the Department is taking to ensure that all tobacco products, to include any product containing nicotine,

sold at military operated establishments are compliant with federal tobacco regulations including the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.). The briefing should also include the process the Department has implemented to ensure that all non-Department of Defense retail establishments located on installations, including kiosks and third-party vendors on military installations, are in compliance with the aforementioned regulations.

Common coalition key within the Baltic states

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1767) that would require the Secretary of Defense to establish a common coalition key within the Baltic states for purposes of sharing ammunition for High Mobility Artillery Rocket Systems among such states for training and operational purposes.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that issues pertaining to security cooperation with the Baltic states are addressed elsewhere in this report.

Comptroller General study and report on antagonistic use of satellites

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1735) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to provide a report on threats from adversaries' antagonistic use of satellites.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Copyright protection for certain literary works of military members of the faculty of certain institutions

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1750) that would amend Section 105(d) of title 17 of the United States Code, in paragraph (1), by striking "civilian"; and in paragraph (2), by adding at the end of the following: "(O) Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences."

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Department of Defense requirement to use "Taiwan"

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1712) that would prohibit the Department of Defense from using "Chinese Taipei" and require the use of "Taiwan".

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Development of national strategy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1756) that would require the President to develop a national strategy to use microreactors to assist with natural disaster response efforts.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Exemption under Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 for certain activities that may result in incidental take of Rice's whale

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1703) that would require the Secretaries of Commerce, Interior, and Defense to begin the process of providing an exemption under Marine Mammal Protection Act for activities carried out at the Eglin Test and Training Range that may result in the incidental take of Rice's whales.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Expansion of eligibility for Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1742) that would amend section 1965 of title 38, United States Code, to expand SGLI eligibility to include cadets and midshipmen attending advanced training.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Extension of report on Islamic revolutionary guard corps-affiliated operatives abroad

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1726) that would require the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, to submit a report on the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps-affiliated operatives abroad.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the requirements in the House provision have been addressed through a modification to the Report on Military Capabilities of Iran and related activities as required by section 1227 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117-81), and in section 1269 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

Feasibility study of domestic refining of deep sea critical mineral intermediates

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1724) that would authorize a study to assess the feasibility of improving domestic capabilities for refining polymetallic nodule derived intermediates into high purity nickel, cobalt sulfate, and copper for defense applications.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Industrial Base Policy, to report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than December 31, 2025, with a study on the feasibility and advisability of improving domestic capabilities for refining polymetallic nodule-derived intermediates into high purity nickel, cobalt sulfate, and copper for defense applications. The study shall also examine existing supply chains for such intermediaries. The Secretary of Defense may consult or enter into an agreement with a Federally funded research and development center for the study.

Federal contractor vulnerability disclosure policy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1747) that would require covered contractors implement a vulnerability disclosure policy consistent with National Institute of Standards and Technology guidelines.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

GAO study on Department of Defense Education Activity Disability Emphasis Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1766) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the effectiveness of the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA) Disability Emphasis Program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report to the Com-

mittees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than July 1, 2025, on the following matters—

(1) Whether the DODEA Disability Emphasis Program is meeting its goals; and

(2) How such program supports the employment, retention, and career advancement of individuals with intellectual, physical, and developmental disabilities.

Inspector General of the Department of Defense annual report on oversight of fraud, waste, and abuse

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1703) that would require the Inspector General of the Department of Defense to provide a report for each fiscal year that contains a description of the budget of the Department of Defense, the total amount and dollar value of oversight investigations into fraud, waste, and abuse conducted by the Inspector General, and the total amount and dollar value of oversight investigations into fraud, waste, and abuse conducted by the Inspectors General of each military department.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Limitation on availability of funds for Ukraine

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1711) that would prohibit funds authorized to be appropriated for construction of covered military unaccompanied housing to be transferred or otherwise made available to Ukraine or to provide any form of assistance to Ukraine.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Limitation on displaying in certain public areas cut flowers or greens not produced in the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1763) that would prohibit a cut flower or a cut green from being officially displayed in any public area of a building of the Executive Office of the President, the Department of State, or the Department of Defense unless such cut green or cut flower is produced in the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Limitation on funding activities performed by persons in drag

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1754) that would prohibit funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act for a drag show, drag queen story hour or similar event.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that all planned drag shows on all military installations were cancelled after the Department of Defense (DOD) learned about them during a House Armed Services Committee hearing on March 29, 2023. DOD determined that permitting non-Federal entities to conduct drag show events at U.S. military installations or facilities is inconsistent with the longstanding criteria for providing this logistical support to non-federal entities, including DOD Instruction 1000.15, "Procedures and Support for Non-Federal Entities Authorized to Operate on DOD Installations" and the Joint Ethics Regulation (JER) section 3-211, "Logistical Support of Non-Federal Entity Events." The JER states that heads of DOD component organizations may provide, on a limited basis, logistical support (use of DOD facilities and equipment) to non-Federal entity events, but only if they determine seven factors to ensure that the support may be authorized as

supporting legitimate DOD interests. The DOD Office of General Counsel determined that drag queen story hours did not serve a legitimate DOD public affairs interest nor was this an appropriate association for DOD.

Limitation on funds

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1707) that would prohibit Department of Defense funding for the Wuhan Institute of Virology; EcoHealth Alliance, Inc.; any laboratory owned or controlled by the People's Republic of China, Cuba, Iran, North Korea, Russia, Venezuela or any other foreign adversary; and gain-of-function research.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that other provisions (sec. 1055) of this Act address the same matter. In addition, we are aware that the Department of Defense does not currently conduct gain-of-function research nor has planned funds for such purposes in fiscal year 2025.

Prohibition of funds to CCP entities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1706) that would prohibit funds authorized by this Act or otherwise made available by this Act from being made available to any entity based in the People's Republic of China or any company whose beneficial ownership is Chinese.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibition on assistance for building in, or rebuilding Gaza

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1708) that would prohibit the use of funds for assistance for building in, or rebuilding the Gaza strip.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibition on diverting funding from the Indo-Pacific region

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1755) that would prohibit the diversion of Department of Defense funds previously appropriated for assistance for the Indo-Pacific region.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Prohibition on use of funds

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1710) that would prohibit the use of funds to be used to implement any of the following executive orders: Executive Order 13990, Executive Order 14008, section 6 of Executive Order 14013, Executive Order 14030, Executive Order 14057, Executive Order 14082, and Executive Order 14096.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Project Spectrum

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1713) that would amend chapter 19 of title 10, United States Code, to insert a new section.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the importance of protecting our small business industrial base against cyber attacks from the full spectrum of cyber actors, from simple criminal and ransomware attacks to sophisticated national state campaigns. With the finalization of the rules for the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certifi-

cation, we believe it is important that the Department of Defense provide additional assistance to small businesses in the defense industrial base navigating this process. We believe such assistance crucial to the more fundamental need to strengthen the overall cyber defense posture of this vulnerable sector.

We are aware that the Department has some dedicated programs specific to this issue, such as Project Spectrum, but also note efforts undertaken by Defense Cyber Crime Center and the National Security Agency's Cyber Collaboration Center, among others, that provide various forms of assistance to this community. We believe that the Department should provide comprehensive and coordinated guidance to the military services and defense agencies and field activities in order to ensure unity of effort, reduce opportunities for unwarranted duplication across investments, and simplify entry points into the Department for those seeking to obtain such support.

Records relating to Tower 22 attack

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1748) that would require the President to make available to the Congress all records relating to the January 28, 2024 attack on Tower 22 in Jordan.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the After Action Report on the January 28, 2024 attack on Tower 22 in Jordan and additional relevant records were provided to the Congress from the Department of Defense.

Reduction of light pollution at Department of Defense facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1744) that would require the Department of Defense to assess encroachment on military activities and aviation safety due to light pollution.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, with an assessment of the extent to which light pollution is impacting operational readiness and training activities at installations within the military departments. The briefing shall include at the minimum the following:

(1) An evaluation of current lighting at facilities and the extent and manner to which unshielded lighting is creating light pollution detrimental to operational readiness or training;

(2) A discussion of mitigation measures that could be implemented without negatively impacting safety to include, reduction of lighting where possible and alternatives such as shielded lighting, low-output light-emitting diodes, dimmers, or warm-toned lighting options where appropriate;

(3) A discussion of the methodologies used to determine where current lighting is causing negative impacts; and

(4) A discussion of the alternatives considered to reduce the impacts observed.

Report on military spouse security clearance

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1758) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence to provide a report to Congress on the technical, operational, human resources, and legal challenges that would result from accelerating security clearance reviews of military spouses by

using information, including address verification, from the spousal review of their connected servicemember's security clearance, as well as the anticipated benefits of such a change.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, by no later than April 1, 2025, on the technical, operational, human resource, and legal challenges that would result from accelerating security clearance reviews of military spouses by using information, including address verification, from the spousal review portion associate with their connected service member's security clearance, as well as the potential and anticipated benefits of such a change.

Report on receipt of funding from Confucius Institutes

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1727) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on U.S. institutions of higher education that host Confucius Institutes and receive Department of Defense funding.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note the risk of Confucius Institutes operating in the United States, specifically at academic institutions that receive Department of Defense funding. We further note that, according to the Department of Defense, no academic institutions that receive Department of Defense funding host a Confucius Institute as of the summer of 2023.

While one Confucius Institute remains in the United States, it resides at an institution that does not receive any Department of Defense funding.

Report on security cooperation with the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1732) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on security cooperation with the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands and the treatment of detained Americans on the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than April 1, 2025, to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on security cooperation with the Turks and Caicos Islands including any security cooperation programs intended to counter threats from transnational criminal organizations, violent extremist organizations, and malign regional and external state actors since fiscal year 2020 and the cost of such programs.

Report on system dependencies, uptime, and key factors of electronic health record system

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1737) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to appropriate congressional committees on the electronic health record system and other system dependencies, uptime, and key factors that affect the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than July 30, 2025, on system dependencies, uptime, and key factors of the Department's electronic health record system that affect the provision of health care by the Defense Health Agency.

Report on the use of major non-NATO ally status for Kenya

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1762) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to provide a report on the use of major non-North Atlantic Treaty Organization status for Kenya.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that Kenya is a key partner in addressing a range of shared threats and advancing stability and security in East Africa and beyond. In recognition of the close and continuing partnership between the United States and Kenya, the United States recently named Kenya a major non-NATO ally, the first such designation for a country in sub-Saharan Africa. We commend Kenya for continuing to play a critical role in regional security, including hosting Justified Accord, U.S. Africa Command's largest exercise in East Africa, and serving as lead nation for the multilateral United Nations mission to help stabilize Haiti. We encourage the Department of Defense to continue efforts to identify opportunities to deepen collaboration.

Report on use of nuclear power for military and soft power purposes

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1738) that would require the Secretaries of Defense and State to provide a report on the efforts of the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China relating to transportable nuclear power that specifically evaluates the manner and extent to which both Russia and China are using transportable nuclear power for direct military purposes and as a soft power tool globally.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than June 1, 2025, on any Russian and Chinese efforts related to transportable nuclear power that specifically evaluates the manner and extent to which, if any, both Russia and China are using transportable nuclear power for military purposes and as a soft power tool globally.

Reporting on Iranian Centrifuge Installation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1736) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on Iranian centrifuge installation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the congressional defense committees not later than February 1, 2025 on Iranian centrifuge installation. The report shall include:

(1) An assessment of the types and numbers of centrifuges installed in declared and undeclared nuclear facilities in Iran since May 2021;

(2) An assessment of the timeline required by Iran to produce weapons-grade uranium;

(3) An assessment of the current timeline required by Iran to produce weapons-grade uranium;

(4) An assessment of whether Iran has moved advanced centrifuges to facilities other than its safeguarded enrichment plants, including where and how many, if applicable;

(5) An assessment of how many advanced centrifuges Iran would need of each type to enrich to weapons-grade; and

(6) An assessment of whether a heavily fortified nuclear facility Iran is building near the Natanz site contains or will contain an enrichment plant.

Revocation of Security Clearances for Certain Persons

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1751) that would require the Secretary of Defense to suspend or revoke a security clearance or access to classified information for any retired or separated member of the uniformed service or civilian employee of the Department of Defense who engages in certain activities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the current security clearance forms for initiating a background investigation already include questions on support for foreign entities, and the implementation of continuous vetting procedures allows for updates in between periodic reinvestigations to accommodate dynamic developments in near real time. Any individual holding a security clearance is responsible for being forthcoming and transparent in notifying the government of changes in information that might impact their ability to hold and maintain classified information, so that this continuous vetting process can remain agile and responsive. We believe lobbying for foreign entities requires review and oversight by the Department, and it is appropriate to continue to place focus on these questions during the adjudication process.

Rewards for information regarding leaders of Hamas

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1760) that would require the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency and the Secretary of Defense to advocate in their respective roles on the Foreign Threat Intelligence Committee to request the Rewards for Justice Program to offer \$25.0 million each in incentives for information regarding certain leaders of Hamas.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that Hamas terrorists Yahya Sinwar and Mohamed Deif, who were responsible for planning the October 7 massacre, have been killed. We support making rewards available under the Rewards for Justice (RFJ) program for information that leads to the arrest, location, or financial disruption of Hamas leaders or operatives responsible for the murder and kidnapping of Americans on October 7, 2023.

Sense of Congress regarding feasibility study for Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1759) that would express the sense of Congress regarding a feasibility study for Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We acknowledge receipt of the 2023 feasibility study and subsequent 2024 report conducted for the Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant at the Blue Grass

Army Depot (BGAD), which identified critical opportunities for augmenting the Organic Industrial Base. These reports identified three high-feasibility growth opportunities: production of critical chemicals, production of metal components for 155mm artillery munitions, and production of metal shipping containers. Moreover, we recognize the strategic importance of the BGAD as a vital element of the defense industrial base. Its unique capabilities in munitions handling and production are crucial for supporting U.S. military readiness. BGAD plays a pivotal role in ensuring the safe, efficient storage and transportation of critical defense materials, making it indispensable to the nation's defense infrastructure.

State and local law enforcement access to life-saving Federal equipment

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1753) that would prohibit the limitation of the sale, donation, or transfer of property of the U.S. Government to state and local law enforcement agencies.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Statement of policy relating to reporting requirements of China's Maritime Safety Administration

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1757) that would state that it is the policy of the United States to reject, as a violation of international law and United States sovereignty, any attempt by China's Maritime Safety Administration to compel United States vessels to adhere to any reporting requirements listed within China's Maritime Traffic Safety Law.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Strategy to improve activities related to counter-narcotics and counter-transnational organized crime

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1745) that would require the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the commanders of the geographic combatant commands and the Secretary of State, to develop a strategy to improve for supporting law enforcement related to counter-narcotics.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that elsewhere in this Act, we require the Secretary of Defense to enter into an agreement with a federally funded research and development center to conduct an independent review, assessment, and analysis of the governance structure and strategy of the counter-narcotics and counter-transnational organized crime activities of the Department of Defense, and, upon receipt of that assessment, to provide the report to the congressional defense committees and congressional research agencies.

Under Secretary of Defense for Policy study and report on expansion of National Guard State Partnership Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1739) that would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, to assess expanding the National Guard State Partnership Program to additional countries in the First Island Chain and the Second Island Chain.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing, not later than April 1, 2025,

to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on the feasibility and benefits of expanding the Department of Defense State Partnership Program to additional countries in the Western Pacific region, including Brunei, the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Vanuatu, and any other country that the Secretary deems relevant.

United States-Israel cooperation on space matters

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1752) that would express the sense of Congress that the United States and Israel should continue civilian and defense cooperation on space matters.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We support cooperation between the United States and Israel on space matters including: between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Israel Space Agency; and between the United States Air Force and the Israeli Air Force's newly created Space Force in the areas of research, development, test, and evaluation.

United States-Israel emerging technology capabilities cooperation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1764) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense, upon request of the Ministry of Defense of Israel and in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Director of National Intelligence, to carry out research, development, test, and evaluation, on a joint basis with Israel, in areas of emerging technologies capable of enabling the warfare capabilities of both the United States and Israel to meet emerging defense challenges.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that we have included a \$47.5 million increase elsewhere in this bill for research and development, test and evaluation, in the areas of emerging technologies capable of bolstering the capabilities of both the United States and Israel to meet emerging defense challenges, including in the areas of artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, robotics, quantum and automation.

Working group on blockchain, smart contracts, and distributed ledger technologies

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1729) that would require the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this section, to establish a working group to be known as the "Blockchain-Distributed Ledger Technologies-Smart Contracts Defense Applications Working Group."

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

DIVISION B—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 2001—Short title

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2001) that would cite division B of this Act as the "Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025".

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2001).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2002—Expiration of authorizations and amounts required to be specified by law

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2002) that would ensure that the authorizations provided in titles XXI through XXVII of this Act expire on October 1, 2027, or the

date of the enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2028, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2002).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2003—Effective date

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2003) that would provide that titles XXI through XXVII of this Act would take effect on October 1, 2024, or the date of the enactment of this Act, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2003).

The agreement includes this provision.

TITLE XXI—ARMY MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Sec. 2101—Authorized Army construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2101) that would contain a list of authorized Army construction projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2101).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2102—Family housing

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2102) that would authorize new construction, improvements, and planning and design of family housing units for the Army for fiscal year 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2102).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2103—Authorization of appropriations, Army

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2103) that would authorize appropriations for Department of Army military construction levels identified in section 4601 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2103).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2104—Extension of authority to carry out fiscal year 2018 project at Kunsan Air Base, Korea

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2104) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2018 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2104).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2105—Extension of authority to carry out fiscal year 2019 project at Mihail Kogalniceanu forward operating site, Romania

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2105) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2019 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2105).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2106—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2020 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2106) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2020 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2106).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2107—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2021 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2107) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2021 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2107).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2108—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2022 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2108) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2022 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2108).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Additional authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2025 project at McAlester Army Depot, Oklahoma

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2109) that would allow the Secretary of the Army to carry out a military construction project to construct an ammunition demolition facility at McAlester Army Depot, Oklahoma, using available, unobligated Army military construction funds appropriated for a fiscal year before fiscal year 2025 for the ammunition demolition facility.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note this project is authorized in section 2101 of this Act.

TITLE XXII—NAVY MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Sec. 2201—Authorized Navy construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2201) that would contain a list of authorized Department of the Navy construction projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2201).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2202—Family housing

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2202) that would authorize new construction, improvements, and planning and design of family housing units for the Department of the Navy for fiscal year 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2202).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would modify the authorized amount for Navy family housing at Andersen Air Force Base.

Sec. 2203—Authorization of Appropriations, Navy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2203) that would authorize appropriations for Department of Navy military construction levels identified in section 4601 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2203).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2204—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2019 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2204) that would extend the authorization of

certain fiscal year 2019 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2204).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2205—Extension of authority to carry out fiscal year 2020 project at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2205) that would extend the authorization of a certain fiscal year 2020 project until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2205).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2206—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2021 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2206) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2021 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2206).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2207—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2022 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2207) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2022 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2207).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Additional authority to carry out fiscal year 2025 project in Cooperative Security Location Comalapa, El Salvador

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2208) that allow the Secretary of the Navy to carry out a military construction project to construct a hangar and ramp expansion for Cooperative Security Location Comalapa, El Salvador, using available, unobligated Navy military construction funds appropriated for a fiscal year before fiscal year 2025.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We note this project is authorized in section 2201 of this Act.

TITLE XXIII—AIR FORCE MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Sec. 2301—Authorized Air Force construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2301) that would contain a list of authorized Air Force construction projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2301).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2302—Family housing

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2302) that would authorize new construction, improvements, and planning and design of family housing units for the Department of the Air Force for fiscal year 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2302).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2303—Authorization of appropriations, Air Force

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2303) that would authorize appropriations for Air Force military construction levels identified in section 4601 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2303).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2304—Extension of authority to carry out fiscal year 2017 project at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2304) that would extend the authorization of a certain fiscal year 2017 project until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2304).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2305—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2018 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2305) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2018 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2305).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2306—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2019 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2306) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2019 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2306).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2307—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2020 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2307) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2020 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2307).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would extend authorization for a project at Moody Air Force Base.

Sec. 2308—Extension of authority to carry out fiscal year 2021 project at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2308) that extend the authorization of a certain fiscal year 2021 project until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2308).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2309—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2022 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2309) that extends the authorization of certain fiscal year 2022 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2309).

The agreement includes this provision.

TITLE XXIV—DEFENSE AGENCIES MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

Sec. 2401—Authorized Defense Agencies construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2401) that would contain a list of authorized defense agencies construction projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2401).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2402—Authorized Energy Resilience and Conservation Investment Program projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2402) that would contain a list of authorized energy resilience and conservation investment projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2402).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2403—Authorization of appropriations, Defense Agencies

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2403) that would authorize appropriations for Defense Agencies' military construction at the levels identified in section 4601 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2403).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2404—Extension of authority to carry out fiscal year 2018 project at Iwakuni, Japan

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2404) that would extend the authorization of a certain fiscal year 2018 project until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2404).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2405—Extension of authority to carry out fiscal year 2019 project at Iwakuni, Japan

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2405) that would extend the authorization of a certain fiscal year 2019 project until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2405).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2406—Extension of authority to carry out fiscal year 2020 project at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2406) that would extend the authorization of a certain fiscal year 2020 project until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2406).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2407—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2021 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2407) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2021 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2407).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2408—Modification of authority to carry out fiscal year 2022 project at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, District of Columbia

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2408) that would modify the authorization of a fiscal year 2022 project.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2408).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2409—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2022 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2409) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2022 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2409).

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

TITLE XXV—INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

SUBTITLE A—NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION SECURITY INVESTMENT

Sec. 2501—Authorized NATO construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2501) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to make contributions to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program in an amount not to exceed the sum of the amount specifically authorized in section 2502 of this Act and the amount collected from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization as a result of construction previously financed by the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2501).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2502—Authorization of appropriations, NATO

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2502) that would authorize appropriations for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program at the levels identified in section 4601 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2502).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2503—Extension of use of authorized amounts for North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2503) that would amend section 2806(b) of title 10, United States Code, to authorize not more than 25 percent of the amount authorized in the previous fiscal year for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program (NSIP) should there be a lapse in authorization.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would authorize not more than 50 percent of the amount authorized in the previous year for NSIP should there be a lapse in authorization.

SUBTITLE B—HOST COUNTRY IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Sec. 2511—Republic of Korea funded construction projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2511) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to accept military construction projects totaling \$418.6 million pursuant to agreement with the Republic of Korea for required in-kind contributions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2511).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2512—Republic of Poland funded construction projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2512) that would authorize the Secretary of Defense to accept seven military construction projects totaling \$188.0 million pursuant to agreement with the Republic of Poland for required in-kind contributions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2512).

The agreement includes this provision.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Modification of contributions for projects executed by the United States under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2504) that would amend section 2350q(c) of title 10, United States Code, to ensure all financial recoupments from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) for NATO Security Investment Program (NSIP) projects pre-financed by the United States are credited to appropriations solely available for the NSIP.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Contributions for projects executed by host nations other than the United States under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2505) that would amend section 2350q of title 10, United States Code, to allow the United States to contribute funds to a project under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Security Investment Program (NSIP) for which it is not designated as the Host Nation, if the Secretary of Defense determines that completion of the project is in the national interest of the United States and provides a notification to the congressional defense committees at least 14 days prior to execution of the project with the justification for the project, the source of funds to be used, and the estimated cost of the project.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE XXVI—GUARD AND RESERVE FORCES FACILITIES

Sec. 2601—Authorized Army National Guard construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2601) that would contain the list of authorized Army National Guard construction projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2601).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2602—Authorized Army Reserve construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2602) that would contain the list of authorized Army Reserve construction projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2602).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2603—Authorized Navy Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2603) that would contain the list of author-

ized Navy Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve construction projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2603).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2604—Authorized Air National Guard construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2604) that would contain the list of authorized Air National Guard construction projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2604).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2605—Authorized Air Force Reserve construction and land acquisition projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2605) that would contain the list of authorized Air Force Reserve construction projects for fiscal year 2025. The authorized amounts are listed on an installation-by-installation basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2605).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2606—Authorization of appropriations, National Guard and Reserve

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2606) that would authorize appropriations for National Guard and Reserve military construction at the levels identified in section 4601 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2606).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2607—Extension of authority to carry out fiscal year 2018 project at Hulman Regional Airport, Indiana

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2607) that would extend the authorization contained in section 2604 of the Military Construction Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018, Division B, Title XXVI, of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91) for one project until October 1, 2025, or the date of the enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2608—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2020 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2607) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2020 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of the enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 2608).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 2609—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2021 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2608) that would extend the authorization of certain fiscal year 2021 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2609).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2610—Extension of authority to carry out certain fiscal year 2022 projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2610) that would extend the authorization of

certain fiscal year 2022 projects until October 1, 2025, or the date of enactment of an Act authorizing funds for military construction for fiscal year 2026, whichever is later.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2610).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 2611—Modification of authority to carry out fiscal year 2022 project

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2609) that would modify the authorization of a fiscal year 2022 project.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2611).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

TITLE XXVII—BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACTIVITIES

Sec. 2701—Authorization of appropriations for base realignment and closure activities funded through Department of Defense base closure account

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2701) that would authorize appropriations for ongoing activities that are required to implement the Base Realignment and Closure activities authorized by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (part A of title XXIX of Public Law 101-510), at the levels identified in section 4601 of division D of this Act.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2701).

The agreement includes the House provision.

TITLE XXVIII—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION GENERAL PROVISIONS SUBTITLE A—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Sec. 2801—Modification of definition of military installation for purposes of notifications related to basing decision-making process

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2809) that would amend section 483(f)(4) of title 10, United States Code, to require the Department of Defense to notify the congressional defense committees when making all basing decisions, not just those in the United States.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2802—Expansion of eligible grant recipients under the Defense Community Infrastructure Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2804) that would clarify that not-for-profit member-owned utility services are eligible participants in the Defense Community Infrastructure Program as well as clarify that covered insular areas are eligible for the waiver of requirements for cost contribution under the program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would remove the definition of covered insular area. We note that a covered insular area is already included under rural areas.

Sec. 2803—Process for strategic basing actions for the Department of the Air Force

The House bill contained provisions (sec. 2831 and sec. 2839A) that would codify the Air Force Strategic Basing process and prohibit the Secretary of the Air Force from making any basing decision during the resource allocation plan or program objective memorandum process of the Department of the Air Force.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2849).

The agreement includes the House provisions with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2804—Inclusion of land acquisition and demolitions projects in authorized unspecified minor military construction project; temporary expansion of authority for purchase of certain land

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2801) that would amend section 2805(a)(2) of title 10, United States Code, to ensure there is clear guidance that land acquisition is allowed using unspecified minor military construction funds.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2805—Amendments to defense laboratory modernization program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2805) that would amend limits for the Defense Laboratory Modernization Program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment to maintain a limit for the Defense Laboratory Modernization Program.

Sec. 2806—Annual five-year plans on improvement of Department of Defense innovation infrastructure

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2806) that would require each Secretary of a military department and the Secretary of Defense to submit, alongside the President's budget request, a 5-year plan for the improvement of laboratories, test and evaluation ranges, and other research, development, test, and evaluation infrastructure.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require just the first plan to be submitted as part of the annual budget submission to Congress.

Sec. 2807—Modification of authority for Indo-Pacific posture unspecified minor military construction projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2808) that would increase the minor military construction authority for the Commander, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, provided by section 2810 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2804).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2808—Extension of prohibition on joint use of Homestead Air Reserve Base with civil aviation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2851) that would extend the prohibition on the joint use of Homestead Air Reserve Base with civil aviation until September 30, 2036.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2848).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2809—Information on military construction projects and repair projects at joint bases

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2812) that would require, for the next 6 fiscal years, the Secretary of each military department to submit to the congressional defense committees a prioritized list of military construction projects, including facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization projects, for each joint base under the jurisdiction of the Secretary concerned.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2810—Notification to Congress of reprogramming involving military construction funds

The agreement includes a provision that would require the Secretary of Defense to notify the congressional defense committees of any reprogramming of funds made available for military construction not later than 14 days after the date of such reprogramming.

Sec. 2811—Obligation and execution of design funds for military construction projects

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2808) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that the construction agent in charge of a military construction project enters into a contract within 90 days.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that the construction agent in charge of a military construction project enters into a contract within 150 days and submits a notification to the congressional defense committees.

Sec. 2812—Schedule of repairs at Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2852) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to develop and implement a plan for repair or replacement of facilities at Naval Air Station Pensacola damaged by Hurricane Sally.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require a plan, strike the funding limitation, and require biannual briefings on the status of repair or replacement of facilities.

SUBTITLE B—MILITARY HOUSING REFORMS

Sec. 2821—Budget justification for certain Facilities Sustainment, Restoration, and Modernization projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1821) that would require each military department to include information accompanying the annual budget request related to the requirements for facility sustainment, restoration, and modernization (FSRM) at unaccompanied housing facilities as well as information on prior expenditures for FSRM.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would clarify the definition to include repair projects.

Sec. 2822—Strategy and assessment with respect to non-operational, underutilized, and other Department of Defense facilities: assessments of historic significance

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2836) that would require each Secretary of a military department to develop a strategy for the demolition of facilities on military installations, within their jurisdiction, that are in poor or failing condition, not in operational use, or determined by the Secretary to be underutilized.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2823—Application of certain authorities and standards to historic military housing and associated historic properties of the Department of the Army

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2852) that would amend subchapter II of chapter 169 of title

10, United States Code, by adding a new section to specify the treatment of historic housing and associated historic properties of the Department of the Army.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2824—Extension of applicability of waivers of covered privacy and configuration standards for covered military unaccompanied housing

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2821) that would extend the applicability of waivers under section 2856a of title 10, United States Code, from 9 months to 18 months.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would extend to 15 months.

Sec. 2825—Additional requirements for database of complaints made regarding housing units of Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2822) that would amend section 2894a of title 10, United States Code, to direct the Department of Defense to create a tool for servicemembers and their families to compare and rate military housing options in order to provide transparency on living conditions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment and a sunset in 3 years.

Sec. 2826—Digital system for submission of maintenance work order requests for covered military unaccompanied housing required

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2824) that would require the Secretary of Defense to develop and issue guidance for the establishment of digital systems for servicemembers living in covered military unaccompanied housing to submit maintenance requests for their respective covered military unaccompanied housing facility.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would amend section 2837 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (P.L. 118-31) to include a digital system for servicemembers to submit work order maintenance requests.

Sec. 2827—Modification to definition of privatized military housing

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2823) that would clarify that the definition of privatized military housing in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92) does not include Government-owned housing.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would clarify that the definition includes Government-controlled housing as well.

Sec. 2828—Analysis of housing availability for critical civilian and contractor personnel near rural military installations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2824) that would require the Secretary of Defense to revise the Department of Defense Manual for Housing Management to require availability analysis of suitable housing for civilian personnel and defense contractors in rural locations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would clarify the term “rural area.”

Sec. 2829—Digital facilities management systems for military departments

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1825) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment to develop criteria for a digital facilities management system to track sustainment and modernization expenditure by facility as well as overall facility condition.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2830—Strategy for use of existing leasing authorities to address shortages of covered military unaccompanied housing required

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1822) that would require a strategy on the use of existing real property leasing authorities to address needs for covered military unaccompanied housing and authorize appropriations for those potential leasing actions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would include operation and maintenance as required elements to the strategy.

Sec. 2831—Independent assessment of estimated costs of certain strategies to address shortages of covered military unaccompanied housing

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1823) that would require an independent assessment of the lifecycle costs for building and sustaining covered military unaccompanied housing compared to the cost of alternative options including basic allowance for housing payments.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

SUBTITLE C—REAL PROPERTY AND FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 2841—Minimum capital investment for facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2815) that would require the Secretaries of the military departments to invest in the budget for facilities sustainment, restoration, and modernization for their respective military department at least 4 percent of the plant replacement value for the total inventory of all facilities owned and maintained by the military department by fiscal year 2029 and in each subsequent fiscal year.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2842—Assistance for public infrastructure projects and services

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2802) that would amend section 2391 of title 10, United States Code, to authorize the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation to make grants to state, local, or regional government organizations to support industrial base resilience and workforce development efforts.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2850).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2843—Contracts for design and construction of facilities of Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2807) that would

amend chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, to allow the head of a department or organization within the Department of Defense to place an order, on a reimbursable basis, with any other such department or organization for a maintenance and repair project of a facility of the Department of Defense, or for a minor military construction project.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2844—Industrial plant equipment and associated services as in-kind consideration under leases of non-excess property

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2806) that would amend section 2667 of title 10, United States Code, to allow industrial plant equipment and associated services to be added to the existing list of in-kind consideration for leased locations of non-excess property of the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2845—Inclusion of tribal governments in intergovernmental support agreements for installation-support services

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2832) that would authorize the Department of Defense to enter into intergovernmental support agreements with Tribal governments.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2846—Temporary modification to authority to charge landing fees for the use by civil aircraft of military airfields

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 343) that would require the Secretary of the Air Force to submit a report on landing fees collected at Air Force installation locations outside the continental United States.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would grant a 2 year temporary authority to amend section 2697 of title 10, United States Code, to allow the Secretary concerned to accept commercial airline landing fees at overseas locations.

Sec. 2847—Stormwater management, shoreline erosion control, and water resilience projects for installations and defense access roads

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2807) that would authorize the modification of the stormwater reuse program to minimize runoff of untreated water and designate an official responsible for coordinating regional stormwater management among military departments.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2841).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

We note that the intent is to have a single official within the Department of Defense be responsible for the purposes of this provision. However, we note that nothing in this provision prevents the Department from selecting officials as it deems appropriate.

Sec. 2848—Pilot program to optimize and consolidate Department of Defense facilities to improve health and resiliency in defense communities

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2811) that would establish a temporary pilot program to optimize and consolidate Army facilities for resilient and healthy defense communities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with multiple clarifying and technical amendments.

Sec. 2849—Guidance regarding maintenance of aggregate square footage of facilities of Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2810) that would require the Secretary of Defense to issue guidance ensuring that every square footage of new growth of a Department of Defense building is offset with an equivalent reduction in square footage, unless facilities are identified to be entered into a contingency operational status.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2850—Expenditures on leased facilities and real property of the Department of Defense

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2838) that would require the Department of Defense to decrease expenditures on leased facilities in the National Capital Region by 50 percent over the next 10 years.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would require the Department of Defense to decrease expenditures on leased facilities across the entire Department by 25 percent over the next 5 years along with a briefing requirement.

SUBTITLE D—LAND CONVEYANCES

Sec. 2851—Extension of expanded authority to convey property at military installations

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2802) that would amend section 2869(a)(3) of title 10, United States Code, to extend the land exchange pilot authority enacted by the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) for an additional 3 years.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2852—Technical correction to map reference in the Military Land Withdrawals Act of 2013

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2839B) that would section 2989(a)(2) of the Military Land Withdrawals Act of 2013 (Public Law 113-66) by striking November 30, 2022, and inserting May 22, 2024.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2854).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2853—Land conveyance, Boyle Memorial Army Reserve Center, Paris, Texas

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2841) that would grant permissive authority to the Secretary of the Army to convey to the Paris Junior College located in Paris, Texas, approximately 4 acres, known as the Boyle Memorial Army Reserve Center.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2854—Land conveyance, Riverdale Park, Maryland

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2842) that would authorize the Secretary of the Army to convey 6.63 acres in Riverdale Park, Maryland, to the town of Riverdale Park for the purpose of creating a new municipal and community center.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2855—Transfer authority, Mare Island Naval Shipyard, Vallejo, California

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2843) that would authorize the expedited cleanup and transfer of Department of Defense lands at former Mare Island Naval Shipyard to the city of Vallejo, California.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would modify the authorized transfer to include a requirement for the concurrence of the city of Vallejo and include a savings clause.

Sec. 2856—Release of interests retained in Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2844) that would allow the Secretary of the Army to release the terms and conditions of a previous conveyance associated with approximately 241.33 acres at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2834).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 2857—Land conveyance, Fort Huachuca, Sierra Vista, Arizona

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2845) that would authorize the Secretary of the Army to convey approximately 203 acres on Fort Huachuca to the city of Sierra Vista, Arizona.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2833).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2858—Removal of certain conditions regarding conveyance of former Army-Navy General Hospital, Hot Springs National Park, Hot Springs, Arkansas, to the State of Arkansas

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2846) that would allow any revisionary interest retained by the United States in the real property conveyed by the Deed of Conveyance pursuant to Public Law 86-323 to be extinguished if certain conditions are met.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2835).

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2859—Land conveyance and authorization for interim lease, Defense Fuel Support Point San Pedro, Los Angeles, California

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2847) that would authorize the Secretary of the Navy to convey land located at Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Defense Fuel Support Point, San Pedro, California, to the city of Los Angeles or the city of Lomita for the purposes using such conveyed parcel of real property for park and recreational activities or law enforcement affiliated purposes.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would include a clause on fair market value.

Sec. 2860—Land conveyance, Fort Bliss, El Paso, Texas

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2831) that would authorize the Secretary of the Army to convey approximately 65.3 acres currently located at Fort Bliss, Texas, to El Paso Water of El Paso Public Service Board, for the purposes of stormwater flood control for Fort Bliss and the neighboring community.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment that would clarify the in-kind consideration clause.

Sec. 2861—Cleanup and transfer of certain property at former Army installation to East Bay Regional Park District

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2832) that would require the Secretary of the Army to complete a remedial investigation or feasibility study for approximately 15 acres of property at the former Oakland, California, military installation shoreline.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2862—Coordination of repair and maintenance of Kolekole Pass, Hawaii

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2842) that would require the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Navy to coordinate on a plan for the repair and maintenance for Kolekole Pass to ensure that it may be used for emergency egress by both military and civilian personnel in the event of a wildfire or other emergency.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

SUBTITLE E—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 2871—Consideration of installation infrastructure and other supporting resources by Department of Defense Test Resource Management Center

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2843) that would amend section 4713 of title 10, United States Code, to add to the duties of the Director of the Test Resource Management Center the ability to review installation infrastructure supporting major test assets.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2872—Development and operation of the Naval Innovation Center at the Naval Postgraduate School

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2801) that would allow the Secretary of the Navy to enter into a contract or other agreements with nonprofit organizations for the design, construction, and maintenance of a facility to serve as the Naval Innovation Center at the United States Naval Postgraduate School.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would include a definition for the term “covered entity” for the purposes of this provision.

Sec. 2873—Extension of Department of the Army pilot program for development and use of online real estate inventory tool

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2844) that would amend section 2866(h) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Army to conduct the pilot program for an online real estate inventory tool through September 30, 2026.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 2874—Notification to Members of Congress for awards of contracts for military construction projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2809) that would require a notification to Members of Congress on military construction contract awards in their district or contracts awarded to a constituent company.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2875—Authorization of assistance to expedite certain military construction projects located in Guam

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2863) that would allow each Secretary of a military department to provide grants, conclude cooperative agreements, and supplement other Federal funds to regulatory agencies located in Guam in order to expedite military construction projects in Guam intended to improve the defense of Guam and the Indo-Pacific region.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 2876—Report on munitions and explosives of concern and construction projects in Joint Region Marianas

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2855) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a survey of military installations on Guam to characterize areas by risk of containing munitions of explosive concern.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 2813).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 2877—Review of roles and responsibilities for construction projects of Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2845) that would require the Secretary of Defense to seek to enter into a contract with a federally funded research and development center to review the roles and responsibilities for executing construction projects for the Department of Defense.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2878—Assessment of public schools on installations of Department of Defense

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2846) that would amend section 2814 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) as amended by section 2818 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91) and section 2824 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232) to increase the number of certain priority-funded public school projects from 38 to 71.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would direct the Comptroller General of the United States to examine issues related to the Public Schools on Military Installations program to include operations, oversight, funding, and criteria for selecting and prioritizing schools.

Sec. 2879—Updates to policies and guidance of the Department of the Navy for the replacement of certain dry docks and other projects

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2814) that would require the Secretary of the Navy to coordinate with the Comptroller General of the United States regarding best practices on cost estimating and lessons learned to avoid future cost increases for naval shipyard military construction projects.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 2880—Designation of officials responsible for coordination of infrastructure projects to support additional members of the Armed Forces and their families in the Indo-Pacific region

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2853) that would require the Secretary of Defense to designate one official to be responsible for the coordination of infrastructure projects to support additional servicemembers and their families in Hawaii and one official to be responsible for the same duties in Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would require the Secretary of Defense to designate existing officials within the Department of Defense.

Sec. 2881—Limitation on availability of funds until submission of interim guidance for Department of Defense-wide standards for access to military installations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2833) that would standardize military installation access standards at military installations in the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Temporary biennial report on quality and condition of covered military unaccompanied housing located outside the United States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1826) that would require a biennial report on the conditions of covered military unaccompanied housing facilities located outside of the United States.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the reporting elements in the House provision are already covered by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

Housing accommodations for military families on housing waitlists

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1827) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide to members of the Armed Forces and their dependents who, when undergoing a permanent change of station, are placed on a waitlist for on-base housing for a period of more than 10 days following the date of arrival at the new location, temporary accommodations for the entire duration of such period appropriate for the total size and composition of the family of the member and at a rate not to exceed the basic allowance for housing calculated for such member.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that housing shortages across the continental United States continue to impact servicemembers and their families. We also note that the Department of Defense is working to alleviate shortages, including by implementing changes to the Joint Travel Regulations regarding Temporary Lodging Expense (TLE). TLE is a partial reimbursement for lodging and meals when a service member and their family occupy temporary lodging during a permanent change of station. The changes include increasing the standard number of days TLE may be au-

thorized from 10 to 14 days when moving to a permanent duty station (PDS) in the United States and from 5 to 7 days when moving to a PDS outside of the continental United States. The changes also allow for installations, bases, or commands to request an additional authorization of a TLE extension where shortages persist past 14 days in the continental United States. We will continue to monitor the impact of increased TLE on alleviating housing shortages for servicemembers and their families.

Department of Defense plan to construct memorial at Arlington National Cemetery in commemoration of members of the Armed Forces killed in certain attack at Hamid Karzai International Airport, Kabul, Afghanistan

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1852) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a plan and strategy to construct a memorial in Arlington National Cemetery, Virginia to commemorate the members of the Armed Forces killed in the attack at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, on August of 2021.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, no later than May 1, 2025, on the plan to construct a memorial to commemorate the thirteen members of the Armed Forces killed in the attack at Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, in August of 2021. We note that section 1084 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117-263) required the Secretary of Defense to establish a commemorative work of this nature.

Military base reuse studies and community planning assistance

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2803) that would include Coast Guard installations in military base reuse studies and Secretary of Defense community assistance.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Assessment of workforce needs in the Freely Associated States to support future military construction

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2810) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment to conduct a study on the workforce needs in the Freely Associated States (FAS) to support future military construction.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, no later than June 1, 2025, on the planned military major and minor construction in the FAS over the next 5 years. The briefing shall include an assessment of the ability of the local workforce in the FAS to support future military construction and options for the Department of Defense to cooperate with the Department of Labor, the Department of the Interior, and the FAS to develop plans to help address any construction workforce shortages.

Limitation on availability of funds for certain Department of Defense travel until establishment of certain complaint database

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2825) that would limit the expenditure of

Secretary of Defense travel funds until the implementation of the complaint database required by section 2894 of title 10, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Department has implemented the requisite complaint database.

Deferral of execution of certain requirements for covered housing facilities and covered landscape features; report

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2834) that would delay requirements for the Secretary of each military department under chapter 3061 of title 54, United States Code, for facilities or landscape features built after 1975.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Pilot programs of Department of Army and Department of Navy to conduct repair and maintenance projects on covered historic facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2835) that would require the Secretary of the Army and the Secretary of the Navy to carry out a pilot program for the repair and maintenance of facilities on an installation built prior to 1919, within their jurisdiction, by adhering to Department of Interior guidance for such activities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Temporary authority for use of imitative substitute building materials for maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, or renovation of covered historic facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2837) that would allow each Secretary of a military department to use imitative substitute materials in the maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, or renovation of facilities, within their jurisdiction, built prior to 1919.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Screening and registry of individuals with health conditions resulting from unsafe housing units

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2839) that would amend chapter 169 of title 10, United States Code, by adding a new section that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that all military medical treatment facilities screen eligible individuals for health conditions resulting from unsafe housing units.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Joint Explanatory Statement to accompany the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Committee Print No. 2) required the Secretaries of the military departments to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on their respective services' processes for screening and monitoring individuals who may have experienced unsafe housing conditions. The briefings have been received by the committees.

Research, standards, and other requirements relating to indoor residential mold

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2839C) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a comprehensive study of

the health effects of indoor residential mold growth in barracks or other housing on military installations, using the most up-to-date scientific peer-reviewed medical literature.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Study on construction of child development centers

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2839D) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a recommendation for a strategy for military construction projects for a sufficient number of child development centers (CDCs) as necessary to eliminate wait lists for members of the Armed Forces seeking childcare at such CDCs.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Department of Defense has made progress related to CDCs in the prioritization of military construction project budget requests. However, we note that there is still significant room for improvement, as many more CDCs are necessary to eliminate wait lists for servicemembers and their families seeking childcare at such facilities.

Modification of requirements

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2853) that would extend a limitation on the obligation and expenditure of funds authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Defense to acquire, construct, plan, or design a new headquarters building for United States Space Command until the Inspector General of the Department of Defense and the Comptroller General of the United States provide the report required by section 2889 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Department of Defense policy relating to contractors for military construction projects

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2854) that would require the Secretary of Defense to issue a policy that the Secretary of a military department shall consider contractor and subcontractor proximity when awarding contracts for military construction.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Market survey of domestic suppliers of sand and gravel for marine concrete

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2856) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a market survey of domestic sources for sand and gravel inputs for marine concrete needed for military construction projects in the Indo-Pacific area.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Survey of certain counties for placement of facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2857) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide the results of a survey of certain counties in North Carolina to assess potential placement of operational, training, or other facilities for use by the military departments in such counties.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Study on certain grants awarded to support investments in certain child care facilities under the defense community infrastructure program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2858) that would require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a study on each grant awarded under the Defense Community Infrastructure Program for supporting investments in child care facilities in areas in close proximity to military installations.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Requirement to maintain access to category 3 subterranean training facility

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2859) that would require the Secretary of Defense to ensure that the Department of Defense maintains access to a covered category 3 subterranean training facility on a continuing basis.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 1055).

The agreement does not include either provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense, not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, to submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the plans, policies, and doctrine of the Department of Defense regarding subterranean operations. At a minimum, the required report shall:

(1) Define the roles and responsibilities of each military service and combatant command;

(2) Describe the current and planned Department of Defense capabilities for conducting subterranean operations and identify any gaps in such capabilities;

(3) Identify all related doctrine and plans, if any, to update such doctrine;

(4) Identify subterranean training facility requirements;

(5) Define adversary activities and intentions in the subterranean environment;

(6) Outline adversary and ally subterranean defeat capabilities and tactics; and

(7) Evaluate roles and responsibilities across the spectrum of conflict and for targets ranging in size and complexity, such as trenches, tunnels, bunkers, silos, underground command nodes, underground weapons depots, and underground research and developmental facilities.

Quarterly report on infiltrations of certain Department of Defense property by foreign actors

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2860) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report on instances of infiltration, or attempted infiltration, of a military installation, facility, or real property under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense by a foreign actor during the period covered by the report.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the reporting requirement appears elsewhere in this Act.

Designation of Creech Air Force Base, Nevada, as remote or isolated installation

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2861) that would require the Secretary of Defense to designate Creech Air Force Base, located at Indian Springs, Nevada, as a remote or isolated installation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the Department of Defense has provided relevant congressional reporting on this topic.

Feasibility study by the Secretary of Defense on replicating the Army Future Soldier Prep Course through the other service branches

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2862) that would require the Secretary of Defense to conduct a feasibility study on replicating the Army's Future Soldier Preparatory Course in other service branches.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that section 546 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31) required the Secretaries of the military departments to implement future servicemember preparatory courses in the event that the number of nonprior service enlisted personnel covered under section 520 of title 10, United States Code, exceeds 10 percent of the total number of persons originally enlisted in an Armed Force during a fiscal year.

Briefing on instances of attempted breaches of Department of Defense military installations required

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2864) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing on any instance of an attempted breach of a military installation under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense during the period beginning on January 1, 2021, and ending on the date of the provision of such briefing.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We note that the briefing requirement appears elsewhere in this Act.

Report on land use practices around military installations in the Freely Associated States

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 2865) that would require the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations, and Environment to submit a report on the use of land use policies and encroachment risks near military installations located in the Freely Associated States (FAS).

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to submit a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, with an assessment of land use policies and encroachment risks near military installations located in the FAS over the next 5 years. The briefing shall include an assessment of the feasibility and advisability of establishing a coalition to include representatives from Federal agencies, the governments of the FAS, nongovernmental organizations, and landowners and land managers in the FAS to advance sustainable land use practices around military installations that would assist in efforts to prevent encroachment and promote conservation.

Authority to accept host nation financial services in the form of an irrevocable letter of credit

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2803) that would amend section 2350g(a) of title 10, United States Code, to provide an additional authority to the Department of Defense to accept host nation contributions for military construction projects through a financial services vehicle whereby the host nation establishes and controls an irrevocable letter of credit with a financial institution.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Requirement that damaged or destroyed facilities are built back with resilience

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2805) that would amend section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, to ensure that any military construction project to repair, restore, or replace a damaged or destroyed facility is designed and constructed to prevent future damage or destruction by the proximate cause of the damage or destruction of the facility.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Increase in percentage limitations on value of United States investment in privatized military housing projects

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2821) that would amend section 2875 of title 10, United States Code, to increase to 60 percent each of the two current limitations under subsection (c) of that section on the amount of Government investment in Military Housing Privatization Initiative projects.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Treatment of nondisclosure agreements with respect to privatized military housing

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2822) that would amend section 2890(f) of title 10, United States Code, to prohibit a landlord from requesting that a tenant or prospective tenant of a privatized housing unit sign a nondisclosure agreement.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Report on use of areawide contracts to procure utility services

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2847) that would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives on what projects, to include any savings or mission capabilities, have been conducted pursuant to section 2811(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives, not later than March 1, 2025, on what projects have been conducted pursuant to section 2811(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31). The briefing shall include, at a minimum, disaggregated by location, an identification of any projects conducted to date and any savings, improvements to mission readiness, or energy resilience benefits to the Department of Defense as a result of areawide contracts to date.

Briefing on projects under Defense Community Infrastructure Program that are still in progress

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2851) that would amend section 2391(d) of title 10, United States Code, to include annual briefings for the next 3 years, beginning not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, regarding Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) projects for which a grant was awarded and that are still in progress as of the date of the briefing.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

We are concerned that the current definition of military value as it has been applied to the analysis of DCIP proposals has led to a more narrow application of the program than originally intended, causing challenges for the DCIP review boards, military services, and DCIP applicants. Authorized in section 2861 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232), DCIP was intended to be a competitive authority to assist in supplementing funds for State and local governments in addressing deficiencies in community infrastructure. Due to the limitations associated with the military value requirements and funding constraints, important, high-value projects that meet other DCIP criteria often go unfunded.

We direct the Secretary of Defense to brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives, no later than March 31, 2025, on: (1) The number of repeat applicants DCIP has seen since 2020; (2) The number of applicants who did not meet the military value requirements since 2020; (3) The methodology by which the military value criteria has been applied to DCIP applicants; and (4) Any other challenges that DCIP has identified in regard to the military value criteria, and any recommendations for adjustments to improve the process.

Expansion of defense community infrastructure pilot program to include installations of the Coast Guard

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2856) that would amend section 2391 of title 10, United States Code, to allow the United States Coast Guard to compete for funding available through the Defense Community Infrastructure Program.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Modification of annual report on privatized military housing

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 7823) that would modify the annual report on privatized military housing by requiring the Secretary of Defense to publish the report on a publicly available website of the Department of Defense not later than 30 days after submitting a report.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE XXIX—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION DISASTER RECOVERY

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED
Authorized Navy disaster recovery construction and land acquisition projects

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2901) that would authorize Navy disaster recovery construction and land acquisition projects in Guam for \$4.6 billion.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Authorization of emergency supplemental appropriations for military construction projects

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2903) that would authorize emergency supplemental appropriations pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A)(i) of

the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)(i)).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Authorized Air Force disaster recovery construction and land acquisition projects

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 2902) that would authorize Air Force disaster recovery construction and land acquisition projects in Guam for \$7.2 billion.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

DIVISION C—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY AUTHORIZATIONS AND OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

TITLE XXXI—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS

SUBTITLE A—NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS AND AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 3101—National Nuclear Security Administration

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3101) that would authorize the appropriation of funds for the activities of the National Nuclear Security Administration.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 3101).

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 3102—Defense environmental cleanup

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3102) that would authorize the appropriation of funds for the Department of Energy's defense environmental cleanup activities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 3102).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 3103—Other defense activities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3103) that would authorize the appropriation of funds for the Department of Energy's other defense activities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 3103).

The agreement includes this provision.

Sec. 3104—Nuclear energy

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3104) that would authorize the appropriation of funds for the Department of Energy's nuclear energy activities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 3104).

The agreement includes this provision.

SUBTITLE B—PROGRAM AUTHORIZATIONS, RESTRICTIONS, AND LIMITATIONS

Sec. 3111—Improvements to National Nuclear Security Administration management and processes

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3113) that would amend the National Nuclear Security Administration Act (50 U.S.C. 2401) and the Atomic Energy Defense Act (50 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.) to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the National Nuclear Security Administration to meet strategic requirements.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would make technical and conforming changes.

Sec. 3112—Prohibition on admittance to national security laboratories and nuclear weapons production facilities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3111) that would prohibit any citizen or agent of the People's Republic of China or the Russian Federation from admittance

into non-public areas of the national security laboratories or nuclear weapons production facilities, but would also authorize the Secretary of Energy to waive this prohibition on certain conditions.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 3120).

The agreement includes the Senate provision with amendments to delineate the classes of individuals exempted from the prohibitions on access; clarify that certain facilities and portions of facilities that conduct activities to support both national security and basic research programs and are funded through multiple Department of Energy organizations, such as the National Ignition Facility and the Micro and Nano Technologies Laboratories, may be partitioned in the determination of what areas directly support the mission, functions, and operations of the National Nuclear Security Administration; and defer implementation of the provision until April 15, 2025.

Sec. 3113—Authority for National Nuclear Security Administration to use passenger carriers for contractor commuting

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3117) that would authorize the Administrator for Nuclear Security to reimburse contractors for transportation services pursuant to an approved transportation plan.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 3114—Authorization for modification of B61-13 nuclear weapon

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3112) that would authorize modification or development of the B61-13 nuclear gravity bomb and a variation of the W80 nuclear weapon for the nuclear-armed, sea-launched cruise missile (SLCM-N); and require the Secretary of Energy to provide final nomenclature for the SLCM-N weapon, temporarily designated as the "W80-X."

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would authorize only modification or development of the B61-13 nuclear gravity bomb.

We note that the warhead for SLCM-N is addressed elsewhere in this agreement.

Sec. 3115—Limitation on availability of funds pending submission of information on streamlining National Nuclear Security Administration contracting

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3118) that would limit the obligation and expenditure of more than 80 percent of certain funds authorized for travel expenses for the Administrator for Nuclear Security for fiscal year 2025 until the Administrator provides a required report on opportunities to streamline National Nuclear Security Administration requirements.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would adjust the limitation to not more than 90 percent of specified funds.

Sec. 3116—Limitation on use of funds for naval nuclear fuel systems based on low-enriched uranium

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3111) that would prohibit the use of funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act for fiscal year 2025 for the purpose of conducting research and development of an advanced naval nuclear fuel system based on low-enriched uranium until the Secretary of Energy, Secretary of Defense,

and Secretary of the Navy issue certain determinations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would make technical changes.

Sec. 3117—Prohibition on availability of funds to reconvert or retire W76-2 warheads

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3112) that would prohibit the National Nuclear Security Administration from reconverting or retiring W76-2 warheads; but provide a waiver on condition that the Administrator for Nuclear Security certifies that the People's Republic of China and Russian Federation do not possess similar capabilities and that the Department of Defense does not have a valid military requirement for the W76-2 warhead.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE C—REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 3121—Modification to and termination of certain reporting requirements under Atomic Energy Defense Act

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3121) that would amend section 4306 of the Atomic Energy Defense Act (50 U.S.C. 2566(a)(3)) to revise Department of Energy reporting requirements relating to the use of the Mixed Oxide Fuel Fabrication Facility in South Carolina to process defense plutonium and related materials for disposal.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment to require the Secretary of Energy to provide a biennial plan for the processing of defense plutonium and related materials for disposal in each subsequent even numbered year following 2026.

We note that the adjustment to the reporting requirement in no way affects, nor implies any modification to the obligations or responsibilities of the parties named in the Settlement Agreement between the United States of America and the State of South Carolina regarding the disposition of weapons-usable plutonium at the Savannah River Site (Fed. Cir. No. 19-2324), dated August 28, 2020.

Sec. 3122—Modification of reporting requirements relating to cost-benefit analyses for competition of management and operating contracts

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3116) that would amend section 4807 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (Public Law 83-703) to modify a reporting requirement for the Comptroller General of the United States to provide additional flexibility for reviews of certain National Nuclear Security Administration contracts.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 3123—Restoration of a domestic uranium enrichment capability

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3114) that would require the Secretary of Energy to identify and assess the viability of at least two, but not more than four, possible locations that would be best suited for a modular, scalable uranium enrichment facility by 2035; and provide a report on the results of this assessment including cost estimates for starting construction in 2027.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 3124—Report on activities from U.S.–U.K. Mutual Defense Agreement

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3115) that would require the Administrator for Nuclear Security to provide an annual briefing, for each of the subsequent 5 years, on activities conducted under the 1958 Mutual Defense Agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 3125—Notification of certain regulations that impact the National Nuclear Security Administration

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3121) that would require a director of a national security laboratory of the National Nuclear Security Administration to notify Congress when the director determines that certain regulations could inhibit nuclear weapons stockpile activities.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Designation of National Nuclear Security Administration as technical nuclear forensics lead

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3113) that would amend the National Nuclear Security Administration Act to add leadership of the technical nuclear forensics efforts of the United States to the list of the National Nuclear Security Administration's responsibilities.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We continue to believe that the National Nuclear Security Administration should be the interagency lead for nuclear forensics, consistent with the Joint Explanatory Statement to Accompany the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Committee Print No. 2) regarding the House provision (sec. 3122) titled "Designation of National Nuclear Security Administration as technical nuclear forensics lead."

List of potential advanced nuclear technology deployment opportunities

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3122) that would require the Secretary of Defense to provide a list of at least 30 potential opportunities to deploy advanced nuclear technology to bolster the operational energy, installation energy, and expeditionary energy capabilities of the Department of Defense.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

Sense of Congress regarding development of storage facilities for permanent storage of nuclear material within the Great Lakes Basin

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3123) that would express the sense of Congress that the Government of the United States and the Government of Canada should not develop storage facilities for the permanent storage of nuclear waste within the Great Lakes Basin.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We discourage the Government of the United States and the Government of Canada from developing storage facilities for permanent storage of spent nuclear fuel, low-level or high-level nuclear waste, or military-grade nuclear material within the Great Lakes Basin.

Sense of Congress on commitment to nuclear power

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3124) that would express the sense of Congress regarding a commitment to nuclear power.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We strongly encourage the Department of Defense to pursue nuclear power as an option for baseload energy sources in order to achieve a reliable, secure, and resilient energy source for the Department's military installations.

Sense of Congress supporting Project Pele

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3125) that would express a sense of Congress supporting Project Pele.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the House provision.

We believe Project Pele has the potential to bolster the national security of the United States by providing reliable, resilient, and clean baseload energy for military bases and operations domestically and abroad. We note a \$16.2 million increase for Project Pele in the funding authorization tables of this bill, over and above the program funding contained in the President's budget request, and note that this level of support is consistent with that contained in past National Defense Authorization Acts.

Limitation on availability of funds pending submission of certification relating to W80-4 Alteration-SLCM

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3119) that would limit the obligation and expenditure of more than 50 percent of certain funds authorized for travel expenses for the Administrator of Nuclear Security for fiscal year 2025 until the Administrator provides a report on the development of a nuclear-capable, sea-launched cruise missile and a spend plan for the development of such a weapon pursuant to section 306 of division D of title III of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024 (Public Law 118-42).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Authorization of Department of Defense and contractors to acquire and operate a utilization facility

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 3122) that would authorize the Department of Defense to acquire and operate a utilization facility and require the Secretary of Defense to provide a report and briefing on matters related to nuclear power reactors.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Approval of the amendment to the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Cooperation on the Uses of Atomic Energy for Mutual Defense Purposes

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported

bill contained a provision (sec. 8111) that would approve of the amendment to the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for Cooperation on the Uses of Atomic Energy for Mutual Defense Purposes.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

TITLE XXXII—DEFENSE NUCLEAR FACILITIES SAFETY BOARD

Sec. 3201—Authorization

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3201) that would authorize \$47.2 million for the operation of the Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained an identical provision (sec. 3201).

The agreement includes this provision.

TITLE XXXIV—NAVAL PETROLEUM RESERVES

Sec. 3401—Authorization of appropriations

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3401) that would authorize \$13.0 million for fiscal year 2025 for operation and maintenance of the Naval Petroleum Reserves.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

TITLE XXXV—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

SUBTITLE A—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 3501—Authorization of appropriations for Maritime Administration

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3501) that would authorize funds for the Maritime Administration.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 3501).

The agreement includes the House provision with an amendment that would:

(1) Add \$3.0 million for training, staffing, retention, recruiting, and contract management for United States Merchant Marine Academy capital improvement projects;

(2) Add \$6.0 million for maintenance and repair of State maritime academy training vessels; and

(3) Authorize \$33.7 million for the loan guarantee program authorized under chapter 537 of title 46, United States Code in lieu of the \$43.0 million in the budget request.

Sec. 3502—Reauthorization of Maritime Security Program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3502) that would: (1) Reauthorize the Maritime Security Program (MSP); (2) Extend the sunset date for MSP until 2040; and (3) Increase the annual vessel stipend.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

SUBTITLE B—MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURE

Sec. 3511—Port infrastructure development program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3511) that would extend the eligibility of cruise vessels to receive grants to fund shore power projects under the Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) through fiscal year 2026, direct the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to update its categorical exclusions, require an extension of the PIDP application deadline when an amended notice of funding opportunity is published, emphasize the efficient approval of PIDP grant contracts, and create a reporting requirement on staffing shortages at MARAD and the Department of Transportation impacting the administration of PIDP.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with technical amendments.

Sec. 3512—Assessment of United States sealift capability

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3512) that would codify and articulate a policy for strategic sealift readiness and the maritime sector.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, amended to make minor technical changes.

SUBTITLE C—REPORTS

Sec. 3521—Independent study and report on Shanghai Shipping Exchange

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3521) that would require an independent study and report on the business practices of the Shanghai Shipping Exchange and the impacts of the Exchange’s operations on United States interests.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, amended to include the House Foreign Affairs and Senate Foreign Relations Committees as recipients of the report.

Sec. 3522—Study on transportation of personal protective equipment

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3522) that would require the Secretary of Transportation: (1) In coordination with the Secretary of Defense and in consultation with the head of each relevant Federal agency, to conduct a study on the movement of critical cargo through marine terminals and ports; and (2) Issue a request for information in the Federal Register seeking public comment on the matters to be considered in the study.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement would delete the direction to study marine terminal shipment of cargos in the House provision. We agree instead to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on transportation of personal protective equipment for health care during the pandemic.

SUBTITLE D—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 3531—Extension of certain provisions relating to Tanker Security Fleet program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3531) that would extend the sunset for au-

thorization of the Tanker Security Program from 2035 until 2040.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, amended to include authorization amounts for the program.

Sec. 3532—Requirements for purchasing federally auctioned vessels

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3532) that would set several requirements for potential purchasers of Government-owned vessels being auctioned by the Federal Government.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 3533—Recapitalization of National Defense Reserve Fleet

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3533) that would make technical changes to section 3546 of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023 (Public Law 117–263) to clarify that the Secretary of the Navy shall support the Secretary of the Transportation in construction of a new sealift program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, amended to require that the Secretary of Transportation manage the sealift recapitalization program in consultation with the Secretary of the Navy.

Sec. 3534—Armed Forces merchant mariner officer expedited preparation program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3534) that would authorize an honorably discharged veteran who holds a bachelor’s degree to enroll in a state maritime academy and complete a merchant marine officer preparation program approved by the Secretary of Transportation and complete the requirements for the issuance of a license in less than 3 years.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a technical amendment.

Sec. 3535—Technical clarifications

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3535) that would make several technical clarifications to United States Code and previously enacted legislation.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision.

Sec. 3536—Buy America requirements for shipyard modernization and improvement program

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3537) that would amend section 53733 of title 46, United States Code, to add a Buy America requirement to the shipyard modernization and improvement program.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with technical amendments.

Sec. 3537—Nomination of Merchant Marine cadets in event of death, resignation, or expulsion from office of Member of Congress otherwise authorized to nominate

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6044) that would amend chapter 513 of title 46, United States Code, to establish a processes for nomination of merchant marines in the event of death, resignation, or expulsion from office of a Member of Congress otherwise authorized to nominate.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment that would limit the authority to the Senate.

Sec. 3538—Amended license applications for certain deepwater ports for natural gas

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 3538) that would make corrections to chapters 537 and 541 of title 46, United States Code.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision, amended to include modifications to the Deepwater Port Act of 1974 (33 U.S.C. 1504(i)) regarding amended license applications for operating natural gas deepwater port facility.

DIVISION D—FUNDING TABLES

Sec. 4001—Authorization of amounts in funding tables

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 4001) that would provide for the allocation of funds among programs, projects, and activities in accordance with the tables in division D of this Act, subject to reprogramming guidance in accordance with established procedures.

The Senate committee-reported bill contained a similar provision (sec. 4001).

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

(In Thousands of Dollars)

Table with 4 columns: Description, FY 2025 Request, Conference Change, Conference Authorized. Rows include Discretionary Authorizations within the Jurisdiction of the Armed Services Committee, National Defense Funding, Base Budget Request, Function 051, Department of Defense-Military, Division A: Department of Defense Authorizations, Title I—Procurement, and various procurement categories like Aircraft, Missile, Weapons, Ammunition, and Other Procurement.

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 2025 Request	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Aircraft Procurement, Navy	16,214,250	-38,280	16,175,970
Weapons Procurement, Navy	6,600,327	94,475	6,694,802
Procurement of Ammunition, Navy & Marine Corps	1,747,883	-75,163	1,672,720
Shipbuilding & Conversion, Navy	32,378,291	365,344	32,743,635
Other Procurement, Navy	15,877,253	-240,574	15,636,679
Procurement, Marine Corps	4,243,863	-279,926	3,963,937
Aircraft Procurement, Air Force	19,835,430	1,585,517	21,420,947
Missile Procurement, Air Force	4,373,609	-52,472	4,321,137
Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force	709,475	-20,859	688,616
Other Procurement, Air Force	30,298,764	-244,583	30,054,181
Procurement, Space Force	4,262,979	-468,658	3,794,321
Procurement, Defense-Wide	5,406,751	537,845	5,944,596
Subtotal, Title I—Procurement	166,377,384	1,472,104	167,849,488
Title II—Research, Development, Test and Evaluation			
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army	14,073,308	212,243	14,285,551
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Navy	25,697,815	658,508	26,356,323
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Air Force	49,108,771	-385,560	48,723,211
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Space Force	18,700,153	-328,399	18,371,754
Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Defense-Wide	35,227,834	454,659	35,682,493
Operational Test & Evaluation, Defense	348,709		348,709
Subtotal, Title II—Research, Development, Test and Evaluation	143,156,590	611,451	143,768,041
Title III—Operation and Maintenance			
Operation & Maintenance, Army	59,152,479	-132,842	59,019,637
Operation & Maintenance, Army Reserve	3,360,777	-27,300	3,333,477
Operation & Maintenance, Army National Guard	8,646,145	-37,360	8,608,785
Counter-ISIS Train and Equip Fund	528,699		528,699
Operation & Maintenance, Navy	75,022,582	240,343	75,262,925
Operation & Maintenance, Marine Corps	10,562,804	609,830	11,172,634
Operation & Maintenance, Navy Reserve	1,341,662	-2,900	1,338,762
Operation & Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve	338,080	-1,800	336,280
Operation & Maintenance, Air Force	64,617,734	-614,363	64,003,371
Operation & Maintenance, Space Force	5,292,272	-75,000	5,217,272
Operation & Maintenance, Air Force Reserve	4,173,796	-62,000	4,111,796
Operation & Maintenance, Air National Guard	7,403,771	-88,000	7,315,771
Operation & Maintenance, Defense-Wide	54,175,850	-1,718,982	52,456,868
United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces	21,035		21,035
DOD Acquisition Workforce Development Fund	56,176		56,176
Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid	115,335		115,335
Cooperative Threat Reduction Account	350,116		350,116
Environmental Restoration, Army	268,069	30,000	298,069
Environmental Restoration, Navy	343,591		343,591
Environmental Restoration, Air Force	320,256	10,000	330,256
Environmental Restoration, Defense	8,800		8,800
Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Sites	234,475		234,475
Subtotal, Title III—Operation and Maintenance	296,334,504	-1,870,374	294,464,130
Title IV—Military Personnel			
Military Personnel Appropriations	170,834,234	865,086	171,699,320
Medicare-Eligible Retiree Health Fund Contributions	11,046,305		11,046,305
Subtotal, Title IV—Military Personnel	181,880,539	865,086	182,745,625
Title XIV—Other Authorizations			
Working Capital Fund, Army	23,604		23,604
Working Capital Fund, Navy	30,000		30,000
Working Capital Fund, Air Force	86,874		86,874
National Defense Stockpile Transaction Fund	7,629		7,629
Working Capital Fund, Defense-Wide	2,256		2,256
Working Capital Fund, DECA	1,570,187		1,570,187
National Defense Sealift Fund	0		0
Chemical Agents & Munitions Destruction	775,507		775,507
Drug Interdiction and Counter Drug Activities	901,479	10,000	911,479
Office of the Inspector General	547,331		547,331
Defense Health Program	40,273,860	-726,570	39,547,290

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 2025 Request	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Subtotal, Title XIV—Other Authorizations	44,218,727	-716,570	43,502,157
Total, Division A: Department of Defense Authorizations	831,967,744	361,697	832,329,441
Division B: Military Construction Authorizations			
Military Construction			
Army	2,311,157	174,500	2,485,657
Navy	4,540,899	-451,277	4,089,622
Air Force	3,187,126	345,290	3,532,416
Defense-Wide	3,733,163	-545,213	3,187,950
Army National Guard	362,129	115,200	477,329
Army Reserve	255,032	96,000	351,032
Navy and Marine Corps Reserve	29,829	10,000	39,829
Air National Guard	190,792	105,900	296,692
Air Force Reserve	69,263	68,600	137,863
NATO Security Investment Program	433,864	30,000	463,864
INDOPACOM Military Construction Pilot	0	150,000	150,000
Subtotal, Military Construction	15,113,254	99,000	15,212,254
Family Housing			
Construction, Army	276,647	-18,000	258,647
Operation & Maintenance, Army	475,611		475,611
Construction, Navy and Marine Corps	245,742	-156,000	89,742
Operation & Maintenance, Navy and Marine Corps	377,217		377,217
Construction, Air Force	221,549		221,549
Operation & Maintenance, Air Force	326,250		326,250
Operation & Maintenance, Defense-Wide	52,156		52,156
Family Housing Improvement Fund	8,195		8,195
Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund	497	0	497
Subtotal, Family Housing	1,983,864	-174,000	1,809,864
Base Realignment and Closure			
Base Realignment and Closure—Army	212,556	25,000	237,556
Base Realignment and Closure—Navy	111,697	25,000	136,697
Base Realignment and Closure—Air Force	121,952	25,000	146,952
Base Realignment and Closure—Defense-wide	1,756		1,756
Subtotal, Base Realignment and Closure	447,961	75,000	522,961
Total, Division B: Military Construction Authorizations	17,545,079	0	17,545,079
Total, 051, Department of Defense-Military	849,512,823	361,697	849,874,520
Division C: Department of Energy National Security Authorization and Other Authorizations			
Function 053, Atomic Energy Defense Activities			
Environmental and Other Defense Activities			
Nuclear Energy	150,000		150,000
Defense Uranium Enrichment D&D	384,957	-384,957	0
Weapons Activities	19,848,644	132,400	19,981,044
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation	2,465,108	-14,000	2,451,108
Naval Reactors	2,118,773	-150,000	1,968,773
Federal Salaries and Expenses	564,475	-25,475	539,000
Defense Environmental Cleanup	7,059,695	-54,065	7,005,630
Other Defense Activities	1,140,023		1,140,023
Subtotal, Environmental and Other Defense Activities	33,731,675	-496,097	33,235,578
Independent Federal Agency Authorization			
Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board	47,210		47,210
Subtotal, Independent Federal Agency Authorization	47,210	0	47,210
Subtotal, 053, Atomic Energy Defense Activities	33,778,885	-496,097	33,282,788

SUMMARY OF NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 2025 Request	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Function 054, Defense-Related Activities			
Other Agency Authorizations			
Maritime Security Program	318,000	72,000	390,000
Tanker Security Program	60,000	62,400	122,400
Subtotal, Other Agency Authorizations	378,000	134,400	512,400
Subtotal, 054, Defense-Related Activities	378,000	134,400	512,400
Subtotal, Division C: Department of Energy National Security Authorization and Other Authorizations	34,156,885	-361,697	33,795,188
Total, National Defense	883,669,708	0	883,669,708
MEMORANDUM: NON-DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS			
Title XIV—Armed Forces Retirement Home (Function 700)	100,520		100,520
Title XXXIV—Naval Petroleum and Oil Shale Reserves (Function 270)	13,010		13,010
Title XXXV—Maritime Administration (Function 400)	481,700	566,900	1,048,600
MEMORANDUM: TRANSFER AUTHORITIES (NON-ADD)			
Title X—General Transfer Authority	[8,000,000]	[-2,000,000]	[6,000,000]
MEMORANDUM: DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS NOT UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE (NON-ADD)			
Defense Production Act	393,377		393,377

NATIONAL DEFENSE BUDGET AUTHORITY IMPLICATION

(In Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 2025 Request	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Summary, Discretionary Authorizations Within the Jurisdiction of the Armed Services Committee			
SUBTOTAL, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (051)	849,512,823	361,697	849,874,520
SUBTOTAL, ATOMIC ENERGY DEFENSE PROGRAMS (053)	33,778,675	-496,097	33,282,578
SUBTOTAL, DEFENSE-RELATED ACTIVITIES (054)	378,000	134,400	512,400
TOTAL, NATIONAL DEFENSE	883,669,498	0	883,669,498
Scoring adjustments			
Transfers to non-Defense budget functions (051)	-177,500		-177,500
Subtotal, Scoring Adjustments	-177,500	0	-177,500
National Defense Discretionary Programs not In the Jurisdiction of the Armed Services Committee or Do Not Require Additional Authorization			
Defense Production Act Purchases	393,377		393,377
Indefinite Account: Disposal of DOD Real Property	7,120		7,120
Indefinite Account: Lease of DOD Real Property	34,180		34,180
Subtotal, Budget Sub-Function 051	434,677	0	434,677
Corps of Engineers—Civil Works, Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program	200,000		200,000
Subtotal, Budget Sub-Function 053	200,000	0	200,000
Other Discretionary Programs	11,105,000		11,105,000
Subtotal, Budget Sub-Function 054	11,105,000	0	11,105,000
Total Defense Discretionary Adjustments (050)	11,562,177	0	11,562,177
Budget Authority Implication, National Defense Discretionary			
Department of Defense—Military (051)	849,770,000	361,697	850,131,697
Atomic Energy Defense Activities (053)	33,978,675	-496,097	33,482,578
Defense-Related Activities (054)	11,483,000	134,400	11,617,400
Total BA Implication, National Defense Discretionary	895,231,675	0	895,231,675
National Defense Mandatory Programs, Current Law (CBO Baseline)			
Concurrent receipt accrual payments to the Military Retirement Fund	22,973,000		22,973,000
Revolving, trust and other DOD Mandatory	2,053,000		2,053,000
Offsetting receipts	-2,032,000		-2,032,000

NATIONAL DEFENSE BUDGET AUTHORITY IMPLICATION—Continued

(In Thousands of Dollars)

	FY 2025 Request	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Subtotal, Budget Sub-Function 051	22,994,000	0	22,994,000
Energy employees occupational illness compensation programs	2,943,000		2,943,000
CDC-Wide Activities and Program Support	58,000		58,000
Subtotal, Budget Sub-Function 053	3,001,000	0	3,001,000
Payment to CIA retirement fund	514,000		514,000
Subtotal, Budget Sub-Function 054	514,000	0	514,000
Total National Defense Mandatory (050)	26,509,000	0	26,509,000
Budget Authority Implication, National Defense Discretionary and Mandatory			
Department of Defense—Military (051)	872,764,000	361,697	873,125,697
Atomic Energy Defense Activities (053)	36,979,675	-496,097	36,483,578
Defense-Related Activities (054)	11,997,000	134,400	12,131,400
Total BA Implication, National Defense Discretionary and Mandatory	921,740,675	0	921,740,675

TITLE XLI—PROCUREMENT

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT.

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY											
FIXED WING											
002	FUTURE UAS FAMILY		149,059		149,059		149,059				149,059
003	SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS		69,573		69,573		79,573				69,573
	Company Small UAS (Co sUAS)—Army UFR						[10,000]				
ROTARY											
004	AH-64 APACHE BLOCK IIIA REMAN	31	570,655	31	570,655	31	570,655			31	570,655
006	UH-60 BLACKHAWK M MODEL (MYP)	24	709,054	24	709,054	24	709,054			24	709,054
007	UH-60 BLACKHAWK M MODEL (MYP) AP		58,170		58,170		58,170				58,170
009	CH-47 HELICOPTER	10	699,698	12	804,698	10	699,698			10	699,698
	Two additional aircraft			[2]	[105,000]						
MODIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT											
012	MQ-1 PAYLOAD		14,086		14,086		14,086				14,086
013	GRAY EAGLE MODS2		23,865		23,865		23,865				23,865
015	AH-64 MODS		81,026		81,026		94,326		7,800		88,826
	AH-64E Apache Improved Tail Rotor Blade (ITRB) acceleration—Army UFR.						[13,300]		[7,800]		
016	CH-47 CARGO HELICOPTER MODS (MYP)		15,825		15,825		15,825				15,825
017	UTILITY HELICOPTER MODS		34,565		34,565		44,565		10,000		44,565
	UH-72A Lakota lifecycle sustainment and modernization.						[10,000]		[10,000]		
018	NETWORK AND MISSION PLAN		49,862		49,862		49,862				49,862
019	COMMS, NAV SURVEILLANCE		61,362		61,362		61,362				61,362
020	DEGRADED VISUAL ENVIRONMENT		3,839		3,839		3,839				3,839
021	AVIATION ASSURED PNT		69,161		69,161		69,161				69,161
022	GATM ROLLUP		4,842		4,842		4,842				4,842
023	UAS MODS		2,265		2,265		2,265				2,265
GROUND SUPPORT AVIONICS											
024	AIRCRAFT SURVIVABILITY EQUIPMENT		139,331		139,331		139,331				139,331
026	CMWS		51,646		51,646		51,646				51,646
027	COMMON INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES (CIRCM)	100	257,854	100	257,854	100	257,854			100	257,854
OTHER SUPPORT											
028	COMMON GROUND EQUIPMENT		31,181		31,181		31,181				31,181
029	AIRCREW INTEGRATED SYSTEMS		14,478		14,478		14,478				14,478
030	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL		27,428		27,428		27,428				27,428
031	LAUNCHER, 2.75 ROCKET		3,815		3,815		3,815				3,815
032	LAUNCHER GUIDED MISSILE: LONGBOW HELLFIRE XM2.		21,543		21,543		21,543				21,543
	TOTAL AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY	165	3,164,183	167	3,269,183	165	3,197,483		17,800	165	3,181,983
MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY											
SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE SYSTEM											
001	LOWER TIER AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AMD) SEN		516,838		516,838		516,838				516,838
003	M-SHORAD—PROCUREMENT		69,091		69,091		69,091				69,091
004	MSE MISSILE	230	963,060	230	963,060	230	963,060			230	963,060
	JPAC supplier base investments						[50,000]				
	Munitions supplier base program (MCEIP) (SRMs, ball bearings, PCBs, etc).						[100,000]				

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
066	AIR VIGILANCE (AV)		9,956		9,956		9,956				9,956
067	MULTI-FUNCTION ELECTRONIC WARFARE (MFEW) SYST.		17,004		17,004		17,004				17,004
068	FAMILY OF PERSISTENT SURVEILLANCE CAP.		13,225		13,225		13,225				13,225
069	COUNTERINTELLIGENCE/SECURITY COUNTER-MEASURES.		20,951		20,951		20,951				20,951
070	CI MODERNIZATION		260		260		260				260
	ELECT EQUIP—TACTICAL SURV. (TAC SURV)										
071	SENTINEL MODS		180,253		180,253		180,253				180,253
072	NIGHT VISION DEVICES		377,443		377,443		176,943		-10,000		367,443
	Integrated Visual Augmentation System						[-200,500]		[-10,000]		
073	SMALL TACTICAL OPTICAL RIFLE MOUNTED MLRF		10,864		10,864		13,059				10,864
	MPE Tech Refresh						[2,195]				
074	INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION FAMILY OF SYSTEMS		63,122		63,122		63,122				63,122
075	FAMILY OF WEAPON SIGHTS (FWS)		207,352		207,352		207,352		-42,372		164,980
	Program termination: FWS-CS								[-42,372]		
076	ENHANCED PORTABLE INDUCTIVE ARTILLERY FUZE SE.		2,971		2,971		2,971				2,971
077	FORWARD LOOKING INFRARED (IFLIR)		68,504		68,504		68,504				68,504
078	COUNTER SMALL UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM (C-SUAS).		280,086		445,541		345,586				280,086
	Army cUAS radars—Army UFR						[65,500]				
	Army UPL #2				[165,455]						
079	JOINT BATTLE COMMAND—PLATFORM (JBC-P)		184,610		174,110		184,610		-10,500		174,110
	Program decrease				[-10,500]				[-10,500]		
080	JOINT EFFECTS TARGETING SYSTEM (JETS)		9,345		9,345		9,345				9,345
081	COMPUTER BALLISTICS: LHMCB XM32		2,966		2,966		2,966				2,966
082	MORTAR FIRE CONTROL SYSTEM		4,660		4,660		4,660				4,660
083	MORTAR FIRE CONTROL SYSTEMS MODIFICATIONS		6,098		6,098		6,098				6,098
084	COUNTERFIRE RADARS		21,250		21,250		21,250				21,250
	ELECT EQUIP—TACTICAL C2 SYSTEMS										
085	ARMY COMMAND POST INTEGRATED INFRASTRUCTURE (. ...)		20,039		20,039		20,039		-5,000		15,039
	Carryover								[-5,000]		
086	FIRE SUPPORT C2 FAMILY		16,240		16,240		16,240				16,240
087	AIR & MSL DEFENSE PLANNING & CONTROL SYS		80,011		80,011		80,011				80,011
088	AIAMD BATTLE COMMAND SYSTEM		403,028		403,028		403,028				403,028
089	AIAMD FAMILY OF SYSTEMS (FOS) COMPONENTS		2,756		2,756		2,756				2,756
090	LIFE CYCLE SOFTWARE SUPPORT (LCSS)		5,360		5,360		5,360				5,360
091	NETWORK MANAGEMENT INITIALIZATION AND SERVICE.		48,994		48,994		48,994				48,994
092	GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM-ARMY (GCSS-A)		4,103		4,103		4,103				4,103
093	INTEGRATED PERSONNEL AND PAY SYSTEM-ARMY (IPP).		6,512		6,512		6,512				6,512
094	MOD OF IN-SVC EQUIPMENT (ENFIRE)		5,017		5,017		5,017				5,017
	ELECT EQUIP—AUTOMATION										
095	ARMY TRAINING MODERNIZATION		10,065		10,065		10,065				10,065
096	AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING EQUIP		78,613		78,613		78,613				78,613
097	ACCESSIONS INFORMATION ENVIRONMENT (AIE)		1,303		1,303		1,303				1,303
099	HIGH PERFORM COMPUTING MOD PGM (HPCMP)		76,327		76,327		76,327				76,327
100	CONTRACT WRITING SYSTEM		1,667		1,667		1,667				1,667
101	CSS COMMUNICATIONS		60,850		60,850		60,850				60,850
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS										
102A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS		1,817		1,817		1,817				1,817
	CHEMICAL DEFENSIVE EQUIPMENT										
104	BASE DEFENSE SYSTEMS (BDS)		32,879		32,879		32,879				32,879
105	CBRN DEFENSE		57,408		57,408		57,408				57,408
	BRIDGING EQUIPMENT										
107	TACTICAL BRIDGE, FLOAT-RIBBON		97,231		97,231		97,231				97,231
	ENGINEER (NON-CONSTRUCTION) EQUIPMENT										
111	ROBOTICS AND APPLIQUE SYSTEMS		62,469		78,469		62,469		4,000		66,469
	Silent Tactical Energy Enhanced Dismount (STEED).				[16,000]				[4,000]		
112	RENDER SAFE SETS KITS OUTFITS		16,440		16,440		16,440				16,440
113	FAMILY OF BOATS AND MOTORS		1,922		1,922		1,922				1,922
	COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
114	HEATERS AND ECU'S		14,355		14,355		14,355				14,355
115	PERSONNEL RECOVERY SUPPORT SYSTEM (PRSS)		6,503		6,503		6,503				6,503
116	GROUND SOLDIER SYSTEM		141,613		128,746		141,613				141,613
	Program decrease				[-12,867]						
117	MOBILE SOLDIER POWER		23,129		23,129		23,129				23,129
118	FORCE PROVIDER		9,569		9,569		9,569				9,569
119	CARGO AERIAL DEL & PERSONNEL PARACHUTE SYSTEM.		46,312		46,312		46,312				46,312
120	FAMILY OF ENGR COMBAT AND CONSTRUCTION SETS		9,217		9,217		9,217				9,217
	PETROLEUM EQUIPMENT										
122	QUALITY SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT		2,879		2,879		2,879				2,879
123	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS, PETROLEUM & WATER		57,050		57,050		57,050				57,050
	MEDICAL EQUIPMENT										
124	COMBAT SUPPORT MEDICAL		72,157		72,157		72,157				72,157

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT (In Thousands of Dollars)

Table with 12 columns: Line, Item, Qty, Cost, Qty, Cost, Qty, Cost, Qty, Cost, Qty, Cost. Rows include categories like MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT, CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, RAIL FLOAT CONTAINERIZATION EQUIPMENT, GENERATORS, MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIPMENT, TRAINING EQUIPMENT, TEST MEASURE AND DIG EQUIPMENT (TMD), OTHER SUPPORT EQUIPMENT, AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY, and COMBAT AIRCRAFT.

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIP											
027	SSTD		4,317		4,317		4,317				4,317
028	MK-48 TORPEDO	79	333,147	79	333,147	120	451,147			79	333,147
	Accelerate Mk-48 Heavy Weight Torpedo (HWT) Procurement (+41)—Navy UFR.					[41]	[118,000]				
029	ASW TARGETS		30,476		30,476		30,476				30,476
MOD OF TORPEDOES AND RELATED EQUIP											
030	MK-54 TORPEDO MODS		106,249		106,249		198,549		50,000		156,249
	Mk54 production increase						[92,300]		[50,000]		
031	MK-48 TORPEDO ADCAP MODS		17,363		17,363		17,363				17,363
032	MARITIME MINES		100,065		80,065		100,065				100,065
	Excessive cost growth				[-20,000]						
SUPPORT EQUIPMENT											
033	TORPEDO SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		151,809		151,809		151,809				151,809
034	ASW RANGE SUPPORT		4,039		4,039		4,039				4,039
DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION											
035	FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION		5,669		5,669		5,669				5,669
GUNS AND GUN MOUNTS											
SMALL ARMS AND WEAPONS											
036	SMALL ARMS AND WEAPONS		12,513		12,513		12,513				12,513
MODIFICATION OF GUNS AND GUN MOUNTS											
037	CIWS MODS		4,266		4,266		4,266				4,266
038	COAST GUARD WEAPONS		54,794		54,794		54,794				54,794
039	GUN MOUNT MODS		82,246		82,246		82,246				82,246
040	LCS MODULE WEAPONS	12	2,463	12	2,463	12	2,463			12	2,463
041	AIRBORNE MINE NEUTRALIZATION SYSTEMS		11,635		11,635		11,635				11,635
SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS											
043	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		240,697		240,697		243,697				240,697
	Accelerate Mk-48 Heavy Weight Torpedo (HWT) Procurement (+41).						[3,000]				
	TOTAL WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY	1,872	6,600,327	1,872	6,562,327	1,913	7,114,727	21	94,475	1,893	6,694,802
PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS											
NAVY AMMUNITION											
001	GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS		33,161		33,161		33,161				33,161
002	JDAM	1,460	75,134	1,460	75,134	1,460	75,134		-2,025	1,460	73,109
	Excess to need								[-2,025]		
003	AIRBORNE ROCKETS, ALL TYPES		58,197		58,197		123,197				58,197
	FY25 Hydra 70 minimum sustained rate pro- duction.						[65,000]				
004	MACHINE GUN AMMUNITION		12,501		12,501		12,501				12,501
005	PRACTICE BOMBS		56,745		56,745		71,145		-4,508		52,237
	Additional EM-T USMC ground-based fires training rounds.						[14,400]				
	Q1300 LGTR unit cost growth								[-4,508]		
006	CARTRIDGES & CART ACTUATED DEVICES		73,782		73,782		73,782				73,782
007	AIR EXPENDABLE COUNTERMEASURES		75,416		75,416		75,416				75,416
008	JATOS		7,407		7,407		7,407				7,407
009	5 INCH/54 GUN AMMUNITION		29,990		23,990		29,990		-6,000		23,990
	Underexecution				[-6,000]				[-6,000]		
010	INTERMEDIATE CALIBER GUN AMMUNITION		40,089		40,089		40,089				40,089
011	OTHER SHIP GUN AMMUNITION		41,223		41,223		41,223				41,223
012	SMALL ARMS & LANDING PARTY AMMO		47,269		47,269		47,269				47,269
013	PYROTECHNIC AND DEMOLITION		9,703		9,703		9,703				9,703
015	AMMUNITION LESS THAN \$5 MILLION		1,703		1,703		1,703				1,703
016	EXPEDITIONARY LOTTERING MUNITIONS		588,005		362,766		588,005		-60,750		527,255
	Contract execution				[-225,239]				[-60,750]		
MARINE CORPS AMMUNITION											
017	MORTARS		127,726		127,726		127,726				127,726
018	DIRECT SUPPORT MUNITIONS		43,769		43,769		43,769		-1,880		41,889
	Excess to need								[-1,880]		
019	INFANTRY WEAPONS AMMUNITION		266,277		266,277		266,277				266,277
020	COMBAT SUPPORT MUNITIONS		21,726		21,726		21,726				21,726
021	AMMO MODERNIZATION		18,211		18,211		18,211				18,211
022	ARTILLERY MUNITIONS		114,684		82,059		114,684				114,684
	Excess 155mm M795 munitions				[-10,025]						
	Excess M232A1 MACS munitions				[-22,600]						
023	ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION		5,165		5,165		5,165				5,165
	TOTAL PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS.	1,460	1,747,883	1,460	1,484,019	1,460	1,827,283		-75,163	1,460	1,672,720
SHIPBUILDING AND CONVERSION, NAVY											
FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE SHIPS											
001	COLUMBIA CLASS SUBMARINE		3,341,235		3,341,235		3,341,235				3,341,235
002	COLUMBIA CLASS SUBMARINE AP		6,215,939		6,215,939		6,215,939				6,215,939
OTHER WARSHIPS											
003	CARRIER REPLACEMENT PROGRAM		1,186,873		1,086,873		1,261,873		-63,749		1,123,124
	Advance Procurement for CVN 82 and 83				[100,000]						
	Aircraft carrier industrial base						[75,000]				
	Rephasing of incremental funding				[-200,000]				[-63,749]		

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT (In Thousands of Dollars)

Table with columns: Line, Item, FY 2025 Request (Qty, Cost), House Authorized (Qty, Cost), Senate Authorized (Qty, Cost), Conference Change (Qty, Cost), Conference Authorized (Qty, Cost). Rows include CVN-81, VIRGINIA CLASS SUBMARINE, CVN REFUELING OVERHAULS, DDG-51, FFG-FRIGATE, LPD FLIGHT II, LHA REPLACEMENT AP, MEDIUM LANDING SHIP, etc.

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
007	COMMAND AND CONTROL SWITCHBOARD		2,402		2,402		2,402				2,402
008	LHA/LHD MIDLIFE		81,602		81,602		81,602				81,602
009	LCC 19/20 EXTENDED SERVICE LIFE PROGRAM		7,352		7,352		7,352				7,352
010	POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT		23,440		23,440		23,440				23,440
011	SUBMARINE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		293,766		273,766		293,766				293,766
	Excessive cost growth				[-20,000]						
012	VIRGINIA CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		43,565		43,565		43,565				43,565
013	LCS CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		7,318		7,318		7,318				7,318
014	SUBMARINE BATTERIES		30,470		30,470		30,470				30,470
015	LPD CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		38,115		38,115		38,115				38,115
016	DDG 1000 CLASS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		407,468		357,468		407,468		-41,596		365,872
	Excessive cost growth				[-50,000]				[-41,596]		
017	STRATEGIC PLATFORM SUPPORT EQUIP		53,931		43,931		53,931				53,931
	Excessive cost growth				[-10,000]						
018	DSSP EQUIPMENT		4,586		4,586		4,586				4,586
020	LCAC		11,013		11,013		11,013				11,013
021	UNDERWATER EOD EQUIPMENT		16,650		16,650		16,650				16,650
022	ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION		66,351		66,351		66,351				66,351
023	CHEMICAL WARFARE DETECTORS		3,254		3,254		3,254				3,254
	REACTOR PLANT EQUIPMENT										
024	SHIP MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND MODERNIZATION ...		2,392,190		2,397,190		2,392,190				2,392,190
	Water Purification				[5,000]						
026	REACTOR COMPONENTS		445,974		445,974		445,974				445,974
	OCEAN ENGINEERING										
027	DIVING AND SALVAGE EQUIPMENT		17,499		17,499		17,499				17,499
	SMALL BOATS										
028	STANDARD BOATS		400,892		275,892		400,892		-68,250		332,642
	Additional 40-foot patrol boats				[12,000]				[12,000]		
	Insufficient justification				[-125,000]				[-80,250]		
	Program decrease				[-12,000]						
	PRODUCTION FACILITIES EQUIPMENT										
029	OPERATING FORCES IPE		237,036		229,536		237,036		2,768		239,804
	Excessive cost growth				[-25,000]				[-14,732]		
	INDOPACOM Mission Network—INDOPACOM UPL				[17,500]				[17,500]		
	OTHER SHIP SUPPORT										
030	LCS COMMON MISSION MODULES EQUIPMENT		56,105		56,105		56,105				56,105
031	LCS MCM MISSION MODULES		118,247		98,247		118,247		-20,000		98,247
	Insufficient justification				[-20,000]				[-20,000]		
033	LCS SUW MISSION MODULES		11,101		7,701		11,101				11,101
	LCS SUW MM				[-3,400]						
034	LCS IN-SERVICE MODERNIZATION		205,571		160,571		205,571		-17,317		188,254
	Insufficient justification				[-30,000]				[-17,317]		
	Unjustified request				[-15,000]						
035	SMALL & MEDIUM UUV		48,780		63,780		60,680		5,500		54,280
	Accelerate Subsea and Seabed Warfare (SSW) ROV—Navy UFR						[11,900]		[5,500]		
	Torpedo tube launch and recovery capable UUVs				[15,000]						
	LOGISTIC SUPPORT										
036	LSD MIDLIFE & MODERNIZATION		56,667		56,667		56,667				56,667
	SHIP SONARS										
037	SPQ-9B RADAR		7,402		7,402		7,402				7,402
038	AN/SQ-89 SURF ASW COMBAT SYSTEM		134,637		134,637		134,637				134,637
039	SSN ACOUSTIC EQUIPMENT		502,115		487,115		502,115		-15,000		487,115
	Excessive cost growth				[-15,000]				[-15,000]		
040	UNDERSEA WARFARE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		16,731		16,731		16,731				16,731
	ASW ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT										
041	SUBMARINE ACOUSTIC WARFARE SYSTEM		55,484		55,484		55,484				55,484
042	SSTD		9,647		9,647		9,647				9,647
043	FIXED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM		405,854		405,854		428,854		23,000		428,854
	Persistent Targeting for Undersea						[23,000]		[23,000]		
044	SURTASS		45,975		45,975		45,975				45,975
	ELECTRONIC WARFARE EQUIPMENT										
045	AN/SQ-32		184,349		184,349		184,349				184,349
	RECONNAISSANCE EQUIPMENT										
046	SHIPBOARD IW EXPLOIT		362,099		362,099		362,099				362,099
047	AUTOMATED IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (AIS)		4,680		4,680		4,680				4,680
	OTHER SHIP ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT										
048	COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT CAPABILITY		26,644		26,644		26,644				26,644
049	NAVAL TACTICAL COMMAND SUPPORT SYSTEM (NTCSS)		13,614		13,614		13,614				13,614
050	ATDLS		68,458		68,458		68,458				68,458
051	NAVY COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM (NCCS)		3,645		3,645		3,645				3,645
052	MINESWEEPING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT		16,812		16,812		16,812				16,812
053	NAVSTAR GPS RECEIVERS (SPACE)		41,458		41,458		41,458				41,458
054	AMERICAN FORCES RADIO AND TV SERVICE		3,803		3,803		3,803				3,803
	AVIATION ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT										
056	ASHORE ATC EQUIPMENT		90,586		90,586		90,586				90,586
057	AFLOAT ATC EQUIPMENT		75,508		75,508		75,508				75,508

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
058	ID SYSTEMS		59,602		59,602		59,602				59,602
059	JOINT PRECISION APPROACH AND LANDING SYSTEM (7,287		7,287		7,287				7,287
060	NAVAL MISSION PLANNING SYSTEMS		46,106		36,106		46,106		-3,780		42,326
	Excessive cost growth				[-10,000]				[-3,780]		
	OTHER SHORE ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT										
061	MARITIME INTEGRATED BROADCAST SYSTEM		7,809		7,809		7,809				7,809
062	TACTICAL/MOBILE C4I SYSTEMS		65,113		65,113		65,113				65,113
063	DCGS-N		16,946		16,946		16,946				16,946
064	CANES		440,207		440,207		440,207				440,207
065	RADIAC		38,688		38,688		38,688				38,688
066	CANES-INTELL		50,654		50,654		50,654				50,654
067	GPETE		32,005		32,005		32,005				32,005
068	MASF		24,361		24,361		24,361				24,361
069	INTEG COMBAT SYSTEM TEST FACILITY		6,709		6,709		6,709				6,709
070	EMI CONTROL INSTRUMENTATION		4,081		4,081		4,081				4,081
072	IN-SERVICE RADARS AND SENSORS		228,910		228,910		228,910				228,910
	SHIPBOARD COMMUNICATIONS										
073	BATTLE FORCE TACTICAL NETWORK		104,119		79,119		104,119				104,119
	Excessive cost growth				[-25,000]						
074	SHIPBOARD TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS		24,602		24,602		24,602				24,602
075	SHIP COMMUNICATIONS AUTOMATION		103,546		103,546		105,046		[1,500]		103,546
	Accelerate Fund NC3 Recapitalization and New Transmission Pathways—Navy UFR.										
076	COMMUNICATIONS ITEMS UNDER \$5M		9,209		9,209		9,209				9,209
	SUBMARINE COMMUNICATIONS										
077	SUBMARINE BROADCAST SUPPORT		136,846		111,846		147,546		-7,379		129,467
	Accelerate Fund NC3 Recapitalization and New Transmission Pathways—Navy UFR.						[10,700]				
	Excessive cost growth				[-25,000]				[-7,379]		
078	SUBMARINE COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT		68,334		68,334		73,834		[5,500]		68,334
	Accelerate Fund NC3 Recapitalization and New Transmission Pathways—Navy UFR.										
	SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS										
079	SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS		59,745		59,745		59,745				59,745
080	NAVY MULTIBAND TERMINAL (NMT)		163,071		100,071		163,071				163,071
	Excessive cost growth				[-63,000]						
	SHORE COMMUNICATIONS										
081	JOINT COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT ELEMENT (JCSE)		4,551		4,551		4,551				4,551
	CRYPTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT										
082	INFO SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM (ISSP)		162,008		162,008		162,008				162,008
083	MIO INTEL EXPLOITATION TEAM		1,100		1,100		1,100				1,100
	CRYPTOLOGIC EQUIPMENT										
084	CRYPTOLOGIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIP		15,506		15,506		15,506				15,506
	OTHER ELECTRONIC SUPPORT										
095	COAST GUARD EQUIPMENT		58,213		58,213		58,213				58,213
	SONOBOUOYS										
097	SONOBOUOYS—ALL TYPES		323,441		348,441		323,441		25,000		348,441
	Additional Sonobouys				[25,000]				[25,000]		
	AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
098	MINOTAUR		5,431		5,431		5,431				5,431
099	WEAPONS RANGE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		138,062		138,062		138,062				138,062
100	AIRCRAFT SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		121,108		121,108		121,108				121,108
101	ADVANCED ARRESTING GEAR (AAG)		2,244		2,244		2,244				2,244
102	ELECTROMAGNETIC AIRCRAFT LAUNCH SYSTEM (EMALS)		14,702		14,702		14,702				14,702
103	METEOROLOGICAL EQUIPMENT		17,982		17,982		17,982				17,982
104	AIRBORNE MCM		10,643		10,643		10,643				10,643
106	AVIATION SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		110,993		110,993		110,993				110,993
107	UMCS-UNMAN CARRIER AVIATION(UCA)MISSION CNTRL.		130,050		130,050		130,050				130,050
	SHIP GUN SYSTEM EQUIPMENT										
109	SHIP GUN SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT		6,416		6,416		6,416				6,416
	SHIP MISSILE SYSTEMS EQUIPMENT										
110	HARPOON SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		226		226		226				226
111	SHIP MISSILE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		381,473		331,473		381,473		-4,643		376,830
	Excessive cost growth				[-50,000]				[-4,643]		
112	TOMAHAWK SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		98,921		98,921		98,921				98,921
	FBM SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
113	STRATEGIC MISSILE SYSTEMS EQUIP		325,236		325,236		325,236				325,236
	ASW SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
114	SSN COMBAT CONTROL SYSTEMS		157,609		157,609		157,609				157,609
115	ASW SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		25,362		25,362		25,362				25,362
	OTHER ORDNANCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
116	EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EQUIP		26,725		26,725		26,725				26,725
117	DIRECTED ENERGY SYSTEMS		3,817		3,817		48,817		[45,000]		3,817
	HELIOS Long Lead Procurement										
118	ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION		3,193		3,193		3,193				3,193
	OTHER EXPENDABLE ORDNANCE										
119	ANTI-SHIP MISSILE DECAY SYSTEM		95,557		45,557		97,257		-5,663		89,894
	Accelerate Long Endurance Electronic Decoy (LEED)—Navy UFR.						[1,700]				

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Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
	Excessive cost growth				[-50,000]						[-5,663]
120	SUBMARINE TRAINING DEVICE MODS		80,248		80,248		80,248				80,248
121	SURFACE TRAINING EQUIPMENT		179,974		179,974		179,974				179,974
	CIVIL ENGINEERING SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
122	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES		3,751		3,751		3,751				3,751
123	GENERAL PURPOSE TRUCKS		5,795		5,795		5,795				5,795
124	CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE EQUIP		80,260		80,260		80,260				80,260
125	FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT		26,199		26,199		26,199				26,199
126	TACTICAL VEHICLES		50,878		50,878		50,878				50,878
127	AMPHIBIOUS EQUIPMENT		6,454		6,454		6,454				6,454
128	POLLUTION CONTROL EQUIPMENT		3,924		3,924		3,924				3,924
129	ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION		103,014		78,014		103,014				103,014
	Excessive cost growth				[-25,000]						
130	PHYSICAL SECURITY VEHICLES		1,301		1,301		1,301				1,301
	SUPPLY SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
131	SUPPLY EQUIPMENT		56,585		46,585		56,585				56,585
	Excessive cost growth				[-10,000]						
132	FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION		5,863		5,863		5,863				5,863
133	SPECIAL PURPOSE SUPPLY SYSTEMS		954,467		954,467		954,467				892,335
	Classified adjustment										[-62,132]
	TRAINING DEVICES										
134	TRAINING SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		5,341		5,341		5,341				5,341
135	TRAINING AND EDUCATION EQUIPMENT		75,626		75,626		75,626				75,626
	COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
136	COMMAND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		29,698		29,698		29,698				29,698
137	MEDICAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		10,122		10,122		10,122				10,122
139	NAVAL MIP SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		6,590		6,590		6,590				6,590
140	OPERATING FORCES SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		17,056		17,056		17,056				17,056
141	C4ISR EQUIPMENT		33,606		18,606		33,606				33,606
	Excessive cost growth				[-15,000]						
142	ENVIRONMENTAL SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		47,499		47,499		47,499				47,499
143	PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT		129,484		119,484		129,484				129,484
	Excessive cost growth				[-10,000]						
144	ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY		42,026		42,026		42,026				42,026
	OTHER										
149	NEXT GENERATION ENTERPRISE SERVICE		130,100		130,100		130,100				130,100
150	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES		2,195		2,195		2,195				2,195
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS										
151A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS		16,134		16,134		16,134				16,134
	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS										
152	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		705,144		705,144		705,144				705,144
153	VIRGINIA CLASS (VACL) SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		578,277		578,277		578,277				578,277
	TOTAL OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY		15,877,253		15,283,353		15,976,553				-240,574
	PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS										
	TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES										
001	AAV7A1 PIP		2,773		2,773		2,773				2,773
002	AMPHIBIOUS COMBAT VEHICLE FAMILY OF VEHICLES	104	810,276	104	526,276	104	810,276			104	810,276
	Red Stripe limitation/cost growth				[-284,000]						
003	LAV PIP		761		761		761				761
	ARTILLERY AND OTHER WEAPONS										
004	155MM LIGHTWEIGHT TOWED HOWITZER		1,823		1,823		1,823				1,823
005	ARTILLERY WEAPONS SYSTEM		139,477		139,477		139,477				139,477
006	WEAPONS AND COMBAT VEHICLES UNDER \$5 MIL- LION. Marine Corps realignment—reducible height gunner protection kits.		18,481		18,481		25,631				18,481
											[7,150]
	GUIDED MISSILES										
007	TOMAHAWK	22	115,232	22	115,232	22	115,232			22	115,232
008	NAVAL STRIKE MISSILE (NSM)	90	144,682	90	144,682	90	144,682			90	144,682
009	NAVAL STRIKE MISSILE (NSM) AP		30,087		30,087		30,087				30,087
010	GROUND BASED AIR DEFENSE		369,296		333,296		369,296				364,296
	Excessive missile costs				[-5,000]						[-5,000]
	Forward financed in FY24				[-31,000]						
011	ANTI-ARMOR MISSILE-JAVELIN	123	61,563	123	61,563	123	61,563				60,665
	Guided missiles unit cost growth										[-898]
012	FAMILY ANTI-ARMOR WEAPON SYSTEMS (FOAAWS)		9,521		9,521		9,521				9,521
013	ANTI-ARMOR MISSILE-TOW		1,868		1,868		1,868				1,868
014	GUIDED MLRS ROCKET (GMLRS)	6	1,584	6	1,584	6	1,584			6	1,584
	COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEMS										
015	COMMON AVIATION COMMAND AND CONTROL SYS- TEM (C. REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT		84,764		84,764		84,764				84,764
016	REPAIR AND TEST EQUIPMENT		71,023		71,023		81,023				71,023
	Goalkeeper Long Lead						[10,000]				
	OTHER SUPPORT (TEL)										
017	MODIFICATION KITS		1,559		1,559		1,559				1,559
	COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM (NON-TEL)										
018	ITEMS UNDER \$5 MILLION (COMM & ELEC)		221,212		172,112		221,212				221,212
	Lack of testing program with Squad Aiming Laser.				[-49,100]						

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Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
019	AIR OPERATIONS C2 SYSTEMS		20,385		20,385		20,385				20,385
	RADAR + EQUIPMENT (NON-TEL)										
020	GROUND/AIR TASK ORIENTED RADAR (G/ATOR)		71,941		71,941		71,941				71,941
	INTELL/COMM EQUIPMENT (NON-TEL)										
021	ELECTRO MAGNETIC SPECTRUM OPERATIONS (EMSO) Marine Corps realignment		182,465		53,465		[-182,465]		[-182,465]		
	Program decrease				[-129,000]						
022	GCSS-MC		3,282		3,282		3,282				3,282
023	FIRE SUPPORT SYSTEM		56,710		56,710		56,710				56,710
024	INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		128,804		106,304		128,804		[-21,885]		106,919
	Excess Advanced Signals Processor				[-22,500]				[-21,885]		
026	UNMANNED AIR SYSTEMS (INTEL)		59,077		59,077		59,077				59,077
027	DCGS-MC		81,507		81,507		81,507				81,507
028	UAS PAYLOADS		17,232		17,232		17,232				17,232
	OTHER SUPPORT (NON-TEL)										
031	EXPEDITIONARY SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		15,042		15,042		15,042				15,042
032	MARINE CORPS ENTERPRISE NETWORK (MCEN)		283,983		263,583		303,983		[-15,400]		268,583
	Expansion of secure 5G Open RAN						[20,000]		[5,000]		
	Network Transport Excess Growth				[-20,400]				[-20,400]		
033	COMMON COMPUTER RESOURCES		25,793		25,793		25,793		[-4,195]		21,598
	Prior year underexecution								[-4,195]		
034	COMMAND POST SYSTEMS		59,113		59,113		59,113				59,113
035	RADIO SYSTEMS		258,818		258,818		258,818		[-13,498]		245,320
	MCMP RIT Dismounted Radio contract award delay.								[-13,498]		
036	COMM SWITCHING & CONTROL SYSTEMS		39,390		39,390		39,390				39,390
037	COMM & ELEC INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT		21,015		21,015		21,015				21,015
038	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES		19,245		19,245		19,245				19,245
040	UNMANNED EXPEDITIONARY SYSTEMS		16,305		16,305		16,305				16,305
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS										
041A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS		3,266		3,266		3,266				3,266
	ADMINISTRATIVE VEHICLES										
042	COMMERCIAL CARGO VEHICLES		26,800		26,800		26,800				26,800
	TACTICAL VEHICLES										
043	MOTOR TRANSPORT MODIFICATIONS		17,304		17,304		17,304				17,304
044	JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE	672	340,542	672	223,142	672	238,842		[-16,484]	672	324,058
	Contract savings								[-16,484]		
	Fielding delay schedule impact				[-7,400]						
	Joint Light Tactical Vehicle reduction						[-101,700]				
	Material schedule impact to M2/Ukraine forward funded.				[-101,700]						
	Schedule delay trailer impact				[-8,300]						
045	TRAILERS		27,440		27,440		27,440				27,440
	ENGINEER AND OTHER EQUIPMENT										
046	TACTICAL FUEL SYSTEMS		29,252		29,252		29,252		[-4,138]		25,114
	Unjustified request								[-4,138]		
047	POWER EQUIPMENT ASSORTED		23,411		23,411		23,411				23,411
048	AMPHIBIOUS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		11,366		11,366		11,366				11,366
049	EOD SYSTEMS		30,166		30,166		30,166				30,166
	MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT										
050	PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT		56,749		56,749		56,749		[-8,092]		48,657
	Prior year underexecution								[-8,092]		
	GENERAL PROPERTY										
051	FIELD MEDICAL EQUIPMENT		23,651		23,651		35,651				23,651
	Medical Equipment Modernization—USMC UFR						[12,000]				
052	TRAINING DEVICES		105,448		105,448		105,448		[-7,871]		97,577
	FoFTS-Next MCTIS-V training system previously funded.								[-7,871]		
053	FAMILY OF CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT		29,168		29,168		29,168				29,168
054	ULTRA-LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE (ULTV)		17,954		17,954		17,954				17,954
	OTHER SUPPORT										
055	ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION		26,508		26,508		26,508				26,508
	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS										
056	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		28,749		28,749		28,749				28,749
	TOTAL PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS	1,017	4,243,863	1,017	3,585,463	1,017	4,008,848		-279,926	1,017	3,963,937
	AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE										
	STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE										
001	B-21 RAIDER		1,956,668		1,956,668		2,158,168				1,956,668
	Program increase						[201,500]				
002	B-21 RAIDER AP		721,600		721,600		721,600				721,600
	TACTICAL FORCES										
003	F-35	42	4,474,156	36	4,012,456	42	4,474,156		[-345,297]	42	4,128,859
	APG-81 Radars (Qty 34)				[138,300]						
	Correction of F-35 program deficiencies				[-6]		[-600,000]				
	Excess cost growth								[-345,297]		
004	F-35 AP		482,584		482,584		482,584				482,584
005	F-15EX	18	1,808,472	18	1,808,472	24	2,498,472	6	600,000	24	2,408,472
	Procure 6 x F-15 EX Aircraft—NGB UFR						[6]	[690,000]	[6]	[600,000]	
006	F-15EX AP				271,000						

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Table with columns: Line, Item, FY 2025 Request (Qty, Cost), House Authorized (Qty, Cost), Senate Authorized (Qty, Cost), Conference Change (Qty, Cost), Conference Authorized (Qty, Cost). Rows include various aircraft models like TACTICAL AIRLIFT, UPT TRAINERS, and STRATEGIC AIRCRAFT.

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Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
	Support costs excess growth								[-4,823]		
063	OTHER AIRCRAFT		55,122		55,122		55,122				55,122
064	OTHER AIRCRAFT AP		5,216		5,216		5,216				5,216
065	MQ-9 MODS		12,351		40,351		12,351				12,351
	MQ-9 Multi-Domain Operations (M200) Kits ...				[28,000]						
066	SENIOR LEADER C3 SYSTEM—AIRCRAFT		25,001		25,001		25,001				25,001
067	CV-22 MODS		42,795		42,795		42,795				42,795
	AIRCRAFT SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS										
068	INITIAL SPARES/REPAIR PARTS		936,212		936,212		1,034,531		167,319		1,103,531
	C-40 Fleet Expansion reductions						[-10,000]		[-10,000]		
	Fighter Force Re-Optimization (+208 PMAI a/ c)—AF UFR.						[108,319]		[108,319]		
	Program increase: F-100 ANG engines for F-16.								[69,000]		
	COMMON SUPPORT EQUIPMENT										
069	AIRCRAFT REPLACEMENT SUPPORT EQUIP		162,813		162,813		198,694		35,881		198,694
	Fighter Force Re-Optimization (+208 PMAI a/ c)—AF UFR.						[35,881]		[35,881]		
	POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT										
070	OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES		15,031		15,031		15,031				15,031
072	B-2A		1,885		1,885		1,885				1,885
073	B-2B		15,709		15,709		15,709				15,709
076	CV-22 POST PRODUCTION SUPPORT		12,025		12,025		12,025				12,025
079	F-16		11,501		11,501		11,501				11,501
080	F-16		867		867		867				867
082	HC/MC-130 MODIFICATIONS		18,604		18,604		18,604				18,604
	INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS										
085	INDUSTRIAL RESPONSIVENESS		20,004		20,004		20,004				20,004
	WAR CONSUMABLES										
086	WAR CONSUMABLES		25,908		25,908		25,908				25,908
	OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES										
087	OTHER PRODUCTION CHARGES		1,006,272		1,006,272		1,504,872		498,600		1,504,872
	Classified adjustment						[498,600]		[498,600]		
092	F-15EX		40,084		40,084		40,084				40,084
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS										
092A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS		16,359		16,359		16,359				16,359
	TOTAL AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE.	121	19,835,430	118	19,604,941	133	21,961,828	11	1,585,517	132	21,420,947
	MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE										
	MISSILE REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT—BALLISTIC										
001	MISSILE REPLACEMENT EQ-BALLISTIC		37,333		37,333		37,333				37,333
	BALLISTIC MISSILES										
003	MK21A REENTRY VEHICLE		26,156		26,156		26,156				26,156
	STRATEGIC										
004	LONG RANGE STAND-OFF WEAPON		70,335		70,335		70,335				70,335
005	LONG RANGE STAND-OFF WEAPON AP		140,000		140,000		140,000				140,000
	TACTICAL										
006	REPLAC EQUIP & WAR CONSUMABLES		6,533		6,533		6,533				6,533
007	JOINT AIR-SURFACE STANDOFF MISSILE	550	825,051	550	825,051	810	1,161,451			550	825,051
	JASSM max production (+260)					[260]	[336,400]				
009	JOINT STRIKE MISSILE	50	165,909	50	165,909	84	259,909			50	165,909
	FY25 JSM max executable production (+34)— INDOPACOM UFR.					[34]	[94,000]				
010	LRASMO	115	354,100	115	354,100	150	609,100			115	354,100
	FY25 LRASM/JASSM sub-tier supplier expansion						[150,000]				
	LRASM max production (+35)—INDOPACOM UFR.					[35]	[105,000]				
012	SIDEWINDER (AIM-9X)	147	107,101	147	107,101	147	107,101			147	107,101
013	AMRAAM	462	447,373	462	447,373	462	497,373			462	447,373
	AIM-120D AMRAAM for D3 DMS						[50,000]				
016	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB	604	42,257	604	42,257	604	102,257			604	42,257
	SDB I						[60,000]				
017	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB II	868	328,382	868	328,382	868	431,859		-3,472	868	324,910
	SDB II—Marine Corps UFR						[103,477]				
	Unjustified growth								[-3,472]		
018	STAND-IN ATTACK WEAPON (SIAW)	128	173,421	128	173,421	128	173,421			128	173,421
	INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES										
019	INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS/POL PREVENTION		913		913		200,913				913
	JPAC supplier base investments						[100,000]				
	Munitions supplier base program (MCEIP) [SRMs, ball bearings, PCBs, etc].						[100,000]				
	CLASS IV										
020	ICBM FUZE MOD		104,039		104,039		104,039				104,039
021	ICBM FUZE MOD AP		40,336		40,336		40,336				40,336
022	MM III MODIFICATIONS		24,212		24,212		24,212				24,212
023	AIR LAUNCH CRUISE MISSILE (ALCM)		34,019		34,019		34,019				34,019
	MISSILE SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS										
024	MSL SPRS/REPAIR PARTS (INITIAL)		6,956		6,956		6,956				6,956
025	MSL SPRS/REPAIR PARTS (REPLEN)		103,543		103,543		103,543				103,543

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Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized		
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	
	SPECIAL PROGRAMS											
028	SPECIAL UPDATE PROGRAMS		628,436		628,436		628,436				628,436	
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS											
028A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS		707,204		707,204		707,204		-49,000		658,204	
	Classified adjustment								[-49,000]			
	TOTAL MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE	2,924	4,373,609	2,924	4,373,609	3,253	5,472,486		-52,472	2,924	4,321,137	
	PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE											
	CARTRIDGES											
002	CARTRIDGES		123,034		123,034		123,034		-6,331		116,703	
	Program reduction								[-6,331]			
	BOMBS											
003	GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS		144,725		144,725		144,725		-10,000		134,725	
	Program reduction								[-10,000]			
004	MASSIVE ORDNANCE PENETRATOR (MOP)		8,566		8,566		8,566				8,566	
005	JOINT DIRECT ATTACK MUNITION	1,500	125,268	1,500	125,268	1,500	232,601			1,500	125,268	
	JDAM increase						[107,333]					
007	B61-12 TRAINER		11,665		11,665		11,665				11,665	
	OTHER ITEMS											
008	CAD/PAD		40,487		40,487		40,487				40,487	
009	EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD)		7,076		7,076		7,076				7,076	
010	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		617		617		617				617	
011	FIRST DESTINATION TRANSPORTATION		2,894		2,894		2,894				2,894	
012	ITEMS LESS THAN \$5,000,000		5,399		5,399		5,399				5,399	
	FLARES											
013	EXPENDABLE COUNTERMEASURES		99,769		99,769		99,769		-4,528		95,241	
	Unjustified growth								[-4,528]			
	FUZES											
014	FUZES		114,664		114,664		114,664				114,664	
	SMALL ARMS											
015	SMALL ARMS		25,311		25,311		25,311				25,311	
	TOTAL PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE.	1,500	709,475	1,500	709,475	1,500	816,808		-20,859	1,500	688,616	
	PROCUREMENT, SPACE FORCE											
	SPACE PROCUREMENT, SF											
001	AF SATELLITE COMM SYSTEM		65,656		65,656		65,656				65,656	
003	COUNTERSPACE SYSTEMS		4,277		4,277		4,277				4,277	
004	FAMILY OF BEYOND LINE-OF-SIGHT TERMINALS		17,264		17,264		17,264				17,264	
005	FABT FORCE ELEMENT TERMINAL		234,655		234,655		234,655				234,655	
006	WIDEBAND CAPFILLER SATELLITES(SPAC)		10,020		10,020		10,020				10,020	
007	GENERAL INFORMATION TECH—SPACE		2,189		2,189		2,189				2,189	
008	GPSIII FOLLOW ON	2	647,165	1	323,565	2	647,165		-2		323,565	
	Early to need			[-1]	[-323,600]				[-1]		[-323,600]	
009	GPS III SPACE SEGMENT		68,205		68,205		68,205				68,205	
010	GLOBAL POSITIONING (SPACE)		835		835		835				835	
014	SPACEBORNE EQUIP (COMSEC)		83,829		83,829		83,829				83,829	
015	MILSATCOM		37,684		37,684		37,684				37,684	
017	SPECIAL SPACE ACTIVITIES		658,007		658,007		658,007				658,007	
018	MOBILE USER OBJECTIVE SYSTEM		51,601		51,601		51,601				51,601	
019	NATIONAL SECURITY SPACE LAUNCH	7	1,847,486	7	1,847,486	7	1,847,486		-145,058	7	1,702,428	
	Acquisition strategy savings								[-13,500]			
	NSSL program savings								[-131,558]			
021	PTES HUB	12	56,148	12	56,148	12	56,148			12	56,148	
023	SPACE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY LAUNCH	4	357,178	4	357,178	4	357,178			4	357,178	
024	SPACE MODS		48,152		48,152		48,152				48,152	
025	SPACELIFT RANGE SYSTEM SPACE		63,798		63,798		63,798				63,798	
	SPARES											
026	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		722		722		722				722	
	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES											
027	USSF REPLACEMENT VEHICLES		4,919		4,919		4,919				4,919	
	SUPPORT EQUIPMENT											
028	POWER CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT		3,189		3,189		12,576				3,189	
	UPS Resiliency—Space Force UFR						[9,387]					
	TOTAL PROCUREMENT, SPACE FORCE	25	4,262,979	24	3,939,379	25	4,272,366		-2	-468,658	23	3,794,321
	OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE											
	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES											
001	PASSENGER CARRYING VEHICLES		6,802		6,802		6,802				6,802	
	CARGO AND UTILITY VEHICLES											
002	MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLE		4,526		4,526		4,526				4,526	
003	CAP VEHICLES		1,151		1,151		1,151				1,151	
004	CARGO AND UTILITY VEHICLES		41,605		41,605		55,605				41,605	
	Protection Level One Armored Utility Vehicles for intercontinental ballistic missile security mission.					[50]	[14,000]					
	SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES											
005	JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE		69,546		69,546		69,546				69,546	
006	SECURITY AND TACTICAL VEHICLES		438		438		438				438	
007	SPECIAL PURPOSE VEHICLES		99,057		99,057		99,057				99,057	

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Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT											
008	FIRE FIGHTING/CRASH RESCUE VEHICLES		57,234		57,234		57,234				57,234
MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT											
009	MATERIALS HANDLING VEHICLES		22,949		22,949		22,949				22,949
BASE MAINTENANCE SUPPORT											
010	RUNWAY SNOW REMOV AND CLEANING EQU		7,476		7,476		7,476				7,476
011	BASE MAINTENANCE SUPPORT VEHICLES		91,001		91,001		91,001				91,001
COMM SECURITY EQUIPMENT(COMSEC)											
012	COMSEC EQUIPMENT		63,233		63,233		63,233				63,233
013	STRATEGIC MICROELECTRONIC SUPPLY SYSTEM		328,667		323,667		328,667		-5,000		323,667
	Program decrease				[-5,000]				[-5,000]		
INTELLIGENCE PROGRAMS											
014	INTERNATIONAL INTEL TECH & ARCHITECTURES		5,616		5,616		5,616				5,616
015	INTELLIGENCE TRAINING EQUIPMENT		5,146		5,146		5,146				5,146
016	INTELLIGENCE COMM EQUIPMENT		36,449		36,449		36,449				36,449
ELECTRONICS PROGRAMS											
017	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL & LANDING SYS		45,820		45,820		45,820				45,820
018	NATIONAL AIRSPACE SYSTEM		13,443		13,443		13,443				13,443
019	BATTLE CONTROL SYSTEM—FIXED		22,764		22,764		22,764				22,764
020	THEATER AIR CONTROL SYS IMPROVEMEN		73,412		73,412		73,412				73,412
021	3D EXPEDITIONARY LONG-RANGE RADAR		96,022		96,022		96,022				96,022
022	WEATHER OBSERVATION FORECAST		31,056		31,056		31,056				31,056
023	STRATEGIC COMMAND AND CONTROL		49,991		49,991		49,991				49,991
024	CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN COMPLEX		8,897		8,897		8,897				8,897
025	MISSION PLANNING SYSTEMS		18,474		18,474		18,474				18,474
027	STRATEGIC MISSION PLANNING & EXECUTION SYS- TEM.		7,376		7,376		7,376				7,376
SPCL COMM-ELECTRONICS PROJECTS											
028	GENERAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY		161,928		161,928		161,928				161,928
029	AF GLOBAL COMMAND & CONTROL SYS		1,946		1,946		1,946				1,946
030	BATTLEFIELD AIRBORNE CONTROL NODE (BACN)		5		5		5				5
031	MOBILITY COMMAND AND CONTROL		11,435		11,435		11,435				11,435
032	AIR FORCE PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEM		254,106		254,106		354,106		50,000		304,106
	Counter uncrewed systems for Africa Com- mand.						[100,000]		[50,000]		
033	COMBAT TRAINING RANGES		290,877		298,377		290,877		7,500		298,377
	Infrastructure and communications upgrades ..				[7,500]				[7,500]		
034	MINIMUM ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY COMM N		60,639		60,639		60,639				60,639
035	WIDE AREA SURVEILLANCE (WAS)		13,945		13,945		13,945				13,945
036	C3 COUNTERMEASURES		100,594		100,594		100,594				100,594
037	DEFENSE ENTERPRISE ACCOUNTING & MGT SYS		1,236		1,236		1,236				1,236
039	THEATER BATTLE MGT C2 SYSTEM		433		433		433				433
040	AIR & SPACE OPERATIONS CENTER (AOC)		21,175		21,175		21,175				21,175
AIR FORCE COMMUNICATIONS											
041	BASE INFORMATION TRANSPRT INFRASTR (BITI) WIRED		201,670		201,670		201,670				201,670
042	AFNET		69,807		69,807		69,807				69,807
043	JOINT COMMUNICATIONS SUPPORT ELEMENT (JCSE)		5,821		5,821		5,821				5,821
044	USCENTCOM		19,498		19,498		19,498				19,498
045	USSTRATCOM		4,797		4,797		4,797				4,797
046	USSPACECOM		79,783		79,783		106,856				79,783
	Consolidated Space Operations Facility (CSOF) Procurement—SPACECOM UFR.						[27,073]				
ORGANIZATION AND BASE											
047	TACTICAL C-E EQUIPMENT		139,153		139,153		139,153				139,153
048	COMBAT SURVIVOR EVADER LOCATER		2,222		2,222		2,222				2,222
049	RADIO EQUIPMENT		53,568		53,568		53,568				53,568
050	BASE COMM INFRASTRUCTURE		60,744		60,744		60,744				60,744
MODIFICATIONS											
051	COMM ELECT MODS		73,147		73,147		73,147				73,147
PERSONAL SAFETY & RESCUE EQUIP											
052	PERSONAL SAFETY AND RESCUE EQUIPMENT		109,562		109,562		109,562				109,562
DEPOT PLANT+MTRLS HANDLING EQ											
053	POWER CONDITIONING EQUIPMENT		13,443		13,443		13,443				13,443
054	MECHANIZED MATERIAL HANDLING EQUIP		20,459		20,459		20,459				20,459
BASE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT											
055	BASE PROCURED EQUIPMENT		79,854		79,854		79,854				79,854
056	ENGINEERING AND EOD EQUIPMENT		203,531		203,531		203,531				203,531
057	MOBILITY EQUIPMENT		112,280		112,280		112,280				112,280
058	FUELS SUPPORT EQUIPMENT (FSE)		24,563		24,563		24,563				24,563
059	BASE MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT		54,455		54,455		58,205		3,750		58,205
	Fighter Force Re-Optimization (+208 PMAI a/ c)—AF UFR.						[3,750]		[3,750]		
SPECIAL SUPPORT PROJECTS											
061	DARP RC135		29,524		29,524		29,524				29,524
062	DCGS-AF		59,504		59,504		59,504				59,504
064	SPECIAL UPDATE PROGRAM		1,269,904		1,169,904		1,397,304		127,400		1,397,304
	Classified adjustment						[127,400]		[127,400]		
	Expenditure delays				[-100,000]						
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS											
064A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS		25,476,312		25,476,312		25,476,312		-428,233		25,048,079

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
	Classified adjustment										[-428,233]
	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS										
065	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS (CYBER)		1,056		1,056		1,056				1,056
066	SPARES AND REPAIR PARTS		7,637		7,637		7,637				7,637
	TOTAL OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE ...		30,298,764		30,201,264		30,570,987		-244,583		30,054,181
	PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE										
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, OSD										
001	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DPAA	10	518	10	518	10	518			10	518
002	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, OSD		184,095		184,095		184,095				184,095
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, WHS										
007	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, WHS		374		374		374				374
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DISA										
008	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY		25,392		25,392		25,392				25,392
009	TELEPORT PROGRAM		27,451		27,451		27,451		-1,603		25,848
	Teleport excess growth								[-1,603]		
011	ITEMS LESS THAN \$5 MILLION		25,499		25,499		25,499				25,499
012	DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEM NETWORK		68,786		68,786		68,786				68,786
013	WHITE HOUSE COMMUNICATION AGENCY		116,320		116,320		116,320				116,320
014	SENIOR LEADERSHIP ENTERPRISE		54,278		54,278		54,278				54,278
015	JOINT REGIONAL SECURITY STACKS (JRSS)		17,213		12,213		17,213				14,710
	Program decrease				[-5,000]						[-2,503]
016	JOINT SERVICE PROVIDER		50,462		50,462		50,462	11000		11,000	61,462
	OSD requested transfer from RTE,DW line 94							[-11,000]		[11,000]	
017	FOURTH ESTATE NETWORK OPTIMIZATION (4ENO)		24,482		24,482		24,482				24,482
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DLA										
024	MAJOR EQUIPMENT		53,777		53,777		53,777				53,777
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DCSA										
025	MAJOR EQUIPMENT		2,191		2,191		2,191				2,191
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, TJS										
026	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, TJS		16,345		16,345		16,345				16,345
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY										
027	THAAD	12	246,995	12	246,995	12	246,995			12	246,995
028	GROUND BASED MIDCOURSE		20,796		20,796		20,796				20,796
029	AEGIS BMD		85,000	18	185,000		457,639		250,000		335,000
	Program decrease—spares				[-85,000]						
	Program increase—restore SM-3 IB production			[18]	[185,000]						
	Restore SM-3 IB production						[372,639]		[250,000]		
030	BMDS AN/TPY-2 RADARS		57,130		57,130		233,230				230,800
	AN/TPY-2 Antenna Equipment Unit (AEU)—MDA UFR.						[176,100]		[176,100]		
	Unjustified growth										[-2,430]
031	SM-3 IAS	12	406,370	12	406,370	12	471,370		65,000	12	471,370
	Expand SM-3 IIA production capacity to 36/yr						[65,000]		[65,000]		
032	ARROW 3 UPPER TIER SYSTEMS	1	50,000	1	50,000	1	50,000			1	50,000
033	SHORT RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE (SRBMD)	1	40,000	1	40,000	1	40,000			1	40,000
034	DEFENSE OF GUAM PROCUREMENT		22,602		23,402		23,402				22,602
	Guam Defense System—INDOPACOM UPL				[800]						
	Guam Defense System (GDS)						[800]				
036	IRON DOME	1	110,000	1	110,000	1	110,000			1	110,000
037	AEGIS BMD HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE	1	32,040	1	32,040	1	32,040			1	32,040
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DHRA										
038	PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION		3,717		3,717		3,717				3,717
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY										
041	VEHICLES		2,754		2,754		2,754				2,754
042	OTHER MAJOR EQUIPMENT		8,783		8,783		8,783				8,783
043	DTRA CYBER ACTIVITIES		3,429		3,429		3,429				3,429
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DODEA										
044	AUTOMATION/EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT & LOGISTICS		1,360		1,360		1,360				1,360
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, DMACT										
045	MAJOR EQUIPMENT		7,332		7,332		7,332				7,332
	MAJOR EQUIPMENT, USCYBERCOM										
046	CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS		69,066		69,066		69,066				69,066
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS										
046A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS		599,781		598,781		599,781				593,331
	Classified adjustment										[-6,450]
	Program reduction				[-1,000]						[-6,450]
	AVIATION PROGRAMS										
047	ARMED OVERWATCH/TARGETING	12	335,487	12	335,487	12	335,487			12	315,487
	Program decrease — armed overwatch										[-20,000]
048	MANNED ISR		2,500		2,500		2,500				2,500
049	MC-12		400		400		400				400
050	ROTARY WING UPGRADES AND SUSTAINMENT		220,301		218,678		243,074			22,773	243,074
	MH-60 upgrades unit cost growth				[-1,623]						
	MH-60M OCONUS aircraft loss mods and MEP—SOCOM UFR.						[22,773]		[22,773]		
051	UNMANNED ISR		41,717		41,717		41,717				37,817
	Long endurance aircraft contract delay										[-3,900]
052	NON-STANDARD AVIATION		7,942		7,942		7,942				7,942

SEC. 4101. PROCUREMENT
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request		House Authorized		Senate Authorized		Conference Change		Conference Authorized	
		Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost	Qty	Cost
053	U-28		5,259		5,259		5,259				5,259
054	MH-47 CHINOOK		157,413		147,265		157,413		-10,148		147,265
	MH-47 unjustified GFE cost growth				[-10,148]				[-10,148]		
055	CV-22 MODIFICATION		49,403		49,403		49,403				49,403
056	MQ-9 UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE		19,123		19,123		19,123				19,123
057	PRECISION STRIKE PACKAGE		69,917		69,917		69,917				69,917
058	AC/MC-130J		300,892		300,892		300,892		-1,074		299,818
	Program decrease - SOF Common TFITA SKR ..								[-1,074]		
	SHIPBUILDING										
060	UNDERWATER SYSTEMS		63,850		70,850		63,850		7,000		70,850
	Deep Submergence Collective Propulsion				[7,000]				[7,000]		
	AMMUNITION PROGRAMS										
061	ORDNANCE ITEMS <\$5M		139,078		139,078		139,078				139,078
	OTHER PROCUREMENT PROGRAMS										
062	INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS		205,814		205,001		205,814				205,814
	UAS unit growth				[-813]						
063	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS		3,918		3,918		3,918				3,918
064	OTHER ITEMS <\$5M		79,015		79,015		79,015				79,015
065	COMBATANT CRAFT SYSTEMS		66,455		78,455		73,455	2	7,000		73,455
	Combatant Craft Assault			[3]	[12,000]			[2]	[7,000]		
	Combatant Craft Assault—Three additional craft.										
066	SPECIAL PROGRAMS		20,822		20,822		20,822				20,822
067	TACTICAL VEHICLES		53,016		42,749		53,016				53,016
	JLTV unit cost growth				[-4,504]						
	NSCV unit cost growth				[-5,763]						
068	WARRIOR SYSTEMS <\$5M		358,257		388,915		402,757		61,850		420,107
	Blast Exposure Monitoring (BEMO) Systems Acceleration.				[7,350]				[7,350]		
	Counter Uncrewed Systems—SOCOM UFR						[44,500]		[44,500]		
	NGTC Manpack CERP cost growth				[-1,274]						
	On The Move Satellite Communication Terminals.				[30,300]				[10,000]		
	RAA-VAK				[-3,005]						
	VAS Lasers unit cost growth				[-2,713]						
069	COMBAT MISSION REQUIREMENTS		4,988		4,988		4,988				4,988
070	OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS INTELLIGENCE		23,715		23,715		23,715				23,715
071	OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS		317,092		317,092		327,837		10,745		327,837
	Loitering Munition Accelerated Fielding and Reliability Testing Acceleration—SOCOM UFR.						[10,745]		[10,745]		
	CBDP										
072	CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL SITUATIONAL AWARENESS		215,038		215,038		215,038		-25,515		189,523
	Program decrease - execution risk								[-25,515]		
073	CB PROTECTION & HAZARD MITIGATION		211,001		211,001		211,001				211,001
	TOTAL PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE	50	5,406,751	71	5,528,358	50	6,106,308	11,002	537,845	11,052	5,944,596
	TOTAL PROCUREMENT	16,260	166,377,384	16,445	163,610,293	17,224	176,362,449	11,211	1,472,104	27,471	167,849,488

TITLE XLII—RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION

SEC. 4201. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION.

SEC. 4201. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program Element	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
		RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, ARMY					
		BASIC RESEARCH					
001	0601102A	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	310,191	310,191	311,191	1,000	311,191
		Modeling and simulation environments for weapons system innovation.			[1,000]	[1,000]	
002	0601103A	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	78,166	78,166	78,166		78,166
003	0601104A	UNIVERSITY AND INDUSTRY RESEARCH CENTERS	109,726	112,726	109,726	1,000	110,726
		Biotechnology Advancements		[3,000]		[1,000]	
004	0601121A	CYBER COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ALLIANCE	5,525	5,525	5,525		5,525
005	0601601A	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING BASIC RESEARCH.	10,309	10,309	10,309		10,309
		SUBTOTAL BASIC RESEARCH	513,917	516,917	514,917	2,000	515,917

SEC. 4201. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program Element	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
APPLIED RESEARCH							
006	0602002A	ARMY AGILE INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT-APPLIED RESEARCH.	8,032	8,032	8,032		8,032
007	0602134A	COUNTER IMPROVISED-THREAT ADVANCED STUDIES	6,163	6,163	6,163		6,163
008	0602141A	LETHALITY TECHNOLOGY	96,094	106,094	102,094	11,000	107,094
		Advanced materials and manufacturing for hypersonic systems.			[6,000]	[6,000]	
		Advanced Materials and Manufacturing for Modernization.		[2,500]			[2,500]
		Assured AI-based autonomous rescue missions		[2,500]			[2,500]
		Autonomous armaments technology for unmanned systems.		[2,500]			
		Overmatching the speed of battle		[2,500]			
010	0602143A	SOLDIER LETHALITY TECHNOLOGY	102,236	107,236	116,736	12,500	114,736
		Adaptive and intelligent adversary-threat models		[5,000]			
		Advanced textiles for extreme environments			[5,000]	[3,000]	
		Critical hybrid advanced materials processing			[2,000]	[2,000]	
		Pathfinder Air Assault program			[2,500]	[2,500]	
		Pathfinder Airborne program			[5,000]	[5,000]	
011	0602144A	GROUND TECHNOLOGY	66,707	67,707	73,707	11,500	78,207
		Accelerated carbonization soil stabilization			[5,000]	[4,000]	
		Engineered Roadway Repair Materials for Effective Maneuver of Military Assets.		[2,500]			[2,500]
		Isostatic Advanced Armor Production		[6,000]			[5,000]
		Program decrease		[-10,000]			
		Rapidly Deployable Field Stations for Extreme Polar Environments.		[2,500]			
		Roadway assessment and repair technologies			[1,000]		
		Smart concrete materials			[1,000]		
012	0602145A	NEXT GENERATION COMBAT VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY ..	149,108	158,108	154,108	9,000	158,108
		Lightweight autonomous vehicle prototype			[5,000]		
		Systems Engineering for Autonomous Ground Vehicles.		[9,000]			[9,000]
013	0602146A	NETWORK C3I TECHNOLOGY	84,576	94,076	84,576	2,000	86,576
		Man-portable doppler radar		[9,500]		[2,000]	
014	0602147A	LONG RANGE PRECISION FIRES TECHNOLOGY	32,089	59,589	82,089	35,000	67,089
		Advanced Manufacturing of Energetic Materials		[8,500]		[8,500]	
		Biosynthesizing critical chemicals			[50,000]	[12,500]	
		Low-Cost Missile Systems Development		[10,000]		[10,000]	
		Spectrum Dominance with Distributed Apertures		[9,000]		[4,000]	
015	0602148A	FUTURE VERTICLE LIFT TECHNOLOGY	52,685	55,185	52,685	2,500	55,185
		High density eVTOL power source development		[2,500]		[2,500]	
016	0602150A	AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY	39,188	39,188	41,188	2,000	41,188
		Counter-uncrewed aerial systems research			[2,000]	[2,000]	
017	0602180A	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES.	20,319	20,319	20,319		20,319
018	0602181A	ALL DOMAIN CONVERGENCE APPLIED RESEARCH	12,269	12,269	12,269		12,269
019	0602182A	C3I APPLIED RESEARCH	25,839	25,839	25,839		25,839
020	0602183A	AIR PLATFORM APPLIED RESEARCH	53,206	53,206	53,206		53,206
021	0602184A	SOLDIER APPLIED RESEARCH	21,069	21,069	21,069		21,069
022	0602213A	C3I APPLIED CYBER	28,656	28,656	28,656		28,656
023	0602386A	BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR MATERIALS—APPLIED RESEARCH.	11,780	11,780	11,780		11,780
025	0602785A	MANPOWER/PERSONNEL/TRAINING TECHNOLOGY	19,795	19,795	19,795		19,795
026	0602787A	MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY	68,481	66,481	68,481		68,481
		Intraosseous Antibiotics (IOA) for Osseointegration and Degradable Metal Alloy Orthopedic Implants.		[3,000]			
		Program decrease		[-10,000]			
		Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) Mitochondria Transplantation Program for Traumatic Brain Injury.		[5,000]			
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	35,766	35,766	35,766		35,766
		SUBTOTAL APPLIED RESEARCH	934,058	996,558	1,018,558	85,500	1,019,558
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT							
027	0603002A	MEDICAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	3,112	11,112	3,112	8,000	11,112

SEC. 4201. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program Element	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
		Hearing protection communications		[8,000]		[8,000]	
028	0603007A	MANPOWER, PERSONNEL AND TRAINING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.	16,716	16,716	16,716		16,716
029	0603025A	ARMY AGILE INNOVATION AND DEMONSTRATION	14,608	14,608	14,608		14,608
030	0603040A	ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES.	18,263	18,263	28,263	10,000	28,263
		Distributed AI fusion for attributable uncrewed systems.			[10,000]	[10,000]	
031	0603041A	ALL DOMAIN CONVERGENCE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.	23,722	23,722	23,722		23,722
032	0603042A	C3I ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	22,814	22,814	22,814		22,814
033	0603043A	AIR PLATFORM ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	17,076	17,076	17,076		17,076
034	0603044A	SOLDIER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	10,133	10,133	10,133		10,133
035	0603116A	LETHALITY ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	33,969	36,469	33,969	2,500	36,469
		Hypersonics test range		[2,500]		[2,500]	
037	0603118A	SOLDIER LETHALITY ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	94,899	94,899	94,899		94,899
038	0603119A	GROUND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	45,880	62,580	52,880	6,500	52,380
		Design and manufacturing of advanced composites Fuel Cell Multi-Modular Use (FC-MMU) Utilizing Hydrogen.		[10,000]	[2,000]	[2,000]	
		Humanitarian Airborne Mobile Infrastructure Capability.		[4,200]			
		Rapid entry and sustainment for the Arctic		[2,500]		[2,500]	
		Renewable electric vehicle charging stations			[5,000]	[2,000]	
039	0603134A	COUNTER IMPROVISED-THREAT SIMULATION	21,398	21,398	21,398		21,398
040	0603386A	BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR MATERIALS—ADVANCED RESEARCH.	36,360	36,360	36,360		36,360
041	0603457A	C3I CYBER ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	19,616	19,616	19,616		19,616
042	0603461A	HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.	239,597	239,597	247,597	8,000	247,597
		High performance computing modernization program			[8,000]	[8,000]	
043	0603462A	NEXT GENERATION COMBAT VEHICLE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.	175,198	202,198	177,198	7,000	182,198
		Silent Watch HTPEM Fuel Cell		[10,000]		[5,000]	
		Silicone anode battery testing			[2,000]	[2,000]	
		Tech Development for Ground-to-ground Vehicle Aided Target Recognition.		[10,000]			
		Virtual Engineering for Army Readiness and Sustainment.		[7,000]			
044	0603463A	NETWORK C3I ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	94,424	94,424	94,424		94,424
045	0603464A	LONG RANGE PRECISION FIRES ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.	164,943	185,943	249,943	5,000	169,943
		Low-Cost Rocket Propulsion for Affordable Mass on Tgt.		[9,000]		[2,000]	
		PrSM Inc 4 1yr acceleration long-lead items			[85,000]		
		Virtual Integrated Testbed and Lab for Trusted AI ...		[12,000]		[3,000]	
046	0603465A	FUTURE VERTICAL LIFT ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	140,578	156,578	145,578		140,578
		Additive Manufacturing		[10,000]			
		Army aviation cyber and electromagnetic protection			[5,000]		
		Army Aviation Cybersecurity and Electromagnetic Activity (CEMA).		[3,000]			
		Big Data Analytics		[3,000]			
047	0603466A	AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	28,333	48,433	28,333	13,000	41,333
		Counter drone munitions		[12,500]		[7,000]	
		Distributed Gain 300-KW Laser Weapon System		[4,600]		[3,000]	
		RAPID C-sUAS Missile		[3,000]		[3,000]	
049	0603920A	HUMANITARIAN DEMINING	9,272	9,272	9,272		9,272
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	155,526	155,526	155,526		155,526
		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	1,386,437	1,497,737	1,503,437	60,000	1,446,437
		ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPES					
051	0603305A	ARMY MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEMS INTEGRATION	13,031	16,031	13,031	3,000	16,031
		Artificial Intelligence Decision Aids for All Domain Operations.		[3,000]		[3,000]	
052	0603308A	ARMY SPACE SYSTEMS INTEGRATION	19,659	19,659	19,659		19,659

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054	0603619A	LANDMINE WARFARE AND BARRIER—ADV DEV	58,617	66,617	58,617	8,000	66,617
		Autonomous landmine detection		[8,000]		[8,000]	
055	0603639A	TANK AND MEDIUM CALIBER AMMUNITION	116,027	130,927	118,527	17,400	133,427
		Assured Precision Weapons and Munitions		[14,900]		[14,900]	
		Large caliber automated ammunition resupply			[2,500]	[2,500]	
056	0603645A	ARMORED SYSTEM MODERNIZATION—ADV DEV	23,235	23,235	40,735	5,000	28,235
		360 Helmet Mounted Display for the Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle.			[17,500]	[5,000]	
057	0603747A	SOLDIER SUPPORT AND SURVIVABILITY	4,059	4,059	4,059		4,059
058	0603766A	TACTICAL ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM—ADV DEV.	90,265	90,265	90,265		90,265
059	0603774A	NIGHT VISION SYSTEMS ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT ...	64,113	64,113	64,113		64,113
060	0603779A	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY—DEM/VAL	34,091	39,091	34,091	5,000	39,091
		Demonstration of high-pressure waterjet cut and capture system to demilitarize underwater munitions.		[5,000]		[5,000]	
061	0603790A	NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	4,184	4,184	4,184		4,184
062	0603801A	AVIATION—ADV DEV	6,591	6,591	6,591		6,591
063	0603804A	LOGISTICS AND ENGINEER EQUIPMENT—ADV DEV ...	12,445	12,445	12,445		12,445
064	0603807A	MEDICAL SYSTEMS—ADV DEV	582	582	582		582
065	0603827A	SOLDIER SYSTEMS—ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	24,284	21,930	24,284		24,284
		Soldier Systems Advanced Development—Slow Expenditure.		[-2,354]			
066	0604017A	ROBOTICS DEVELOPMENT	3,039	3,039	3,039		3,039
067	0604019A	EXPANDED MISSION AREA MISSILE (EMAM)	102,589	102,589	102,589	-14,080	88,509
		MDACS delayed new start				[-14,080]	
068	0604020A	CROSS FUNCTIONAL TEAM (CFT) ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT & PROTOTYPING.	63,831	63,831	63,831		63,831
069	0604035A	LOW EARTH ORBIT (LEO) SATELLITE CAPABILITY	21,935	21,935	21,935		21,935
070	0604036A	MULTI-DOMAIN SENSING SYSTEM (MDSS) ADV DEV ..	239,135	239,135	239,135		239,135
071	0604037A	TACTICAL INTEL TARGETING ACCESS NODE (TITAN) ADV DEV.	4,317	4,317	4,317		4,317
072	0604100A	ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVES	11,234	11,234	11,234		11,234
073	0604101A	SMALL UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (SUAV) (6.4)	1,800	1,800	1,800		1,800
074	0604103A	ELECTRONIC WARFARE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT TOOL (EWPMT).	2,004		2,004		2,004
		Award Cancellation		[-2,004]			
075	0604113A	FUTURE TACTICAL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM (FTUAS).	127,870	114,140	127,870		127,870
		FTUAS—Slow Expenditure		[-13,730]			
076	0604114A	LOWER TIER AIR MISSILE DEFENSE (LTAMD) SENSOR Unjustified request	149,463	149,463	149,463	-22,035	127,428
		TECHNOLOGY MATURATION INITIATIVES	252,000	252,000	262,000	[-22,035]	252,000
		Short pulse laser directed energy demonstration			[10,000]		
078	0604117A	MANEUVER—SHORT RANGE AIR DEFENSE (M-SHORAD).	315,772	253,172	315,772	-31,230	284,542
		Excessive Contractor Logistics Support Growth Inc 2 Systems Development Cost Growth Inc 3		[-25,400]		[-15,230]	
		ASSURED POSITIONING, NAVIGATION AND TIMING (PNT).	24,168	24,168	24,168	[-16,000]	24,168
080	0604120A	SYNTHETIC TRAINING ENVIRONMENT REFINEMENT & PROTOTYPING.	136,029	116,419	136,029	-2,000	134,029
		Program decrease		[-6,000]		[-2,000]	
		Synthetic Training Environment		[-13,610]			
082	0604134A	COUNTER IMPROVISED-THREAT DEMONSTRATION, PROTOTYPE DEVELOPMENT, AND TESTING.	17,341	17,341	17,341		17,341
085	0604386A	BIOTECHNOLOGY FOR MATERIALS—DEM/VAL	20,862	20,862	20,862		20,862
086	0604403A	FUTURE INTERCEPTOR	8,058	8,058	8,058		8,058
088	0604531A	COUNTER—SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT.	59,983	64,483	79,983	20,000	79,983
		Army UPL #3		[4,500]			
		NGCM R&D acceleration (+1yr)			[20,000]	[20,000]	
090	0604541A	UNIFIED NETWORK TRANSPORT	31,837	31,837	31,837		31,837
091	0305251A	CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS FORCES AND FORCE SUPPORT.	2,270	2,270	2,270		2,270
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	277,181	277,181	277,181		277,181

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		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPES.	2,343,901	2,279,003	2,393,901	-10,945	2,332,956
		SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION					
092	0604201A	AIRCRAFT AVIONICS	7,171	17,171	7,171	3,000	10,171
		Modular Open System Approach Mission Command Development and Evaluation Capability.		[3,000]			
		Virtual Modification Work Order Digital Engineering Tool.		[7,000]		[3,000]	
093	0604270A	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	35,942	35,942	35,942		35,942
094	0604601A	INFANTRY SUPPORT WEAPONS	52,586	52,586	52,586		52,586
095	0604604A	MEDIUM TACTICAL VEHICLES	15,088	15,088	15,088	-11,523	3,565
		Unjustified request				[-11,523]	
096	0604611A	JAVELIN	10,405	10,405	39,505		10,405
		Javelin R&D for fast launch			[29,100]		
097	0604622A	FAMILY OF HEAVY TACTICAL VEHICLES	50,011	50,011	50,011		50,011
098	0604633A	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL	982	5,982	982	5,000	5,982
		Integrated Mission Planning and Airspace Control Tools (IMPACT).		[5,000]		[5,000]	
099	0604641A	TACTICAL UNMANNED GROUND VEHICLE (TUGV)	92,540	92,540	92,540		92,540
100	0604642A	LIGHT TACTICAL WHEELED VEHICLES	100,257	89,983	89,983	-10,274	89,983
		Electric Light Reconnaissance Vehicle reduction			[-10,274]	[-10,274]	
		Program decrease		[-10,274]			
101	0604645A	ARMORED SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION (ASM)—ENG DEV.	48,097	48,097	48,097		48,097
102	0604710A	NIGHT VISION SYSTEMS—ENG DEV	89,259	89,259	89,259		89,259
103	0604713A	COMBAT FEEDING, CLOTHING, AND EQUIPMENT	3,286	3,286	3,286		3,286
104	0604715A	NON-SYSTEM TRAINING DEVICES—ENG DEV	28,427	28,427	28,427		28,427
105	0604741A	AIR DEFENSE COMMAND, CONTROL AND INTELLIGENCE—ENG DEV.	69,653	78,653	79,653	6,000	75,653
		Air and Missile Defense Common Operating Picture Family of Counter-sUAS System (FoCUS)—Army UFR		[9,000]		[6,000]	
106	0604742A	CONSTRUCTIVE SIMULATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	30,097	30,097	30,097		30,097
107	0604746A	AUTOMATIC TEST EQUIPMENT DEVELOPMENT	12,927	12,927	12,927		12,927
108	0604760A	DISTRIBUTIVE INTERACTIVE SIMULATIONS (DIS)—ENG DEV.	8,914	8,914	8,914		8,914
109	0604798A	BRIGADE ANALYSIS, INTEGRATION AND EVALUATION	26,352	26,352	26,352		26,352
110	0604802A	WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS—ENG DEV	242,949	217,649	267,949		242,949
		DOTC excessive development growth		[-24,300]			
		FY25 PGK development acceleration			[25,000]		
		Underexecution of 50mm munitions		[-1,000]			
111	0604804A	LOGISTICS AND ENGINEER EQUIPMENT—ENG DEV ...	41,829	41,829	41,829		41,829
112	0604805A	COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS—ENG DEV.	92,300	92,300	92,300		92,300
113	0604807A	MEDICAL MATERIEL/MEDICAL BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE EQUIPMENT—ENG DEV.	7,143	7,143	7,143		7,143
114	0604808A	LANDMINE WARFARE/BARRIER—ENG DEV	19,134	19,134	79,134	9,500	28,634
		Joint All Domain Testing, Evaluation, and Training Center.			[60,000]	[9,500]	
115	0604818A	ARMY TACTICAL COMMAND & CONTROL HARDWARE & SOFTWARE.	165,229	158,479	165,229	-6,750	158,479
		EACP—Slow Expenditure		[-6,750]		[-6,750]	
116	0604820A	RADAR DEVELOPMENT	76,090	76,090	76,090		76,090
117	0604822A	GENERAL FUND ENTERPRISE BUSINESS SYSTEM (GFEB).	1,995	1,995	1,995		1,995
118	0604827A	SOLDIER SYSTEMS—WARRIOR DEM/VAL	29,132	29,132	29,132		29,132
119	0604852A	SUITE OF SURVIVABILITY ENHANCEMENT SYSTEMS—EMD.	77,864	77,864	77,864		77,864
120	0604854A	ARTILLERY SYSTEMS—EMD	50,495	50,495	50,495		50,495
121	0605013A	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	120,076	110,076	120,076	-10,000	110,076
		Program decrease		[-10,000]		[-10,000]	
122	0605018A	INTEGRATED PERSONNEL AND PAY SYSTEM-ARMY (IPPS-A).	126,354	126,354	126,354		126,354
123	0605030A	JOINT TACTICAL NETWORK CENTER (JTNC)	20,191	20,191	20,191		20,191
124	0605031A	JOINT TACTICAL NETWORK (JTN)	31,214	31,214	31,214		31,214
125	0605035A	COMMON INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES (CIRCM) ...	11,691	11,691	11,691		11,691

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126	0605036A	COMBATING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (CWMD).	7,846	7,846	7,846		7,846
127	0605038A	NUCLEAR BIOLOGICAL CHEMICAL RECONNAISSANCE VEHICLE (NBCRV) SENSOR SUITE.	7,886	7,886	7,886		7,886
128	0605041A	DEFENSIVE CYBER TOOL DEVELOPMENT	4,176	4,176	4,176		4,176
129	0605042A	TACTICAL NETWORK RADIO SYSTEMS (LOW-TIER)	4,288	4,288	4,288		4,288
130	0605047A	CONTRACT WRITING SYSTEM	9,276	9,276	9,276		9,276
132	0605051A	AIRCRAFT SURVIVABILITY DEVELOPMENT	38,225	38,225	38,225		38,225
133	0605052A	INDIRECT FIRE PROTECTION CAPABILITY INC 2—BLOCK 1. Carryover	167,912	167,912	167,912	-17,000	150,912
134	0605053A	GROUND ROBOTICS	28,378	37,378	28,378	[-17,000]	28,378
		Tethered sUAS		[9,000]			
135	0605054A	EMERGING TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES	164,734	158,304	172,734	-6,430	158,304
		Delayed Expenditure Rate		[-6,430]		[-6,430]	
		Mobile-long range precision strike missile			[8,000]		
137	0605144A	NEXT GENERATION LOAD DEVICE—MEDIUM	2,931	2,931	2,931		2,931
138	0605148A	TACTICAL INTEL TARGETING ACCESS NODE (TITAN) EMD.	157,036	157,036	157,036		157,036
140	0605205A	SMALL UNMANNED AERIAL VEHICLE (SUAV) (6.5)	37,876	37,876	37,876		37,876
141	0605206A	CI AND HUMINT EQUIPMENT PROGRAM-ARMY (CIHEP-A).	1,296	1,296	1,296		1,296
142	0605216A	JOINT TARGETING INTEGRATED COMMAND AND CO-ORDINATION SUITE (JTIC2S).	28,553	28,553	28,553		28,553
143	0605224A	MULTI-DOMAIN INTELLIGENCE	18,913	27,913	18,913	9,000	27,913
		Multi-Domain Intelligence—NextGen Intel Mission Support.		[9,000]		[9,000]	
144	0605231A	PRECISION STRIKE MISSILE (PRSM)	184,046	184,046	184,046		184,046
145	0605232A	HYPERSONICS EMD	538,017	538,017	538,017		538,017
146	0605233A	ACCESSIONS INFORMATION ENVIRONMENT (AIE)	32,265	32,265	32,265		32,265
147	0605235A	STRATEGIC MID-RANGE CAPABILITY	182,823	118,723	182,823		182,823
		Delayed Expenditure Rate		[-49,100]			
		Expenditure delay		[-15,000]			
148	0605236A	INTEGRATED TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS	23,363	23,363	23,363		23,363
149	0605241A	FUTURE LONG RANGE ASSAULT AIRCRAFT DEVELOPMENT.	1,253,637	1,253,637	1,253,637		1,253,637
150	0605242A	THEATER SIGINT SYSTEM (TSIGS)	6,660	6,660	6,660		6,660
151	0605244A	JOINT REDUCED RANGE ROCKET (JR3)	13,565	13,565	13,565		13,565
152	0605247A	SPECTRUM SITUATIONAL AWARENESS SYSTEM (S2AS).	9,330	9,330	9,330		9,330
153	0605450A	JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILE (JAGM)	3,030	3,030	3,030		3,030
154	0605457A	ARMY INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE (AIAMD).	602,045	575,045	602,045	-27,000	575,045
		Unjustified THAAD integration		[-27,000]		[-27,000]	
155	0605531A	COUNTER—SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS SYS DEV & DEMONSTRATION. Roadrunner-M—Army UFR	59,563	59,563	64,063	4,500	64,063
				[4,500]		[4,500]	
157	0605625A	MANNED GROUND VEHICLE	504,841	504,841	504,841		504,841
158	0605766A	NATIONAL CAPABILITIES INTEGRATION (MIP)	16,565	16,565	16,565		16,565
159	0605812A	JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE (JLTV) ENGINEERING AND MANUFACTURING DEVELOPMENT PHASE (EMD). JLTV anti-idle systems	27,013	27,013	34,513		27,013
				[7,500]			
160	0605830A	AVIATION GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT	979	979	979		979
161	0303032A	TROJAN—RH12	3,930	3,930	3,930		3,930
163	0304270A	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	131,096	131,096	163,796		131,096
		Terrestrial Layer System Brigade Combat Team re-alignment.			[32,700]		
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	83,136	83,136	83,136		83,136
		SUBTOTAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION.	6,150,910	6,043,056	6,317,436	-51,977	6,098,933
		MANAGEMENT SUPPORT					
164	0604256A	THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT	71,298	81,798	71,298	6,000	77,298
		Threat Counter-Artificial Intelligence (TCAI)		[10,500]		[6,000]	
165	0604258A	TARGET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	15,788	30,688	15,788	5,000	20,788

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		Replacement of Foreign Engines for Aerial Targets ..		[14,900]		[5,000]	
166	0604759A	MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT	78,613	78,613	78,613		78,613
167	0605103A	RAND ARROYO CENTER	38,122	38,122	38,122		38,122
168	0605301A	ARMY KWAJALEIN ATOLL	321,755	321,755	371,755	50,000	371,755
		USAG-Kwajalein Atoll Recap			[50,000]	[50,000]	
169	0605326A	CONCEPTS EXPERIMENTATION PROGRAM	86,645	86,645	86,645		86,645
171	0605601A	ARMY TEST RANGES AND FACILITIES	461,085	461,085	461,085		461,085
172	0605602A	ARMY TECHNICAL TEST INSTRUMENTATION AND TARGETS.	75,591	78,591	75,591		75,591
		Rapid Assurance Modernization Program		[3,000]			
173	0605604A	SURVIVABILITY/LETHALITY ANALYSIS	37,604	37,604	37,604		37,604
174	0605606A	AIRCRAFT CERTIFICATION	2,201	2,201	2,201		2,201
176	0605706A	MATERIEL SYSTEMS ANALYSIS	27,420	27,420	27,420		27,420
177	0605709A	EXPLOITATION OF FOREIGN ITEMS	6,245	6,245	6,245		6,245
178	0605712A	SUPPORT OF OPERATIONAL TESTING	76,088	76,088	76,088		76,088
179	0605716A	ARMY EVALUATION CENTER	73,220	73,220	73,220		73,220
180	0605718A	ARMY MODELING & SIM X-CMD COLLABORATION & INTEG.	11,257	11,257	11,257		11,257
181	0605801A	PROGRAMWIDE ACTIVITIES	91,895	91,895	91,895		91,895
182	0605803A	TECHNICAL INFORMATION ACTIVITIES	32,385	32,385	32,385		32,385
183	0605805A	MUNITIONS STANDARDIZATION, EFFECTIVENESS AND SAFETY.	50,766	50,766	50,766		50,766
184	0605857A	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY MGMT SUPPORT.	1,659	1,659	1,659		1,659
185	0605898A	ARMY DIRECT REPORT HEADQUARTERS—R&D - MHA.	59,727	59,727	59,727		59,727
186	0606002A	RONALD REAGAN BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TEST SITE.	73,400	73,400	73,400		73,400
187	0606003A	COUNTERINTEL AND HUMAN INTEL MODERNIZATION ASSESSMENTS AND EVALUATIONS CYBER VULNERABILITIES.	4,574	4,574	4,574		4,574
188	0606942A		10,105	10,105	10,105		10,105
		SUBTOTAL MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	1,707,443	1,735,843	1,757,443	61,000	1,768,443
		OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT					
190	0603778A	MLRS PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	14,188	14,188	14,188		14,188
191	0605024A	ANTI-TAMPER TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	7,489	7,489	7,489		7,489
192	0607101A	COMBATING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (CWMD) PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT.	271	271	271		271
193	0607131A	WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS.	9,363	9,363	15,363	5,000	14,363
		Agile manufacturing for advanced armament systems.			[6,000]	[5,000]	
194	0607136A	BLACKHAWK PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	25,000	25,000	25,000		25,000
195	0607137A	CHINOOK PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM	4,816	4,816	4,816		4,816
196	0607139A	IMPROVED TURBINE ENGINE PROGRAM	67,029	97,029	67,029	30,000	97,029
		Program increase		[30,000]		[30,000]	
198	0607143A	UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM UNIVERSAL PRODUCTS.	24,539	24,539	24,539		24,539
199	0607145A	APACHE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT	8,243	8,243	8,243		8,243
200	0607148A	AV/TPQ-53 COUNTERFIRE TARGET ACQUISITION RADAR SYSTEM.	53,652	53,652	53,652		53,652
201	0607150A	INTEL CYBER DEVELOPMENT	9,753	9,753	9,753		9,753
203	0607313A	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	5,559	5,559	5,559		5,559
204	0607315A	ENDURING TURBINE ENGINES AND POWER SYSTEMS	2,620	2,620	2,620		2,620
206	0607665A	FAMILY OF BIOMETRICS	590	590	590		590
207	0607865A	PATRIOT PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT	168,458	168,458	168,458		168,458
208	0203728A	JOINT AUTOMATED DEEP OPERATION COORDINATION SYSTEM (JADOCs).	27,582	27,582	27,582		27,582
209	0203735A	COMBAT VEHICLE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS	272,926	295,926	272,926	23,000	295,926
		Stryker Modernization		[23,000]		[23,000]	
210	0203743A	155MM SELF-PROPELLED HOWITZER IMPROVEMENTS	55,205	42,205	55,205	-7,335	47,870
		Program rebaseline delay		[-13,000]		[-7,335]	
211	0203752A	AIRCRAFT ENGINE COMPONENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.	142	142	142		142
212	0203758A	DIGITIZATION	1,562	1,562	1,562		1,562

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213	0203801A	MISSILE/AIR DEFENSE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.	1,511	1,511	1,511		1,511
214	0203802A	OTHER MISSILE PRODUCT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS Containerized weapon system	23,708	23,708	33,708 [10,000]	5,000 [5,000]	28,708
215	0205412A	ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY TECHNOLOGY—OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEV.	269	269	269		269
216	0205778A	GUIDED MULTIPLE-LAUNCH ROCKET SYSTEM (GMLRS).	20,590	20,590	20,590		20,590
221	0303140A	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	15,733	15,733	15,733		15,733
222	0303141A	GLOBAL COMBAT SUPPORT SYSTEM	2,566	2,566	2,566		2,566
223	0303142A	SATCOM GROUND ENVIRONMENT (SPACE)	26,643	26,643	26,643		26,643
226	0305179A	INTEGRATED BROADCAST SERVICE (IBS)	5,701	5,701	5,701		5,701
229	0305219A	MQ-1 GRAY EAGLE UAV	6,681	6,681	6,681		6,681
230	0708045A	END ITEM INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES ... Advanced isostatic pressure armor	67,187	72,187	73,187 [6,000]	11,000 [6,000]	78,187
		Development and qualification of ultra high molecular weight polyethylene fiber.		[5,000]		[5,000]	
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	32,518	32,518	94,718 [12,200]		32,518
		Iron Quest—Army UFR			[50,000]		
		Spectre—Army UFR					
		SUBTOTAL OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT	962,094	1,007,094	1,046,294	66,665	1,028,759
		SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAMS					
231	0608041A	DEFENSIVE CYBER—SOFTWARE PROTOTYPE DEVELOPMENT.	74,548	74,548	74,548		74,548
		SUBTOTAL SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAMS.	74,548	74,548	74,548		74,548
		TOTAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, ARMY.	14,073,308	77,448	553,226	212,243	14,285,551
		RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, NAVY					
		BASIC RESEARCH					
001	0601103N	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	94,259	94,259	99,259 [5,000]	5,000 [5,000]	99,259
		Digital radar system development					
002	0601153N	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	483,914	488,914 [5,000]	483,914	4,000 [4,000]	487,914
		Hypersonic T&E workforce development					
		SUBTOTAL BASIC RESEARCH	578,173	583,173	583,173	9,000	587,173
		APPLIED RESEARCH					
003	0602114N	POWER PROJECTION APPLIED RESEARCH	23,842	23,842	23,842		23,842
004	0602123N	FORCE PROTECTION APPLIED RESEARCH	120,716	137,716 [2,500]	125,716	10,000	130,716
		Composite Characterization					
		High-Performance Carbon Fiber for Advanced Rocket Motors.					
		Intelligent Data Management for Distributed Naval Platforms.					
		Unmanned maritime systems digital manufacturing factory of the future.					
005	0602131M	MARINE CORPS LANDING FORCE TECHNOLOGY	53,758	63,758 [5,000]	53,758	5,000 [5,000]	58,758
		Next generation lithium ion batteries					
		Unmanned Logistics					
006	0602235N	COMMON PICTURE APPLIED RESEARCH	51,202	63,202 [12,000]	51,202	2,500 [2,500]	53,702
		Embedded Systems Cyber for Critical Naval Infrastructure.					
007	0602236N	WARFIGHTER SUSTAINMENT APPLIED RESEARCH	76,379	71,379 [-5,000]	82,379	1,000	77,379
		Program decrease					
		Research on foreign malign influence operations					
008	0602271N	ELECTROMAGNETIC SYSTEMS APPLIED RESEARCH	91,441	91,441	91,441	[1,000]	91,441
009	0602435N	OCEAN WARFIGHTING ENVIRONMENT APPLIED RESEARCH.	78,930	91,430	84,430	15,000	93,930
		Continuous distributed sensing systems					
		Multi-Frequency Satellite Data Reception and Technological Upgrades.					
		Resilient autonomous sensing in the Arctic					

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010	0602651M	JOINT NON-LETHAL WEAPONS APPLIED RESEARCH	7,719	7,719	7,719		7,719
011	0602747N	UNDERSEA WARFARE APPLIED RESEARCH	57,525	62,525	68,525	16,000	73,525
		Academic Partnerships for undersea vehicle re- search.		[2,500]		[2,500]	
		Geophysical sensing and characterization of the mine-hunting environment.			[1,000]	[1,000]	
		Low-cost autonomous sensors for maritime domi- nance.			[10,000]	[10,000]	
		Undersea Research Facilities Capability		[2,500]		[2,500]	
012	0602750N	FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES APPLIED RESEARCH	163,673	158,673	163,673		163,673
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
013	0602782N	MINE AND EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE APPLIED RE- SEARCH.	31,460	31,460	32,460	1,000	32,460
		Precision strike loitering munitions			[1,000]	[1,000]	
014	0602792N	INNOVATIVE NAVAL PROTOTYPES (INP) APPLIED RE- SEARCH.	127,363	122,363	127,363		127,363
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
015	0602861N	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT—ONR FIELD ACITIVITIES.	90,939	90,939	90,939		90,939
		SUBTOTAL APPLIED RESEARCH	974,947	1,016,447	1,003,447	50,500	1,025,447
		ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT					
016	0603123N	FORCE PROTECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	31,556	31,556	31,556		31,556
017	0603271N	ELECTROMAGNETIC SYSTEMS ADVANCED TECH- NOLOGY.	8,537	8,537	8,537		8,537
018	0603273N	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY FOR NUCLEAR RE-ENTRY SYSTEMS.	118,624	118,624	118,624		118,624
019	0603640M	USMC ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATION (ATD).	243,247	250,747	264,247	15,500	258,747
		Expeditionary Airborne Logistics in support of mari- time operations.		[2,500]			
		Innovative design and manufacturing for uncrewed systems.			[8,000]	[2,500]	
		KARGO UAS		[5,000]			
		Long-range maneuvering projectiles			[7,000]	[7,000]	
		Marine Corps realignment—Autonomous Low Profile Vessel.			[6,000]	[6,000]	
020	0603651M	JOINT NON-LETHAL WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY DEVEL- OPMENT.	16,188	16,188	16,188		16,188
021	0603673N	FUTURE NAVAL CAPABILITIES ADVANCED TECH- NOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.	262,869	267,869	262,869	3,000	265,869
		Integration of aligned Carbon Nanotube Technology onto mission-critical Navy systems.		[5,000]		[3,000]	
022	0603680N	MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	63,084	63,084	63,084		63,084
023	0603729N	WARFIGHTER PROTECTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	5,105	5,105	5,105		5,105
024	0603758N	NAVY WARFIGHTING EXPERIMENTS AND DEMONSTRA- TIONS.	97,615	97,615	97,615		97,615
025	0603782N	MINE AND EXPEDITIONARY WARFARE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY.	2,050	2,050	2,050		2,050
026	0603801N	INNOVATIVE NAVAL PROTOTYPES (INP) ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.	131,288	131,288	131,288		131,288
		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	980,163	992,663	1,001,163	18,500	998,663
		ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTO- TYPES					
027	0603128N	UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEM	99,940	99,940	99,940		99,940
028	0603178N	LARGE UNMANNED SURFACE VEHICLES (LUSV)	53,964	53,964	53,964		53,964
029	0603207N	AIR/OCEAN TACTICAL APPLICATIONS	41,765	51,765	59,765	9,000	50,765
		Advanced Component Development & Prototypes		[10,000]			
		Autonomous surface and underwater dual-modality vehicles.			[18,000]	[9,000]	
030	0603216N	AVIATION SURVIVABILITY	23,115	23,115	23,115		23,115
031	0603239N	NAVAL CONSTRUCTION FORCES	7,866	27,866	7,866	5,000	12,866
		Autonomy Kits for Port and Airfield damage Repair		[20,000]		[5,000]	
032	0603254N	ASW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	20,033	20,033	20,033		20,033
033	0603261N	TACTICAL AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE	3,358	3,358	3,358		3,358

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034	0603382N	ADVANCED COMBAT SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY	2,051	2,051	2,051		2,051
035	0603502N	SURFACE AND SHALLOW WATER MINE COUNTER-MEASURES. Program increase	29,421	38,421	29,421	6,000	35,421
036	0603506N	SURFACE SHIP TORPEDO DEFENSE	4,790	4,790	4,790	[6,000]	4,790
037	0603512N	CARRIER SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	5,659	5,659	5,659		5,659
038	0603525N	PILOT FISH	1,007,324	1,007,324	1,007,324	-25,000	982,324
		Classified adjustment				[-25,000]	
040	0603536N	RETRACT JUNIPER	199,172	199,172	199,172		199,172
041	0603542N	RADIOLOGICAL CONTROL	801	801	801		801
042	0603553N	SURFACE ASW	1,194	1,194	1,194		1,194
043	0603561N	ADVANCED SUBMARINE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT	96,694	103,694	106,694	10,000	106,694
		Advanced submarine hull coatings			[10,000]	[10,000]	
		New Solutions for Hull Treatments		[7,000]			
044	0603562N	SUBMARINE TACTICAL WARFARE SYSTEMS	14,924	14,924	14,924		14,924
045	0603563N	SHIP CONCEPT ADVANCED DESIGN	110,800	116,800	110,800		110,800
		Hybrid Robotic Automation Demonstration		[4,000]			
		Intumescent fire protective marine cable coating		[2,000]			
046	0603564N	SHIP PRELIMINARY DESIGN & FEASIBILITY STUDIES	52,586	52,586	52,586		52,586
047	0603570N	ADVANCED NUCLEAR POWER SYSTEMS	368,002	368,002	368,002	-41,000	327,002
		Project 2370 excess to need				[-41,000]	
048	0603573N	ADVANCED SURFACE MACHINERY SYSTEMS	93,942	97,942	93,942	4,000	97,942
		Silicon Carbide Flexible Bus Node		[4,000]		[4,000]	
049	0603576N	CHALK EAGLE	137,372	137,372	137,372		137,372
050	0603581N	LITTORAL COMBAT SHIP (LCS)	9,132	-5,868	9,132		9,132
		Unjustified Request		[-15,000]			
051	0603582N	COMBAT SYSTEM INTEGRATION	20,135	20,135	50,135		20,135
		PAC-3-AEGIS integration			[30,000]		
052	0603595N	OHIO REPLACEMENT	189,631	196,631	189,631	2,000	191,631
		Advanced Composites for Wet Submarine Applications. LCS MISSION MODULES	28,801	28,801	28,801		28,801
054	0603597N	AUTOMATED TEST AND RE-TEST (ATRT)	10,805	10,805	10,805		10,805
055	0603599N	FRIGATE DEVELOPMENT	107,658	97,658	107,658	-2,176	105,482
		Program decrease		[-10,000]		[-2,176]	
056	0603609N	CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS	8,950	8,950	8,950		8,950
057	0603635M	MARINE CORPS GROUND COMBAT/SUPPORT SYSTEM	103,860	103,860	103,860		103,860
058	0603654N	JOINT SERVICE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT. OCEAN ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT ..	47,339	47,339	47,339		47,339
059	0603713N	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	15,587	15,587	15,587		15,587
060	0603721N	NAVY ENERGY PROGRAM	23,258	23,258	23,258		23,258
061	0603724N	Marine Energy Systems for Sensors and Microgrids FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT	60,610	65,610	60,610	2,000	62,610
		Non-traditional F2T2 Capability—INDOPACOM UPL ..		[400,000]		[2,000]	
062	0603725N	CHALK CORAL	9,067	9,067	9,067		9,067
063	0603734N	Program decrease	459,791	850,791	459,791	400,000	859,791
		NAVY LOGISTIC PRODUCTIVITY		[400,000]		[400,000]	
064	0603739N	RETRACT MAPLE	6,059	6,059	6,059		6,059
065	0603746N	LINK PLUMERIA	628,958	628,958	628,958		628,958
066	0603748N	RETRACT ELM	346,553	346,553	346,553		346,553
067	0603751N	LINK EVERGREEN	99,939	99,939	99,939		99,939
068	0603764M	NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	460,721	460,721	460,721		460,721
069	0603790N	LAND ATTACK TECHNOLOGY	5,151	5,151	5,151		5,151
070	0603795N	JOINT NON-LETHAL WEAPONS TESTING	1,686	1,686	1,686		1,686
071	0603851M	JOINT PRECISION APPROACH AND LANDING SYSTEMS—DEM/VAL. DIRECTED ENERGY AND ELECTRIC WEAPON SYSTEMS.	30,263	30,263	30,263		30,263
072	0603860N	F/A -18 INFRARED SEARCH AND TRACK (IRST)	4,047	4,047	4,047		4,047
073	0603925N	DIGITAL WARFARE OFFICE	9,877	9,877	9,877		9,877
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
074	0604014N	SMALL AND MEDIUM UNMANNED UNDERSEA VEHICLES. Accelerate Subsea and Seabed Warfare (SSW) ROV—Navy UFR.	8,630	8,630	8,630	[61,300]	8,630
075	0604027N		128,997	123,997	128,997		128,997
076	0604028N		52,994	52,994	114,294		52,994

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077	0604029N	UNMANNED UNDERSEA VEHICLE CORE TECHNOLOGIES.	68,152	68,152	68,152		68,152
078	0604030N	RAPID PROTOTYPING, EXPERIMENTATION AND DEMONSTRATION..	168,855	168,855	168,855	-42,214	126,641
		Program decrease				[-42,214]	
079	0604031N	LARGE UNMANNED UNDERSEA VEHICLES	6,874	6,874	6,874		6,874
080	0604112N	GERALD R. FORD CLASS NUCLEAR AIRCRAFT CARRIER (CVN 78—80).	96,670	96,670	96,670		96,670
082	0604127N	SURFACE MINE COUNTERMEASURES	15,271	15,271	15,271		15,271
083	0604272N	TACTICAL AIR DIRECTIONAL INFRARED COUNTERMEASURES (TADIRCM).	35,030	35,030	35,030		35,030
084	0604289M	NEXT GENERATION LOGISTICS	8,114	8,114	63,114		8,114
		At-sea VLS reloading development			[55,000]		
085	0604292N	FUTURE VERTICAL LIFT (MARITIME STRIKE)	4,796	4,796	4,796		4,796
086	0604295M	MARINE AVIATION DEMONSTRATION/VALIDATION	62,317	62,317	62,317		62,317
087	0604320M	RAPID TECHNOLOGY CAPABILITY PROTOTYPE	120,392	120,392	120,392		120,392
088	0604454N	LX (R)	12,785	12,785	12,785		12,785
089	0604536N	ADVANCED UNDERSEA PROTOTYPING	21,466	21,466	21,466		21,466
090	0604636N	COUNTER UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (C-UAS) ..	14,185	14,185	14,185		14,185
091	0604659N	PRECISION STRIKE WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.	5,667	195,667	257,667	252,000	257,667
		Nuclear-armed sea-launched cruise missile			[252,000]	[252,000]	
		SLCM-N		[190,000]			
092	0604707N	SPACE AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE (SEW) ARCHITECTURE/ENGINEERING SUPPORT.	8,896	8,896	8,896		8,896
093	0604786N	OFFENSIVE ANTI-SURFACE WARFARE WEAPON DEVELOPMENT.	341,907	341,907	341,907		341,907
094	0605512N	MEDIUM UNMANNED SURFACE VEHICLES (MUSVS)) ..	101,838	101,838	101,838		101,838
095	0605513N	UNMANNED SURFACE VEHICLE ENABLING CAPABILITIES.	92,868	92,868	92,868		92,868
096	0605514M	GROUND BASED ANTI-SHIP MISSILE	50,916	50,916	50,916		50,916
097	0605516M	LONG RANGE FIRES	30,092	30,092	30,092		30,092
098	0605518N	CONVENTIONAL PROMPT STRIKE (CPS)	903,927	903,927	903,927		903,927
099	0303354N	ASW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT—MIP	7,253	7,253	7,253		7,253
100	0304240M	ADVANCED TACTICAL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM	3,504	3,504	3,504		3,504
101	0304270N	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT—MIP	1,395	1,395	1,395		1,395
102	0304797N	UNDERSEA ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE / MACHINE LEARNING (AI/ML).	28,563	28,563	28,563		28,563
		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPES.	7,465,005	8,084,005	7,891,305	579,610	8,044,615
		SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION					
103	0603208N	TRAINING SYSTEM AIRCRAFT	26,120	26,120	26,120		26,120
104	0604038N	MARITIME TARGETING CELL	43,301	43,301	43,301		43,301
107	0604214M	AV-8B AIRCRAFT—ENG DEV	5,320	5,320	5,320		5,320
108	0604215N	STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT	5,120	5,120	5,120		5,120
109	0604216N	MULTI-MISSION HELICOPTER UPGRADE DEVELOPMENT.	60,438	60,438	60,438		60,438
111	0604230N	WARFARE SUPPORT SYSTEM	108,432	108,432	108,432		108,432
112	0604231N	COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEMS	164,391	164,391	164,391		164,391
113	0604234N	ADVANCED HAWKEYE	301,384	301,384	301,384		301,384
114	0604245M	H-1 UPGRADES	39,023	39,023	39,023		39,023
115	0604261N	ACOUSTIC SEARCH SENSORS	53,591	53,591	53,591		53,591
116	0604262N	V-22A	109,431	109,431	109,431		109,431
117	0604264N	AIR CREW SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	29,330	29,330	29,330		29,330
118	0604269N	EA-18	223,266	200,966	223,266		223,266
		SLM Delay		[-22,300]			
119	0604270N	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	189,750	189,750	189,750		189,750
120	0604273M	EXECUTIVE HELO DEVELOPMENT	51,366	51,366	51,366		51,366
121	0604274N	NEXT GENERATION JAMMER (NGJ)	86,721	86,721	86,721		86,721
122	0604280N	JOINT TACTICAL RADIO SYSTEM—NAVY (JTRS-NAVY)	330,559	340,559	359,159	28,600	359,159
		Accelerate Fund NC3 Recapitalization and New Transmission Pathways—Navy UFR.			[28,600]	[28,600]	
		Network Tactical Common Data Link—Phased Array Antenna Qualification.		[10,000]			
123	0604282N	NEXT GENERATION JAMMER (NGJ) INCREMENT II	209,623	172,223	209,623	-13,350	196,273

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		Next Generation Jammer—Low Band		[−37,400]		[−13,350]	
124	0604307N	SURFACE COMBATANT COMBAT SYSTEM ENGINEERING.	528,234	528,234	528,234		528,234
125	0604329N	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB (SDB)	19,744	19,744	19,744		19,744
126	0604366N	STANDARD MISSILE IMPROVEMENTS	468,297	468,297	468,297	−17,875	450,422
		EU development delays				[−10,000]	
		Prior year underexecution				[−7,875]	
127	0604373N	AIRBORNE MCM	11,066	11,066	11,066		11,066
128	0604378N	NAVAL INTEGRATED FIRE CONTROL—COUNTER AIR SYSTEMS ENGINEERING.	41,419	41,419	41,419		41,419
130	0604501N	ADVANCED ABOVE WATER SENSORS	112,231	112,231	112,231		112,231
131	0604503N	SSN—688 AND TRIDENT MODERNIZATION	97,953	97,953	97,953		97,953
132	0604504N	AIR CONTROL	84,458	84,458	84,458		84,458
133	0604512N	SHIPBOARD AVIATION SYSTEMS	10,742	10,742	10,742		10,742
134	0604518N	COMBAT INFORMATION CENTER CONVERSION	10,621	10,621	10,621		10,621
135	0604522N	AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE RADAR (AMDR) SYSTEM	107,924	107,924	107,924		107,924
136	0604530N	ADVANCED ARRESTING GEAR (AAG)	9,142	9,142	9,142		9,142
137	0604558N	NEW DESIGN SSN	273,848	280,848	273,848		273,848
		Advanced Submarine Control / Precision Maneuvering Unit.		[7,000]			
138	0604562N	SUBMARINE TACTICAL WARFARE SYSTEM	71,982	71,982	71,982		71,982
139	0604567N	SHIP CONTRACT DESIGN/ LIVE FIRE T&E	13,675	13,675	13,675		13,675
140	0604574N	NAVY TACTICAL COMPUTER RESOURCES	3,921	3,921	3,921		3,921
141	0604601N	MINE DEVELOPMENT	79,411	79,411	101,811	5,000	84,411
		Maritime mine development and fielding acceleration (HHEE Inc 1).			[22,400]	[5,000]	
142	0604610N	LIGHTWEIGHT TORPEDO DEVELOPMENT	137,265	137,265	137,265	−14,788	122,477
		Carryover				[−14,788]	
143	0604654N	JOINT SERVICE EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT.	8,810	8,810	8,810		8,810
144	0604657M	USMC GROUND COMBAT/SUPPORTING ARMS SYSTEMS—ENG DEV.	33,880	33,880	33,880		33,880
145	0604703N	PERSONNEL, TRAINING, SIMULATION, AND HUMAN FACTORS.	10,011	10,011	10,011		10,011
146	0604727N	JOINT STANDOFF WEAPON SYSTEMS	1,516	1,516	1,516		1,516
147	0604755N	SHIP SELF DEFENSE (DETECT & CONTROL)	170,080	170,080	170,080		170,080
148	0604756N	SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: HARD KILL)	74,214	79,214	99,214		74,214
		ESSM Blk 2 software upgrades ahead of need				[−7,880]	
		ESSMS system integration and test ahead of need				[−6,970]	
		HVP 5-inch cUAS round			[25,000]	[22,480]	
		Navy Hypervelocity Projectile (HVP) ship integration		[5,000]			
		NGLS excess to need				[−7,630]	
149	0604757N	SHIP SELF DEFENSE (ENGAGE: SOFT KILL/EW)	165,599	165,599	271,599		165,599
		Accelerate Long Endurance Electronic Decoy (LEED)—Navy UFR.			[106,000]		
150	0604761N	INTELLIGENCE ENGINEERING	23,810	23,810	23,810		23,810
151	0604771N	MEDICAL DEVELOPMENT	8,371	8,371	8,371		8,371
152	0604777N	NAVIGATION/ID SYSTEM	44,326	44,326	44,326		44,326
155	0604850N	SSN(X)	348,788	298,788	348,788	−27,900	320,888
		Program delay		[−50,000]		[−27,900]	
156	0605013M	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	15,218	15,218	15,218		15,218
157	0605013N	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	325,004	317,504	325,004	2,500	327,504
		Program decrease		[−10,000]			
		Program increase		[2,500]		[2,500]	
158	0605024N	ANTI-TAMPER TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	3,317	3,317	3,317		3,317
159	0605180N	TACAMO MODERNIZATION	775,316	775,316	775,316		775,316
160	0605212M	CH—53K RDTE	86,093	86,093	86,093		86,093
161	0605215N	MISSION PLANNING	115,390	115,390	115,390		115,390
162	0605217N	COMMON AVIONICS	87,053	87,053	87,053		87,053
163	0605220N	SHIP TO SHORE CONNECTOR (SSC)	5,697	5,697	5,697		5,697
164	0605285N	NEXT GENERATION FIGHTER	453,828	363,828	53,828		453,828
		Program decrease			[−400,000]		
		Program Execution & Deferment		[−90,000]			
166	0605414N	UNMANNED CARRIER AVIATION (UCA)	214,919	214,919	214,919		214,919
167	0605450M	JOINT AIR-TO-GROUND MISSILE (JAGM)	20,654	20,654	20,654		20,654
168	0605500N	MULTI-MISSION MARITIME AIRCRAFT (MMA)	39,096	39,096	39,096		39,096

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169	0605504N	MULTI-MISSION MARITIME (MMA) INCREMENT III	134,366	134,366	134,366		134,366
170	0605516N	LONG RANGE FIRES	120,728	120,728	120,728		120,728
171	0605611M	MARINE CORPS ASSAULT VEHICLES SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT & DEMONSTRATION. Slow expenditure rate	60,181	55,181	60,181	-5,000	55,181
172	0605813M	JOINT LIGHT TACTICAL VEHICLE (JLTV) SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT & DEMONSTRATION.	10,748	10,748	10,748	[-5,000]	10,748
173	0204202N	DDG-1000	243,042	243,042	243,042		243,042
174	0301377N	COUNTERING ADVANCED CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS (CACW).	19,517	19,517	19,517		19,517
175	0302315N	NON-KINETIC COUNTERMEASURE SUPPORT	8,324	8,324	8,324		8,324
179	0304785N	ISR & INFO OPERATIONS	188,392	188,392	188,392		188,392
180	0306250M	CYBER OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	7,581	7,581	7,581		7,581
		SUBTOTAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION.	7,942,968	7,752,768	7,724,968	-42,813	7,900,155
		MANAGEMENT SUPPORT					
181	0604256N	THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT	25,823	25,823	25,823		25,823
182	0604258N	TARGET SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	17,224	17,224	17,224		17,224
183	0604759N	MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT	65,672	65,672	65,672		65,672
184	0605152N	STUDIES AND ANALYSIS SUPPORT—NAVY	6,216	6,216	6,216		6,216
185	0605154N	CENTER FOR NAVAL ANALYSES	43,648	43,648	43,648		43,648
187	0605804N	TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICES	1,009	1,009	1,009		1,009
188	0605853N	MANAGEMENT, TECHNICAL & INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT.	137,521	137,521	137,521		137,521
189	0605856N	STRATEGIC TECHNICAL SUPPORT	3,536	3,536	3,536		3,536
190	0605863N	RDT&E SHIP AND AIRCRAFT SUPPORT	152,176	152,176	152,176		152,176
191	0605864N	TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT	477,823	477,823	477,823		477,823
192	0605865N	OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION CAPABILITY	30,603	30,603	30,603		30,603
193	0605866N	NAVY SPACE AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE (SEW) SUPPORT.	23,668	23,668	23,668		23,668
194	0605867N	SEW SURVEILLANCE/RECONNAISSANCE SUPPORT	6,390	6,390	6,390		6,390
195	0605873M	MARINE CORPS PROGRAM WIDE SUPPORT	32,700	32,700	32,700		32,700
196	0605898N	MANAGEMENT HQ—R&D	42,381	42,381	42,381		42,381
197	0606295M	MARINE AVIATION DEVELOPMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT.	5,000	5,000	5,000		5,000
198	0606355N	WARFARE INNOVATION MANAGEMENT	50,652	50,652	50,652		50,652
199	0305327N	INSIDER THREAT	2,920	2,920	2,920		2,920
200	0902498N	MANAGEMENT HEADQUARTERS (DEPARTMENTAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES).	2,234	2,234	2,234		2,234
		SUBTOTAL MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	1,127,196	1,127,196	1,127,196		1,127,196
		OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT					
203	0604840M	F-35 C2D2	480,759	432,759	480,759		480,759
		Program Carryover		[-48,000]			
204	0604840N	F-35 C2D2	466,186	420,186	466,186		466,186
		Program Carryover		[-46,000]			
205	0605520M	MARINE CORPS AIR DEFENSE WEAPONS SYSTEMS ... Counter UAS high powered microwave acceleration	74,119	88,519	74,119	14,400	88,519
206	0607658N	COOPERATIVE ENGAGEMENT CAPABILITY (CEC)	142,552	142,552	142,552	[14,400]	142,552
207	0101221N	STRATEGIC SUB & WEAPONS SYSTEM SUPPORT	403,494	413,494	409,494		403,494
		High density sonar array			[6,000]		
		Outpost Uncrewed Surveillance System		[10,000]			
208	0101224N	SSBN SECURITY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	61,012	61,012	61,012		61,012
209	0101226N	SUBMARINE ACOUSTIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	96,667	96,667	96,667		96,667
210	0101402N	NAVY STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS	29,743	29,743	29,743		29,743
211	0204136N	F/A-18 SQUADRONS	374,194	336,794	374,194		374,194
		SLM Delay		[-37,400]			
212	0204228N	SURFACE SUPPORT	8,420	8,420	8,420		8,420
213	0204229N	TOMAHAWK AND TOMAHAWK MISSION PLANNING CENTER (TMPC). Product development ahead of need	200,739	200,739	200,739	-1,589	199,150
						[-1,589]	
214	0204311N	INTEGRATED SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM	72,473	72,473	72,473		72,473
215	0204313N	SHIP-TOWED ARRAY SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS	1,428	1,428	1,428		1,428
216	0204413N	AMPHIBIOUS TACTICAL SUPPORT UNITS (DISPLACEMENT CRAFT).	2,238	2,238	2,238		2,238

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217	0204460M	GROUND/AIR TASK ORIENTED RADAR (G/ATOR)	51,346	45,946	51,346	-5,400	45,946
		Slow expenditure rate		[-5,400]		[-5,400]	
218	0204571N	CONSOLIDATED TRAINING SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT ..	159,648	159,648	159,648		159,648
219	0204575N	ELECTRONIC WARFARE (EW) READINESS SUPPORT ...	139,164	139,164	318,164		139,164
		Accelerate COPPERFIELD—Navy UFR			[60,000]		
		Accelerate GRANDSTAND—Navy UFR			[29,000]		
		Navy counterspace capability—SPACECOM UFR			[60,000]		
		Navy mobile counterspace capability—SPACECOM UFR.			[10,000]		
		Navy space-enabled indications and warnings capability—SPACECOM UFR.			[20,000]		
220	0205601N	ANTI-RADIATION MISSILE IMPROVEMENT	28,682	28,682	28,682		28,682
221	0205620N	SURFACE ASW COMBAT SYSTEM INTEGRATION	29,887	29,887	29,887		29,887
222	0205632N	MK-48 ADCAP	164,935	164,935	184,935	20,000	184,935
		NSWC INDIAN HEAD explosive fill			[20,000]	[20,000]	
223	0205633N	AVIATION IMPROVEMENTS	136,276	122,676	136,276		136,276
		Program Carryover		[-13,600]			
224	0205675N	OPERATIONAL NUCLEAR POWER SYSTEMS	167,098	167,098	167,098		167,098
225	0206313M	MARINE CORPS COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS	145,343	145,343	161,643	6,000	151,343
		Marine Corps Electromagnetic Warfare Programs—SPACECOM UFR.			[10,300]		
		Marine Corps realignment—MEGFOS-M			[6,000]	[6,000]	
226	0206335M	COMMON AVIATION COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM (CAC2S).	18,332	18,332	18,332		18,332
227	0206623M	MARINE CORPS GROUND COMBAT/SUPPORTING ARMS SYSTEMS.	77,377	74,577	77,377	-2,000	75,377
		Slow expenditure rate		[-2,800]		[-2,000]	
228	0206624M	MARINE CORPS COMBAT SERVICES SUPPORT	33,641	33,641	33,641		33,641
229	0206625M	USMC INTELLIGENCE/ELECTRONIC WARFARE SYSTEMS (MIP).	37,372	37,372	57,372		37,372
		Tactical Exploitation of National Capabilities (TENCAP)—USMC UFR.			[20,000]		
231	0207161N	TACTICAL AIM MISSILES	31,359	31,359	31,359		31,359
232	0207163N	ADVANCED MEDIUM RANGE AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE (AMRAAM).	29,638	29,638	29,638		29,638
233	0208043N	PLANNING AND DECISION AID SYSTEM (PDAS)	3,559	3,559	3,559		3,559
237	0303138N	AFLOAT NETWORKS	56,915	56,915	69,215	12,300	69,215
		Accelerate Fund NC3 Recapitalization and New Transmission Pathways—Navy UFR.			[12,300]	[12,300]	
238	0303140N	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	35,339	35,339	35,339		35,339
239	0305192N	MILITARY INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM (MIP) ACTIVITIES	7,239	7,239	7,239		7,239
242	0305208M	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS	45,550	45,550	45,550		45,550
243	0305220N	MQ-4C TRITON	14,402	14,402	14,402		14,402
245	0305232M	RQ-11 UAV	2,016	14,516	2,016		2,016
		Maritimization of the Long-Range Tactical (LRT) SUAS.		[12,500]			
247	0305241N	MULTI-INTELLIGENCE SENSOR DEVELOPMENT	40,267	40,267	40,267		40,267
248	0305242M	UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS (UAS) PAYLOADS (MIP)	10,917	10,917	10,917		10,917
250	0305421N	MQ-4C TRITON MODERNIZATION	444,042	444,042	444,042		444,042
251	0307577N	INTELLIGENCE MISSION DATA (IMD)	793	793	793		793
252	0308601N	MODELING AND SIMULATION SUPPORT	10,927	10,927	10,927		10,927
253	0702207N	DEPOT MAINTENANCE (NON-IF)	28,799	28,799	28,799		28,799
254	0708730N	MARITIME TECHNOLOGY (MARITECH)	4,326	4,326	4,326		4,326
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	2,235,339	2,235,339	2,652,339		2,235,339
		Classified adjustment			[417,000]		
		SUBTOTAL OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT	6,604,552	6,488,252	7,275,152	43,711	6,648,263
		SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAMS					
255	0608013N	RISK MANAGEMENT INFORMATION—SOFTWARE PILOT PROGRAM.	14,522	14,522	14,522		14,522
256	0608231N	MARITIME TACTICAL COMMAND AND CONTROL (MTC2)—SOFTWARE PILOT PROGRAM.	10,289	10,289	10,289		10,289
		SUBTOTAL SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAMS.	24,811	24,811	24,811		24,811

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		TOTAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, NAVY.	25,697,815	371,500	933,400	658,508	26,356,323
		RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, AF					
		BASIC RESEARCH					
001	0601102F	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	361,930	369,430	361,930	7,500	369,430
		Innovation of quantum materials		[7,500]		[7,500]	
002	0601103F	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	143,372	143,372	143,372		143,372
		SUBTOTAL BASIC RESEARCH	505,302	512,802	505,302	7,500	512,802
		APPLIED RESEARCH					
003	0602020F	FUTURE AF CAPABILITIES APPLIED RESEARCH	85,477	85,477	85,477		85,477
004	0602022F	UNIVERSITY AFFILIATED RESEARCH CENTER (UARC)—TACTICAL AUTONOMY.	8,225	8,225	8,225		8,225
005	0602102F	MATERIALS	142,336	134,836	152,336	10,000	152,336
		Advanced materials science for manufacturing re- search.			[10,000]	[10,000]	
		Program decrease		[-7,500]			
006	0602201F	AEROSPACE VEHICLE TECHNOLOGIES	5,235	5,235	5,235		5,235
007	0602202F	HUMAN EFFECTIVENESS APPLIED RESEARCH	138,204	138,204	138,204		138,204
008	0602203F	AEROSPACE PROPULSION	339,477	346,977	339,477	7,500	346,977
		High mach turbine engine		[2,500]		[2,500]	
		High-hypersonic detonation propulsion research and technology.		[5,000]		[5,000]	
009	0602204F	AEROSPACE SENSORS	193,029	193,029	193,029		193,029
011	0602298F	SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT— MAJOR HEADQUARTERS ACTIVITIES.	9,662	9,662	9,662		9,662
012	0602602F	CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS	138,497	138,497	138,497		138,497
013	0602605F	DIRECTED ENERGY TECHNOLOGY	114,962	117,462	114,962	2,500	117,462
		Program increase		[2,500]		[2,500]	
014	0602788F	DOMINANT INFORMATION SCIENCES AND METHODS ..	176,333	183,833	176,333	7,500	183,833
		Autonomy and AI research		[2,500]		[2,500]	
		Future Flag Testbed		[5,000]		[5,000]	
		SUBTOTAL APPLIED RESEARCH	1,351,437	1,361,437	1,361,437	27,500	1,378,937
		ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT					
015	0603032F	FUTURE AF INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY DEMOS	248,506	238,506	248,506	-10,000	238,506
		Program decrease		[-10,000]		[-10,000]	
016	0603112F	ADVANCED MATERIALS FOR WEAPON SYSTEMS	29,661	29,661	29,661		29,661
017	0603199F	SUSTAINMENT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (S&T)	12,558	12,558	12,558	-2,080	10,478
		Excess growth				[-2,080]	
018	0603203F	ADVANCED AEROSPACE SENSORS	37,935	37,935	37,935		37,935
019	0603211F	AEROSPACE TECHNOLOGY DEV/DEMO	102,529	105,029	102,529	-16,310	86,219
		Reusable Hypersonic Rocket Engine Flight Demo		[2,500]		[2,500]	
		Unjustified growth				[-18,810]	
020	0603216F	AEROSPACE PROPULSION AND POWER TECHNOLOGY				5,000	
		Medium-Scale CCA Propulsion		[10,000]		[5,000]	
021	0603270F	ELECTRONIC COMBAT TECHNOLOGY	36,445	36,445	36,445		36,445
022	0603273F	SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY FOR NUCLEAR RE-ENTRY SYSTEMS.	91,885	91,885	91,885		91,885
024	0603456F	HUMAN EFFECTIVENESS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.	19,568	19,568	19,568		19,568
025	0603601F	CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	125,460	125,460	125,460		125,460
026	0603605F	ADVANCED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY	25,050	25,050	25,050		25,050
027	0603680F	MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	34,730	37,230	37,730	3,000	37,730
		Additive manufacturing of super refractory alloys		[2,500]			
		Affordable composites for hypersonic systems			[1,000]	[1,000]	
		Classified additive manufacturing research			[2,000]	[2,000]	
028	0603788F	BATTLESPACE KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT AND DEM- ONSTRATION.	26,172	21,172	26,172		26,172
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
029	0604776F	DEPLOYMENT & DISTRIBUTION ENTERPRISE R&D	27,762	27,762	27,762	-2,760	25,002
		Unjustified growth				[-2,760]	
030	0207412F	CONTROL AND REPORTING CENTER (CRC)	2,012	2,012	2,012		2,012
		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	820,273	820,273	823,273	-23,150	797,123

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ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPES							
032	0603260F	INTELLIGENCE ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	3,820	3,820	3,820		3,820
033	0603742F	COMBAT IDENTIFICATION TECHNOLOGY	24,799	24,799	24,799		24,799
034	0603790F	NATO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT	4,498	4,498	4,498		4,498
035	0603851F	INTERCONTINENTAL BALLISTIC MISSILE—DEM/VAL ...	119,197	114,197	119,197	-8,000	111,197
		Insufficient Justification		[-5,000]		[-8,000]	
036	0604001F	NC3 ADVANCED CONCEPTS	10,148	10,148	10,148	-4,600	5,548
		Unjustified growth				[-4,600]	
037	0604003F	ADVANCED BATTLE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ABMS) ...	743,842	743,842	743,842	-101,782	642,060
		Unjustified growth				[-101,782]	
038	0604004F	ADVANCED ENGINE DEVELOPMENT	562,337	562,337	562,337	-532,337	30,000
		Air Force requested transfer to line 38A				[-532,337]	
038A	0604004FA	NEXT GENERATION ADAPTIVE PROPULSION				532,337	532,337
		Air Force requested transfer from line 38				[532,337]	
039	0604005F	NC3 COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT & PROTOTYPING ..	68,124	68,124	68,124		68,124
041	0604007F	E-7	418,513	382,363	418,513	-16,936	401,577
		E-7—Slow Expenditure		[-36,150]		[-16,936]	
042	0604009F	AFWERX PRIME	20,580	30,580	20,580	10,000	30,580
		Program increase		[10,000]		[10,000]	
043	0604015F	LONG RANGE STRIKE—BOMBER	2,654,073	2,654,073	2,654,073		2,654,073
044	0604025F	RAPID DEFENSE EXPERIMENTATION RESERVE (RDER)	75,051	75,051	75,051		75,051
045	0604032F	DIRECTED ENERGY PROTOTYPING	3,712	3,712	3,712		3,712
047	0604183F	HYPERSONICS PROTOTYPING—HYPERSONIC ATTACK CRUISE MISSILE (HACM).	516,971	516,971	516,971		516,971
049	0604257F	ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND SENSORS	24,204	24,204	24,204		24,204
050	0604288F	SURVIVABLE AIRBORNE OPERATIONS CENTER (SAOC)	1,687,500	1,447,500	1,447,500	-140,625	1,546,875
		Late contract award		[-240,000]		[-140,625]	
		Survivable Airborne Operations Center reduction			[-240,000]		
051	0604317F	TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	3,485	3,485	3,485		3,485
052	0604327F	HARD AND DEEPLY BURIED TARGET DEFEAT SYSTEM (HDBTDS) PROGRAM.	154,417	144,417	149,917	-10,000	144,417
		Program decrease		[-10,000]	[-4,500]	[-10,000]	
053	0604414F	CYBER RESILIENCY OF WEAPON SYSTEMS-ACS	59,539	59,539	59,539		59,539
055	0604609F	REQUIREMENTS ANALYSIS & CONCEPT MATURATION Unjustified request	22,667	22,667	22,667	-10,045	12,622
						[-10,045]	
056	0604668F	JOINT TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (JTMS).	174,723	169,723	174,723	-66,629	108,094
		Excess to need				[-65,329]	
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
		Projected underexecution				[-1,300]	
057	0604776F	DEPLOYMENT & DISTRIBUTION ENTERPRISE R&D	4,840	4,840	4,840		4,840
058	0604858F	TECH TRANSITION PROGRAM	234,342	211,342	298,842	53,000	287,342
		Accelerate experimentation and prototyping includ- ing for advanced low-cost weapons.			[50,000]	[50,000]	
		Air Force Research Lab stratospheric balloon experi- mentation project.			[14,500]	[14,500]	
		Funding carryover		[-23,000]		[-11,500]	
059	0604860F	OPERATIONAL ENERGY AND INSTALLATION RESIL- IENCE.	63,194	63,194	63,194	-19,500	43,694
		Unjustified growth				[-19,500]	
060	0605057F	NEXT GENERATION AIR-REFUELING SYSTEM	7,014	7,014	7,014		7,014
061	0605164F	AIR REFUELING CAPABILITY MODERNIZATION	13,661	13,661	13,661		13,661
062	0606005F	DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OFFICE	9,800	14,600	9,800	4,800	14,600
		Software integration laboratory modernization		[4,800]		[4,800]	
		Non-traditional F2T2 Capability—INDOPACOM UPL ..		[400,000]			
064	0207110F	NEXT GENERATION AIR DOMINANCE	3,306,355	3,006,355	3,306,355	-30,920	3,275,435
		Program delay		[-300,000]		[-30,920]	
065	0207179F	AUTONOMOUS COLLABORATIVE PLATFORMS	51,666	51,666	51,666		51,666
066	0207420F	COMBAT IDENTIFICATION	1,914	1,914	1,914		1,914
067	0207431F	COMBAT AIR INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM ACTIVITIES	18,733	18,733	18,733	-18,733	
		Air Force requested transfer to line 67A				[-18,733]	
067A	0607431FA	AIR FORCE ISR DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE				18,733	18,733
		Air Force requested transfer from line 67				[18,733]	
068	0207448F	C2ISR TACTICAL DATA LINK	42,371	42,371	42,371		42,371
069	0207455F	THREE DIMENSIONAL LONG-RANGE RADAR (3DELRR)	8,100	8,100	8,100		8,100

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070	0207522F	AIRBASE AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS (ABADS)	17,273	17,273	17,273		17,273
071	0207606F	JOINT SIMULATION ENVIRONMENT (JSE)	191,337	191,337	191,337	-11,722	179,615
		JSE—XA ahead of need				[-11,722]	
072	0208030F	WAR RESERVE MATERIEL—AMMUNITION	5,226	5,226	5,226		5,226
073	0305236F	COMMON DATA LINK EXECUTIVE AGENT (CDL EA)	33,349	33,349	33,349		33,349
074	0305601F	MISSION PARTNER ENVIRONMENTS	22,028	22,028	22,028		22,028
077	0708051F	RAPID SUSTAINMENT MODERNIZATION (RSM)	37,044	57,044	37,044	15,000	52,044
		CBM+		[20,000]		[15,000]	
078	0808736F	SPECIAL VICTIM ACCOUNTABILITY AND INVESTIGATION.	3,006	3,006	3,006		3,006
079	0808737F	INTEGRATED PRIMARY PREVENTION	5,364	5,364	5,364		5,364
080	0901410F	CONTRACTING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM	28,995	28,995	28,995		28,995
081	1206415F	U.S. SPACE COMMAND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT.	28,392	28,392	28,392		28,392
		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPES.	11,486,204	11,301,854	11,306,204	-337,959	11,148,245
		SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION					
082	0604200F	FUTURE ADVANCED WEAPON ANALYSIS & PROGRAMS RAACM	7,205	13,205	7,205	6,000	13,205
				[6,000]		[6,000]	
083	0604201F	PNT RESILIENCY, MODS, AND IMPROVEMENTS	217,662	217,662	217,662		217,662
084	0604222F	NUCLEAR WEAPONS SUPPORT	70,823	70,823	70,823		70,823
085	0604270F	ELECTRONIC WARFARE DEVELOPMENT	19,264	19,264	19,264		19,264
086	0604281F	TACTICAL DATA NETWORKS ENTERPRISE	78,480	78,480	78,480		78,480
087	0604287F	PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT	10,569	10,569	10,569		10,569
088	0604336F	HARD AND DEEPLY BURIED TARGET DEFEAT SYSTEM (HDBTDS) PROTOTYPING.	39,079	39,079	39,079		39,079
089	0604602F	ARMAMENT/ORDNANCE DEVELOPMENT	7,157	7,157	7,157		7,157
090	0604604F	SUBMUNITIONS	3,427	3,427	3,427		3,427
091	0604617F	AGILE COMBAT SUPPORT	24,178	24,178	24,178		24,178
092	0604706F	LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS	25,502	25,502	25,502		25,502
093	0604735F	COMBAT TRAINING RANGES	224,783	231,783	224,783	-15,645	209,138
		Advanced Radar Threat System Development		[7,000]			
		Excess growth—ARTS-V				[-15,645]	
094	0604932F	LONG RANGE STANDOFF WEAPON	623,491	623,491	623,491		623,491
095	0604933F	ICBM FUZE MODERNIZATION	10,408	10,408	10,408	-2,030	8,378
		Unjustified request				[-2,030]	
098	0605056F	OPEN ARCHITECTURE MANAGEMENT	41,223	41,223	41,223		41,223
100	0605223F	ADVANCED PILOT TRAINING	83,985	83,985	83,985		83,985
102	0605238F	GROUND BASED STRATEGIC DETERRENT EMD	3,721,024	3,721,024	3,721,024	200,000	3,921,024
		Program increase: Sentinel industrial base risk reduction and prototyping.				[200,000]	
104	0207279F	ISOLATED PERSONNEL SURVIVABILITY AND RECOVERY.	10,020	10,020	10,020		10,020
105	0207328F	STAND IN ATTACK WEAPON	375,528	375,528	375,528		375,528
106	0207701F	FULL COMBAT MISSION TRAINING	7,754	7,754	7,754		7,754
111	0305155F	THEATER NUCLEAR WEAPON STORAGE & SECURITY SYSTEM.	9,018	9,018	9,018		9,018
113	0401221F	KC-46A TANKER SQUADRONS	93,620	93,620	93,620		93,620
114	0401319F	VC-25B	433,943	305,943	30,943	-108,486	325,457
		Program decrease		[-20,000]			
		Program delay		[-108,000]		[-108,486]	
		VC-25B reduction			[-403,000]		
115	0701212F	AUTOMATED TEST SYSTEMS	26,640	31,640	26,640		26,640
		Software Factories		[5,000]			
116	0804772F	TRAINING DEVELOPMENTS	4,960	10,060	4,960		4,960
		3D Interactive & Immersive Instruction		[5,100]			
117	1203176F	COMBAT SURVIVOR EVADER LOCATOR	2,269	2,269	2,269		2,269
		SUBTOTAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION.	6,172,012	6,067,112	5,769,012	79,839	6,251,851
		MANAGEMENT SUPPORT					
118	0604256F	THREAT SIMULATOR DEVELOPMENT	19,927	19,927	19,927		19,927
119	0604759F	MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT	74,228	131,228	74,228		74,228
		EGTTR Infrastructure Modernization		[12,000]			
		Hypersonic Capability Acceleration		[30,000]			

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		Planning & Design		[15,000]			
120	0605101F	RAND PROJECT AIR FORCE	39,720	39,720	39,720		39,720
122	0605712F	INITIAL OPERATIONAL TEST & EVALUATION	14,247	14,247	14,247		14,247
123	0605807F	TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT	936,913	942,213	936,913	3,100	940,013
		Digital Test Facility Models		[5,300]		[3,100]	
124	0605827F	ACQ WORKFORCE- GLOBAL VIG & COMBAT SYS	316,924	316,924	316,924		316,924
125	0605828F	ACQ WORKFORCE- GLOBAL REACH	496,740	496,740	496,740		496,740
126	0605829F	ACQ WORKFORCE- CYBER, NETWORK, & BUS SYS ...	521,987	511,987	521,987	-10,000	511,987
		Program decrease		[-10,000]		[-10,000]	
128	0605831F	ACQ WORKFORCE- CAPABILITY INTEGRATION	262,349	262,349	262,349		262,349
129	0605832F	ACQ WORKFORCE- ADVANCED PRGM TECHNOLOGY ..	69,319	69,319	69,319		69,319
130	0605833F	ACQ WORKFORCE- NUCLEAR SYSTEMS	343,180	343,180	343,180		343,180
131	0605898F	MANAGEMENT HQ—R&D	6,291	6,291	6,291		6,291
132	0605976F	FACILITIES RESTORATION AND MODERNIZATION— TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT.	94,828	124,828	94,828		94,828
		Program increase		[30,000]			
133	0605978F	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT—TEST AND EVALUATION SUPPORT.	63,579	63,579	63,579		63,579
134	0606017F	REQUIREMENTS ANALYSIS AND MATURATION	41,550	37,450	41,550	-4,100	37,450
		Funding carryover		[-4,100]		[-4,100]	
135	0606398F	MANAGEMENT HQ—T&E	7,647	7,647	7,647		7,647
137	0303255F	COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATION, AND COM- PUTERS (C4)—STRATCOM.	19,607	31,607	27,607	13,000	32,607
		JEMSO dynamic spectrum sharing efforts		[1,000]			
		NC3 network security sensor			[5,000]		
		NC3 Research Architecture and Collaboration Hub (REACH).			[3,000]	[3,000]	
		NC3 STRATCOM		[10,000]		[10,000]	
		STRATCOM UARC Priority Research		[1,000]			
138	0308602F	ENTEPRISE INFORMATION SERVICES (EIS)	104,133	89,133	104,133		104,133
		Program decrease		[-15,000]			
139	0702806F	ACQUISITION AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	25,216	25,216	25,216		25,216
140	0804731F	GENERAL SKILL TRAINING	10	10	6,010	6,000	6,010
		Cyber workforce training ranges			[6,000]	[6,000]	
141	0804776F	ADVANCED DISTRIBUTED LEARNING	1,652	1,652	1,652		1,652
143	1001004F	INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES	4,590	4,590	4,590		4,590
		SUBTOTAL MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	3,464,637	3,539,837	3,478,637	8,000	3,472,637
		OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT					
144	0604233F	SPECIALIZED UNDERGRADUATE FLIGHT TRAINING	39,667	39,667	39,667		39,667
145	0604281F	TACTICAL DATA NETWORKS ENTERPRISE	22	22	22		22
146	0604283F	BATTLE MGMT COM & CTRL SENSOR DEVELOPMENT ..	100,183	100,183	100,183		100,183
147	0604445F	WIDE AREA SURVEILLANCE	21,443	21,443	21,443		21,443
150	0604840F	F-35 C2D2	1,124,207	1,874,207	1,124,207		1,124,207
		Cooperative Avionics Test Bed (CATB) Aircraft		[200,000]			
		F-35 System Digital-Twin Models		[350,000]			
		Mission Software Integration Laboratory (MSIL)		[300,000]			
		Program Carryover		[-100,000]			
151	0605018F	AF INTEGRATED PERSONNEL AND PAY SYSTEM (AF- IPPS).	49,739	49,739	49,739		49,739
152	0605024F	ANTI-TAMPER TECHNOLOGY EXECUTIVE AGENCY	65,792	65,792	65,792		65,792
153	0605117F	FOREIGN MATERIEL ACQUISITION AND EXPLOITATION ..	94,188	94,188	94,188		94,188
154	0605229F	HH-60W	52,314	52,314	52,314		52,314
155	0605278F	HC/MC-130 RECAP RDT&E	24,934	24,934	24,934		24,934
156	0606018F	NC3 INTEGRATION	21,864	21,864	21,864		21,864
157	0101113F	B-52 SQUADRONS	1,045,570	1,038,570	1,045,570		1,045,570
		VLF/LF excessive cost growth		[-7,000]			
158	0101122F	AIR-LAUNCHED CRUISE MISSILE (ALCM)	542	542	542		542
159	0101126F	B-1B SQUADRONS	17,939	17,939	17,939		17,939
160	0101127F	B-2 SQUADRONS	41,212	41,212	41,212		41,212
161	0101213F	MINUTEMAN SQUADRONS	62,550	62,550	62,550		62,550
162	0101316F	WORLDWIDE JOINT STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS	13,690	13,690	13,690		13,690
163	0101318F	SERVICE SUPPORT TO STRATCOM—GLOBAL STRIKE ..	7,330	7,330	7,330		7,330
165	0101328F	ICBM REENTRY VEHICLES	629,928	629,928	629,928	-39,209	590,719
		Reduce carryover				[-39,209]	

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168	0102326F	REGION/SECTOR OPERATION CONTROL CENTER MODERNIZATION PROGRAM.	852	852	852		852
169	0102412F	NORTH WARNING SYSTEM (NWS)	103	103	103		103
170	0102417F	OVER-THE-HORIZON BACKSCATTER RADAR	383,575	383,575	383,575		383,575
171	0202834F	VEHICLES AND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT—GENERAL	6,097	6,097	6,097		6,097
172	0205219F	MQ-9 UAV	7,074	7,074	7,074		7,074
173	0205671F	JOINT COUNTER RCIED ELECTRONIC WARFARE	3,372	3,372	3,372		3,372
176	0207133F	F-16 SQUADRONS	106,952	106,952	106,952		106,952
177	0207134F	F-15E SQUADRONS	178,603	178,603	234,903		178,603
		Prevent retirement of F-15Es			[56,300]		
178	0207136F	MANNED DESTRUCTIVE SUPPRESSION	16,182	16,182	16,182		16,182
179	0207138F	F-22A SQUADRONS	768,561	730,161	768,561	-7,179	761,382
		Early to need				[-7,179]	
		Program delay		[-38,400]			
180	0207142F	F-35 SQUADRONS	47,132	47,132	47,132		47,132
181	0207146F	F-15EX	56,228	56,228	56,228		56,228
182	0207161F	TACTICAL AIM MISSILES	34,932	34,932	34,932		34,932
183	0207163F	ADVANCED MEDIUM RANGE AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE (AMRAAM).	53,593	53,593	53,593		53,593
184	0207227F	COMBAT RESCUE—PARARESCUE	743	743	743		743
185	0207238F	E-11A	64,127	55,332	64,127	-8,795	55,332
		E-11A—Slow Expenditure		[-8,795]		[-8,795]	
186	0207247F	AF TENCAP	50,263	50,263	50,263		50,263
187	0207249F	PRECISION ATTACK SYSTEMS PROCUREMENT	12,723	12,723	12,723		12,723
188	0207253F	COMPASS CALL	132,475	132,475	132,475		132,475
189	0207268F	AIRCRAFT ENGINE COMPONENT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.	68,743	68,743	68,743	-2,134	66,609
		Unjustified growth				[-2,134]	
190	0207325F	JOINT AIR-TO-SURFACE STANDOFF MISSILE (JASSM)	183,532	183,532	183,532		183,532
191	0207327F	SMALL DIAMETER BOMB (SDB)	29,910	29,910	29,910		29,910
192	0207410F	AIR & SPACE OPERATIONS CENTER (AOC)	71,442	64,302	71,442	-6,340	65,102
		Funding carryover		[-7,140]		[-6,340]	
193	0207412F	CONTROL AND REPORTING CENTER (CRC)	18,473	18,473	18,473		18,473
195	0207418F	AFSPECWAR—TACP	2,206	2,206	2,206		2,206
197	0207431F	COMBAT AIR INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM ACTIVITIES	46,702	46,702	46,702	-9,445	37,257
		Air Force requested transfer to line 197A				[-9,445]	
197A	0207431F	AF JWICS ENTERPRISE				9,445	9,445
		Air Force requested transfer from 197				[9,445]	
198	0207438F	THEATER BATTLE MANAGEMENT (TBM) C4I	4,873	4,873	4,873		4,873
199	0207439F	ELECTRONIC WARFARE INTEGRATED REPROGRAMMING (EWIR).	17,149	17,149	17,149		17,149
200	0207444F	TACTICAL AIR CONTROL PARTY-MOD	12,171	12,171	12,171		12,171
201	0207452F	DCAPES	8,431	8,431	8,431		8,431
202	0207521F	AIR FORCE CALIBRATION PROGRAMS	2,223	2,223	2,223		2,223
203	0207573F	NATIONAL TECHNICAL NUCLEAR FORENSICS	2,060	2,060	2,060		2,060
204	0207590F	SEEK EAGLE	34,985	34,985	34,985		34,985
207	0207697F	DISTRIBUTED TRAINING AND EXERCISES	4,847	4,847	4,847		4,847
208	0207701F	FULL COMBAT MISSION TRAINING	7,048	7,048	7,048		7,048
209	0208006F	MISSION PLANNING SYSTEMS	92,566	92,566	92,566		92,566
210	0208007F	TACTICAL DECEPTION	539	539	539		539
212	0208087F	DISTRIBUTED CYBER WARFARE OPERATIONS	29,996	29,996	29,996		29,996
213	0208088F	AF DEFENSIVE CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	113,218	113,218	113,218		113,218
219	0208288F	INTEL DATA APPLICATIONS	988	988	988		988
220	0301025F	GEOBASE	1,002	1,002	1,002		1,002
222	0301113F	CYBER SECURITY INTELLIGENCE SUPPORT	18,141	18,141	18,141		18,141
228	0301377F	COUNTERING ADVANCED CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS (CACW).	1,668	1,668	1,668		1,668
230	0301401F	AF MULTI-DOMAIN NON-TRADITIONAL ISR BATTLESPACE AWARENESS.	3,436	3,436	3,936	500	3,936
		United States Cyber Command cooperation with Jordan.			[500]	[500]	
231	0302015F	E-4B NATIONAL AIRBORNE OPERATIONS CENTER (NAOC).	40,441	40,441	40,441		40,441
232	0302315F	NON-KINETIC COUNTERMEASURE SUPPORT	15,180	15,180	15,180		15,180
233	0303004F	EIT CONNECT	32,960	32,960	32,960		32,960
234	0303089F	CYBERSPACE AND DODIN OPERATIONS	9,776	9,776	9,776		9,776

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235	0303131F	MINIMUM ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (MEECN).	25,500	25,500	25,500		25,500
236	0303133F	HIGH FREQUENCY RADIO SYSTEMS	8,667	8,667	8,667		8,667
237	0303140F	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	94,424	94,424	94,424		94,424
238	0303248F	ALL DOMAIN COMMON PLATFORM	82,927	82,927	82,927		82,927
239	0303260F	JOINT MILITARY DECEPTION INITIATIVE	7,324	7,324	7,324		7,324
240	0304100F	STRATEGIC MISSION PLANNING & EXECUTION SYSTEM (SMPE).	69,441	69,441	69,441		69,441
243	0304260F	AIRBORNE SIGINT ENTERPRISE	85,284	85,284	85,284		85,284
244	0304310F	COMMERCIAL ECONOMIC ANALYSIS	4,719	14,719	4,719		4,719
		AI/ML mental health analytics for suicide prevention and response.		[10,000]			
247	0305015F	C2 AIR OPERATIONS SUITE—C2 INFO SERVICES	13,524	13,524	13,524		13,524
248	0305020F	CCMD INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	1,836	1,836	1,836		1,836
249	0305022F	ISR MODERNIZATION & AUTOMATION DVMT (IMAD) ..	22,909	22,909	22,909		22,909
250	0305099F	GLOBAL AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT (GATM)	5,151	5,151	5,151		5,151
251	0305103F	CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVE	304	304	304		304
252	0305111F	WEATHER SERVICE	31,372	31,372	36,372	5,000	36,372
		Air Force commercial weather data acquisition			[5,000]	[5,000]	
253	0305114F	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, APPROACH, AND LANDING SYSTEM (ATCAL).	15,143	15,143	15,143		15,143
254	0305116F	AERIAL TARGETS	7,685	7,685	7,685		7,685
257	0305128F	SECURITY AND INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES	481	481	481		481
258	0305146F	DEFENSE JOINT COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES ..	6,387	6,387	6,387		6,387
259	0305158F	TACTICAL TERMINAL	1,002	1,002	1,002		1,002
260	0305179F	INTEGRATED BROADCAST SERVICE (IBS)	16,006	16,006	16,006		16,006
262	0305206F	AIRBORNE RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS	84,363	84,363	109,051	22,300	106,663
		Long Endurance Airborne ISR—AFRICOM			[24,688]	[22,300]	
263	0305207F	MANNED RECONNAISSANCE SYSTEMS	16,323	16,323	16,323		16,323
264	0305208F	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS	86,476	86,476	86,476		86,476
265	0305220F	RQ-4 UAV	9,516	9,516	9,516		9,516
266	0305221F	NETWORK-CENTRIC COLLABORATIVE TARGETING	8,952	8,952	8,952		8,952
267	0305238F	NATO AGS	865	865	865		865
268	0305240F	SUPPORT TO DCGS ENTERPRISE	30,932	30,932	30,932		30,932
269	0305600F	INTERNATIONAL INTELLIGENCE TECHNOLOGY AND ARCHITECTURES.	18,670	18,670	18,670		18,670
271	0305984F	PERSONNEL RECOVERY COMMAND & CTRL (PRC2) ..	2,831	2,831	2,831		2,831
272	0307577F	INTELLIGENCE MISSION DATA (IMD)	3,658	3,658	3,658		3,658
274	0401119F	C-5 AIRLIFT SQUADRONS (IF)	33,003	33,003	33,003		33,003
275	0401130F	C-17 AIRCRAFT (IF)	17,395	17,395	17,395		17,395
276	0401132F	C-130J PROGRAM	34,423	34,423	34,423	29,000	63,423
		Program increase: Non-recurring engineering for polar airlift aircraft.				[29,000]	
277	0401134F	LARGE AIRCRAFT IR COUNTERMEASURES (LAIRCM) ..	7,768	7,768	7,768		7,768
278	0401218F	KC-135S	31,977	31,977	31,977		31,977
279	0401318F	CV-22	26,249	26,249	26,249		26,249
280	0408011F	SPECIAL TACTICS / COMBAT CONTROL	9,421	9,421	9,421		9,421
282	0708610F	LOGISTICS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (LOGIT)	11,895	11,895	11,895		11,895
283	0801380F	AF LVC OPERATIONAL TRAINING (LVC-OT)	29,815	29,815	29,815		29,815
284	0804743F	OTHER FLIGHT TRAINING	2,319	2,319	2,319		2,319
285	0901202F	JOINT PERSONNEL RECOVERY AGENCY	2,320	2,320	2,320		2,320
286	0901218F	CIVILIAN COMPENSATION PROGRAM	4,267	4,267	4,267		4,267
287	0901220F	PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION	3,163	3,163	3,163		3,163
288	0901226F	AIR FORCE STUDIES AND ANALYSIS AGENCY	18,937	17,037	18,937	-1,900	17,037
		Funding carryover		[-1,900]		[-1,900]	
289	0901538F	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.	5,634	5,634	5,634		5,634
290	0901554F	DEFENSE ENTERPRISE ACNTNG AND MGT SYS (DEAMS).	57,689	57,689	57,689		57,689
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	18,038,552	18,021,552	18,153,552	-138,533	17,900,019
		Classified adjustment				[-153,533]	
		Classified adjustment A			[15,000]	[15,000]	
		Classified adjustment B			[100,000]		
		Program justification review		[-17,000]			
		SUBTOTAL OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT	25,308,906	25,988,671	25,510,394	-147,290	25,161,616

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Line	Program Element	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
		TOTAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, AF	49,108,771	483,215	-354,512	-385,560	48,723,211
		RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, SF					
		BASIC RESEARCH					
001	0601102SF	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	21,349	21,349	21,349		21,349
002	0601103SF	UNIVERSITY RESEARCH INITIATIVES	14,731	14,731	14,731		14,731
		SUBTOTAL BASIC RESEARCH	36,080	36,080	36,080		36,080
		APPLIED RESEARCH					
004	1206601SF	SPACE TECHNOLOGY	244,964	234,964	330,964	5,000	249,964
		Program decrease		[-10,000]			
		SCO classified program advance procurement			[68,000]		
		SCO classified program FY25 shortfall			[13,000]		
		Space Modeling, Simulation, and Analysis Hub			[5,000]	[5,000]	
		SUBTOTAL APPLIED RESEARCH	244,964	234,964	330,964	5,000	249,964
		ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT					
005	1206310SF	SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. Defense in Depth as Mission Assurance for Spacecraft Multilevel Security (DiDaMAS-MLS).	425,166	435,166	467,682	62,516	487,682
				[10,000]		[20,000]	
006	1206616SF	TxDES—Space Force UFR			[42,516]	[42,516]	
		SPACE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT/ DEMO. Space Assets for Rapid Materiel Delivery in Contested Logistics.	138,270	148,270	138,270		138,270
				[10,000]			
		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	563,436	583,436	605,952	62,516	625,952
		ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPES					
007	0604002SF	SPACE FORCE WEATHER SERVICES RESEARCH	867	867	867		867
008	1203010SF	SPACE FORCE IT, DATA ANALYTICS, DIGITAL SOLUTIONS.	88,610	88,610	88,610		88,610
009	1203164SF	NAVSTAR GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (USER EQUIPMENT) (SPACE).	300,025	300,025	300,025		300,025
010	1203622SF	SPACE WARFIGHTING ANALYSIS	121,409	121,409	121,409		121,409
011	1203710SF	EO/IR WEATHER SYSTEMS	76,391	76,391	76,391		76,391
012	1203955SF	SPACE ACCESS, MOBILITY & LOGISTICS (SAML)	20,000	20,000	20,000		20,000
013	1206410SF	SPACE TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPING. Low-latency high availability VHF payloads	1,701,685	1,701,685	1,709,685	[8,000]	1,701,685
015	1206427SF	SPACE SYSTEMS PROTOTYPE TRANSITIONS (SSPT) ... Underexecution	133,739	133,739	133,739	-17,887 [-17,887]	115,852
016	1206438SF	SPACE CONTROL TECHNOLOGY	62,195	62,195	62,195		62,195
017	1206458SF	TECH TRANSITION (SPACE)	228,547	230,547	228,547	2,000	230,547
		Hybrid Space Architecture Pilot		[2,000]		[2,000]	
018	1206730SF	SPACE SECURITY AND DEFENSE PROGRAM	53,199	53,199	53,199		53,199
019	1206760SF	PROTECTED TACTICAL ENTERPRISE SERVICE (PTES) Cloud-based beam forming technologies	79,709	79,709	82,709	3,000	82,709
020	1206761SF	PROTECTED TACTICAL SERVICE (PTS)	596,996	596,996	596,996	-101,254	495,742
		PTS—R EMD delay				[-46,254]	
		Space Force requested realignment to line 71 for OCX shortfalls.				[-55,000]	
021	1206855SF	EVOLVED STRATEGIC SATCOM (ESS)	1,046,161	1,031,161	1,046,161	-44,280	1,001,881
		ECO/Risk excess to need				[-6,700]	
		ESS C2 terminal acquisition early to need				[-37,580]	
		Insufficient Justification		[-15,000]			
022	1206857SF	SPACE RAPID CAPABILITIES OFFICE	11,361	11,361	11,361	69,031	80,392
		Space Force requested realignment from line 75				[69,031]	
023	1206862SF	TACTICALLY RESPONSIVE SPACE	30,052	30,052	30,052		30,052
		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPES.	4,550,946	4,537,946	4,561,946	-89,390	4,461,556
		SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION					
024	1203269SF	GPS III FOLLOW-ON (GPS IIIF)	244,752	244,752	244,752	-10,095	234,657
		Underexecution				[-10,095]	

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026	1206421SF	COUNTERSPACE SYSTEMS	37,078	37,078	37,078		37,078
027	1206422SF	WEATHER SYSTEM FOLLOW-ON	49,207	49,207	49,207		49,207
028	1206425SF	SPACE SITUATION AWARENESS SYSTEMS	483,605	483,605	483,605		483,605
029	1206431SF	ADVANCED EHF MILSATCOM (SPACE)	1,020	1,020	1,020		1,020
032	1206440SF	NEXT-GEN OPIR—GROUND	558,013	558,013	558,013		558,013
033	1206442SF	NEXT GENERATION OPIR	202,951	202,951	202,951	-10,000	192,951
		Underexecution				[-10,000]	
034	1206443SF	NEXT-GEN OPIR—GEO	510,806	510,806	510,806		510,806
035	1206444SF	NEXT-GEN OPIR—POLAR	828,878	828,878	828,878	-13,699	815,179
		Launch support ahead of need				[-13,699]	
036	1206445SF	COMMERCIAL SATCOM (COMSATCOM) INTEGRATION	134,487	134,487	134,487		134,487
037	1206446SF	RESILIENT MISSILE WARNING MISSILE TRACKING— LOW EARTH ORBIT (LEO). Management reserve reduction	1,730,821	1,730,821	1,730,821	-33,000	1,697,821
		RESILIENT MISSILE WARNING MISSILE TRACKING— MEDIUM EARTH ORBIT (MEO). Epoch 2 ops and integration early to need				[-33,000]	
038	1206447SF	RESILIENT MISSILE WARNING MISSILE TRACKING— MEDIUM EARTH ORBIT (MEO). Epoch 2 ops and integration early to need	846,349	846,349	846,349	-95,900	750,449
		Management services excess to need				[-10,000]	
		MEO vendor termination				[-10,700]	
		MEO vendor termination				[-75,200]	
040	1206853SF	NATIONAL SECURITY SPACE LAUNCH PROGRAM (SPACE)—EMD.	23,392	23,392	23,392		23,392
		SUBTOTAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION.	5,651,359	5,651,359	5,651,359	-162,694	5,488,665
		MANAGEMENT SUPPORT					
046	1206392SF	ACQ WORKFORCE—SPACE & MISSILE SYSTEMS	274,424	274,424	274,424		274,424
047	1206398SF	SPACE & MISSILE SYSTEMS CENTER—MHA	12,867	12,867	12,867		12,867
049	1206759SF	MAJOR T&E INVESTMENT—SPACE	229,665	229,665	248,765		229,665
		NSTTC—Space Force UFR			[19,100]		
050	1206860SF	ROCKET SYSTEMS LAUNCH PROGRAM (SPACE)	20,134	20,134	25,134	5,000	25,134
		Advanced modular solid rocket motor			[5,000]	[5,000]	
052	1206864SF	SPACE TEST PROGRAM (STP)	30,279	30,279	30,279		30,279
		SUBTOTAL MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	567,369	567,369	591,469	5,000	572,369
		OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT					
055	1203001SF	FAMILY OF ADVANCED BLOS TERMINALS (FAB-T)	2,607	2,607	2,607		2,607
056	1203040SF	DCO-SPACE	104,088	104,088	104,088		104,088
057	1203109SF	NARROWBAND SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS	228,435	228,435	228,435		228,435
058	1203110SF	SATELLITE CONTROL NETWORK (SPACE)	98,572	98,572	98,572	-5,000	93,572
		Underexecution				[-5,000]	
059	1203154SF	LONG RANGE KILL CHAINS	244,121	244,121	244,121		244,121
061	1203173SF	SPACE AND MISSILE TEST AND EVALUATION CENTER	20,844	20,844	20,844		20,844
062	1203174SF	SPACE INNOVATION, INTEGRATION AND RAPID TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.	48,900	48,900	48,900		48,900
063	1203182SF	SPACELIFT RANGE SYSTEM (SPACE)	55,906	55,906	55,906		55,906
065	1203330SF	SPACE SUPERIORITY ISR	28,227	28,227	28,227		28,227
067	1203873SF	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE RADARS	12,024	12,024	17,024	5,000	17,024
		Modernization of the Perimeter Acquisition Radar Attack Characterization System.			[5,000]	[5,000]	
068	1203906SF	NCMC—TW/AA SYSTEM	25,656	25,656	25,656		25,656
069	1203913SF	NUDET DETECTION SYSTEM (SPACE)	83,426	83,426	83,426		83,426
070	1203940SF	SPACE SITUATION AWARENESS OPERATIONS	120,160	130,160	146,160	5,000	125,160
		Joint Commercial Operations (JCO) Cell—SPACECOM UFR.			[26,000]		
		Unified Data Library		[10,000]		[5,000]	
071	1206423SF	GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM III—OPERATIONAL CONTROL SEGMENT.	217,224	217,224	217,224	55,000	272,224
		Space Force requested realignment from line 20 for OCX shortfalls.				[55,000]	
075	1206770SF	ENTERPRISE GROUND SERVICES	111,284	111,284	111,284	-69,031	42,253
		Space Force requested realignment to line 22				[-69,031]	
076	1208053SF	JOINT TACTICAL GROUND SYSTEM	6,937	6,937	6,937		6,937
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	5,520,323	5,380,523	5,629,623	-139,800	5,380,523
		Classified program A—Space Force UFR			[59,500]		
		Classified program B—Space Force UFR			[66,000]		
		Classified program B—SPACECOM UFR			[166,400]		

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		Classified program C—Space Force UFR			[150,000]		
		Classified program C—SPACECOM UFR			[60,000]		
		Partial restoral of program decrease			[507,400]		
		Program decrease			[-900,000]		
		Program Reduction		[-139,800]		[-139,800]	
		SUBTOTAL OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT	6,928,734	6,798,934	7,069,034	-148,831	6,779,903
		SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAMS					
077	1208248SF	SPACE DOMAIN AWARENESS/PLANNING/TASKING SW	157,265	157,265	157,265		157,265
		SUBTOTAL SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAMS.	157,265	157,265	157,265		157,265
		TOTAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, SF	18,700,153	-132,800	303,916	-328,399	18,371,754
		RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, DW					
		BASIC RESEARCH					
001	0601000BR	DTRA BASIC RESEARCH	15,311	11,311	15,311		15,311
		Program decrease		[-4,000]			
002	0601101E	DEFENSE RESEARCH SCIENCES	303,830	298,830	303,830	-5,000	298,830
		Program decrease		[-7,000]		[-5,000]	
		Program increase		[2,000]			
003	0601108D8Z	HIGH ENERGY LASER RESEARCH INITIATIVES	16,518	16,518	16,518		16,518
004	0601110D8Z	BASIC RESEARCH INITIATIVES	77,132	62,132	97,132	20,000	97,132
		Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research.			[20,000]	[20,000]	
		Program decrease		[-15,000]			
005	0601117E	BASIC OPERATIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH SCIENCE	99,048	111,048	99,048	-9,905	89,143
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
		Program increase		[15,000]			
		Ultra-rare pediatric brain and spinal cord tumors ...		[2,000]			
		Unjustified request				[-9,905]	
006	0601120D8Z	NATIONAL DEFENSE EDUCATION PROGRAM	169,986	174,986	169,986	5,000	174,986
		Program increase		[5,000]		[5,000]	
007	0601228D8Z	HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES/ MINORITY INSTITUTIONS.	99,792	124,792	99,792	2,500	102,292
		Program increase		[25,000]		[2,500]	
008	0601384BP	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM	37,812	37,812	37,812		37,812
		SUBTOTAL BASIC RESEARCH	819,429	837,429	839,429	12,595	832,024
		APPLIED RESEARCH					
009	0602000D8Z	JOINT MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY	19,373	19,373	19,373		19,373
010	0602115E	BIOMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY	169,198	169,198	169,198	-6,597	162,601
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
		Program increase		[5,000]			
		Unjustified request				[-6,597]	
011	0602128D8Z	PROMOTION AND PROTECTION STRATEGIES	3,191	3,191	3,191		3,191
012	0602230D8Z	DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION	38,515	38,515	38,515		38,515
013	0602234D8Z	LINCOLN LABORATORY RESEARCH PROGRAM	47,528	47,528	47,528		47,528
014	0602251D8Z	APPLIED RESEARCH FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF S&T PRIORITIES.	51,555	51,555	51,555		51,555
015	0602303E	INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY	397,266	407,266	497,266	922	398,188
		Expansion of Underexplored Systems for Utility-Scale Quantum Computing.			[100,000]		
		Program decrease		[-15,000]			
		Program increase		[15,000]			
		Unexplored Systems for Utility-Scale Quantum Computing.		[10,000]		[10,000]	
		Unjustified request				[-9,078]	
017	0602384BP	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM	224,777	220,777	224,777		224,777
		Program decrease		[-4,000]			
018	0602668D8Z	CYBER SECURITY RESEARCH	17,652	15,152	52,652	10,000	27,652
		Program decrease		[-2,500]			
		Program increase			[15,000]	[5,000]	
		University Consortium for Cybersecurity			[20,000]	[5,000]	
020	0602675D8Z	SOCIAL SCIENCES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY ..	5,456	5,456	5,456		5,456

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021	0602702E	TACTICAL TECHNOLOGY	117,935	117,935	117,935		117,935
		Program decrease		[-15,000]			
		Program increase		[15,000]			
022	0602715E	MATERIALS AND BIOLOGICAL TECHNOLOGY	337,772	337,772	337,772		337,772
		Program decrease		[-15,000]			
		Program increase		[15,000]			
023	0602716E	ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY	573,265	573,265	578,265	-543	572,722
		Program decrease		[-15,000]			
		Program increase		[15,000]			
		Scaling technology for microelectronics			[5,000]	[5,000]	
		Unjustified request				[-5,543]	
024	0602718BR	COUNTER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION APPLIED RESEARCH.	174,955	164,955	174,955	-9,340	165,615
		Program decrease		[-10,000]		[-9,340]	
025	0602751D8Z	SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INSTITUTE (SEI) APPLIED RESEARCH.	11,310	11,310	11,310		11,310
026	0602890D8Z	HIGH ENERGY LASER RESEARCH	48,640	48,640	48,640		48,640
027	0602891D8Z	FSRM MODELLING	1,897	1,897	1,897		1,897
028	1160401BB	SOF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	50,183	50,183	50,183		50,183
		SUBTOTAL APPLIED RESEARCH	2,290,468	2,283,968	2,430,468	-5,558	2,284,910
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT							
029	0603000D8Z	JOINT MUNITIONS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	41,072	41,072	41,072		41,072
030	0603021D8Z	NATIONAL SECURITY INNOVATION CAPITAL	14,983	14,983	19,983	5,000	19,983
		Enhanced payload and satellite bus development ...			[5,000]	[5,000]	
031	0603121D8Z	SO/LIC ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	5,176	5,176	5,176		5,176
032	0603122D8Z	COMBATING TERRORISM TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	76,639	154,139	134,139	77,500	154,139
		Irregular Warfare Technical Support Directorate			[-20,000]		
		U.S.-Israel Anti-Tunneling Cooperation		[30,000]			
		U.S.-Israel Joint R&D on Emerging Technologies		[47,500]			
		United States-Israel anti-tunnel cooperation			[30,000]	[30,000]	
		United States-Israel defense collaboration on emerging technologies.			[47,500]	[47,500]	
033	0603133D8Z	FOREIGN COMPARATIVE TESTING	30,007	30,007	45,007		30,007
		FCT increase (AUKUS)			[15,000]		
034	0603142D8Z	MISSION ENGINEERING & INTEGRATION (ME&I)	110,628	110,628	110,628		110,628
035	0603160BR	COUNTER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.	418,044	368,044	418,044		418,044
		Counter Weapons of Mass Destruction Advanced Technology Development.		[-50,000]			
037	0603176C	ADVANCED CONCEPTS AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT.	17,920	27,920	17,920	6,000	23,920
		Hypersonic Kill Vehicle Hardware-In-The-Loop		[3,000]		[3,000]	
		Kinetic, Non-Kinetic Resource Optimization		[7,000]		[3,000]	
038	0603180C	ADVANCED RESEARCH	19,354	19,354	52,854	33,500	52,854
		Disruptive Technologies versus Advanced Threats—MDA UFR.			[33,500]	[33,500]	
039	0603183D8Z	JOINT HYPERSONIC TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT &TRANSITION.	51,941	51,941	51,941		51,941
040	0603225D8Z	JOINT DOD-DOE MUNITIONS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.	19,826	19,826	19,826		19,826
042	0603286E	ADVANCED AEROSPACE SYSTEMS	269,700	281,700	269,700	-17,682	252,018
		Longshot		[12,000]			
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
		Program decrease—execution adjustment				[-17,682]	
		Program increase		[5,000]			
043	0603287E	SPACE PROGRAMS AND TECHNOLOGY	225,457	225,457	225,457	-25,759	199,698
		Programmatic rebaseline: DRACO				[-16,094]	
		Unjustified request				[-9,665]	
044	0603288D8Z	ANALYTIC ASSESSMENTS	30,594	28,594	30,594	-2,000	28,594
		Program decrease		[-2,000]		[-2,000]	
045	0603289D8Z	ADVANCED INNOVATIVE ANALYSIS AND CONCEPTS ...	56,390	51,390	56,390		56,390
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
046	0603330D8Z	QUANTUM APPLICATION	69,290	69,290	69,290		69,290
047	0603342D8Z	DEFENSE INNOVATION UNIT (DIU)	109,614	124,614	119,614	20,000	129,614
		DIU electric boats		[5,000]		[5,000]	

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		DIU NAPP		[5,000]		[5,000]	
		Hypersonic air breathing rocket demo		[5,000]			
		OnRamp Hubs			[5,000]	[5,000]	
		Research, design, testing, and evaluation to benefit foreign partners.			[5,000]	[5,000]	
048	0603375D8Z	TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION	74,549	74,549	74,549	-44,317	30,232
		Program decrease—unclear execution plans				[-44,317]	
049	0603379D8Z	ADVANCED TECHNICAL INTEGRATION	26,053	26,053	26,053		26,053
050	0603384BP	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM—ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT.	230,051	222,551	230,051		230,051
		Program decrease		[-7,500]			
052	0603618D8Z	JOINT ELECTRONIC ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY	20,188	20,188	20,188	-1,800	18,388
		Program decrease—excess cost for studies				[-1,800]	
053	0603662D8Z	NETWORKED COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITIES	5,234	5,234	5,234		5,234
055	0603680D8Z	DEFENSE-WIDE MANUFACTURING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.	190,557	168,057	190,557		190,557
		Integrated Silicon-Based Lasers—Program Increase		[2,500]			
		Program decrease		[-25,000]			
056	0603680S	MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM	55,366	50,640	55,366	7,500	62,866
		Critical Materials Supply Chain Research		[5,274]		[5,000]	
		Program decrease		[-10,000]			
		Program increase: Steel performance initiative				[2,500]	
057	0603712S	GENERIC LOGISTICS R&D TECHNOLOGY DEMONSTRATIONS.	18,543	18,543	18,543		18,543
058	0603716D8Z	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH PROGRAM .. Prizes for development of technology for thermal destruction of perfluoroalkyl substances or polyfluoroalkyl substances.	58,838	54,838	58,838		58,838
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
059	0603720S	MICROELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT.	137,246	132,246	137,246	-5,000	132,246
		Program decrease		[-5,000]		[-5,000]	
060	0603727D8Z	JOINT WARFIGHTING PROGRAM	2,684	2,684	2,684		2,684
061	0603739E	ADVANCED ELECTRONICS TECHNOLOGIES	257,844	257,844	257,844		257,844
062	0603760E	COMMAND, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS.	336,542	336,542	336,542		336,542
		Program decrease		[-10,000]			
		Program increase		[10,000]			
063	0603766E	NETWORK-CENTRIC WARFARE TECHNOLOGY	886,511	886,511	886,511		886,511
064	0603767E	SENSOR TECHNOLOGY	267,961	267,961	267,961		267,961
		Program decrease		[-10,000]			
		Program increase		[10,000]			
066	0603781D8Z	SOFTWARE ENGINEERING INSTITUTE	16,982	16,982	16,982		16,982
067	0603838D8Z	DEFENSE INNOVATION ACCELERATION (DIA)	165,798	155,298	165,798		165,798
		Program decrease		[-17,500]			
		Support for suicide prevention and warfighter resiliency training.		[7,000]			
068	0603924D8Z	HIGH ENERGY LASER ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM.	110,367	120,367	110,367		110,367
		MACH-TB		[10,000]			
069	0603941D8Z	TEST & EVALUATION SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY	268,722	268,722	268,722	10,000	278,722
		Program increase: MACH-TB				[10,000]	
070	0603945D8Z	INTERNATIONAL INNOVATION INITIATIVES	125,680	105,680	125,680	-20,000	105,680
		Program decrease		[-20,000]		[-20,000]	
071	0603950D8Z	NATIONAL SECURITY INNOVATION NETWORK	21,322	21,322	21,322		21,322
072	0604055D8Z	OPERATIONAL ENERGY CAPABILITY IMPROVEMENT ...	167,279	167,279	167,279		167,279
074	1160402BB	SOF ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	197,767	131,617	197,767	-47,150	150,617
		HSVTOL		[-72,150]		[-47,150]	
		Next Generation ISR SOF Enhancement		[6,000]			
		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	5,208,719	5,135,843	5,329,719	-4,208	5,204,511
		ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPES					
075	0603161D8Z	NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT RDT&E ADC&P.	63,162	63,162	63,162		63,162
076	0603600D8Z	WALKOFF	149,704	149,704	149,704		149,704

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077	0603851D8Z	ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY TECHNICAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM. Environmental Security Technical Certification Program. Program increase	136,513	141,513	142,513	6,000	142,513
					[6,000]	[6,000]	
				[5,000]			
078	0603881C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT. Insufficient Justification	367,279	307,379	367,279	-60,225	307,054
				[-59,900]		[-60,225]	
079	0603882C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE MIDCOURSE DEFENSE SEGMENT.	768,227	768,227	768,227		768,227
080	0603884BP	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM—DEM/VAL. Program decrease—excess growth	304,374	304,374	304,374	-6,087	298,287
						[-6,087]	
081	0603884C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SENSORS	209,002	209,002	224,502	15,500	224,502
		Sensors Modeling & Simulation—MDA UFR			[15,500]	[15,500]	
082	0603890C	BMD ENABLING PROGRAMS	609,406	609,406	609,406		609,406
083	0603891C	SPECIAL PROGRAMS—MDA	495,570	495,570	615,570	120,000	615,570
		Classified A Left to Right Integration—MDA UFR			[28,000]	[28,000]	
		Classified B Fire Control Sensor Netting—MDA UFR			[46,000]	[46,000]	
		Classified C Nonkinetic Prototype Demo—MDA UFR			[46,000]	[46,000]	
084	0603892C	AEGIS BMD	649,255	738,455	738,455	89,200	738,455
		Guam Defense System—INDOPACOM UPL		[89,200]		[89,200]	
		Guam Defense System (GDS)			[89,200]		
085	0603896C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND AND CONTROL, BATTLE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS (C2BMC). Infrastructure Modernization Initiative—MDA UFR ...	569,662	569,662	583,162	13,500	583,162
					[13,500]	[13,500]	
086	0603898C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE JOINT WARFIGHTER SUPPORT.	47,723	47,723	47,723		47,723
087	0603904C	MISSILE DEFENSE INTEGRATION & OPERATIONS CENTER (MDIOC).	54,525	54,525	54,525		54,525
088	0603906C	REGARDING TRENCH	27,900	27,900	27,900		27,900
089	0603907C	SEA BASED X-BAND RADAR (SBX)	197,339	197,339	197,339		197,339
090	0603913C	ISRAELI COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS	300,000	300,000	300,000		300,000
091	0603914C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TEST	367,491	367,491	367,491	-10,324	357,167
		Program decrease—insufficient justification				[-4,740]	
		Program decrease—previously funded				[-5,584]	
092	0603915C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TARGETS	604,708	622,108	624,108	24,400	629,108
		Advanced reactive target simulation development ...			[5,000]	[10,000]	
		Advanced Target Front End Configuration 3		[3,000]			
		Guam Defense System—INDOPACOM UPL		[14,400]		[14,400]	
		Guam Defense System (GDS)			[14,400]		
093	0603923D8Z	COALITION WARFARE	9,890	9,890	9,890		9,890
094	0604011D8Z	NEXT GENERATION INFORMATION COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (5G). 5G for Department of Defense base operations	139,427	139,427	149,427	-18,600	120,827
		OSD requested transfer from RDDW Line 94 to OMDW Line 4GT9 to properly align 5G resourcing.				[-8,500]	
		OSD requested transfer from RDDW Line 94 to PDW Line 16 to properly align 5G resourcing.				[-11,000]	
		OSD requested transfer from RDDW Line 94 to RDDW Line 211 to properly align 5G resourcing.				[-7,600]	
		OSD requested transfer from RDDW Line 94 to RDDW Line 94A to properly align 5G resourcing.				[-1,500]	
094A	0604011D8	5G CROSS FUNCTIONAL TEAM				1,500	1,500
		OSD requested transfer from RDDW Line 94 to RDDW Line 94A to properly align 5G resourcing.				[1,500]	
095	0604016D8Z	DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CORROSION PROGRAM ... Department of Defense Corrosion Policy and Oversight Office.	2,637	8,637	2,637	4,500	7,137
				[6,000]		[4,500]	
096	0604102C	GUAM DEFENSE DEVELOPMENT	415,794	492,294	492,294	76,500	492,294
		Guam Defense System—INDOPACOM UPL		[76,500]		[76,500]	
		Guam Defense System (GDS)			[76,500]		
099	0604125D8Z	ADVANCED MANUFACTURING COMPONENTS AND PROTOTYPES. Pele	16,776	16,776	16,776		16,776
				[3,000]			

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		Program decrease		[-3,000]			
100	0604181C	HYPERSONIC DEFENSE	182,283	182,283	575,283	393,000	575,283
		GPI development acceleration			[393,000]	[393,000]	
101	0604250D8Z	ADVANCED INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES	994,226	1,005,426	994,226	11,200	1,005,426
		Pele		[16,200]		[16,200]	
		Program decrease		[-5,000]		[-5,000]	
102	0604294D8Z	TRUSTED & ASSURED MICROELECTRONICS	593,609	573,609	593,609	-20,000	573,609
		Program decrease		[-20,000]		[-20,000]	
103	0604331D8Z	RAPID PROTOTYPING PROGRAM	152,126	152,126	168,616	16,490	168,616
		Longshot—R&E UFR			[10,000]	[10,000]	
		Multi-Domain Unmanned Secure Integrated Commu- nications (MUSIC)—R&E UFR.			[6,490]	[6,490]	
104	0604331J	RAPID PROTOTYPING PROGRAM	7,710	7,710	7,710		7,710
106	0604400D8Z	DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) UNMANNED SYS- TEM COMMON DEVELOPMENT.	2,527	2,527	2,527		2,527
107	0604551BR	CATAPULT INFORMATION SYSTEM	7,475	7,475	7,475		7,475
108	0604555D8Z	OPERATIONAL ENERGY CAPABILITY IMPROVEMENT— NON S&T.	53,705	63,205	53,705	9,500	63,205
		High Energy Laser Power Beaming		[7,000]		[7,000]	
		Program increase		[2,500]			
		Program increase—interoperable field ready hybrid power systems.				[2,500]	
110	0604682D8Z	WARGAMING AND SUPPORT FOR STRATEGIC ANAL- YSIS (SSA).	3,559	3,559	3,559		3,559
111	0604775D8Z	DEFENSE RAPID INNOVATION PROGRAM	10,020	10,020	10,020		10,020
112	0604790D8Z	RAPID DEFENSE EXPERIMENTATION RESERVE (RDER)	53,149	53,149	53,149		53,149
113	0604791D8Z	MULTI-DOMAIN JOINT OPERATIONS (MDJO)	11,383	11,383	11,383		11,383
114	0604826J	JOINT C5 CAPABILITY DEVELOPMENT, INTEGRATION AND INTEROPERABILITY ASSESSMENTS.	29,706	29,706	29,706		29,706
115	0604873C	LONG RANGE DISCRIMINATION RADAR (LRDR)	100,882	100,882	100,882		100,882
116	0604874C	IMPROVED HOMELAND DEFENSE INTERCEPTORS	1,697,121	1,697,121	1,697,121	-4,252	1,692,869
		Excess support costs				[-4,252]	
117	0604876C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE TERMINAL DEFENSE SEGMENT TEST.	25,673	25,673	25,673		25,673
118	0604878C	AEGIS BMD TEST	135,019	136,219	136,219	1,200	136,219
		Guam Defense System—INDOPACOM UPL		[1,200]		[1,200]	
		Guam Defense System (GDS)			[1,200]		
119	0604879C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SENSOR TEST	96,864	96,864	96,864		96,864
120	0604880C	LAND-BASED SM-3 (LBSM3)	22,220	22,220	22,220		22,220
121	0604887C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE MIDCOURSE SEGMENT TEST.	40,006	40,006	40,006		40,006
122	0604924D8Z	HIGH ENERGY LASER ADVANCED COMPONENT DE- VELOPMENT & PROTOTYPE.	2,931	2,931	67,931		2,931
		DE Testing and Experimentation—R&E UFR			[65,000]		
123	0202057C	SAFETY PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	1,771	1,771	1,771		1,771
124	0208059JCY	CYBERCOM ACTIVITIES	35,700	35,700	65,700		35,700
		Program increase			[30,000]		
126	0208086JCY	CYBER TRAINING ENVIRONMENT (CTE)	158,345	158,345	163,345	4,000	162,345
		Pacific Intelligence and Innovation Initiative			[5,000]	[4,000]	
127	0300206R	ENTERPRISE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS ..	2,162	2,162	2,162		2,162
128	0305103C	CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVE	1,831	1,831	1,831		1,831
129	0305245D8Z	INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITIES AND INNOVATION IN- VESTMENTS.	51,784	51,784	76,784		51,784
		Classified adjustment			[25,000]		
		Program increase			[50,000]		
131	0306250JCY	CYBER OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	52,715	62,715	52,715		52,715
		Program increase		[10,000]			
132	0901579D8Z	OFFICE OF STRATEGIC CAPITAL (OSC)	132,640	132,640	132,640	-13,721	118,919
		Excess growth—critical technologies limited partner program.				[-8,721]	
		Program decrease				[-5,000]	
133	1206895C	BALLISTIC MISSILE DEFENSE SYSTEM SPACE PRO- GRAMS.	119,561	119,561	119,561		119,561
		SUBTOTAL ADVANCED COMPONENT DEVELOPMENT AND PROTOTYPES.	11,285,067	11,431,167	12,220,857	653,281	11,938,348

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SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION							
134	0604123D8Z	CHIEF DIGITAL AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER (CDAO)—DEM/VAL ACTIVITIES. Artificial intelligence pilot programs	371,833	356,833	406,833	-72	371,761
		Program decrease		[-15,000]	[35,000]	[6,800]	
						[-6,872]	
135	0604133D8Z	ALPHA-1 DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES	53,307	53,307	53,307		53,307
136	0604161D8Z	NUCLEAR AND CONVENTIONAL PHYSICAL SECURITY EQUIPMENT RDT&E SDD.	13,549	13,549	13,549		13,549
137	0604384BP	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM—EMD.	270,265	270,265	270,265		270,265
138	0604771D8Z	JOINT TACTICAL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM (JTIDS).	12,893	12,893	12,893		12,893
139	0605000BR	COUNTER WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT.	14,841	14,841	14,841		14,841
140	0605013BL	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT	4,709	4,709	4,709		4,709
141	0605021SE	HOMELAND PERSONNEL SECURITY INITIATIVE	9,526	9,526	9,526		9,526
142	0605022D8Z	DEFENSE EXPORTABILITY PROGRAM	15,779	15,779	15,779		15,779
143	0605027D8Z	OUSD(C) IT DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES	7,564	7,564	7,564		7,564
144	0605080S	DEFENSE AGENCY INITIATIVES (DAI)—FINANCIAL SYSTEM.	31,916	31,916	31,916		31,916
145	0605141BR	MISSION ASSURANCE RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (MARMS).	9,440	9,440	9,440		9,440
146	0605210D8Z	DEFENSE-WIDE ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT CAPABILITIES.	9,485	9,485	9,485		9,485
147	0605294D8Z	TRUSTED & ASSURED MICROELECTRONICS	150,436	140,436	150,436		150,436
		Program decrease		[-10,000]			
148	0605649D8Z	ACQUISITION INTEGRATION AND INTEROPERABILITY (AI2).	12,804	12,804	12,804		12,804
149	0605755D8Z	RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR DEFENSE MODERNIZATION SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION.	3,575	3,575	3,575		3,575
150	0605772D8Z	NUCLEAR COMMAND, CONTROL, & COMMUNICATIONS.	3,849	3,849	3,849		3,849
151	0305304D8Z	DOD ENTERPRISE ENERGY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (EEIM).	7,152	7,152	7,152		7,152
152	0305310D8Z	COUNTERPROLIFERATION ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	13,151	13,151	13,151		13,151
		SUBTOTAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND DEMONSTRATION.	1,016,074	991,074	1,051,074	-72	1,016,002
MANAGEMENT SUPPORT							
154	0603829J	JOINT CAPABILITY EXPERIMENTATION	12,385	12,385	12,385		12,385
155	0604122D8Z	JADC2 DEVELOPMENT AND EXPERIMENTATION ACTIVITIES. Joint Fires Network	222,945	222,945	345,645		222,945
					[122,700]		
156	0604774D8Z	DEFENSE READINESS REPORTING SYSTEM (DRRS) ...	11,415	11,415	11,415		11,415
157	0604875D8Z	JOINT SYSTEMS ARCHITECTURE DEVELOPMENT	9,690	9,690	9,690		9,690
158	0604940D8Z	CENTRAL TEST AND EVALUATION INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT (CTEIP). Program increase—execution risk	782,643	782,643	782,643	-17,500	765,143
						[-17,500]	
159	0604942D8Z	ASSESSMENTS AND EVALUATIONS	1,503	1,503	1,503		1,503
160	0604944D8Z	ASSESSMENTS AND EVALUATIONS, DOD	4,253	4,253	4,253		4,253
161	0605001E	MISSION SUPPORT	113,007	113,007	113,007		113,007
162	0605100D8Z	JOINT MISSION ENVIRONMENT TEST CAPABILITY (JMETS).	209,008	209,008	209,008		209,008
163	0605126J	JOINT INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE ORGANIZATION (JIAMDO).	72,005	72,005	72,005		72,005
165	0605142D8Z	SYSTEMS ENGINEERING	24,669	24,669	24,669		24,669
166	0605151D8Z	STUDIES AND ANALYSIS SUPPORT—OSD	6,289	6,289	6,289		6,289
167	0605161D8Z	NUCLEAR MATTERS-PHYSICAL SECURITY	19,871	19,871	19,871		19,871
168	0605170D8Z	SUPPORT TO NETWORKS AND INFORMATION INTEGRATION.	8,580	8,580	8,580		8,580
169	0605200D8Z	GENERAL SUPPORT TO OUSD(INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY).	3,155	3,155	3,155		3,155
170	0605384BP	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE PROGRAM	79,263	79,263	79,263		79,263
177	0605711D8Z	CRITICAL TECHNOLOGY ANALYSIS	11,422	11,422	11,422		11,422

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178	0605790D8Z	SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH (SBIR)/ SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER (STTR) ADMINISTRATION.	5,346	5,346	5,346		5,346
179	0605797D8Z	MAINTAINING TECHNOLOGY ADVANTAGE	31,629	26,629	31,629		31,629
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
180	0605798D8Z	DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY ANALYSIS	45,370	40,370	45,370		45,370
		Program decrease		[-5,000]			
181	0605801KA	DEFENSE TECHNICAL INFORMATION CENTER (DTIC) ..	66,247	66,247	66,247		66,247
182	0605803SE	R&D IN SUPPORT OF DOD ENLISTMENT, TESTING AND EVALUATION.	26,935	24,935	26,935		26,935
		Program decrease		[-2,000]			
183	0605804D8Z	DEVELOPMENT TEST AND EVALUATION	37,233	37,233	37,233		37,233
184	0605898E	MANAGEMENT HQ—R&D	14,577	14,577	14,577		14,577
185	0605998KA	MANAGEMENT HQ—DEFENSE TECHNICAL INFORMA- TION CENTER (DTIC).	3,505	3,505	3,505		3,505
186	0606005D8Z	SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	18,263	18,263	18,263		18,263
187	0606100D8Z	BUDGET AND PROGRAM ASSESSMENTS	14,272	14,272	14,272		14,272
188	0606114D8Z	ANALYSIS WORKING GROUP (AWG) SUPPORT	2,814	2,814	2,814		2,814
189	0606135D8Z	CHIEF DIGITAL AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE OFFI- CER (CDAO) ACTIVITIES.	9,262	9,262	9,262		9,262
190	0606225D8Z	ODNA TECHNOLOGY AND RESOURCE ANALYSIS	3,403	3,403	3,403		3,403
191	0606300D8Z	DEFENSE SCIENCE BOARD	6,536	4,536	6,536	-1,382	5,154
		Program decrease		[-2,000]		[-1,382]	
192	0606301D8Z	AVIATION SAFETY TECHNOLOGIES	1,885	1,885	1,885		1,885
193	0606771D8Z	CYBER RESILIENCY AND CYBERSECURITY POLICY	40,401	40,401	40,401		40,401
194	0606774D8Z	DEFENSE CIVILIAN TRAINING CORPS	27,054	27,054	27,054		27,054
195	0606775D8Z	JOINT PRODUCTION ACCELERATOR CELL (JPAC)	5,010	5,010	5,010	-3,010	2,000
		Program decrease—unjustified request				[-3,010]	
196	0606853BR	MANAGEMENT, TECHNICAL & INTERNATIONAL SUP- PORT.	12,115	12,115	12,115		12,115
197	0203345D8Z	DEFENSE OPERATIONS SECURITY INITIATIVE (DOSI) ..	3,151	3,151	3,151		3,151
198	0204571J	JOINT STAFF ANALYTICAL SUPPORT	7,433	7,433	7,433		7,433
199	0208045K	C4I INTEROPERABILITY	65,144	65,144	65,144		65,144
202	0305172K	COMBINED ADVANCED APPLICATIONS	23,311	23,311	23,311		23,311
204	0305208K	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS	2,988	2,988	2,988		2,988
205	0305248J	JOINT STAFF OFFICE OF THE CHIEF DATA OFFICER (OCDO) ACTIVITIES.	12,700	12,700	12,700		12,700
206	0804768J	COCOM EXERCISE ENGAGEMENT AND TRAINING TRANSFORMATION (CE2T2)—NON-MHA.	166,021	166,021	166,021		166,021
207	0808709SE	DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTI- TUTE (DEOMI).	315	315	315		315
208	0808737SE	INTEGRATED PRIMARY PREVENTION	5,096	5,096	5,096		5,096
209	0901598C	MANAGEMENT HQ—MDA	29,033	29,033	29,033		29,033
210	0903235K	JOINT SERVICE PROVIDER (JSP)	2,244	2,244	2,244		2,244
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	37,738	37,738	37,738		37,738
		SUBTOTAL MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	2,319,134	2,305,134	2,441,834	-21,892	2,297,242
		OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT					
211	0604011D8Z	NEXT GENERATION INFORMATION COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (5G).	12,424	12,424	12,424	7,600	20,024
		OSD requested transfer from RDDW Line 94 to RDDW line 211 to properly align 5G resourcing.				[7,600]	
213	0607162D8Z	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS ELIMINATION TECHNOLOGY IMPROVEMENT.	4,254	8,254	4,254	4,000	8,254
		Development of a fully integrated transportable high-pressure waterjet system for the demili- tarization of chemical and biological weapons.		[4,000]		[4,000]	
214	0607210D8Z	INDUSTRIAL BASE ANALYSIS AND SUSTAINMENT SUPPORT.	1,099,243	1,103,743	1,102,243	-104,500	994,743
		Corrosion resistant coatings for aircraft parts			[3,000]	[3,000]	
		Feasibility study by the Assistant Secretary of De- fense for Industrial Base Policy on domestic re- fining of deep sea critical mineral intermediates for national security.		[2,000]			
		Program decrease		[-6,000]		[-116,000]	

SEC. 4201. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program Element	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
		Radar and Avionics Repair and Sustainment Facilities.		[6,000]		[6,000]	
		Resilient Manufacturing Ecosystem—Program Increase.		[2,500]		[2,500]	
215	0607310D8Z	COUNTERPROLIFERATION MODERNIZATION	11,309	11,309	11,309		11,309
216	0607327T	GLOBAL THEATER SECURITY COOPERATION MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS (G-TSCMIS).	8,654	8,654	8,654		8,654
217	0607384BP	CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL DEFENSE (OPERATIONAL SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT).	84,098	84,098	84,098	-4,205	79,893
		Program decrease—excess growth				[-4,205]	
218	0607757D8Z	RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR DEFENSE MODERNIZATION OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT.	1,668	1,668	1,668		1,668
219	0208085JCY	ROBUST INFRASTRUCTURE AND ACCESS	154,375	154,375	154,375	-40,000	114,375
		Program decrease				[-40,000]	
220	0208097JCY	CYBER COMMAND AND CONTROL (CYBER C2)	96,932	96,932	96,932		96,932
221	0208099JCY	DATA AND UNIFIED PLATFORM (D&UP)	106,053	106,053	106,053		106,053
225	0302019K	DEFENSE INFO INFRASTRUCTURE ENGINEERING AND INTEGRATION.	12,843	12,843	12,843		12,843
226	0302609V	COUNTERING THREATS AUTOMATED PLATFORM	6,057	6,057	6,057		6,057
227	0303126K	LONG-HAUL COMMUNICATIONS—DCS	51,214	51,214	51,214		51,214
228	0303131K	MINIMUM ESSENTIAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK (MEECN).	4,985	4,985	4,985		4,985
230	0303140D8Z	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	31,127	31,127	31,127		31,127
232	0303140K	INFORMATION SYSTEMS SECURITY PROGRAM	31,414	31,414	31,414		31,414
234	0303153K	DEFENSE SPECTRUM ORGANIZATION	24,991	24,991	24,991		24,991
235	0303171K	JOINT PLANNING AND EXECUTION SERVICES	3,304	3,304	3,304		3,304
236	0303228K	JOINT REGIONAL SECURITY STACKS (JRSS)	2,371	2,371	2,371		2,371
242	0305104D8Z	DEFENSE INDUSTRIAL BASE (DIB) CYBER SECURITY INITIATIVE.	15,524	15,524	15,524		15,524
248	0305146V	DEFENSE JOINT COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES ..	1,800	1,800	1,800		1,800
249	0305172D8Z	COMBINED ADVANCED APPLICATIONS	42,355	42,355	42,355		42,355
252	0305186D8Z	POLICY R&D PROGRAMS	6,220	6,220	6,220		6,220
253	0305199D8Z	NET CENTRICITY	20,620	20,620	20,620		20,620
255	0305208BB	DISTRIBUTED COMMON GROUND/SURFACE SYSTEMS	5,854	5,854	5,854		5,854
263	0305387D8Z	HOMELAND DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM.	1,867	1,867	1,867		1,867
270	0306250JCY	CYBER OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	479,672	479,672	479,672	-15,000	464,672
		Program decrease—Joint Development Environment lack of credible execution plan.				[-15,000]	
271	0307609V	NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL SECURITY SYSTEMS (NISS)	38,761	38,761	38,761	-3,300	35,461
		Program decrease—underexecution				[-3,300]	
275	0708012K	LOGISTICS SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	1,406	1,406	1,406		1,406
276	0708012S	PACIFIC DISASTER CENTERS	1,861	1,861	1,861		1,861
277	0708047S	DEFENSE PROPERTY ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM	3,004	3,004	3,004		3,004
279	1105219BB	MQ-9 UAV	34,851	34,851	34,851		34,851
281	1160403BB	AVIATION SYSTEMS	263,712	263,548	252,212	-17,413	246,299
		AC/MC-130J Mission Systems and MC-130J Modications.		[-1,964]		[-1,713]	
		Alternative Domestic Source C-130J IRSS		[6,000]			
		FARA Cancellation		[-4,200]		[-4,200]	
		MC-130J Amphibious Capability			[-11,500]	[-11,500]	
282	1160405BB	INTELLIGENCE SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT	81,648	78,202	81,648	-3,000	78,648
		MTUAS Slow Expenditure		[-3,446]		[-3,000]	
283	1160408BB	OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS	206,307	206,307	206,307		206,307
284	1160431BB	WARRIOR SYSTEMS	245,882	237,052	280,507	31,066	276,948
		Counter Uncrewed Systems—SOCOM UFR			[34,625]	[34,625]	
		NGTC		[-3,559]		[-3,559]	
		SOMPE		[-5,271]			
285	1160432BB	SPECIAL PROGRAMS	539	539	539		539
286	1160434BB	UNMANNED ISR	31,578	31,578	31,578	-6,727	24,851
		Prior year carryover				[-6,727]	
287	1160480BB	SOF TACTICAL VEHICLES	9,025	9,025	9,025		9,025
288	1160483BB	MARITIME SYSTEMS	210,787	210,787	210,787		210,787
289	1160490BB	OPERATIONAL ENHANCEMENTS INTELLIGENCE	17,233	17,233	27,433		17,233
		Loitering Munition Accelerated Fielding and Reliability Testing Acceleration—SOCOM UFR.			[10,200]		

SEC. 4201. RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST, AND EVALUATION
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Program Element	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
9999	9999999999	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	8,686,427	8,658,419	8,686,427	-28,008	8,658,419
		Program reduction		[-28,008]		[-28,008]	
		SUBTOTAL OPERATIONAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT	12,154,249	12,122,301	12,190,574	-179,487	11,974,762
		SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAMS					
292	0608648D8Z	ACQUISITION VISIBILITY—SOFTWARE PILOT PROGRAM.	17,907	17,907	17,907		17,907
293	0303150K	GLOBAL COMMAND AND CONTROL SYSTEM	31,619	31,619	31,619		31,619
294	0306250JCY	CYBER OPERATIONS TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT	85,168	85,168	95,168		85,168
		Cyber Operations for Base Resilient Architecture expansion.			[10,000]		
		SUBTOTAL SOFTWARE AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PILOT PROGRAMS.	134,694	134,694	144,694		134,694
		TOTAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST & EVAL, DW	35,227,834	13,776	1,420,815	454,659	35,682,493
		OPERATIONAL TEST & EVAL, DEFENSE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT					
001	0605118OTE	OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION	136,226	136,226	136,226		136,226
002	0605131OTE	LIVE FIRE TEST AND EVALUATION	109,561	109,561	109,561		109,561
003	0605814OTE	OPERATIONAL TEST ACTIVITIES AND ANALYSES	102,922	102,922	102,922		102,922
		SUBTOTAL MANAGEMENT SUPPORT	348,709	348,709	348,709		348,709
		TOTAL OPERATIONAL TEST & EVAL, DEFENSE	348,709				348,709
		TOTAL RDT&E	143,156,590	143,969,729	146,013,435	611,451	143,768,041

TITLE XLIII—OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE.

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY OPERATING FORCES					
010	MANEUVER UNITS	3,536,069	3,709,469	3,952,269	-33,000	3,503,069
	Campaigning—U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) - INDOPACOM UFR			[391,200]		
	Commercial off the Shelf (COTS) Uncrewed Aerial System (sUAS)—Army UFR			[25,000]	[25,000]	
	INDOPACOM Campaigning		[173,400]			
	Unjustified growth				[-58,000]	
020	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	216,575	216,575	216,575	-14,000	202,575
	Unjustified growth				[-14,000]	
030	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	829,985	829,985	829,985		829,985
040	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	2,570,467	2,570,467	2,570,467	-7,500	2,562,967
	Unjustified request				[-7,500]	
050	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,185,211	1,110,211	1,185,211	-75,000	1,110,211
	Historical underexecution				[-75,000]	
060	AVIATION ASSETS	1,955,482	1,915,482	1,955,482	-20,000	1,935,482
	Historical underexecution				[-40,000]	
070	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	7,150,264	7,025,264	7,194,264	-45,000	7,105,264
	2nd Security Force Assistance Brigade (SFAB)—AFRICOM			[4,000]		
	BUCKEYE support to AFRICOM			[40,000]	[15,000]	
	Historical underexecution		[-125,000]		[-100,000]	
	Program increase: Ultra-lightweight camouflage net system increment 1				[40,000]	
080	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	533,892	508,892	533,892	-25,000	508,892
	Historical underexecution				[-25,000]	
090	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,220,407	1,220,407	1,250,707		1,220,407
	Army missile repair—Army UFR			[30,300]		
100	MEDICAL READINESS	931,137	931,137	931,137		931,137
110	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	10,482,544	10,497,544	10,482,544	-62,500	10,420,044

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
	Program increase		[15,000]		[7,500]	
	Unjustified growth				[-70,000]	
120	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	5,231,918	5,362,715	5,976,918	245,797	5,477,715
	Army 95% executable FSRM			[670,000]		
	Force Protection Equipment Sustainment—CENTCOM UFR			[75,000]	[75,000]	
	Quality of Life Initiatives		[130,797]		[170,797]	
130	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	309,674	309,674	309,674		309,674
140	ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES	303,660	303,660	303,660		303,660
150	RESET	319,873	319,873	319,873		319,873
160	US AFRICA COMMAND	430,724	430,724	446,206		430,724
	Commander's Data Integration Team (CDIT)—AFRICOM			[13,268]		
	Navigation Warfare (NAVWAR) Twinity (TNT) and Hardened GPS Antennas—AFRICOM			[2,214]		
170	US EUROPEAN COMMAND	326,399	326,399	340,199		326,399
	USEUCOM Multilateral Network			[13,800]		
180	US SOUTHERN COMMAND	255,639	255,639	283,229	19,890	275,529
	Joint Department of Defense Information Network Operations Center			[22,700]	[15,000]	
	Mission Partner Environment (MPE)—SOUTHCOM			[4,890]	[4,890]	
190	US FORCES KOREA	71,826	71,826	71,826		71,826
200	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES—CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	422,561	422,561	422,561		422,561
210	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES—CYBERSECURITY	597,021	602,021	597,021		597,021
	Certified remote access		[5,000]			
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	38,881,328	38,940,525	40,173,700	-16,313	38,865,015
MOBILIZATION						
230	STRATEGIC MOBILITY	567,351	567,351	567,351		567,351
240	ARMY PREPOSITIONED STOCKS	405,747	405,747	405,747	15,000	420,747
	Program Increase: Subic Bay				[15,000]	
250	INDUSTRIAL PREPAREDNESS	4,298	4,298	4,298		4,298
	SUBTOTAL MOBILIZATION	977,396	977,396	977,396	15,000	992,396
TRAINING AND RECRUITING						
260	OFFICER ACQUISITION	200,754	200,754	200,754		200,754
270	RECRUIT TRAINING	72,829	72,829	72,829		72,829
280	ONE STATION UNIT TRAINING	92,762	92,762	92,762		92,762
290	SENIOR RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS	557,478	557,478	557,478		557,478
300	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	1,064,113	1,064,113	1,064,113		1,064,113
310	FLIGHT TRAINING	1,418,987	1,418,987	1,418,987		1,418,987
320	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	214,497	214,497	215,497		214,497
	Key Partners for Middle East Regional Integration Military Subject Matter Exchange Program			[1,000]		
330	TRAINING SUPPORT	633,316	633,316	633,316		633,316
340	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	785,440	785,440	785,440		785,440
350	EXAMINING	205,072	205,072	205,072		205,072
360	OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION	245,880	245,880	245,880		245,880
370	CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING	246,460	246,460	246,460		246,460
380	JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS	206,700	206,700	206,700		206,700
	SUBTOTAL TRAINING AND RECRUITING	5,944,288	5,944,288	5,945,288		5,944,288
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES						
400	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	785,233	760,233	785,233		785,233
	Historical underexecution		[-25,000]			
410	CENTRAL SUPPLY ACTIVITIES	926,136	926,136	926,136		926,136
420	LOGISTIC SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	738,637	738,637	738,637		738,637
430	AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT	411,213	411,213	411,213		411,213
440	ADMINISTRATION	515,501	501,601	515,501	-10,000	505,501
	Program decrease		[-14,900]		[-10,000]	
	Servicewomen's Commemorative Partnerships		[1,000]			
450	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	2,167,183	2,137,183	2,167,183	-40,000	2,127,183
	Program decrease		[-30,000]		[-40,000]	
460	MANPOWER MANAGEMENT	375,963	375,963	375,963		375,963
470	OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	943,764	888,764	943,764	-50,000	893,764
	Historical underexecution		[-50,000]		[-50,000]	
	Program decrease		[-5,000]			
480	OTHER SERVICE SUPPORT	2,402,405	2,352,405	2,402,405	-50,000	2,352,405
	Historical underexecution		[-50,000]		[-50,000]	

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
490	ARMY CLAIMS ACTIVITIES	204,652	204,652	204,652		204,652
500	REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	305,340	305,340	305,340		305,340
510	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT READINESS	487,742	487,742	487,742		487,742
520	DEF ACQUISITION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT	41,068	41,068	41,068		41,068
530	INTERNATIONAL MILITARY HEADQUARTERS	633,982	633,982	633,982		633,982
540	MISC. SUPPORT OF OTHER NATIONS	34,429	34,429	34,429		34,429
590A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	2,376,219	2,376,219	2,407,510	29,791	2,406,010
	DOD High-Risk ISR—AFRICOM UFR			[29,791]	[29,791]	
	Navigation Warfare (NAVWAR) Twinity (TNT) and Hardened GPS Antennas—AFRICOM			[1,500]		
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	13,349,467	13,175,567	13,380,758	-120,209	13,229,258
	UNDISTRIBUTED					
600	UNDISTRIBUTED			-124,430	-11,320	-11,320
	Foreign Currency Fluctuations			[-5,230]		
	Unobligated balances			[-119,200]	[-11,320]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			-124,430	-11,320	-11,320
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY	59,152,479	59,037,776	60,352,712	-132,842	59,019,637
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE					
	OPERATING FORCES					
010	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	14,098	14,098	14,098		14,098
020	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	655,868	655,868	655,868		655,868
030	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	136,625	136,625	136,625		136,625
040	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	696,146	696,146	696,146	-25,800	670,346
	Unjustified request				[-25,800]	
050	AVIATION ASSETS	129,581	129,581	129,581		129,581
060	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	404,585	404,585	404,585		404,585
070	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	42,942	42,942	42,942		42,942
080	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	49,973	49,973	49,973		49,973
090	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	578,327	578,327	578,327		578,327
100	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	474,365	474,365	474,365		474,365
110	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	26,680	26,680	26,680		26,680
120	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES—CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	2,241	2,241	2,241		2,241
130	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES—CYBERSECURITY	18,598	18,598	18,598		18,598
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	3,230,029	3,230,029	3,230,029	-25,800	3,204,229
	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES					
140	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	17,092	17,092	17,092		17,092
150	ADMINISTRATION	19,106	19,106	19,106		19,106
160	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	6,727	6,727	6,727		6,727
170	MANPOWER MANAGEMENT	7,477	7,477	7,477		7,477
180	OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	80,346	80,346	80,346		80,346
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	130,748	130,748	130,748		130,748
	UNDISTRIBUTED					
210	UNDISTRIBUTED			-1,500	-1,500	-1,500
	Unobligated balances			[-1,500]	[-1,500]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			-1,500	-1,500	-1,500
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE	3,360,777	3,360,777	3,359,277	-27,300	3,333,477
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD					
	OPERATING FORCES					
010	MANEUVER UNITS	886,229	891,229	886,229	5,000	891,229
	Training Exercise Support—Northern Strike		[5,000]		[5,000]	
020	MODULAR SUPPORT BRIGADES	200,417	200,417	200,417		200,417
030	ECHELONS ABOVE BRIGADE	861,685	861,685	861,685		861,685
040	THEATER LEVEL ASSETS	86,356	86,356	86,356		86,356
050	LAND FORCES OPERATIONS SUPPORT	345,720	345,720	345,720		345,720
060	AVIATION ASSETS	1,150,777	1,150,777	1,150,777		1,150,777
070	FORCE READINESS OPERATIONS SUPPORT	737,884	737,884	737,884		737,884
080	LAND FORCES SYSTEMS READINESS	34,262	34,262	34,262		34,262
090	LAND FORCES DEPOT MAINTENANCE	221,401	221,401	221,401		221,401
100	BASE OPERATIONS SUPPORT	1,247,797	1,247,797	1,247,642		1,247,797

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[−155]		
110	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	1,147,554	1,147,554	1,147,554		1,147,554
120	MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS	1,322,621	1,322,621	1,322,621		1,322,621
130	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES—CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	5,287	5,287	5,287		5,287
140	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES—CYBERSECURITY	20,869	20,869	20,869		20,869
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	8,268,859	8,273,859	8,268,704	5,000	8,273,859
	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES					
150	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	7,849	7,849	7,849		7,849
160	ADMINISTRATION	49,304	49,304	49,944	640	49,944
	Increase for 7 new State Partnership Program partners—NGB UFR			[640]	[640]	
170	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	18,585	18,585	18,585		18,585
190	OTHER PERSONNEL SUPPORT	297,594	297,594	297,594		297,594
200	REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT	3,954	3,954	3,954		3,954
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	377,286	377,286	377,926	640	377,926
	UNDISTRIBUTED					
230	UNDISTRIBUTED			−36,200	−43,000	−43,000
	Unobligated balances			[−36,200]	[−43,000]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			−36,200	−43,000	−43,000
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD	8,646,145	8,651,145	8,610,430	−37,360	8,608,785
	COUNTER-ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ AND SYRIA TRAIN AND EQUIP					
	COUNTER ISIS TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND (CTEF)					
010	IRAQ	380,758	380,758	380,758		380,758
020	SYRIA	147,941	147,941	147,941		147,941
	SUBTOTAL COUNTER ISIS TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND (CTEF)	528,699	528,699	528,699		528,699
	TOTAL COUNTER-ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ AND SYRIA TRAIN AND EQUIP	528,699	528,699	528,699		528,699
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY					
	OPERATING FORCES					
010	MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	6,876,414	6,751,414	6,906,414	−100,000	6,776,414
	Historical underexecution		[−125,000]		[−100,000]	
	Maritime/Littoral Domain ISR—CENTCOM UFR			[30,000]		
020	FLEET AIR TRAINING	2,980,271	2,855,271	2,980,271	−100,000	2,880,271
	Historical underexecution		[−125,000]		[−100,000]	
050	AIR SYSTEMS SUPPORT	1,444,564	1,444,564	1,444,564		1,444,564
060	AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	1,747,475	1,747,475	1,747,475		1,747,475
080	AVIATION LOGISTICS	2,020,926	2,005,926	2,020,926	−15,000	2,005,926
	Historical underexecution		[−15,000]		[−15,000]	
090	MISSION AND OTHER SHIP OPERATIONS	7,561,665	7,571,665	7,561,665	−76,000	7,485,665
	Automated Inspections Technology Pilot Program		[10,000]		[5,000]	
	Unjustified request				[−81,000]	
100	SHIP OPERATIONS SUPPORT & TRAINING	1,576,167	1,576,167	1,576,167		1,576,167
110	SHIP DEPOT MAINTENANCE	12,121,320	12,121,320	12,186,320	65,000	12,186,320
	Prevent retirement of ESD			[65,000]	[65,000]	
120	SHIP DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	2,722,849	2,722,849	2,722,849		2,722,849
130	COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONIC WARFARE	1,845,351	1,845,351	1,847,317		1,845,351
	Accelerate Long Endurance Electronic Decoy (LEED)—Navy UFR			[2,300]		
	Counter Uncrewed Systems (C-UxS) / Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD)—AFRICOM			[375]		
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[−709]		
140	SPACE SYSTEMS AND SURVEILLANCE	429,851	429,851	429,851		429,851
150	WARFARE TACTICS	1,030,531	1,030,531	1,030,531		1,030,531
160	OPERATIONAL METEOROLOGY AND OCEANOGRAPHY	462,111	462,111	462,111		462,111
170	COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	2,430,990	2,430,990	2,438,190	−30,000	2,400,990
	Unjustified request				[−30,000]	
	USEUCOM+NATO Maritime Command and Control (C2)			[7,200]		
180	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND DEPOT OPERATIONS SUPPORT	49,520	49,520	49,520		49,520
200	COMBATANT COMMANDERS CORE OPERATIONS	93,949	93,949	93,949		93,949
210	COMBATANT COMMANDERS DIRECT MISSION SUPPORT	395,278	603,778	610,618	226,500	621,778
	AI-Enabled Planning & Wargaming (STORMBREAKER)			[18,000]	[18,000]	
	Campaigning—Special Operations Command Pacific (SOCPAC)			[53,000]	[53,000]	

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(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
	INDOPACOM Campaigning		[53,000]			
	INDOPACOM Mission Network—INDOPACOM UPL		[106,500]		[106,500]	
	Joint Interagency Task Force—West (JIATF-W)			[4,260]		
	Joint Task Force Micronesia (JTF-M)			[40,080]		
	Joint Training Team—INDOPACOM UPL		[49,000]		[49,000]	
	Joint Training Team (JTT)			[100,000]		
220	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	577,882	562,882	578,882		577,882
	Accelerate GRANDSTAND—Navy UFR			[1,000]		
	Program decrease		[-15,000]			
230	FLEET BALLISTIC MISSILE	1,866,966	1,866,966	1,866,966		1,866,966
240	WEAPONS MAINTENANCE	1,596,682	1,596,682	1,722,282	11,300	1,607,982
	Accelerate Mk-48 Heavy Weight Torpedo (HWT) Procurement (+41)—Navy UFR			[9,200]	[9,200]	
	Accelerate Subsea and Seabed Warfare (SSW) ROV—Navy UFR			[2,100]	[2,100]	
	Accelerate Weapons Combat Expenditure Replacement for SM-2—Navy UFR			[93,000]		
	Longbow Hellfire integration			[21,300]		
250	OTHER WEAPON SYSTEMS SUPPORT	785,511	770,511	785,511	-6,757	778,754
	Historical underexecution		[-15,000]		[-6,757]	
260	ENTERPRISE INFORMATION	1,824,127	1,809,127	1,824,127	-10,000	1,814,127
	Program decrease		[-15,000]		[-10,000]	
270	SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION AND MODERNIZATION	4,654,449	4,821,949	5,694,449	742,500	5,396,949
	Department of the Navy Unfunded Priorities		[50,000]			
	Guam disaster recovery and resilient rebuild FSRM			[70,000]		
	Guam Glass Breakwater			[300,000]	[600,000]	
	Navy 95% executable FSRM			[670,000]		
	Quality of Life Initiatives		[117,500]		[142,500]	
280	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	6,324,454	6,333,454	6,324,454	-73,000	6,251,454
	Program increase		[9,000]		[9,000]	
	Unjustified request				[-82,000]	
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	63,419,303	63,504,303	64,905,409	634,543	64,053,846
MOBILIZATION						
290	SHIP PREPOSITIONING AND SURGE	463,722	463,722	463,722		463,722
300	READY RESERVE FORCE	780,558	780,558	780,558		780,558
310	SHIP ACTIVATIONS/INACTIVATIONS	1,030,030	1,030,030	1,030,030		1,030,030
320	EXPEDITIONARY HEALTH SERVICES SYSTEMS	173,200	173,200	173,200		173,200
330	COAST GUARD SUPPORT	21,800	21,800	21,800		21,800
	SUBTOTAL MOBILIZATION	2,469,310	2,469,310	2,469,310		2,469,310
TRAINING AND RECRUITING						
340	OFFICER ACQUISITION	206,282	206,282	205,836		206,282
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-446]		
350	RECRUIT TRAINING	18,748	23,048	18,748	4,300	23,048
	Sea Cadets		[4,300]		[4,300]	
360	RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS	169,044	169,044	169,044		169,044
370	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	1,236,735	1,236,735	1,236,735	-20,000	1,216,735
	Unjustified request				[-20,000]	
380	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	357,317	357,317	358,317		357,317
	Key Partners for Middle East Regional Integration Military Subject Matter Exchange Program			[1,000]		
390	TRAINING SUPPORT	434,173	434,173	432,506		434,173
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-1,667]		
400	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	281,107	281,107	281,107		281,107
410	OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION	77,223	77,223	77,223		77,223
420	CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING	73,510	73,510	73,510		73,510
430	JUNIOR ROTC	59,649	59,649	59,649		59,649
	SUBTOTAL TRAINING AND RECRUITING	2,913,788	2,918,088	2,912,675	-15,700	2,898,088
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES						
440	ADMINISTRATION	1,453,465	1,378,965	1,453,465	-82,500	1,370,965
	Program decrease		[-74,500]		[-74,500]	
	Unjustified request				[-8,000]	
450	CIVILIAN MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT	252,723	252,723	251,086		252,723
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-1,637]		
460	MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT	729,351	729,351	728,641	-9,000	720,351

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Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[−710]		
	Unjustified request				[−9,000]	
470	MEDICAL ACTIVITIES	324,055	289,055	324,055	−35,000	289,055
	Historical underexecution		[−35,000]		[−35,000]	
480	DEF ACQUISITION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT	69,348	69,348	69,348		69,348
490	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	275,379	275,379	275,379		275,379
510	PLANNING, ENGINEERING, AND PROGRAM SUPPORT	609,648	607,148	609,648		609,648
	Program decrease		[−2,500]			
520	ACQUISITION, LOGISTICS, AND OVERSIGHT	869,350	829,350	869,350	−40,000	829,350
	Historical underexecution		[−40,000]		[−40,000]	
530	INVESTIGATIVE AND SECURITY SERVICES	980,857	980,857	980,857		980,857
810A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	656,005	656,005	656,005		656,005
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	6,220,181	6,068,181	6,217,834	−166,500	6,053,681
UNDISTRIBUTED						
820	UNDISTRIBUTED			−84,570	−212,000	−212,000
	Foreign Currency Fluctuations			[−5,270]		
	Unobligated balances			[−79,300]	[−212,000]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			−84,570	−212,000	−212,000
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY	75,022,582	74,959,882	76,420,658	240,343	75,262,925
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS						
OPERATING FORCES						
010	OPERATIONAL FORCES	1,848,218	1,865,218	1,909,618	22,500	1,870,718
	Campaigning—U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC)			[47,000]		
	Historical underexecution		[−30,000]		[−30,000]	
	INDOPACOM Campaigning		[47,000]		[47,000]	
	Marine Corps realignment—high cut enhanced combat helmet			[14,400]	[5,500]	
020	FIELD LOGISTICS	1,990,769	1,988,769	1,990,769	−15,000	1,975,769
	Historical underexecution		[−2,000]		[−15,000]	
030	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	241,350	241,350	241,350		241,350
040	MARITIME PREPOSITIONING	176,356	176,356	176,356		176,356
060	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	271,819	271,819	271,819		271,819
070	SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	1,304,957	1,863,437	1,932,287	558,480	1,863,437
	Barracks 2030		[230,480]		[230,480]	
	Marine Corps 95% executable FSRM			[100,000]		
	Marine Corps realignment—Barracks 2030			[379,330]		
	Quality of Life Initiatives		[35,000]		[35,000]	
	USMC Enterprise-Wide Facilities Modernization		[293,000]		[293,000]	
	USMC Enterprise-Wide Facilities Modernization—USMC UFR			[148,000]		
080	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	3,035,867	3,160,867	3,229,867	88,000	3,123,867
	Barracks 2030		[119,000]		[119,000]	
	Barracks base operating support			[194,000]		
	Program increase		[6,000]			
	Unjustified growth				[−31,000]	
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	8,869,336	9,567,816	9,752,066	653,980	9,523,316
TRAINING AND RECRUITING						
090	RECRUIT TRAINING	26,610	26,610	26,610		26,610
100	OFFICER ACQUISITION	1,418	1,418	1,418		1,418
110	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	128,502	128,502	128,502		128,502
120	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	63,208	63,208	64,208		63,208
	Key Partners for Middle East Regional Integration Military Subject Matter Exchange Program			[1,000]		
130	TRAINING SUPPORT	553,166	553,166	553,166		553,166
140	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	237,077	237,077	309,927	72,850	309,927
	Advertising—USMC UFR			[72,850]	[72,850]	
150	OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION	50,000	50,000	50,000		50,000
160	JUNIOR ROTC	30,276	30,276	30,276		30,276
	SUBTOTAL TRAINING AND RECRUITING	1,090,257	1,090,257	1,164,107	72,850	1,163,107
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES						
180	SERVICEWIDE TRANSPORTATION	96,528	96,528	96,528		96,528
190	ADMINISTRATION	442,037	432,537	440,037	−4,000	438,037
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[−2,000]		

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Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
310A	Program decrease		[−9,500]		[−4,000]	
	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	64,646	64,646	64,646		64,646
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	603,211	593,711	601,211	−4,000	599,211
UNDISTRIBUTED						
320	UNDISTRIBUTED			−17,030	−113,000	−113,000
	Foreign Currency Fluctuations			[−3,930]		
	Unobligated balances			[−13,100]	[−113,000]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			−17,030	−113,000	−113,000
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS	10,562,804	11,251,784	11,500,354	609,830	11,172,634
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE						
OPERATING FORCES						
010	MISSION AND OTHER FLIGHT OPERATIONS	708,701	708,701	708,701		708,701
030	AIR SYSTEMS SUPPORT	10,250	10,250	10,250		10,250
040	AIRCRAFT DEPOT MAINTENANCE	148,292	148,292	148,292		148,292
060	AVIATION LOGISTICS	33,200	33,200	33,200		33,200
070	COMBAT COMMUNICATIONS	21,211	21,211	21,211		21,211
080	COMBAT SUPPORT FORCES	199,551	199,551	199,551		199,551
090	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	291	291	291		291
100	ENTERPRISE INFORMATION	33,027	33,027	33,027		33,027
110	SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION AND MODERNIZATION	50,200	50,200	50,200		50,200
120	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	119,124	119,124	119,124		119,124
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	1,323,847	1,323,847	1,323,847		1,323,847
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES						
130	ADMINISTRATION	2,067	2,067	2,067		2,067
140	MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT	13,575	13,575	13,575		13,575
150	ACQUISITION AND PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	2,173	2,173	2,173		2,173
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	17,815	17,815	17,815		17,815
UNDISTRIBUTED						
180	UNDISTRIBUTED			−2,900	−2,900	−2,900
	Unobligated balances			[−2,900]	[−2,900]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			−2,900	−2,900	−2,900
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE	1,341,662	1,341,662	1,338,762	−2,900	1,338,762
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE						
OPERATING FORCES						
010	OPERATING FORCES	132,907	132,907	132,907		132,907
020	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	22,073	22,073	22,073		22,073
030	SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION AND MODERNIZATION	47,677	47,677	47,677		47,677
040	BASE OPERATING SUPPORT	122,734	122,734	122,734		122,734
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	325,391	325,391	325,391		325,391
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES						
050	ADMINISTRATION	12,689	12,689	12,689		12,689
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	12,689	12,689	12,689		12,689
UNDISTRIBUTED						
060	UNDISTRIBUTED			−1,800	−1,800	−1,800
	Unobligated balances			[−1,800]	[−1,800]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			−1,800	−1,800	−1,800
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE	338,080	338,080	336,280	−1,800	336,280
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE						
OPERATING FORCES						
010	PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	910,849	1,026,849	1,060,388	15,981	926,830
	Campaigning—Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) - INDOPACOM UFR			[48,000]	[48,000]	
	Fighter Force Re-Optimization (+208 PMAI a/c)—AF UFR			[1,981]	[1,981]	
	INDOPACOM Campaigning		[48,000]			
	Prevent retirement of F−15Es			[98,144]		
	Prevent retirement of F−22s			[1,414]		

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Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
	Restore KC135		[68,000]			
	Unjustified request				[-34,000]	
020	COMBAT ENHANCEMENT FORCES	2,631,887	2,641,887	2,687,887	-12,000	2,619,887
	Campaigning—Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) - INDOPACOM UFR			[20,000]	[20,000]	
	C-UAS Electronic Support—CENTCOM UFR			[36,000]	[36,000]	
	Historical underexecution		[-10,000]			
	INDOPACOM Campaigning		[20,000]			
	Unjustified request				[-68,000]	
030	AIR OPERATIONS TRAINING (OJT, MAINTAIN SKILLS)	1,526,855	1,451,855	1,793,155	-45,000	1,481,855
	Historical underexecution		[-75,000]		[-45,000]	
	PACAF biennial ACE exercises—AF UFR			[266,300]		
040	DEPOT PURCHASE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	4,862,731	4,762,731	4,875,974	-100,000	4,762,731
	Historical underexecution		[-100,000]		[-100,000]	
	Prevent retirement of F-22s			[13,243]		
050	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	4,413,268	4,520,768	6,253,268	147,500	4,560,768
	Air Force 95% executable FSRM			[1,150,000]		
	Guam disaster recovery and resilient rebuild FSRM			[680,000]		
	Increases to unfunded requirements for PFAS			[10,000]		
	Quality of Life Initiatives		[107,500]		[147,500]	
060	CYBERSPACE SUSTAINMENT	245,330	245,330	245,330		245,330
070	CONTRACTOR LOGISTICS SUPPORT AND SYSTEM SUPPORT	10,100,030	10,121,530	10,406,232	24,656	10,124,686
	Campaigning—Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) - INDOPACOM UFR			[21,500]	[21,500]	
	Fighter Force Re-Optimization (+208 PMAI a/c)—AF UFR			[3,156]	[3,156]	
	INDOPACOM Campaigning		[21,500]			
	Prevent retirement of F-22s			[281,546]		
080	FLYING HOUR PROGRAM	7,010,770	6,860,770	7,828,786	-70,000	6,940,770
	Historical underexecution		[-150,000]		[-70,000]	
	Prevent retirement of F-22s			[65,017]		
	USAF one-time spares increase—AF UFR			[752,999]		
090	BASE SUPPORT	11,449,394	11,469,394	11,449,394	-85,000	11,364,394
	Program increase		[20,000]		[10,000]	
	Unjustified request				[-95,000]	
100	GLOBAL C3I AND EARLY WARNING	1,294,815	1,294,815	1,294,815		1,294,815
110	OTHER COMBAT OPS SPT PROGRAMS	1,840,433	1,840,433	1,857,032		1,840,433
	Counter Uncrewed Systems (C-UxS) / Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD)—AFRICOM			[16,599]		
120	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	874,283	864,283	874,283	-10,000	864,283
	Program decrease		[-10,000]		[-10,000]	
140	MEDICAL READINESS	567,561	567,561	567,561		567,561
160	US NORTHCOM/NORAD	212,311	212,311	272,011		212,311
	Expand JTF North			[25,000]		
	Foundational information technology			[34,700]		
170	US STRATCOM	524,159	524,159	524,659		524,159
	Expeditionary Shelter Protection System			[500]		
190	US CENTCOM	333,250	333,250	421,250		333,250
	Cloud Computing Environment / Cloud Transition—CENTCOM UFR			[20,000]		
	Data Analysis and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Initiative—CENTCOM UFR			[8,000]		
	Mission Data Platform Enterprise Licenses—CENTCOM UFR			[16,000]		
	MSS Licenses and AI Enhancements—CENTCOM UFR			[44,000]		
200	US SOCOM	28,431	28,431	28,431		28,431
210	US TRANSCOM	681	681	681		681
220	CENTCOM CYBERSPACE SUSTAINMENT	1,466	1,466	1,466		1,466
230	USSPACECOM	418,153	418,153	418,153		418,153
240A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	1,848,981	1,848,981	1,848,981		1,848,981
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	51,095,638	51,035,638	54,709,737	-133,863	50,961,775
MOBILIZATION						
250	AIRLIFT OPERATIONS	3,502,648	3,502,648	3,502,648		3,502,648
260	MOBILIZATION PREPAREDNESS	260,168	260,168	260,168		260,168
	SUBTOTAL MOBILIZATION	3,762,816	3,762,816	3,762,816		3,762,816
TRAINING AND RECRUITING						
270	OFFICER ACQUISITION	219,822	219,822	219,581		219,822
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-241]		
280	RECRUIT TRAINING	28,133	28,133	28,133		28,133
290	RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)	129,859	129,859	124,132		129,859

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Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[−5,727]		
300	SPECIALIZED SKILL TRAINING	624,525	624,525	624,525		624,525
310	FLIGHT TRAINING	882,998	847,998	882,998	−5,000	877,998
	Historical underexecution		[−35,000]		[−5,000]	
320	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	322,278	322,278	323,278		322,278
	Key Partners for Middle East Regional Integration Military Subject Matter Exchange Program			[1,000]		
330	TRAINING SUPPORT	192,028	193,028	192,028		192,028
	Training Exercise Support—Northern Strike		[1,000]			
340	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	216,939	216,939	216,939		216,939
350	EXAMINING	7,913	7,913	7,913		7,913
360	OFF-DUTY AND VOLUNTARY EDUCATION	255,673	255,673	255,673		255,673
370	CIVILIAN EDUCATION AND TRAINING	361,897	361,897	361,897		361,897
380	JUNIOR ROTC	74,682	75,682	74,682		74,682
	Program increase		[1,000]			
	SUBTOTAL TRAINING AND RECRUITING	3,316,747	3,283,747	3,311,779	−5,000	3,311,747
	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES					
390	LOGISTICS OPERATIONS	1,212,268	1,206,268	1,212,268	−6,000	1,206,268
	Program decrease		[−6,000]		[−6,000]	
400	TECHNICAL SUPPORT ACTIVITIES	175,511	175,511	175,511		175,511
410	ADMINISTRATION	1,381,555	1,221,555	1,368,358	−160,000	1,221,555
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[−13,197]		
	Historical underexecution		[−100,000]			
	Program decrease		[−60,000]			
	Unjustified request				[−160,000]	
420	SERVICEWIDE COMMUNICATIONS	34,913	34,913	34,913		34,913
430	OTHER SERVICEWIDE ACTIVITIES	1,933,264	1,933,264	1,933,264	−20,000	1,913,264
	Unjustified growth				[−20,000]	
440	CIVIL AIR PATROL	31,520	31,520	31,520		31,520
460	DEF ACQUISITION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT	51,756	51,756	51,756		51,756
480	INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT	93,490	93,490	93,490		93,490
480A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	1,528,256	1,528,256	1,528,256		1,528,256
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	6,442,533	6,276,533	6,429,336	−186,000	6,256,533
	UNDISTRIBUTED					
490	UNDISTRIBUTED			−153,350	−289,500	−289,500
	Foreign Currency Fluctuations			[−3,650]		
	Unobligated balances			[−149,700]	[−289,500]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			−153,350	−289,500	−289,500
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE	64,617,734	64,358,734	68,060,318	−614,363	64,003,371
	OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SPACE FORCE					
	OPERATING FORCES					
010	GLOBAL C3I & EARLY WARNING	694,469	694,469	694,469	−46,000	648,469
	Unjustified growth				[−46,000]	
020	SPACE LAUNCH OPERATIONS	373,584	373,584	373,584		373,584
030	SPACE OPERATIONS	936,956	936,956	936,956	−40,000	896,956
	Unjustified request				[−40,000]	
040	EDUCATION & TRAINING	235,459	235,459	235,459		235,459
060	DEPOT MAINTENANCE	80,571	80,571	80,571		80,571
070	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	488,709	523,709	500,709	35,000	523,709
	Quality of Life Initiatives		[35,000]		[35,000]	
	STARCOM Facility—Space Force UFR			[12,000]		
080	CONTRACTOR LOGISTICS AND SYSTEM SUPPORT	1,346,611	1,346,611	1,346,611		1,346,611
090	SPACE OPERATIONS -BOS	238,717	238,717	238,717		238,717
100	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	139,983	139,983	139,983		139,983
100A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	537,908	537,908	537,908		537,908
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	5,072,967	5,107,967	5,084,967	−51,000	5,021,967
	ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES					
110	LOGISTICS OPERATIONS	35,313	35,313	35,313		35,313
120	ADMINISTRATION	183,992	183,992	183,992	−15,000	168,992
	Unjustified growth				[−15,000]	
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	219,305	219,305	219,305	−15,000	204,305

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
UNDISTRIBUTED						
140	UNDISTRIBUTED			-32,050	-9,000	-9,000
	Foreign Currency Fluctuations			[-50]		
	Unobligated balances			[-32,000]	[-9,000]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			-32,050	-9,000	-9,000
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SPACE FORCE	5,292,272	5,327,272	5,272,222	-75,000	5,217,272
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE						
OPERATING FORCES						
010	PRIMARY COMBAT FORCES	1,958,968	1,958,968	1,958,968		1,958,968
020	MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	177,080	177,080	177,080		177,080
030	DEPOT PURCHASE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	597,172	597,172	597,172		597,172
040	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	123,394	123,394	123,394		123,394
050	CONTRACTOR LOGISTICS SUPPORT AND SYSTEM SUPPORT	601,302	601,302	601,302		601,302
060	BASE SUPPORT	585,943	585,943	585,943		585,943
070	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	2,331	2,331	2,331		2,331
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	4,046,190	4,046,190	4,046,190		4,046,190
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES						
080	ADMINISTRATION	92,732	92,732	92,647		92,732
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-85]		
090	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	10,855	10,855	10,855		10,855
100	MILITARY MANPOWER AND PERS MGMT (ARPC)	17,188	17,188	17,188		17,188
110	OTHER PERS SUPPORT (DISABILITY COMP)	6,304	6,304	6,304		6,304
120	AUDIOVISUAL	527	527	527		527
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	127,606	127,606	127,521		127,606
UNDISTRIBUTED						
130	UNDISTRIBUTED			-33,300	-62,000	-62,000
	Unobligated balances			[-33,300]	[-62,000]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			-33,300	-62,000	-62,000
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE	4,173,796	4,173,796	4,140,411	-62,000	4,111,796
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD						
OPERATING FORCES						
010	AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS	2,626,498	2,626,498	2,626,498		2,626,498
020	MISSION SUPPORT OPERATIONS	649,621	649,621	649,621		649,621
030	DEPOT PURCHASE EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	1,004,771	1,004,771	1,004,771	-9,000	995,771
	Program decrease unaccounted for				[-9,000]	
040	FACILITIES SUSTAINMENT, RESTORATION & MODERNIZATION	458,917	458,917	458,917		458,917
050	CONTRACTOR LOGISTICS SUPPORT AND SYSTEM SUPPORT	1,353,383	1,353,383	1,353,383	-17,000	1,336,383
	Program decrease unaccounted for				[-17,000]	
060	BASE SUPPORT	1,119,429	1,119,429	1,119,243		1,119,429
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-186]		
070	CYBERSPACE SUSTAINMENT	14,291	14,291	14,291		14,291
080	CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	57,162	57,162	57,162		57,162
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	7,284,072	7,284,072	7,283,886	-26,000	7,258,072
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES						
090	ADMINISTRATION	71,454	71,454	71,964		71,454
	Increase for 7 new State Partnership Program partners—NGB UFR			[510]		
100	RECRUITING AND ADVERTISING	48,245	48,245	48,245		48,245
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	119,699	119,699	120,209		119,699
UNDISTRIBUTED						
110	UNDISTRIBUTED			-8,600	-62,000	-62,000
	Unobligated balances			[-8,600]	[-62,000]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED			-8,600	-62,000	-62,000
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD	7,403,771	7,403,771	7,395,495	-88,000	7,315,771
OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE						
OPERATING FORCES						

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
010	JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF	461,772	438,683	460,272	-4,000	457,772
	Program decrease		[-23,089]			
	Unobligated balances			[-1,500]	[-4,000]	
020	JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF—JTEEP	696,446	696,446	696,446		696,446
030	JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF—CYBER	9,100	9,100	9,100		9,100
040	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE—MISO	253,176	253,176	267,176		253,176
	Military Information Support Operations (MISO)—AFRICOM			[14,000]		
050	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND COMBAT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES	2,082,777	2,082,777	2,082,777	-15,717	2,067,060
	Projected underexecution				[-15,717]	
060	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND MAINTENANCE	1,197,289	1,191,289	1,198,289	-1,000	1,196,289
	Counter Uncrewed Systems—SOCOM UFR			[1,000]	[1,000]	
	Program decrease		[-6,000]		[-2,000]	
070	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND MANAGEMENT/OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS ..	203,622	203,622	203,622	-10,064	193,558
	Projected underexecution				[-10,064]	
080	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND THEATER FORCES	3,410,271	3,412,271	3,410,271	-11,581	3,398,690
	Overestimation of flying hours				[-7,000]	
	Preservation of the Force, Muscle Activation Technique (MAT Program) ...		[2,000]		[2,000]	
	Projected underexecution				[-6,581]	
090	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND CYBERSPACE ACTIVITIES	51,263	51,263	51,263		51,263
100	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND INTELLIGENCE	1,266,217	1,266,217	1,266,217	-7,000	1,259,217
	Program decrease – long endurance aircraft				[-7,000]	
110	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND OPERATIONAL SUPPORT	1,453,809	1,453,809	1,453,809		1,453,809
120	CYBERSPACE OPERATIONS	1,361,360	1,361,360	1,396,360	10,000	1,371,360
	Department of Defense-Wide Internet Operations Management Capability			[10,000]	[10,000]	
	Program increase			[25,000]		
130	USCYBERCOM HEADQUARTERS	344,376	344,376	344,376	-6,953	337,423
	Projected underexecution				[-6,953]	
	SUBTOTAL OPERATING FORCES	12,791,478	12,764,389	12,839,978	-46,315	12,745,163
TRAINING AND RECRUITING						
140	DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY	184,963	184,963	184,963		184,963
150	JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF	132,101	134,601	133,101		132,101
	Formerly Used Defense Sites		[2,500]			
	Key Partners for Middle East Regional Integration Military Subject Matter					
	Exchange Program			[1,000]		
160	SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION	31,806	31,806	31,806		31,806
	SUBTOTAL TRAINING AND RECRUITING	348,870	351,370	349,870		348,870
ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES						
170	CIVIL MILITARY PROGRAMS	140,375	275,375	140,375	100,000	240,375
	National Guard Youth Challenge		[90,000]		[50,000]	
	Program decrease		[-5,000]			
	STARBASE		[50,000]		[50,000]	
180	DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY—CYBER	4,961	4,961	4,961		4,961
190	DEFENSE CONTRACT AUDIT AGENCY	673,621	673,621	667,521	-5,700	667,921
	Unobligated balances			[-6,100]	[-5,700]	
200	DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY	1,543,134	1,512,271	1,542,134	-30,863	1,512,271
	Program decrease		[-30,863]		[-30,863]	
	Unobligated balances			[-1,000]		
210	DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT AGENCY—CYBER	42,541	42,541	42,541		42,541
220	DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY	952,464	922,464	952,464	-30,000	922,464
	Program decrease		[-30,000]		[-30,000]	
240	DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY—CYBER	9,794	9,794	9,794		9,794
250	DEFENSE HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITY—CYBER	39,781	39,781	39,781		39,781
260	DEFENSE HUMAN RESOURCES ACTIVITY	1,104,152	1,095,952	1,112,152	-23,785	1,080,367
	Program decrease		[-8,200]		[-28,785]	
	Re-establishment of Troops-to-Teachers program			[8,000]	[5,000]	
290	DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY	2,614,041	2,594,041	2,610,641	-26,500	2,587,541
	OSD requested transfer from RDDW Line 94 to OMDW Line 4GT9 to prop-					
	erly align 5G resourcing				[8,500]	
	Program decrease		[-20,000]		[-35,000]	
	Unobligated balances			[-3,400]		
300	DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY—CYBER	504,896	504,896	504,896		504,896
310	DEFENSE LEGAL SERVICES AGENCY	207,918	176,730	197,118	-31,188	176,730
	Program decrease		[-31,188]		[-31,188]	
	Unobligated balances			[-10,800]		

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
320	DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY	412,257	391,644	400,572	-20,613	391,644
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-10,085]		
	Program decrease		[-20,613]		[-20,613]	
	Unobligated balances			[-1,600]		
330	DEFENSE MEDIA ACTIVITY	244,689	244,689	244,689		244,689
340	DEFENSE POW/MIA OFFICE	188,022	188,022	188,022		188,022
350	DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY	2,889,957	2,389,957	3,333,657	-215,000	2,674,957
	Full replenishment funding for Taiwan drawdowns			[400,000]		
	Irregular Warfare Center			[5,000]	[5,000]	
	JPAC, IBP analytical expansion			[5,000]		
	Near Coastal Patrol Vessel—SOUTHCOM			[12,500]		
	Program decrease – Indo-Pacific Security Assistance Initiative				[-200,000]	
	Program decrease – section 1226 support				[-20,000]	
	Reallocation to INDOPACOM unfunded priorities		[-500,000]			
	Theater Maintenance Partnership Initiative (TMPI)—SOUTHCOM			[21,200]		
360	DEFENSE TECHNOLOGY SECURITY ADMINISTRATION	42,380	42,380	42,380		42,380
370	DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY	858,476	808,476	858,476	-50,000	808,476
	Program decrease		[-50,000]		[-50,000]	
390	DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY—CYBER	72,952	72,952	72,952		72,952
400	DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY	3,559,288	3,629,288	3,639,288	70,000	3,629,288
	Impact Aid		[50,000]			
	Impact aid for children with severe disabilities			[30,000]	[20,000]	
	Impact aid for schools with military dependent students			[50,000]	[50,000]	
	Impact Aid Students with Disabilities		[20,000]			
410	MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY	605,766	605,766	605,766		605,766
420	OFFICE OF THE LOCAL DEFENSE COMMUNITY COOPERATION	117,081	117,081	117,081	60,000	177,081
	Program increase: Defense Community Infrastructure Program				[60,000]	
460	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE—CYBER	99,583	99,583	99,583		99,583
470	OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE	2,980,715	2,521,867	3,025,279	-188,396	2,792,319
	1260H List Implementation		[5,000]			
	Bien Hoa dioxin cleanup			[30,000]	[15,000]	
	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Nation-wide human health assessment			[5,000]	[5,000]	
	Chief Talent Management Office		[10,000]			
	Defense Operational Resilience International Cooperation			[15,000]		
	Diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-15,436]		
	Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program		[5,000]		[5,000]	
	Program decrease		[-493,848]		[-223,396]	
	Readiness and Environmental Protection Initiative		[10,000]		[10,000]	
	Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration program			[10,000]		
	Troops to Teachers		[5,000]			
480	WASHINGTON HEADQUARTERS SERVICES	496,512	435,416	496,512	-61,096	435,416
	Program decrease		[-61,096]		[-61,096]	
480A	CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	20,630,146	20,618,264	20,655,146	-122,942	20,507,204
	Classified adjustment				[-111,060]	
	Classified decrease		[-10,000]			
	Classified increase		[10,000]			
	Program reduction		[-11,882]		[-11,882]	
	SD-WAN classified network expansion			[25,000]		
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND SERVICE-WIDE ACTIVITIES	41,035,502	40,017,813	41,603,781	-576,083	40,459,419
	UNDISTRIBUTED					
490	UNDISTRIBUTED		-624,391	1,330,090	-1,096,584	-1,096,584
	Foreign currency fluctuations		[-624,391]		[-580]	
	FY25 bulk fuel bill			[1,330,670]		
	FY25 bulk fuel savings				[-1,096,584]	
	SUBTOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED		-624,391	1,330,090	-1,096,584	-1,096,584
	TOTAL OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE	54,175,850	52,509,182	56,123,719	-1,718,982	52,456,868
	UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES ADMINISTRATION AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES					
010	US COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES, DEFENSE	21,035	21,035	21,035		21,035
	SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION AND ASSOCIATED ACTIVITIES	21,035	21,035	21,035		21,035
	TOTAL UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE ARMED FORCES ..	21,035	21,035	21,035		21,035

SEC. 4301. OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Line	Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACQUISITION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND						
ACQUISITION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT						
010	ACQ WORKFORCE DEV FD	56,176	56,176	56,176		56,176
	SUBTOTAL ACQUISITION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT	56,176	56,176	56,176		56,176
	TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACQUISITION WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT FUND	56,176	56,176	56,176		56,176
OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER, AND CIVIC AID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE						
010	OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER AND CIVIC AID	115,335	115,335	115,335		115,335
	SUBTOTAL HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE	115,335	115,335	115,335		115,335
	TOTAL OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER, AND CIVIC AID	115,335	115,335	115,335		115,335
COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT						
010	COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION	350,116	350,116	350,116		350,116
	SUBTOTAL COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION	350,116	350,116	350,116		350,116
	TOTAL COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT	350,116	350,116	350,116		350,116
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY						
060	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY	268,069	268,069	338,069	30,000	298,069
	Increases to unfunded requirements for PFAS			[70,000]	[30,000]	
	SUBTOTAL DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY	268,069	268,069	338,069	30,000	298,069
	TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY	268,069	268,069	338,069	30,000	298,069
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY						
080	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY	343,591	343,591	343,591		343,591
	SUBTOTAL DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY	343,591	343,591	343,591		343,591
	TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY	343,591	343,591	343,591		343,591
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE						
100	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE	320,256	320,256	330,256	10,000	330,256
	Increases to unfunded requirements for PFAS			[10,000]	[10,000]	
	SUBTOTAL DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE	320,256	320,256	330,256	10,000	330,256
	TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE	320,256	320,256	330,256	10,000	330,256
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE DEFENSE-WIDE						
120	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE	8,800	8,800	8,800		8,800
	SUBTOTAL DEFENSE-WIDE	8,800	8,800	8,800		8,800
	TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE	8,800	8,800	8,800		8,800
ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES DEFENSE-WIDE						
140	ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION FORMERLY USED SITES	234,475	234,475	234,475		234,475
	SUBTOTAL DEFENSE-WIDE	234,475	234,475	234,475		234,475
	TOTAL ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES	234,475	234,475	234,475		234,475
	TOTAL OPERATION & MAINTENANCE	296,334,504	294,960,413	305,237,190	-1,870,374	294,464,130

TITLE XLIV—MILITARY PERSONNEL

SEC. 4401. MILITARY PERSONNEL.

SEC. 4401. MILITARY PERSONNEL
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Item	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Military Personnel Appropriations	170,834,234	3,830,000	420,654	865,086	171,699,320
BAH Absorption Restoration (1%)		[1,270,000]			
Historical underexecution		[-700,000]			
Junior enlisted pay increase		[3,260,000]		[1,600,000]	
Air Force Reserve—diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-75]	[-75]	
Air National Guard—diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-546]	[-546]	
Air National Guard AGR end strength increase			[30,000]		
Air National Guard increase for 7 new State Partnership Program partners—NGB UFR			[1,350]	[1,350]	
Army National Guard—diversity and inclusion programs reduction			[-83]	[-83]	
Army National Guard increase for 7 new State Partnership Program partners—NGB UFR			[1,800]	[1,800]	
Foreign currency fluctuation			[-8,600]		
FY25 topline increase for junior enlisted pay increase			[1,000,000]		
Increase to junior enlisted pay			[57,000]		
Prevent retirement of F-15Es			[19,258]		
Prevent retirement of F-22s			[57,910]		
Unobligated balances			[-737,360]	[-737,360]	
Medicare-Eligible Retiree Health Care Fund Contributions	11,046,305				11,046,305
TOTAL, Military Personnel	181,880,539	3,830,000	420,654	865,086	182,745,625

TITLE XLV—OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

SEC. 4501. OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS.

SEC. 4501. OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Program Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, ARMY					
WORKING CAPITAL FUND	21,776	21,776	21,776		21,776
ARMY ARSENALS INITIATIVE					
SUPPLY MANAGEMENT—ARMY	1,828	1,828	1,828		1,828
TOTAL WORKING CAPITAL FUND, ARMY	23,604	23,604	23,604		23,604
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, NAVY					
SUPPLY MANAGEMENT, NAVY					
NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTERS	30,000	30,000	30,000		30,000
TOTAL WORKING CAPITAL FUND, NAVY	30,000	30,000	30,000		30,000
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, AIR FORCE					
TRANSPORTATION					
SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS	86,874	86,874	246,674		86,874
Enterprise Space Activity Group Working Capital Fund Cash Corpus— Space Force UFR			[159,800]		
TOTAL WORKING CAPITAL FUND, AIR FORCE	86,874	86,874	246,674		86,874
NATIONAL DEFENSE STOCKPILE TRANSACTION FUND					
DEFENSE STOCKPILE	7,629	7,629	207,629		7,629
Program increase for National Defense Stockpile			[200,000]		
TOTAL NATIONAL DEFENSE STOCKPILE TRANSACTION FUND	7,629	7,629	207,629		7,629
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEFENSE-WIDE					
DEFENSE AUTOMATION & PRODUCTION SERVICES	3	3	3		3
ENERGY MANAGEMENT—DEF	2,253	2,253	2,253		2,253
TOTAL WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEFENSE-WIDE	2,256	2,256	2,256		2,256
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY					
WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DECA	1,570,187	1,570,187	1,570,187		1,570,187
TOTAL WORKING CAPITAL FUND, DEFENSE COMMISSARY AGENCY	1,570,187	1,570,187	1,570,187		1,570,187
NATIONAL DEFENSE SEALIFT FUND					

SEC. 4501. OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Program Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
MPF MLP		200,000			
New Sealift funding		[200,000]			
TOTAL NATIONAL DEFENSE SEALIFT FUND		200,000			
CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE					
CHEM DEMILITARIZATION—O&M	20,745	20,745	20,745		20,745
CHEM DEMILITARIZATION—RDT&E	754,762	754,762	754,762		754,762
TOTAL CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE ..	775,507	775,507	775,507		775,507
DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE					
COUNTER-NARCOTICS SUPPORT	339,292	359,292	392,277	6,000	345,292
Counter Strategic Competitors in the Western Hemisphere		[15,000]			
Global Trader in the Office of Naval Intelligence Maritime Intelligence Support		[5,000]			
Prioritizing counter-drug			[52,985]	[6,000]	
CLASSIFIED PROGRAMS	314,410	314,410	314,410		314,410
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAM	135,567	139,567	135,567	4,000	139,567
Young Marines		[4,000]		[4,000]	
NATIONAL GUARD COUNTER-DRUG PROGRAM	106,043	106,043	106,043		106,043
NATIONAL GUARD COUNTER-DRUG SCHOOLS	6,167	6,167	6,167		6,167
TOTAL DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE	901,479	925,479	954,464	10,000	911,479
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL					
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL—O&M	542,107	542,107	542,107		542,107
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL—CYBER	1,988	1,988	1,988		1,988
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL—RDT&E	1,900	1,900	1,900		1,900
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL—PROCUREMENT	1,336	1,336	1,336		1,336
TOTAL OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL	547,331	547,331	547,331		547,331
DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM					
IN-HOUSE CARE	10,766,432	10,766,432	10,766,432	-101,221	10,665,211
Insufficient justification				[-101,221]	
PRIVATE SECTOR CARE	20,599,128	20,599,128	20,603,128	-400,000	20,199,128
Brain health and trauma demonstration program			[4,000]		
Historical underexecution				[-400,000]	
CONSOLIDATED HEALTH SUPPORT	2,048,030	2,048,030	2,048,030	-6,988	2,041,042
Unjustified growth				[-6,988]	
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	2,469,204	2,469,204	2,469,204	-29,382	2,439,822
Unjustified growth				[-29,382]	
MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES	341,254	341,254	341,254		341,254
EDUCATION AND TRAINING	371,817	396,817	371,817		371,817
Program increase		[25,000]			
BASE OPERATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS	2,306,692	2,281,692	2,306,692	-8,079	2,298,613
Program decrease		[-25,000]			
Unjustified request				[-8,079]	
R&D RESEARCH	41,476	46,476	41,476	5,000	46,476
Next Generation Blood Products and Platelet Development and Platelet Hemostatic Products		[5,000]		[5,000]	
R&D EXPLORATORY DEVELOPMENT	188,564	188,564	188,564		188,564
R&D ADVANCED DEVELOPMENT	328,825	328,825	328,825		328,825
R&D DEMONSTRATION/VALIDATION	175,518	175,518	175,518		175,518
R&D ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT	130,931	130,931	130,931		130,931
R&D MANAGEMENT AND SUPPORT	88,425	88,425	88,425		88,425
R&D CAPABILITIES ENHANCEMENT	18,697	18,697	18,697		18,697
PROC INITIAL OUTFITTING	23,449	23,449	23,449		23,449
PROC REPLACEMENT & MODERNIZATION	243,184	243,184	243,184		243,184
PROC JOINT OPERATIONAL MEDICINE INFORMATION SYSTEM	30,129	30,129	30,129		30,129
PROC MILITARY HEALTH SYSTEM—DESKTOP TO DATACENTER	75,536	75,536	75,536		75,536
PROC DOD HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MODERNIZATION	26,569	26,569	26,569		26,569
UNDISTRIBUTED			-186,800	-185,900	-185,900
Foreign Currency Fluctuations			[-900]		
Unobligated balances			[-185,900]	[-185,900]	
TOTAL DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM	40,273,860	40,278,860	40,091,060	-726,570	39,547,290

SEC. 4501. OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Program Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
TOTAL OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS	44,218,727	44,447,727	44,448,712	-716,570	43,502,157

TITLE XLVI—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

SEC. 4601. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION.

SEC. 4601. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Account	State/Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
MILITARY CONSTRUCTION								
ARMY								
Army	Alabama	Anniston Army Depot	GUIDED MISSILE MAINTENANCE BUILDING (DESIGN)	0	5,300	0	5,300	5,300
Army	Alaska	Fort Wainwright	AUTOMATED MULTIPURPOSE MACHINE GUN RANGE	23,000	0	0	0	23,000
Army	Alaska	Fort Wainwright	ENLISTED UNACCOMPANIED PERSONNEL HOUSING	0	0	15,000	0	0
Army	Arizona	Fort Huachuca	FIRE & RESCUE STATION (DESIGN)	0	0	4,000	0	0
Army	Arizona	Fort Huachuca	FLIGHT CONTROL TOWER (DESIGN)	0	0	1,500	0	0
Army	Arizona	Yuma Proving Ground	IMPROVE RANGE ROAD (DESIGN)	0	0	1,000	0	0
Army	Belgium	SHAPE Headquarters	YOUTH CENTER	45,000	0	0	0	45,000
Army	California	Fort Irwin	TRAINING SUPPORT CENTER	44,000	0	0	0	44,000
Army	California	Military Ocean Terminal Concord	AMMUNITION HOLDING FACILITY	68,000	0	0	0	68,000
Army	Florida	Naval Air Station Key West	JOINT INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE-SOUTH COMMAND AND CONTROL FACILITY	0	90,000	90,000	90,000	90,000
Army	Georgia	Fort Eisenhower	CYBER FACULTY OPERATIONS AND AUDITORIUM FACILITY (DESIGN)	0	0	6,100	0	0
Army	Georgia	Fort Moore	DEXTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (DESIGN)	0	0	14,000	0	0
Army	Georgia	Fort Stewart	BARRACKS (DESIGN)	0	0	5,600	8,000	8,000
Army	Germany	Hohenfels Training Area	BARRACKS	61,000	0	0	0	61,000
Army	Germany	Hohenfels Training Area	COST TO COMPLETE—SIMULATIONS CENTER	35,000	0	0	0	35,000
Army	Germany	U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach	BARRACKS	100,000	0	0	0	100,000
Army	Germany	U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach	BARRACKS	91,000	0	0	0	91,000
Army	Germany	U.S. Army Garrison Bavaria	OPERATIONAL READINESS TRAINING COMPLEX (ORTC) UNDERGROUND ELECTRIC LINE	0	0	12,856	12,856	12,856
Army	Germany	U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	44,000	0	0	0	44,000
Army	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	GDS BATTALION HEADQUARTERS	0	0	47,000	47,000	47,000
Army	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	GDS ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION	0	0	23,000	23,000	23,000
Army	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	GDS FORWARD OPERATING SITES	0	0	75,000	75,000	75,000
Army	Hawaii	Pohakuloa Training Area	AIRFIELD OPERATIONS BUILDING	0	0	20,000	20,000	20,000
Army	Hawaii	Wheeler Army Airfield	AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR	231,000	-195,000	-195,000	-195,000	36,000
Army	Illinois	Rock Island Arsenal	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	1,320	0	0
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER (DESIGN)	0	0	3,000	0	0
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR (DESIGN)	0	0	6,000	0	0
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	AUTOMATED RECORD FIRE PLUS RANGE	11,800	0	0	0	11,800
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	3,000	0	0
Army	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	MODERNIZED HANGAR (DESIGN)	0	0	11,000	11,000	11,000
Army	Kentucky	Fort Knox	SOLDIER SERVICES CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	4,200	0	0
Army	Louisiana	Fort Johnson	BARRACKS	117,000	-95,000	-117,000	-117,000	0
Army	Louisiana	Fort Johnson	ROTATIONAL UNIT BILLETING AREA	0	0	6,300	50,000	50,000
Army	Maryland	Fort Meade	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	46,000	0	0	0	46,000
Army	Michigan	Detroit Arsenal	MANNED/UNMANNED TACTICAL VEHICLE LAB	37,000	0	0	0	37,000
Army	Missouri	Fort Leonard Wood	ADVANCED INDIVIDUAL TRAINING BARRACKS COMPLEX, PHASE 2	144,000	-24,000	-24,000	-24,000	120,000
Army	New York	Fort Drum	AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR ADDITION, WASH RACK AND PAINT BOOTH (DESIGN)	0	0	9,800	9,800	9,800
Army	New York	Fort Drum	ARMY COMBAT FITNESS TESTING FACILITY FIELD HOUSE (DESIGN)	0	0	8,300	0	0
Army	New York	Fort Drum	AUTOMATED RECORD FIRE RANGE (DESIGN)	0	0	2,300	0	0
Army	New York	Fort Drum	FIELD ARTILLERY VEHICLE STORAGE SHEDS (DESIGN)	0	0	830	830	830

SEC. 4601. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Account	State/ Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Army	New York	Fort Drum	ORTC PHASE II, ENLISTED TRANSIENT TRAINING BARRACKS (DESIGN)	0	0	6,100	6,100	6,100
Army	New York	Watervliet Arsenal	FIRE STATION	53,000	0	0	0	53,000
Army	New York	Wheeler-Sack Army Airfield	FIRE STATION 3 (DESIGN)	0	0	2,900	2,900	2,900
Army	North Carolina	Fort Liberty	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	39,000	0	-39,000	-39,000	0
Army	Oklahoma	McAlester Army Ammunition Plant	AMMUNITION DEMOLITION FACILITY	0	0	74,000	74,000	74,000
Army	Pennsylvania	Letterkenny Army Depot	COMPONENT REBUILD SHOP (INC 1)	90,000	-45,000	-45,000	-45,000	45,000
Army	Pennsylvania	Letterkenny Army Depot	MISSILE/MUNITIONS DISTRIBUTION FACILITY	62,000	0	0	0	62,000
Army	South Carolina	Fort Jackson	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	4,915	0	0
Army	Texas	Fort Bliss	COST TO COMPLETE—RAIL YARD	44,000	0	0	0	44,000
Army	Texas	Fort Cavazos	MOTOR POOL #70	0	69,000	69,000	69,000	69,000
Army	Texas	Fort Cavazos	MOTOR POOL #71	0	78,000	78,000	78,000	78,000
Army	Texas	Red River Army Depot	VEHICLE PAINT SHOP	34,000	0	0	0	34,000
Army	Virginia	Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall	BARRACKS	180,000	0	0	0	180,000
Army	Virginia	Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall	HORSE FARM LAND ACQUISITION	8,500	-8,500	-8,500	-8,500	0
Army	Washington	Joint Base Lewis-McChord	BARRACKS	161,000	-121,000	-124,000	-124,000	37,000
Army	Washington	Joint Base Lewis-McChord	FIRE STATION (DESIGN)	0	0	2,900	4,940	4,940
Army	Washington	Joint Base Lewis-McChord	SUPPLY SUPPORT ACTIVITY	31,000	0	0	0	31,000
Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Design—Milcon Barracks Planning	DEFERRED MILCON & RM (DESIGN)	0	0	47,650	47,650	47,650
Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN	273,727	10,000	0	0	273,727
Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	EDI: MINOR CONSTRUCTION	14,519	0	0	0	14,519
Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	HOST NATION SUPPORT	25,000	0	0	0	25,000
Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	PDI: DESIGN	26,011	0	0	0	26,011
Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	PDI: INDOCOM MINOR CONSTRUCTION PILOT	66,600	0	0	0	66,600
Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	PDI: MINOR CONSTRUCTION	8,000	0	0	0	8,000
Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING (DESIGN)	0	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	97,000	25,000	0	41,624	138,624
Subtotal Military Construction, Army				2,311,157	-161,200	104,071	174,500	2,485,657
NAVY & MARINE CORPS								
Navy & Marine Corps	Arizona	Marine Corps Air Station Yuma	IAP RUNWAY EXTENSION (DESIGN)	0	0	10,237	0	0
Navy & Marine Corps	Arizona	Marine Corps Air Station Yuma	WATER TREATMENT PLANT	0	0	50,000	10,000	10,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Australia	Royal Australian Air Force Base Darwin	PDI: AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR	117,380	-85,000	-85,000	-85,000	32,380
Navy & Marine Corps	Australia	Royal Australian Air Force Base Darwin	PDI: MAINTENANCE SUPPORT FACILITY	62,320	0	0	0	62,320
Navy & Marine Corps	El Salvador	Cooperative Security Location Comalapa	HANGAR AND RAMP EXTENSION	0	0	0	28,000	28,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Federated States of Micronesia	Yap International Airport	PORT & HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS	0	0	709,086	50,000	50,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Florida	Cape Canaveral Space Force Station	ENGINEERING TEST FACILITY	221,060	-140,000	-149,000	-149,000	72,060
Navy & Marine Corps	Florida	Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island Command	COMMUNICATIONS CENTER & INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES (DESIGN)	0	10,179	0	4,300	4,300
Navy & Marine Corps	Florida	Naval Air Station Jacksonville	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	6,871	0	6,900	6,900
Navy & Marine Corps	Florida	Naval Air Station Jacksonville	F35 AIRCRAFT ENGINE REPAIR FACILITY (DESIGN)	0	35,701	0	13,737	13,737
Navy & Marine Corps	Florida	Naval Air Station Pensacola	HURRICANE RESTORATION CONSOLIDATED A SCHOOL DORM (DESIGN)	0	16,448	0	10,600	10,600
Navy & Marine Corps	Florida	Naval Air Station Whiting Field	ADVANCED HELICOPTER TRAINING SYSTEM HANGAR (INC)	0	98,505	0	0	0
Navy & Marine Corps	Florida	Naval Air Station Whiting Field	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	3,043	4,140	4,140

SEC. 4601. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Account	State/ Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Navy & Marine Corps	Florida	Naval Station Mayport	WATERFRONT EMERGENCY POWER (DESIGN)	0	13,065	0	13,700	13,700
Navy & Marine Corps	Georgia	Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay	TRIDENT REFIT FACILITY EXPANSION (INC)	115,000	0	0	0	115,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Guam	Andersen Air Force Base	HSC-25 HANGAR REPLACEMENT FACILITY 2641	0	0	125,000	50,000	50,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Guam	Andersen Air Force Base	PDI: YOUTH CENTER	78,730	0	0	0	78,730
Navy & Marine Corps	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	JOINT COMMUNICATION UPGRADE	0	0	166,170	0	0
Navy & Marine Corps	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	JOINT CONSOLIDATED COMM CENTER	0	0	196,400	0	0
Navy & Marine Corps	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	PDI: EARTH COVERED MAGAZINES	107,439	-30,000	-65,000	-65,000	42,439
Navy & Marine Corps	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	SATELLITE COMM CENTER	0	0	307,000	0	0
Navy & Marine Corps	Guam	Naval Base Guam	PDI: DEFENSE ACCESS ROADS III	0	140,000	0	100,000	100,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Hawaii	Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam	DRY DOCK 3 REPLACEMENT (INC)	1,199,000	0	72,000	0	1,199,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Hawaii	Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam	WATER TREATMENT PLANT	0	90,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Hawaii	Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam	WATERFRONT PRODUCTION FACILITY (DESIGN)	0	0	105,000	0	0
Navy & Marine Corps	Hawaii	Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay	AIRCRAFT HANGAR & PARKING APRON	203,520	-170,000	-170,000	-170,000	33,520
Navy & Marine Corps	Hawaii	Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay	AIRCRAFT REFUEL PIT	0	0	17,000	0	0
Navy & Marine Corps	Hawaii	Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay	ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION MODERNIZATION	0	0	94,250	15,000	15,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Hawaii	Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay	MAIN GATE ENTRY CONTROL FACILITY	0	0	64,100	0	0
Navy & Marine Corps	Hawaii	Naval Ammunition Depot West Loch	HIGH EXPLOSIVE MAGAZINES	0	0	104,870	0	0
Navy & Marine Corps	Maine	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	MULTI-MISSION DRY DOCK #1 EXTENSION (INC)	400,578	0	-65,000	0	400,578
Navy & Marine Corps	Maryland	Naval Surface Warfare Center Indian Head	CONTAINED BURN FACILITY	0	0	50,000	10,000	10,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Nevada	Naval Air Station Fallon	RANGE TRAINING COMPLEX IMPROVEMENTS	0	0	45,000	45,000	45,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Nevada	Naval Air Station Fallon	TRAINING RANGE LAND ACQUISITION, PHASE 2	48,300	0	0	0	48,300
Navy & Marine Corps	North Carolina	Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point	AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE HANGAR	213,520	-140,000	-148,000	-160,000	53,520
Navy & Marine Corps	North Carolina	Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point	COMPOSITE REPAIR FACILITY	114,020	-90,000	-94,000	-94,000	20,020
Navy & Marine Corps	North Carolina	Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point	F-35 AIRCRAFT SUSTAINMENT CENTER (INC)	50,000	0	0	0	50,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Palau	Koror, Port of Malakal	HARBOR WHARF IMPROVEMENTS	0	0	583,137	50,000	50,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Virginia	Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	2,751	0	2,751	2,751
Navy & Marine Corps	Virginia	Marine Corps Base Quantico	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	5,681	5,681	5,681
Navy & Marine Corps	Virginia	Naval Air Station Oceana	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	4,080	0	4,080	4,080
Navy & Marine Corps	Virginia	Naval Air Station Oceana	UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING (DESIGN)	0	15,930	7,323	16,000	16,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Virginia	Naval Station Norfolk	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	1,200	1,200	1,200
Navy & Marine Corps	Virginia	Naval Weapons Station Yorktown	CONTAINERIZED LONG WEAPONS STORAGE MAGAZINE	52,610	0	0	0	52,610
Navy & Marine Corps	Virginia	Naval Weapons Station Yorktown	CONVENTIONAL PROMPT STRIKE TEST FACILITY	47,130	0	0	0	47,130
Navy & Marine Corps	Virginia	Naval Weapons Station Yorktown	CONVENTIONAL PROMPT STRIKE WEAPONS MAINTENANCE, OPERATIONS & STORAGE FACILITY	52,110	0	0	0	52,110
Navy & Marine Corps	Virginia	Norfolk Naval Shipyard	DRY DOCK 3 MODERNIZATION (INC)	54,366	0	0	-44,366	10,000
Navy & Marine Corps	Washington	Naval Base Kitsap-Bangor	LAUNCHER EQUIPMENT PROCESSING BUILDING	200,550	-155,000	-165,000	-165,000	35,550

SEC. 4601. MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Account	State/ Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized	
Navy & Marine Corps	Washington	Puget Sound Naval Shipyard	CVN 78 AIRCRAFT CARRIER ELECTRIC UP-GRADES	182,200	-155,000	-156,000	-156,000	26,200	
Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN	797,446	10,000	0	0	797,446	
Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (BARRACKS)	0	0	61,000	61,000	61,000	
Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DPRI UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	21,302	10,000	0	10,000	31,302	
Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING (DESIGN)	0	50,000	0	50,000	50,000	
Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	202,318	25,000	0	0	202,318	
Subtotal Military Construction, Navy & Marine Corps				4,540,899	-436,470	1,755,497	-451,277	4,089,622	
AIR FORCE									
Air Force	Alaska	Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson	CONVENTIONAL MUNITIONS COMPLEX (DESIGN)	0	0	16,000	16,000	16,000	
Air Force	Alaska	Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson	JOINT INTEGRATED TEST AND TRAINING CTR (INC)	126,000	0	0	0	126,000	
Air Force	Arkansas	Ebbing Air National Guard Base	ACADEMIC TRAINING CENTER, FOREIGN MILITARY TRAINING	0	73,000	74,000	74,000	74,000	
Air Force	California	Beale Air Force Base	MULTI-DOMAIN OPERATIONS COMPLEX	0	55,000	148,000	55,000	55,000	
Air Force	California	Vandenberg Space Force Base	GBSD RE-ENTRY VEHICLE FACILITY	110,000	-60,000	-65,000	-65,000	45,000	
Air Force	California	Vandenberg Space Force Base	SENTINEL AETC FORMAL TRAINING UNIT	167,000	-75,000	-77,000	-77,000	90,000	
Air Force	Colorado	Buckley Space Force Base	POWER INDEPENDENCE	0	57,611	60,000	68,000	68,000	
Air Force	Colorado	United States Air Force Academy	AERONAUTICS LABORATORY (DESIGN)	0	0	1,850	0	0	
Air Force	Denmark	Royal Danish Air Force Base Karup	EDI: DABS-FEV STORAGE	110,000	-85,000	-85,000	-85,000	25,000	
Air Force	District of Columbia	Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling	LARGE VEHICLE INSPECTION STATION	0	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Air Force	Federated States of Micronesia	Yap International Airport	AIRFIELD PAVEMENT UPGRADES	0	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Air Force	Federated States of Micronesia	Yap International Airport	IAP RUNWAY EXTENSION	0	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	
Air Force	Federated States of Micronesia	Yap International Airport	PDI: RUNWAY EXTENSION (INC)	96,000	0	0	0	96,000	
Air Force	Florida	Cape Canaveral Space Force Station	INSTALL WASTEWATER MAIN, ICBM ROAD	0	11,400	0	0	0	
Air Force	Florida	Eglin Air Force Base	ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM OPERATIONS SUPERIORITY COMPLEX (DESIGN)	0	16,900	10,000	10,000	10,000	
Air Force	Florida	Eglin Air Force Base	HYPERSONICS CENTER FOR BLAST, LETHALITY, AND COUPLE KINETICS FOCUSED RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING FACILITIES (DESIGN)	0	9,600	0	0	0	
Air Force	Florida	Eglin Air Force Base	LRSO HARDWARE SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT TEST FACILITY	8,400	0	0	0	8,400	
Air Force	Florida	Eglin Air Force Base	WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION CENTER (DESIGN)	0	49,800	0	0	0	
Air Force	Florida	Tyndall Air Force Base	FIRE/CRASH RESCUE STATION	0	0	48,000	48,000	48,000	
Air Force	Georgia	Robins Air Force Base	BATTLE MANAGEMENT COMBINED OPS COMPLEX (INC)	64,000	0	0	0	64,000	
Air Force	Germany	Ramstein Air Base	AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION COMPOUND	0	0	22,000	22,000	22,000	
Air Force	Idaho	Mountain Home Air Force Base	CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	40,000	0	0	0	40,000	
Air Force	Japan	Kadena Air Base	COMMUNICATIONS CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	0	9,000	9,000	
Air Force	Japan	Kadena Air Base	PDI: THEATER A/C CORROSION CONTROL CTR (INC 3)	132,700	0	-75,000	-75,000	57,700	
Air Force	Louisiana	Barksdale Air Force Base	ADAL CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER	0	22,000	22,000	22,000	22,000	
Air Force	Massachusetts	Hanscom Air Force Base	MIT-LL/ENGINEERING AND PROTOTYPE FACILITY (INC)	76,000	0	0	0	76,000	
Air Force	Mississippi	Keesler Air Force Base	AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL TOWER	0	0	25,000	25,000	25,000	
Air Force	Montana	Malmstrom Air Force Base	GBSD COMMERCIAL ENTRANCE CONTROL FACILITY	20,000	0	0	0	20,000	
Air Force	Montana	Malmstrom Air Force Base	WEAPONS STORAGE & MAINTENANCE FACILITY (INC)	238,000	0	0	0	238,000	
Air Force	Nebraska	Offutt Air Force Base	CONSOLIDATED TRAINING COMPLEX/PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	6,000	6,000	6,000	
Air Force	North Carolina	Seymour Johnson Air Force Base	COMBAT ARMS TRAINING AND MAINTENANCE COMPLEX	0	41,000	41,000	41,000	41,000	

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Account	State/ Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Air Force	North Dakota	Grand Forks Air Force Base	RUNWAY (DESIGN)	0	0	1,900	1,900	1,900
Air Force	Norway	Royal Norwegian Air Force Base Rygge	COST TO COMPLETE—DAVS-FEV STORAGE	0	8,000	0	8,000	8,000
Air Force	Norway	Royal Norwegian Air Force Base Rygge	COST TO COMPLETE—MUNITIONS STORAGE AREA	0	8,000	0	8,000	8,000
Air Force	Ohio	Wright-Patterson Air Force Base	ADVANCED MATERIALS RESEARCH LABORATORY—C2A (DESIGN)	0	9,000	0	9,200	9,200
Air Force	Ohio	Wright-Patterson Air Force Base	HUMAN PERFORMANCE CENTER LABORATORY	0	45,000	0	0	0
Air Force	Ohio	Wright-Patterson Air Force Base	RUNWAY (DESIGN)	0	0	15,000	0	0
Air Force	Ohio	Wright-Patterson Air Force Base	SPACE FORCE INTELLIGENCE CENTER (DESIGN)	0	0	1,900	1,900	1,900
Air Force	Oregon	Mountain Home Air Force Base	HOMELAND DEFENSE OVER-THE-HORIZON RADAR (INC)	198,000	0	0	0	198,000
Air Force	Palau	Palau	COST TO COMPLETE—PDI: TACMOR UTILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT	0	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
Air Force	South Dakota	Ellsworth Air Force Base	B-21 ADAL SQUADRON OPERATIONS	44,000	0	0	0	44,000
Air Force	South Dakota	Ellsworth Air Force Base	B-21 EAST ALERT APRON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SHELTERS	79,000	0	0	0	79,000
Air Force	South Dakota	Ellsworth Air Force Base	B-21 NORTH ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SHELTERS (60 ROW)	54,000	0	0	0	54,000
Air Force	South Dakota	Ellsworth Air Force Base	B-21 WEAPONS GENERATION FACILITY (INC)	105,000	0	0	0	105,000
Air Force	Spain	Morón Air Base	COST TO COMPLETE—EDI: MUNITIONS STORAGE AREA	0	7,000	0	7,000	7,000
Air Force	Spain	Naval Station Rota	NATO STRATEGIC AIRLIFT HANGAR	15,200	0	0	0	15,200
Air Force	Tennessee	Arnold Air Force Base	ADD/ALTERTEST CELL DELIVERY BAY, B880	0	21,400	0	0	0
Air Force	Tennessee	Arnold Air Force Base	COOLING WATER EXPANSION (DESIGN)	0	5,500	0	0	0
Air Force	Texas	Dyess Air Force Base	B-21 LRS FUELS ADMINISTRATIVE LABORATORY	12,800	0	0	0	12,800
Air Force	Texas	Dyess Air Force Base	B-21 REFUELER TRUCK YARD	18,500	0	0	0	18,500
Air Force	Texas	Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland	BMT—CLASSROOM/DINING FACILITY 4	0	50,000	215,000	60,000	60,000
Air Force	Texas	Joint Base San Antonio-Sam Houston	METC—BARRACKS/SHIPS/DORMS #1 (INC)	77,000	0	0	0	77,000
Air Force	Texas	Laughlin Air Force Base	T-7A GROUND BASED TRAINING SYSTEM FACILITY	38,000	0	0	0	38,000
Air Force	Texas	Laughlin Air Force Base	T-7A UNITY MAINTENANCE TRAINING FACILITY	18,000	0	0	0	18,000
Air Force	United Kingdom	Royal Air Force Fairford	COST TO COMPLETE—EDI RADR STORAGE FACILITY	0	20,500	0	20,500	20,500
Air Force	United Kingdom	Royal Air Force Lakenheath	COST TO COMPLETE—EDI RADR STORAGE FACILITY	0	15,000	0	15,000	15,000
Air Force	United Kingdom	Royal Air Force Lakenheath	SURETY: BARRIER SYSTEMS	185,000	0	-180,000	-180,000	5,000
Air Force	United Kingdom	Royal Air Force Mildenhall	SOW CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE	51,000	0	0	0	51,000
Air Force	Unspecified	Unspecified	SAOC (DESIGN)	0	0	158,200	158,200	158,200
Air Force	Utah	Hill Air Force Base	COST TO COMPLETE—F-35 T-7A EAST CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE	0	28,000	0	28,000	28,000
Air Force	Utah	Hill Air Force Base	T-7A DEPOT MAINTENANCE COMPLEX (INC)	50,000	0	0	0	50,000
Air Force	Virginia	Joint Base Langley-Eustis	DORMITORY	81,000	0	0	0	81,000
Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN	439,926	10,000	0	0	439,926
Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (INDOPACOM)	0	0	117,590	117,590	117,590
Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING (DESIGN)	0	50,000	0	50,000	50,000
Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	129,600	25,000	0	0	129,600
Air Force	Wyoming	F.E. Warren Air Force Base	GBSD CONSOLIDATED MAINTENANCE FACILITY	194,000	-140,000	-144,000	-144,000	50,000
Air Force	Wyoming	F.E. Warren Air Force Base	GBSD LAND ACQUISITION, PHASE 2	139,000	-75,000	-80,000	-80,000	59,000
Air Force	Wyoming	F.E. Warren Air Force Base	GBSD UTILITY CORRIDOR (INC)	70,000	0	0	0	70,000
Subtotal Military Construction, Air Force				3,187,126	223,711	427,440	345,290	3,532,416

DEFENSE-WIDE

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Account	State/ Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Defense-Wide	Alabama	Anniston Army Depot	GENERAL PURPOSE WAREHOUSE (DESIGN)	0	3,420	0	3,420	3,420
Defense-Wide	Alabama	Anniston Army Depot	POWER GENERATION AND MICROGRID	0	56,450	56,450	56,450	56,450
Defense-Wide	Alabama	Anniston Army Depot	SMALL ARMS WAREHOUSE (DESIGN)	0	14,500	0	14,500	14,500
Defense-Wide	Alabama	Redstone Arsenal	GROUND TEST FACILITY INFRASTRUCTURE (INC)	80,000	0	0	-40,000	40,000
Defense-Wide	Alaska	Eielson Air Force Base	FUELS OPERATIONS & LAB FACILITY	14,000	0	0	0	14,000
Defense-Wide	Alaska	Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson	FUEL FACILITIES	55,000	0	0	0	55,000
Defense-Wide	Arizona	U.S. Army Garrison Yuma Proving Grounds	SOF MILITARY FREE FALL ADVANCED TRAIN COMPLEX	62,000	0	0	2,000	64,000
Defense-Wide	Bahrain	Naval Support Activity Bahrain	GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEM	0	15,330	15,330	15,330	15,330
Defense-Wide	California	Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton	AMBULATORY CARE CENTER ADD/ALT (AREA 53)	26,440	0	0	1,136	27,576
Defense-Wide	California	Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton	AMBULATORY CARE CENTER ADD/ALT (AREA 62)	24,930	0	0	5,579	30,509
Defense-Wide	California	Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton	AMBULATORY CARE CENTER REPLACEMENT (AREA 22)	45,040	0	0	3,051	48,091
Defense-Wide	California	Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center	FUEL FACILITIES	19,300	0	0	0	19,300
Defense-Wide	California	Naval Base Coronado	SOF OPERATIONS SUPPORT FACILITY, PHASE 2	51,000	0	-51,000	-51,000	0
Defense-Wide	Colorado	Fort Carson	AMBULATORY CARE CENTER REPLACEMENT	41,000	0	0	20,359	61,359
Defense-Wide	Cuba	Naval Station Guantanamo Bay	AMBULATORY CARE CENTER REPLACEMENT (INC 2)	96,829	0	0	0	96,829
Defense-Wide	Delaware	Major Joseph R. "Beau" Biden III National Guard/Reserve Center	MICROGRID AND BACKUP POWER	0	22,050	22,050	22,050	22,050
Defense-Wide	Florida	Hurlburt Field	SOF AFSOC OPERATIONS FACILITY	14,000	0	0	0	14,000
Defense-Wide	Georgia	Hunter Army Airfield	SOF CONSOLIDATED RIGGING FACILITY	47,000	0	0	0	47,000
Defense-Wide	Georgia	Hunter Army Airfield	SOF MILITARY WORKING DOG KENNEL FACILITY	16,800	0	0	500	17,300
Defense-Wide	Germany	Spangdahlem Air Base	COST TO COMPLETE—SPANGDAHLEM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REPLACEMENT	6,500	0	0	0	6,500
Defense-Wide	Greece	Naval Support Activity Souda Bay	ADVANCED MICROGRID	0	42,500	42,500	42,500	42,500
Defense-Wide	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	GUAM HIGH SCHOOL TEMPORARY FACILITIES	26,000	0	0	0	26,000
Defense-Wide	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	PDI: GDS, COMMAND CENTER (INC)	187,212	0	0	-40,000	147,212
Defense-Wide	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	PDI: GDS, EIAMD, PHASE 1 (INC)	278,267	0	0	-40,000	238,267
Defense-Wide	Hawaii	Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam	FY20 500 KW PV COVERED PARKING EV CHARGING STATION	0	0	12,813	16,300	16,300
Defense-Wide	Illinois	Rock Island Arsenal	POWER GENERATION AND MICROGRID	0	70,480	70,480	73,470	73,470
Defense-Wide	Indiana	Camp Atterbury-Muscatatuck	POWER GENERATION AND MICROGRID	0	39,180	39,180	39,180	39,180
Defense-Wide	Italy	Naval Air Station Sigonella	MICROGRID CONTROL SYSTEMS	0	13,470	13,470	13,470	13,470
Defense-Wide	Japan	Camp Fuji	MICROGRID AND BACKUP POWER	0	45,870	45,870	45,870	45,870
Defense-Wide	Japan	Fleet Activities Yokosuka	KINNICK HIGH SCHOOL (INC)	40,386	0	0	0	40,386
Defense-Wide	Japan	Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni	MICROGRID AND BACKUP POWER, NATURAL GAS PLANT	0	0	48,570	0	0
Defense-Wide	Japan	Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni	MICROGRID AND BACKUP POWER, SOLAR PV AND BESS	0	0	40,830	0	0
Defense-Wide	Japan	Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler	MICROGRID AND BACKUP POWER	0	0	86,180	0	0
Defense-Wide	Japan	Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler	KUBASAKI HIGH SCHOOL	160,000	-130,000	-13,000	-130,000	30,000
Defense-Wide	Japan	Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler	MICROGRID AND BACKUP POWER, CAMP COURTNEY	0	0	57,570	0	0
Defense-Wide	Korea	Kunsan Air Base	AMBULATORY CARE CENTER REPLACEMENT	64,942	0	0	0	64,942
Defense-Wide	Maine	Portsmouth Naval Shipyard	POWER PLANT RESILIENCY IMPROVEMENTS	0	28,700	28,700	28,700	28,700
Defense-Wide	Maryland	Aberdeen Proving Ground	POWER GENERATION AND MICROGRID	0	30,730	30,730	34,400	34,400
Defense-Wide	Maryland	Fort Meade	NSAW EAST CAMPUS BUILDING #5 (INC 2)	265,000	0	0	0	265,000
Defense-Wide	Maryland	Joint Base Andrews	AMBULATORY CARE CENTER (INC)	15,040	0	0	6,942	21,982
Defense-Wide	Maryland	Joint Base Andrews	MICROGRID WITH ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE	0	17,920	17,920	17,920	17,920

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Account	State/ Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Defense-Wide	Maryland	Walter Reed National Military Medical Center	MEDCEN ADDITION/ALTERATION (INC 8)	77,651	0	0	0	77,651
Defense-Wide	Mississippi	Key Field	UPGRADED FUEL HYDRANT SYSTEM (DESIGN)	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,000
Defense-Wide	Missouri	Whiteman Air Force Base	FLIGHTLINE FUELING FACILITIES	19,500	0	0	0	19,500
Defense-Wide	New Jersey	Joint Base McGuire- Dix-Lakehurst	MICROGRID WITH ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARG- ING INFRASTRUCTURE	0	17,730	17,730	19,500	19,500
Defense-Wide	New Jersey	National Guard Train- ing Center Sea Girt	MICROGRID, BATTERY STORAGE AND UNDERGROUND ELECTRICAL UTILITY	0	0	25,300	40,000	40,000
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Fort Liberty	SOF ARMS ROOM ADDITION	11,800	0	0	1,200	13,000
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Fort Liberty	SOF CAMP MACKALL COMPANY OPERATIONS FACILITIES	0	0	30,000	34,000	34,000
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune	SOF ARMORY	25,400	0	0	2,100	27,500
Defense-Wide	North Carolina	Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune	SOF INFORMATION MANEUVER FACILITY	0	0	57,000	57,000	57,000
Defense-Wide	Ohio	Wright-Patterson Air Force Base	DISTRICT COOLING PLANT	0	53,000	53,000	53,000	53,000
Defense-Wide	Puerto Rico	Fort Buchanan	POTABLE WATER PURIFICATION SYSTEM	0	0	20,100	0	0
Defense-Wide	South Carolina	Marine Corps Air Sta- tion Beaufort	FUEL PIER	31,500	0	0	0	31,500
Defense-Wide	South Carolina	Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island	AMBULATORY CARE CLINIC REPLACEMENT (DENTAL)	72,050	0	0	0	72,050
Defense-Wide	Texas	Naval Air Station Cor- pus Christi	GENERAL PURPOSE WAREHOUSE	79,300	0	0	0	79,300
Defense-Wide	Texas	NSA Texas	CRYPTOLOGIC CENTER (INC)	152,000	0	0	-152,000	0
Defense-Wide	United Kingdom	Royal Air Force Lakenheath	LAKENHEATH HIGH SCHOOL	153,000	0	-145,000	-145,000	8,000
Defense-Wide	Virginia	Fort Belvoir	DEFENSE HEALTH HEADQUARTERS	225,000	0	0	-225,000	0
Defense-Wide	Virginia	Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek- Fort Story	SOF HUMAN PERFORMANCE TRAINING CENTER	32,000	0	0	3,000	35,000
Defense-Wide	Virginia	Pentagon	METRO ENTRANCE PEDESTRIAN ACCESS CON- TROL POINT	36,800	0	0	0	36,800
Defense-Wide	Washington	Joint Base Lewis- McChord—Gray Army Airfield	POWER GENERATION AND MICROGRID	0	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000
Defense-Wide	Washington	Naval Air Station Whidbey Island	HYDRANT FUELING SYSTEM	54,000	0	0	0	54,000
Defense-Wide	Washington	Naval Base Kitsap	MICROGRID	0	0	77,270	77,270	77,270
Defense-Wide	Washington	Naval Magazine Indian Island	BACKUP POWER AND MICROGRID	0	39,490	39,490	39,490	39,490
Defense-Wide	Washington	Naval Magazine Indian Island	MICROGRID AND BACKUP POWER	0	0	37,770	0	0
Defense-Wide	Washington	Naval Undersea War- fare Center Keyport	SOF COLDWATER TRAINING/AUSTERE ENVIRON- MENT FACILITY	35,000	0	-35,000	-35,000	0
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	COST TO COMPLETE—ERCIP	0	103,100	103,100	103,100	103,100
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (DEFENSE-WIDE)	26,081	0	0	0	26,081
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (DHA)	46,751	0	0	0	46,751
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (DLA)	105,000	0	0	0	105,000
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (DODEA)	7,501	0	0	0	7,501
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (MDA)	4,745	0	0	0	4,745
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (NSA)	41,928	0	0	0	41,928
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (SOCOM)	35,495	0	0	0	35,495
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (TJS)	1,964	0	0	0	1,964
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN (WHS)	1,508	0	0	0	1,508
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	ENERGY RESILIENCE AND CONSERVATION IN- VESTMENT PROGRAM	636,000	-636,000	-636,000	-636,000	0
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	ERCIP DESIGN	96,238	0	0	0	96,238
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	EXERCISE RELATED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	11,146	10,639	0	15,000	26,146

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Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION (DE- FENSE-WIDE)	3,000	5,000	0	0	3,000
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION (DHA)	18,000	0	0	0	18,000
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION (DLA)	13,333	0	0	0	13,333
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION (DODEA)	7,400	0	0	0	7,400
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION (MDA)	5,277	0	0	0	5,277
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION (NSA)	6,000	0	0	0	6,000
Defense-Wide	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION (SOCOM)	24,109	0	0	0	24,109
Subtotal Military Construction, Defense-Wide				3,733,163	-96,441	250,403	-545,213	3,187,950
ARMY NATIONAL GUARD								
Army National Guard	Alaska	Joint Base Elmendorf- Richardson	NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	67,000	0	0	0	67,000
Army National Guard	Georgia	Fort Eisenhower	NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER (DE- SIGN)	0	0	3,264	0	0
Army National Guard	Iowa	Sioux City Armory	NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	13,800	0	0	0	13,800
Army National Guard	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER (DE- SIGN)	0	0	1,980	0	0
Army National Guard	Kentucky	Fort Campbell	READINESS CENTER	0	0	18,000	18,000	18,000
Army National Guard	Louisiana	Abbeville	NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER (DE- SIGN)	0	0	2,275	0	0
Army National Guard	Louisiana	Lafayette Readiness Center	NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	33,000	0	0	0	33,000
Army National Guard	Maine	Saco	SOUTHERN MAINE READINESS CENTER (DE- SIGN)	0	0	1,000	1,000	1,000
Army National Guard	Michigan	Detroit Olympia	READINESS CENTER ADDITION/ALTERATION (DESIGN)	0	3,400	0	4,400	4,400
Army National Guard	Mississippi	Southaven Readiness Center	NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	33,000	0	0	0	33,000
Army National Guard	Montana	Malta Readiness Cen- ter	NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	14,800	0	0	0	14,800
Army National Guard	Nevada	Hawthorne Army Depot	AUTOMATED QUALIFICATION/TRAINING RANGE	18,000	0	0	0	18,000
Army National Guard	New Jersey	Vineland	NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	23,000	0	0	0	23,000
Army National Guard	North Carolina	Salisbury	FLIGHT FACILITY (DESIGN)	0	0	6,300	0	0
Army National Guard	Ohio	Lima	READINESS CENTER	0	0	26,000	26,000	26,000
Army National Guard	Oklahoma	Shawnee Readiness Center	NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER	29,000	0	0	0	29,000
Army National Guard	Pennsylvania	Danville	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP (DESIGN)	0	0	3,400	0	0
Army National Guard	Puerto Rico	Gurabo Readiness Cen- ter	NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	0	63,000	0	0	0
Army National Guard	Rhode Island	North Kingstown	COST TO COMPLETE: NATIONAL GUARD READI- NESS CENTER	0	0	0	16,000	16,000
Army National Guard	Rhode Island	Quonset State Airport	COST TO COMPLETE: NATIONAL GUARD READI- NESS CENTER	0	0	3,000	11,000	11,000
Army National Guard	Utah	Nephi Readiness Cen- ter	NATIONAL GUARD VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP	20,000	0	0	0	20,000
Army National Guard	Washington	Camp Murray	NATIONAL GUARD/RESERVE CENTER BUILDING	40,000	0	0	0	40,000
Army National Guard	Wisconsin	Rapids	NATIONAL GUARD READINESS CENTER (DE- SIGN)	0	0	3,800	3,800	3,800
Army National Guard	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN	25,529	0	57,600	15,000	40,529
Army National Guard	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	45,000	20,000	47,433	20,000	65,000
Subtotal Military Construction, Army National Guard				362,129	86,400	174,052	115,200	477,329
ARMY RESERVE								
Army Reserve	California	Bell	ARMY RESERVE TRAINING CENTER	0	55,000	0	0	0
Army Reserve	California	Camp Parks	ADVANCED SKILLS TRAINING BARRACKS	42,000	0	0	0	42,000

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Account	State/ Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Army Reserve	Georgia	Dobbins Air Reserve Base	ARMY RESERVE CENTER	78,000	0	0	0	78,000
Army Reserve	Kentucky	Fort Knox	AVIATION SUPPORT FACILITY	0	70,000	57,000	57,000	57,000
Army Reserve	Massachusetts	Devens Reserve Forces Training Area	COLLECTIVE TRAINING ENLISTED BARRACKS	0	39,000	39,000	39,000	39,000
Army Reserve	New Jersey	Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst	VERTICAL SKILLS FACILITY	16,000	0	0	0	16,000
Army Reserve	Pennsylvania	Wilkes-Barre	AREA MAINTENANCE SUPPORT ACTIVITY EQUIPMENT	22,000	0	0	0	22,000
Army Reserve	Puerto Rico	Fort Buchanan	ADVANCED SKILLS TRAINING BARRACKS	39,000	0	0	0	39,000
Army Reserve	Virginia	Richmond	AREA MAINTENANCE SUPPORT ACTIVITY/VMS	23,000	0	0	0	23,000
Army Reserve	Wisconsin	Andrew Miller Army Reserve Center	VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP (DESIGN)	0	0	1,600	0	0
Army Reserve	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN	31,508	0	0	0	31,508
Army Reserve	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	3,524	10,000	0	0	3,524
Subtotal Military Construction, Army Reserve				255,032	174,000	97,600	96,000	351,032
NAVY RESERVE & MARINE CORPS RESERVE								
Navy Reserve & Marine Corps Reserve	Texas	Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth	WHOLE HANGAR REPAIR	0	75,000	75,000	10,000	10,000
Navy Reserve & Marine Corps Reserve	Washington	Joint Base Lewis-McChord	PARACHUTE SURVIVAL TRAINING FACILITY	26,610	0	0	0	26,610
Navy Reserve & Marine Corps Reserve	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MCNR DESIGN	663	0	0	0	663
Navy Reserve & Marine Corps Reserve	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	0	10,000	0	0	0
Navy Reserve & Marine Corps Reserve	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	USMCR DESIGN	2,556	0	0	0	2,556
Subtotal Military Construction, Navy Reserve & Marine Corps Reserve				29,829	85,000	75,000	10,000	39,829
AIR NATIONAL GUARD								
Air National Guard	Alaska	Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson	BASE SUPPLY COMPLEX	0	0	44,000	0	0
Air National Guard	Alaska	Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson	COMBAT RESCUE HELICOPTER SIMULATOR	19,300	0	0	0	19,300
Air National Guard	Arizona	Tucson International Airport	COST TO COMPLETE—BASE ENTRY COMPLEX	0	7,000	0	7,000	7,000
Air National Guard	California	Moffett Airfield	COMBAT RESCUE HELICOPTER SIMULATOR	12,600	0	0	0	12,600
Air National Guard	Colorado	Buckley Space Force Base	COST TO COMPLETE—CORROSION CONTROL FACILITY	0	4,000	0	4,000	4,000
Air National Guard	Florida	Jacksonville International Airport	F-35 CONSOLIDATED WEAPONS TRAINING	26,200	0	0	0	26,200
Air National Guard	Hawaii	Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam	SPACE CONTROL CENTER	36,600	0	0	0	36,600
Air National Guard	Kentucky	Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport	RESPONSE FORCE WAREHOUSE (DESIGN)	0	0	2,100	0	0
Air National Guard	Maine	Bangor International Airport	FUEL CELL HANGAR	0	0	48,000	48,000	48,000
Air National Guard	Mississippi	Key Field	ADAL MAINTENANCE HANGAR & CONSTRUCT AMU COMPLEX (DESIGN)	0	0	5,600	5,600	5,600
Air National Guard	Mississippi	Key Field	BASE SUPPLY WAREHOUSE (DESIGN)	0	0	1,900	1,900	1,900
Air National Guard	Mississippi	Key Field	CORROSION CONTROL HANGAR (DESIGN)	0	0	6,700	6,700	6,700
Air National Guard	New Jersey	Atlantic City International Airport	F-16 MISSION TRAINING CENTER	18,000	0	0	0	18,000
Air National Guard	New York	Francis S. Gabreski Airport	COMBAT RESCUE HELICOPTER SIMULATOR	14,000	0	0	0	14,000
Air National Guard	Ohio	Rickenbacker International Airport	COST TO COMPLETE—SMALL ARMS RANGE	0	6,000	0	6,000	6,000
Air National Guard	Oregon	Portland International Airport	COST TO COMPLETE—SPECIAL TACTICS COMPLEX – 1	0	7,000	0	7,000	7,000
Air National Guard	Oregon	Portland International Airport	COST TO COMPLETE—SPECIAL TACTICS COMPLEX – 2	0	5,000	0	5,000	5,000
Air National Guard	Oregon	Portland International Airport	COST TO COMPLETE—SPECIAL TACTICS COMPLEX – 3	0	5,000	0	5,000	5,000

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Account	State/ Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Air National Guard	Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh International Airport	ENTRY CONTROL FACILITY (DESIGN)	0	0	4,600	0	0
Air National Guard	Texas	Fort Worth	C-130J ADAL FUEL CELL BUILDING 1674	13,100	0	0	0	13,100
Air National Guard	Washington	Camp Murray	NATIONAL GUARD/RESERVE CENTER (ANG COST SHARE)- MINOR CONSTRUCTION	0	0	0	5,700	5,700
Air National Guard	West Virginia	McLaughlin Air National Guard Base	SQUADRON OPERATIONS FACILITY (DESIGN)	0	0	3,200	0	0
Air National Guard	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN	10,792	0	0	0	10,792
Air National Guard	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	40,200	10,000	0	0	40,200
Air National Guard	Wyoming	Cheyenne Regional Airport	COST TO COMPLETE—CONSTRUCT VM & AGE COMPLEX	0	4,000	0	4,000	4,000
Subtotal Military Construction, Air National Guard				190,792	48,000	116,100	105,900	296,692
AIR FORCE RESERVE								
Air Force Reserve	Arizona	Luke Air Force Base	ADMINISTRATIVE AND STORAGE BUILDING (DESIGN)	0	0	420	0	0
Air Force Reserve	Delaware	Dover Air Force Base	512TH OPERATIONS GROUP FACILITY	0	42,000	4,200	42,000	42,000
Air Force Reserve	Georgia	Dobbins Air Reserve Base	SECURITY FORCES FACILITY	22,000	0	-22,000	-22,000	0
Air Force Reserve	Indiana	Grissom Air Reserve Base	INDOOR SMALL ARMS RANGE	21,000	0	0	0	21,000
Air Force Reserve	New York	Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station	TAXIWAY/RUNWAY (DESIGN)	0	0	6,600	6,600	6,600
Air Force Reserve	Ohio	Youngstown Air Reserve Station	FIRE STATION	25,000	0	0	0	25,000
Air Force Reserve	South Carolina	Joint Base Charleston	AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION FACILITY	0	0	33,000	33,000	33,000
Air Force Reserve	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN	562	0	9,000	9,000	9,562
Air Force Reserve	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UNSPECIFIED MINOR CONSTRUCTION	701	10,000	0	0	701
Subtotal Military Construction, Air Force Reserve				69,263	52,000	31,220	68,600	137,863
NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM								
NATO	Worldwide Unspecified	NATO Security Investment Program	NATO SECURITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM	433,864	0	30,000	30,000	463,864
Subtotal NATO Security Investment Program				433,864	0	30,000	30,000	463,864
INDOPACIFIC COMBATANT COMMAND								
MILCON, INDOACOM	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	INDOPACOM MILCON PILOT	0	0	150,000	150,000	150,000
Subtotal INDOACOM MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PILOT PROGRAM				0	0	150,000	150,000	150,000
TOTAL MILITARY CONSTRUCTION				15,113,254	-25,000	3,211,383	99,000	15,212,254
FAMILY HOUSING								
FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, ARMY								
Fam Hsg Con, Army	Belgium	Chièvres Air Base	FAMILY HOUSING NEW CONSTRUCTION (84 UNITS)	100,954	-50,000	-18,000	-18,000	82,954
Fam Hsg Con, Army	Georgia	Fort Eisenhower	MHPI RESTRUCTURE—FORT EISENHOWER	50,000	0	0	0	50,000
Fam Hsg Con, Army	Germany	U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz	FAMILY HOUSING REPLACEMENT CONSTRUCTION (54 UNITS)	63,246	0	0	0	63,246
Fam Hsg Con, Army	Japan	Sagamihara Family Housing Area	FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENTS CONSTRUCTION (35 UNITS)	31,114	0	0	0	31,114
Fam Hsg Con, Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	FAMILY HOUSING DESIGN	31,333	0	0	0	31,333
Subtotal Family Housing Construction, Army				276,647	-50,000	-18,000	-18,000	258,647
FAMILY HOUSING O&M, ARMY								
Fam Hsg O&M, Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	FURNISHINGS	18,065	0	0	0	18,065
Fam Hsg O&M, Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	LEASED HOUSING	129,703	0	0	0	129,703
Fam Hsg O&M, Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MAINTENANCE	127,097	0	0	0	127,097
Fam Hsg O&M, Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MANAGEMENT	62,060	0	0	0	62,060
Fam Hsg O&M, Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	HOUSING PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT	69,579	0	0	0	69,579

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Fam Hsg O&M, Army	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MISCELLANEOUS	357	0	0	0	357
Fam Hsg O&M, Army	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	SERVICES	8,273	0	0	0	8,273
Fam Hsg O&M, Army	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UTILITIES	60,477	0	0	0	60,477
Subtotal Family Housing Operation & Maintenance, Army				475,611	0	0	0	475,611
FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, NAVY & MARINE CORPS								
Fam Hsg Con, Navy & Marine Corps	Guam	Andersen Air Force Base	REPLACE ANDERSEN HOUSING, PHASE 10 (42 UNITS)	93,112	0	0	-81,000	12,112
Fam Hsg Con, Navy & Marine Corps	Guam	Joint Region Marianas	REPLACE ANDERSEN HOUSING, PHASE 9 (136 UNITS) (INC)	103,863	0	0	-75,000	28,863
Fam Hsg Con, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	CONSTRUCTION IMPROVEMENTS (64 UNITS)	35,438	0	0	0	35,438
Fam Hsg Con, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN	13,329	0	0	0	13,329
Subtotal Family Housing Construction, Navy & Marine Corps				245,742	0	0	-156,000	89,742
FAMILY HOUSING O&M, NAVY & MARINE CORPS								
Fam Hsg O&M, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	FURNISHINGS	16,839	0	0	0	16,839
Fam Hsg O&M, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	HOUSING PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT	60,283	0	0	0	60,283
Fam Hsg O&M, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	LEASING	67,412	0	0	0	67,412
Fam Hsg O&M, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MAINTENANCE	109,504	0	0	0	109,504
Fam Hsg O&M, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MANAGEMENT	61,240	0	0	0	61,240
Fam Hsg O&M, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MISCELLANEOUS	427	0	0	0	427
Fam Hsg O&M, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	SERVICES	17,332	0	0	0	17,332
Fam Hsg O&M, Navy & Marine Corps	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UTILITIES	44,180	0	0	0	44,180
Subtotal Family Housing Operation & Maintenance, Navy & Marine Corps				377,217	0	0	0	377,217
FAMILY HOUSING CONSTRUCTION, AIR FORCE								
Fam Hsg Con, Air Force	Alaska	Joint Base Elmendorf- Richardson	MHPI RESTRUCTURE—JBER PHASE III	120,000	0	0	0	120,000
Fam Hsg Con, Air Force	Germany	Ramstein Air Base	CONSTRUCT 2 GOQ UNITS	4,350	0	0	0	4,350
Fam Hsg Con, Air Force	Germany	Ramstein Air Base	KMC 02—CONSTRUCT TWO CAR GARAGES (5 UNITS)	1,400	0	0	0	1,400
Fam Hsg Con, Air Force	Japan	Yokota Air Base	FAMILY HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS 8B WEST (19 UNITS)	26,242	0	0	0	26,242
Fam Hsg Con, Air Force	Japan	Yokota Air Base	FAMILY HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS 9, PHASE 2 (32 UNITS)	39,000	0	0	0	39,000
Fam Hsg Con, Air Force	Texas	Lackland Air Force Base	MHPI RESTRUCTURE—LACKLAND	24,000	0	0	0	24,000
Fam Hsg Con, Air Force	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	DESIGN	6,557	0	0	0	6,557
Subtotal Family Housing Construction, Air Force				221,549	0	0	0	221,549
FAMILY HOUSING O&M, AIR FORCE								
Fam Hsg O&M, Air Force	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	FURNISHINGS	24,230	0	0	0	24,230
Fam Hsg O&M, Air Force	Worldwide Un- specified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	HOUSING PRIVATIZATION SUPPORT	32,508	0	0	0	32,508

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Fam Hsg O&M, Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	LEASING	6,278	0	0	0	6,278
Fam Hsg O&M, Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MAINTENANCE	127,023	0	0	0	127,023
Fam Hsg O&M, Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MANAGEMENT	71,384	0	0	0	71,384
Fam Hsg O&M, Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MISCELLANEOUS	2,426	0	0	0	2,426
Fam Hsg O&M, Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	SERVICES	12,446	0	0	0	12,446
Fam Hsg O&M, Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UTILITIES	49,955	0	0	0	49,955
Subtotal Family Housing Operation & Maintenance, Air Force				326,250	0	0	0	326,250
FAMILY HOUSING O&M, DEFENSE-WIDE								
Fam Hsg O&M, Defense-Wide	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	FURNISHINGS (DIA)	687	0	0	0	687
Fam Hsg O&M, Defense-Wide	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	FURNISHINGS (NSA)	91	0	0	0	91
Fam Hsg O&M, Defense-Wide	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	LEASING (DIA)	32,983	0	0	0	32,983
Fam Hsg O&M, Defense-Wide	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	LEASING (NSA)	13,986	0	0	0	13,986
Fam Hsg O&M, Defense-Wide	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	MAINTENANCE	36	0	0	0	36
Fam Hsg O&M, Defense-Wide	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UTILITIES (DIA)	4,358	0	0	0	4,358
Fam Hsg O&M, Defense-Wide	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	UTILITIES (NSA)	15	0	0	0	15
Subtotal Family Housing Operation & Maintenance, Defense-Wide				52,156	0	0	0	52,156
FAMILY HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND								
Family Housing Improvement Fund	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES—FHIF	8,195	0	0	0	8,195
Subtotal Family Housing Improvement Fund				8,195	0	0	0	8,195
UNACCOMPANIED HOUSING IMPROVEMENT FUND								
Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES—UHIF	497	0	0	0	497
Subtotal Unaccompanied Housing Improvement Fund				497	0	0	0	497
TOTAL FAMILY HOUSING				1,983,864	-50,000	-18,000	-174,000	1,809,864
DEFENSE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE								
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE, ARMY								
BRAC, Army	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	BASE REALIGNMENT & CLOSURE	212,556	25,000	0	25,000	237,556
Subtotal Base Realignment and Closure—Army				212,556	25,000	0	25,000	237,556
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE, NAVY								
BRAC, Navy	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	BASE REALIGNMENT & CLOSURE	111,697	25,000	0	25,000	136,697
Subtotal Base Realignment and Closure—Navy				111,697	25,000	0	25,000	136,697
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE, AIR FORCE								
BRAC, Air Force	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	BASE REALIGNMENT & CLOSURE	121,952	25,000	0	25,000	146,952
Subtotal Base Realignment and Closure—Air Force				121,952	25,000	0	25,000	146,952
BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE, DEFENSE-WIDE								
BRAC, Defense-Wide	Worldwide Unspecified	Unspecified Worldwide Locations	INT-4: DLA ACTIVITIES	1,756	0	0	0	1,756
Subtotal Base Realignment and Closure—Defense-Wide				1,756	0	0	0	1,756
TOTAL DEFENSE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE				447,961	75,000	0	75,000	522,961

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Account	State/ Country	Installation	Project Title	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
TOTAL MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, FAMILY HOUSING, AND BRAC				17,545,079	0	3,193,383	0	17,545,079

TITLE XLVII—DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS

SEC. 4701. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS.

SEC. 4701. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Program	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Discretionary Summary by Appropriation					
Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies					
Appropriation Summary:					
Energy Programs					
Nuclear Energy	150,000	0	0	0	150,000
Atomic Energy Defense Activities					
National Nuclear Security Administration:					
Weapons Activities	19,848,644	127,000	51,200	132,400	19,981,044
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation	2,465,108	-20,000	-13,900	-14,000	2,451,108
Naval Reactors	2,118,773	-120,000	-18,900	-150,000	1,968,773
Federal Salaries and Expenses	564,475	-25,000	2,700	-25,475	539,000
Total, National Nuclear Security Administration	24,997,000	-38,000	21,100	-57,075	24,939,925
Defense Environmental Cleanup	7,059,695	-40,000	-23,400	-54,065	7,005,630
Defense Uranium Enrichment D&D	384,957	-384,957	-384,957	-384,957	0
Other Defense Activities	1,140,023	0	0	0	1,140,023
Total, Atomic Energy Defense Activities	33,581,675	-462,957	-387,257	-496,097	33,085,578
Total, Discretionary Funding	33,731,675	-462,957	-387,257	-496,097	33,235,578
Nuclear Energy					
Safeguards and security	150,000	0	0	0	150,000
Total, Nuclear Energy	150,000	0	0	0	150,000
National Nuclear Security Administration					
Weapons Activities					
Stockpile management					
Stockpile major modernization					
B61-12 Life Extension Program	27,500	0	0	0	27,500
W88 Alteration program	78,700	0	0	0	78,700
W80-4 Life extension program	1,164,750	0	0	0	1,164,750
W80-X ALT SLCM	0	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
Program increase			[70,000]	[70,000]	
W87-1 Modification Program	1,096,033	0	0	0	1,096,033
W93	455,776	0	0	0	455,776
B61-13	16,000	0	0	0	16,000
Subtotal, Stockpile major modernization	2,838,759	70,000	70,000	70,000	2,908,759
Stockpile sustainment	1,356,260	0	-2,200	0	1,356,260
B83 gravity bomb sustainment excess to need			[-2,200]		
Weapons dismantlement and disposition	54,100	-5,000	0	0	54,100
Program reduction		[-5,000]			
Production operations	816,567	0	0	0	816,567
Nuclear enterprise assurance	75,002	0	0	0	75,002
Total, Stockpile management	5,140,688	65,000	67,800	70,000	5,210,688

SEC. 4701. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Program	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Production Modernization					
Primary Capability Modernization					
Plutonium Modernization					
Los Alamos Plutonium Modernization					
Los Alamos Plutonium Operations	984,611	0	0	0	984,611
21-D-512 Plutonium Pit Production Project, LANL	470,000	0	0	0	470,000
15-D-302 TA-55 Reinvestments Project, Phase 3, LANL	39,475	0	0	0	39,475
Subtotal, Los Alamos Plutonium Modernization	1,494,086	0	0	0	1,494,086
Savannah River Plutonium Modernization					
Savannah River Plutonium Operations	75,332	0	0	0	75,332
21-D-511 Savannah River Plutonium Processing Facility, SRS	1,200,000	0	0	0	1,200,000
Subtotal, Savannah River Plutonium Modernization	1,275,332	0	0	0	1,275,332
Enterprise Plutonium Support	121,964	0	0	0	121,964
Total, Plutonium Modernization	2,891,382	0	0	0	2,891,382
High Explosives & Energetics					
High Explosives & Energetics	115,675	16,000	0	16,000	131,675
High Explosives Binder—NNSA UPL		[16,000]		[16,000]	
21-D-510 HE Synthesis, Formulation, and Production, PX	0	20,000	0	20,000	20,000
Program increase		[20,000]		[20,000]	
15-D-301 HE Science & Engineering Facility, PX	15,000	0	0	0	15,000
Subtotal, High Explosives & Energetics	130,675	36,000	0	36,000	166,675
Total, Primary Capability Modernization	3,022,057	36,000	0	36,000	3,058,057
Secondary Capability Modernization					
Secondary Capability Modernization	755,353	0	0	0	755,353
18-D-690 Lithium Processing Facility, Y-12	260,000	0	0	0	260,000
06-D-141 Uranium Processing Facility, Y-12	800,000	0	0	0	800,000
Total, Secondary Capability Modernization	1,815,353	0	0	0	1,815,353
Tritium and Domestic Uranium Enrichment					
Tritium and Domestic Uranium Enrichment	661,738	0	0	0	661,738
Tritium Sustainment and Modernization	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Tritium and Domestic Uranium Enrichment	661,738	0	0	0	661,738
Non-Nuclear Capability Modernization					
22-D-513 Power Sources Capability, SNL	50,000	0	0	0	50,000
Total, Non-Nuclear Capability Modernization	191,300	0	0	0	191,300
Capability Based Investments	153,244	0	0	0	153,244
Warhead Assembly Modernization	34,000	0	0	0	34,000
Total, Production Modernization	5,877,692	36,000	0	36,000	5,913,692
Stockpile research, technology, and engineering					
Assessment Science					
Assessment Science	834,250	0	-9,000	0	834,250
Unjustified growth			[-9,000]		
14-D-640 U1a Complex Enhancements Project, NNSS	73,083	0	0	0	73,083
Total, Assessment Science	907,333	0	-9,000	0	907,333
Engineering and integrated assessments	418,000	0	0	0	418,000
Inertial confinement fusion	682,830	0	10,000	0	682,830
Program increase			[10,000]		
Advanced simulation and computing	879,500	0	5,000	0	879,500
Program increase			[5,000]		
Weapons technology and manufacturing maturation	286,489	10,000	0	10,000	296,489
High Explosives Binder—NNSA UPL		[10,000]		[10,000]	
Academic programs	128,188	-15,000	-8,000	-15,000	113,188
Unjustified growth			[-8,000]	[-15,000]	
Community Capacity Building Program		[-15,000]			
Total, Stockpile research, technology, and engineering	3,302,340	-5,000	-2,000	-5,000	3,297,340
Infrastructure and operations					
Operating					
Operations of facilities	1,305,000	0	0	0	1,305,000
Safety and Environmental Operations	191,958	0	-10,000	0	191,958
Unjustified growth			[-10,000]		
Maintenance and Repair of Facilities	881,000	0	3,000	3,000	884,000
Program increase for Y-12 maintenance backlog			[3,000]	[3,000]	
Recapitalization	778,408	0	0	0	778,408
Total, Operating	3,156,366	0	-7,000	3,000	3,159,366
Mission enabling construction					

SEC. 4701. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Program	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
23-D-517 Electrical Power Capacity Upgrade, LANL	70,000	0	0	0	70,000
24-D-510 Analytic Gas Laboratory, PX	0	36,000	0	36,000	36,000
Program increase		[36,000]		[36,000]	
25-D-510 Plutonium Mission Safety & Quality Building, LANL	48,500	0	0	0	48,500
25-D-511 PULSE New Access, NNSS	25,000	0	0	0	25,000
Total, Mission enabling construction	143,500	36,000	0	36,000	179,500
Total, Infrastructure and operations	3,299,866	36,000	-7,000	39,000	3,338,866
Secure transportation asset					
Operations and equipment	236,160	0	0	0	236,160
Program direction	135,264	0	0	0	135,264
Total, Secure transportation asset	371,424	0	0	0	371,424
Defense nuclear security					
Operations and maintenance	1,126,000	-5,000	0	0	1,126,000
Program decrease		[-5,000]			
Construction:					
17-D-710 West End Protected Area Reduction Project, Y-12	54,000	0	0	0	54,000
Subtotal, Construction	54,000	0	0	0	54,000
Total, Defense nuclear security	1,180,000	-5,000	0	0	1,180,000
Information technology and cybersecurity	646,000	0	-7,600	-7,600	638,400
Unjustified growth			[-7,600]	[-7,600]	
Legacy contractor pensions	30,634	0	0	0	30,634
Total, Weapons Activities	19,848,644	127,000	51,200	132,400	19,981,044
Adjustments					
Use of prior year balances	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Adjustments	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Weapons Activities	19,848,644	127,000	51,200	132,400	19,981,044
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation					
Material Management and Minimization					
Reactor conversion and uranium supply	145,227	0	0	0	145,227
Nuclear material removal and elimination	38,825	0	0	0	38,825
Plutonium disposition	193,045	0	0	0	193,045
Total, Material Management and Minimization	377,097	0	0	0	377,097
Global Material Security					
International nuclear security	87,768	-5,000	-3,000	0	87,768
Unjustified growth			[-3,000]		
Program reduction		[-5,000]			
Radiological security	260,000	0	0	0	260,000
Nuclear smuggling detection and deterrence	196,096	-14,000	0	-14,000	182,096
Insufficient justification		[-14,000]		[-14,000]	
Total, Global Material Security	543,864	-19,000	-3,000	-14,000	529,864
Nonproliferation and Arms Control	224,980	0	-10,900	0	224,980
Nonproliferation policy unjustified growth			[-10,900]		
Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation R&D					
Proliferation detection	317,158	-1,000	0	0	317,158
Arms Control Advancement Initiative		[-1,000]			
Nuclear fuels development	0	0	0	0	0
Nonproliferation stewardship program	124,875	0	0	0	124,875
Nuclear detonation detection	323,058	0	0	0	323,058
Forensics R&D	37,759	0	0	0	37,759
Total, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation R&D	802,850	-1,000	0	0	802,850
Nonproliferation Construction:					
18-D-150 Surplus Plutonium Disposition Project, SRS	40,000	0	0	0	40,000
Total, Nonproliferation Construction	40,000	0	0	0	40,000
Legacy contractor pensions	7,128	0	0	0	7,128
Nuclear Counterterrorism and Incident Response Program					
Emergency Management	23,847	0	0	0	23,847
Counterterrorism and Counterproliferation	512,342	0	0	0	512,342
Total, Nuclear Counterterrorism and Incident Response Program	536,189	0	0	0	536,189
Subtotal, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation	2,532,108	-20,000	-13,900	-14,000	2,518,108

SEC. 4701. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Program	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Adjustments					
Use of prior year balances	-67,000	0	0	0	-67,000
Total, Adjustments	-67,000	0	0	0	-67,000
Total, Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation	2,465,108	-20,000	-13,900	-14,000	2,451,108
Naval Reactors					
Naval reactors development	868,380	-20,000	0	0	868,380
Insufficient justification		[-20,000]			
Columbia-Class reactor systems development	45,610	0	0	0	45,610
Naval reactors operations and infrastructure	763,263	0	-6,200	0	763,263
Unjustified growth			[-6,200]		
Program direction	62,848	0	0	0	62,848
Construction:					
14-D-901 Spent Fuel Handling Recapitalization Project, NRF	292,002	-100,000	-12,700	-150,000	142,002
Unjustified growth			[-12,700]		
Program reduction		[-100,000]		[-150,000]	
22-D-532 KL Security Upgrades	41,670	0	0		41,670
25-D-530 Naval Examination Acquisition Project	45,000	0	0		45,000
Total, Construction	378,672	-100,000	-12,700	-150,000	228,672
Total, Naval Reactors	2,118,773	-120,000	-18,900	-150,000	1,968,773
Federal Salaries and Expenses					
Program direction	564,475	-25,000	2,700	-25,475	539,000
Additional 10 FTE			[2,700]		
Program decrease		[-5,000]		[-475]	
Insufficient justification		[-20,000]		[-25,000]	
Use of prior year balances	0	0	0		0
Total, Federal Salaries and Expenses	564,475	-25,000	2,700	-25,475	539,000
TOTAL, National Nuclear Security Administration	24,997,000	-38,000	21,100	-57,075	24,939,925
Defense Environmental Cleanup					
Closure sites administration	1,350	0	0	0	1,350
Richland					
River corridor and other cleanup operations	133,000	0	0	0	133,000
Central plateau remediation	773,030	0	0	0	773,030
Richland community and regulatory support	11,130	0	0	0	11,130
22-D-401 L-888 Eastern Plateau Fire Station	13,500	0	0	0	13,500
22-D-402 L-897 200 Area Water Treatment Facility	7,800	0	0	0	7,800
23-D-404 181D Export Water System Reconfiguration and Upgrade	18,886	0	0	0	18,886
23-D-405 181B Export Water System Reconfiguration and Upgrade	1,168	0	0	0	1,168
24-D-401 Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility Supercell 11 Expans Proj	25,000	0	0	0	25,000
Total, Richland	984,864	0	0	0	983,514
Office of River Protection:					
Waste Treatment Immobilization Plant Commissioning	466,000	0	-16,000	-16,000	450,000
Unjustified growth			[-16,000]	[-16,000]	
Rad liquid tank waste stabilization and disposition	832,065	0	0	0	832,065
Construction:					
23-D-403 Hanford 200 West Area Tank Farms Risk Management Project	37,500	0	0	0	37,500
15-D-409 Low Activity Waste Pretreatment System	37,500	0	0	0	37,500
01-D-16D High-Level Waste Facility	608,100	0	0	0	608,100
01-D-16E Pretreatment Facility	20,000	0	0	0	20,000
18-D-16 Waste Treatment & Immobilization Plant—LBL/Direct Feed LAW	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal, Construction	703,100	0	0	0	703,100
Total, Office of River Protection	2,001,165	0	-16,000	-16,000	1,985,165
Idaho National Laboratory:					
Idaho cleanup and waste disposition	430,678	0	0	0	430,678
Idaho community and regulatory support	3,315	0	0	0	3,315
Construction:					
22-D-404 Addl ICDF Landfill Disposal Cell and Evaporation Ponds Project	25,250	0	0	0	25,250
23-D-402 Calcine Construction	0	0	0	0	0

SEC. 4701. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Program	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Subtotal, Construction	25,250	0	0	0	25,250
Total, Idaho National Laboratory	459,243	0	0	0	459,243
NNSA sites and Nevada off-sites					
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory	1,917	0	0	0	1,917
Separations Processing Research Unit	845	0	0	0	845
Nevada Test Site	63,377	0	0	0	63,377
Sandia National Laboratory	1,816	0	0	0	1,816
Los Alamos National Laboratory	273,610	0	0	0	273,610
Los Alamos Excess Facilities D&D	1,622	0	0	0	1,622
LLNL Excess Facilities D&D	0	0	0	0	0
Total, NNSA sites and Nevada off-sites	343,187	0	0	0	343,187
Oak Ridge Reservation:					
OR Nuclear Facility D&D	342,705	0	0	0	342,705
U233 Disposition Program	60,000	0	0	0	60,000
OR cleanup and waste disposition	72,000	0	0	0	72,000
Construction:					
14-D-403 Outfall 200 Mercury Treatment Facility	30,000	0	0	0	30,000
17-D-401 On-site Waste Disposal Facility	40,000	0	0	0	40,000
Subtotal, Construction	70,000	0	0	0	70,000
OR community & regulatory support	5,700	0	0	0	5,700
OR technology development and deployment	3,300	0	0	0	3,300
Total, Oak Ridge Reservation	553,705	0	0	0	553,705
Savannah River Site:					
Savannah River risk management operations	400,538	0	0	0	400,538
Savannah River community and regulatory support	5,198	0	5,000	0	5,198
Payment in lieu of taxes			[5,000]		
Savannah River National Laboratory O&M	90,000	0	0	0	90,000
Construction:					
20-D-401 Saltstone Disposal Unit #10, 11, 12	82,500	0	0	0	82,500
19-D-701 SR Security Systems Replacement	6,000	0	0	0	6,000
Subtotal, Construction	88,500	0	0	0	88,500
Radioactive liquid tank waste stabilization and disposition	971,235	10,000	0	10,000	981,235
Program increase		[10,000]		[10,000]	
Total, Savannah River Site	1,555,471	10,000	5,000	10,000	1,565,471
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant					
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant	413,874	0	0	0	413,874
Construction:					
15-D-411 Safety Significant Confinement Ventilation System, WIPP	10,346	0	0	0	10,346
15-D-412 Utility Shaft, WIPP	1,200	0	0	0	1,200
Total, Construction	11,546	0	0	0	11,546
Total, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant	425,420	0	0	0	425,420
Program direction—Defense Environmental Cleanup	334,958	-10,000	0	-8,065	326,893
Insufficient justification		[-10,000]		[-8,065]	
Program support—Defense Environmental Cleanup	105,885	-40,000	-12,400	-40,000	65,885
Unjustified growth			[-12,400]		
Community Capacity Building Program		[-40,000]			
Program decrease				[-40,000]	
Safeguards and Security—Defense Environmental Cleanup	265,197	0	0	0	265,197
Technology development and deployment	30,600	0	0	0	30,600
Subtotal, Defense Environmental Cleanup	736,640	-50,000	-12,400	-48,065	688,575
TOTAL, Defense Environmental Cleanup	7,059,695	-40,000	-23,400	-54,065	7,005,630
Defense Uranium Enrichment D&D	384,957	-384,957	-384,957	-384,957	0
Program reduction			[-384,957]	[-384,957]	
Program decrease		[-384,957]			
Other Defense Activities					
Environment, health, safety and security					
Environment, health, safety and security mission support	141,908	0	0	0	141,908
Program direction	90,555	0	0	0	90,555

SEC. 4701. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS
(In Thousands of Dollars)

Program	FY 2025 Request	House Authorized	Senate Authorized	Conference Change	Conference Authorized
Total, Environment, health, safety and security	232,463	0	0	0	232,463
Office of Enterprise Assessments					
Enterprise assessments	30,022	0	0	0	30,022
Program direction	64,132	0	0	0	64,132
Total, Office of Enterprise Assessments	94,154	0	0	0	94,154
Specialized security activities	390,000	0	0	0	390,000
Legacy Management					
Legacy Management Activities—Defense	181,289	0	0	0	181,289
Program Direction	23,969	0	0	0	23,969
Total, Legacy Management	205,258	0	0	0	205,258
Defense-Related Administrative Support	213,649	0	0	0	213,649
Office of Hearings and Appeals	4,499	0	0	0	4,499
Subtotal, Other Defense Activities	1,140,023	0	0	0	1,140,023
Use of prior year balances	0	0	0	0	0
Total, Other Defense Activities	1,140,023	0	0	0	1,140,023

DIVISION E—OTHER MATTERS

TITLE L—VETERANS AFFAIRS MATTERS

Sec. 5001—Grants for State, county, and tribal veterans' cemeteries that allow interment of certain persons eligible for interment in national cemeteries

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6099B) that would amend section 2408 of title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from establishing a condition for a grant that would restrict the ability of a state, county, or tribal organization from receiving a grant to authorize the interment of certain persons.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 5002—Telephone helpline for assistance for veterans and other eligible individuals

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6066) that would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to maintain a toll-free telephone helpline that a covered individual may use to obtain information about, or through which a covered individual may be directed to, any service or benefit provided under a law administered by the Secretary.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with technical and clerical amendments.

Sec. 5003—Report on Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry 2.0

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6045) that would require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit a report on the current status and timeline for when the redesigned Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry 2.0 will be completed.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with an amendment.

TITLE LI—FOREIGN AFFAIRS MATTERS

SUBTITLE A—UNITED STATES FOUNDATION FOR INTERNATIONAL CONSERVATION ACT OF 2024

Secs. 5101–5109—United States Foundation for International Conservation Act of 2024

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained sec. 6291 through sec. 6299A that would enact the United States Foundation for International Conservation Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a technical amendment.

SUBTITLE B—WESTERN HEMISPHERE PARTNERSHIP ACT

Secs. 5111–5119—Western Hemisphere Partnership Act

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained sec. 6271 through sec. 6279 that would enact the Western Hemisphere Partnership Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate amendment with various technical and clarifying amendments.

SUBTITLE C—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 5121—Improving multilateral cooperation to improve the security of Taiwan

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6241) that would enact the Building Options for the Lasting Security of Taiwan through European Resolve Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with a clarifying amendment.

Sec. 5122—Millennium Challenge Corporation candidate country reform

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6201) that would enact the Millennium Challenge Corporation Candidate Country Reform Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 5123—Extension of sunset

The agreement contains a provision that would extend section 7438 of the Caesar Syria Civilian Protection Act of 2019 until December 31, 2029.

Sec. 5124—Strategy and grant program to promote internet freedom in Iran

The agreement contains a provision that would require a strategy and program to promote internet freedom in Iran.

TITLE LII—JUDICIARY MATTERS

SUBTITLE A—LAW ENFORCEMENT AND VICTIM SUPPORT ACT OF 2024

Sec. 5201—Short title

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6091) that would enact the Law Enforcement and Victim Support Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 5202—Project Safe Childhood Act

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6093) that would enact the Project Safe Childhood Act. The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 5203—Administrative False Claims Act of 2023

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 1372) that would enact the Administrative False Claims Act of 2023.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

SUBTITLE B—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 5211—Modernizing law enforcement notification

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6051) that would amend sections 921 and 922 of title 18, United States Code, to modernize certain law enforcement notifications.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

TITLE LIII—NATURAL RESOURCES MATTERS

SUBTITLE A—WILD ACT

Secs. 5301–5308—WILD Act

The agreement includes a provision that would include the Wildlife Innovation and Longevity Driver Reauthorization Act.

SUBTITLE B—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 5311—Reauthorization of Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins endangered fish and threatened fish recovery implementation programs

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6049) that would reauthorize the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin endangered fish and threatened fish recovery implementation programs.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

TITLE LIV—TELECOMMUNICATIONS-RELATED MATTERS

Secs. 5401–5405—Spectrum and Secure Technology and Innovation Act of 2024

The agreement contains a provision that would initiate bidding processes for certain licenses and increase the limitation on expenditures under the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019.

TITLE LV—TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE MATTERS

Sec. 5501—GAO study and report on intentional disruption of the National Airspace System

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6043) that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to study the vulnerability of the National Airspace System to potential disruptive operations by any person, party, or entity (in this section referred to as “adversaries”) exploiting the electromagnetic spectrum and security vulnerabilities in the Aircraft Communications, Reporting and Addressing System (ACARS) and Controller Pilot Data Link Communications (CPDLC).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision with minor technical amendments.

Sec. 5502—Frank A. LoBiondo National Aerospace Safety and Security Campus

The House bill contained a provision (sec. 1083) that would designate the campus and grounds of the Federal facility at which the 117th Fighter Wing of the New Jersey Air National Guard is stationed as the “Frank A. LoBiondo National Aerospace Safety and Security Campus.”

The Senate committee-reported bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the House provision with a clarifying amendment.

TITLE LVI—HOMELAND SECURITY-RELATED MATTERS

SUBTITLE A—SECURING ADJACENT FEDERAL PROPERTY

Secs. 5601–5603—Secure Adjacent Federal Property Act of 2023

The agreement includes a provision that would direct the General Services Administration (GSA), in coordination with the Federal Protective Service, the Department of Homeland Security, the Office of Management and Budget, and any other relevant entities, to carry out a governmentwide study

examining options to assist agencies to produce a process to assess the security of adjacent space before entering into a lease or novation agreement for high-security space.

SUBTITLE B—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 5611—Department of Homeland Security Northern Border Mission Center

The agreement includes a provision that would establish a Department of Homeland Security Northern Border Mission Center and require that Center to serve as a coordination mechanism for operational components for the implementation of the Department of Homeland Security Northern Border Strategy.

Sec. 5612—Comptroller General report on the Homeland Security Information Network

The agreement contains a provision that would require the Comptroller General of the United States to provide a report on the Homeland Security Information Network not later than one year the enactment of this Act.

TITLE LVII—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 5701—Treatment of payments from the railroad unemployment insurance Account

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6072) that would permanently exempt payments made from the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Account from sequestration under the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 5702—Extension of learning period for certain safety regulations relating to space flight participants

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6502) that would amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the learning period for certain safety regulations relating to space flight participants.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

Sec. 5703—Hello Girls Congressional Gold Medal

The agreement contains a provision that would provide for the award of a Congressional Gold Medal in honor of the female telephone operators of the Army Signal Corps for service during World War I, commonly known as the “Hello Girls”.

Sec. 5704—Extension of competitive service status authority for employees of a Lead Inspector General for Overseas Contingency Operation

The agreement includes a provision that would extend competitive service status authority for employees of a lead inspector general for overseas contingency operations until December 19, 2029.

Sec. 5705—Ensuring access to certain higher education benefits

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6058) that would amend subsection (a) of section 484C of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-329), to change the definition of service in the uniformed services to include any service on active duty in the Armed Forces, including such service by a member of the reserve component.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provision.

LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS NOT ADOPTED

Centers of Excellence for Assessing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Water Sources and Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Remediation Solutions

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5321) that would require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to select an eligible research university, an eligible rural university, and a National Laboratory to be known as the “Centers of Excellence for Assessing Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Water Sources and Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance Remediation Solutions.”

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Small business subcontracting improvements

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5862) that would enact the Small Business Subcontractor Utilization Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Unconditional ownership and control requirements for certain employee-owned small business concerns

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5863) that would require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to complete a study and recommend alternatives to unconditional ownership and control requirements for employee stock ownership plans and eligible worker-owned cooperatives that would enable access to set-aside procurement programs.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Training on increasing contract awards to certain small business concerns

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5865) that would require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to provide training to contracting officers of the respective Federal agency that did not meet the goal established under section 15(g)(1)(A)(ii) of the Small Business Act (Public Law 85-536) on how to increase the number of contracts awarded to small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Small business procurement

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5866) that would direct agencies to increase the number of new small business entrants that have not previously had a prime contract with the Federal Government.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Plain language in contracting

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 5867) that

would require each notice pertaining to small business concerns published by a Federal agency of the single Government-wide point of entry to be written in a manner that is clear, concise, and accessible to a small business concern.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Eligibility of spouses for services under the disabled veterans' outreach program

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6041) that would amend section 4103A of title 38, United States Code, to make certain spouses of military personnel or former military personnel eligible for services under the disabled veterans' outreach program.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Disclosures by directors, officers, and principal stockholders

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6042) that would amend section 16(a)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Public Law 73-291) to expand the disclosure requirements for directors, officers, and principal stockholders.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

PREEMIE Reauthorization Act

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6046) that would enact the PREEMIE Reauthorization Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Federal programs and services agreement with the Government of the Republic of Palau

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6048) that would require new Federal programs and services agreements with the Government of the Republic of Palau to be in accordance with the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Republic of Palau.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Retired law enforcement officers continuing service

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6050) that would amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10101 et seq.).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

IMPROVE initiative

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6053) that would amend Part B of title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 284) to require the Director of the National Institutes of Health to establish the Implementing a Maternal Health and Pregnancy Outcomes Vision for Everyone Initiative.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Second Chance Reauthorization Act of 2024

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6054) that would amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 10261, 10595a, and 10631) and the Second Chance Act of 2007 (34 U.S.C. 60511, 60521, and 60531) to enhance and reauthorize the Second Chance Act of 2007.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Modification of rules for approval of commercial driver education programs for purposes of educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6055) that would amend section 3680A(e) of title 38, United States Code, to modify rules for approval of commercial driver education programs for purposes of educational assistance programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Ensuring only licensed health care professionals perform medical disability examinations under certain Department of Veterans Affairs pilot program

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6056) that would amend section 504 of the Veterans' Benefits Improvements Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-275) to ensure that only licensed health care professionals are authorized to provide medical disability examinations under a Department of Veterans Affairs pilot program.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Sickle cell disease prevention and treatment

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6059) that would amend section 1106(b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300b-5(b)) to address the treatment of sickle cell disease and the prevention and treatment of complications of sickle cell disease.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Sharing of information with respect to suspected violations of intellectual property rights

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6060) that would amend section 628A of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1628a).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Authorization of appropriations for the Coast Guard

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6062) that would authorize certain aspects of the Coast Guard.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Treatment of prescreening report requests

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6061) that would make certain amendments to section 604(c) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act (15 U.S.C. 1681b(c)).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Modification of acquisition of icebreaker

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6063) that would relax some requirements for the icebreaker acquisition program, but add various reporting requirements.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Amendments to the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6064) that would amend section 2 of the Federal Assets Sale and Transfer Act of 2016 (40 U.S.C. 1303 note; Public Law 114-287).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Chip EQUIP Act

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6065) that would enact the Chip Equipment Quality, Usefulness, and Integrity Protection Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Preservation of affordable housing resources

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6069) that would authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to waive application of certain statutes to facilitate the preservation of affordable housing resources.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Outbound investment transparency

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6071) that would amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 (Public Law 81-774).

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Congressional Gold Medal

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6074) that would grant a Congressional Gold Medal to Jens Stoltenberg.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Temporary judgeships in the district courts

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained two identical provisions (sec. 6075 and sec. 6076) that would authorize certain existing judgeships under section 133 of title 28, United States Code, and provide for

the incumbents in those offices to hold their offices under section 133 of title 28, United States Code.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provisions.

International Nuclear Energy Act of 2024

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained sec. 6081 through sec. 6089D that would enact the International Nuclear Energy Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provisions.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Preventing Child Trafficking Act of 2024

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6092) that would enact the Preventing Child Trafficking Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Strong Communities Act of 2023

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6094) that would enact the Strong Communities Act of 2023.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Fighting Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Act of 2023

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6095) that would enact the Fighting Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Act of 2023.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Justice for Murder Victims Act

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6097) that would enact the Justice for Murder Victims Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Project Safe Neighborhoods Reauthorization Act of 2023

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6098) that would enact the Project Safe Neighborhoods Reauthorization Act of 2023.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Federal Judiciary Stabilization Act of 2024

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6099) that would enact the Federal Judiciary Stabilization Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

American Law Enforcement Sustaining Aid and Vital Emergency Resources Act

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6099A) that

would enact the American Law Enforcement Sustaining Aid and Vital Emergency Resources Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Extension and modification of Global Engagement Center

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6203) that would amend section 1287 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328) by extending the Global Engagement Center until 2031.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the provision.

Eligibility of Taiwan for the strategic trade authorization exception to certain export control licensing requirements

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6242) that would require the President to take steps so that Taiwan may be treated as if it were included in the list of countries eligible for the strategic trade authorization exception under section 740.20(c)(1) of the Export Administration Regulations.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Extension of Fentanyl Sanctions Act

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6261) that would extend the Fentanyl Sanctions Act to 2030.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Amendments to the 21st Century Peace through Strength Act

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6262) that would amend the 21st Century Peace through Strength Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained sec. 6281 through sec. 6286 that would enact the Asset Seizure for Ukraine Reconstruction Act.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration agreements with private and commercial entities and State governments to provide certain supplies, support, and services

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained a provision (sec. 6501) that would amend section 20113 of title 51, United States Code, to authorize the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into agreements with private and commercial entities and State governments to provide certain supplies, support, and services.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Economic Development Reauthorization Act of 2024

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained division F that would enact the Economic Development Reauthorization Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

State Trade Expansion Program

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained division G that would enact the State Trade Expansion Program Modernization Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Judicial understaffing delays getting emergencies resolved

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained division J that would address the shortage of permanent district court judgeships.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained division K that would enact the Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

Combating Cartels on Social Media Act of 2024

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained division L that would enact the Combating Cartels on Social Media Act of 2024.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement does not include the Senate provision.

DIVISION F—INTELLIGENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

Secs. 6001–6902—Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported bill contained sec. 1105 that would enact the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

The Senate committee-reported bill also contained a provision (sec. 1545) that would require the Secretary of Defense to implement a pilot program, the Geospatial Workforce Pilot Program, to assess the feasibility and advisability of establishing a permanent program to develop a skilled workforce in geospatial technologies, methodologies, and capabilities in support of defense intelligence requirements.

The House bill contained no similar division or provision.

The agreement includes the Senate provisions with an amendment that contains the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

DIVISION G—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

Secs. 7001–7812—Department of State Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025

A proposed amendment (amendment number 3290) to the Senate committee-reported

bill contained sec. 9001 through sec. 9709 that would enact the Department of State Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025.

The House bill contained no similar provision.

The agreement includes the Senate amendment with various technical and clarifying amendments.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XXI

(Community Project Funding Items)

TITLE	AGENCY	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT LOCATION	AMOUNT (Dollars in Thousands)	MEMBER(S)
4601	Army	Guided Missile Maintenance Building (Design)	Anniston Army Depot, AL	5,300	Rogers, Mike (AL)
4601	Army	Joint Inter-Agency Task Force-South Command and Control Facility	Naval Air Station Key West, FL	90,000	Gimenez, Carlos A. (FL)
4601	Navy	Child Development Center (Design)	Naval Air Station Oceana, VA	4,080	Kiggans, Jennifer A. (VA)
4601	Navy	Child Development Center (Design)	Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story, VA	2,751	Kiggans, Jennifer A. (VA)
4601	Navy	Child Development Center (Design)	Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL	6,900	Waltz, Michael (FL)/Rutherford, John H. (FL)
4601	Navy	Communications Center & Infrastructure Upgrades (Design)	Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island Command, FL	4,300	Waltz, Michael (FL)
4601	Navy	F35 Aircraft Engine Repair Facility (Design)	Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL	13,737	Rutherford, John H. (FL)
4601	Navy	PDI: Defense Access Roads III	Naval Base Guam, GU	100,000	Moylan, James C. (GU)
4601	Navy	Unaccompanied Housing (Design)	Naval Air Station Oceana, VA	16,000	Kiggans, Jennifer A. (VA)
4601	Navy	Water Treatment Plant	Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI	75,000	Case, Ed (HI)
4601	Navy	Waterfront Emergency Power (Design)	Naval Station Mayport, FL	13,700	Rutherford, John H. (FL)
4601	Air Force	ADAL Child Development Center	Barksdale Air Force Base, LA	22,000	Johnson, Mike (LA)
4601	Air Force	Advanced Materials Research Laboratory - C2A (Design)	Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, OH	9,200	Turner, Michael R. (OH)
4601	Air Force	BMT – Classroom/Dining Facility 4	Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, TX	60,000	Gonzales, Tony (TX)
4601	Air Force	Combat Arms Training & Maintenance Complex	Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, NC	41,000	Davis, Donald (NC)
4601	Air Force	F35: Academic Training Center	Ebbing Air National Guard Base, AK	74,000	Womack, Steve (AR)
4601	Air Force	Multi-Domain Operations Complex	Beale Air Force Base, CA	55,000	Garamendi, John (CA)
4601	Air Force	Power Independence	Buckley Space Force Base, CO	68,000	Crow, Jason (CO)
4601	Defense-Wide	General Purpose Warehouse (Design)	Anniston Army Depot, AL	3,420	Rogers, Mike (AL)
4601	Defense-Wide	Small Arms Warehouse (Design)	Anniston Army Depot, AL	14,500	Rogers, Mike (AL)
4601	Army National Guard	Readiness Center Addition/Alteration (Design)	Detroit Olympia, MI	4,400	James, John (MI)
4601	Army Reserve	Aviation Support Facility	Fort Knox, KY	57,000	Guthrie, Brett (KY)
4601	Army Reserve	Vertical Skills Instruction Facility	Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ	16,000	Kim, Andy (NJ)
4601	Navy Reserve	Whole Hangar Repair	Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, TX	10,000	Ellzey, Jake (TX)
4601	Air Force Reserve	512th Operations Group Facility	Dover Air Force Base, DE	42,000	Blunt Rochester, Lisa (DE)

BILLS PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Kevin F. McCumber, Acting Clerk of the House, reported that on December 5, 2024, the following bills were presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.R. 7438. To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the FIFA World Cup 2026, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7218. To amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to extend the program for promotion of public health knowledge and awareness of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5799. To designate the checkpoint of the United States Border Patrol located on United States Highway 90 West in Uvalde

County, Texas, as the “James R. Dominguez Border Patrol Checkpoint”.

H.R. 5536. To require transparency in notices of funding opportunity, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5302. To designate the Air and Marine Operations Marine Unit of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection located at 101 Km 18.5 in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, as the “Michel O. Maceda Marine Unit”.

H.R. 2950. To authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Coastal Program of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to work with willing partners and provide support to efforts to assess, protect, restore, and enhance important coastal landscapes that provide fish and wildlife habitat on which certain Federal trust species depend, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8932. To establish an earlier application processing cycle for the FAFSA.

H.R. 7764. To establish a commission to study the potential transfer of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to the Smithsonian Institution, and for other purposes.

Kevin F. McCumber, Acting Clerk of the House, further reported that on December 10, 2024, the following bills were presented to the President of the United States for approval:

H.R. 5863. To provide tax relief with respect to certain Federal disasters.

H.R. 3821. To reauthorize the Firefighter Cancer Registry Act of 2018.

H.R. 1432. To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1086 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o'clock and 27 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS AND TRANSMITTAL FOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL

U.S. CONGRESS, OFFICE OF
CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS,
Washington, DC, December 10, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
The United States Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Section 207(d) of the Congressional Accountability Act (CAA), 2 U.S.C. 1316b(d), requires the Board of Directors of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (Board) to issue substantive regulations implementing section 207 of the CAA relating to the Fair Chance to Compete for Jobs Act of 2019.

Section 304(b)(3) of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. 1384(b)(3), requires that, with regard to substantive regulations under the CAA, after the Board has published a general notice of proposed rulemaking as required by subsection (b)(1) and received comments pursuant to subsection (b)(2), "the Board shall adopt regulations and shall transmit notice of such action together with a copy of such regulations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate for publication in the Congressional Record on the first day on which both Houses are in session following such transmittal."

The Board has adopted the regulations in the Notice of Adoption of Substantive Regulations and Transmittal for Congressional Approval, which accompany this transmittal letter. The Board requests that the accompanying Notice be published in the House version of the Congressional Record on the first day on which both Houses are in session following receipt of this transmittal. The Board has adopted the same regulations for the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the other covered entities and facilities, and therefore recommends that the adopted regulations be approved by concurrent resolution of the Congress.

Any inquiries regarding this notice should be addressed to Martin J. Crane, Executive Director of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, Room LA-200, 110 Second Street SE, Washington, DC 20540-1999; 202-724-9250.

Sincerely,

BARBARA CHILDS WALLACE,
Chair of the Board of Directors,
Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL
WORKPLACE RIGHTS

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS
AND TRANSMITTAL FOR CONGRES-
SIONAL APPROVAL

Regulations Implementing Certain Substantive Rights and Protections for Job Applicants, as Required by Section 207 of the Congressional Accountability Act ("CAA").

Notice of Adoption of Substantive Regulations and Submission for Approval as Required by 2 U.S.C. § 1316b of the CAA.

**Procedural Summary:
Issuance of the Board's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.**

The Fair Chance to Compete for Jobs Act of 2019 ("FCA") was enacted as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2020 (H. Rept. 116-333, Title XI, Sections 1121-1124). Under the FCA, Federal employers (including employing offices in the legislative branch) may not request from most job applicants information on arrest and conviction history until a conditional job offer has been extended. Congress applied the FCA to the legislative branch by amending the CAA to add a new section 207, 2 U.S.C. § 1316b.

On June 13, 2024, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights ("OCWR") published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPR") in the *Congressional Record*. 170 Cong. Rec. H4056-02, S4091-04 (daily ed. June 13, 2024). The NPR proposed substantive regulations relating to implementation of the FCA in the legislative branch. The Board, now having considered comments to the NPR, has adopted, and is submitting for approval by the Congress, final substantive regulations implementing section 207 of the CAA.

Why did the Board propose these substantive regulations?

Section 207(d) of the CAA requires the Board to issue substantive regulations implementing section 207. Section 207(d) requires the Board's regulations to be:

the same as substantive regulations promulgated by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management . . . except to the extent that the Board may determine, for good cause shown and stated together with the regulation, that a modification of such regulations would be more effective for the implementation of the rights and protections under this section.

What procedure followed the Board's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking?

The NPR included a 30-day comment period, which began on June 13, 2024. The Board received three sets of comments to the proposed substantive regulations. The Board has reviewed these comments, made certain changes to its proposed substantive regulations in response to the comments, adopted final substantive regulations, and is submitting them for approval by Congress pursuant to section 304 of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. § 1384.

What is the effect of the Board's adoption of these substantive regulations?

Adoption of these substantive regulations by the Board does not complete the promulgation process. Pursuant to section 304, following the Board's adoption of the regulations, it must transmit notice of such action together with the regulations and a recommendation regarding the method for Congressional approval of the regulations to the Speaker of the House and President Pro Tempore of the Senate for publication in the *Congressional Record*. This Notice of Adoption of Substantive Regulations and Submission for Congressional Approval completes this step.

What are the next steps in the process of promulgation of these regulations?

Pursuant to section 304(b)(4) of the CAA, the Board is required to "include a recommendation in the general notice of proposed rulemaking and in the regulations as to whether the regulations should be approved by resolution of the Senate, by resolution of the House of Representatives, by concurrent resolution, or by joint resolution." The Board has adopted the same regulations for the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the other covered entities and facilities, and the Board recommends that the adopted regulations be approved by concurrent resolution of the Congress.

Are these substantive regulations also recommended by OCWR's Executive Director, the Deputy Executive Director for the Senate, and the Deputy Executive Director for the House of Representatives?

As required by section 304(b)(1) of the CAA, these substantive regulations are recommended by the Deputy Director for the Senate in regard to regulations under subsection (a)(2)(B)(i), the Deputy Director for the House of Representatives in regard to regulations under subsection (a)(2)(B)(ii), and the Executive Director for regulations under subsection (a)(2)(B)(iii).

Has the Board previously adopted substantive regulations implementing 2 U.S.C. § 1316b?

No.

Are these substantive regulations available to persons with disabilities in an alternate format?

This Notice is available on the OCWR's website, www.ocwr.gov, which is compliant with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 794d. This Notice can also be made available in large print, braille, or other alternative format. Requests for this Notice in an alternative format should be made to the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, 202-724-9250 (voice); 202-426-1913 (fax); or ADAaccess@ocwr.gov (email).

The Board's Responses to Comments Received

The Board received comments from three sources. The comments addressed four major points, and one commenter also proposed a number of minor corrections, most of which the Board has incorporated.

Political Appointees

The FCA directs the Office of Personnel Management ("OPM") to issue regulations identifying positions in the executive branch with respect to which the prohibitions under subsection (a) of the Act shall not apply. OPM's substantive regulations thus provide at 5 CFR § 920.201(b)(2) that such prohibitions shall not apply with respect to an applicant for a "political appointment." OPM's regulations define "political appointment" at 5 CFR § 920.101:

Political appointment means an appointment by the President without Senate confirmation (except those appointed under 5 CFR 213.3102(c)); an appointment to a position compensated under the Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5312 through 5316); an appointment of a White House Fellow to be assigned as an assistant to a top-level Federal officer (5 CFR 213.3102(z)); a Schedule C appointment (5 CFR 213.3301, 213.3302); a non-career, limited term, or limited emergency Senior Executive Service appointment (5 CFR part 317, subpart F); an appointee to serve in a political capacity under agency-specific authority; and a provisional political appointment.

In the NPR, the Board did not include a parallel exception for political appointments

in the legislative branch, noting the lack of hiring authorities for political appointees comparable to those cited by OPM for the executive branch.

Two commenters, however, urged the Board to include an exception for “political appointments” in the legislative branch, contending that the omission of such a definition would expand the scope of the FCA for the legislative branch beyond its scope in the executive branch, in a manner inconsistent with section 207(b)(1)(A) of the CAA.

Both commenters referenced OPM’s reasoning for its own exception as set forth in its notice of proposed rulemaking:

The Fair Chance Act applies to applicants to positions in the “civil service,” which, under 5 U.S.C. 2101(1), extends to “all appointive positions” in the executive branch. Proposed paragraph (b) makes an exception for applicants for political appointments, since political appointees provide confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions on behalf of the President or presidentially-appointed agency heads, and serve as personal advisors and representatives to the President and other senior administration officials. Pre-employment criminal history screening may be required for these positions prior to a conditional offer of employment, because of the utmost trust and discretion required in these positions and the potential for adverse publicity associated with unfit applicants.

Fair Chance to Compete for Jobs, 87 Fed. Reg. 24885-01, 24894 (Apr. 27, 2022).

The commenters also stressed the inherently political nature of congressional employment, noting that many appointees are hired to perform confidential, policy-determining, and policy-advocating functions on behalf of Members of Congress. One commenter noted in particular that section 502 of the CAA explicitly allows consideration of “party affiliation” and “political compatibility with the employing office” for employment with a committee, a member, or a number of other offices in the House or Senate. Another commenter argued that a definition of “political appointment” was necessary to “ensure employing office employees have pre-offer access to applicant criminal history information on par with Executive Branch employees’ access to such information.”

Upon further consideration, the Board agrees with the commenters that good cause exists to modify rather than omit OPM’s exception for applicants for political appointments. The Board therefore includes for adoption in its substantive regulations the following definition:

Political appointment means an appointment to a position in an employing office defined in 2 U.S.C. § 1301(9)(A)–(C) that requires the incumbent to: (1) file a report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. § 101 et seq.); or (2) perform confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions equivalent to those performed by Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. §§ 5312 through 5316) or Schedule C (5 CFR §§ 213.3301–213.3302) appointees in the executive branch.

920.201(b)(2). The prohibition under this paragraph (a) shall not apply with respect to an applicant for a political appointment.

Subparagraph (1) of this definition exempts appointments to employing offices of the House and the Senate listed in 2 U.S.C. § 1301(9)(A)–(C) that require the incumbent to file a financial disclosure report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act—the defining characteristic of “senior staff” under the CAA. See 2 U.S.C. § 1416(d)(7). This filing requirement applies to congressional em-

ployees whose rate of pay is 120% of the minimum rate of pay for GS–15 of the General Schedule and to individuals who are designated as a “principal assistant.” See 5 U.S.C. §§ 13101, 13103. In the Board’s view, exempting all such highly-compensated senior staff positions in the House and the Senate is on par with OPM’s across-the-board exemptions for appointments by the President without Senate confirmation; appointments to a position compensated under the Executive Schedule; and Schedule C appointments.

Because not all positions performing confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions in the House and Senate fall under the Ethics in Government Act, subparagraph (2) sets forth a functional test to determine whether a non-senior staff position falls within the exception for applicants for political appointments. Such positions that require incumbents to perform confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions that are the equivalent to duties of positions under the Executive Schedule or positions appointed under Schedule C would also be exempted political appointments. No commenters contended that a political appointment exception should apply to appointments to employing offices outside of those in the House and Senate. Accordingly, this exception only extends to appointments to employing offices defined in 2 U.S.C. § 1301(9)(A)–(C).

Sensitive National Security Positions

The FCA, by reference to 5 U.S.C. § 9101(b)(1)(A)(ii) in 5 U.S.C. § 9202(c)(1)(A), created an exception for an appointment to sensitive national security duties or positions. OPM included the exception in its section 920.201(b)(1)(iii) regulations for any position that:

Has been designated as a sensitive position under the Position Designation System issued by OPM and the Office of Director of National Intelligence, which describes in greater detail agency requirements for designating positions that could bring about a material adverse effect on the national security.

The Board was not aware of any positions in the legislative branch that were so designated. However, at the urging of the commenters, the Board has adopted the following exception, incorporating an alternative test for whether a position can be considered “sensitive”:

Has been designated as a sensitive position under the Position Designation System issued by OPM and the Office of Director of National Intelligence (or similar authority in the legislative branch), which describes in greater detail agency requirements for designating positions that could bring about a material adverse effect on the national security, or that requires the performance of duties consistent with a national security position as defined in 5 CFR § 1400.102.

Posting Requirement

OPM’s regulations require agencies to publicize the FCA’s requirements in its job postings. The Board proposed a similar regulation at section 920.201(c) for job postings in the legislative branch. Two commenters noted, however, that the statutory authority for OPM’s regulation is derived from 5 U.S.C. § 9203. Because the CAA only incorporates §§ 9201(1), (4), and (5), 9202, 9204, and 9206 of title 5, we agree that the Board lacks the statutory authority to adopt such a regulation. Accordingly, we have removed proposed section 920.201(c) from these regulations.

Definition of Criminal History Record Information

One commenter urged the Board to revise its definition of “criminal history record information,” in section 920.101 rather than

follow OPM’s definition, which merely cited section 9101. The Board does not find good cause to modify OPM’s definition.

PART 920—TIMING OF CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRIES

Subpart A—General Provisions

Sec.

920.101 Definitions.

920.102 Positions covered by Fair Chance Act regulations.

Subpart B—Timing of Inquiries Regarding Criminal History

920.201 Limitations on criminal history inquiries.

920.202 Violations.

§ 920.101 Definitions.

For the purpose of this part:

Employing office means:

(1) The personal office of a Member of the House of Representatives or of a Senator;

(2) A committee of the House of Representatives or the Senate or a joint committee;

(3) Any other office headed by a person with the final authority to appoint, hire, discharge, and set the terms, conditions, or privileges of the employment of an employee of the House of Representatives or the Senate; or

(4) The Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, the United States Capitol Police, the Congressional Budget Office, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, the Office of the Attending Physician, the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, the Office of Technology Assessment, the Library of Congress, the Stennis Center for Public Service, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, Congressional-Executive Commission on China, and the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Applicant means a person who has applied to an employing office for employment as a covered employee under the employing office’s procedures for accepting applications consistent with governmentwide regulations, as applicable.

Conditional offer means an offer of employment as a covered employee that is conditioned upon the results of a background investigation, including, as relevant here, the results of a criminal history inquiry.

Covered employee means any employee of—

(1) the House of Representatives; (2) the Senate; (3) the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services; (4) the United States Capitol Police; (5) the Congressional Budget Office; (6) the Office of the Architect of the Capitol; (7) the Office of the Attending Physician; (8) the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights; (9) the Office of Technology Assessment; (10) the Library of Congress; (11) the Stennis Center for Public Service; (12) the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom; (13) the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission; (14) the Congressional-Executive Commission on China; or (15) the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Criminal history record information—(1) Has the meaning given the term in section 9101(a) of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) Includes any information described in the first sentence of section 9101(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, that has been sealed or expunged pursuant to law; and

(3) Includes information collected by a criminal justice agency, relating to an act or alleged act of juvenile delinquency, that is analogous to criminal history record information (including such information that has been sealed or expunged pursuant to law).

Political appointment means an appointment to a position in an employing office defined in 2 U.S.C. § 1301(9)(A)–(C) that requires

the incumbent to: (1) file a report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. §101 et seq.); or (2) perform confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions equivalent to those performed by Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. §§5312 through 5316) or Schedule C (5 CFR §§213.3301–213.3302) appointees in the executive branch.

§ 920.102 Positions covered by Fair Chance Act regulations.

(a) *Positions covered.* Except as provided in paragraph (b), this part applies to all covered employee positions in any employing office.

(b) *Exempt positions.* For purposes of this part an exempt position is any position for which an employing office is required by statutory authority to make inquiries into an applicant's criminal history prior to extending an offer of employment to the applicant.

Subpart B—Timing of Inquiries Regarding Criminal History

§ 920.201. Limitations on criminal history inquiries.

(a) *Applicability.* An employee of an employing office may not request, in oral or written form (including through the Declaration for Federal Employment (Office of Personnel Management Optional Form 306) or any similar successor form, the USAJOBS internet website, or any other electronic means) that an applicant for employment with an employing office disclose criminal history record information regarding the applicant before the employing office extends a conditional offer to the applicant. This includes the following points in the recruitment and hiring process:

(1) Initial application, through a job opportunity announcement on USAJOBS, or through any recruitment/public notification such as on the employing office's website/social media, etc.;

(2) After an employing office receives an initial application through its back-end system, through shared service providers/recruiters/contractors, or orally or via email and other forms of electronic notification; and

(3) Prior to, during, or after a job interview. This prohibition applies to employing office personnel, including when they act through shared service providers, contractors (acting on behalf of the employing office) involved in the employing office's recruitment and hiring process, or automated systems (specific to the employing office or governmentwide).

(b) *Exceptions for certain positions.* (1) The prohibition under paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply with respect to an applicant for an appointment to a position:

(i) Which is exempt in accordance with § 920.102(b);

(ii) That requires a determination of eligibility for access to classified information;

(iii) Has been designated as a sensitive position under the Position Designation System issued by OPM and the Office of Director of National Intelligence (or similar authority in the legislative branch), which describes in greater detail agency requirements for designating positions that could bring about a material adverse effect on the national security, or that requires the performance of duties consistent with a national security position as defined in 5 CFR §1400.102.

(iv) Is a Federal law enforcement officer position meeting the definition in section 115(c) of title 18, U.S. Code.

(2) The prohibition under paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply with respect to an applicant for a political appointment.

§ 920.202. Violations.

(a) An employing office employee may not request, orally or in writing, information

about an applicant's criminal history prior to making a conditional offer of employment to that applicant unless the position is exempted or excepted in accordance with § 920.201(b).

(b) A violation (or prohibited action) as defined in paragraph (a) of this section occurs when an employing office employee (or employing office personnel, shared service providers, or contractors acting at the direction of an employing office employee) involved in the employing office's recruitment and hiring process, either personally or through automated systems (specific to the employing office or governmentwide), make oral or written requests of an applicant or applicants prior to giving a conditional offer of employment as a covered employee—

(1) In a job opportunity announcement on USAJOBS or in any recruitment/public notification such as on the employing office's website or social media;

(2) In communications sent after an employing office receives an initial application, through an employing office's talent acquisition system, shared service providers/recruiters/contractors, orally or in writing (including via email and other forms of electronic notification); or

(3) Prior to, during, or after a job interview or other applicant assessment.

(c) When a prohibited request, announcement, or communication is publicly posted or simultaneously distributed to multiple applicants, it constitutes a single violation.

(d) Any violation as defined in paragraph (a) of this section is subject to the claim and penalty procedures under subchapter IV of title 2 (other than section 1407 or 1408 of title 2, or a provision of this subchapter that permits a person to obtain a civil action or judicial review) and the OCFR Procedural Rules, consistent with these regulations.

**EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.**

Under clause 2 of rule XIV,

EC-6304. A letter from the Chair of the Board of Directors, Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, transmitting notification of proposed rulemaking, pursuant to 2 U.S.C. 1384(b)(3); Public Law 104-1, Sec. 304(b)(3); (109 Stat. 29), was taken from the Speaker's table, referred jointly to the Committees on House Administration and Education and the Workforce.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 1612. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7673) to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing or enforcing energy conservation standards for clothes washers that are not cost-effective or technologically feasible, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (S. 4199) to authorize additional district judges for the district courts and convert temporary judgeships; and providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5009) to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-825). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 6229. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a program to assess the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of terrorism or other security threats, as appropriate, to

certain events, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-826, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 5874. A bill to amend the United States-Mexico Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Act to reauthorize the United States-Mexico transboundary aquifer assessment program; with an amendment (Rept. 118-827). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6235. A bill to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to address harmful algal blooms, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-828, Pt. 1). Ordered printed.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 7072. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest System land in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest to Tony's Wabeno Redi-Mix, LLC, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-829, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 7375. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to improve the assessment of expression of interest fees, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-830). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6482. A bill to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to promote timely exploration for geothermal resources under geothermal leases, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-831). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1437. A bill to authorize livestock producers and their employees to take black vultures in order to prevent death, injury, or destruction to livestock, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-832). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 8450. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate certain minerals for designation as critical minerals; with an amendment (Rept. 118-833). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 7776. A bill to amend the Boulder Canyon Project Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expend amounts in the Colorado River Dam fund, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-834). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 1647. A bill to redesignate the Salem Maritime National Historic Site as the "Salem Maritime National Historical Park", and for the purposes (Rept. 118-835). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 3119. A bill to provide for the issuance of a Manatee Semipostal Stamp (Rept. 118-836, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 8704. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to foster enhanced coexistence between ocean users and North Atlantic right whales and other large cetacean species; with an amendment (Rept. 118-837 Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6085. A bill to prohibit the implementation of the Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Rock Springs RMP Revision, Wyoming, and for other purposes; with

an amendment (Rept. 118-838). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6547. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from implementing the Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Colorado River Valley Field Office and Grand Junction Field Office Resource Management Plans; with an amendment (Rept. 118-839). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee On Natural Resources. H.R. 1395. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-840, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee On Natural Resources. H.R. 5401. A bill to provide a one-time grant for the operation, security, and maintenance of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum at the World Trade Center to commemorate the events, and honor the victims, of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-841). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 6127. A bill to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-842, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 8931. A bill to redesignate Saratoga National Historical Park as Saratoga National Battlefield Park (Rept. 118-843). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 8946. A bill to convey the reversionary interest of the United States in certain land in Sacramento, California (Rept. 118-844). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 9516. A bill to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to provide for lifetime National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes for family members of members of the Armed Forces who lost their lives while serving their country; with an amendment (Rept. 118-845, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 7365. A bill to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-846, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 7938. A bill to amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to provide the Secretary of the Interior with certain authorities with respect to projects affecting the Klamath Basin watershed, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-847). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 8012. A bill to establish the Jackie Robinson Ballpark National Commemorative Site in the State of Florida, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 118-848). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WESTERMAN: Committee on Natural Resources. H.R. 8308. A bill to reauthorize the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003 (Rept. 118-849). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 9668. A bill to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-850, Pt. 1). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 8033. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the information required to be included in a certification by an agency that a rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities (Rept. 118-851, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 9030. A bill to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the "Regulatory Flexibility Act"), to ensure complete disclosure of an agency's annual regulatory agenda (Rept. 118-852, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 9031. A bill to require Federal agency heads to submit a report on the implementation of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-853, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 9032. A bill to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the "Regulatory Flexibility Act"), to ensure complete analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-854, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 9033. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to apply regulatory flexibility analysis requirements for the Department of Labor (Rept. 118-855, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas: Committee on Small Business. H.R. 9085. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications to how agencies conduct periodic reviews of agency rules, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-856, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. SMITH of Missouri: Committee on Ways and Means. H.R. 190. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the exception for de minimis payments by third party settlement organizations with respect to returns relating to payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, as in effect prior to the enactment of the American Rescue Plan Act; with an amendment (Rept. 118-857). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 9689. A bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-858). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee: Committee on Homeland Security. H.R. 9769. A bill to ensure the security and integrity of United States critical infrastructure by establishing an interagency task force and requiring a comprehensive report on the targeting of United States critical infrastructure by People's Republic of China state-sponsored cyber actors, and for other purposes (Rept. 118-859). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

DISCHARGE OF COMMITTEE

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure discharged from further consideration. H.R. 1395 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Agriculture discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6127 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 6229 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs discharged from further consideration. H.R. 7365 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committee on Agriculture discharged from further consideration. H.R. 9516 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule XIII, the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, Ways and Means, and the Judiciary discharged from further consideration. H.R. 9668 referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 10332. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to designate the Joint Force Headquarters-Department of Defense Information Network as a subordinate unified command under the United States Cyber Command, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 10333. A bill to establish a hackathon program in the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 10334. A bill to amend section 333 of title 10, United States Code, to modify the authority to build the capacity of foreign security forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. BARRAGÁN (for herself and Ms. TLAIB):

H.R. 10335. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to increase certain criminal fines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 10336. A bill to improve access for diverse-owned asset management firms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, Financial Services, Transportation and Infrastructure, Armed Services, and House Administration, for a period to be

subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. BROWN (for herself, Mrs. LEE CARTER, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. MCCLELLAN, Mrs. DINGELL, Ms. BARRAGAN, Mrs. HAYES, Mr. LIEU, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CARBAJAL, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. MEEKS, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Ms. SALINAS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mrs. McIVER, Mr. LANDSMAN, and Ms. MENG):

H.R. 10337. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a demonstration project to make grants to eligible hospitals for the purpose of promoting work-based learning in health care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. CORREA:

H.R. 10338. A bill to direct the Federal Trade Commission to promulgate regulations that prohibit the practice of deceptive downsizing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Mr. AMO, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. NEAL, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. MAGAZINER, Mr. AUCHINCLOSS, and Mrs. TRAHAN):

H.R. 10339. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to establish a Southern New England Regional Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GRIJALVA (for himself, Ms. SCANLON, Mr. CASTEN, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, Mr. CASE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. SOTO, Mr. NEGUSE, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MATSUI, Ms. BONAMICI, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Ms. CASTOR of Florida, Mr. ESPAILLAT, Mr. HUFFMAN, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. COHEN, Mr. MAGAZINER, and Ms. BROWNLEY):

H.R. 10340. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a National Climate Adaptation Science Center and Regional Climate Adaptation Science Centers to respond to the effects of extreme weather events and climate trends, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Ms. ESCOBAR, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. BARRAGAN, and Ms. MATSUI):

H.R. 10341. A bill to require the use of the voice and vote of the United States in international financial institutions to advance the cause of transitioning the global economy to a clean energy economy and to prohibit United States Government assistance to countries or entities to support fossil fuel activity, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. JACOBS (for herself, Ms. STRICKLAND, and Mr. MOYLAN):

H.R. 10342. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the provision of military housing to members of the Armed Forces and their families through private entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to

the Committees on Veterans' Affairs, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania (for herself, Ms. TOKUDA, Ms. JACOBS, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MCCOLLUM, Ms. LOFGREN, Mr. POCAN, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. CARSON):

H.R. 10343. A bill to codify Executive Order 14115 imposing certain sanctions on persons undermining peace, security, and stability in the West Bank; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, and Mr. THANEDAR):

H.R. 10344. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a program enabling communities to better leverage resources to address health, economic development, and conservation concerns through needed investments in parks, recreational areas, facilities, and programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia:

H.R. 10345. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a program for the construction and renovation of committal shelters at State-owned veterans' cemeteries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:

H.R. 10346. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse State homes for the cost of, or to furnish to State homes, certain costly medications provided to veterans who receive nursing home care in such State homes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. NEGUSE:

H.R. 10347. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue rules enacting certain requirements relating to automatic emergency braking systems installed in new covered vehicles, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PANETTA:

H.R. 10348. A bill to establish an exemption from a limitation on the use of certain airport funds for safety projects at a nonhub airport or small hub airport, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. SELF (for himself and Mrs. MILLER of Illinois):

H.R. 10349. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to require the Attorney General to investigate alleged violations of the partial birth abortion ban; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MCCLELLAN (for herself, Mr. SWALWELL, Ms. GARCIA of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. ROSS, Mrs. CHERFILUS-McCORMICK, Mrs. WATSON

COLEMAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. SEWELL, Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. McIVER, Mr. VEASEY, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. POCAN, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY, Mr. CARTER of Louisiana, and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi):

H. Res. 1613. A resolution recognizing the importance of a continued commitment to ending pediatric HIV/AIDS worldwide; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND SINGLE SUBJECT STATEMENTS

Pursuant to clause 7(c)(1) of rule XII and Section 3(c) of H. Res. 5 the following statements are submitted regarding (1) the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution and (2) the single subject of the bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 10332.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14

The single subject of this legislation is:

Military Cyber Defense Modernization Act of 2024

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 10333.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14

The single subject of this legislation is:

DOD Hackathon

By Mr. BACON:

H.R. 10334.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 14

The single subject of this legislation is:

The Security Assistance Funding Availability Act

By Ms. BARRAGAN:

H.R. 10335.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1 Section 8 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Increases minimum and maximum fines for certain criminal violations of the Clean Water Act.

By Mrs. BEATTY:

H.R. 10336.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 3 of the United States Constitution

The single subject of this legislation is:

Finance

By Ms. BROWN:

H.R. 10337.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I Section VIII

The single subject of this legislation is:

Promote employment and retention in the health care workforce.

By Mr. CORREA:

H.R. 10338.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article 1, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:

Prohibit an unfair and deceptive practice.
By Ms. DELAURO:
H.R. 10339.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1
The single subject of this legislation is:
This bill establishes the Southern New England Regional Commission.
By Mr. GRIJALVA:
H.R. 10340.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Authorizes the Climate Adaptation Science Centers
By Mr. HUFFMAN:
H.R. 10341.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
Sustainable finance
By Ms. JACOBS:
H.R. 10342.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Section 8 of Article I of the Constitution.
The single subject of this legislation is:
To amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the provision of military housing to members of the Armed Forces and their families through private entities, and for other purposes.
By Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania:
H.R. 10343.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Art. 1, Sec. 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
To codify Executive Order 14115 imposing certain sanctions on persons undermining peace, security, and stability in the West Bank.
By Mr. MENENDEZ:
H.R. 10344.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Clause 1 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution;
Clause 18 of section 8 of article I of the Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Parks and recreation
By Mrs. MILLER:
H.R. 10345.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
veterans
By Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS:
H.R. 10346.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article 1, Section 8 of the US Constitution
The single subject of this legislation is:
Requires that VA shall reimburse (or provide) State Veterans Homes for high-cost medications provided to veterans receiving “prevailing rate” per diem.
By Mr. NEGUSE:
H.R. 10347.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8

The single subject of this legislation is:
Bicycle safety
By Mr. PANETTA:
H.R. 10348.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8, Clause 18
The single subject of this legislation is:
To establish an exemption from a limitation on the use of certain airport funds for safety projects at a nonhub airport or small hub airport, and for other purposes
By Mr. SELF:
H.R. 10349.
Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:
Article I, Section 8
The single subject of this legislation is:
To amend title 18, United States Code, to require the Attorney General to investigate alleged violations of the partial birth abortion ban.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:
H.R. 38: Mr. BURLISON.
H.R. 638: Mr. ELLZEY.
H.R. 895: Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 954: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 972: Ms. SEWELL.
H.R. 1045: Mr. LANDSMAN.
H.R. 1083: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 1403: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 1624: Ms. CROCKETT.
H.R. 1666: Mr. STEIL.
H.R. 1716: Mr. COHEN and Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 2663: Mr. PANETTA.
H.R. 2708: Mrs. LEE CARTER.
H.R. 3074: Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 3272: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 3416: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3680: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 3768: Mr. GOLDEN of Maine.
H.R. 3816: Mr. PFLUGER.
H.R. 3875: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 4249: Mr. MCGARVEY.
H.R. 4273: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 4319: Mr. LARSEN of Washington.
H.R. 4335: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 4340: Mr. CASE.
H.R. 4893: Ms. MATSUI.
H.R. 4896: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 4897: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 4914: Mr. KHANNA and Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 4942: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 4974: Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. BONAMICI, and Mr. BACON.
H.R. 5030: Ms. CHU.
H.R. 5113: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 5159: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 5589: Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 6202: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 6301: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 6681: Ms. CRAIG.
H.R. 6727: Mr. THANEDAR.
H.R. 7012: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 7212: Ms. JACOBS and Mr. DOGGETT.
H.R. 7354: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H.R. 7378: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 7501: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 7573: Ms. JACOBS and Ms. BROWN.

H.R. 7725: Mr. SESSIONS and Mr. MOONEY.
H.R. 7828: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 7849: Ms. SCHRIER.
H.R. 7920: Ms. LOFGREN.
H.R. 7936: Mr. PALLONE.
H.R. 8061: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas and Mr. BERGMAN.
H.R. 8231: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 8312: Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 8370: Mr. KILMER, Mr. IVEY, and Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 8504: Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 8639: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 8765: Mr. COSTA and Mr. POCAN.
H.R. 8807: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 8867: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 8886: Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 8936: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 8989: Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas.
H.R. 9005: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 9007: Mr. STANTON.
H.R. 9069: Mr. BUCHANAN.
H.R. 9096: Mr. FULCHER and Mr. VAN ORDEN.
H.R. 9131: Mr. KENNEDY.
H.R. 9273: Mr. PAPPAS.
H.R. 9274: Mrs. MCCLAIN and Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 9394: Mr. CLINE and Mrs. DINGELL.
H.R. 9448: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 9501: Mr. NORCROSS.
H.R. 9521: Mr. GOLDMAN of New York.
H.R. 9522: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 9534: Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 9552: Ms. VAN DUYN.
H.R. 9565: Mrs. HINSON, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. VAN ORDEN, and Mr. MANN.
H.R. 9581: Mr. POCAN and Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 9625: Mr. FONG.
H.R. 9669: Ms. BROWNLEY.
H.R. 9716: Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. YAKYM, Mr. GROTHMAN, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. LOPEZ, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Mr. BERGMAN, Mrs. FISCHBACH, Mrs. MCCLAIN, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. ROY, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, and Mr. CLINE.
H.R. 9855: Mr. AGUILAR.
H.R. 9950: Mr. KELLY of Mississippi, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. MOONEY, Mr. SMITH of Nebraska, Mr. HILL, Mr. CARTER of Georgia, Mr. STANTON, and Mr. PALMER.
H.R. 9987: Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 9997: Mr. GOTTHEIMER and Mr. PALONE.
H.R. 10045: Mr. HUNT.
H.R. 10069: Mr. BRECHEEN.
H.R. 10073: Ms. SALINAS, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Mr. CARSON.
H.R. 10099: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 10186: Mr. OGLLES.
H.R. 10210: Mr. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 10219: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 10230: Mr. SOTO.
H.R. 10257: Mr. KILEY.
H.R. 10268: Mr. MORELLE.
H.R. 10272: Ms. NORTON.
H.R. 10287: Ms. UNDERWOOD and Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
H.R. 10315: Mrs. LUNA.
H.R. 10329: Mr. MORAN, Mrs. MCBATH, Ms. SALAZAR, and Mr. NEHLS.
H.R. 10330: Mr. D'ESPOSITO.
H. Res. 1496: Mr. KEAN of New Jersey.
H. Res. 1591: Ms. MCCLELLAN.
H. Res. 1592: Mr. AGUILAR.
H. Res. 1601: Mr. GRIJALVA.



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No. 183

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 Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

O God of light and truth, in these tumultuous times, enable our Senators to hear Your still, small voice. May this awareness of Your presence renew their spirit and lift their vision of what this Nation can become by Your grace. May they be people dedicated to moral values and determined to live by the highest ethical standards possible.

Lord, keep them from success that is purchased by deviating from the path of wholehearted obedience. Enable them to experience the constancy of Your presence so that they will choose the harder right and leave a legacy that honors You.

We pray in Your mighty Name. Amen.

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 assistant bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, December 10, 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 assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Lauren McGarity McFerran, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board for the term of five years expiring December 16, 2029. (Re-appointment)

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

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

CHIPS AND SCIENCE ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, when we passed the bipartisan Chips and Science Act 2 years ago, we promised to bring semiconductor manufacturing back to our shores, to strengthen our national security, and shore up our domestic supply chains. Today, that promise is coming to fruition in Upstate New York.

Micron just finalized, this morning—early this morning—a \$6.1 billion—that is billion, \$6.1 billion—award that was made possible by the bipartisan Chips and Science law, to bring advanced memory chip manufacturing to Upstate New York and to America. Most importantly, Micron's Chips award is now locked in. It is signed, sealed, and ready to deliver for Central New York, all of Upstate New York, and for America.

Micron's Chips award is more than just a once-in-a-generation investment in Upstate New York. It is an investment that will span multiple generations, create over 50,000 jobs, and spur historic amounts of private investment in the region.

And the chips Micron will make are essential—essential—for America's future. They are critical for our national security, for AI, our smart phones, our cars, our computers, and so much else. And the benefits go beyond New York.

This award is also fueling expansion of Micron in Idaho, and, today, the Commerce Department has struck yet another deal with Micron to expand their Virginia facility. So Micron is investing and expanding in States big and small, from coast to coast. This is just the latest in a flurry of good news, showing that chip production is expanding in America from New Hampshire and New York to Arizona; New Mexico to Ohio.

That is what Chips and Science is all about: making sure that America harnesses all our potential to stay No. 1 in chip manufacturing.

And when I conceived the Chips and Science bill, I had Upstate New York in mind. We knew that manufacturing had left New York, and we wanted it to return. And that is now coming to fruition from one end of the State to the other. And the I-90 corridor, from Buffalo to Albany, will be known as the "semiconductor superhighway," where close to a quarter of all chips made in America will be made.

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



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S6891

It is great news, not only for this generation but for future generations, whose kids and grandkids will want to live in Upstate New York.

SENATE BUSINESS

Mr. President, on Senate business, we will continue the work of confirming more nominations this week. Last night, I filed cloture on the nominations of Lauren McFerran and Joshua Ditelberg to sit on the NLRB, the National Labor Relations Board.

Ms. McFerran is a current member of the NLRB, but her term will expire soon, unless she is reconfirmed for another 5 years.

The Senate will take the first votes to advance these NLRB nominees on Wednesday. If you truly care about working families, then you should be in favor of advancing the NLRB nominees. The NLRB is essential for protecting workers' rights so employees can speak up for better pay, stronger protections, and the right to organize without retaliation.

If we are worried about income inequality and too much of a gap between working people and those who are very, very wealthy, the NLRB is a great, great way to deal with that problem because, again, it strengthens the worker's hand.

So anyone who says they stand with working Americans should care immensely about getting these NLRB nominees done.

NOMINATIONS

Mr. President, on Senator RUBIO, on the topic of nominees, today, I will later sit down with the President-elect's nominee for Secretary of State, our longtime colleague Senator MARCO RUBIO. I have known Senator RUBIO for many years and have worked with him on many issues. So I expect we will have a good and productive conversation.

I look forward to giving him the same fair chance to make his case that all nominees, regardless of party, deserve.

DISASTER RELIEF

Mr. President, on disaster aid, in 2024, at least 24 major disasters have battered communities across the United States, killing—killing—over 400 Americans, costing over \$60 billion in damages. The true cost is certainly higher. These disasters and disasters of recent years have left the Federal Government's emergency resources all but depleted.

So, for the last month, I have worked with my colleagues to try and get a comprehensive disaster aid package done before the end of the year. I believe we must try as much as possible to get it done, and we on the Democratic side have been persistent in getting as many dollars as possible to help both blue and red States affected by the disasters.

I remain hopeful and determined that we can reach a deal with our Republican counterparts, but the only way we are going to get a disaster package

done is with a serious show of bipartisan cooperation. That is how the CRs work. Disaster aid is not a Democratic or Republican issue whatsoever. Mother Nature comes for us all, as we have seen in every part of the country, time and time again.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Mr. President, on artificial intelligence, for more than a year, I have worked relentlessly with Senators on both sides of the aisle to find a way forward on strong bipartisan AI legislation. I created a bipartisan working group with Senators HEINRICH, BROWN, and YOUNG. With the help of many of our chairs and ranking members, we created a never-before-seen, bipartisan AI Insight Forum—many forums, nine of them—to bring top experts from across the country.

Democrats and Republicans also worked together on writing bills, and through hard work, we came to significant compromises that would have led to meaningful AI legislation and kept America No. 1 on AI, both in keeping innovation our North Star, but making sure there were safeguards so that the worst could not happen.

In fact, Speaker JOHNSON and I agreed that all our committees should keep working together to figure out a way to get AI legislation done before the end of the year. We were feeling quite good about that until, unfortunately, the November elections occurred, and following those elections, Senate Republicans chose to walk away from the bipartisan negotiations, abandoning over a year of good-faith hard work.

This is deeply unfortunate because, if we want America to remain the technological leader of the 21st Century, we can't turn a blind eye to the changes AI will bring, nor can we let AI become a partisan issue. That is why I will never walk away from AI talks. I remain committed to working with both sides to make AI a top priority here in the Senate.

As I said, Speaker Johnson and I have had productive talks on AI for months, and I am glad to say we are still having those talks with the hope of finding opportunities for action in the future. It is not going to be easy. It isn't. It is a difficult issue, but we have some opportunities to move the ball forward on AI next year.

I know that many of my Republican colleagues here in this Chamber are just as committed as I am to finish the job. There are two Senators I would like to thank in particular on the Republican side, Senators YOUNG and ROUNDS, who have been excellent bipartisan partners with Senator HEINRICH and myself for over a year. I thank them for their hard work. I thank their staffs for their hard work and tell them we must keep going. We can't let a handful of us on this Senate Republican side stop us from moving forward on AI.

Again, no matter how difficult it may be, my commitment to Members

in both Chambers remains steadfast. I will work with anyone, regardless of party, to get meaningful, sustainable, and transformational AI done—transformational because of what AI could do to cure heart disease, to educate young people around the globe, to deal with our climate crisis; and sustainable so that we have guardrails that prevent AI if some bad force, whether it is a country or a rogue group, get hold of it. We would prevent them from doing bad things and keep AI sustainable.

We must get both done. Our outline and our work are a good step in that direction. We must continue to move forward.

TRIBUTE TO BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

Mr. President, finally, saying goodbye to Senator BEN CARDIN. Today, one of the most beloved Members of our caucus and this Chamber, and a very near and dear friend of mine, will deliver his farewell address on the floor: Senator CARDIN. Everyone knows BEN. He is humble and modest, and I expect his speech will reflect that. But make no mistake about it. BEN's legacy is giant, and he has left an indelible mark on this institution, on his home State of Maryland, and on America.

Now, it is no surprise that BEN and I became so close—and, frankly, our wives, Iris and Myrna, have become very close friends—because we are cut from the same cloth. We both began our careers in the State assembly before coming to Congress.

BEN, I believe, stayed—he was elected when he was 23 years old, as I was, to the assembly. And we both have strong Jewish values. We are both known for showing up to any event, big or small. We both married up. And another thing, we took great inspiration from our fathers.

When BEN was just 23 years old and a newly elected member of the Maryland House of Delegates, his father told him something that BEN still draws upon to this day:

He had something people worked for a lifetime for . . . the opportunity to make a difference.

BEN has made an immense difference in Maryland, whether you are enjoying the beautiful views of the Chesapeake Bay, which BEN has fought so ardently to restore, protect, and conserve; or riding the many roads and bridges and trails and rails across Maryland that BEN helped secure billions in Federal funding for; or talking to the millions of Marylanders who today have access to better health and dental care and the promise of a secure retirement because of BEN's efforts. BEN has been a difference maker.

As chair of the Foreign Relations Committee, he has made a huge difference on human rights and foreign policy. When I asked BEN last year to serve as chair, I knew he would be up to the task, and he sure was. Despite the many challenges facing America at home and abroad, BEN is one of the reasons that America has the power today to hold accountable the gross violators

of human rights, even when their home countries fail to act.

He worked closely with Senator John McCain on this and the Magnitsky Act, and so many ramifications of what was done to Magnitsky inspired BEN, and he moved forward on legislation in that regard.

As chair of Small Business, he made a difference for Main Street businesses, especially in the pandemic. I worked closely with BEN to make sure small businesses would get the money that they needed. Because of his leadership, the small business economy—and we worked together to get nonprofits, when I said our churches and our synagogues and our mosques and our theaters and our museums needed help as well, BEN joined me, and they were saved.

And he made a difference on many other issues, coleading legislation to affirm the ratification of the ERA, the Equal Rights Amendment; serving as cochair of the Helsinki Commission; and more.

The reason BEN was able to accomplish so much was because he took the road less traveled here in Congress, oftentimes. He put substance over flash. He delved deeply into issues, got to their roots, and then worked across the aisle.

He was all about details: What was the problem? Who was it affecting? Who can I find common ground with? Those are questions he asked.

That has been him from his first day in office, and it will be him until his last—smart, decent, humble, loyal, hard-working; a great man, a great Senator, and a great friend.

We will miss him deeply. But Iris and I continue every year—Myrna and BEN would come up to New York, and we would go to see Shakespeare in the Park. We did it for the last 10 years or so. BEN and Myrna, that tradition will continue, as will our friendship, but we will miss you.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

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

The assistant bill clerk proceeded to call 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.

NLRB

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, on January 20, 2021, President Biden broke with longstanding precedent and fired the general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board. I guess if you campaign on establishing “the most pro-union administration in American history,” then replacing duly appointed officials with Big Labor acolytes is certainly a day one priority. As we know, this was an area where the President really did do his level best to make good on his campaign promises.

Setting aside his Acting Secretary of Labor’s record presiding over perhaps the biggest state UI fraud in American history, President Biden’s NLRB has worked overtime to pollute employer-employee relations across the country with vague new standards, distort longstanding free speech principles, and wage all-out war on small business franchisers.

The NLRB member who has held primary responsibility for executing on the Biden Big Labor agenda is its Chair, Lauren McFerran, and she is up for confirmation to another term.

If the Board’s public actions over the last 4 years are not telling enough, I would urge our colleagues to consider the gross mismanagement on Ms. McFerran’s watch that took an independent inspector general report to uncover—serious violations of electoral procedures and coverup attempts, to boot. This is to say nothing of the fact that her confirmation would give a lameduck President control of an independent Board well into his successor’s term.

In this case, there are any number of reasons not to reward bad behavior, and whichever our colleagues choose, I hope they will join me in opposing the McFerran nomination tomorrow.

FEDERAL JUDICIARY

Mr. President, on another matter, regarding the Federal judiciary, its membership, its independence, and its ethics, I have often found myself at increasingly stark odds with many of my Democratic colleagues. It is unfortunate, but I don’t intend to stop policing the separation of powers any sooner than the left stops trying to undermine it.

But over the last year, one corner of the judiciary’s operation where the Senate rightly holds sway has become the site of rare bipartisan agreement, and that is Federal courts’ capacity to hear and decide cases in a timely manner.

Across the country, Federal district courts’ case backlogs are preventing them from rendering swift justice. This past spring, the judiciary’s own data recorded a 1-year uptick in civil filings before district courts of 22 percent.

The solution to this clear challenge—more district judgeships—has earned wide support. In April, the senior Senator from Indiana introduced legislation that would steadily apportion larger benches to districts across the country over the next decade.

In August, the JUDGES Act passed the Senate by unanimous consent, proving that the right to a speedy trial still enjoys overwhelming popularity. I was particularly encouraged by the vocal endorsement of my friend the Democratic leader, who recognized the measure as a “very responsible, bipartisan, and prudent bill” that would lead to “a better functioning judiciary.” Soon, we expect to House to take up and pass the JUDGES Act with similar overwhelming support.

Normally, we could rest assured that such popular action would be signed

into law without further ado, but maybe not this time. Last week, the White House seemed to suggest, through anonymous comment, that President Biden had concerns with the bill. I, for one, would be curious to hear the President’s rationale. It is hard to imagine a justification for blocking the JUDGES Act that doesn’t smack of naked partisanship. It is almost inconceivable that a lameduck President would consider vetoing such an obviously prudential step for any reason other than selfish spite.

Litigants across America deserve their day in court, and they deserve to know the Federal judiciary has the bandwidth to carefully and thoroughly consider their cases. The President—a former chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee—is well-equipped to appreciate this fact, and I hope he acts accordingly.

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.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, 10 million. Between official U.S. Customs and Border Protection encounters and known “got-aways,” there have been roughly 10 million migrant encounters at our southern border during the Biden-Harris administration.

To put that number in perspective, that is roughly 10 times the population of my home State of South Dakota. Ten million is larger than the population of Colorado. It is larger than the population of Tennessee. It is larger than the population of Maryland, of Massachusetts, of Indiana. I could keep going. Ten million is larger than the population of the vast majority of U.S. States.

Needless to say, a crisis of this size has had consequences. Shelters have been overwhelmed. Border cities have been overwhelmed. Blue cities far from the border have been overwhelmed. Border Patrol agents are exhausted, as their Chief noted in an interview last week.

I haven’t even mentioned the national security implications. There is no question that the chaos at our southern border represents a serious security risk for our country. And you don’t have to take my word for it. The Department of Homeland Security’s 2025 threat assessment notes:

Over the next year, we expect some individuals with terrorism ties and some criminal actors will continue their efforts to exploit migration flows and the complex border security environment to enter the United States.

That is from the Biden Department of Homeland Security’s 2025 threat assessment.

The June arrest of 8 Tajikistan nationals with suspected ties to ISIS who had illegally entered the country as well as the identification of more than 400 migrants who used an ISIS-affiliated smuggling network to enter the United States are just two examples of the kinds of threats we face.

Then there is the fact that chaos at the border creates opportunities for cross-border illegal activity, like the deadly trade in fentanyl, which affects communities around our country. My State of South Dakota is about as far away from the southern border as you can get, but law enforcement officials consistently tell me that the illegal drugs they are dealing with have entered the country across our southern border.

Four years of recordbreaking illegal immigration at our southern border under the Biden-Harris administration. Ten million encounters—and those are the migrants that we know of. It has been a dangerous 4 years, but the end is in sight. When President Trump and Republicans take control in January, stemming the flood of illegal immigration will be one of our first priorities. Under Republicans, national security here at home, at our borders and in our communities, will be just as important as taking care of our national security priorities abroad.

We are going to start right away with a once-in-a-generation investment in border security and immigration enforcement here in Congress. Among other things, that package will include substantial resources to increase the number of Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers and Border Patrol agents, increase detention space, and provide the barriers and technology we need to fully secure the border.

There is a lot of work to do and a big mess to clean up.

A recent article reported that there are around 1.4 million individuals who have been ordered to be deported but are still here in the United States, and most of them are not in immigration custody. And that is just one small corner of the problem.

As I said, we have a lot of work to do, but Republicans are committed, for the sake of our national security and for the sake of our rule of law. Four years of recordbreaking illegal immigration, but the end is in sight.

I yield the floor.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

CHINA

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, Joseph Stalin was rumored to have once said:

We will hang the capitalists with the rope they sell us.

Unfortunately, the United States has been selling the Chinese Communist

Party a lot of rope in recent years. At this very moment, American entities are fueling China's aggression by funneling huge amounts of capital into capabilities that could eventually be used against the United States and our allies. From advanced semiconductors to quantum computing to artificial intelligence it is high time that the United States becomes serious about limiting the flow of U.S. dollars into the arsenal of our biggest strategic adversary.

By some estimates, U.S. investments in Chinese communities totaled more than \$2.3 trillion in market value in 2020. That is American investments in Chinese companies—\$2.3 trillion in market value at the end of 2020. That includes \$21 billion in semiconductors, \$54 billion in military companies, and a whopping \$221 billion in artificial intelligence. According to a report from the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, "The United States is the most important foreign source of investment to semiconductors, quantum computing, and AI in China."

Because of China's strategy of military-civil fusion, these investments are not simply benefiting China's economy; they are directly bolstering China's military. China is the greatest national security threat of our time. I think we all understand that, and it is incomprehensible to me that American investors are continuing to bankroll its rise, and we are essentially blind to what that scale and what the focus of those investments really are.

The Chinese Communist Party has become increasingly aggressive in its efforts to gain power and influence, embracing illicit tactics like intellectual property theft, forced technology transfer, and predatory lending. According to findings of the House Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party, China subsidizes the sale of fentanyl and illicit narcotics abroad and has fueled addiction and death in the United States. The Drug Enforcement Administration reports that fentanyl is the leading cause of death among Americans between the ages of 18 and 45. We know where the precursors are coming from. We know where they go—to Mexico—and then they are combined and then produced to look like normal pharmaceutical drugs, much to the chagrin and misery and death of so many of our young people. And then, 2 years ago, the United States intercepted a surveillance balloon from China that crossed across our country.

Meanwhile the Chinese Communist Party continues to assert excessive and illegal maritime boundary claims in the South China Sea, at times using force against our treaty ally, the Philippines, when they have attempted to resupply their ship near the Second Thomas Shoal. President Xi has ordered the Chinese military to be ready and capable of taking Taiwan by force in 2027—just 2 years from now.

So it should go without saying that the United States should exercise cau-

tion before continuing to sell the Chinese Communist Party rope in the form of sensitive technology, like advanced semiconductors and artificial intelligence.

I have been working with my colleagues here to address legislation that would provide some transparency for this outbound investment from the United States to the PRC. Last year, the Senate made good progress on this issue by including a provision to address outbound investment transparency in the Senate-passed National Defense Authorization Act. The Senate voted 91 to 6 to include my amendment in the NDAA last year, showing an overwhelming bipartisan consensus on the need to address this issue. We all know how hard it is to find consensus around here. A 60-vote threshold can be hard to come by on many important issues, but upward of 90 votes should send a clear message that this issue is one that we deem of utmost importance on a bipartisan basis. We all are acutely aware of our competition with China and our need to counter some of China's aggression, and including prohibitions on certain outbound investments is a critical step to that end.

I must say we have had some great partners in the House. I want to thank, in particular, JOHN MOLENAAR, chair of the Select Committee on the Chinese Communist Party; Congressman MICHAEL MCCAUL, chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the House; and Speaker of the House of Representatives MIKE JOHNSON, who have all contributed to our efforts to advance this issue, but this isn't where the story ends.

The Senate has—or had—another opportunity to include these provisions in the Defense Authorization Act this year, but House minority leader HAKEEM JEFFRIES chose to block these provisions. One person is standing in the way. It is simply unconscionable that anyone who claims to care about the China threat would be opposed to outbound investment transparency, and it is unacceptable to play political games with such an essential national security provision.

I understand, over the last day, Leader JEFFRIES has listened to the voice of reason and come back to the negotiating table. And I am hopeful that these conversations will continue to be productive and yield a positive outcome. The national security of our country depends on it, and we must not squander this opportunity to confront the Chinese Communist Party. Time is running out.

We all know that we are living in the most dangerous time since World War II. Our adversaries are not shy about the fact that they are working together. Earlier this year, China and Russia pledged to deepen their trust and cooperation, while they have continued to conduct joint military exercises. North Korea has sent 10,000 troops to Russia, and some intelligence estimates suggest they may be willing

to provide up to 100,000 soldiers in the coming months, from North Korea to Russia, to fight in Ukraine.

Meanwhile, Iran and its proxies have been attacking U.S. shipments in the Red Sea and have launched a terrorist attack against our greatest strategic ally in the Middle East, which is Israel. It is no secret—it is well-known—that China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea are working in concert to undermine American interests and to threaten the stability of the global world order. So we should not add our name to the list by helping them with the gift of unrestrained, nontransparent American investment.

I would urge all of our colleagues to not let politics stand in the way of our national security. We cannot stand by and continue selling the communists in China the rope they will use to hang the United States of America.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Missouri.

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 10 minutes prior to the scheduled roll-call vote.

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

RADIATION EXPOSURE COMPENSATION ACT

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, we are come to the end now of 2024, to the end of another legislative session—indeed, to the end of another Congress. And before this Congress congratulates itself on finishing its legislative work next week, I must come again here to this floor and remind my colleagues that hundreds of thousands of good Americans are still waiting for this Congress to act, waiting for justice to be done in their cases.

I am talking about the hundreds of thousands of Americans who have been poisoned by nuclear radiation by their own government. I am talking about the people of St. Louis, MO, an original uranium processing site dating back to the Manhattan Project 50, 60 years ago now.

The people of St. Louis did their duty proudly, patriotically; but the government didn't do right by them. What did the government do when the Manhattan Project was shut down? The government took that nuclear waste, that radioactive material, and dumped it into a public landfill. They allowed it to seep into our groundwater. They allowed it to be distributed across the region so that now, in the greater St. Louis area and the greater St. Charles area, thousands upon thousands of Missourians have been exposed to nuclear waste and radiation for decades.

And even as I stand here today, the radiation continues. The groundwater is still in doubt. Coldwater Creek is still contaminated. Just a few weeks ago, the Army Corps of Engineers discovered additional nuclear radioactive material under residents' homes in suburban St. Louis. Weldon Spring is still not fully remediated. And no one—I emphasize "no one"—in the State of

Missouri has received a dime in compensation from the Federal Government for the decades of radioactive exposure that this government forced upon them.

And the people of Missouri are not alone. The same story is repeated over and over in places like New Mexico and Arizona and in Idaho and in Colorado and in Wyoming and Montana—and I could go on—hundreds of thousands of Americans, exposed through no fault of their own, many of them veterans, I might add, many of them miners who went to work in uranium mines to provide the critical material that allowed us to support our nuclear program, that allowed us to win both the Second World War and the Cold War.

And what has the U.S. Government done for these good Americans—veterans, laymen, one and all? What has the government done for them? Nothing. It has exposed them to nuclear radiation and done nothing.

That is why this body finally acted this year, passing with a huge bipartisan majority legislation that would finally compensate and honor those Americans who served their country, who gave their health and in many cases, yes, gave their lives for this country's national security as part of our nuclear program.

Mr. President, while this body has acted, the House has not. And here we are now, at the end of this calendar year, at the end of this legislative session; and because the House has waited and because the House has stalled and because the House has failed to act, the Radiation Exposure Compensation Program has now fully expired—fully expired—so that no American, no veteran, no one across the country who has been exposed by the government to this radioactive waste—not a single person has been compensated for the cancers that they have contracted, compensated for the loved ones whom they have lost to radioactive-related diseases—nobody. It is completely dark. No one is getting anything.

And now we are told, Mr. President, that at this eleventh hour, after this body has passed legislation, not once but twice, to fairly compensate these good Americans, after this body has acted to ensure that these good Americans get the justice that they deserve, now, at this eleventh hour, after the House has allowed the program to expire, we are told that now House leadership is considering a backroom deal, a backroom deal to be shoved into an end-of-the-year package next week that would select just a few counties in one State, the State of Utah—just a few counties to compensate and exclude everybody else. I cannot emphasize to the Presiding Officer enough what an offense this would be.

For months now, victims have met with House leadership and negotiated with them a path forward. I have negotiated with House leadership. Many here have engaged in this effort to find a way to get the House to act and com-

pensate these good Americans who have been poisoned. And now, at this last minute, for House leadership to be preparing, as reports indicate they are, to shove down the throats of these victims across the country a backroom deal that excludes almost all of them—almost all of them—is not only unacceptable, but it is absolutely offensive. It is unjust. It is wrong.

President Reagan used to say that sometimes there really are simple answers, just not easy ones. Let's be direct about this. What House leadership is considering here, there is a simple way to describe it: It is wrong. It is just flat out wrong. There is no more nuance needed than that.

And who will suffer if House leadership puts up a backroom deal, rigged for only a few insiders, excluding most of the country? Who will suffer? I will tell you who will suffer. It will be people like the young children of Jana Elementary in my home State of Missouri, an elementary school that had to close over a year ago because of continuing radioactive contamination right there in the St. Louis area. This elementary school is right near the creek that is still contaminated. The entire school had to shut down. Who knows how many children had been exposed, by the way, before that happened. The entire school closed. It is still closed. It will remain closed, and every child will remain uncompensated and exposed until the House chooses to act.

Think about Leslie Begay, a member of the Navajo Nation. No one contributed more to the defense of this country than the proud members of the Navajo Nation. In the Second World War, in the Cold War, and still today, their rates of volunteer service for our military are higher than any other community in the entire country. And nobody suffered more from the fallout of the nuclear program than the Navajo Nation, including Leslie, who has had a double lung transplant.

If the House fails to act, if the House forces a backroom deal through this body, Leslie and thousands of others like him will be uncompensated, will be unhonored, will be unrecognized. It is wrong, Mr. President.

Consider Claire, a young girl from Missouri, diagnosed with a radiation-related illness when she was born, going through chemotherapy when she was just a child, age 2.

Consider Bernice Gutierrez, from the great State of New Mexico. Every member of Bernice's family for three generations now has had cancer and multiple radiation-related illnesses because they were downwind of the original Oppenheimer tests that carried that radioactive nuclear cloud over so much of our country.

Consider Zach Visintine from the State of Missouri: born with cancer, died at the age of 2. He never had a chance. Why? Well, because his mother grew up along Coldwater Creek in the St. Louis region of Missouri that is still, to this day, contaminated.

None of these people—none of them—have been helped by their government with the expenses, with the losses, with the pain that the government forced on them—not a one of them.

Mr. President, it is time to act, and I want to be crystal clear about this. If the House persists, if House leadership persists and attempts to force into a CR package a partial, backroom, special-interest deal that excludes these good people, I will object; and if they come to this body asking for a time agreement at the end of the session to pass that package, I will object.

I want to be clear about this. There is no way forward for a partial, backroom deal—no way. I will stand in the way, on behalf of every one of these Americans, as long as it takes, until justice is done. This is the time. This body has acted, and I call on the House to act. What we should do instead of their backroom deal is pass what this body has already passed: generous compensation—fair, just compensation, with a spending limit, that will fairly honor, recognize, and help these good Americans who deserve it. This isn't a handout; this is justice. This is recognition of what these good Americans have done and what they have suffered.

You know, we are near upon Christmas now, and it is sort of old-fashioned, but it used to be around Christmastime sometimes we would talk about the Christmas feeling or the Christian feeling. Well, I would just observe this: What does that Christian feeling consist of if not, in the words of Micah, “doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with our God”? This is a chance, I might just say, to do just that: to do justice, to show kindness, to fulfill our duty to our fellow Americans.

The Scripture admonishes us to be not just hearers but doers as well. As this year comes to a close, let's be doers of justice. Let's be demonstrators of kindness. Let's do what is right by our fellow Americans. Let's honor our countrymen for what they have done. Let's right this wrong finally, this 50-year wrong. Let's right it. Let's end the year and end the Congress with this historic righting of a wrong, and then we can say to our constituents and to our fellow Americans “Merry Christmas.” Then we can say we have truly done our jobs here.

Until that time, Mr. President, I will be here, I will be standing, and I will be advocating on their behalf.

I yield the floor.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Keli Marie Neary, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania.

NOMINATION OF KELI M. NEARY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Keli Marie Neary to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. She is an accomplished litigator who has devoted her entire legal career to public service in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

After receiving her undergraduate degree from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and her law degree from Widener University Commonwealth Law School, Ms. Neary clerked on the 41st Judicial District of Pennsylvania for Perry and Juniata Counties.

Following her clerkship, Ms. Neary served as an assistant counsel in the Governor's Office of General Counsel, assigned to the Pennsylvania State Police's Office of Chief Counsel. She specialized in enforcement of the Gaming Act, personnel litigation, contract interpretation, and firearms-related due process hearings.

Since 2012, Ms. Neary has worked at the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General (OAG), currently serving as the executive deputy attorney general for the civil law division. At the OAG, she represents and defends a broad array of different government agencies, officials, and employees in matters before State and Federal courts and defends constitutional challenges to Pennsylvania statutes and regulations.

Over the course of her career, Ms. Neary has tried 13 cases to verdict. She has also participated in the briefing of hundreds of trial and appellate matters in State and Federal courts and argued numerous motions and injunctions.

Ms. Neary has the strong support of her home State Senators, Mr. CASEY and Mr. FETTERMAN. In addition, she was unanimously rated “qualified” by the American Bar Association.

I urge my colleagues to support Ms. Neary's nomination.

VOTE ON NEARY NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Neary nomination?

Mr. CRAPO. 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 Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

Mr. THUNE. The following Senator is necessarily absent: the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE).

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 48, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 318 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Baldwin	Cardin	Durbin
Bennet	Carper	Fetterman
Blumenthal	Casey	Gillibrand
Booker	Coons	Hassan
Brown	Cortez Masto	Heinrich
Cantwell	Duckworth	Hickenlooper

Hirono	Ossoff	Stabenow
Kaine	Padilla	Tester
Kelly	Peters	Van Hollen
Kim	Reed	Warner
King	Rosen	Warnock
Klobuchar	Sanders	Warren
Lujan	Schatz	Welch
Manchin	Schiff	Whitehouse
Merkley	Schumer	Wyden
Murphy	Shaheen	
Murray	Smith	

NAYS—48

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

NOT VOTING—3

Markey	Sinema	Vance
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. PADILLA). Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The Senator from Minnesota.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, on behalf of the majority leader, at 3:45 p.m. today, I ask the Chair to execute the order of November 20 with respect to the Dixon nomination.

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

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:42 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 Maryland.

FAREWELL TO THE SENATE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to say good-bye, as difficult as this may be.

Marylanders have trusted me to represent them for 20 years in the Maryland General Assembly, 8 years as speaker of the house, 20 years in the House of Representatives, and 18 years in the U.S. Senate, including now chairing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Let me start by thanking Marylanders for giving me your trust to represent you in this august body. You have supported me in 18 elections. The Hebrew letter for 18 is chai, which also means life—58 years of my life.

My grandparents came to this country over 100 years ago to escape the pogroms of Europe, and they settled in

Baltimore and built a life for their family. Their grandson now serves in the U.S. Senate. This is a great country.

Marylanders have allowed me to pursue my ambition of public service, to help others whose voices and needs are often ignored in the halls of power. In my family, I was taught from a young age that it is our responsibility to make the world a better place—*tikkun olam*, repair the world—and help those who are less fortunate and are in need—*tzedakah*, charity.

These principles were demonstrated to me by the communal activities of my parents. These principles—these values—have been my North Star that has guided my public service as a legislator. Of course, the work of a legislator is not always easy. It requires perseverance, patience, a sense of humor, and optimism that we can make the world a better place, even in the face of often horrible, seemingly insurmountable challenges.

But as I look back at my time here, it is the hardest battles that were some of the most rewarding. Each one reflects the values I cherish and the collective will to help make the world around us and our communities a better place to live.

On the Senate Finance Committee, I have had a front seat advancing health policy. I was fortunate to serve with the champion of healthcare, Senator Ted Kennedy. He was a mentor to me as to steps we can take so that all Americans have access to affordable, quality healthcare.

Healthcare should be a right for everyone in this country and not a privilege only for those who can afford it.

I was proud to be part of the Congress that passed the Affordable Care Act. That law included my legislation that elevated the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities at NIH. As much progress as this has brought, the struggle for healthcare equality continues.

Today, Medicare coverage includes legislation I authored for screening and preventive care, saving lives and dollars. And all health insurance now covers pediatric dental care, which was legislation I authored after the tragic death of Demonte Driver, a 12-year-old in Maryland whose life could have been saved with a simple tooth extraction.

I partnered with Senator Rob Portman in both the House and in the Senate to expand retirement security, particularly for lower wage workers. Thanks to legislation we coauthored that has been enacted into law, more employers are providing opportunities for their employees to participate in retirement plans. Our legislation included a saver's credit for lower wage workers and automatic enrollment provisions that have dramatically increased participation by employees. In the last 10 years, participation in retirement savings for the lowest income quintile of Americans has increased by 135 percent.

In affordable housing and economic development in underserved communities, I have worked with Senator CANTWELL on improvements to the low-income housing tax credit. I have authored successful legislation to expand the new markets tax credits and historic tax credits, which have been used for economic development and affordable housing opportunities across Maryland and our Nation.

Examples of the use of these tools in Maryland include the Justice Thurgood Marshall Center in Baltimore, the Natty Boh building in Baltimore, and the Wiley H. Bates Legacy Center in Annapolis. And, yes, just yesterday, Senator VAN HOLLEN and I were at the Southern Stream Health and Wellness Center, which used new markets tax credits with Bishop Hickman, which is energizing and revitalizing communities in East Baltimore.

On the Environment and Public Works Committee, I have had the opportunity to expand the Federal Government's commitment to our infrastructure. The recently enacted bipartisan infrastructure law included many of my priorities. For example, it included funding for reconnecting communities that had been divided and disadvantaged through ill-conceived transportation projects. The poster child for this initiative is the Franklin-Mulberry corridor in Baltimore. It was not surprising that Baltimore received funding in the first round of Federal grants.

I am equally proud of the expansion of the Transportation Alternatives Program, or TAP. I was the author of the TAP program, which allows governments to make their own priority decisions on the use of part of the Federal highway funds. That has been a favorite source of funds to provide trails for local communities that connect neighborhoods for walkers and bikers, including, for example, the rehabilitation of the C&O Towpath in Washington, Frederick, and Montgomery Counties.

Myrna and I take advantage of these paths to absorb the beauty of our communities that are now connected through paths and trails.

Older communities still have lead pipes bringing drinking water into their homes and schools, threatening the health of our children. The bipartisan infrastructure law provides significant help to eliminate this public health threat, including \$82 million in Federal grants for Maryland. It also provides unprecedented increases in transit funding, a priority of mine which is particularly important to traditionally underserved and underrepresented communities.

This law allows Maryland to move forward again with the transit Red Line in Baltimore. Funding for Amtrak enabled Baltimore to begin construction of the Frederick Douglass Tunnel to expedite travel along the Northeast corridor.

One of my top priorities as a Maryland Senator has been to promote the

health of the Chesapeake Bay, and the Federal partnership has been essential in this cause. The bay is a national treasure, the largest estuary in our hemisphere and iconic to Maryland. It is in our DNA, particularly important to our economy and our way of life.

I first started fighting for the bay in the Maryland General Assembly. When I was speaker of the house, I partnered with Governor Harry Hughes to establish the multi-State effort to save the bay. It led to the partnership with six States and the District of Columbia and the Federal Bay Program.

Maryland Senators have taken the Federal lead, starting with Senator Mac Matthias, then Senators Paul Sarbanes and Barbara Mikulski, and now Senator CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and myself.

During my years in the Senate, I have worked with my colleagues to increase funds for the bay, including the EPA, NOAA, the Army Corps of Engineers, wastewater treatment funds, watershed grant funds, agriculture land preservation funds, oyster restoration funds, removal of invasive species—from the nutria to the blue catfish—and many, many more.

I particularly want to note with pride funding for Poplar Island and Mid-Bay—location for dredging disposals—that have been used for environmental restoration and a non-controversial location necessary to keep our channels commercially competitive.

Our work on the Chesapeake Bay is working and has become a global model of multijurisdictional cooperation.

The Environment and Public Works Committee helps each region of our country that suffers from a catastrophic event that destroys infrastructure. I thank the leadership of the committee for reaching out to Maryland after the tragic loss of the Francis Scott Key Bridge. The Biden administration has been there every step of the way to help Maryland, and I am confident that Congress will provide the resources and authority to move forward on the construction of the new bridge as quickly as possible.

I have been both a chair and ranking member on the Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committee. I am so proud of the bipartisan work of the committee, working with Senator RUBIO, particularly during COVID. The historic relief packages we designed not only saved many small businesses but truly helped to save our economy during the pandemic.

I am particularly proud of the focus I brought to help traditionally underserved communities. Senator WARNER and I worked to provide support for the CDFIs so financing options were available in underbanked communities. Including nonprofits and returning citizens to the program once again provided help and services in often forgotten neighborhoods.

During my chairmanship, Maryland expanded from one to four women's business centers. Two are located at

HBCUs. In addition, Maryland opened its first Veterans Business Outreach Center. Because of these programs, small businesses are thriving in Maryland, especially those led by women and, particularly, women of color.

My service in Congress built on my record of inclusion started with my service in the Maryland General Assembly. As a Baltimore City legislator, I fought for equalization in State educational funds to favor poorer property wealth jurisdictions, such as Baltimore City. I helped develop the Maryland hospital all-payer rate system for equal healthcare access regardless of economic circumstances. Under this system, Maryland has avoided having charity hospitals. As a Member of the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate, I have helped preserve and strengthen the Maryland hospital rate system.

I was the leader in the State of Maryland for the development of the Circuit Breaker Property Tax Credit Program, which allows seniors to remain in their homes.

And as speaker of the house, I appointed the first woman and the first African American to chair a standing committee.

One of my proudest accomplishments as a legislator came in the U.S. Senate. It was the passage and enactment of the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act. This law was inspired by the death of Sergei Magnitsky, a Russian tax attorney who was murdered, 15 years ago last month, for uncovering corruption. His story has been told to the world by his client Bill Browder and came to my attention as the chair of the Helsinki Commission.

When I was first elected to Congress in 1987, my family was deeply involved in the cause of getting Soviet Jews out of the Soviet Union. My wife Myrna was a leader of the Maryland Committee for Soviet Jewry. My close friend, Representative STENY HOYER, chaired the U.S. Helsinki Commission that took up the cause of Soviet Jews and gave me the opportunity to become involved. STENY and I traveled together to several countries behind the Iron Curtain to give hope to those who were living in countries where their leaders denied their citizens basic human rights.

So when Sergei Magnitsky was killed, it was clear to me that those who violated his basic rights needed to be held accountable, even if the Russian Government refused to act. The Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act targeted those individuals who were complicit in his jailing and murder. It blocked these individuals from enjoying the benefits of America, from traveling to our country and using our banking system. It put their reputation, ability to travel, and access to their assets at risk.

These policies were influenced by Senator Scoop Jackson's legislation, the Jackson-Vanik Law, that denied trade privileges to countries that

blocked their citizens from emigrating. When Jackson-Vanik was repealed because its purpose had been accomplished, it was appropriate that that legislation was used as the vehicle to replace Jackson-Vanik with Magnitsky.

The original Magnitsky Law focused on human rights abuses in Russia, and, in 2016, I authored the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act, which expanded the legislation around the world.

These laws have given birth to a whole new international legal framework for upholding human rights and deterring corrupt actors. The European Union and other governments around the world have replicated the Magnitsky system. As of this year, the U.S. program has sanctioned more than 650 foreign persons and entities.

But I have to underline a really important point. These laws were not easy to pass. The pushback from Russia alone was historic and continues to this day. But it was the bipartisan support that allowed these bills to make it through the process. I want to acknowledge Senators Dick Lugar, John McCain, and ROGER WICKER, my partners in getting the Magnitsky Laws enacted. As a result, they have not only been enacted, but they have been very effective.

Despite setbacks and opposition, we never gave up hope, and, today, corrupt leaders fear the Magnitsky sanctions. The safety of human rights defenders has benefited from these laws.

Over and over again, in my work as a legislator, I have seen the importance of never giving up. Across my years in Congress, I have seen what I thought would be a dream come true. I have seen the Soviet Jews liberated from the former Soviet Union, the Berlin Wall torn down, former communist-controlled countries now NATO allies, and political prisoners released to freedom. It is great to see my friend Vladimir Kara-Murza free from being imprisoned in Russia.

As Vaclav Havel, the reform leader of the Czech Republic, said, "There is only one thing I will not concede: that it might be meaningless to strive in a good cause." Each of us can make a difference. Never give up hope.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., said, "Everybody can be great, because everybody can serve."

As my friend and classmate in the House of Representatives—along with my classmate KWEISI MFUME—Representative John Lewis, said, we should all be willing to get into "good trouble."

As that famous philosopher from Baltimore, Babe Ruth, stated, "Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game."

I often speak about the need for a value-based approach to policymaking. This has rung true in healthcare and the environment, promoting a dignified retirement, creating economic opportunities for all. Perhaps nowhere has

this been more fundamental than when it comes to foreign policy and national security.

President Biden got it right when he spoke about our international engagement. He said:

We must start with diplomacy rooted in America's most [cherished] democratic values: defending freedom, championing opportunity, upholding universal rights, respecting the rule of law, and treating every person with dignity.

As chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I made promoting value-based foreign policy decisions a top priority. In addition to the Magnitsky Act, I am especially proud of my work with TODD YOUNG on the Combating Global Corruption Act that was enacted in 2023. That legislation requires each of our Embassies around the world to evaluate how effective the country in which our Embassy is located is in fighting corruption. The model used for this legislation is similar to the trafficking in persons tier rankings and reports, with consequences against countries that are not making acceptable progress to improve their rankings against human trafficking.

Leading globally against human trafficking and corruption is America's value-based foreign policy at its finest. America's strength is in our values. We need to lead globally with our strength.

My ability to promote legislation and policies that uphold core universal values was made possible because of my incredible partners, because of their deep values and commitment. There is no way I could have achieved what I have been able to achieve if it weren't for my incredible staff. Their loyalty, their dedication to public service, and their talent made the Cardin Team.

In 38 years in Congress, I have only had two chiefs—Dave Koshgarian and Chris Lynch. Both led by example and recruited the very best to public service.

For over 25 years, Debbie Yamada has attempted to manage the impossible—me.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a complete list of the staff I have been blessed to have during my terms in the U.S. Senate.

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

SENATOR BEN CARDIN'S STAFF
HOUSE AND SENATE

Derek Abrams, Femeia Adamson, Geoffrey Alexander, Audrey Allen, Kevin Alvarez, Beatrice Amoateng, Nina Anand, Michelle Ash, Carleton Atkinson, Elizabeth Baden, Bhavjeet Basson, Katharine Beamer, Beth Bell, Jill Berger, Shameka Bloyce, Tommy Bredar, Carol Brey, Helen Brocato, Royce Brooks, Shailee Bruck, Andy Buchsbaum, Katie Byerly, LaJuan Calhoun, Heather Campbell, David Carroll.

Sean Cavanaugh, Staphanie Chin, Mark Clack, Benjamin Clark, Erin Clarke, Katherine Close, Renee Cohen, Jonathan Cohen, Joel Cohen, Andre Coleman, Angel Colon-Rivera, Jessica Cook, Titus Cornell, Katie

Corr, Shayna Cram, Martha Cramer, Loraine Crompton, Debbie Curtis, Amy Daiger, Jennifer Dailey, Destiny Davis, Gil de Jesus, Sandra Delaney, Meera Dheer, Megan Dickey.

Teresa Dingboom, Amy diRusso, Nia Duggins, Geni Dunnells, Lauren Dunnock, Venetta Edwards, Andy Elias, Michael Enright, Danny Evans, Lienna Feleke-Eshete, Karen Fields, Bailey Fine, Philip Flannery, Weezie Foster, Chris Fowler, Shannon Frede, Nellie Freeman, Daniel Friedman, Michelle Galdamez, Laura Gamble, Flannery Geoghegan, Caleb Gibson, Sarah Gisriel, Caroline Goodbody, Linda Grahne.

Max Green, Sarah Greenberger, Walt Greenhalgh, Jesse Haladay, Stephen Ham, Peter Hammen, Tiffany Hannon, Denise Harrison, Jarryd Hawkins, Margo Hecht, Bill Henry, Mike Henry, Jonathan Heppen, Yvonne Hernandez, Jim Hettleman, Shelly Hettleman, Julia Hooks, Alexandra Hughes, Anne Irby, Jolene Ivey, Joshua Izaak, Ann Jacobs, Lauren Jee, Rachel Jessee, Dina Johns.

Emily Johnson, Katherine Johnson, Rachel Jones, Dana Jones, Matthew Kasper, Sue Kopen Katcef, Jenn Kaufmann, Matt Kearney, David Klein, Josh Klein, Stephen Knable, Shane Knisley, Dave Koshgarian, Sam Koshgarian, Rori Kramer, Kimberly Kratovil, Vikram (Vik) Kulkarni, Flip Kreitner, Patricia Kullen, Aiko Lane, Jordan Law, Annalisa Leandri, Ann Lee, Renae Lee, Liz Leibowitz.

Joyce Leviton, Roderick Lewis, Unice Lieberman, Arnell Limberry, Paige Linardi, Alicia Linthicum-Amos, Chris Lynch, Lindsey MacGregor, Kevin Mack, Colin Maczka, Joe Mastrangelo, Bill Mathias, Hammad Matin, Chris Matthai, Gray Maxwell, Sean McClintock, Joe McKelvey, Sean McKew, Marlon Medrano, Tomas Melia, Tom Melia, Elise Mellinger, Alexandra Menardy, Ian Mendelsohn, Amanda Mendoza.

Dawana Merritt, Rob Metz, Ryan Middleton, Michele Moghis, Katherine Mongé, Elysa Montfort, Sean Moore, Michael Morgan, Demetrius Morris, Erin Morton, Mary Jo Neville, Jonathan Ng, Aaron Ng, Anh Nguyen, Bianca Oden, Jinmi Odunlami, Katie O'Neill, Stephanie Oviedo, Sanjay Palat, Shivani Pampati, Lydia Parker, Marga Pasternak, Bill Paton, Brianna Paterson.

Corinne Paul, Ashley Peddicord-Austin, Alex Pederson, Lynn Pekkanen, Jessica Pellegrino, Carolyn Perlmutter, Andrew Perlstein, Chris Pumphrey, Ken Reichard, Andrew Remo, Joyce Revell, Edgar Rodriguez, Lucia Rodriguez, Helen Rogers, Joan Rombro, Erwin Rose, Lauren Rosenthal, Priscilla Ross, Algene Sajery, Isaac Salazar, Abdul Saneer, Joe Sangillo, Valli Sanmugalingam, Rita Santibanez, Sandy Sause.

Mariel Schwartz, Jodi Schwartz, Joe Scovitch, Lily Anna Segalman, Habiba Shebita, David Shulman, Oren Shur, Tessa Silverman, Katie Sloan, Kyle Smith, Arnold Solamillos, Danyelle Solomon, Sierra Solomon, Paul Somers, Matthew Spikes, Charlie Stek, Jerome Stephens, Sarah Stevens, Ron Storhaug, Susan Sullam, Robin Summerfield, Kelly Swaine, Dea Thomas, Mike Thomas.

William Tucker, Jen Tuddenham, James Ulwick, Juan Urcia-Barea, Bill Van Horne, Thalia Venetoulis, Mary Vrabel, Susan Walitsky, Suzanne Walsh, Troy Ware, Claire Warner, Jonathan Weadon, Lara Weinstein, Martin Welch, Lee Whaley, Elise Whorton, Jayson Williams, Sarita Williams, Dexter Williams, Dave Wilson, Michael Wolfe, Debbie Yamada, June Zhu, and Tim Zink.

Mr. CARDIN. Our staff works long hours for less compensation than many

of them could make in the private sector because of their commitment to public service.

To my staff, you have made Team Cardin a championship team.

I also want to salute the people who make this institution work. My heartfelt thanks to the floor staff, committee staffs, security staff, and all those who work behind the scenes to make the Senate work. I recognize and salute your dedication.

As I said at the beginning, I don't want to say goodbye. This is especially true of my colleagues, my Senate family—and you are family. These past 18 years have been the honor of my life. You have my undying gratitude for partnering with me to serve our country.

I started in the Senate in 2007 with a class of 10 new Senators. Senators Webb, McCaskill, and Corker are no longer in the Senate. I regret that Senators TESTER, BROWN, and CASEY will be leaving with me at the end of this term. To the remaining three—Senators KLOBUCHAR, SANDERS, and WHITEHOUSE—we count on you to carry on our class traditions.

I was blessed to have two seat mates during my 18 years in the Senate who are trusted friends. Senator Barbara Mikulski welcomed me to the Senate and made my transition so productive. Senator CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and I have worked in unity for the people of Maryland. I know that he will continue to serve the people well as the senior Senator along with newly elected Angela Alsobrooks.

But the partners that made public service possible for me are my family. Myrna and I met in elementary school. Last month, we celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary—amazing that she put up with all those years. She is my strongest supporter. I could not have had the career that I had without her unconditional support and confidence.

Myrna shares my commitment of giving back to the community, and she keeps me properly grounded. When I became speaker of the house, she sent me a card to remind me of this. The card read: "To the rest of the world you may be a roaring lion, but in this house, you are just a pussycat."

(Laughter.)

I put that card on my desk in Annapolis as a constant reminder.

My son of blessed memory and my daughter Deborah supported my public career, never complaining about the family sacrifices they had to make, and I know there were many.

Finally, some parting advice. I know that many people across this country and around the world are concerned about the direction of the United States, but I am optimistic we will get through these challenges.

Now, some people might say: Optimistic? How can that be?

They read the news and say: What about our justice system? What about the rule of law? What about our democ-

racy? What about the threat of autocracies around the world and here at home? What about the resurgence of corrupt, blatantly transactional politics?

I recognize these threats. I am not naive to the dangers and challenges as we all look ahead. There are many challenges ahead of us, but we must not give up hope.

The Senate—this body of 100 Members in a nation of 335 million Americans—sustains my hope. In a 6-year term representing constituents across the United States, we have the time and resources to engage each other. We have the time to constructively work across the aisle to find areas of common agreement.

There is no institution like this in the world. It is a great honor to be a Senator, but it comes with responsibilities—to debate and vote on important issues of our times.

Over the last 18 years, I have seen firsthand how the Senate works best when we work together. I cited many examples of my successful efforts to do just that—working across the aisle to enact pension reform, small business COVID relief, advancing value-based foreign policy, and many more.

We don't have to agree on every single issue, and we never will, but when we defend the constitutional powers of this institution and the prerogatives of the legislative branch together, we create positive results for this country. The Senate is where the rubber meets the road. It is the dividing line between democracy and autocracy.

To my colleagues in the Senate, you play an important role in our democratic check and balance system. Never has it been more important for us to fight to protect our democracy, to defend the rule of law, and to stand up for our common values.

As Senators, you need to demonstrate to the American public by your actions that you can practice civility, that differences can be resolved constructively without harsh terms. We need to remember that compromise was how our Nation was formed. It can be a good thing and bring people together.

Compromise on policy but never on principles or values. Treat people with respect even when you disagree. I made that the guiding principle in my office. My staff call it Cardinesque.

Finally, let us all make it a priority to promote better knowledge and understanding of history, civic engagement, and, again, civility.

Whether promoting American values or investing in domestic priorities here at home, I ask you to let your values guide you to leave our world and our community a fairer place, a healthier place, a more peaceful place, a more prosperous place for all to benefit. Let that be our North Star.

I yield the floor.

(Applause, Senators rising.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

TRIBUTE TO BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, it is with great pride that on behalf of the Maryland congressional delegation, I pay tribute to our incredible senior Senator and thank him for his service to our State and our country and, in fact, all he has done around the world.

I want to recognize the fact that STENY HOYER, Congressman HOYER, is with us on the floor as well.

Thank you, Mr. Leader, for being here.

For those of you who don't know, when BEN CARDIN was speaker of the Maryland House, STENY HOYER was president of the Maryland Senate, so they have gone way back together.

Thank you, Steny, for being here.

Colleagues, I think all of us here know BEN CARDIN for his many, many achievements and accomplishments and the fact that he is a wonderful colleague to work with. He has gone over some of those major highlights, so I am not going to repeat them all, but I do just want to flag a number of them, because the Magnitsky Act is the legislation that said the United States—it not only says we are going to stand up and protect fighters for human rights around the world, but we are going to create an enforcement mechanism to do exactly that.

We had a hearing just the other day in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee reviewing that legislation. That legislation would not exist but for the fact that BEN CARDIN made it happen—first through the original Sergei Magnitsky Act and then the Global Magnitsky Act—as a champion of human rights.

So this is why Senator CARDIN is known not only for his accomplishments in Maryland and in the United States but indeed around the world, as is true with his service on the Helsinki Commission—his partner, of course, Senator ROGER WICKER—which has been standing up for human rights, fighting against hate and anti-Semitism around the world, and doing more here at home. It is a fight against discrimination.

I want to thank him for his global reach but also for all he has done here in the United States when it comes to healthcare. He recounted the story of a Marylander whose name was Deamonte Driver who died because he did not get the dental care he needed. Senator CARDIN worked to make sure that never happens again.

Whether it is housing or protecting the Chesapeake Bay or many other areas that are so important to our national life, BEN CARDIN has been a leader.

In Maryland, we are very proud of all of those achievements, but in Maryland, Senator CARDIN is known as “our friend Ben.” If you look at his TV commercials when he runs for reelection, you can find everyday people, whether it is a waterman on the Chesapeake Bay, whether it is a construction worker near the Port of Baltimore and oth-

ers, saying: Thank you to my friend Ben. And because of his great length and quality of service, many people around the State of Maryland have had a chance to meet their friend BEN.

And he began to serve the State of Maryland when he was 22 years old. When he ran for the State delegate, he was still a law student at the University of Maryland Baltimore; and for 58 consecutive years, he has served the people of our State.

And he didn't just dream of winning elections. That was not the goal; that was the means to achieve his efforts in public service. And that ethic, as he has said, began in the Cardin family long before he first ran for office.

He is the son of Dora, a school teacher, and Meyer, a State legislator and judge. His wife Myrna and his late cousin Shoshana made their names as champions for Soviet Jewry. The Cardin family believes in America as a beacon of liberty and human rights, a beacon that first inspired BEN's grandparents to immigrate here from Russia at the turn of the last century.

So I think it is fair to say that BEN CARDIN did not fall far from the Cardin tree of public service, but he has taken that family's commitment to public service to new heights, becoming, at 35 years old, the youngest ever speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates.

And I want to talk a little bit about his role here in the U.S. Senate on behalf of Team Maryland. Because he is a dear friend, there are many congressional delegations that don't have the spirit of unity that we have had in the State of Maryland, and that is a tribute to BEN CARDIN's leadership. He has been the quarterback for Team Maryland, bringing us together to make sure that we work on behalf of the priorities of the people of our State—all parts of our State, from the Baltimore area to the Washington suburbs, Eastern Shore, and Western Maryland.

I could not ask for a better partner and a better friend in the U.S. Senate, somebody who welcomed me here after I served in the House of Representatives.

I do want to relay briefly to our colleagues in the Democratic caucus something that is not as well-known, but when BEN CARDIN first arrived in the Senate from the House, having served previously as the speaker of the house of delegates in Maryland, he was interested in what the rules are of the Democratic caucus. It turns out, at the time, that the rules were not publicized among the Democratic Members of the caucus. Former Democratic leaders clearly viewed it as in their interest to keep them secret, to keep the Members of the caucus in the dark.

And so when BEN CARDIN asked for the rules, it took a little search to find them. But it is an indication, both of his attention to detail but also his understanding of his responsibility to his colleagues and in the body, that every Member, whether they are a long-serving Member or a new Member has a

chance to participate in the process. And we have since used the good work of Senator CARDIN as rules, as the chairman of the Senate Caucus Rules Committee to help expand democracy, little D, in the Democratic caucus.

Finally, I just want to say that while much has changed over those 58 years that Senator CARDIN has served our State, one thing has remained constant—bedrock—and that is the character of BEN CARDIN. You will not find a person of greater decency, a person of greater integrity than BEN CARDIN. And whether you agree or disagree with him on any particular issue, you always know that the position he has taken is one that is based in values and principles that he brings to the debate. And for that, we should all be eternally grateful.

So I know that he will be leaving this body. I have said—as I have traveled around the State, I have just been marveling at the fact that while Senator CARDIN announced that he wasn't running for reelection over a year ago, he is running so hard through the finish line. It is hard to keep up with him. In fact, he just mentioned that we were at one of the Baptist Churches in Baltimore the other day—we had been on the Eastern Shore, Western Maryland, all over the State.

So I want to thank him for that deep commitment he has to our country and the State of Maryland. I want to thank his beloved partner and wife Myrna Cardin for giving him all that strength over many years. And while he will be leaving the Senate, both myself and our incoming Senator Angela Alsobrooks know he is only a phone call away. So don't turn off your phone too often, BEN CARDIN.

To my colleagues, thank you all for being here to celebrate an incredible U.S. Senator, someone we are so proud of in the State of Maryland, our friend, my friend BEN CARDIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maine.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, after Senator BEN CARDIN announced his retirement in the spring of 2023, he and his wonderful wife Myrna recorded an extraordinary video reflecting on a life in public service nearly as long as their 60 years of marriage.

Touching on the highlights of a career that ranged from enacting the Magnitsky sanctions, about which we have heard so much today, to protecting Maryland's precious Chesapeake Bay, BEN said the unifying force behind his work has always been tzedakah, the Jewish tradition of helping wherever and whenever help is needed.

Observing BEN for the past 18 years, I have seen a statesman of keen intellect and profound decency. He is always guided by the ideals of America, his service to Maryland, and by his faith. He consistently has demonstrated the character that earned him the trust of the people of Maryland from the house of delegates to the third congressional district to the U.S. Senate.

BEN's hometown newspaper, the Baltimore Sun, described him this way:

He is a man of substance who understands complicated issues and the art of compromise.

Having partnered with Ben on initiatives to move our Nation forward, I heartily agree with that description. For example, following the tumultuous aftermath of the 2020 election, BEN was an essential leader in a bipartisan working group that crafted the Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Act to better ensure smooth transfers of power between Presidential administrations.

I remember, for example, in one meeting, BEN bringing up a legal question that was absolutely essential that we resolve. It was indicative of the kind of careful legislating in which he engages.

As members of the Small Business Task Force, we coauthored the Paycheck Protection Program that helped so many businesses and employees survive the COVID pandemic.

From expanding Medicare access to improving home healthcare services to addressing opioid use disorder, BEN has been a strong and effective leader in healthcare. One of BEN's most enduring legacies will be the example, his leadership, as a champion of human rights around the world and his fearless persistent dedication to fighting anti-Semitism.

And one of my most enduring memories of BEN will be standing by his side in Tel-Aviv last October following the horrific Hamas attack on Israel.

In the aftermath of that incomprehensible evil, BEN offered words of consolation and peace as he made crystal clear that the United States will always stand shoulder to shoulder with the State of Israel.

It is significant that just before our bipartisan delegation traveled to Israel, BEN was presented with the Anne Frank Award for Human Dignity and Tolerance from the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Well deserved.

It has been such an honor to serve with Senator BEN CARDIN, a leader of integrity, intelligence, and civility. I am so grateful for his efforts to strengthen our institutions, to elevate our national discourse, and to bring people together to find common ground and solve problems.

I wish BEN and Myrna much happiness in the years to come. You will be missed, BEN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from New Jersey.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I would like to rise and join some of my colleagues in speaking about BEN CARDIN, but I perhaps want to take a little bit more of a personal approach to sharing my thoughts about my departing colleague.

I don't know if he remembers this, but I was elected in a special election, and I came here plopping down, sworn in on the auspicious day of Halloween. And I knew I had to meet my col-

leagues, so I started the process of going to their offices. They took me to meet everybody from John McCain sitting in his office, obviously, to Harry Reid who was here then.

But my journey to go see BEN CARDIN was different than any of my other meetings because we sat down, and he asked me about myself, and before I knew it, we were talking about Judaism.

Now, it was an amazing conversation to me because I did not realize how deep his faith was, how knowledgeable he was of the Torah, something I have been studying for decades as a non-Jew, and I found this incredible connection to him around the principles that he spoke about at the top of his speech, principles of hesed, principles of tzedakah, this idea of living a good and moral life. But what was amazing to me over these last 11 years that I have been at the Senate is that maybe some joking from time to time about Judaism, but we really haven't had much of a Torah discussion as we did on that very first day. He has never invited me to a minyan; he and I have never prayed together. He never talked to me about his religion. I have traveled around the whole world, but that first conversation was the most we ever talked about his religion and his faithfulness.

But what is amazing to me is even though we haven't spoken about it, as someone who knows and loves the religion, I will say I have seen it in him every single day. In my faith, there is a theologian that says: Everywhere you go, preach the gospel, but only sometimes use words.

I am a big believer that before you tell me about your religion, first show it to me in how you treat other people; before you preach to me how much you love your God, show it to me in how you love all of God's children; before you tell me about your passion for your faith, show it to me in your compassion for other people.

This has been the beauty of serving with my colleague BEN CARDIN because I have seen through the work and the dedication and the labors and the attention to detail and the leadership how deep his integrity is and his alignment between his beliefs and how he conducts himself in the world.

And so in honor of that, Ben, I am going to try to do something that I am sure has never been done in the history of the Senate is I am going to say goodbye to you in a d'var Torah. Now, maybe there has been a d'var Torah on the Senate floor, but I am confident in the history of America there has never been on the Senate floor a d'var Torah given by a big Black guy.

And so here it is. There is a moment in the Torah where Moses, a great leader, has been given the 10 Commandments, but the Jewish people are worshipping a golden calf. We all know the story of him crumbling, smashing the tablets, but what I didn't know until I started studying Judaism and doing

Torah studies on Fridays, I didn't know there was a moment where God said: OK. I will destroy these people and give you new people to lead.

And what was amazing to me, astonishing to me, about this story from the Torah is you would think that devotion, this fealty to God, that whatever God says goes, but Judaism struck me when I started studying the Torah as a strange faith that all of these major figures get into fights with God, whether it was the incredible story of Abraham arguing with angels about defending a city, Sodom and Gomorrah. But in this moment, what Moses said to God was:

(English translation of statement made in Hebrew is as follows:)

If you destroy these people, then erase me from your book. I want no part of you, God.

I have watched you for 11 years. And like that ideal of Moses, despite all of the imperfections of humanity, despite our faults and our foibles, despite the tragedies we have wrought unto ourselves, you have shown that leadership of Moses, not accepting the world's happenings as God's will but standing up and standing in the breach.

You have, through your work, both here in America and across the globe, you have been one of those people who has defended the weak, who has protected the vulnerable, and who has championed the best of humanity.

Yes, you have preached the gospel, my friend, but you have more profoundly dedicated your life to its work. There is an ideal in Judaism that we should all be dedicated toward tikkun olam, to healing this world.

I believe there is a God in Heaven. I share your sense of faith, and I believe at the end of this chapter of your life, God is saying: Well done, my good and faithful servant. And I know God is not done with you yet, so as you go on into the world, I simply say, as your brother, yasher koach.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WELCH). The Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I am tempted to simply say: Amen and amen to yield back, but I didn't want this moment to pass without rising, on behalf of my wife Gayle and me, to say how much we have appreciated the friendship of BEN and Myrna CARDIN and the leadership that they have shown to us as we have represented the United States of America to citizens around the world and particularly to our friends in Europe.

Myrna has been a wonderful friend to Gayle. She is deserving of all of the accolades that she has received and will receive.

I have had an opportunity in this city several times in the last few weeks to make remarks on behalf of BEN CARDIN. He suggested to me almost that he had heard enough and that I need not say anymore. But I do want to say how much I appreciate his leadership and the list of accomplishments

that he has listed and to say how grateful I will always be for BEN allowing me to be a part of the Magnitsky struggle and getting the Magnitsky Act passed and Global Magnitsky, which is renowned around the world as an effective tool against totalitarianism and corruption.

And so I would simply say that people in the audience may have happened by—I know a number of people here came for this particular purpose—but if you happened simply to be in the Gallery at this particular time, you have been—these people, Mr. President, have been subject to the testimony of a magnificent public servant. And if I serve decades more, which I do not feel that I will, if I live to be 100, I will not see a finer leader in terms of intellect, talent, in terms of savvy, in terms of accomplishment, in terms of leadership and statesmanship than I have known in the person of BEN CARDIN, and I am grateful to have been his colleague and his friend.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, first, I am incredibly grateful for the kind comments that my Senate family has said. I have said that my colleagues are my family, and they were certainly a lot less objective than my real family has been about some of my legislative actions.

So, first, to Senator VAN HOLLEN, he pointed out that we work together; we trust each other; and we have been able to get more done because of it. That trust has never been broken. And the two of us have been able to share information. We share a common vision of what we want for Maryland and this Nation, and it has made my service in the U.S. Senate so much more rewarding knowing that my colleague is a person who shares the burdens of our office of representing the people of Maryland and takes equal responsibility to make sure we get things done in a unified way.

So, Senator VAN HOLLEN, thank you for those very kind comments, and it is mutual. Your leadership here has benefited our State to an incredible degree.

And to Senator COLLINS, I have been at several bipartisan groups with Senator COLLINS. She has a way of just reaching out and bringing people together. And I must tell you, she sort of glossed over what we did in response to January 6 and the passage of the electoral college reforms. That was not an easy task to get that to the finish line, and Senator COLLINS was the leader on that effort and allowed me to have input where it was needed in order to bring people together. But that is what she does all the time; she always looks for common ways. There is a reason why our appropriators seem to be able to get along through the leadership of Senator MURRAY and Senator COLLINS. I think it is a real example for all of us.

And then to Rabbi BOOKER.

(Laughter.)

I want to know when he is going to start a synagogue because I am going to join that synagogue. I want everyone to know. His d'var Torah is a lot better than a lot of Rabbi's d'var Torahs. He is just an incredible addition to our Senate family, and I will follow him anywhere.

And to Senator WICKER, you know, what we have been able to do together, it has been an incredible run. I have been with you around the world. We have stood up to dictators, and we have helped friends. We stood by people who had no other help around them so that their rights could be heard, and we have gotten a lot done together.

There is no question that we would not have had the victories on the Magnitsky bills without your personal involvement, working within your caucus to make sure that it was not politicized and we got it to the final line, and you took a lot of hours for us, and I very much appreciate that. More importantly, human rights defenders appreciate your gallantry in the U.S. Senate to get those bills to the finish line and bills that don't have your name on it. As I mentioned, you were responsible to make sure we had vehicles to get them completed.

So I thank you for your friendship. I thank you for Gayle. And it has been, as I said, a real pleasure to have that type of relationship.

I am often asked by my colleagues: Do you ever talk to Republicans? I mean, they think we are so divided here, and this is a family. And that is why I said in my parting comments, I really see the hope of our future in the relationships that have been developed here in the U.S. Senate. We can work together. We can resolve these issues. We know what our responsibilities are about. We know we have challenges in this country, but we also know we need to listen to each other, and that is what I think we do here in the Senate. We have got to do it in a more effective way. And my colleagues that are with me today have been champions in listening to each other to get the work done for the American people.

Mr. President, I am deeply honored to serve in this body, and I thank you for your attention.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

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

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

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the scheduled vote occur immediately.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will re-

sume consideration of the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Cynthia Valenzuela Dixon, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California.

NOMINATION OF CYNTHIA VALENZUELA DIXON

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Cynthia Valenzuela Dixon to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Born in Tucson, AZ, Judge Valenzuela earned her B.A. at the University of Arizona in 1991 and her J.D. at the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law in 1995. After graduating from law school, she worked as special assistant to Vice Chair Cruz Reynoso on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights from 1995 to 1998.

Between 1998 and 2000, Judge Valenzuela served as a trial attorney in the Voting Section of the Civil Rights Division at the U.S. Department of Justice. From 2000 to 2006, she served as an assistant U.S. attorney in the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Central District of California.

After that, Judge Valenzuela worked at the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, first as the western regional counsel in 2006 and then as the national vice president and director of litigation from 2006 to 2011.

Between 2011 and 2016, Judge Valenzuela served as the Criminal Justice Act supervising attorney on the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

Since 2016, Judge Valenzuela has served as a judge on the State Bar Court of California. She served as the supervising judge of that court from 2020 to 2022.

The American Bar Association rated Judge Valenzuela as "qualified," and her nomination is strongly supported by her home State Senators, Mr. PADILLA and Ms. BUTLER.

Judge Valenzuela's substantial litigation background and service on the State Bar Court of California have prepared her to serve as a district judge on the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. I am proud to support her nomination.

VOTE ON DIXON NOMINATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the Dixon nomination?

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

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) are necessarily absent.

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

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 47, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 319 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Sanders
Bennet	Hirono	Schatz
Blumenthal	Kaine	Schiff
Booker	Kelly	Schumer
Brown	Kim	Shaheen
Cantwell	King	Smith
Cardin	Klobuchar	Stabenow
Carper	Lujan	Tester
Casey	Markey	Van Hollen
Coons	Merkley	Warner
Cortez Masto	Murphy	Warnock
Duckworth	Murray	Warren
Durbin	Ossoff	Welch
Fetterman	Padilla	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Peters	Wyden
Hassan	Reed	
Heinrich	Rosen	

NAYS—47

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

NOT VOTING—4

Manchin	Sullivan
Sinema	Vance

The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table, and the President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The majority leader.

PRESS ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I thank my friend Senator WYDEN for coming to the floor to champion something I have been very supportive of and he has carried, the bipartisan PRESS Act, a bill every person in this room—whether they are Senators, journalists, citizens—should want to see become law.

No democracy can survive without a free and open and thriving press. The free press keeps governments accountable to the people, exposes abuse and wrongdoing, informs the public about what is happening in government.

But if government can unduly harass the press or when leaders smear journalists as enemies of the people and when there are too few protections for journalists, our democracy is at the very real risk of eroding away.

We have seen in some countries—in Hungary, Orban—a dictator tells his friends to buy the press so there can be no real freedom and no real counter-argument. And they do. They buy newspapers, televisions, et cetera.

And so we have to protect the press. It is sacred—sacred—to America. The

PRESS Act is a commonsense and strongly bipartisan bill to ensure journalists can do their job without with facing undue harassment.

I am so proud to support this act. Senate Democrats all support this bill. And the bill has already passed the House unanimously. I hope every single Senate Republican joins us to pass it today. I know many of them are ready to do the right thing. I think it has a majority support in both parties.

This bill, again, is common sense and balanced. It would prohibit the Federal Government from using subpoenas or search warrants or other measures to force journalists or third parties to reveal confidential information without their knowledge. It has exceptions carefully tailored to address matters of national security. And it would ensure that the decision to seize journalists' records and compel them to reveal sources falls to the Federal courts, not to the Department of Justice. It is more important now than ever before, when we have heard so many in the incoming administration talk about going after the press one way or another.

And 99 percent of the work to enact the PRESS Act into law is already done; all we need is for no Senator to stand in the way today.

So thank you, Senator WYDEN, for championing this bill. Thank you to the many reporters, news organizations, press leaders, and press associations for championing this bill.

Being a journalist is a hard job. It is hard enough. Journalists shouldn't have to fear baseless government harassment on top of that for just doing their jobs. So let's pass the bipartisan PRESS Act and send it to the President's desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, before he leaves the floor, let me just thank the Senate majority leader. We have talked about this often. And I am particularly struck by the readings of the Founding Fathers because several of the Founding Fathers seem to think that a free press was at least as important as government. So the case that you are making today, Mr. Leader, is well stated.

Mr. SCHUMER. Again, let me thank the Senator from Oregon for his leadership. Thank you.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—H.R. 4250

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, in a few minutes, I am going to ask unanimous consent to pass my bipartisan bill, the PRESS Act. And this legislation is deeply personal to me.

I am very proud to be the son of Peter Wyden, who was an award-winning journalist. My dad fled the Nazis in the 1930s, and members of his family died at the hands of the Nazis.

In the United States, my dad became such a good writer, he became part of our Army's elite group, the Ritchie Boys, that wrote the propaganda pamphlets that we dropped on Nazis.

Growing up, my dad always mentioned that several of our Founding Fathers—as I indicated to the majority leader here—stressed how important the free press was to our country. And my dad emphasized how important it is that American journalists can do their jobs without unneeded government interference.

So our bipartisan bill shields journalists from being forced by the courts to disclose their sources or information provided by their sources, with—as the majority leader and I have emphasized—key exceptions exist in our legislation for national security and other critical matters. And our bill also does not otherwise limit the government's ability to pursue leakers.

So this is so common sense that nearly every State in the country has some form of reporters' shield on the books. Democratic and Republican State legislators alike have found value in preserving the free flow of information and codifying these fundamental freedoms.

My bill, with Senator LEE—and I want to thank our colleague on the other side of the aisle on all his good counsel here. Our bill would finally ensure that these protections make it to the Federal level. This is a bill—and I note this. My colleague, the Presiding Officer, knows that sometimes it is pretty hard around the Congress to be able to get folks to agree to order a 7 Up or something. This bill passed this House unanimously and has the support of both the chair of the Judiciary Committee and ranking member Senator GRAHAM. Not only that, but our bill has been endorsed by people from across the political spectrum.

I would say to my friend from Nevada, Tucker Carlson is on board. FOX News is on board. This is about as bipartisan as you can get. Past administrations, both Democratic and Republican, have exploited the lack of a Federal shield law to curtail the freedom of the press and, in some cases, even jailed journalists who have refused to break their journalistic ethics and reveal their sources.

It is long overdue that these abuses be stopped. So my substitute amendment that I put together with Senator LEE addresses feedback that we heard on this Senate floor and elsewhere.

My colleague from Arkansas, a member of the Intelligence Committee, spoke about this before, and we heard feedback from the Department of Justice that they wanted some key national security exceptions for section 702 and threats to critical infrastructure, and ensuring that the Federal Government can still respond to cases that require exigency.

I want it understood that, between the time this came up on the floor previously and today, we have reached out for feedback that addresses a number of the concerns that I heard from my colleague from Arkansas, a member of the Intelligence Committee whom I work with, that I hope addresses his concerns.

So as if in legislative session, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4250 and that the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration; further, that the Wyden substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time and passed; and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). Is there objection?

The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, in reserving the right to object, this bill is a threat to U.S. national security and an insult to basic fairness and the principle of equality before the law. It is the biggest giveaway to the liberal press in American history.

The so-called PRESS Act would turn reporters into a protected class, free to hold, share, and publish highly classified and dangerous information that no other American is allowed to possess. The passage of this bill would turn the U.S. Senate into an active accomplice of deep state leakers, traitors, and criminals along with the America-hating and fame-hungry journalists who help them out. This legislation would make it all but impossible to ever compel a reporter to reveal their sources or compel them to return classified information in their possession.

Reporters would become the only class of people legally permitted to possess classified information in an unsecured and unmonitored environment. It gives reporters rights that no other American possesses. No Senator even has these protections. In fact, if the Senator from Oregon was given unsecured classified information and refused to turn it over, he could be censored, prosecuted, and possibly put in jail. And we wouldn't want that to happen. We would miss him dearly.

Even former Presidents don't have the rights that this legislation provides to liberal journalists. Just remember, the FBI raided President Trump's house on the mere accusation that he held unsecured classified information. And unlike President Trump, President Biden actually committed this crime and only escaped prosecution because the prosecutor concluded he was too addled to be convicted. Thanks to this bill, reporters at CNN, MSNBC, and the New York Times would have more rights and privileges than former Presidents and Vice Presidents.

This bill would also embolden every leaker and would-be traitor in the Federal Government within arm's reach of classified or damaging information. Leakers could reveal anything from the placement of American troops in foreign countries to the location of nuclear weapons, with only the thinnest and hardest to prove exceptions. They could release embarrassing or incriminating information from FBI background checks. They could also release information provided by allied nations,

endangering America's alliances around the world. If this bill became law, every leaker would sleep well at night knowing their accomplices in the media would never have to turn them in.

The leakers could also release, say, phone records of discussions between the President of the United States and foreign leaders, and this bill would protect any reporter who released or possessed the contents of those calls. Maybe it should be called the "Alexander Vindman Protection Act."

Not surprisingly, President Trump recently wrote:

REPUBLICANS MUST KILL THIS BILL!

And, for the benefit of those who missed it, he wrote it in all capital letters with an exclamation point at the end.

The bill's advocates often say too much stuff is classified. I agree. On the intelligence committee, I am often asked: Why is this classified? But some information ought to be classified, and the solution to overclassification is to classify less stuff, not to enable liberal deep staters to leak to liberal journalists.

Another argument I hear is government employees often violate the law and abuse our citizens—I agree, especially when Democrats are in office—but whistleblowers have plenty of legal and effective avenues to raise those concerns. If their superiors refuse to listen to them, they can contact their Departments' inspectors general or ombudsmen. They can also contact congressional oversight committees or Federal law enforcement. What they shouldn't do—what the law, in fact, forbids them from doing—is run off to the liberal media.

Even with its present protections, which I think are excessive, the liberal media has a long record of endangering our troops and our interests around the world. The liberal media doesn't deserve more privileges, protections, and perks. Releasing classified information is a serious crime, and it should be punished seriously.

Contrary to what members of the press may think, a press badge doesn't make you better than the rest of America or put you above the law.

For several years, the media has conducted itself in a disgraceful manner and destroyed its reputation with the American people. Yet some in Congress—maybe the only institution less popular than the press—now want to give it more privileges? I don't think so. My message is simple: No one is entitled to the privileges provided in this bill, certainly not the press.

Therefore, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, let me be brief here.

This legislation that we have been discussing passed the House of Representatives early this year, and it was unanimous. So for people who are fol-

lowing the debate, every single Republican—everyone in the other body—in effect, approved this legislation.

Why did they do that? Because it clearly is sensitive to these national security concerns. We put in express exceptions for national security, including an area my colleague and I know a lot about, section 702 of FISA.

My colleague was very kind to me. He said, gosh, if I wasn't here, he would miss me. Well, that is very kind and thoughtful, but what we are really missing is the overwhelming support from Republicans for this legislation. I spoke about the Members in the other body, and no one else is objecting here.

I just think that, if we look at the writings of the Founding Fathers and their importance of a free press, what we ought to be saying is, yes, we should be listening to each other. That is why I made those changes since the last time my colleague from Arkansas objected. This is going to also—and I think my colleague and I would agree on this—protect citizen journalists who don't have the legal budget to fight subpoenas the way big newspapers can. That is why my bill has been endorsed by independent journalists like Catharine Herridge.

I understand that we don't have unanimous consent today. I think it is unfortunate. I think America would be stronger and freer if we were passing this legislation today, but we will be back, and my hope is that we can work with the Senator from Arkansas to get his support.

I want it understood from the standpoint of good faith that I listened the last time. My colleague and I were here on the floor of the U.S. Senate, and I thought he made good arguments. I am not here to say he is without good arguments. That is why I went out and I told our staff and all the folks on the Intel Committee and the people who work with us on it to make these changes to see if we can come aboard.

I realize we don't have unanimous consent this afternoon, but I would just say to my colleagues this is about as important as it gets. Free speech is fundamental to what makes our country so special. I have had more than 1,100 townhall meetings at home, and people always come and say: I don't agree with you about "this," or I don't agree with you about "that," but we are using our First Amendment. We are making sure we can always be heard.

I will tell my colleague, my door is open, and we will be talking to your folks to see if we can get this resolved. As I say, I made those changes since the last time we were on the floor for the express purpose of our being able to see if we could find agreement.

So I respect my colleague's right to dissent in spite of the fact that every single House Republican voted for it, and I am going to be coming back and seeing if we can find ways to work it out.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arkansas.

Mr. COTTON. Madam President, I appreciate the remarks of the Senator from Oregon.

The Founding Fathers designed the Senate to be the sober second thought to the House of Representatives or even transient and fleeting public opinion. The Senator from Oregon cited the unanimous vote in the House. Sometimes, that is an indication of widespread support for a sound and wise policy, but on occasion, it is an indication that a rash, impetuous, hasty, impulsive decision by the House deserves a sober second thought in the U.S. Senate. And not for the first time, I am pleased to provide the sober second thought on this and other issues.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

POLITICAL PRISONERS IN ERITREA, SAUDI ARABIA, TAJIKISTAN, AND VIETNAM

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, periodically, I have come to the Senate floor to raise the issue of political prisoners languishing in jails around the world. You would wonder why I do this. Well, it came to my attention that there are some real miscarriages of justice in terms of these political prisoners, and it also came to my attention that when I make a speech on the floor, sometimes people hear it and it makes a difference.

Thanks to the good work of Chris Homan, my chief staffer on this project, we have been party to and assisting in many releases of prisoners around the world. Some have come to visit me in my office here at the Capitol, saying they were languishing in prison and nobody even knew they were alive and that I gave a speech and I talked to the Ambassador and, the next thing you know, they are home.

So on the off chance that good fortune will come through again, I am going to make this effort this evening and am joined by Senator WELCH of Vermont.

There are journalists, activists, opposition candidates, and everyday citizens who are too often victims of petty, repressive regimes for simply trying to exercise basic democratic freedoms we take for granted in this country. Over the years, many of those eventually released have come to see me here in DC. Without fail, they say that their jailers cruelly tried to make them think they were forgotten and shared how sustaining it was to know voices around the world kept attention on their plight. So I will raise a few more cases today, and I am glad to be joined by my friend, the junior Senator from Vermont Senator WELCH, who is also taking up this effort.

I would like to first start with the country of Eritrea—an abysmal human rights record in that country. It has the nickname, the distinction, of being the North Korea of Africa. Eritrea has been ruled, since its independence three decades ago, by President Afwerki, whose regime has a well-documented history of arresting or forcibly

disappearing thousands of political prisoners into secret detention centers known for appalling conditions, usually without any charges, trial, or sentencing.

In September 2001, Eritrea banned all independent media and arbitrarily arrested journalists for any criticism of the government. Let me highlight a few who have been jailed for more than two decades—two decades: Dawit Isaak, an award-winning Swedish-Eritrean journalist; Amanuel Asrat, a distinguished poet and publisher; Seyoum Tsehaye, a war journalist and television executive; and, finally, Temesgen Gebreyesus, an actor and journalist. All are depicted on this sign.

They remain imprisoned, along with thousands of Eritreans, under unimaginable conditions, with no end in sight. I urge President Afwerki: End this madness. Free these political prisoners. It would be an important step toward establishing your reputation in the world and ending international sanctions and Eritrea's isolation.

Next, Saudi Arabia, a country with which we have shared many interests and also in which unacceptable political repression continues to complicate our relationship.

I have long advocated for the case of writer Raif Badawi—over in this corner—who, in 2022, was at last released after spending 10 years in a Saudi prison for the crime of exercising his right to free speech. Yet, to this day, he remains subject to a cruel travel ban, preventing him from reuniting with his family in Canada.

Waleed Abu al-Khair, a women's rights activist, and Salma al-Shehab are other such prisoners. Waleed has been in prison since 2014 for his human rights work, and in 2022, Salma was given an outrageous 34-year prison sentence for this. Let me tell you what her crime was. Ready? She used Twitter. That was it. Enough—34 years; throw away the key.

For too long, the Saudi Crown Prince has silenced dissidents and pro-democracy activists while claiming to embrace reform. Such reform should include allowing Raif to unite with his family in Canada as well as unconditionally releasing Waleed, Salma, and countless other political prisoners without delay.

Next, the Asian country of Tajikistan, which wants to increase security and economic cooperation with the United States. As I have long said, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially for opposition parties, remains critical for countries that want a closer relationship with the United States.

As such, I urged the release of human rights lawyer Buzurgmehr Yorov, who is serving 28 years in prison for simply representing Tajikistan's legal opposition in court.

Lastly, I want to focus on the nation of Vietnam, with whom, amid China's bullying in the region, the United

States has built a remarkably good reputation over the years. Yet Vietnam remains at the bottom of World Press Freedom Index. In 2024, Vietnam ranked 174th out of 180 nations. The Vietnamese Government continues to heavily restrict free speech, with too many journalists and human rights defenders facing harassment, detention, and harsh prison sentences under so-called anti-state propaganda laws.

This includes people like Pham Chi Dung, one of the most popular writers on Voice of America's Vietnamese service, who was sentenced to 15 years in prison in 2021—he helped create the Independent Journalists Association of Vietnam—and Pham Doan Trang, considered one of the most prominent Vietnamese dissidents, who so far has served 4 years of a 9-year prison sentence. Just this year, she was awarded PEN America's Barbey Freedom to Write Award, adding to an already long list of awards from several governments and press freedom groups.

In 2020, just before her arrest, she wrote very movingly—and I want to quote her:

I don't want freedom for just myself; that's too easy. I want something greater: freedom for Vietnam.

That is an amazing show of courage. I have seen the same from so many other political prisoners around the world, willing to go to prison for their freedom.

Before I turn the floor over to Senator WELCH, I want to remind these brave individuals in Eritrea, Saudi Arabia, Tajikistan, and Vietnam that you are not forgotten. We will continue to advocate for your well-being and release and speak your names to the world. And when you are free, please come visit me here at the Capitol. I will be waiting to shake your hand.

Madam President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Vermont.

Mr. WELCH. Madam President, I want to thank Senator DURBIN for his ongoing commitment to highlighting the plights of people who have been imprisoned for doing nothing more than exercising free speech, for doing nothing more than speaking up on behalf of the oppressed in their own country, for speaking up on behalf of human rights and justice.

What Senator DURBIN said inspires me, and that is: We don't know what the outcome will be. Is anyone paying attention? We don't know, but what we do know and we have seen is that this does help and make a difference and get some attention on people who were unjustly imprisoned for doing something that is noble.

And our goal here is not always to have everything be instrumental immediately, but it is to reassert the commitment that this U.S. Senate has to do what is within our power—sometimes it is very limited, as in this case of advocacy and attention to highlight and hopefully result in the highlighting of an oppressive situation—to

have a release of a person who has been unjustly detained.

So I just want to express my gratitude to Senator DURBIN. And over the years, I have met people who used to be political prisoners and were shaking the hand of Senator DURBIN. His advocacy made a difference. The advocacy of other Members of the Senate makes a difference.

And the most compelling thing for me is just think about what it is like to be a person who has made a statement, who used Twitter and you are suddenly arrested; you are suddenly cut off from your family; you are suddenly cut off from any visitation; you have no idea whether you have a future. And you have to feel, day in and day out, in that captivity, that people have completely forgotten who you are, that you have become invisible.

So the act of trying to make visible people who, as a result of the use of state power, have been made invisible is something that each and every one of us should do our best—using this office that we have and this forum we have—to stand up and remember people who have been made forgotten because they have done decent things.

I am really grateful to work with Senator DURBIN on this, and I want to focus attention on other political prisoners.

The first is Maryia Kalesnikava. Maryia is a professional musician. Think about that—a gifted musician. Think of the discipline that goes into becoming a professional musician. She was admired throughout Belarus for her talents and as a leading member of the political opposition. She left aside just being a musician to speak out on behalf of her people.

She called for free and fair elections. Arrest follows. After every leading opposition candidate had either been jailed in Belarus or fled the country, Maryia was apprehended in 2020 by officials driving an unmarked vehicle and taken to the Belarus border, where they attempted to forcibly deport her to Ukraine. She wouldn't allow herself to be forcibly deported. Think about that. She had to risk coming back when she was in the custody of unknown people who had no good intention for her. They put her on trial. She was tried, and she was sentenced to 11 years in a penal colony—11 years—for the crime of calling for free and fair elections.

Her situation is obviously concerning for many reasons, not the least of which is that between February 2023 and November 2024—1 year and 9 months—she was not allowed any visits by her family. I mean, just think about that: Your son or your daughter is cut off from you, and you have no idea of how they are doing, whether they are alive, are they suffering. Only after nearly 600 days was Maryia's father finally permitted to visit her last month.

Now, I am speaking about this with some passion because I met her sister

just recently. Her sister Tatsiana came to my office, and she has been out and about telling her sister's story and seeking for her release. Tatsiana was joined in my office by two human rights defenders who are courageously working to help secure the release of Maryia and other Belarusian political prisoners.

There have been a small number of Belarusian prisoners convicted of "extremism" who have been released, and I am hopeful that Maryia will also be released. And while the United States and Belarus have profound disagreements, including over human rights and Russia's illegal invasion of Ukraine, I believe that officials of both governments should speak respectfully toward each other and seek opportunities to work together to address issues of common interest. My hope is that her release will be one of them.

Madam President, secondly, I want to speak about Maykel "Osorbo" Castillo. Maykel is an Afro-Cuban musician and writer who won a Latin Grammy Award while imprisoned in a Cuban jail. How do you do that? He won a Latin Grammy while he was in jail. He helped write a hit pro-democracy anthem that won Song of the Year at the 2021 Latin Grammys.

One of the things that are so extraordinary about folks like this who are illegally, wrongly imprisoned is that it doesn't somehow quell their spirit to express themselves and their joy of life.

Maykel is definitely one of them. He was arrested in May 2021 following months of police harassment, including intensive surveillance, movement restrictions, and "preventative" detention. He was sentenced a year later on politically motivated charges of evading police custody and sharing social media critical of the government.

Maykel is one of the many who have been unjustly imprisoned, and I urge the Cuban Government to release him. I also hope the incoming Trump administration will not do what many fear, which is to tighten, really, a lot of further sanctions on Cuba even more.

Finally, I want to mention Dr. Salah Soltan. Salah is a 65-year-old U.S. permanent resident, academic scholar, and prisoner of conscience in Egypt. Dr. Salah has quite a smile, as you can see. He is a husband, he is a father, and he is a grandfather to 11 grandchildren—American citizens, by the way—with deep roots in Michigan and the Midwest.

He has been unjustly imprisoned for 12 years, and he is in fragile health. In recent years, there has been growing bicameral, bipartisan, domestic, regional, and international support for his release on medical and on humanitarian grounds.

President Sisi has taken some modest steps towards justice for political prisoners, including removing more than 700 Egyptians with tangential ties to opposition political parties from domestic terrorism lists. That is good, what President Sisi did.

We want him and urge him to release Salah on humanitarian grounds so he can rejoin his family in the United States.

Madam President, these are only three of the tens and probably hundreds of thousands of prisoners of conscience in the world. The arbitrary arrest and imprisonment of individuals for nothing more than peacefully expressing views in support of democracy, in support of freedom of expression and other human rights, is abhorrent. These folks are accused of all sorts of fabricated charges. And it is really abuse of the awesome power of the state to essentially oppress people who are critical of the state. These folks are apprehended. They are subjected oftentimes to inhumane conditions, often solitary confinement in decrepit prisons, without access to lawyers or families. They are erased. They become invisible, as Senator DURBIN was discussing. Some of these folks die in prison from torture or untreated medical conditions. So anytime we can raise the possibility of their getting some attention so their case can be heard, so they have some possibility of release, is a good use of our time.

The question about why we do it kind of surprises me, actually, because the answer is simple. Americans care about people whose fundamental rights are denied, and whoever and wherever they are, we should continue to express that concern. I am proud to say that certainly is a legacy of my predecessor, Senator Patrick Leahy, who served in this body for 48 years. In fact, that right is every person's responsibility under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which no country voted against when it was adopted on December 10, 1948—66 years ago today.

I want to finish where I started by thanking my colleague from Illinois not just for his advocacy but for his inspiration to all of us to do what we can with this office that we hold for whatever period of time we have been entrusted to speak out on behalf of wonderful people like the people I mentioned and Senator DURBIN mentioned.

I yield to my colleague Senator DURBIN.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. I want to thank my colleague Senator WELCH from Vermont. He is a great partner in this effort. His heart is in the same place mine is.

One of the things that just struck me that some of the prisoners said to me when they came home and made it to the United States, to my office—one of them said: You don't realize that your mentioning my name on the floor of the U.S. Senate could have saved my life.

Many of the jailers and oppressive governments that have these people imprisoned beat them, torture them, starve them, and believe no one knows or no one cares. But if all of a sudden the name of that prisoner becomes conversation at the Embassy or at the

State Department or even in some of the halls of leadership of governments around the Nation, they think twice before they hurt them or kill them.

It is hard to imagine that our simple speech on the floor could have that impact, but it has. I thank you for joining me in this effort. I hope our colleagues will join us as well.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 835.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The question is on agreeing to the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the nomination.

The assistant bill clerk read the nomination of Matthew James Marzano, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2028.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The assistant bill 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. 835, Matthew James Marzano, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for the term of five years expiring June 30, 2028.

Charles E. Schumer, Thomas R. Carper, Tammy Baldwin, Gary C. Peters, Peter Welch, Richard Blumenthal, Sheldon Whitehouse, Tim Kaine, Jack Reed, Michael F. Bennet, Tammy Duckworth, Catherine Cortez Masto, Debbie Stabenow, Robert P. Casey, Jr., Tina Smith, Christopher A. Coons, Brian Schatz.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

GUATEMALA

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to celebrate the 175th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Guatemala and the United States.

As we mark this milestone, I want to highlight the strength of the U.S.-Guatemala bilateral relationship today. Earlier this year, I led a congressional delegation to Guatemala, and we met with President Bernardo Arevalo. He is a leader who was elected last year by voters who were sick of widespread corruption. He ran by focusing on corruption and insecurity, as well as generating employment and promoting climate change policies. And I was impressed. Prior to serving in elected office, Arevalo worked in Guatemala's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He served as First Secretary and Minister Counselor in Israel in the 1980s and as Ambassador to Spain and Deputy Foreign Minister in the 1990s. For several years, Arevalo was active as a leader in civil society, promoting anticorruption initiatives.

The Guatemalan President clearly cares—as do I—about upholding the rule of law, promoting democratic values, and combatting corruption. I believe that Guatemala stands at one of the most pivotal and potentially transformative moments since the end of the 1996 civil war.

But the path it takes going forward will largely depend on the extent that President Arevalo is able to govern. I was deeply concerned by attempts to undermine his democratic election last year and by the concerted efforts by the previous government to obstruct the peaceful transfer of power.

Attorney General Maria Consuelo Porras led the charge in weaponizing the justice system against him. She criminalized the President's political party. She jailed journalists. She has forced former prosecutors and judges investigating corruption into exile. She continues to use the Public Ministry to protect her personal financial and political interests—working without any practical check on her power.

This makes it difficult to combat corruption, to go after transnational crime, and to seek justice for human rights defenders persecuted under the previous government.

And yet despite these challenges, President Arevalo has not given up. He hasn't given up on his commitment to

rooting out corruption at home, as we have seen with the launch of the National Commission Against Corruption.

He has continued to build on our strong economic relationship; the U.S. is Guatemala's largest investor and trading partner. Just this year, our countries held a High-Level Economic Dialogue with discussions across all sectors of society, including private businesses and indigenous groups.

President Arevalo has also continued to have the courage to support liberty across the globe. Despite economic coercion by the People's Republic of China, he has maintained Guatemala's diplomatic relations with Taiwan. And on the question of migration, his government has been supportive of the Biden administration's safe mobility office in Guatemala. This effort has been critical to reducing irregular immigration on our southern border and providing legal pathways to vulnerable populations.

I know we will continue working together to address the root causes of migration, whether it is corruption, poverty, violence, crime, or climate change.

Now, I recognize these are immense challenges. And we are going to have a new administration coming into office here in the United States in January with very different views of America's role in the world—especially with regards to our relationship to the Western Hemisphere.

But for those of us who believe deeply in values-based policy making, for those of us who understand the importance of democracy and the rule of law, for those of us for whom respect for human rights is paramount, we must not give up.

Making the world a better place is hard, but it is not impossible. So whether you live in Guatemala—or in the United States—let us come together in mutual respect to address the challenges we face.

And let us commit to making the next 175 years of our relationship one of prosperity, security, and peace.

ENDING IMPROPER PAYMENTS TO DECEASED ACT

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I am announcing my intention to object to any unanimous consent request to proceed to S. 2492, the Ending Improper Payments to Deceased Act.

I support my colleagues' efforts to identify opportunities to reduce Federal improper payments by indefinitely extending the cooperative data exchange agreement between the Social Security Administration and the Department of the Treasury's Do Not Pay (DNP) working system, as established by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (P.L. No. 116-260). However, this bill rushes to make this data exchange permanent without evaluating the efficacy of the data exchange.

As my colleagues may know, the purpose of the 2021 law was to expand access to the State-owned death information to Federal Agencies for the purposes of reducing improper payments while ensuring Social Security Administration and States are fully reimbursed for the cost of creating, compiling, and maintain the data. To ensure those goals were achieved, we established a 3-year trial period so we could evaluate the performance, usefulness, and downstream effects of the exchange with DNP and to provide us the opportunity to determine the best path forward for Federal Agencies' access to State death data.

As required by law, the SSA-DNP exchange began operating on December 27, 2023, less than a year ago. In my conversations with the Treasury Department and the Social Security Administration, both Agencies acknowledged they do not have sufficient data to evaluate the efficacy of the data exchange, including whether SSA is fully reimbursed for the costs of collecting and maintaining the state death data. Without that information, it is difficult to determine whether this exchange is the best path forward for Federal Agencies' accessing State death data. For these reasons, I will object to any unanimous consent request in relation to this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to our colleague, and more importantly, my dear friend Congressman DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER. By any standard, DUTCH has had an exceptional career with 38 years in public office, beginning when he was first elected to the Baltimore County Council in 1985. Even before our time together in Congress, DUTCH and I shared a common bond as we are both proud graduates of Baltimore City College High School. Maryland is grateful to be the home of City College as it is our Nation's third oldest public high school and its alumni include three Maryland Governors and the late U.S. Representative Elijah Cummings.

DUTCH's decision to seek public office began after a serious car crash while he was working as a prosecutor a decade earlier which nearly claimed his life. DUTCH credits the facility now known as the R. Adams Cowley Shock Trauma Center at the University of Maryland for two things: saving his life and setting him on his political path. I am dually grateful to the doctors at the University of Maryland for their quick thinking and expertise which has, in turn, presented DUTCH with the grit, determination, and circumstances to run for office and serve 11 successful terms in the House of Representatives.

DUTCH is a Marylander through and through, born and educated in Baltimore, and his quick rise in the Baltimore County State's Attorney office was therefore not surprising. After al-

most a decade of taking on organized crime, drug trafficking, and political corruption in Baltimore as a county executive, he was elected to serve as the Representative for Maryland's second district in 2002. DUTCH immediately broke new ground by becoming the first ever Democratic freshman to be appointed to the coveted House Intelligence Committee. A decade later, DUTCH served as the ranking member for the very same committee during a tumultuous time for our Nation's national security. DUTCH, and then House Intelligence Committee chairman MIKE ROGERS, became the first dual recipients of the William Oliver Baker Award, which recognizes excellence in nonpartisan security. The presentation of this prestigious award was due to their superb work on the high-profile Osama bin Laden capture, Benghazi attacks, and Edward Snowden leaks.

DUTCH also served on the powerful House Appropriations Committee for 12 years, now serving on both the Defense and Commerce, Justice, and Science Subcommittees. He had previously served on the Armed Services Committee, as well as the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. He has been a staunch advocate for community project funding and leveraged his role as an appropriator to ensure the Port of Baltimore, the Chesapeake Bay, and the local communities received their fair share of funding from the hundreds of billions of Federal dollars in which the House Appropriations Committee is responsible for each fiscal year. I am proud of his dedication to improving the lives of Marylanders at every opportunity.

His support of the local community extends to local governments as well. In 2016 DUTCH founded the House Municipal Bond Caucus for both sides of the aisle to better advocate for the tools local and State governments require to fund schools, roads, libraries, local law enforcement, and emergency services. DUTCH's focus on enhancing the quality of life for public servants through legislation promoted by this caucus has had a net effect of lower taxes and new jobs for the everyday Marylander.

Maryland's second district was formally home to two Army bases: Fort Meade, which houses the codemakers and codebreakers of the National Security Agency and U.S. Cyber Command, and Aberdeen Proving Ground. In addition to these bases, DUTCH was also responsible for the oversight of the U.S. Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, as well as dozens of other defense support equities. DUTCH also chairs the U.S. Naval Academy's Board of Visitors, of which I am also a member, and is the cochair of the bipartisan House Army Caucus.

DUTCH has always been a man of action, from his days as a police officer during law school, to his time as a lifeguard on the beaches of Ocean City, MD—where I am sure he will be spending much of his retirement.

This same drive for action has benefited our Nation's men and women in

uniform in many ways, like establishing the Peer Reviewed Orthopedic Program, which revolutionized the way traumatic combat injuries to extremities were treated from troops returning home from the Middle East, often saving them from amputation. DUTCH also created the "Operation Hero Miles" program in concert with Fisher House after he learned that our servicemembers and their families were paying out of pocket to visit their wounded or ill loved ones who were undergoing treatment at a military or Veteran's Affairs medical center. This program allowed any American to donate their frequent flyer miles to our Nation's heroes.

These are just a few of DUTCH's many accomplishments, and on behalf of our beloved Marylanders and all Americans, I thank him for his decades of service. I am equally thankful for the continued friendship of DUTCH and his wife Kay, and I am thrilled for him to be able to spend more time with Kay, his two children, and his five grandchildren. DUTCH's cheery wit and unwavering patriotism will be missed by me, the entire delegation, and in the Halls of Congress. I offer congratulations to DUTCH on his well-deserved career of public service.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN P. SARBANES

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to my dear friend, Congressman JOHN SARBANES. Next Congress will be the first without a Sarbanes representing Maryland in 54 years. The Sarbanes family will be sorely missed in this body.

I had the great fortune to working with JOHN's father, the late Senator PAUL Sarbanes, who is referred to as "The Senator's Senator." I met Paul when he first ran for public office in 1966. We both were elected to the Maryland General Assembly that year, and we became good friends. Delegate Sarbanes at that point made a name for himself on the house judiciary committee in the Maryland General Assembly and was a rising star from his first day in the Maryland General Assembly.

He shortly thereafter ran for the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served three terms, then moved over to the Senate where he served for five terms with a very distinguished record. His service in the House occurred during the Watergate scandal, and his time in the Senate marked by the Enron scandal. During both periods of crisis, Senator Sarbanes stepped into the breach as a steady hand to help regain the American peoples' confidence in their institutions. Like his father, Congressman SARBANES' legacy in Congress has been focused on protecting the integrity of our Nation's most cherished institutions.

JOHN is the product of a household ethic of public service. That is evident in his actions in Congress and how he conducts himself as a public official. JOHN shares his father's intellect and

thoughtful approach to politics. He speaks substantively and honestly, and his approachability has made working on behalf of his constituents appear second nature. Since he was elected in Congress in 2007, he has put his head down and worked hard for the people of Maryland and the Nation. He serves on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, and the Subcommittees on Health; Energy, Climate, and Grid Security; and Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Minerals.

In addition to his environmental record, one of his most notable accomplishments has been his long-term work on campaign finance reform and voting rights reform. His work on this issue began long before his bill, H.R. 1, For the People Act, became a top priority in Congress. Indeed, then-Democratic Leader PELOSI appointed JOHN to chair a new Democracy Reform Task Force in 2017. The comprehensive legislative package JOHN developed would ultimately propose to strengthen democratic institutions, enhance Federal ethics standards, and reign in unlimited and secret dark-money campaign spending by wealthy and powerful special interests. In particular, JOHN was known for promoting a matching system for small donations and more effective oversight of campaign finance and spending by the Federal Election Commission.

This legislation ultimately became the Freedom to Vote Act, a signature piece of democracy reform legislation in the last few Congresses. This transformational anticorruption and clean elections reform package builds on his previous efforts to pass H.R. 1, the For the People Act.

On five separate occasions, the House of Representatives passed various versions of H.R. 1 and ultimately succeeded in putting these issues squarely before the Senate. Unfortunately, in 2022, the Senate failed to muster the votes necessary to overcome the filibuster and vote on this critical package of reforms.

In addition to his work on election reform, Congressman SARBANES has demonstrated a lifelong devotion to environmentalism. I have been particularly grateful to work with him on the restoration of the Chesapeake Bay, which his father famously declared “the soul of Maryland.” JOHN has led the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Task Force to several victories, including securing Federal funding and policy changes that support a healthier bay. His Chesapeake Bay legacy, however, will be his work to connect more Marylanders to the bay by improving access and environmental literacy.

Congressman SARBANES saw that many Marylanders lacked meaningful experiences with the Chesapeake Bay and worked to expand public access to the bay and its tributaries, most dramatically through legislation to create a Chesapeake National Recreation Area. He also worked hard to expand educational opportunities so that the

general public is empowered to steward our shared natural resources. His No Child Left Inside legislation helps expand outdoor education opportunities for students, which provide incredible benefits to students and supports a new generation of environmental champions. It has been an honor to work with him on Chesapeake Bay issues, which has been close to my heart during my time in public office.

I thank Congressman SARBANES for his work in Congress and for so honorably carrying on his father’s legacy as a public servant. He has set an outstanding example for Congresswoman-elect Elfleth. I will miss working with JOHN, but am grateful for our time in office together and wish him success and joy as he enters this new chapter.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID TRONE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge a colleague of mine and a valued member of Team Maryland, Representative DAVID TRONE. Since coming to Congress in 2018, Representative TRONE has demonstrated a passion for tackling some of the most pressing issues that face our country and a persistent drive to advocate for the people of western Maryland.

I am proud to have worked closely with Representative TRONE over the years to fight for Marylanders on a variety of issues. The progress that Representative TRONE has made in combating the opioid crisis stands out in my mind as an example of his tenacity and effectiveness.

Many regions in our country have seen the harm opioid and substance use disorders can bring to their communities, and western Maryland is no exception. When Representative TRONE took office, he made it clear to his constituents that this would be a top priority of his.

He quickly backed it up with action, by hitting the ground running in the House of Representatives. Representative TRONE launched the Bipartisan Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Task Force, bringing together more than 140 Members of Congress from across the country and aisle. Twenty-six of their bills became law in the 117th Congress. Representative TRONE serves on the House Appropriations Committee, Budget Committee, and the Joint Economic Committee.

Outside of specific legislative work, Representative TRONE has played an important role in shifting the narrative to see addiction as a disease and a public health crisis, rather than a personal shortcoming. That is why he has supported mental health offerings like passing a bill to provide confidential mental health support to first responders. He worked to expand the Public Safety Officers’ Benefits Program to include coverage for first responders whose deaths are a result of suicide or are permanently disabled as a result of traumatic service-related experiences.

I will miss working with Representative TRONE, but I am grateful for his service to the Maryland delegation. I wish Representative TRONE, his wife June, and his entire family only the best going forward. I wish him only happiness and success in what follows his career in the House. And I thank him for sharing his dedication to Maryland’s sixth district with the American people and his fellow colleagues.

REMEMBERING DR. CHARLIE MCMILLAN

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. President, I am here today to commemorate a life of public service dedicated to the expansion of human knowledge and the greater good.

On September 6 of this year, New Mexico and the Nation suffered a tremendous loss as Dr. Charles McMillan tragically passed away.

Dr. McMillan, or Charlie as he insisted he be called by all who knew him, is perhaps best known for his work as a groundbreaking physicist and visionary leader of Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Fittingly, Charlie’s early career focused on developing tools and diagnostics for eye surgery. His innovations resulted in several patents and benefited countless patients.

Over nearly 20 years at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Charlie was instrumental to maintaining and enhancing our Nation’s security posture, leading experimental physics, and computing programs that were critical to modernizing the nuclear stockpile.

In 2006, Charlie moved to New Mexico and became the tenth director of Los Alamos National Laboratory in 2011. Capturing the Lab’s achievements under Charlie’s leadership would be nearly impossible, but one area that shines particularly bright is Charlie’s work on supercomputing.

Charlie not only recognized the critical role of these revolutionary machines for the advancement of scientific discovery and national security, he was able to bring together diverse teams and inspire them to execute his ambitious vision: He was instrumental in bringing Roadrunner online and acquiring Trinity, two of the fastest supercomputers in the world at the time.

These computers did critical work on nuclear stewardship and contributed to scientific advancements in areas ranging from advanced battery design to medical drug simulations. The foundations Charlie established resonate to this day through the Department of Energy’s Exascale Program, which continues to host the world’s fastest supercomputers.

Charlie retired as director in 2017, but was recently called back to the Department to help steward its transition into the next age of advanced computing: artificial intelligence. In this capacity, Charlie continued to be both

a visionary leader and a scientist's scientist, serving as the connective tissue to unite and inspire the Department during this paradigm shift in technology, exactly as he had done so many times in the past.

Charlie's sudden passing came as a devastating shock to the multitude of people he touched throughout his life; the Department of Energy and the national labs are still reeling from this loss. Charlie dedicated his life to his Nation, and always did so with tremendous humility and an infectious curiosity.

But he was so much more than a public servant and scientist; he was a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. He had a passion for the outdoors, the night sky, and regularly went backpacking with his family to share both. He was also an accomplished musician and shared his talents by performing in several local Los Alamos theater productions.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years Janet Robb McMillan, son Paul McMillan and spouse Suzanne Long, daughters Caroline McMillan and Katherine McCurry, her spouse Paul McCurry, and their son Oliver McCurry.

Charlie leaves behind an incredible legacy of national service, scientific achievement, and deep personal connections. We are proud that he chose to make New Mexico his home and grateful for the time he spent with us in our community. His significant contributions to the world and his generous spirit will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

TRIBUTE TO KATE M. KÄUFER

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate Kate M. Käufer, the fearless leader of my defense staff, on more than 20 years of distinguished Federal service and on her well-earned retirement.

For the last 4 years, it has been a privilege of a lifetime to serve as chairman of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee supporting our military and our intelligence community. The subcommittee's unique jurisdiction appropriates more than half of the Nation's discretionary funding: \$852 billion in this year's Senate bill. It is almost impossible for any one human being to wrap their arms around such an enormous national security enterprise. But I can think of at least one exception: Kate M. Käufer.

Born in Germany, Kate began her Federal service as a Presidential Management Intern for the U.S. Marine Corps in June 2003; she joined the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee in December 2004. In her 20 years on the subcommittee, she has managed just about every appropriations account and issue in our jurisdiction with an incisive hungry analytical mind. Shipbuilding, satellites, intelligence activities, research, and innovation—you name it, Kate has left her mark. I want to extend my particular thanks to her

and her loved ones these last 2 years as my clerk, for the late nights and weekends, the interrupted family vacations, and the weight of leading an indispensable subcommittee.

Kate exemplifies the unique spirit and culture of our subcommittee. Her mantra was always, "We solve problems." In every interaction—whether with me, my colleagues, or fellow staff—she focused on getting real things done, in the most bipartisan way possible. That is quite an achievement in Washington these days. In short, she was always an upbeat professional of the first order. The Senate will miss her, as will this subcommittee.

In addition, Kate is a tremendous mentor to those around her, teaching defense appropriations courses at Georgetown University, University of North Carolina, and Defense Acquisition University. She somehow also finds the time to be an accomplished triathlete, an avid traveler and hiker, and a passionate soccer fan.

In closing, I wish continued success and happiness to Kate, her partner, and her family as she embarks on her next great adventure.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING MARTIN COPELAND GRISWOLD

• Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise to honor the life of Martin Copeland Griswold, who died on November 30, 2024, at the age of 92. Martin Copeland was a sixth generation Florida farmer, starting his career as a member of the Future Farmers of America with 80 acres of land and working his way to serve as FFA State president in 1951–52. He was the chief executive officer of Griswold Farms, producing food, fiber, and timber on a 4,800-acre family farm, and at the time of his death, Copeland was still farming. Copeland also served on the Northwest Florida Water Management District governing board for 8 years. As an influential and dedicated Florida farmer making a significant impact in northwest Florida, and across the State, Copeland was inducted into the Florida Agriculture Hall of Fame. Martin Copeland Griswold of Chumuckla, FL, is survived by his wife of 72 years Winona; his children Marty (Diane), Von (Lisa), Vicki (Jeff) Miller, Paul (Alesia); 12 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages

from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:50 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 50. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to give priority consideration to selecting Pensacola and Perdido Bays as an estuary of national significance, and for other purposes.

S. 310. An act to establish an advisory group to encourage and foster collaborative efforts among individuals and entities engaged in disaster recovery relating to debris removal, and for other purposes.

S. 1478. An act to designate United States Route 20 in the States of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts as the "National Medal of Honor Highway", and for other purposes.

S. 3475. An act to amend 49, United States Code, to allow the Secretary of Transportation to designate an authorized operator of the commercial driver's license information system, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

2672. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for the authority to reimburse local governments or electric cooperatives for interest expenses, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2892. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the effectiveness of emergency alerting systems, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7671. An act to amend section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to incentivize States, Indian Tribes, and Territories to close disaster recovery projects by authorizing the use of excess funds for management costs for other disaster recovery projects.

H.R. 8689. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to require Amtrak to include information on base pay and bonus compensation of certain Amtrak executives, and for other purposes.

H.R. 9541. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize Federal agencies to provide certain essential assistance for hazard mitigation for electric utilities, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2672. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for the authority to reimburse local governments or electric cooperatives for interest expenses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2892. An act to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct a study on the effectiveness of emergency alerting systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 8689. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to require Amtrak to include information on base pay and bonus compensation of certain Amtrak executives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 9541. An act to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to authorize Federal agencies to provide certain essential assistance for hazard mitigation for electric utilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 7671. An act to amend section 324 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to incentivize States, Indian Tribes, and Territories to close disaster recovery projects by authorizing the use of excess funds for management costs for other disaster recovery projects.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 82. An act to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on December 10, 2024, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 91. An act to award a Congressional Gold Medal collectively to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.

S. 4243. An act to award posthumously the Congressional Gold Medal to Shirley Chisholm.

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-6730. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Second Remedial Amendment Cycle for section 403(b) Pre-approved Plans: Issuance of Opinion Letters, Plan Adoption Deadline, Opening of Determination Letter Program, and Related Issues" (Announcement 2024-38) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6731. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report on Unobligated Balances for Appropriations Re-

lating to Quality Measurement"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6732. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2024 Report to Congress—Annual Update: Identification of Quality Measurement Priorities and Associated Funding for the Consensus-Based Entity and Other Entities"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6733. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Income Tax Treatment of Certain Amounts Paid or Incurred Pursuant to Agreements with the Department of Commerce Required Under the CHIPS Act of 2022" (Announcement 2024-40) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6734. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Recourse Partnership Liabilities and Related Party Rules" (RIN1545-BL21) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6735. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disclosures of Return Information Reflected on Returns to Officers and Employees of the Department of Commerce, including the Bureau of the Census, for Certain Statistical Purposes and Related Activities" (RIN1545-BQ74) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6736. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Definition of Energy Property and Rules Applicable to the Energy Credit" (RIN1545-BO40) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6737. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Federal Vacancies Reform Act, changes that occurred as of November 22, 2024, and additional report on departure of ambassadors"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6738. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the intent to exercise under section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, to provide assistance to Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6739. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Determination Under Section 614(a)(1) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to Provide Assistance to Ukraine"; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6740. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(d) 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 Israel and Romania for the manufacture of significant

military equipment abroad (Transmittal No. DDTC 24-071); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6741. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(c) and 36(d) of the Arms Export Control Act, the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles, including technical data and defense services in the amount of \$100,000,000 for the manufacture of significant military equipment abroad to various countries (Transmittal No. DDTC 24-072); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6742. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the report on other U.S. contributions to the United Nations and its affiliated agencies during fiscal year 2023; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-6743. A communication from the Regulations Coordinator, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clinical Trials Registration and Results Information Submission" (RIN0925-AA71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6744. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Sixteenth Annual Report on Delays in Approvals of Applications Related to Citizen Petitions and Petitions for Stay of Agency Action: FY 2023"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6745. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease: 2024 Update"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6746. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Prescription Drug Spending, Pricing Trends, and Premiums in Private Health Insurance Plans"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6747. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Department's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6748. A communication from the Acting Secretary of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6749. A joint communication from the Chairman and the General Counsel, National Labor Relations Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General Semiannual Report for the period of April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6750. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6751. A communication from the Chair of the Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024 and the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6752. A communication from the Chairman, National Railroad Passenger Corporation, Amtrak, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report to Congress for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6753. A communication from the Inspector General of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report to Congress for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6754. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency's Semiannual Report of the Office of Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6755. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Inspector General's Semiannual Report and the Management Response for the period of April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6756. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Maritime Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6757. A communication from the Director of Financial Management, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6758. A communication from the Treasurer, National Gallery of Art, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Gallery's Performance and Accountability Report for the year ended September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6759. A communication from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2024, including the Office of Inspector General's Auditor's Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6760. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Governors, United States Postal Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Postal Services' Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6761. A communication from the Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the fiscal year 2023 annual report for the Department's Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6762. A communication from the Director of Communication and Legislative Affairs, Equal Employment Opportunity Com-

mission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6763. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2024 received in the Office of the President pro tempore; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6764. A communication from the Chair of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6765. A communication from the Chief of Legal, External Affairs, and Performance Branch, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director, Office of Government Ethics, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6766. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2024 through September 30, 2024; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6767. A communication from the Chief Regulatory Officer, Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Exercise of Time-Limited Authority to Increase the Numerical Limitation for FY 2025 for the H-2B Temporary Nonagricultural Worker Program and Portability Flexibility for H-2B Workers Seeking to Change Employers" (RIN1615-AC95) (RIN1205-AC20) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on December 6, 2024; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 4579. A bill to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, and for other purposes.

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. MORAN (for himself and Mr. KING):

S. 5460. A bill to modify the Precision Medicine for Veterans Initiative of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. HAGERTY, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 5461. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to prevent unnecessary resource expenditures relating to methamphetamine prosecutions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 5462. A bill to prohibit data brokers from selling and transferring certain sensitive data; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PETERS:

S. 5463. A bill to establish the Department of Homeland Security Northern Border Mission Center; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 5464. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the collection of data regarding graduate medical education; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. PADILLA):

S. 5465. A bill to clarify where court may be held for certain district courts in Texas and California; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 5466. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an advance refundable credit to offset certain flood insurance premiums, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 5467. A bill to codify Executive Order 14115 imposing certain sanctions on persons undermining peace, security, and stability in the West Bank; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 5468. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. SMITH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 5469. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a National Climate Adaptation Science Center and Regional Climate Adaptation Science Centers to respond to the effects of extreme weather events and climate trends, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 5470. A bill to amend chapter 423 of title 49, United States Code, to prohibit air carriers from paying ancillary fee incentives and discriminating on the basis of a covered characteristic in charging or setting fares or ancillary fees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 5471. A bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to require applicants for grants that propose to use digital infrastructure or a software component to certify the applicant has an approved security plan that addresses the cybersecurity risks of such digital infrastructure or software component, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. Res. 923. A resolution recognizing the critical importance and contributions of

global civil society in advancing human rights, condemning the use of political imprisonment as a tool of repression, and calling for the release of political prisoners across the world in commemoration of Human Rights Day on December 10, 2024; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. Res. 924. A resolution designating December 14, 2024, as “National Wreaths Across America Day”; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUDD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KIM, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VANCE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 925. A resolution relating to the death of the Honorable Fred R. Harris, former Senator for the State of Oklahoma; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 926. A resolution to constitute the majority party’s membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 971

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 971, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to remove the Medicaid coverage exclusion for inmates in custody pending disposition of charges, and for other purposes.

S. 1159

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1159, a bill to amend the Equal Credit Opportunity Act to modify the requirements associated with small business loan data collection, and for other purposes.

S. 1266

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1266, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United State Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 1375

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1375, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to apply additional payments, discounts, and other financial assistance towards the cost-sharing requirements of health insurance plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2371

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2371, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income interest received on certain loans secured by rural or agricultural real property.

S. 2603

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2603, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to streamline conservation practice standards, and for other purposes.

S. 3055

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3055, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to update the modeling used for lifecycle greenhouse gas assessments for approved fuel pathways under the Renewable Fuel Standard, and for other purposes.

S. 4041

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4041, a bill to support local educational agencies in addressing the student mental health crisis.

S. 4113

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4113, a bill to allow States to require payment of State fees related to boating as a condition for issuance of a vessel number and to collect such fees in conjunction with other fees related to vessel numbering.

S. 4715

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4715, a bill to require the National Cyber Director to submit to Congress a plan to establish an institute within the Federal Government to serve as a centralized resource and training center for Federal cyber workforce development.

S. 5268

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the names of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 5268, a bill to prohibit Federal judges from receiving certain gifts, and for other purposes.

S. 5283

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5283, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Robert M. Gates, in recognition of his service to the United States as an intelligence professional, Secretary of Defense, and educator and leader for young people of the United States.

S. 5408

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 5408, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the life and legacy of Roberto Clemente.

S. 5457

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5457, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a portion of general business credit carryforwards to be transferred by certain taxpayers affected by Federally declared disasters.

S. RES. 869

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 869, a resolution designating the week beginning November 11, 2024, as “National Pregnancy Center Week” to recognize the vital role that community-supported pregnancy centers play in saving lives and serving women and

men faced with difficult pregnancy decisions.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 923—RECOGNIZING THE CRITICAL IMPORTANCE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF GLOBAL CIVIL SOCIETY IN ADVANCING HUMAN RIGHTS, CONDEMNING THE USE OF POLITICAL IMPRISONMENT AS A TOOL OF REPRESSION, AND CALLING FOR THE RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS ACROSS THE WORLD IN COMMEMORATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DAY ON DECEMBER 10, 2024

Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 923

Whereas the Senate passed S. Res. 731, which designated December 10, 2018, as “Human Rights Day”;

Whereas December 10, 2024, marks the 76th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Whereas the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a landmark document that established the inalienable rights to which all humans are entitled, regardless of race, color, religion, sex, language, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property ownership, birthplace, or other status;

Whereas, in light of immense difficulties, civil society and civil society organizations contribute to the promotion, protection, and advancement of human rights, democratic governance, and rule of law across the world every day;

Whereas the state of global human rights and civil liberties has declined during the past 2 decades, with Freedom House notably tracking 18 consecutive years of decline in rights and freedoms around the world;

Whereas Freedom House reports that political rights and civil liberties in 2023 diminished in 52 countries and improved in only 21 countries;

Whereas, since 2016, 91 countries have proposed or enacted more than 260 legal measures affecting civil society, of which 72 percent have restricted human rights;

Whereas increasing restrictions on civil society organizations directly impedes the ability of such organizations to advance human rights advocacy and democracy-building work and obstructs the rights of citizens to exercise freedom of speech and assembly;

Whereas the Department of State estimates that 1,000,000 individuals find themselves unjustly behind bars as political prisoners for exercising human rights and fundamental freedoms, because of their race, religion, or ethnicity, or due to their private relationships;

Whereas political imprisonment is employed by authoritarian actors as a tool for limiting political and social dissent, stifling freedom of expression and assembly, and undermining public participation in free and fair elections;

Whereas authoritarian countries operate vast networks of political prison camps and labor camps used to indiscriminately detain thousands of individuals;

Whereas countless political prisoners in these detention facilities are subjected to

torture, inhumane conditions, enforced disappearance, or other forms of abuse;

Whereas, according to Freedom House, throughout 2023, widespread problems with elections, including violence and electoral manipulation, drove deterioration in rights and freedoms across the world, especially in countries that experienced pre- and post-election violence;

Whereas, in many countries, political opposition figures and civil society members continue to be unjustly detained for their role in demanding free and fair elections and leading peaceful democratic protests in opposition to illiberal regimes;

Whereas anti-corruption prosecutors and pro-democracy activists are arbitrarily imprisoned on baseless charges for their advocacy of greater judicial independence and transparency in countries where judicial systems are weaponized against human rights advocates;

Whereas religious minorities, religious freedom advocates, and missionaries are unjustly targeted, detained, and repressed for exercising their freedom to believe or not to believe and advocating for those same freedoms for others;

Whereas the Department of State has determined that religious minorities continue to be victims of genocides relating to religious freedom;

Whereas women face significantly higher risks of harassment and imprisonment when participating in civil society and political advocacy and heightened vulnerabilities to mental and physical abuse during arrest, questioning, and imprisonment;

Whereas authoritarian governments and nonstate actors around the world enforce systems of impunity and discrimination to systematically dismantle women’s and girls’ access to their civil liberties and imprison female human rights defenders and members of civil society who speak out against such oppression;

Whereas journalists face political imprisonment for fighting to report the truth, advocating for greater protections for freedom of press, and holding governments accountable to their citizens;

Whereas during 2023, according to Reporters Without Borders, nearly 800 journalists were jailed and 45 were killed for simply doing their jobs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for Human Rights Day and recognizes its global significance;

(2) recognizes the critical importance and contributions of global civil society in advancing human rights, democracy, and the rule of law;

(3) condemns the use of political imprisonment as a tool of repression to restrict civil liberties and human rights;

(4) calls upon governments that are unjustly detaining individuals for their human rights and civil society advocacy work to immediately and unconditionally release these political prisoners;

(5) encourages the Department of State to continue robust campaigns to advocate for the release of political prisoners and to leverage all necessary diplomatic tools in support of such advocacy, including by—

(A) coordinating with other executive agencies on priority cases of political prisoners for any principals or high-level United States officials traveling to specific countries where a known case requires attention or diplomatic intervention;

(B) working with congressional partners, such as the Senate Human Rights Caucus and the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, to coordinate advocacy on priority cases for members of Congress, including advocacy preceding official congressional travel;

(C) consulting with civil society and non-governmental organizations in countries with priority political prisoners’ cases on plans of engagement and advocacy;

(D) supporting bilateral and multilateral engagement with allies and like-minded countries on issues involving the global protection of human rights, democratic governance, and the rule of law; and

(E) working with multilateral organizations and fora to devise joint efforts to advance human rights and democracy; and

(6) encourages the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Presidential Envoy for Hostage Affairs, to devise joint strategies to deter authoritarian regimes from using their judicial systems (particularly arrests, detentions, and sentencings) as tools to silence dissent or for political leverage.

SENATE RESOLUTION 924—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 14, 2024, AS “NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY”

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. KING) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 924

Whereas, 33 years before the date of adoption of this resolution, the Wreaths Across America project began with an annual tradition that occurs in December, of donating, transporting, and placing 5,000 Maine balsam fir veterans’ remembrance wreaths on the graves of the fallen heroes buried at Arlington National Cemetery;

Whereas, in the 33 years preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, more than 20,000,000 wreaths have been sent to various locations, including national cemeteries and veterans’ memorials in every State and overseas;

Whereas the mission of the Wreaths Across America project, to “Remember, Honor, and Teach”, is carried out in part by coordinating wreath-laying ceremonies in all 50 States and overseas, including at—

- (1) Arlington National Cemetery;
- (2) veterans’ cemeteries; and
- (3) other memorial locations;

Whereas the Wreaths Across America project carries out a week-long veterans’ parade between the States of Maine and Virginia, stopping along the way to spread a message about the importance of—

(1) remembering the fallen heroes of the United States;

(2) honoring those who serve and have served in the Armed Forces; and

(3) teaching the next generation of children about the service and sacrifices made by our veterans and their families to preserve freedoms enjoyed by all in the United States;

Whereas, in 2023, approximately 3,000,000 veterans’ remembrance wreaths were delivered to over 4,200 locations across the United States;

Whereas, in December 2024, the tradition of escorting tractor-trailers filled with donated wreaths from Harrington, Maine, to Arlington National Cemetery will again be continued by—

- (1) the Patriot Guard Riders; and
- (2) other patriotic escort units, including—
 - (A) motorcycle units;
 - (B) law enforcement units; and
 - (C) first responder units;

Whereas hundreds of thousands of individuals volunteer each December to help lay veterans’ wreaths;

Whereas the trucking industry in the United States will continue to support the

Wreaths Across America project by providing drivers, equipment, and related services to assist in the transportation of wreaths across the United States to more than 4,600 locations;

Whereas the Senate designated December 16, 2023, as “Wreaths Across America Day”;

Whereas, on December 14, 2024, the Wreaths Across America project will continue the proud legacy of bringing veterans’ wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 14, 2024, as “National Wreaths Across America Day”;

(2) honors—

(A) the Wreaths Across America project;

(B) patriotic escort units, including—

(i) motorcycle units;

(ii) law enforcement units; and

(iii) first responder units;

(C) the trucking industry in the United States; and

(D) the millions of volunteers and donors involved in the worthy tradition of the Wreaths Across America project; and

(3) recognizes—

(A) the service of veterans and members of the Armed Forces; and

(B) the sacrifices that veterans, members of the Armed Forces, and their family members have made, and continue to make, for the United States, a great Nation.

SENATE RESOLUTION 925—RELATING TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE FRED R. HARRIS, FORMER SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Mr. LANKFORD (for himself, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BUDD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KIM, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEE, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OSSOFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PETERS, Mr. REED, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROMNEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. VANCE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 925

Whereas the Honorable Fred R. Harris (referred to in this preamble as “Senator Harris”) was born in Walters, Oklahoma, on November 13, 1930, to Fred Byron Harris and Eunice Alene Pearson Harris;

Whereas, in 1948, Senator Harris graduated with honors from Walters High School;

Whereas Senator Harris attended the University of Oklahoma where he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in 1952 and a bachelor of laws degree in 1954;

Whereas Senator Harris practiced law in Lawton, Oklahoma;

Whereas Senator Harris founded the law firm of Harris, Newcombe, Redman, and Doolin;

Whereas, in 1956, Senator Harris was elected to the Oklahoma Senate, where he served for 8 years as one of its youngest members;

Whereas, in 1959, Senator Harris was chosen as Junior Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Young Man of Oklahoma;

Whereas, in 1964, Senator Harris won a runoff election to serve as a Senator representing the State of Oklahoma;

Whereas Senator Harris was first elected to the Senate at age 33;

Whereas, in 1966, Senator Harris was re-elected to serve a full 6-year Senate term;

Whereas Senator Harris served as a member of several Senate committees, including—

(1) from 1965 to 1973—

(A) the Committee on Government Operations of the Senate; and

(B) the Select Committee on Small Business of the Senate;

(2) from 1965 to 1967, the Committee on Public Works of the Senate; and

(3) from 1967 to 1973, the Committee on Finance of the Senate;

Whereas, in 1971, Senator Harris appointed Julie Price as one of the first female Senate pages;

Whereas, while serving in the Senate, Senator Harris—

(1) was instrumental in the creation of the Subcommittee on Executive Reorganization and Government Research of the Senate; and

(2) focused on improving the welfare system in the United States;

Whereas, in 1968, Senator Harris served as co-chair of the presidential campaign of Hubert Humphrey;

Whereas, in 1969 and 1970, Senator Harris served as Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, where he ushered in reforms to allow more women and minorities to serve as delegates and in leadership positions;

Whereas, in 1967, Senator Harris was appointed by President Lyndon B. Johnson to the National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders;

Whereas, following his time in the Senate and politics, Senator Harris moved to New Mexico;

Whereas, from 1976 to 2006, Senator Harris served as a professor of political science at the University of New Mexico;

Whereas Senator Harris founded the Fred Harris Congressional Internship Program within the University of New Mexico Political Science Department;

Whereas Senator Harris served as the Director of the Fred Harris Congressional Internship Program and a faculty member until 2018;

Whereas Senator Harris continued authoring books on political topics; and

Whereas, on November 23, 2024, Senator Harris died at the age of 94, leaving behind his wife, Margaret, and 3 children, Kathryn, Byron, and Laura: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the Senate—

(A) has heard with profound sorrow and deep regret the announcement of the death of the Honorable Fred R. Harris, former Senator for the State of Oklahoma; and

(B) respectfully request that the Secretary of the Senate—

(i) communicate this resolution to the House of Representatives; and

(ii) transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of the Honorable Fred R. Harris; and

(2) when the Senate adjourns on the date of adoption of this resolution, the Senate stands adjourned as a further mark of respect to the memory of the Honorable Fred R. Harris.

SENATE RESOLUTION 926—TO CONSTITUTE THE MAJORITY PARTY’S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS, OR UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE CHOSEN

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Resolved, That the following shall constitute the majority party’s membership on the following committees for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen:

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS: Mr. Brown (Chair), Mr. Reed, Mr. Tester, Mr. Warner, Ms. Warren, Mr. Van Hollen, Ms. Cortez Masto, Ms. Smith, Mr. Warnock, Mr. Fetterman, Mr. Schiff, Mr. Kim.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE: Mr. Wyden (Chair), Ms. Stabenow, Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Carper, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Brown, Mr. Bennet, Mr. Casey, Mr. Warner, Mr. Whitehouse, Ms. Hassan, Ms. Cortez Masto, Ms. Warren, Mr. Kim.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS: Mr. Cardin (Chair), Mrs. Shaheen, Mr. Coons, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Kaine, Mr. Merkley, Mr. Booker, Mr. Schatz, Mr. Van Hollen, Ms. Duckworth, Mr. Kim.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS: Mr. Peters (Chair), Mr. Carper, Ms. Hassan, Ms. Sinema, Ms. Rosen, Mr. Ossoff, Mr. Blumenthal, Mr. Schiff.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY: Mr. Durbin (Chair), Mr. Whitehouse, Ms. Klobuchar, Mr. Coons, Mr. Blumenthal, Ms. Hirono, Mr. Booker, Mr. Padilla, Mr. Ossoff, Mr. Welch, Mr. Schiff.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION: Ms. Klobuchar (Chair), Mr. Schumer, Mr. Warner, Mr. Merkley, Mr. Padilla, Mr. Ossoff, Mr. Bennet, Mr. Welch, Mr. Schiff.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3314. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. SANDERS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 4776, to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2025 through 2029, and for other purposes.

SA 3315. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. CARPER) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 43, expressing support for the designation of September 29, 2024, as “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Day”.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3314. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. SANDERS) proposed an amendment to

the bill S. 4776, to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2025 through 2029, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. References.
- Sec. 4. Definitions.

TITLE I—STRENGTHENING THE AGING NETWORK TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OLDER INDIVIDUALS

- Sec. 101. Declaration of objectives.
- Sec. 102. Addressing mental health and substance use disorders and cognitive impairments of older individuals.
- Sec. 103. List of national resource centers.
- Sec. 104. Awareness of relevant Federal programs.
- Sec. 105. Evaluations and surveys.
- Sec. 106. Contracting.
- Sec. 107. Guidance on reallocation of funding between area agencies on aging.
- Sec. 108. Right to first refusal.
- Sec. 109. Area agency on aging capabilities.
- Sec. 110. Supporting older individuals with disabilities through improved coordination.
- Sec. 111. Business acumen, fiscal training, and technical assistance.
- Sec. 112. Enhancing access to assistive technology.
- Sec. 113. White House Conference on Aging.
- Sec. 114. Technical amendments.

TITLE II—IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ENCOURAGING INDEPENDENCE FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS

- Sec. 201. Disease prevention and health promotion services.
- Sec. 202. Improving health outcomes.
- Sec. 203. Technical assistance on evidence-based programs.
- Sec. 204. Enhancing multipurpose senior centers.
- Sec. 205. Addressing home modifications.
- Sec. 206. National resource center for engaging older adults.
- Sec. 207. Multigenerational and civic engagement activities.
- Sec. 208. Report relating to health outcomes for older individuals living with or near family members.
- Sec. 209. Improving broadband coordination and reducing social isolation.

TITLE III—ENHANCING INNOVATION AND FLEXIBILITY IN NUTRITION SERVICES

- Sec. 301. Medically tailored meals.
- Sec. 302. Grab-and-go meals.
- Sec. 303. GAO study on Nutrition Services Incentive Program.
- Sec. 304. Innovations in nutrition programs and services.

TITLE IV—SUPPORTING FAMILY CAREGIVERS

- Sec. 401. Improving the National Family Caregiver Support Program.
- Sec. 402. Emphasizing respite care.
- Sec. 403. Clarifying supportive services.
- Sec. 404. Direct care workforce resource center.
- Sec. 405. Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act.
- Sec. 406. RAISE Family Caregivers Act.

TITLE V—COMMUNITY SERVICE SENIOR OPPORTUNITIES ACT

- Sec. 501. Improving the Community Service Employment Program.

Sec. 502. GAO report on alignment within the Community Service Employment Program.

TITLE VI—IMPROVING SERVICES FOR NATIVE ELDERLY

- Sec. 601. Older Americans Tribal Advisory Committee.
- Sec. 602. Supportive services; set aside.
- Sec. 603. GAO report on Tribal services.
- Sec. 604. Technical amendments.

TITLE VII—STRENGTHENING THE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS AND ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION

- Sec. 701. Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs.
- Sec. 702. Legal assistance training resources relating to elder abuse prevention.
- Sec. 703. Improving training of volunteers under the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.
- Sec. 704. Reporting on State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs.
- Sec. 705. Study on State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs.

TITLE VIII—AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS

- Sec. 801. Administration on Aging.
- Sec. 802. Grants for State and community programs on aging.
- Sec. 803. Activities for health, independence, and longevity.
- Sec. 804. Community Service Senior Opportunities Act.
- Sec. 805. Grants for Native Americans.
- Sec. 806. Allotments for elder rights protection activities.

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, wherever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to that section or other provision of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the terms “area agency on aging”, “Assistant Secretary”, “older individual”, and “Secretary” have the meanings given such terms in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002).

TITLE I—STRENGTHENING THE AGING NETWORK TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OLDER INDIVIDUALS

SEC. 101. DECLARATION OF OBJECTIVES.

Section 101 (42 U.S.C. 3001) is amended—

- (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “of the following objectives:” and inserting “of the objectives of—”;
- (2) in each of paragraphs (1) through (10), by amending the first word so that it begins with a lowercase letter;
- (3) in each of paragraphs (1) through (8), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;
- (4) in each of paragraphs (9) and (10), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;
- (5) in paragraph (2), by inserting “to improve health outcomes and reduce health care expenditures” after “economic status”;
- (6) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (10) as subparagraphs (A) through (J), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;
- (7) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) (as so redesignated), by striking “our democratic society, the older people” and inserting the following: “our democratic society—
 - “(1) the older people”; and
 - (8) by adding at the end the following:
 - “(2) the families of older individuals and community-based organizations, including

faith-based organizations, also play a vital role in supporting and honoring older individuals and their happiness, dignity, and independence.”

SEC. 102. ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS AND COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS OF OLDER INDIVIDUALS.

Section 201(f) (42 U.S.C. 3011(f)) is amended to read as follows:

“(f)(1) The Assistant Secretary may designate an officer or employee who shall be responsible for the administration of services for mental health and substance use disorders and cognitive impairments authorized under this Act and serve as an effective and visible advocate for the related needs of older individuals within the Department of Health and Human Services, including by ensuring that relevant information disseminated and research conducted or supported by the Department takes into consideration such services.

“(2) It shall be the duty of the Assistant Secretary, acting through the individual designated under paragraph (1), and in consultation with the heads of relevant agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, to develop objectives, priorities, and a long-term plan for supporting State and local efforts under this Act involving education about, and prevention, detection, and treatment of, mental health and substance use disorders and cognitive impairments, including age-related dementia, depression, and Alzheimer’s disease and related neurological disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction.

“(3) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, the Assistant Secretary shall report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives on the activities of the officer or employee designated under paragraph (1) in carrying out the requirements under this subsection, including any activities to identify and reduce duplication and gaps across the Department in such information disseminated and research conducted or supported by the Department.”

SEC. 103. LIST OF NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTERS.

Section 202 (42 U.S.C. 3012) is amended—

- (1) in subsection (d)(4), by striking “Resource Center on Elder Abuse” and inserting “Center”; and
- (2) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:
 - “(h)(1) The Assistant Secretary shall publish online in a publicly accessible format, on an annual basis, a list of national resource centers and demonstration projects authorized under, or administratively established through funds provided under, this Act.
 - “(2) The Assistant Secretary shall ensure that the list published pursuant to paragraph (1)—
 - “(A) includes—
 - “(i) a description of each such center and demonstration project, including the projected goals and activities of each such center and demonstration project;
 - “(ii) a citation to the statutory authorization of each such center and demonstration project, or a citation to the statutory authority that the Assistant Secretary relies upon to administratively establish each such center and demonstration project;
 - “(iii) the award amount for each such center and demonstration project; and
 - “(iv) a summary of any evaluations required under this Act for each such center,

including a description of any measures of effectiveness; and

“(B) is directly provided to State agencies, area agencies on aging, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.”.

SEC. 104. AWARENESS OF RELEVANT FEDERAL PROGRAMS.

Title II (42 U.S.C. 3011 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 203A (42 U.S.C. 3013a) the following:

“SEC. 203B. AWARENESS OF RELEVANT FEDERAL PROGRAMS.

“In carrying out section 203(a)(1), the Assistant Secretary shall coordinate with the heads of relevant Federal departments and agencies to ensure that the aging network and individuals served under this Act are aware of, and, subject to applicable eligibility criteria, have access to, Federal programs that may advance the objectives of this Act, including programs described in section 203(b) and other programs to meet housing, health care, and other supportive service needs to help such individuals age in place.”.

SEC. 105. EVALUATIONS AND SURVEYS.

Section 206 (42 U.S.C. 3017) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“(d)(1) In carrying out evaluations under this section, the Secretary shall—

“(A) award grants to, or enter into contracts with, public or nonprofit private organizations or academic or research institutions to survey State agencies, area agencies on aging, and other program and project participants about the strengths and weaknesses of the programs and projects; and

“(B) conduct, where appropriate, evaluations that compare the effectiveness of related programs in achieving common objectives.

“(2) The surveys and evaluations under paragraph (1) shall include information on programs, services, use and sources of funding (including any transfer of funding between area agencies on aging), identified unmet need for services and related indicators, and any other challenges faced by State agencies and area agencies on aging in carrying out the activities of this Act.

“(3) The Secretary shall, in carrying out the evaluations under paragraph (1), consult with organizations concerned with older individuals, including organizations that represent minority individuals, older individuals residing in rural areas, and older individuals with disabilities.”; and

(2) in subsection (g), by striking “him” and inserting “the Secretary”.

SEC. 106. CONTRACTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 212 (42 U.S.C. 3020c) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “AND GRANT AUTHORITY”;

(2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), this Act shall not be construed to prevent a recipient of a grant or a contract under this Act (other than title V) from entering into a contract, commercial relationship, or other business arrangement (referred to in this section as an ‘agreement’) with a profitmaking organization for the recipient to provide services to individuals or entities not otherwise receiving services under this Act, provided that—

“(1) in the case funds provided under this Act are used in developing or carrying out the agreement—

“(A) such agreement guarantees that the cost is reimbursed to the recipient;

“(B) if such agreement provides for the provision of 1 or more services, of the type provided under this Act by or on behalf of such recipient, to an individual or entity seeking to receive such services—

“(i) the individuals and entities may only purchase such services at their fair market rate;

“(ii) all costs incurred by the recipient in providing such services (and not otherwise reimbursed under subparagraph (A)), are reimbursed to such recipient; and

“(iii) except in the case of an agreement with a health plan or health care provider, the recipient reports the rates for providing such services under such agreement in accordance with subsection (c) and the rates are consistent with the prevailing market rate for provision of such services in the relevant geographic area as determined by the State agency or area agency on aging (as applicable); and

“(C) any amount of payment to the recipient under the agreement that exceeds reimbursement under this subsection of the recipient’s costs is used to provide, or support the provision of, services under this Act; and

“(2) subject to subsection (e), in the case no funds provided under this Act are used in developing or carrying out the agreement—

“(A) not later than 45 days after the agreement first goes into effect, and annually thereafter until the termination of such agreement, the recipient of a grant or contract under this Act shall, in writing—

“(i) notify the State agency of—

“(I) the existence of the agreement; and

“(II) the services provided and populations served under the agreement; and

“(ii) provide assurances to the State agency that—

“(I) nothing in the agreement—

“(aa) undermines—

“(AA) the duties of the recipient under this Act; or

“(BB) the provision of services in accordance with this Act; or

“(bb) violates any other terms and conditions of an award received by the recipient under this Act; and

“(II) any potential real or perceived conflict of interest with respect to the agreement has been prevented, mitigated, or otherwise addressed, including providing a description of any such conflicts of interest and a description of the actions taken to mitigate such conflicts of interest; and

“(B) not later than 45 days after the population or services under the agreement substantially change due to an amendment to the agreement, the recipient shall, in writing—

“(i) notify the State agency of such change; and

“(ii) provide the assurances described in subparagraph (A)(ii) with respect to such change.”;

(3) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) ENSURING APPROPRIATE USE OF FUNDS.—An agreement—

“(1) described in subsection (a)(1) may not—

“(A) be made without the prior approval of the State agency (or, in the case of a grantee under title VI, without the prior recommendation of the Director of the Office for American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Programs and the prior approval of the Assistant Secretary), after timely submission of all relevant documents related to the agreement including information on all costs incurred; or

“(B) directly or indirectly provide for, or have the effect of, paying, reimbursing, subsidizing, or otherwise compensating an individual or entity in an amount that exceeds

the fair market value of the services subject to such agreement; and

“(2) described in subsection (a) may not—

“(A) result in the displacement of services otherwise available to an older individual with greatest social need, an older individual with greatest economic need, or an older individual who is at risk for institutional placement; or

“(B) in any other way compromise, undermine, or be inconsistent with the objective of serving the needs of older individuals, as determined by the Assistant Secretary.”;

(4) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following:

“(c) MONITORING AND REPORTING.—To ensure that any agreement described in subsection (a)(1) complies with the requirements of this section and other applicable provisions of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall develop and implement uniform monitoring procedures and reporting requirements consistent with the provisions of subparagraphs (A) through (E) of section 306(a)(13) in consultation with the State agencies and area agencies on aging. The Assistant Secretary shall conduct a review on the impact of such agreements on the provision of services under this Act, including the number of agreements per State, summaries of such agreements, and the impact of such agreements on access to services consistent with the goals of this Act. The Assistant Secretary shall annually prepare and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives the findings of such review.”; and

(5) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

“(e) REQUESTING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR CERTAIN NON-OAA AGREEMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an agreement described in subsection (a)(2), if the State agency has a reasonable belief that an agreement may violate the assurances provided under subsection (a)(2)(A)(ii), the State agency may request additional information from the recipient of funds under this Act that is a party to such agreement, which may include a request for a copy of such agreement. Such recipient shall make a good faith effort to address such request for additional information, except that such recipient shall not provide agreements or other data that are restricted under the terms of a non-disclosure agreement signed by such recipient. If such recipient declines to provide a copy of an agreement to a State agency, such recipient shall provide a justification to the State agency within 30 days of receiving such request.

“(2) CONFIDENTIALITY.—A State agency shall keep confidential, as required by applicable Federal and State law, all information received under this subsection that is—

“(A) a trade secret;

“(B) commercial or financial information; and

“(C) information obtained from an individual that is privileged and confidential.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COST.—The term ‘cost’ means an expense, including an administrative expense, incurred by a recipient in developing or carrying out an agreement described in subsection (a), whether the recipient contributed funds, staff time, or other plant, equipment, or services to meet the expense.

“(2) RECIPIENT.—The term ‘recipient’ means an area agency on aging in a State with multiple planning and service areas.”.

(b) AREA PLANS.—Section 306 (42 U.S.C. 3026) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(13)—

(A) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “any service to older individuals” and inserting “any service under this Act to older individuals or caregivers”; and

(B) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “or caregivers under this Act” after “older individuals”; and

(2) in subsection (g), by inserting “, except as provided under section 212(a)(2),” after “Nothing in this Act”.

SEC. 107. GUIDANCE ON REALLOCATION OF FUNDING BETWEEN AREA AGENCIES ON AGING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall disseminate one-time guidance to State agencies (as defined in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002)) and area agencies on aging on circumstances under which funds appropriated pursuant to part B and subparts 1 and 2 of part C of title III of the Older Americans Act (42 U.S.C. 3030d et seq., 42 U.S.C. 3030e et seq., 42 U.S.C. 3030f et seq.) may be appropriate to reallocate between area agencies on aging within a single State, with the approval of the State agency and the concurrence of any involved area agencies on aging, within a budget year.

(b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In disseminating the guidance under subsection (a), the Assistant Secretary may consider circumstances that affect the expenditure of the funds described in such subsection.

SEC. 108. RIGHT TO FIRST REFUSAL.

Section 305(b)(5)(B) (42 U.S.C. 3025(b)(5)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) Whenever a State agency designates a new area agency on aging after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, the State agency shall give the right to first refusal to a unit of general purpose local government if—

“(i) such unit can meet the requirements of subsection (c);

“(ii)(I) such unit has demonstrated experience administering services for older individuals; or

“(II) the State agency determines that there is not another entity eligible under subsection (c)(1) within the planning and service area with such demonstrated experience; and

“(iii) the boundaries of such unit and the boundaries of the planning and service area are reasonably contiguous.”.

SEC. 109. AREA AGENCY ON AGING CAPABILITIES.

(a) ORGANIZATION.—Section 305(c) (42 U.S.C. 3025(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (5) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively, and moving such subparagraphs 2 ems to the right;

(2) by striking “shall be” and inserting the following: “shall—

“(1) be—”;

(3) in subparagraph (E), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking “(b)(5)” and inserting “(b)(5)(A)”;

(B) by inserting “and” after the semicolon; and

(4) by striking “and shall provide assurance, determined adequate by the State agency, that the area agency on aging will have the ability to develop an area plan and to carry out, directly or through contractual or other arrangements, a program in accordance with the plan within the planning and service area.” and inserting the following:

“(2) provide assurance, determined adequate by the State agency, that the area agency on aging will have the ability, and maintain the capabilities necessary, to develop an area plan as required under section 306(a), and carry out, directly or through contractual or other arrangements, and oversee activities in accordance with—

“(A) the plan within the planning and service area;

“(B) any other relevant requirements of this Act;

“(C) other applicable Federal and State laws; and

“(D) other terms and conditions of awards received under this Act.”.

(b) PLANS.—Section 306(f)(1) (42 U.S.C. 3026(f)(1)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “the assurances required under section 305(c)(2),” after “of this section.”; and

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting “, and if the State agency determines, in the discretion of the State agency, that an area agency on aging failed in 2 successive years to comply with the requirements under this title, then the State agency may require the area agency on aging to submit a plan for a 1-year period that meets such requirements, for subsequent years until the State agency determines that the area agency on aging is in compliance with such requirements.”.

SEC. 110. SUPPORTING OLDER INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH IMPROVED COORDINATION.

(a) AREA PLANS.—Section 306(a)(5) (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)(5)) is amended by striking “with agencies that develop or provide services for individuals with disabilities” and inserting “with entities that develop or provide services for individuals with disabilities, which may include centers for independent living, relevant service providers, and other community-based organizations, as appropriate”.

(b) SUPPORTING OLDER INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH IMPROVED COORDINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Administration for Community Living of the Department of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Administrator”) shall identify—

(A) opportunities to improve coordination between the aging and disability networks, which may include the formation of partnerships to serve individuals eligible for programs under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.);

(B) lessons learned from disability networks, including centers for independent living, State developmental disabilities councils, university centers for excellence in developmental disabilities education, research, and service, and State protection and advocacy agencies that could improve operations and service delivery within the aging network; and

(C) any technical assistance needs related to subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(2) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue guidance to State agencies and area agencies on aging on strategies to leverage disability networks, including centers for independent living, State developmental disabilities councils, university centers for excellence in developmental disabilities, education, research, and service, and State protection and advocacy agencies, as appropriate, to strengthen the provision of services under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator shall coordinate across the Administration for Community Living to address any technical assistance needs identified under paragraph (1)(C) in a manner that does not unnecessarily duplicate other technical assistance activities carried out prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—Section 102 (42 U.S.C. 3002) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4), by striking “(as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102))”;

(2) in paragraph (13), by striking “The term” and all that follows through “adjustment.” and inserting “The term ‘disability’ has the meaning given such term in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102).”;

(3) in paragraph (49)(B), by striking “of the major life activities specified in subparagraphs (A) through (G) of paragraph (8)” and inserting “major life activities specified in section 3(2) of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102(2)).”.

SEC. 111. BUSINESS ACUMEN, FISCAL TRAINING, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 307(a) (42 U.S.C. 3027(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(31) The plan shall provide assurances that the State agency, to the extent feasible and when applicable and appropriate, provides technical assistance for area agencies on aging related to the development of business acumen, sound fiscal practices, capacity building, organizational development, innovation, and other methods of growing and sustaining the capacity of the aging network to carry out activities funded under this Act to serve older individuals and caregivers most effectively.”.

SEC. 112. ENHANCING ACCESS TO ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY.

Section 307(a) (42 U.S.C. 3027(a)), as amended by section 111 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(32) The plan shall provide assurances that the State will coordinate services, to the extent feasible, with lead agencies designated to carry out State assistive technology programs under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) and with area agencies on aging to assist eligible older individuals, including older individuals with disabilities, in accessing and acquiring assistive technology.”.

SEC. 113. WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING.

Title II of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 3001 note; Public Law 100-175) is amended by striking title II and inserting the following:

“TITLE II—WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

“SEC. 201. AUTHORIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE.

“(a) AUTHORITY TO CALL CONFERENCE.—Not earlier than January 21, 2025 and not later than December 31, 2025, the President shall convene the White House Conference on Aging in order to fulfill the purpose set forth in subsection (c) and to make fundamental policy recommendations regarding programs that are important to older individuals and to the families and communities of such individuals.

“(b) PLANNING AND DIRECTION.—The Conference described in subsection (a) shall be planned and conducted under the direction of the Secretary, in cooperation with the Assistant Secretary for Aging, the Director of the National Institute on Aging, the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Social Security Administrator, and the heads of such other Federal agencies serving older individuals as are appropriate. Planning and conducting the Conference includes the assignment of personnel.

“(c) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Conference described in subsection (a) shall be to gather individuals representing the spectrum of thought and experience in the field of aging to—

“(1) evaluate the manner in which the objectives of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) can be met by using

the resources and talents of older individuals, of families and communities of such individuals, and of individuals from the public and private sectors;

“(2) evaluate the manner in which Federal policies, programs, and activities meet and respond to the needs of older individuals, including an examination of innovative and fiscally responsible strategies relating to retirement security, caregiving, nutrition and supportive services, health care, elder justice, and long-term services and supports;

“(3) be informed by the work and recommendations of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Healthy Aging and Age-Friendly Communities, evaluate the recommendations of the Committee, and, as appropriate, suggest implementation strategies for such recommendations; and

“(4) develop recommendations to guide the President, Congress, and Federal agencies in improving Federal programs that serve older individuals, which may relate to the prevention and mitigation of disease, injury, abuse, social isolation, loneliness, and economic insecurity, including food insecurity, and promotion of healthy aging in place.

“(d) CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS AND DELEGATES.—

“(1) PARTICIPANTS.—In order to carry out the purposes of this section, the Conference shall bring together—

“(A) representatives of Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments;

“(B) professionals and volunteers who are working in the field of aging; and

“(C) representatives of the general public, particularly older individuals.

“(2) SELECTION OF DELEGATES.—The delegates shall be selected without regard to political affiliation or past partisan activity and shall, to the best of the appointing authority’s ability, be representative of the spectrum of thought in the field of aging. Delegates shall include older individuals, individuals who are professionals in the field of aging, individuals who are community leaders, minority individuals, individuals from rural areas, low-income individuals, and representatives of Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments.

“SEC. 202. CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION.

“(a) ADMINISTRATION.—In administering this section, the Secretary shall—

“(1) consult with relevant State, Tribal, and local officials, stakeholders, and subject matter experts in planning the Conference;

“(2) request the cooperation and assistance of the heads of such other Federal departments and agencies, including such officials of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Healthy Aging and Age-Friendly Communities, as may be appropriate in the carrying out of this section;

“(3) make available for public comment a proposed agenda for the Conference, which will reflect to the greatest extent possible the major issues facing older individuals, consistent with the provisions of section 201(c);

“(4) prepare and make available such background materials for the use of delegates to the Conference as the Secretary deems necessary; and

“(5) engage such additional personnel as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section without regard to provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title, relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

“(b) DUTIES.—The Secretary shall, in carrying out the Secretary’s responsibilities and functions under this section, and as part of the White House Conference on Aging, ensure that—

“(1) the agenda prepared under subsection (a)(3) for the Conference is published in the Federal Register not later than 30 days after such agenda is approved by the Secretary;

“(2) the personnel engaged under subsection (a)(5) shall be fairly balanced in terms of points of views represented and shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation or previous partisan activities;

“(3) the recommendations of the Conference are not inappropriately influenced by any appointing authority or by any special interest, but will instead be the result of the independent judgment of the Conference; and

“(4) current and adequate statistical data, including decennial census data, and other information on the well-being of older individuals in the United States, are readily available, in advance of the Conference, to the delegates of the Conference, together with such information as may be necessary to evaluate Federal programs and policies relating to aging. In carrying out this subparagraph, the Secretary is authorized to make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, public agencies and non-profit private organizations.

“(c) GIFTS.—The Secretary may accept, on behalf of the United States, gifts (in cash or in kind, including voluntary and uncompensated services) that shall be available to carry out this title. Gifts of cash shall be available in addition to amounts appropriated to carry out this title. Gifts may be earmarked by the donor for a specific purpose.

“(d) RECORDS.—The Secretary shall maintain records regarding—

“(1) the sources, amounts, and uses of gifts accepted under subsection (c); and

“(2) the identity of each person receiving assistance to carry out this title, and the amount of such assistance received by each such person.

“SEC. 203. REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE.

“(a) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—Not later than 100 days after the date on which the Conference adjourns, the Secretary shall publish and deliver to the States a preliminary report on the Conference. Comments on the preliminary report of the Conference shall be accepted by the Secretary.

“(b) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Conference adjourns, the Secretary shall publish and transmit to the President and to Congress recommendations resulting from the Conference and suggestions for any administrative action and legislation necessary to implement the recommendations contained within the report.

“SEC. 204. DEFINITIONS.

“In this title:

“(1) CONFERENCE.—The term ‘Conference’ means the White House Conference on Aging.

“(2) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

“(3) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means any of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands of the United States, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.”

“SEC. 114. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

The Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 201(d)(3)(J) (42 U.S.C. 3011(d)(3)(J)), by striking “Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate” and inserting “Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives”;

(2) in section 202(b)(8)(E) (42 U.S.C. 3012(b)(8)(E)), by striking “preventative health benefits under the provisions of, and amendments made by, the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003” and inserting “preventative health benefits under such program”;

(3) in section 203(c)(7) (42 U.S.C. 3013(c)(7))—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “the Committee on Education and Labor of the House of Representatives” and inserting “the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives”; and

(B) in subparagraph (C), by striking “chairman” and inserting “chairperson”;

(4) in section 339 (42 U.S.C. 3030g–21), by striking “this chapter” each place it appears and inserting “this part”;

(5) in section 432(b)(1) (42 U.S.C. 3033a(b)(1)), by striking “Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate” and inserting “Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives”.

TITLE II—IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ENCOURAGING INDEPENDENCE FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS

SEC. 201. DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICES.

Section 102(14) (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “heart rate, respiratory function,” after “hearing,”;

(2) in subparagraph (K), by inserting “providing” before “information”;

(3) by redesignating subparagraphs (L), (M), (N), and (O), as subparagraphs (M), (N), (O), and (P), respectively;

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (K) the following:

“(L) providing information concerning testing, diagnosis, and treatment of infectious diseases, taking into consideration infectious diseases for which older individuals are at increased risk of infection or serious health outcomes;”;

(5) in subparagraph (P), as so redesignated, by striking “subparagraphs (A) through (N)” and inserting “subparagraphs (A) through (O)”.

SEC. 202. IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES.

(a) RESEARCH AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES.—Section 201 (42 U.S.C. 3011) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(3)(B), by striking “in behalf” and inserting “on behalf”; and

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), by inserting “reduction of health care expenditures,” after “quality of life,”; and

(B) in paragraph (7), by inserting “and recommendations relating to further research, evaluation, and demonstration projects conducted under this section” after “title IV”.

(b) FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAMS.—Section 411(a)(15) (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)(15)) is amended to read as follows:

“(15) bringing to scale and sustaining evidence-based falls prevention programs to reduce the number of falls, fear of falling, and fall-related injuries affecting older individuals, including older individuals with disabilities, which shall—

“(A) provide training and technical assistance to the aging network; and

“(B) share best practices with the aging network, including the Aging and Disability Resource Centers;”.

(c) INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON HEALTHY AGING AND AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES.—Section 203(c) (42 U.S.C. 3013(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6)(B)—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(B) in clause (iii), by inserting “and” after the semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following: “(iv) strategies to address social isolation, including by promoting strong and stable connections across different generations in a family and in the community;” and

(2) in paragraph (7), as amended by section 114(3)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) contains an assessment of the effectiveness of relevant Federal efforts and programs, including implementation of best practices described in paragraph (6)(B); and”.

SEC. 203. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ON EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS.

(a) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Assistant Secretary, at the request of a State agency (as defined in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002)) or area agencies on aging, may provide technical assistance on the requirements of evidence-based programs under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

(b) **CONSIDERATION.**—The Assistant Secretary may consider whether there are evidence-informed practices, based on the best available science, that may improve health outcomes.

SEC. 204. ENHANCING MULTIPURPOSE SENIOR CENTERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 202(a)(30) (42 U.S.C. 3012(a)(30)) is amended by inserting “, access to services provided at multipurpose senior centers, and (where appropriate) the establishment and maintenance of multipurpose senior centers” before the semicolon at the end.

(b) **AREA AGENCY ON AGING PLANS.**—Section 306(a)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “, including those services provided at multipurpose senior centers, where appropriate” before the semicolon at the end.

(c) **STATE PLANS.**—Section 307(a)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3027(a)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “and, to the extent feasible, make such evaluation public” before the semicolon at the end.

SEC. 205. ADDRESSING HOME MODIFICATIONS.

(a) **INDOOR AIR QUALITY.**—Section 361(c) (42 U.S.C. 3030m(c)) is amended by striking “buildings” and all that follows and inserting “buildings and residences where older individuals congregate or live”.

(b) **WEATHERIZATION.**—Section 321(a)(4) (42 U.S.C. 3030d(a)(4)) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting “(A) to assist older individuals in obtaining and maintaining adequate housing, including residential repair and renovation projects, and (if assistance for weatherization projects does not unnecessarily duplicate other Federal assistance available) weatherization projects, designed to enable older individuals to maintain their homes in conformity with minimum housing and (as applicable and appropriate) other relevant standards, in order to support such older individuals in aging in place and maintaining their health;”.

SEC. 206. NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR ENGAGING OLDER ADULTS.

Section 411(a)(18) (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)(18)) is amended by inserting “, such as providing appropriate training, resources, and best practices to the aging network” after “older individuals”.

SEC. 207. MULTIGENERATIONAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.

Section 417 (42 U.S.C. 3032f) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “projects,” and all that follows through “to—” and inserting the following: “projects to serve individuals in younger generations and older individuals by developing, carrying out, and promoting participation in multigenerational activities to—”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by adding “and” at the end;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “opportunities for older individuals to become mentors to individuals in younger generations; and” and inserting “opportunities—

“(A) for older individuals to become mentors to individuals in younger generations; and

“(B) at facilities that serve older individuals or individuals in younger generations, at which multigenerational activities might occur.”; and

(D) by striking paragraph (4);

(2) in subsection (c)(2), by striking “(4)” and inserting “(3)”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (5) as paragraphs (1) through (4), respectively;

(4) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “of enactment of the Supporting Older Americans Act of 2020,” and inserting “on which the first grant is awarded under this section following the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024;” and

(B) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate” and inserting “the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives”; and

(5) in subsection (h)(1), by striking “or a family support program.” and inserting “or a family support program, or a program at a multipurpose senior center, long-term care facility, or any other residential facility for older individuals.”.

SEC. 208. REPORT RELATING TO HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH OR NEAR FAMILY MEMBERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall prepare a report that assesses—

(1) the health outcomes for older individuals who live with, on the same property as, or otherwise in the community in close geographic proximity, relative to the area, to family members; and

(2) the degree to which programs under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) promote living in the settings described in paragraph (1), as appropriate.

(b) **INCLUSION.**—The report described under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an assessment of physical and mental health outcomes of older individuals who live in the settings described in subsection (a)(1) in comparison to physical and mental health outcomes of older individuals who do not live in such settings;

(2) an assessment of the extent to which living in such settings mitigates social isolation and loneliness in older adults; and

(3) a description of the different types of such settings and whether, and to what extent, findings under paragraphs (1) and (2) vary across such different types.

(c) **SUBMISSION.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Sen-

ate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives the report required by subsection (a).

SEC. 209. IMPROVING BROADBAND COORDINATION AND REDUCING SOCIAL ISOLATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Assistant Secretary shall, as appropriate, coordinate with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to ensure that the aging network (as defined in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002)) and other relevant stakeholders are aware of, and, subject to applicable eligibility criteria, have access to, Federal programs relating to digital literacy and the adoption of broadband that may support healthy aging and aging in place for older individuals.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall prepare, and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Special Committee on Aging, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, a report regarding any coordination efforts carried out pursuant to subsection (a).

TITLE III—ENHANCING INNOVATION AND FLEXIBILITY IN NUTRITION SERVICES

SEC. 301. MEDICALLY TAILORED MEALS.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—Section 102(14) (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “, which may include counseling related to the provision of medically tailored meals,” after “counseling”; and

(2) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “(including from medically tailored meals)” after “improved nutrition”.

(b) **ADMINISTRATION OF NUTRITION SERVICES.**—Section 205(a)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3016(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (vi), by inserting “, including through the use of innovative approaches” after “systems”; and

(2) in clause (viii), by inserting “and innovative interventions” after “including strategies”.

(c) **NUTRITION EDUCATION.**—Section 214(2)(C) (42 U.S.C. 3020e(2)(C)) is amended by inserting “, including interventions,” after “other activities”.

(d) **NUTRITION SERVICES PURPOSES.**—Section 330(3) (42 U.S.C. 3030d-21(3)) is amended by inserting “, tailored to their individual medical and nutritional needs to the extent feasible,” after “services”.

SEC. 302. GRAB-AND-GO MEALS.

Section 308(b)(4) (42 U.S.C. 3028(b)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(E) A State may elect in its plan under section 307 to allow use of not more than 25 percent of the funds received by such State under subpart 1 of part C, calculated after any transfers under subparagraphs (A) and (B) are completed, to make meals available at congregate meal sites or other community locations for consumption by older individuals outside such sites and locations, such as carry-out or similar meals. A State electing to allow use of funds under the preceding sentence shall—

“(i) ensure that such allowable use complements the delivery of services through the congregate meals program under section 331; and

“(ii) notify the Assistant Secretary of such election, including a description of the amount and percentage of funds received by such State under subpart 1 of part C to be used for such purposes.”.

SEC. 303. GAO STUDY ON NUTRITION SERVICES INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study to

evaluate the Nutrition Services Incentive Program under section 311 (42 U.S.C. 3030a) (referred to in this section as the “Program”).

(b) INCLUSIONS.—The study under this section—

(1) shall—

(A) include an assessment of how States and Tribal organizations use funding provided under the Program, including the degree to which States and Tribal organizations use such funding to procure food products from local or regional producers for meals supported under the Program; and

(B) identify any challenges or barriers to increasing the use of local and regional producers under the Program; and

(2) may make recommendations related to improving the effectiveness of the Program, including with respect to the use of local and regional producers.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report on the results of the study under this section.

SEC. 304. INNOVATIONS IN NUTRITION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

Subpart 3 of part C of title III (42 U.S.C. 3030g–21 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 340. INNOVATIONS IN NUTRITION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

“(a) DEMONSTRATION TO REDUCE HUNGER, FOOD INSECURITY, AND MALNUTRITION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—From funds available under paragraph (5), the Assistant Secretary shall make grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities, to achieve the purposes of section 330(1) by developing, testing, implementing, and evaluating innovative local or regional approaches to improve the quality, effectiveness, efficiency, and outcomes of nutrition projects and services described in sections 311, 331, and 336.

“(2) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to be eligible for a grant under paragraph (1), an entity shall—

“(A) be—

“(i) a State agency, an area agency on aging, an Indian Tribe, a Tribal organization, or another public or nonprofit private entity, including a nutrition service provider, a multipurpose senior center, a health care entity, or an institution of higher education; or

“(ii) a partnership between any entities described in clause (i); and

“(B) submit an application at such time and in such manner as the Assistant Secretary may require, including—

“(i) a description of an innovative approach referred to in paragraph (1) that the entity proposes to implement under the grant;

“(ii) a plan for evaluating the effectiveness, including cost-effectiveness, of the innovative approach proposed; and

“(iii) a plan for the publication of the results of such evaluation.

“(3) PRIORITY.—In selecting eligible entities for grants under this subsection, the Assistant Secretary shall give priority to eligible entities proposing to carry out a grant in 1 or more rural areas.

“(4) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, and annually thereafter, the Assistant Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the

Workforce of the House of Representatives describing any activities carried out under paragraph (1), an assessment of the outcomes of such activities using rigorous methodologies, and recommendations for inclusion of any successful innovative approaches within nutrition programs established under this Act.

“(5) RESERVATION.—From the total of the amounts made available for a fiscal year under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 303(b) and in section 311(e), the Assistant Secretary shall reserve an amount equal to not more than 1 percent to carry out activities described in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

“(b) INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO REDUCE HUNGER, FOOD INSECURITY, AND MALNUTRITION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (6), in carrying out nutrition projects established under this Act, a State agency or title VI grantee may implement innovative approaches, including any applicable approaches implemented previously by the Assistant Secretary or pursuant to subsection (a), that are demonstrated to be effective, to achieve the purposes described in section 330(1) by improving—

“(A) the quality, composition, preparation, modality, delivery, or location of meals provided to older individuals under this Act; or

“(B) the efficiency and effectiveness of distributing, delivering, or otherwise making meals available to older individuals under this Act.

“(2) WAIVER.—At the request of a State agency implementing an approach under paragraph (1), the Assistant Secretary may waive any requirements of subpart 1 or 2 with respect to such State agency if such requirements impede the ability of such State agency to successfully implement such an approach.

“(3) FLEXIBILITY.—The Secretary shall provide maximum flexibility to a title VI grantee implementing an approach under paragraph (1) in the same manner as the Secretary provides maximum flexibility in accordance with section 614(c)(3).

“(4) SUNSET.—The authority to carry out activities described in paragraph (1) shall expire on October 1, 2029.

“(5) REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2028, the Assistant Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives describing any activities carried out by State agencies or title VI grantees under paragraph (1), an assessment of the outcomes of such activities using rigorous methodologies, and recommendations for inclusion of any successful innovative approaches within nutrition programs established under this Act.

“(6) USE OF ALLOTMENT.—If the amount appropriated to carry out section 311 for a fiscal year exceeds the amount appropriated to carry out section 311 for the prior fiscal year or fiscal year 2024, whichever is greater, a State agency and title VI grantee in receipt of an allotment under section 311(b) may elect to use the difference between the allotment received for the fiscal year and the allotment received for the prior fiscal year or fiscal year 2024, whichever is greater, for activities described in paragraph (1).

“(7) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as limiting or prohibiting the requirements described in section 339 from applying to nutrition projects utilizing an innovative approach under this subsection.”

TITLE IV—SUPPORTING FAMILY CAREGIVERS

SEC. 401. IMPROVING THE NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM.

(a) STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS ON AGING GRANTS.—Section 305(a)(3)(E) (42 U.S.C. 3025(a)(3)(E)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) available supports for family caregivers and older relative caregivers (as defined in section 372(a)).”

(b) AREA PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—Section 306(a)(7)(D) (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)(7)(D)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (ii), by adding “and” after the semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) available supports for family caregivers and older relative caregivers (as defined in section 372(a)).”

(c) DEFINITIONS RELATING TO THE NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 372(a) (42 U.S.C. 3030s(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the first sentence, by striking “The term” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated), in the second sentence—

(I) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(II) by striking “Such assessment shall be administered through” and inserting the following:

“(B) ADMINISTRATION OF ASSESSMENTS.—A caregiver assessment under subparagraph (A) shall—

“(i) be administered through”; and

(III) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) take into account—

“(I) linguistic and cultural differences;

“(II) the ease for the caregiver to access information, supports, or services, and the timeliness of access to such information, supports, or services;

“(III) barriers to accessing information, supports, or services;

“(IV) the availability of information, supports, or services in accessible formats; and

“(V) the quality of information, supports, or services received, and the degree to which it is helpful to the caregiver.”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) CHILD OR YOUTH.—The term ‘child or youth’ means an individual who is not more than—

“(A) 18 years of age; or

“(B) 22 years of age, in the case of an individual who is enrolled in any form of schooling (including on a part-time basis), including—

“(i) in high school or secondary school (as such terms are defined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)); or

“(ii) in an institution of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)).”;

(C) in paragraph (4)(B)—

(i) in clause (i), by inserting “adult” after “or other”; and

(ii) by amending clause (iii) to read as follows:

“(iii)(I) has a legal relationship to the child or youth, such as legal custody, adoption, or guardianship, or is raising the child or youth informally; and

“(II) in the case of a child or youth described in paragraph (2)(B) who is 18 years of

age or older, had established such a legal relationship, or began raising such child or youth informally, prior to the child or youth reaching the age of 18; and”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Part E of title III (42 U.S.C. 3030s et seq.) is amended—

(A) by inserting “or youth” after “child” each place it appears (other than in sections 372(a)(2) (as amended by paragraph (1)(B)) and 372(a)(4)(B)(iii) (as amended by paragraph (1)(C)(ii))); and

(B) in section 373(c)(2)(B) (42 U.S.C. 3030s-1(c)(2)(B)), by inserting “or youth” after “children”.

(d) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—Section 373 (42 U.S.C. 3030s-1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(3)—
(A) by inserting “which may include trauma-informed services, peer supports,” after “individual counseling,”; and

(B) by inserting “elder abuse prevention,” after “nutrition,”;

(2) in subsection (c)—
(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “PRIORITY” and inserting “PRIORITY; CONSIDERATION”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:
“(3) CONSIDERATION.—In providing services under this part, the State shall consider—

“(A) that older relative caregivers caring for multiple children or youth may need greater resources and supports; and

“(B) the circumstances and unique needs of different types of caregivers, including the needs of children or youth and their older relative caregivers whose families have been affected by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder.”;

(3) in subsection (e)—
(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Not later than” and all that follows through “the Assistant Secretary shall” and inserting “The Assistant Secretary shall, on a regular basis”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—
(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) the use of caregiver assessments; and”;

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking “make available” and inserting “prepare, publish, and disseminate”;

(4) in subsection (i)—
(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, which may include the improvement of the quality and consistency of caregiver assessments and access to other information, supports, or services” after “section 631”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “(including outcome measures)” after “program evaluation”; and

(5) in subsection (j)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Not later than” and all that follows through “shall provide technical assistance” and inserting “Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with stakeholders with appropriate expertise and, as appropriate, informed by the most recent strategy developed under the RAISE Family Caregivers Act (42 U.S.C. 3030s note) and the most recent report developed under the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act (Public Law 115-196; 132 Stat. 1511), shall provide ongoing technical assistance”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) the quality and consistency of caregiver assessments used across States; and”.

SEC. 402. EMPHASIZING RESPITE CARE.

Section 321(a)(19) (42 U.S.C. 3030d(a)(19)) is amended to read as follows:

“(19) services, which may include respite care through various models, designed to support family members and other persons providing voluntary care to older individuals that need long-term care services, which may include older individuals with cognitive impairments such as Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction;”.

SEC. 403. CLARIFYING SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.

Section 321(a)(18) (42 U.S.C. 3030d(a)(18)) is amended by striking “mentally impaired older individuals” and inserting “older individuals with cognitive, physical, or mental impairments”.

SEC. 404. DIRECT CARE WORKFORCE RESOURCE CENTER.

Section 411(a)(13) (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)(13)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by adding “and” at the end;

(2) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as clauses (i) and (ii), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(3) in the matter preceding clause (i) (as so redesignated)—

(A) by inserting “and, as appropriate, the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies” after “Labor”; and

(B) by striking “workers, and the soliciting,” and inserting the following: “workers, including—

“(A) the soliciting,”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) the establishment and operation of a national resource center that supports the growth and professionalization of the direct care workforce necessary to meet the needs of older individuals and individuals with disabilities, and, in a manner that does not unnecessarily duplicate the activities of other resource centers supported by the Assistant Secretary, that addresses training and other educational needs of family caregivers, which activities of the center may include—
“(i) the provision of training and technical assistance, including through the development and dissemination of educational materials, to States, long-term services and supports providers, direct care workers, and family caregivers; and
“(ii) promoting existing, and supporting the demonstration of new, strategies for the recruitment, retention, career development, or advancement of direct care workers to reduce barriers to entry for a diverse and high-quality direct care workforce, including providing wages, benefits, and advancement opportunities needed to attract or retain direct care workers.”.

SEC. 405. SUPPORTING GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN ACT.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act (Public Law 115-196; 132 Stat. 1511) is amended by striking section 2.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—The Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act is amended by redesignating section 4 as section 2 and moving the section so as to follow section 1.

(c) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—Section 3 of the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (G) through (I) as subparagraphs (H) through (J);

(ii) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following:

“(G) The Assistant Secretary for Health.”;

(iii) in subparagraph (I), as so redesignated, by striking “of children”; and

(iv) in subparagraph (J), as so redesignated, by striking “relatives” and inserting “relative caregivers”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) LIMITATION ON NON-FEDERAL MEMBERS.—Not more than 10 members of the Advisory Council may be individuals who are not Federal officers or employees.”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “relatives” and inserting “relative caregivers”; and

(II) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “the health,” and inserting “the near- and long-term health, including mental health,”; and

(bb) by striking “care; and” and inserting “care, including any needs related to the circumstances that caused such children to be raised by a grandparent or older relative caregiver; and”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking “(B)” and all that follows through “In” and inserting the following:

“(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In”; and

(II) by striking “needs of those affected by the opioid crisis” and inserting “needs and challenges of individuals affected by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder, or, as applicable and appropriate, needs and challenges of individuals related to other circumstances, which may include public health emergencies”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “enactment of this Act” and inserting “enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “relatives” and inserting “relative caregivers”; and

(bb) by striking “needs of children” and all that follows through “epidemic,” and inserting “needs of children and their older relative caregivers who have been affected by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder;”;

(II) in clause (ii), by striking the “and” at the end;

(III) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (iv); and

(IV) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

“(iii) a description of any activities of the Department of Health and Human Services to evaluate the effectiveness of supportive services in addressing the needs of children and their older relative caregivers, including those who have been affected by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder, and any related findings; and”;

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “(3)” and all that follows through “Not” and inserting the following:

“(3) FOLLOW-UP REPORTS.—Not”;

(II) by striking “2 years” and inserting “180 days”; and

(III) by inserting after “submitted,” the following: “and every 2 years thereafter until the Advisory Council terminates under subsection (f),”; and

(D) in paragraph (4) by striking “relatives” each place it appears and inserting “relative caregivers”;

(3) in subsection (d), by striking “the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)” and inserting “chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code.”; and

(4) in subsection (f), by striking “terminate” and all that follows through “Act.” and inserting “terminate on September 30, 2029.”.

SEC. 406. RAISE FAMILY CAREGIVERS ACT.

(a) STRATEGY.—Section 3 of the RAISE Family Caregivers Act (42 U.S.C. 3030s note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “(or the Secretary’s designee)” after “The Secretary”; and

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and made publicly available by the Secretary,” after “caregiver programs.”; and

(2) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting “in” after “caregiver programs”.

(b) COUNCIL.—Section 4(e) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 3030s note) is amended by striking “The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)” and inserting “Chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code.”.

(c) SUNSET EXTENSION.—Section 6 of that Act (42 U.S.C. 3030s note) is amended by striking “terminate” and all that follows through “Act.” and inserting “terminate on September 30, 2029.”.

TITLE V—COMMUNITY SERVICE SENIOR OPPORTUNITIES ACT**SEC. 501. IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.**

(a) PROGRAM.—Section 502(b)(1) (42 U.S.C. 3056(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking “section 513(a)(2)(E)” and inserting “section 513(a)(2)(F)”;

(2) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “older individuals,” after “youth.”.

(b) PERFORMANCE.—Section 513 (42 U.S.C. 3056k) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (D)(iii), by inserting “, including toward the long-term performance goals determined by the Department of Labor under the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-62; 107 Stat. 285) and the amendments made by such Act,” after “core measures”;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(E) BIENNIAL REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, and every 2 years thereafter during the period of the program described in section 502(a)(1), the Secretary shall prepare, make publicly available, and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report regarding the methodology used to arrive at the expected levels of performance described in subparagraph (B) for each grantee, including the particular statistical model used and other factors taken into account, as described in subparagraph (D).”;

(2) in subsection (b)(1)(C), by striking “fourth quarter after exit from the project” and inserting “second quarter after exit from the project and remain in unsubsidized employment during the fourth quarter after exit from the project”;

(3) in subsection (c) and paragraphs (1)(A), (2)(A), and (3)(A) of subsection (d), by striking “subsection (a)(2)(E)” and inserting “subsection (a)(2)(F)”;

(4) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B)(iii), by adding at the end the following: “For grants awarded on or after the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, any grantee who has failed to meet the expected levels of performance for the 2 consecutive years prior to the subsequent grant competition under section 514 shall not be allowed to compete in the subsequent grant competition under

section 514 following the second consecutive year of failure but may compete in the next such grant competition after that subsequent competition.”; and

(B) in paragraph (3)(B)(iii), by adding at the end the following: “For grants awarded on or after the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, if the Secretary determines that the State fails to meet the expected levels of performance described in subparagraph (A) for 2 consecutive program years, the Secretary shall provide for the conduct by the State of a competition to award the funds allotted to the State under section 506(e) for the first full program year following the Secretary’s determination.”.

(c) DEFINITIONS AND RULE.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—Section 518(a)(1)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3056p(a)(1)(A)) is amended to read as follows:

“(A) social, health, welfare, and educational services (including literacy tutoring and services provided by the aging network), legal and other counseling services and assistance (including tax counseling and assistance and financial counseling), and library, recreational, and other similar services;”.

(2) RULE.—Section 518(b)(2)(F) (42 U.S.C. 3056p(b)(2)(F)) is amended to read as follows:

“(F) has failed to find employment after receiving any combination of training services or the following career services provided under title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.)—

“(i) initial or comprehensive skills assessment;

“(ii) labor exchange services;

“(iii) provision of workforce and labor market information or job search assistance;

“(iv) development of an individual employment plan;

“(v) group or individual counseling;

“(vi) career planning;

“(vii) internship, work experience, workforce preparation activities, or prevocational services;

“(viii) English language acquisition and integrated education and training; or

“(ix) followup services.”.

SEC. 502. GAO REPORT ON ALIGNMENT WITHIN THE COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

(a) REVIEW.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall complete a review in which the Comptroller General—

(1) evaluates—

(A) the distinct differences and similarities between the older American community service employment program as authorized under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) and the programs carried out under title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.); and

(B) how the programs described in subparagraph (A) serve older individuals in seeking and obtaining community service employment;

(2) analyzes the expected levels of performance described in section 513(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056k(a)), the efficacy and impacts of the indicators of performance described in section 513(b) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056k(b)), and corrective measures described in section 513(d) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056k(d)) for the older American community service employment program, compared with the expected levels of performance, efficacy and impacts of the indicators of performance, and corrective measures described in section 116 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141) for programs authorized

under title I of such Act, including the efficacy of the indicators of performance described in section 513(b) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056k(b)) for individuals described in subsection (a)(3)(B)(ii) or subsection (b) of section 518 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056p);

(3) develops recommendations for any alternative measures that may better measure the efficacy of the older American community service employment program as authorized under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) for individuals described in subsection (a)(3)(B)(ii) or subsection (b) of section 518 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056p) to achieve the objectives described in section 101 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001); and

(4) evaluates how the Department of Labor coordinates delivery of services with State and national grantees under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) and with States and local workforce development areas under title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.) to serve older individuals.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days after the review required under this section is completed, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report on the results of such review.

TITLE VI—IMPROVING SERVICES FOR NATIVE ELDERLY**SEC. 601. OLDER AMERICANS TRIBAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

Section 201(c) (42 U.S.C. 3011(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4)(A) In addition to other methods of government-to-government consultation between the Administration and Indian Tribes and conferring with organizations representing Native Hawaiians, the Assistant Secretary shall establish an advisory committee, to be known as the ‘Older Americans Tribal Advisory Committee’ (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘Committee’) to provide advice and guidance to the Assistant Secretary on matters relating to the needs of older individuals who are Native Americans and implementation of related programs and activities under this Act.

“(B) The Committee shall be composed of 11 voting, non-Federal members, including—

“(i) geographically diverse individuals with expertise on the range of issues affecting Indian Tribes, organizations representing Native Hawaiians, and older individuals who are Native Americans;

“(ii) not less than 1 member who is an Alaska Native; and

“(iii) not less than 1 member who is a Native Hawaiian.

“(C) The Committee shall include non-voting, ex officio representatives of relevant Federal departments and agencies, including—

“(i) the Administration;

“(ii) the Indian Health Service;

“(iii) the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services;

“(iv) the Department of the Interior;

“(v) the Department of Labor; and

“(vi) any other agency or office with subject matter expertise that the Assistant Secretary determines appropriate.

“(D) The Committee shall meet in person not less frequently than twice each year.

“(E) The Committee shall coordinate, as appropriate, with the Secretary’s Tribal Advisory Committee of the Department of Health and Human Services.

“(F)(i) Not less frequently than once each year, the Committee shall submit to the Assistant Secretary and make publicly available a report that describes—

“(I) the activities of the Committee during the previous year; and

“(II) recommendations for administrative action, including the identification of any statutory barriers to carrying out such recommendations, for the following year.

“(ii) Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Assistant Secretary receives a report under clause (i), the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee a written response to such report.

“(G) Chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to the Committee.

“(H) In establishing, developing procedures for, and operating the Committee, the Assistant Secretary shall—

“(i) consult with Indian Tribes and confer with organizations representing Native Hawaiians; and

“(ii) take into consideration best practices of other Tribal advisory committees operated by the Department of Health and Human Services before the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024.”

SEC. 602. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES; SET ASIDE.

(a) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Section 636 (42 U.S.C. 3057k-21) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “may” and inserting “shall, as practicable,”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “in-home assistance” and inserting “in-home services”.

(b) FUNDING SET ASIDE.—Section 644 (42 U.S.C. 3057o) is amended—

(1) by striking “Of” and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Of”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, a report on the use of funds under part D. Such report shall include—

“(1) the total amount of funds made available under subsection (a) to carry out part D for each fiscal year;

“(2) a list of award recipients under part D; and

“(3) a summary of supportive services for healthy aging and independence provided under part D.”

SEC. 603. GAO REPORT ON TRIBAL SERVICES.

Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) evaluates and identifies barriers to Indian Tribes (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)) and organizations serving Native Hawaiians accessing programs under title VI of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3057 et seq.), and coordination of such programs under such title VI with programs funded under titles III and IV of such Act (42 U.S.C. 3021 et seq., 42 U.S.C. 3031 et seq.), including by—

(A) estimating the number of Native Americans unserved by programs under such title VI;

(B) identifying States and area agencies on aging making grants to Indian Tribes under such title III; and

(C) providing estimates of funding necessary to support programs under such title VI for all Tribal organizations (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination

and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)) and organizations serving Native Hawaiians that are not eligible under such title VI (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act); and

(2) details how grantees under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) are serving older individuals who are Native Americans with funds received under such title V, including by evaluating how the Secretary of Labor coordinates with State and national grantees under such title V to serve older individuals who are Native Americans.

SEC. 604. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

The Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 102 (42 U.S.C. 3002)—

(A) in paragraph (27), by striking “the term ‘Indian tribe’ means any tribe” and inserting “the term ‘Indian Tribe’ means any Tribe”; and

(B) in paragraph (56), by striking “the term ‘tribal organization’ means” and inserting “the term ‘Tribal organization’ means”;

(2) in section 418(a)(2)(6) (42 U.S.C. 3032g(a)(2)(6)), by striking “Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate” and inserting “Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives”;

(3) in section 612(c) (42 U.S.C. 3057c(c))—

(A) by striking “terms ‘Indian tribe’ and ‘tribal organization’ have” and inserting “terms ‘Indian Tribe’ and ‘Tribal organization’ have”; and

(B) by striking “(25 U.S.C. 450b)” and inserting “(25 U.S.C. 5304)”; and

(4) by striking “tribe”, “tribes”, and “tribal” each place such terms appear and inserting “Tribe”, “Tribes”, and “Tribal”, respectively.

TITLE VII—STRENGTHENING THE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS AND ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION

SEC. 701. DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS.

Section 201(d)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3011(d)(2)(A)) is amended, in the second sentence, by inserting “serve on a full-time basis and” after “shall”.

SEC. 702. LEGAL ASSISTANCE TRAINING RESOURCES RELATING TO ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION.

Section 201(e)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3011(e)(2)(A)) is amended by striking clause (v) and inserting the following:

“(v) establishing an information clearinghouse to collect, maintain, and disseminate information concerning best practices and resources for training, technical assistance, and other activities, which may include training resources for paralegals or law students who are under the direct supervision of an attorney, to assist State Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs, adult protective services programs, and other legal services relating to defense of guardianship, promotion of self-determination, and the matters described in clause (ii)(I), and to assist States and communities to carry out evidence-based programs to prevent and address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation;”

SEC. 703. IMPROVING TRAINING OF VOLUNTEERS UNDER THE STATE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM.

Section 712 (42 U.S.C. 3058g) is amended—

(1) in subsection (h)(5)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “the representatives” and inserting “each type of representative”; and

(ii) by inserting “types of” before “unpaid volunteers”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “for each such type of representative” before the semicolon at the end;

(C) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking “and” at the end;

(D) in subparagraph (C), by adding “and” at the end; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) with respect to representatives of the Office who are unpaid volunteers, take into consideration the degree to which each such type of unpaid volunteer performs activities requiring specialized training, with a goal of reducing unnecessary training requirements for prospective unpaid volunteers;” and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(k) TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR UNPAID VOLUNTEERS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In providing the model standards described in subsection (h)(5), the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs shall review and, as necessary, update such model standards on a regular basis to tailor such model standards to the individualized training needs of each type of representative of the Office, including each type of unpaid volunteer.

“(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs shall take into consideration the degree to which each type of representative of the Office performs activities that require specialized training, with a goal of reducing unnecessary training requirements for unpaid volunteers.”

SEC. 704. REPORTING ON STATE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS.

Chapter 2 of subtitle A of title VII (42 U.S.C. 3058f et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 714. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

“Each year, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, and make publicly available, a report that—

“(1) aggregates all reports submitted under section 712(h) for such year; and

“(2) provides a summary of the findings of such reports.”

SEC. 705. STUDY ON STATE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall seek to enter into a contract with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (referred to in this section as the “National Academies”) to conduct a study on the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs carried out under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), including an assessment of the effectiveness of such programs and any related challenges and recommendations. The study shall include an assessment of the current (as of the date on which the contract is entered into) recommended staff-to-bed ratio for such programs, as appropriate.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date on which a contract is entered into under subsection (a), the National Academies shall publicly issue a report on the findings of the study under this section.

TITLE VIII—AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 801. ADMINISTRATION ON AGING.

Section 216 (42 U.S.C. 3020f) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “\$43,937,410” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$55,469,968 for fiscal year 2025, \$58,034,197 for fiscal year 2026, \$60,716,964 for fiscal year 2027, \$63,523,747 for fiscal year 2028, and \$66,460,281 for fiscal year 2029”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$2,180,660” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$2,753,033 for fiscal year 2025, \$2,880,298 for fiscal year 2026, \$3,013,447 for fiscal year 2027, \$3,152,751 for fiscal year 2028, and \$3,298,494 for fiscal year 2029”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$1,988,060” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$2,509,880 for fiscal year 2025, \$2,625,905 for fiscal year 2026, \$2,747,294 for fiscal year 2027, \$2,874,294 for fiscal year 2028, and \$3,007,165 for fiscal year 2029”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “\$1,371,740” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$1,731,790 for fiscal year 2025, \$1,811,846 for fiscal year 2026, \$1,895,603 for fiscal year 2027, \$1,983,232 for fiscal year 2028, and \$2,074,911 for fiscal year 2029”;

(D) in paragraph (4), by striking “\$8,687,330” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$10,967,554 for fiscal year 2025, \$11,474,555 for fiscal year 2026, \$12,004,993 for fiscal year 2027, \$12,559,952 for fiscal year 2028, and \$13,140,565 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 802. GRANTS FOR STATE AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS ON AGING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 303 (42 U.S.C. 3023) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “\$412,029,180” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$520,177,347 for fiscal year 2025, \$544,223,762 for fiscal year 2026, \$569,381,780 for fiscal year 2027, \$595,702,785 for fiscal year 2028, and \$623,240,541 for fiscal year 2029”;

(2) in subsection (b)—
(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$530,015,940” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$669,132,913 for fiscal year 2025, \$700,065,148 for fiscal year 2026, \$732,427,298 for fiscal year 2027, \$766,285,465 for fiscal year 2028, and \$801,708,804 for fiscal year 2029”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$268,935,940” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$339,525,428 for fiscal year 2025, \$355,220,786 for fiscal year 2026, \$371,641,698 for fiscal year 2027, \$388,821,705 for fiscal year 2028, and \$406,795,899 for fiscal year 2029”;

(3) in subsection (d), by striking “\$26,587,360” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$33,565,929 for fiscal year 2025, \$35,117,593 for fiscal year 2026, \$36,740,986 for fiscal year 2027, \$38,439,424 for fiscal year 2028, and \$40,216,376 for fiscal year 2029”;

(4) in subsection (e), by striking “\$193,869,020” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$244,755,171 for fiscal year 2025, \$256,069,552 for fiscal year 2026, \$267,906,966 for fiscal year 2027, \$280,291,593 for fiscal year 2028, and \$293,248,728 for fiscal year 2029”.

(b) NUTRITION SERVICES INCENTIVE PROGRAM.—Section 311(e) (42 U.S.C. 3030a(e)) is amended by striking “\$171,273,830” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$216,229,264 for fiscal year 2025, \$226,224,968 for fiscal year 2026, \$236,682,747 for fiscal year 2027, \$247,623,961 for fiscal year 2028, and \$259,070,958 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 803. ACTIVITIES FOR HEALTH, INDEPENDENCE, AND LONGEVITY.

Section 411(b) (42 U.S.C. 3032(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$14,514,550” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$18,324,285 for fiscal year 2025, \$19,171,368 for fiscal year 2026, \$20,057,609 for fiscal year 2027, \$20,984,819 for fiscal year 2028, and \$21,954,892 for fiscal year 2029”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$15,613,440” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$19,711,608 for fiscal year 2025, \$20,622,823 for fiscal year 2026, \$21,576,161 for fiscal year 2027, \$22,573,570 for fiscal year 2028, and \$23,617,086 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 804. COMMUNITY SERVICE SENIOR OPPORTUNITIES ACT.

Section 517(a) (42 U.S.C. 3056o(a)) is amended by striking “\$428,000,000” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$540,340,139 for fiscal year 2025, \$565,318,627 for fiscal year 2026, \$591,451,804 for fiscal year 2027, \$618,793,048 for fiscal year 2028, and \$647,398,205 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 805. GRANTS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS.

Section 643 (42 U.S.C. 3057n) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$37,102,560” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$47,028,435 for fiscal year 2025, \$49,202,434 for fiscal year 2026, \$51,476,932 for fiscal year 2027, \$53,856,574 for fiscal year 2028, and \$56,346,220 for fiscal year 2029”;

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$10,759,920” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$13,584,151 for fiscal year 2025, \$14,212,110 for fiscal year 2026, \$14,869,098 for fiscal year 2027, \$15,556,457 for fiscal year 2028, and \$16,275,591 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 806. ALLOTMENTS FOR ELDER RIGHTS PROTECTION ACTIVITIES.

Section 702 (42 U.S.C. 3058a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “\$18,066,950” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$22,809,108 for fiscal year 2025, \$23,863,512 for fiscal year 2026, \$24,966,659 for fiscal year 2027, \$26,120,801 for fiscal year 2028, and \$27,328,297 for fiscal year 2029”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “\$5,107,110” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$6,447,609 for fiscal year 2025, \$6,745,665 for fiscal year 2026, \$7,057,499 for fiscal year 2027, \$7,383,748 for fiscal year 2028, and \$7,725,079 for fiscal year 2029”.

SA 3315. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. CARPER) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 43, expressing support for the designation of September 29, 2024, as “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Day”; as follows:

In the first whereas clause of the preamble, strike “and the Philippine Insurrection”.

In the third whereas clause of the preamble, strike “has provided” and insert “and its predecessor organizations have provided”.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator RON WYDEN, intend to object to proceeding to S. 2492, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to improve coordination between the Do Not Pay working system and Federal and State agencies authorized to use the system, dated December 10, 2024.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have two 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 THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

CONSTITUTING THE MAJORITY PARTY’S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 926, which was submitted earlier today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 926) to constitute the majority party’s membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen.

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 926) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

OLDER AMERICANS ACT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 505, S. 4776.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 4776) to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2025 through 2029, and for other purposes.

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 “Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

- Sec. 1. Short title.
- Sec. 2. Table of contents.
- Sec. 3. References.
- Sec. 4. Definitions.

TITLE I—STRENGTHENING THE AGING NETWORK TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OLDER INDIVIDUALS

- Sec. 101. Declaration of objectives.
- Sec. 102. Addressing mental health and substance use disorders and cognitive impairments of older individuals.
- Sec. 103. List of national resource centers.
- Sec. 104. Awareness of relevant Federal programs.
- Sec. 105. Evaluations and surveys.
- Sec. 106. Contracting.
- Sec. 107. Guidance on transfers of funding between area agencies on aging.
- Sec. 108. Right to first refusal.
- Sec. 109. Area agency on aging capabilities.
- Sec. 110. Supporting older individuals with disabilities through improved coordination.
- Sec. 111. Business acumen, fiscal training, and technical assistance.
- Sec. 112. Enhancing access to assistive technology.
- Sec. 113. White House Conference on Aging.

TITLE II—IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ENCOURAGING INDEPENDENCE FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS

- Sec. 201. Disease prevention and health promotion services.
- Sec. 202. Improving health outcomes.
- Sec. 203. Evidence-informed practices.
- Sec. 204. Enhancing multipurpose senior centers.
- Sec. 205. Addressing home modifications.
- Sec. 206. National resource center for engaging older adults.
- Sec. 207. Multigenerational and civic engagement activities.
- Sec. 208. GAO study and report on access to housing for older individuals.
- Sec. 209. Report relating to health outcomes for older individuals living with or near family members.
- Sec. 210. Improving broadband coordination and reducing social isolation.

TITLE III—ENHANCING INNOVATION AND FLEXIBILITY IN NUTRITION SERVICES

- Sec. 301. Medically tailored meals.
- Sec. 302. Nutrition service providers.
- Sec. 303. Grab-and-go meals.
- Sec. 304. Nutrition Services Incentive Program innovation.
- Sec. 305. GAO study on Nutrition Services Incentive Program.
- Sec. 306. Innovations in nutrition programs and services.

TITLE IV—SUPPORTING FAMILY CAREGIVERS

- Sec. 401. Improving the National Family Caregiver Support Program.
- Sec. 402. Emphasizing respite care.
- Sec. 403. Clarifying supportive services.
- Sec. 404. Direct care workforce resource center.
- Sec. 405. Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act.
- Sec. 406. RAISE Family Caregivers Act.

TITLE V—COMMUNITY SERVICE SENIOR OPPORTUNITIES ACT

- Sec. 501. Improving the Community Service Employment Program.
- Sec. 502. GAO report on alignment within the Community Service Employment Program.

TITLE VI—IMPROVING SERVICES FOR NATIVE ELDERLY

- Sec. 601. Older Americans Tribal Advisory Committee.

Sec. 602. Supportive services; set aside.

Sec. 603. GAO report on Tribal services.

Sec. 604. Technical amendments.

TITLE VII—STRENGTHENING THE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS AND ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION

- Sec. 701. Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs.
- Sec. 702. Legal assistance training resources relating to elder abuse prevention.
- Sec. 703. Improving training of volunteers under the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.
- Sec. 704. Reporting on State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs.
- Sec. 705. Study on State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs.

TITLE VIII—AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS

- Sec. 801. Administration on Aging.
- Sec. 802. Grants for State and community programs on aging.
- Sec. 803. Activities for health, independence, and longevity.
- Sec. 804. Community Service Senior Opportunities Act.
- Sec. 805. Grants for Native Americans.
- Sec. 806. Allotments for elder rights protection activities.

SEC. 3. REFERENCES.

Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Act, wherever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or a repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to that section or other provision of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the terms “area agency on aging”, “Assistant Secretary”, “older individual”, and “Secretary” have the meanings given such terms in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002).

TITLE I—STRENGTHENING THE AGING NETWORK TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OLDER INDIVIDUALS**SEC. 101. DECLARATION OF OBJECTIVES.**

Section 101 (42 U.S.C. 3001) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “of the following objectives:” and inserting “of the objectives of—”;

(2) in each of paragraphs (1) through (10), by amending the first word so that it begins with a lowercase letter;

(3) in each of paragraphs (1) through (8), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(4) in each of paragraphs (9) and (10), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(5) in paragraph (2), by inserting “to improve health outcomes and reduce health care expenditures” after “economic status”;

(6) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (10) as subparagraphs (A) through (J), respectively, and adjusting the margins accordingly;

(7) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) (as so redesignated), by striking “our democratic society, the older people” and inserting the following: “our democratic society—

“(1) the older people”; and

(8) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) the families of older individuals and community-based organizations, including faith-based organizations, also play a vital role in supporting and honoring older individuals and their happiness, dignity, and independence.”.

SEC. 102. ADDRESSING MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS AND COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS OF OLDER INDIVIDUALS.

Section 201(f) (42 U.S.C. 3011(f)) is amended to read as follows:

“(f)(1) The Assistant Secretary may designate an officer or employee who shall be responsible for the administration of services for mental

health and substance use disorders and cognitive impairments authorized under this Act and serve as an effective and visible advocate for the related needs of older individuals within the Department of Health and Human Services, including by ensuring that relevant information disseminated and research conducted or supported by the Department takes into consideration such services.

“(2) It shall be the duty of the Assistant Secretary, acting through the individual designated under paragraph (1), and in consultation with the heads of relevant agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services, including the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, to develop objectives, priorities, and a long-term plan for supporting State and local efforts under this Act involving education about, and prevention, detection, and treatment of, mental health and substance use disorders and cognitive impairments, including age-related dementia, depression, and Alzheimer’s disease and related neurological disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction.

“(3) Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, the Assistant Secretary shall report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives on the activities of the officer or employee designated under paragraph (1) in carrying out the requirements under this subsection, including any activities to identify and reduce duplication and gaps across the Department in such information disseminated and research conducted or supported by the Department.”.

SEC. 103. LIST OF NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTERS.

Section 202 (42 U.S.C. 3012) is amended—

(1) in subsection (d)(4), by striking “Resource Center on Elder Abuse” and inserting “Center”; and

(2) by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

“(h)(1) The Assistant Secretary shall publish online in a publicly accessible format, on an annual basis, a list of national resource centers and demonstration projects authorized under, or administratively established through funds provided under, this Act.

“(2) The Assistant Secretary shall ensure that the list published pursuant to paragraph (1)—

“(A) includes—

“(i) a description of each such center and demonstration project, including the projected goals and activities of each such center and demonstration project;

“(ii) a citation to the statutory authorization of each such center and demonstration project, or a citation to the statutory authority that the Assistant Secretary relies upon to administratively establish each such center and demonstration project;

“(iii) the award amount for each such center and demonstration project; and

“(iv) a summary of any evaluations required under this Act for each such center, including a description of any measures of effectiveness; and

“(B) is directly provided to State agencies, area agencies on aging, and the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.”.

SEC. 104. AWARENESS OF RELEVANT FEDERAL PROGRAMS.

Title II (42 U.S.C. 3011 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 203A (42 U.S.C. 3013a) the following:

“SEC. 203B. AWARENESS OF RELEVANT FEDERAL PROGRAMS.

“In carrying out section 203(a)(1), the Assistant Secretary shall coordinate with the heads of

relevant Federal departments and agencies to ensure that the aging network and individuals served under this Act are aware of, and, subject to applicable eligibility criteria, have access to, Federal programs that may advance the objectives of this Act, including programs described in section 203(b) and other programs to meet housing, health care, and other supportive service needs to help such individuals age in place.”.

SEC. 105. EVALUATIONS AND SURVEYS.

Section 206 (42 U.S.C. 3017) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“(d)(1) In carrying out evaluations under this section, the Secretary shall—

“(A) award grants to, or enter into contracts with, public or nonprofit private organizations or academic or research institutions to survey State agencies, area agencies on aging, and other program and project participants about the strengths and weaknesses of the programs and projects; and

“(B) conduct, where appropriate, evaluations that compare the effectiveness of related programs in achieving common objectives.

“(2) The surveys and evaluations under paragraph (1) shall include information on programs, services, use and sources of funding (including any transfer of funding between area agencies on aging), identified unmet need for services and related indicators, and any other challenges faced by State agencies and area agencies on aging in carrying out the activities of this Act.

“(3) The Secretary shall, in carrying out the evaluations under paragraph (1), consult with organizations concerned with older individuals, including organizations that represent minority individuals, older individuals residing in rural areas, and older individuals with disabilities.”; and

(2) in subsection (g), by striking “him” and inserting “the Secretary”.

SEC. 106. CONTRACTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 212 (42 U.S.C. 3020c) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “and grant authority”;

(2) by striking subsection (a) and inserting the following:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), this Act shall not be construed to prevent a recipient of a grant or a contract under this Act (other than title V) from entering into a contract, commercial relationship, or other business arrangement (referred to in this section as an ‘agreement’) with a profitmaking organization for the recipient to provide services to individuals or entities not otherwise receiving services under this Act, provided that—

“(1) in the case funds provided under this Act are used in developing or carrying out the agreement—

“(A) such agreement guarantees that the cost is reimbursed to the recipient;

“(B) if such agreement provides for the provision of 1 or more services, of the type provided under this Act by or on behalf of such recipient, to an individual or entity seeking to receive such services—

“(i) the individuals and entities may only purchase such services at their fair market rate;

“(ii) all costs incurred by the recipient in providing such services (and not otherwise reimbursed under subparagraph (A)), are reimbursed to such recipient; and

“(iii) except in the case of an agreement with a health plan or health care provider, the recipient reports the rates for providing such services under such agreement in accordance with subsection (c) and the rates are consistent with the prevailing market rate for provision of such services in the relevant geographic area as determined by the State agency or area agency on aging (as applicable); and

“(C) any amount of payment to the recipient under the agreement that exceeds reimbursement

under this subsection of the recipient’s costs is used to provide, or support the provision of, services under this Act; and

“(2) subject to subsection (e), in the case no funds provided under this Act are used in developing or carrying out the agreement—

“(A) not later than 45 days after the agreement first goes into effect, and annually thereafter until the termination of such agreement, the recipient of a grant or contract under this Act shall, in writing—

“(i) notify the State agency of—

“(I) the existence of the agreement; and

“(II) the services provided and populations served under the agreement; and

“(ii) provide assurances to the State agency that—

“(I) nothing in the agreement—

“(aa) undermines—

“(AA) the duties of the recipient under this Act; or

“(BB) the provision of services in accordance with this Act; or

“(bb) violates any other terms and conditions of an award received by the recipient under this Act; and

“(II) any potential real or perceived conflict of interest with respect to the agreement has been prevented, mitigated, or otherwise addressed, including providing a description of any such conflicts of interest and a description of the actions taken to mitigate such conflicts of interest; and

“(B) not later than 45 days after the population or services under the agreement substantially change due to an amendment to the agreement, the recipient shall, in writing—

“(i) notify the State agency of such change; and

“(ii) provide the assurances described in subparagraph (A)(ii) with respect to such change.”;

(3) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) ENSURING APPROPRIATE USE OF FUNDS.—An agreement—

“(1) described in subsection (a)(1) may not—

“(A) be made without the prior approval of the State agency (or, in the case of a grantee under title VI, without the prior recommendation of the Director of the Office for American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Programs and the prior approval of the Assistant Secretary), after timely submission of all relevant documents related to the agreement including information on all costs incurred; or

“(B) directly or indirectly provide for, or have the effect of, paying, reimbursing, subsidizing, or otherwise compensating an individual or entity in an amount that exceeds the fair market value of the services subject to such agreement; and

“(2) described in subsection (a) may not—

“(A) result in the displacement of services otherwise available to an older individual with greatest social need, an older individual with greatest economic need, or an older individual who is at risk for institutional placement; or

“(B) in any other way compromise, undermine, or be inconsistent with the objective of serving the needs of older individuals, as determined by the Assistant Secretary.”;

(4) in subsection (c), by striking “subsection (a)” and inserting “subsection (a)(1)”;

(5) by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

“(e) REQUESTING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR CERTAIN NON-OAA AGREEMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an agreement described in subsection (a)(2), if the State agency has a reasonable belief that an agreement may violate the assurances provided under subsection (a)(2)(A)(ii), the State agency may request additional information from the recipient of funds under this Act that is a party to such agreement, which may include a request for a copy of such agreement. Such recipient shall make a good faith effort to address such request for additional information, except that such re-

ipient shall not provide agreements or other data that are restricted under the terms of a non-disclosure agreement signed by such recipient. If such recipient declines to provide a copy of an agreement to a State agency, such recipient shall provide a justification to the State agency within 30 days of receiving such request.

“(2) CONFIDENTIALITY.—A State agency shall keep confidential, as required by applicable Federal and State law, all information received under this subsection that is—

“(A) a trade secret;

“(B) commercial or financial information; and

“(C) information obtained from an individual that is privileged and confidential.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) COST.—The term ‘cost’ means an expense, including an administrative expense, incurred by a recipient in developing or carrying out an agreement described in subsection (a), whether the recipient contributed funds, staff time, or other plant, equipment, or services to meet the expense.

“(2) RECIPIENT.—The term ‘recipient’ means an area agency on aging in a State with multiple planning and service areas.”.

(b) AREA PLANS.—Section 306 (42 U.S.C. 3026) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(13)—

(A) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking “any service to older individuals” and inserting “any service under this Act to older individuals or caregivers”; and

(B) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “or caregivers under this Act” after “older individuals”; and

(2) in subsection (g), by inserting “, except as provided under section 212(a)(2),” after “Nothing in this Act”.

SEC. 107. GUIDANCE ON TRANSFERS OF FUNDING BETWEEN AREA AGENCIES ON AGING.

Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall disseminate guidance to State agencies (as defined in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002)) and area agencies on aging on circumstances under which funds appropriated pursuant to part B and subparts 1 and 2 of part C of title III of the Older Americans Act (42 U.S.C. 3030d et seq., 42 U.S.C. 3030e et seq., 42 U.S.C. 3030f et seq.) may be appropriate to transfer between area agencies on aging, with the approval of the State agency and the concurrence of any involved area agencies on aging, within a budget year.

SEC. 108. RIGHT TO FIRST REFUSAL.

Section 305(b)(5)(B) (42 U.S.C. 3025(b)(5)(B)) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) Whenever a State agency designates a new area agency on aging after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, the State agency shall give the right to first refusal to a unit of general purpose local government if—

“(i) such unit can meet the requirements of subsection (c);

“(ii)(I) such unit has demonstrated experience administering services for older individuals; or

“(II) the State agency determines that there is not another entity eligible under subsection (c)(1) within the planning and service area with such demonstrated experience; and

“(iii) the boundaries of such unit and the boundaries of the planning and service area are reasonably contiguous.”.

SEC. 109. AREA AGENCY ON AGING CAPABILITIES.

(a) ORGANIZATION.—Section 305(c) (42 U.S.C. 3025(c)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (5) as subparagraphs (A) through (E), respectively, and moving such subparagraphs 2 ems to the right;

(2) by striking “shall be” and inserting the following: “shall—

“(1) be—”;

(3) in subparagraph (E), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking “(b)(5)” and inserting “(b)(5)(A)”;

(B) by inserting “and” after the semicolon; and

(4) by striking “and shall provide assurance, determined adequate by the State agency, that the area agency on aging will have the ability to develop an area plan and to carry out, directly or through contractual or other arrangements, a program in accordance with the plan within the planning and service area.” and inserting the following:

“(2) provide assurance, determined adequate by the State agency, that the area agency on aging will have the ability, and maintain the capabilities necessary, to develop an area plan as required under section 306(a), and carry out, directly or through contractual or other arrangements, and oversee activities in accordance with—

“(A) the plan within the planning and service area;

“(B) any other relevant requirements of this Act;

“(C) other applicable Federal and State laws; and

“(D) other terms and conditions of awards received under this Act.”

(b) PLANS.—Section 306(f)(1) (42 U.S.C. 3026(f)(1)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “the assurances required under section 305(c)(2),” after “of this section,”; and

(2) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and if the State agency determines, in the discretion of the State agency, that an area agency on aging failed in 2 successive years to comply with the requirements under this title, then the State agency may require the area agency on aging to submit a plan for a 1-year period that meets such requirements, for subsequent years until the State agency determines that the area agency on aging is in compliance with such requirements.”

SEC. 110. SUPPORTING OLDER INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH IMPROVED COORDINATION.

(a) AREA PLANS.—Section 306(a)(5) (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)(5)) is amended by striking “with agencies that develop or provide services for individuals with disabilities” and inserting “with entities that develop or provide services for individuals with disabilities, which may include centers for independent living, relevant service providers, and other community-based organizations, as appropriate”.

(b) SUPPORTING OLDER INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH IMPROVED COORDINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Administration for Community Living of the Department of Health and Human Services (referred to in this section as the “Administrator”) shall identify—

(A) opportunities to improve coordination between the aging and disability networks, which may include the formation of partnerships to serve individuals eligible for programs under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.);

(B) lessons learned from disability networks, including centers for independent living, State developmental disabilities councils, university centers for excellence in developmental disabilities education, research, and service, and State protection and advocacy agencies that could improve operations and service delivery within the aging network; and

(C) any technical assistance needs related to subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(2) GUIDANCE.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue guidance to State agencies and area agencies on aging on strategies to leverage disability networks, including centers for independent living, State developmental disabilities councils, university centers for excellence in developmental disabilities, education, research,

and service, and State protection and advocacy agencies, as appropriate, to strengthen the provision of services under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

(3) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator shall coordinate across the Administration for Community Living to address any technical assistance needs identified under paragraph (1)(C) in a manner that does not unnecessarily duplicate other technical assistance activities carried out prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 111. BUSINESS ACUMEN, FISCAL TRAINING, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 307(a) (42 U.S.C. 3027(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(31) The plan shall provide assurances that the State agency may provide technical assistance, as needed, for area agencies on aging related to the development of business acumen, sound fiscal practices, capacity building, organizational development, innovation, and other methods of growing and sustaining the capacity of the aging network to carry out activities funded under this Act to serve older individuals and caregivers most effectively.”

SEC. 112. ENHANCING ACCESS TO ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY.

Section 307(a) (42 U.S.C. 3027(a)), as amended by section 111 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

“(32) The plan shall provide assurances that the State will coordinate services, to the extent feasible, with lead agencies designated to carry out State assistive technology programs under the Assistive Technology Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) and with area agencies on aging to assist eligible older individuals, including older individuals with disabilities, in accessing and acquiring assistive technology.”

SEC. 113. WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING.

Title II of the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 3001 note; Public Law 100-175) is amended by striking title II and inserting the following:

“TITLE II—WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING

“SEC. 201. AUTHORIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE.

“(a) AUTHORITY TO CALL CONFERENCE.—Not earlier than January 21, 2025 and not later than December 31, 2025, the President shall convene the White House Conference on Aging in order to fulfill the purpose set forth in subsection (c) and to make fundamental policy recommendations regarding programs that are important to older individuals and to the families and communities of such individuals.

“(b) PLANNING AND DIRECTION.—The Conference described in subsection (a) shall be planned and conducted under the direction of the Secretary, in cooperation with the Assistant Secretary for Aging, the Director of the National Institute on Aging, the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Social Security Administrator, and the heads of such other Federal agencies serving older individuals as are appropriate. Planning and conducting the Conference includes the assignment of personnel.

“(c) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Conference described in subsection (a) shall be to gather individuals representing the spectrum of thought and experience in the field of aging to—

“(1) evaluate the manner in which the objectives of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) can be met by using the resources and talents of older individuals, of families and communities of such individuals, and of individuals from the public and private sectors;

“(2) evaluate the manner in which Federal policies, programs, and activities meet and respond to the needs of older individuals, including an examination of innovative and fiscally responsible strategies relating to retirement security, caregiving, nutrition and supportive services, health care, elder justice, and long-term services and supports;

“(3) review the work and recommendations of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Healthy Aging and Age-Friendly Communities, and evaluate the recommendations of the Committee, which may include implementation strategies for such recommendations;

“(4) develop recommendations to guide the President, Congress, and Federal agencies in improving Federal programs that serve older individuals, which may relate to the prevention and mitigation of disease, injury, abuse, social isolation, loneliness, and economic insecurity, including food insecurity, and promotion of healthy aging in place.

“(d) CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS AND DELEGATES.—

“(1) PARTICIPANTS.—In order to carry out the purposes of this section, the Conference shall bring together—

“(A) representatives of Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments;

“(B) professionals and volunteers who are working in the field of aging; and

“(C) representatives of the general public, particularly older individuals.

“(2) SELECTION OF DELEGATES.—The delegates shall be selected without regard to political affiliation or past partisan activity and shall, to the best of the appointing authority’s ability, be representative of the spectrum of thought in the field of aging. Delegates shall include older individuals, individuals who are professionals in the field of aging, individuals who are community leaders, minority individuals, individuals from rural areas, low-income individuals, and representatives of Federal, State, Tribal, and local governments.

“SEC. 202. CONFERENCE ADMINISTRATION.

“(a) ADMINISTRATION.—In administering this section, the Secretary shall—

“(1) consult with relevant State, Tribal, and local officials, stakeholders, and subject matter experts in planning the Conference;

“(2) request the cooperation and assistance of the heads of such other Federal departments and agencies, including such officials of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Healthy Aging and Age-Friendly Communities, as may be appropriate in the carrying out of this section;

“(3) make available for public comment a proposed agenda for the Conference, which will reflect to the greatest extent possible the major issues facing older individuals, consistent with the provisions of section 201(c);

“(4) prepare and make available such background materials for the use of delegates to the Conference as the Secretary deems necessary; and

“(5) engage such additional personnel as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this section without regard to provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and without regard to chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of such title, relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

“(b) DUTIES.—The Secretary shall, in carrying out the Secretary’s responsibilities and functions under this section, and as part of the White House Conference on Aging, ensure that—

“(1) the agenda prepared under subsection (a)(3) for the Conference is published in the Federal Register not later than 30 days after such agenda is approved by the Secretary;

“(2) the personnel engaged under subsection (a)(5) shall be fairly balanced in terms of points of views represented and shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation or previous partisan activities;

“(3) the recommendations of the Conference are not inappropriately influenced by any appointing authority or by any special interest, but will instead be the result of the independent judgment of the Conference; and

“(4) current and adequate statistical data, including decennial census data, and other information on the well-being of older individuals in

the United States, are readily available, in advance of the Conference, to the delegates of the Conference, together with such information as may be necessary to evaluate Federal programs and policies relating to aging. In carrying out this subparagraph, the Secretary is authorized to make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, public agencies and nonprofit private organizations.

“(c) GIFTS.—The Secretary may accept, on behalf of the United States, gifts (in cash or in kind, including voluntary and uncompensated services) that shall be available to carry out this title. Gifts of cash shall be available in addition to amounts appropriated to carry out this title. Gifts may be earmarked by the donor for a specific purpose.

“(d) RECORDS.—The Secretary shall maintain records regarding—

“(1) the sources, amounts, and uses of gifts accepted under subsection (c); and

“(2) the identity of each person receiving assistance to carry out this title, and the amount of such assistance received by each such person.

“SEC. 203. REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE.

“(a) PRELIMINARY REPORT.—Not later than 100 days after the date on which the Conference adjourns, the Secretary shall publish and deliver to the States a preliminary report on the Conference. Comments on the preliminary report of the Conference shall be accepted by the Secretary.

“(b) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Conference adjourns, the Secretary shall publish and transmit to the President and to Congress recommendations resulting from the Conference and suggestions for any administrative action and legislation necessary to implement the recommendations contained within the report.

“SEC. 204. DEFINITIONS.

“In this title:

“(1) CONFERENCE.—The term ‘Conference’ means the White House Conference on Aging.

“(2) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

“(3) STATE.—The term ‘State’ means any of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands of the United States, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, or the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.”

TITLE II—IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES AND ENCOURAGING INDEPENDENCE FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS

SEC. 201. DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICES.

Section 102(14) (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “heart rate, respiratory function,” after “hearing,”;

(2) in subparagraph (K), by inserting “providing” before “information”;

(3) by redesignating subparagraphs (L), (M), (N), and (O), as subparagraphs (M), (N), (O), and (P), respectively;

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (K) the following:

“(L) providing information concerning testing, diagnosis, and treatment of infectious diseases, taking into consideration infectious diseases for which older individuals are at increased risk of infection or serious health outcomes;” and

(5) in subparagraph (P), as so redesignated, by striking “subparagraphs (A) through (N)” and inserting “subparagraphs (A) through (O)”.

SEC. 202. IMPROVING HEALTH OUTCOMES.

(a) RESEARCH AND EVALUATION ACTIVITIES.—Section 201 (42 U.S.C. 3011) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(3)(B), by striking “in behalf” and inserting “on behalf”; and

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) in paragraph (3)(A)(ii), by inserting “reduction of health care expenditures,” after “quality of life,”; and

(B) in paragraph (7), by inserting “and recommendations relating to further research, evaluation, and demonstration projects conducted under this section” after “title IV”.

(b) FALLS PREVENTION PROGRAMS.—Section 411(a)(15) (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)(15)) is amended to read as follows:

“(15) bringing to scale and sustaining evidence-based or evidence-informed falls prevention programs to reduce the number of falls, fear of falling, and fall-related injuries affecting older individuals, including older individuals with disabilities, which shall—

“(A) provide training and technical assistance to the aging network; and

“(B) share best practices with the aging network, including the Aging and Disability Resource Centers;”.

(c) INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON HEALTHY AGING AND AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES.—Section 203(c) (42 U.S.C. 3013(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6)(B)—

(A) in clause (ii), by striking “and” after the semicolon;

(B) in clause (iii), by inserting “and” after the semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(iv) strategies to address social isolation, including by promoting strong and stable connections across different generations in a family and in the community;”;

(2) in paragraph (7)—

(A) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) contains an assessment of the effectiveness of relevant Federal efforts and programs, including implementation of best practices described in paragraph (6)(B); and”.

SEC. 203. EVIDENCE-INFORMED PRACTICES.

(a) DISEASE PREVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION SERVICES.—Section 361(a) (42 U.S.C. 3030m(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking “(a)” and inserting “(a)(1)”;

(2) in the first sentence, by inserting after “promotion services” the following: “, or, as applicable and appropriate, evidence-informed practices that are likely to improve health outcomes;”;

(3) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

“(2) In carrying out such program, the Assistant Secretary shall—

“(A) provide technical assistance on the delivery of evidence-based disease prevention and health promotion services, and, as applicable and appropriate, such evidence-informed practices, in different settings and for different populations;

“(B) develop, make publicly available, and update on a regular basis a list of such evidence-informed practices; and

“(C) consult with the Directors of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institute on Aging.”.

(b) FUNCTIONS OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—Section 202 (42 U.S.C. 3012) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(28), by inserting after “promotion services” the following: “, or, as applicable and appropriate, evidence-informed practices that are likely to improve health outcomes;”;

(2) in subsection (b)(9)(B), by inserting after “services programs” the following: “, or, as applicable and appropriate, evidence-informed practices that are likely to improve health outcomes”.

(c) CHRONIC DISEASE SELF-MANAGEMENT EDUCATION.—Section 411(a)(16) (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)(16)) is amended by inserting “or evidence-informed” after “evidence-based”.

SEC. 204. ENHANCING MULTIPURPOSE SENIOR CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 202(a)(30) (42 U.S.C. 3012(a)(30)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “establishment, maintenance, and” after “to support the”; and

(2) by inserting “and access to services provided at multipurpose senior centers” before the semicolon at the end.

(b) AREA AGENCY ON AGING PLANS.—Section 306(a)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “, including those services provided at multipurpose senior centers, where appropriate” before the semicolon at the end.

(c) STATE PLANS.—Section 307(a)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3027(a)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “and, to the extent feasible, make such evaluation public” before the semicolon at the end.

SEC. 205. ADDRESSING HOME MODIFICATIONS.

(a) INDOOR AIR QUALITY.—Section 361(c) (42 U.S.C. 3030m(c)) is amended by striking “buildings” and all that follows and inserting “buildings and residences where older individuals congregate or live”.

(b) WEATHERIZATION.—Section 321(a)(4) (42 U.S.C. 3030d(a)(4)) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting “(A) to assist older individuals to obtain adequate housing, including residential repair and renovation projects, and (if assistance for weatherization projects does not unnecessarily duplicate other Federal assistance available) weatherization projects, designed to enable older individuals to maintain their homes in conformity with minimum housing and other relevant standards, in order to support such older individuals in aging in place and maintaining their health;”.

SEC. 206. NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER FOR ENHANCING OLDER ADULTS.

Section 411(a)(18) (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)(18)) is amended by inserting “, such as providing appropriate training, resources, and best practices to the aging network” after “older individuals”.

SEC. 207. MULTIGENERATIONAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES.

Section 417 (42 U.S.C. 3032f) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “projects,” and all that follows and inserting the following: “projects to serve individuals in younger generations and older individuals by developing, carrying out, and promoting participation in multigenerational activities, which projects may include—”;

(B) in paragraph (1), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “provide” and inserting “providing”;

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking “coordinate” and inserting “coordinating”; and

(ii) by adding “and” at the end;

(D) by striking paragraphs (3) and (4) and inserting the following:

“(3) promoting volunteerism, including by providing opportunities—

“(A) for older individuals to become mentors to individuals in younger generations; and

“(B) at facilities that serve older individuals or individuals in younger generations, at which multigenerational activities might occur.”;

(2) in subsection (c)(2), by striking “(4)” and inserting “(3)”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) by striking paragraph (1); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (5) as paragraphs (1) through (4); and

(4) in subsection (h)(1), by striking “or a family support program.” and inserting “or a family support program, or a program at a multipurpose senior center, long-term care facility, or any other residential facility for older individuals.”.

SEC. 208. GAO STUDY AND REPORT ON ACCESS TO HOUSING FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that analyzes housing programs and services for older individuals under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.).

(b) INCLUSIONS.—The study under this section shall include—

(1) an analysis of the Interagency Coordinating Committee on Healthy Aging and Age-Friendly Communities that—

(A) assesses any metrics used by the Committee to evaluate the success of the Committee's activities and related Federal programs;

(B) evaluates interagency coordination of Federal housing programs for older individuals; and

(C) assesses the availability of affordable housing for older individuals as the result of interagency coordination;

(2) an analysis of any overlap between, and gaps in, housing programs and services that assist older individuals in obtaining accessible and affordable housing that achieves the objectives of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), including programs under the Administration for Community Living, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and other Federal programs, as applicable, and the availability, accessibility, and demand for such services;

(3) an analysis of the availability of affordable housing for such older individuals, to the extent such information is available and taking into consideration incomes and geographic and demographic trends; and

(4) any recommendations to improve the supply, accessibility, and affordability of housing for older individuals and coordination of services provided under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) and other related Federal programs, as applicable.

(c) **REPORT TO CONGRESS.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report on the results of the study under this section.

SEC. 209. REPORT RELATING TO HEALTH OUTCOMES FOR OLDER INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH OR NEAR FAMILY MEMBERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall prepare a report that assesses—

(1) the health outcomes for older individuals who live with, on the same property as, or otherwise in the community in close geographic proximity, relative to the area, to family members; and

(2) the degree to which programs under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) promote living in the settings described in paragraph (1), as appropriate.

(b) **INCLUSION.**—The report described under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an assessment of physical and mental health outcomes of older individuals who live in the settings described in subsection (a)(1) in comparison to physical and mental health outcomes of older individuals who do not live in such settings;

(2) an assessment of the extent to which living in such settings mitigates social isolation and loneliness in older adults; and

(3) a description of the different types of such settings and whether, and to what extent, findings under paragraphs (1) and (2) vary across such different types.

(c) **SUBMISSION.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives the report required by subsection (a).

SEC. 210. IMPROVING BROADBAND COORDINATION AND REDUCING SOCIAL ISOLATION.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Assistant Secretary shall, as appropriate, coordinate with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information of the National Tele-

communications and Information Administration to ensure that the aging network (as defined in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002)) and other relevant stakeholders are aware of, and, subject to applicable eligibility criteria, have access to, Federal programs relating to digital literacy and the adoption of broadband that may support aging in place for older individuals.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary shall prepare, and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Special Committee on Aging, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, a report regarding any coordination efforts carried out pursuant to subsection (a).

TITLE III—ENHANCING INNOVATION AND FLEXIBILITY IN NUTRITION SERVICES

SEC. 301. MEDICALLY TAILORED MEALS.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—Section 102(14) (42 U.S.C. 3002(14)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “, which may include counseling related to the provision of medically tailored meals,” after “counseling”; and

(2) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “(including from medically tailored meals)” after “improved nutrition”.

(b) **ADMINISTRATION OF NUTRITION SERVICES.**—Section 205(a)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3016(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

(1) in clause (vi), by inserting “, including through the use of innovative approaches” after “systems”; and

(2) in clause (viii), by inserting “and innovative interventions” after “including strategies”.

(c) **NUTRITION EDUCATION.**—Section 214(2)(C) (42 U.S.C. 3020e(2)(C)) is amended by inserting “, including interventions,” after “other activities”.

(d) **NUTRITION SERVICES PURPOSES.**—Section 330(3) (42 U.S.C. 3030d–21(3)) is amended by inserting “, tailored to their individual medical and nutritional needs to the extent feasible,” after “services”.

SEC. 302. NUTRITION SERVICE PROVIDERS.

Section 339 (42 U.S.C. 3030g–21) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in paragraph (2)(L), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) where feasible, when selecting local nutrition providers, give consideration to the capabilities of community-based organizations if such organizations meet the requirements of subpart 1 or 2 and can provide nutrition services in the designated area.”

SEC. 303. GRAB-AND-GO MEALS.

Section 308(b)(4) (42 U.S.C. 3028(b)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(E) A State may elect in its plan under section 307 to allow use of not more than 25 percent of the funds received by such State under subpart 1 of part C, calculated after any transfers under subparagraphs (A) and (B) are completed, to make meals available at congregate meal sites or other community locations for consumption by older individuals outside such sites and locations, such as carry-out or similar meals. A State electing to allow use of funds under the preceding sentence shall—

“(i) ensure that such allowable use complements the delivery of services through the congregate meals program under section 331; and

“(ii) notify the Assistant Secretary of such election, including a description of the amount and percentage of funds received by such State under subpart 1 of part C to be used for such purposes.”

SEC. 304. NUTRITION SERVICES INCENTIVE PROGRAM INNOVATION.

Section 311 (42 U.S.C. 3030a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “subsection (e)” and inserting “subsection (f)(1)”;

(2) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (f) and (g), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (d) the following:

“(e)(1) Subject to subsection (f)(2), a State agency or title VI grantee may, through grants to, or contracts with, recipients (as determined eligible by the State agency or title VI grantee), implement innovative approaches, including any approaches demonstrated to be effective through an award under section 340, to achieve the purposes described in section 330(1) by improving—

“(A) the quality, composition, preparation, modality, delivery, or location of meals provided to older individuals under this Act; or

“(B) the efficiency and effectiveness of distributing, delivering, or otherwise making meals available to older individuals under this Act.

“(2) In implementing approaches under paragraph (1), a State agency or title VI grantee may, with the approval of the Assistant Secretary, waive any requirements of subparts 1 or 2 of part C or section 339 if the State agency or title VI grantee determines that such requirements impede the ability of such State agency or title VI grantee to successfully implement such approach. The Assistant Secretary shall approve a request for a waiver under the preceding sentence unless the Assistant Secretary determines that such waiver is not consistent with the objectives of this Act or the purposes described in section 330(1).

“(3) The authority to carry out activities described in paragraph (1) shall expire on October 1, 2029.

“(4) Not later than September 30, 2028, the Assistant Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives describing any activities carried out by State agencies or title VI grantees under paragraph (1), an assessment of the outcomes of such activities, and recommendations for scaling implementation of any successful innovative approaches within programs established under this section or subparts 1 and 2 of part C.”; and

(4) in subsection (f), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking “There are” and inserting “(1) There are”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(2) If the amount appropriated to carry out this section for a fiscal year exceeds the amount appropriated to carry out this section for the prior fiscal year or fiscal year 2024, whichever is greater, a State agency and title VI grantee in receipt of an allotment under subsection (b) may elect to use the difference between the allotment received for the fiscal year and the allotment received for the prior fiscal year or fiscal year 2024, whichever is greater, for activities described in subsection (e).”

SEC. 305. GAO STUDY ON NUTRITION SERVICES INCENTIVE PROGRAM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study to evaluate the Nutrition Services Incentive Program under section 311 (42 U.S.C. 3030a) (referred to in this section as the “Program”).

(b) **INCLUSIONS.**—The study under this section—

(1) shall—

(A) include an assessment of how States and Tribal organizations use funding provided under the Program, including the degree to which States and Tribal organizations use such funding to procure food products from local or regional producers for meals supported under the Program; and

(B) identify any challenges or barriers to increasing the use of local and regional producers under the Program; and

(2) may make recommendations related to improving the effectiveness of the Program, including with respect to the use of local and regional producers.

(c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report on the results of the study under this section.

SEC. 306. INNOVATIONS IN NUTRITION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

Subpart 3 of part C of title III (42 U.S.C. 3030g–21 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 340. INNOVATIONS IN NUTRITION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—From funds available under subsection (d), the Assistant Secretary shall make grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities, to achieve the purposes of section 330(1) by developing, implementing, and evaluating innovative local or regional approaches to improve the quality, effectiveness, efficiency, and outcomes of nutrition programs and services described in sections 311, 331, and 336.

“(b) ELIGIBILITY.—In order to be eligible for a grant under subsection (a), an entity shall—

“(1) be—

“(A) a State agency, an area agency on aging, an Indian Tribe, a Tribal organization, a nutrition service provider, a multipurpose senior center, a health care entity, an institution of higher education, or another public or nonprofit private entity; or

“(B) a partnership between any entities described in subparagraph (A); and

“(2) submit an application at such time and in such manner as the Assistant Secretary may require, including—

“(A) a description of an innovative approach referred to in subsection (a) that the entity proposes to implement under the grant;

“(B) a plan for evaluating the effectiveness, including cost-effectiveness, of the innovative approach proposed; and

“(C) as appropriate, plans for the publication of the results of such evaluation.

“(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, and annually thereafter, the Assistant Secretary shall submit a report to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives describing any activities carried out under subsection (a), an assessment of the outcomes of such activities, and recommendations for scaling implementation of any successful innovative approaches implemented under this section, through programs established under section 311, 331, or 336.

“(d) RESERVATION.—From the total of the amounts made available for a fiscal year under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 303(b) and in section 311(f), the Assistant Secretary shall reserve an amount equal to not more than 1 percent to carry out activities described in subsection (a).”

TITLE IV—SUPPORTING FAMILY CAREGIVERS

SEC. 401. IMPROVING THE NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM.

(a) STATE REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS ON AGING GRANTS.—Section 305(a)(3)(E) (42 U.S.C. 3025(a)(3)(E)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) available supports for family caregivers and older relative caregivers (as defined in section 372(a)).”

(b) AREA PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—Section 306(a)(7)(D) (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)(7)(D)) is amended—

(1) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end;

(2) in clause (ii), by adding “and” after the semicolon; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) available supports for family caregivers and older relative caregivers (as defined in section 372(a)).”

(c) DEFINITIONS RELATING TO THE NATIONAL FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 372(a) (42 U.S.C. 3030s(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in the first sentence, by striking “The term” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated), in the second sentence—

(I) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(II) by striking “Such assessment shall be administered through” and inserting the following:

“(B) ADMINISTRATION OF ASSESSMENTS.—A caregiver assessment under subparagraph (A) shall—

“(i) be administered through”; and

(III) by adding at the end the following:

“(ii) take into account—

“(I) linguistic and cultural differences;

“(II) the ease for the caregiver to access information, supports, or services, and the timeliness of access to such information, supports, or services;

“(III) barriers to accessing information, supports, or services;

“(IV) the availability of information, supports, or services in accessible formats; and

“(V) the quality of information, supports, or services received, and the degree to which it is helpful to the caregiver.”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) CHILD OR YOUTH.—The term ‘child or youth’ means an individual who is not more than—

“(A) 18 years of age; or

“(B) 22 years of age, in the case of an individual who is enrolled in any form of schooling (including on a part-time basis), including—

“(i) in high school or secondary school (as such terms are defined in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801)); or

“(ii) in an institution of higher education (as defined in section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)).”; and

(C) in paragraph (4)(B)(i), by inserting “adult” after “or other”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Part E of title III (42 U.S.C. 3030s et seq.) is amended—

(A) by inserting “or youth” after “child” each place it appears (other than in section 372(a)(2) (as amended by paragraph (1)(B))); and

(B) by inserting “or youth” after “children” each place it appears (other than in section 373(c)(3)(A) (as amended by subsection (d)(2)(B)).

(d) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—Section 373 (42 U.S.C. 3030s–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(3)—

(A) by inserting “which may include trauma-informed services, peer supports,” after “individual counseling,”; and

(B) by inserting “elder abuse prevention,” after “nutrition,”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “PRIORITY” and inserting “PRIORITY; CONSIDERATION”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) CONSIDERATION.—In providing services under this part, the State shall consider—

“(A) that older relative caregivers caring for multiple children or youth may need greater resources and supports; and

“(B) the circumstances and unique needs of different types of caregivers, including the needs of children and their older relative caregivers whose families have been affected by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder.”;

(3) in subsection (e)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Not later than” and all that follows through “the Assistant Secretary shall” and inserting “The Assistant Secretary shall, on a regular basis”;;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting “or evidence-informed” after “evidence-based”; and

(II) by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) the use of caregiver assessments; and”; and

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking “make available” and inserting “prepare, publish, and disseminate”;

(4) in subsection (i)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, which may include the improvement of the quality and consistency of caregiver assessments and access to other information, supports, or services” after “section 631”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “(including outcome measures)” after “program evaluation”; and

(5) in subsection (j)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “Not later than” and all that follows through “shall provide technical assistance” and inserting “Beginning not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, the Assistant Secretary, in consultation with stakeholders with appropriate expertise and, as appropriate, informed by the most recent strategy developed under the RAISE Family Caregivers Act (42 U.S.C. 3030s note) and the most recent report developed under the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act (Public Law 115–196; 132 Stat. 1511), shall provide ongoing technical assistance”;;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as paragraph (4); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

“(3) the quality and consistency of caregiver assessments used across States; and”.

SEC. 402. EMPHASIZING RESPITE CARE.

Section 321(a)(19) (42 U.S.C. 3030d(a)(19)) is amended to read as follows:

“(19) services, which may include respite care through various models, designed to support family members and other persons providing voluntary care to older individuals that need long-term care services, which may include older individuals with cognitive impairments such as Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders with neurological and organic brain dysfunction.”.

SEC. 403. CLARIFYING SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.

Section 321(a)(18) (42 U.S.C. 3030d(a)(18)) is amended by striking “mentally impaired older individuals” and inserting “older individuals with cognitive, physical, or mental impairments”.

SEC. 404. DIRECT CARE WORKFORCE RESOURCE CENTER.

Section 411(a)(13) (42 U.S.C. 3032(a)(13)) is amended—

(1) by striking subparagraph (B);

(2) by striking “(13)” and all that follows through “(A) to” and inserting the following:

“(13) in coordination with the Secretary of Labor and, as appropriate, the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, the establishment and operation of a national resource center that supports the growth and

professionalization of the direct care workforce necessary to meet the needs of older individuals and individuals with disabilities, and, in a manner that does not unnecessarily duplicate the activities of other resource centers supported by the Assistant Secretary, that addresses training and other educational needs of family caregivers, which activities of the center may include—

“(A) the provision of training and technical assistance, including through the development and dissemination of educational materials, to direct care workers and family caregivers; and

“(B) supporting the demonstration of new, and promoting existing, strategies for the recruitment, retention, career development, or advancement of direct care workers to”;

(3) in subparagraph (B), as so designated in paragraph (2), by striking “; and” at the end and inserting a semicolon.

SEC. 405. SUPPORTING GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN ACT.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act (Public Law 115-196; 132 Stat. 1511) is amended by striking section 2.

(b) **DEFINITIONS.**—The Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act is amended by redesignating section 4 as section 2 and moving the section so as to follow section 1.

(c) **ADVISORY COUNCIL.**—Section 3 of the Supporting Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Act is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by redesignating subparagraphs (G) through (I) as subparagraphs (H) through (J);

(ii) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following:

“(G) The Assistant Secretary for Health.”;

(iii) in subparagraph (I), as so redesignated, by striking “of children”;

(iv) in subparagraph (J), as so redesignated, by striking “relatives” and inserting “relative caregivers”;

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) **LIMITATION ON NON-FEDERAL MEMBERS.**—Not more than 10 members of the Advisory Council may be individuals who are not Federal officers or employees.”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A)—

(I) in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “relatives” and inserting “relative caregivers”;

(II) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “the health,” and inserting “the near- and long-term health, including mental health,”; and

(bb) by striking “care; and” and inserting “care, including any needs related to the circumstances that caused such children to be raised by a grandparent or older relative caregiver; and”;

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by striking “(B)” and all that follows through “In” and inserting the following:

“(B) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—In”;

(II) by striking “needs of those affected by the opioid crisis” and inserting “needs and challenges of individuals affected by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder, or, as applicable and appropriate, needs and challenges of individuals related to other circumstances, which may include public health emergencies”;

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking “enactment of this Act” and inserting “enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024”;

and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) in clause (i)—

(aa) by striking “relatives” and inserting “relative caregivers”;

(bb) by striking “needs of children” and all that follows through “epidemic,” and inserting

“needs of children and their older relative caregivers who have been affected by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder.”;

(II) in clause (ii), by striking the “and” at the end;

(III) by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (iv); and

(IV) by inserting after clause (ii) the following:

“(iii) a description of any activities of the Department of Health and Human Services to evaluate the effectiveness of supportive services in addressing the needs of children and their older relative caregivers, including those who have been affected by substance use disorder, including opioid use disorder, and any related findings; and”;

(C) in paragraph (3)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(I) by striking “(3)” and all that follows through “Not” and inserting the following:

“(3) **FOLLOW-UP REPORTS.**—Not”;

(II) by striking “2 years” and inserting “180 days”;

(III) by inserting after “submitted,” the following: “and every 2 years thereafter until the Advisory Council terminates under subsection (f),”;

(D) in paragraph (4) by striking “relatives” each place it appears and inserting “relative caregivers”;

(3) in subsection (d), by striking “the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)” and inserting “chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code.”;

(4) in subsection (f), by striking “terminate” and all that follows through “Act.” and inserting “terminate on September 30, 2029.”

SEC. 406. RAISE FAMILY CAREGIVERS ACT.

(a) **STRATEGY.**—Section 3 of the RAISE Family Caregivers Act (42 U.S.C. 3030s note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “(or the Secretary’s designee)” after “The Secretary”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and made publicly available by the Secretary,” after “caregiver programs,”;

(2) in subsection (d)(2), by inserting “in” after “caregiver programs”.

(b) **COUNCIL.**—Section 4(e) of that Act (42 U.S.C. 3030s note) is amended by striking “The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.)” and inserting “Chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code.”

(c) **SUNSET EXTENSION.**—Section 6 of that Act (42 U.S.C. 3030s note) is amended by striking “terminate” and all that follows through “Act.” and inserting “terminate on September 30, 2029.”

TITLE V—COMMUNITY SERVICE SENIOR OPPORTUNITIES ACT

SEC. 501. IMPROVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

(a) **PROGRAM.**—Section 502(b)(1) (42 U.S.C. 3056(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (C)(ii), by striking “section 513(a)(2)(E)” and inserting “section 513(a)(2)(F)”;

(2) in subparagraph (E), by inserting “older individuals,” after “youth,”.

(b) **PERFORMANCE.**—Section 513 (42 U.S.C. 3056k) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraph (E) as subparagraph (F); and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

“(E) **BIENNIAL REPORT.**—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, and every 2 years thereafter during the period of the program described in section 502(a)(1), the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pen-

sions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report regarding the methodology used to arrive at the expected levels of performance described in subparagraph (B) for each grantee, including the particular statistical model used and other factors taken into account, as described in subparagraph (D).”;

(2) in subsection (c) and paragraphs (1)(A), (2)(A), and (3)(A) of subsection (d), by striking “subsection (a)(2)(E)” and inserting “subsection (a)(2)(F)”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(B)(iii), by adding at the end the following: “For grants awarded on or after the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, any grantee who has failed to meet the expected levels of performance for the 2 consecutive years prior to the subsequent grant competition under section 514 shall not be allowed to compete in the subsequent grant competition under section 514 following the second consecutive year of failure but may compete in the next such grant competition after that subsequent competition.”;

(B) in paragraph (3)(B)(iii), by adding at the end the following: “For grants awarded on or after the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, if the Secretary determines that the State fails to meet the expected levels of performance described in subparagraph (A) for 2 consecutive program years, the Secretary shall provide for the conduct by the State of a competition to award the funds allotted to the State under section 506(e) for the first full program year following the Secretary’s determination.”

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—Section 518(a)(1)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3056p(a)(1)(A)) is amended to read as follows:

“(A) social, health, welfare, and educational services (including literacy tutoring and services provided by the aging network), legal and other counseling services and assistance (including tax counseling and assistance and financial counseling), and library, recreational, and other similar services.”

SEC. 502. GAO REPORT ON ALIGNMENT WITHIN THE COMMUNITY SERVICE EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.

(a) **REVIEW.**—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall complete a review in which the Comptroller General—

(1) evaluates—

(A) the distinct differences and similarities between the older American community service employment program as authorized under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) and the programs carried out under title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111 et seq.); and

(B) how the programs described in subparagraph (A) serve older individuals in seeking and obtaining community service employment;

(2) analyzes the efficacy and impacts of the indicators of performance described in section 513(b) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056k(b) and corrective measures described in section 513(d) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056k(d)) for the older American community service employment program, compared with the efficacy and impacts of the indicators of performance and corrective measures described in section 116 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3141) for programs authorized under title I of such Act; and

(3) evaluates how the Department of Labor coordinates delivery of services with State and national grantees under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 and with States and local workforce development areas under title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to serve older individuals.

(b) *REPORT TO CONGRESS.*—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report on the results of the review under this section.

TITLE VI—IMPROVING SERVICES FOR NATIVE ELDER

SEC. 601. OLDER AMERICANS TRIBAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Section 201(c) (42 U.S.C. 3011(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(4)(A) In addition to other methods of government-to-government consultation between the Administration and Indian Tribes and conferring with organizations representing Native Hawaiians, the Assistant Secretary shall establish an advisory committee, to be known as the ‘Older Americans Tribal Advisory Committee’ (referred to in this paragraph as the ‘Committee’) to provide advice and guidance to the Assistant Secretary on matters relating to the needs of older individuals who are Native Americans and implementation of related programs and activities under this Act.

“(B) The Committee shall be composed of 11 voting, non-Federal members, including—

“(i) geographically diverse individuals with expertise on the range of issues affecting Indian Tribes, organizations representing Native Hawaiians, and older individuals who are Native Americans;

“(ii) not less than 1 member who is an Alaska Native; and

“(iii) not less than 1 member who is a Native Hawaiian.

“(C) The Committee shall include non-voting, ex officio representatives of relevant Federal departments and agencies, including—

“(i) the Administration;

“(ii) the Indian Health Service;

“(iii) the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services;

“(iv) the Department of the Interior;

“(v) the Department of Labor; and

“(vi) any other agency or office with subject matter expertise that the Assistant Secretary determines appropriate.

“(D) The Committee shall meet in person not less frequently than twice each year.

“(E) The Committee shall coordinate, as appropriate, with the Secretary’s Tribal Advisory Committee of the Department of Health and Human Services.

“(F)(i) Not less frequently than once each year, the Committee shall submit to the Assistant Secretary and make publicly available a report that describes—

“(I) the activities of the Committee during the previous year; and

“(II) recommendations for administrative action, including the identification of any statutory barriers to carrying out such recommendations, for the following year.

“(ii) Not later than 60 days after the date on which the Assistant Secretary receives a report under clause (i), the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee a written response to such report.

“(G) Chapter 10 of title 5, United States Code, shall not apply to the Committee.

“(H) In establishing, developing procedures for, and operating the Committee, the Assistant Secretary shall—

“(i) consult with Indian Tribes and confer with organizations representing Native Hawaiians; and

“(ii) take into consideration best practices of other Tribal advisory committees operated by the Department of Health and Human Services before the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024.”

SEC. 602. SUPPORTIVE SERVICES; SET ASIDE.

(a) *SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.*—Section 636 (42 U.S.C. 3057k-21) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “may” and inserting “shall, as practicable.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “in-home assistance” and inserting “in-home services”.

(b) *FUNDING SET ASIDE.*—Section 644 (42 U.S.C. 3057o) is amended—

(1) by striking “Of” and inserting the following:

“(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Of”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(b) *REPORT.*—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2024, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives, a report on the use of funds under part D. Such report shall include—

“(1) the total amount of funds made available under subsection (a) to carry out part D for each fiscal year;

“(2) a list of award recipients under part D; and

“(3) a summary of supportive services for healthy aging and independence provided under part D.”

SEC. 603. GAO REPORT ON TRIBAL SERVICES.

Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report that—

(1) evaluates and identifies barriers to Indian Tribes (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)) and organizations serving Native Hawaiians accessing programs under title VI of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3057 et seq.), and coordination of such programs under such title VI with programs funded under titles III and IV of such Act (42 U.S.C. 3021 et seq., 42 U.S.C. 3031 et seq.), including by—

(A) estimating the number of Native Americans unserved by programs under such title VI;

(B) identifying States and area agencies on aging making grants to Indian Tribes under such title III; and

(C) providing estimates of funding necessary to support programs under such title VI for all Tribal organizations (as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304)) and organizations serving Native Hawaiians that are not eligible under such title VI (as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act); and

(2) details how grantees under title V of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3056 et seq.) are serving older individuals who are Native Americans with funds received under such title V, including by evaluating how the Secretary of Labor coordinates with State and national grantees under such title V to serve older individuals who are Native Americans.

SEC. 604. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

The Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 102 (42 U.S.C. 3002)—

(A) in paragraph (27), by striking “the term ‘Indian tribe’ means any tribe” and inserting “the term ‘Indian Tribe’ means any Tribe”; and

(B) in paragraph (56), by striking “the term ‘tribal organization’ means” and inserting “the term ‘Tribal organization’ means”; and

(2) in section 612(c) (42 U.S.C. 3057c(c))—

(A) by striking “terms ‘Indian tribe’ and ‘tribal organization’ have” and inserting “terms ‘Indian Tribe’ and ‘Tribal organization’ have”; and

(B) by striking “(25 U.S.C. 450b)” and inserting “(25 U.S.C. 5304)”; and

(3) by striking “tribe”, “tribes”, and “tribal” each place such terms appear and inserting “Tribe”, “Tribes”, and “Tribal”, respectively.

TITLE VII—STRENGTHENING THE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS AND ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION

SEC. 701. DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS.

Section 201(d)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3011(d)(2)(A)) is amended, in the second sentence, by inserting “serve on a full-time basis and” after “shall”.

SEC. 702. LEGAL ASSISTANCE TRAINING RESOURCES RELATING TO ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION.

Section 201(e)(2)(A) (42 U.S.C. 3011(e)(2)(A)) is amended by striking clause (v) and inserting the following:

“(v) establishing an information clearinghouse to collect, maintain, and disseminate information concerning best practices and resources for training, technical assistance, and other activities, which may include training resources for paralegals or law students who are under the direct supervision of an attorney, to assist State Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs, adult protective services programs, and other legal services relating to defense of guardianship and the matters described in clause (ii)(I), and to assist States and communities to carry out evidence-based programs to prevent and address elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation.”

SEC. 703. IMPROVING TRAINING OF VOLUNTEERS UNDER THE STATE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM.

Section 712 (42 U.S.C. 3058g) is amended—

(1) in subsection (h)(5)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “the representatives” and inserting “each type of representative”; and

(ii) by inserting “types of” before “unpaid volunteers”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “for each such type of representative” before the semicolon at the end;

(C) in subparagraph (B)(iii), by striking “and” at the end;

(D) in subparagraph (C), by adding “and” at the end; and

(E) by adding at the end the following:

“(D) with respect to representatives of the Office who are unpaid volunteers, take into consideration the degree to which each such type of unpaid volunteer performs activities requiring specialized training, with a goal of reducing unnecessary training requirements for prospective unpaid volunteers.”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(k) TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR UNPAID VOLUNTEERS.—

“(1) *IN GENERAL.*—In providing the model standards described in subsection (h)(5), the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs shall review and, as necessary, update such model standards on a regular basis to tailor such model standards to the individualized training needs of each type of representative of the Office, including each type of unpaid volunteer.

“(2) *CONSIDERATIONS.*—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs shall take into consideration the degree to which each type of representative of the Office performs activities that require specialized training, with a goal of reducing unnecessary training requirements for unpaid volunteers.”

SEC. 704. REPORTING ON STATE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS.

Chapter 2 of subtitle A of title VII (42 U.S.C. 3058f et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 714. REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

“Each year, the Assistant Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Special Committee on Aging of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of

Representatives, and make publicly available, a report that—

“(1) aggregates all reports submitted under section 712(h) for such year; and

“(2) provides a summary of the findings of such reports.”

SEC. 705. STUDY ON STATE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAMS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Assistant Secretary shall seek to enter into a contract with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (referred to in this section as the “National Academies”) to conduct a study on the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs carried out under the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.), including an assessment of the effectiveness of such programs and any related challenges and recommendations. The study shall include an assessment of the current (as of the date on which the contract is entered into) recommended staff-to-bed ratio for such programs, as appropriate.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 18 months after the date on which a contract is entered into under subsection (a), the National Academies shall publicly issue a report on the findings of the study under this section.

TITLE VIII—AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS

SEC. 801. ADMINISTRATION ON AGING.

Section 216 (42 U.S.C. 3020f) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “\$43,937,410” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$55,469,968 for fiscal year 2025, \$58,034,197 for fiscal year 2026, \$60,716,964 for fiscal year 2027, \$63,523,747 for fiscal year 2028, and \$66,460,281 for fiscal year 2029”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$2,180,660” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$2,753,033 for fiscal year 2025, \$2,880,298 for fiscal year 2026, \$3,013,447 for fiscal year 2027, \$3,152,751 for fiscal year 2028, and \$3,298,494 for fiscal year 2029”;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$1,988,060” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$2,509,880 for fiscal year 2025, \$2,625,905 for fiscal year 2026, \$2,747,294 for fiscal year 2027, \$2,874,294 for fiscal year 2028, and \$3,007,165 for fiscal year 2029”;

(C) in paragraph (3), by striking “\$1,371,740” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$1,731,790 for fiscal year 2025, \$1,811,846 for fiscal year 2026, \$1,895,603 for fiscal year 2027, \$1,983,232 for fiscal year 2028, and \$2,074,911 for fiscal year 2029”; and

(D) in paragraph (4), by striking “\$8,687,330” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$10,967,554 for fiscal year 2025, \$11,474,555 for fiscal year 2026, \$12,004,993 for fiscal year 2027, \$12,559,952 for fiscal year 2028, and \$13,140,565 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 802. GRANTS FOR STATE AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS ON AGING.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 303 (42 U.S.C. 3023) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by striking “\$412,029,180” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$520,177,347 for fiscal year 2025, \$544,223,762 for fiscal year 2026, \$569,381,780 for fiscal year 2027, \$595,702,785 for fiscal year 2028, and \$623,240,541 for fiscal year 2029”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$530,015,940” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$669,132,913 for fiscal year 2025, \$700,065,148 for fiscal year 2026, \$732,427,298 for fiscal year 2027, \$766,285,465 for fiscal year 2028, and \$801,708,804 for fiscal year 2029”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$268,935,940” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$339,525,428 for fiscal year 2025, \$355,220,786 for fiscal year 2026, \$371,641,698 for fiscal year 2027, \$388,821,705 for fiscal year 2028, and \$406,795,899 for fiscal year 2029”;

(3) in subsection (d), by striking “\$26,587,360” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$33,565,929 for fiscal year 2025, \$35,117,593 for fiscal year 2026, \$36,740,986 for fiscal year 2027, \$38,439,424 for fiscal year 2028, and \$40,216,376 for fiscal year 2029”; and

(4) in subsection (e), by striking “\$193,869,020” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$244,755,171 for fiscal year 2025, \$256,069,552 for fiscal year 2026, \$267,906,966 for fiscal year 2027, \$280,291,593 for fiscal year 2028, and \$293,248,728 for fiscal year 2029”.

(b) **NUTRITION SERVICES INCENTIVE PROGRAM.**—Section 311 (42 U.S.C. 3030a), as amended by section 304 of this Act, is amended in subsection (f), by striking “\$171,273,830” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$216,229,264 for fiscal year 2025, \$226,224,968 for fiscal year 2026, \$236,682,747 for fiscal year 2027, \$247,623,961 for fiscal year 2028, and \$259,070,958 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 803. ACTIVITIES FOR HEALTH, INDEPENDENCE, AND LONGEVITY.

Section 411(b) (42 U.S.C. 3032(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$14,514,550” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$18,324,285 for fiscal year 2025, \$19,171,368 for fiscal year 2026, \$20,057,609 for fiscal year 2027, \$20,984,819 for fiscal year 2028, and \$21,954,892 for fiscal year 2029”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$15,613,440” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$19,711,608 for fiscal year 2025, \$20,622,823 for fiscal year 2026, \$21,576,161 for fiscal year 2027, \$22,573,570 for fiscal year 2028, and \$23,617,086 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 804. COMMUNITY SERVICE SENIOR OPPORTUNITIES ACT.

Section 517(a) (42 U.S.C. 3056o(a)) is amended by striking “\$428,000,000” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$540,340,193 for fiscal year 2025, \$565,318,627 for fiscal year 2026, \$591,451,804 for fiscal year 2027, \$618,793,048 for fiscal year 2028, and \$647,398,205 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 805. GRANTS FOR NATIVE AMERICANS.

Section 643 (42 U.S.C. 3057n) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “\$37,102,560” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$47,028,435 for fiscal year 2025, \$49,202,434 for fiscal year 2026, \$51,476,932 for fiscal year 2027, \$53,856,574 for fiscal year 2028, and \$56,346,220 for fiscal year 2029”; and

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking “\$10,759,920” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$13,584,151 for fiscal year 2025, \$14,212,110 for fiscal year 2026, \$14,869,098 for fiscal year 2027, \$15,556,457 for fiscal year 2028, and \$16,275,591 for fiscal year 2029”.

SEC. 806. ALLOTMENTS FOR ELDER RIGHTS PROTECTION ACTIVITIES.

Section 702 (42 U.S.C. 3058a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “\$18,066,950” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$22,809,108 for fiscal year 2025, \$23,863,512 for fiscal year 2026, \$24,966,659 for fiscal year 2027, \$26,120,801 for fiscal year 2028, and \$27,328,297 for fiscal year 2029”; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “\$5,107,110” and all that follows through “fiscal year 2024” and inserting “\$6,447,609 for fiscal year 2025, \$6,745,665 for fiscal year 2026, \$7,057,499 for fiscal year 2027, \$7,383,748 for fiscal year 2028, and \$7,725,079 for fiscal year 2029”.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the committee-reported substitute amendment be withdrawn; that the Sanders substitute amendment at the desk be considered and agreed to; and that the bill, as amended, be considered read a third time.

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

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

The amendment (No. 3314) in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under “Text of Amendments.”)

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I know of no further debate on the bill, as amended.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there further debate?

If not, the bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass?

The bill (S. 4776), as amended, was passed.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

FIRST RESPONDER ACCESS TO INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 557, H.R. 3254.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3254) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a process to review applications for certain grants to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable national voluntary consensus standards, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

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

The bill (H.R. 3254) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

CARDIOMYOPATHY HEALTH EDUCATION, AWARENESS, AND RESEARCH, AND AED TRAINING IN THE SCHOOLS ACT OF 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6829 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6829) to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize and support the creation and dissemination of cardiomyopathy education, awareness, and risk assessment materials and resources to identify

more at-risk families, to authorize research and surveillance activities relating to cardiomyopathy, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

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

The bill (H.R. 6829) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Mr. President, I have great, great, and wonderful news. Just now, after so much work, we have finally reached the end zone and are sending the HEARTS Act to the President's desk. We scored a touchdown for America's children. Today, the Senate unanimously passed the HEARTS Act, and with it, we are giving schools across America the tools they need to save lives.

Just yesterday, I was in Buffalo, NY, at Cheektowaga High School with Damar Hamlin and members of the community for this very cause: making sure that every school has AEDs and the ability to teach CPR.

Damar Hamlin's story is a powerful reminder that in a cardiac emergency, every minute counts. He learned that when he had his cardiac arrest on the football field, and all Americans learn that all the time. It is especially true when it comes to our children.

Over the past few months, Damar and I have worked tirelessly on the HEARTS Act so we can increase funding for schools to purchase more AEDs and ensure students and staff know how to use them. Many Members in both Chambers have likewise worked relentlessly on this bill. It is a bipartisan bill, it is a commonsense bill, and most importantly, it is a lifesaving bill.

Mr. President, this bill will save lives. When our young athletes have a cardiac arrest or need some other form of CPR, there will be the AED equipment at the school, and there will be trained personnel who know how to apply the AEDs and CPR. It is going to save lives. It is a beautiful thing.

I have to salute Damar Hamlin. After his bout with cardiac arrest, he went forward and said: I have to change this and get the AEDs available to everybody. He came and visited me in Washington. I said: I want to help. And together, we have been a great team.

I told Damar that passing this legislation, which has just happened, is his first Super Bowl ring; winning the Super Bowl, which I believe the Bills will do, will be his second Super Bowl ring.

With the passage of the HEARTS Act, we are putting AEDs within the reach of more schools and children. Studies show that schools with AEDs and CPR-trained staff are seven

times—seven times—more likely to save a life during a cardiac emergency. That statistic is now a promise we are making to every parent, every teacher, every student in America, that they will have the resources they need.

I want to thank Damar Hamlin for his courage, his partnership, his dedication. He is both a strong man and a humble and modest man, a beautiful person. I count him as a friend. He turned a personal tragedy into a mission to save others. Again and again, Damar would tell me "Let's make history" on this bill, and today, history is being made.

I would like to thank the NFL for their support. I would like to thank the Buffalo Bills for their support. I would like to thank all of those who worked to make this possible. To every colleague here in this Chamber who helped get this bill across the finish line and to the staff who worked so hard on this bill, especially Gunnar Haberl, a proud member of the Bills Mafia—and we went to Cheektowaga High School. His father is a PE teacher there, and I met him yesterday as well. I can tell you, Mr. Haberl is so proud of what Gunnar has done. He is right here. Not Mr. Haberl—Gunnar. Gunnar, as I said, is a proud member of the Bills Mafia, who doggedly worked on this piece of legislation.

So today is a good day. Because of the HEARTS Act, more lives will be saved, more families will be whole, and more communities will be prepared.

And, of course, go Bills—on to the second Super Bowl ring for Damar.

EVERETT ALVAREZ, JR. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL ACT OF 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Now, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1097 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 1097) to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Everett Alvarez, Jr., in recognition of his service to the Nation.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

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

The bill (H.R. 1097) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

PAPERWORK BURDEN REDUCTION ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Committee on

Finance be further discharged from consideration of H.R. 3797 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3797) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an alternative manner of furnishing certain health insurance coverage statements to individuals.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3797) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

EMPLOYER REPORTING IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Committee on Finance be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3801 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3801) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to streamline and improve the employer reporting process relating to health insurance coverage and to protect dependent privacy.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 3801) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6960 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 6960) to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged and the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. SCHUMER. I further 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 6960) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

COLORADO RIVER SALINITY CONTROL FIX ACT

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 7872, which was received from the House and is at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7872) to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to modify certain requirements applicable to salinity control units, and for other purposes.

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

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

The bill (H.R. 7872) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2024, AS "VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES DAY"

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Con Res. 43.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the concurrent resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 43) expressing support for the designation of September 29, 2024, as "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Day".

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent the concurrent resolution be agreed to; that the Carper amendment at the desk to the preamble be agreed to; that the preamble, as amended, be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 43) was agreed to.

The amendment (No. 3315), to the preamble, was agreed to, as follows:

(Purpose: To amend the preamble)

In the first whereas clause of the preamble, strike "and the Philippine Insurrection".

In the third whereas clause of the preamble, strike "has provided" and insert "and its predecessor organizations have provided".

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution with its preamble, as amended, reads as follows:

S. CON. RES. 43

Whereas, on September 29, 1899, the organization now known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States was founded in Columbus, Ohio, in the aftermath of the Spanish-American War;

Whereas, on September 29, 2024, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will celebrate its 125th anniversary;

Whereas, since 1899, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its predecessor organizations have provided voluntary and unselfish service to the Armed Forces, veterans, and the United States by—

- (1) advocating for overarching benefits programs for veterans;
- (2) facilitating veterans transitioning back to civilian society;
- (3) serving the communities in which veterans live; and
- (4) taking a national leadership role on substantive issues important to veterans of the Armed Forces; and

Whereas the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States provides an opportunity to recognize, honor, and pay tribute to the nearly 1,000,000 veterans of the Armed Forces represented by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States who served in combat from World War II to the present day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) expresses support for the designation of September 29, 2024, as "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Day";

(2) recognizes the historic significance of the 125th anniversary of the founding of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and congratulates the organization on achieving that milestone;

(3) commends the nearly 1,000,000 veterans who belong to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and thanks those veterans for their service to their fellow veterans and the United States; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States to observe September 29, 2024, with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC RESTAURANT WEEK AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF HISPANIC RESTAURANT OWNERS AND EMPLOYEES TO THE RESTAURANT INDUSTRY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be discharged from further consideration and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 836.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 836) recognizing Hispanic Restaurant Week and the contribu-

tions of Hispanic restaurant owners and employees to the restaurant industry.

There being no objection, the committee was discharged, and the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 836) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of September 23, 2024, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NATIONAL WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA DAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of S. Res. 924, which is at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 924) designating December 14, 2024, as "National Wreaths Across America Day".

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

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

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

The resolution (S. Res. 924) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

RELATING TO THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE FRED R. HARRIS, FORMER SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 925, which is at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 925) relating to the death of the Honorable Fred R. Harris, former Senator for the State of Oklahoma.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 925) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

**MEASURE READ THE FIRST
TIME—H.R. 82**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 82) to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard.

The bill will be read for the second time on the next legislative day.

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL
WORKPLACE RIGHTS**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the notice of adoption of regulations from the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights be printed in the RECORD.

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

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS
AND TRANSMITTAL FOR
CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL**

U.S. CONGRESS, OFFICE OF
CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS,
Washington, DC, December 10, 2024.

Hon. PATTY MURRAY,
President Pro Tempore, U.S. Senate,
The United States Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM PRESIDENT: Section 207(d) of the Congressional Accountability Act (CAA), 2 U.S.C. 1316b(d), requires the Board of Directors of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights (Board) to issue substantive regulations implementing section 207 of the CAA relating to the Fair Chance to Compete for Jobs Act of 2019.

Section 304(b)(3) of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. 1384(b)(3), requires that, with regard to substantive regulations under the CAA, after the Board has published a general notice of proposed rulemaking as required by subsection (b)(1) and received comments pursuant to subsection (b)(2), "the Board shall adopt regulations and shall transmit notice of such action together with a copy of such regulations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate for publication in the Congressional Record on the first day on which both Houses are in session following such transmittal."

The Board has adopted the regulations in the Notice of Adoption of Substantive Regulations and Transmittal for Congressional Approval, which accompany this transmittal letter. The Board requests that the accom-

panying Notice be published in the Senate version of the Congressional Record on the first day on which both Houses are in session following receipt of this transmittal. The Board has adopted the same regulations for the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the other covered entities and facilities, and therefore recommends that the adopted regulations be approved by concurrent resolution of the Congress.

Any inquiries regarding this notice should be addressed to Martin J. Crane, Executive Director of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, Room LA-200, 110 Second Street SE, Washington, DC 20540-1999; 202-724-9250.

Sincerely,

BARBARA CHILDS WALLACE,
Chair of the Board of Directors,
Office of Congressional Workplace Rights.

**FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
THE OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL
WORKPLACE RIGHTS**

**NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF REGULATIONS
AND TRANSMITTAL FOR CONGRES-
SIONAL APPROVAL**

**Regulations Implementing Certain Sub-
stantive Rights and Protections for Job Ap-
plicants, as Required by Section 207 of the
Congressional Accountability Act ("CAA").**

**Notice of Adoption of Substantive Regu-
lations and Submission for Approval as Re-
quired by 2 U.S.C. § 1316b of the CAA.**

Procedural Summary:

**Issuance of the Board's Notice of Proposed
Rulemaking.**

The Fair Chance to Compete for Jobs Act of 2019 ("FCA") was enacted as part of the National Defense Authorization Act for 2020 (H. Rept. 116-333, Title XI, Sections 1121-1124). Under the FCA, Federal employers (including employing offices in the legislative branch) may not request from most job applicants information on arrest and conviction history until a conditional job offer has been extended. Congress applied the FCA to the legislative branch by amending the CAA to add a new section 207, 2 U.S.C. § 1316b.

On June 13, 2024, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights ("OCWR") published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking ("NPR") in the *Congressional Record*. 170 Cong. Rec. H4056-02, S4091-04 (daily ed. June 13, 2024). The NPR proposed substantive regulations relating to implementation of the FCA in the legislative branch. The Board, now having considered comments to the NPR, has adopted, and is submitting for approval by the Congress, final substantive regulations implementing section 207 of the CAA.

**Why did the Board propose these substantive
regulations?**

Section 207(d) of the CAA requires the Board to issue substantive regulations implementing section 207. Section 207(d) requires the Board's regulations to be:

the same as substantive regulations promulgated by the Director of the Office of Personnel Management . . . except to the extent that the Board may determine, for good cause shown and stated together with the regulation, that a modification of such regulations would be more effective for the implementation of the rights and protections under this section.

**What procedure followed the Board's Notice
of Proposed Rulemaking?**

The NPR included a 30-day comment period, which began on June 13, 2024. The Board received three sets of comments to the proposed substantive regulations. The Board has reviewed these comments, made certain changes to its proposed substantive regulations in response to the comments, adopted

final substantive regulations, and is submitting them for approval by Congress pursuant to section 304 of the CAA, 2 U.S.C. § 1384.

**What is the effect of the Board's adoption of
these substantive regulations?**

Adoption of these substantive regulations by the Board does not complete the promulgation process. Pursuant to section 304, following the Board's adoption of the regulations, it must transmit notice of such action together with the regulations and a recommendation regarding the method for Congressional approval of the regulations to the Speaker of the House and President Pro Tempore of the Senate for publication in the *Congressional Record*. This Notice of Adoption of Substantive Regulations and Submission for Congressional Approval completes this step.

**What are the next steps in the process of pro-
mulgation of these regulations?**

Pursuant to section 304(b)(4) of the CAA, the Board is required to "include a recommendation in the general notice of proposed rulemaking and in the regulations as to whether the regulations should be approved by resolution of the Senate, by resolution of the House of Representatives, by concurrent resolution, or by joint resolution." The Board has adopted the same regulations for the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the other covered entities and facilities, and the Board recommends that the adopted regulations be approved by concurrent resolution of the Congress.

**Are these substantive regulations also recom-
mended by OCWR's Executive Direc-
tor, the Deputy Executive Director for
the Senate, and the Deputy Executive Di-
rector for the House of Representatives?**

As required by section 304(b)(1) of the CAA, these substantive regulations are recommended by the Deputy Director for the Senate in regard to regulations under subsection (a)(2)(B)(i), the Deputy Director for the House of Representatives in regard to regulations under subsection (a)(2)(B)(ii), and the Executive Director for regulations under subsection (a)(2)(B)(iii).

**Has the Board previously adopted sub-
stantive regulations implementing
2 U.S.C. § 1316b?**

No.

**Are these substantive regulations available
to persons with disabilities in an alter-
nate format?**

This Notice is available on the OCWR's website, www.ocwr.gov, which is compliant with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 794d. This Notice can also be made available in large print, braille, or other alternative format. Requests for this Notice in an alternative format should be made to the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, 202-724-9250 (voice); 202-426-1913 (fax); or ADAaccess@ocwr.gov (e-mail).

**The Board's Responses to Comments Re-
ceived**

The Board received comments from three sources. The comments addressed four major points, and one commenter also proposed a number of minor corrections, most of which the Board has incorporated.

Political Appointees

The FCA directs the Office of Personnel Management ("OPM") to issue regulations identifying positions in the executive branch with respect to which the prohibitions under subsection (a) of the Act shall not apply. OPM's substantive regulations thus provide at 5 CFR § 920.201(b)(2) that such prohibitions shall not apply with respect to an applicant for a "political appointment." OPM's regulations define "political appointment" at 5 CFR § 920.101:

Political appointment means an appointment by the President without Senate confirmation (except those appointed under 5 CFR 213.3102(c)); an appointment to a position compensated under the Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5312 through 5316); an appointment of a White House Fellow to be assigned as an assistant to a top-level Federal officer (5 CFR 213.3102(z)); a Schedule C appointment (5 CFR 213.3301, 213.3302); a non-career, limited term, or limited emergency Senior Executive Service appointment (5 CFR part 317, subpart F); an appointee to serve in a political capacity under agency-specific authority; and a provisional political appointment.

In the NPR, the Board did not include a parallel exception for political appointments in the legislative branch, noting the lack of hiring authorities for political appointees comparable to those cited by OPM for the executive branch.

Two commenters, however, urged the Board to include an exception for “political appointments” in the legislative branch, contending that the omission of such a definition would expand the scope of the FCA for the legislative branch beyond its scope in the executive branch, in a manner inconsistent with section 207(b)(1)(A) of the CAA.

Both commenters referenced OPM’s reasoning for its own exception as set forth in its notice of proposed rulemaking:

The Fair Chance Act applies to applicants to positions in the “civil service,” which, under 5 U.S.C. 2101(1), extends to “all appointive positions” in the executive branch. Proposed paragraph (b) makes an exception for applicants for political appointments, since political appointees provide confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions on behalf of the President or presidentially-appointed agency heads, and serve as personal advisors and representatives to the President and other senior administration officials. Pre-employment criminal history screening may be required for these positions prior to a conditional offer of employment, because of the utmost trust and discretion required in these positions and the potential for adverse publicity associated with unfit applicants. Fair Chance to Compete for Jobs, 87 Fed. Reg. 24885–01, 24894 (Apr. 27, 2022).

The commenters also stressed the inherently political nature of congressional employment, noting that many appointees are hired to perform confidential, policy-determining, and policy-advocating functions on behalf of Members of Congress. One commenter noted in particular that section 502 of the CAA explicitly allows consideration of “party affiliation” and “political compatibility with the employing office” for employment with a committee, a member, or a number of other offices in the House or Senate. Another commenter argued that a definition of “political appointment” was necessary to “ensure employing office employees have pre-offer access to applicant criminal history information on par with Executive Branch employees’ access to such information.”

Upon further consideration, the Board agrees with the commenters that good cause exists to modify rather than omit OPM’s exception for applicants for political appointments. The Board therefore includes for adoption in its substantive regulations the following definition:

Political appointment means an appointment to a position in an employing office defined in 2 U.S.C. §1301(9)(A)–(C) that requires the incumbent to: (1) file a report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. §101 et seq.); or (2) perform confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions equivalent to those per-

formed by Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. §§5312 through 5316) or Schedule C (5 CFR §§213.3301–213.3302) appointees in the executive branch.

* * *

920.201(b)(2). The prohibition under this paragraph (a) shall not apply with respect to an applicant for a political appointment.

Subparagraph (1) of this definition exempts appointments to employing offices of the House and the Senate listed in 2 U.S.C. §1301(9)(A)–(C) that require the incumbent to file a financial disclosure report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act—the defining characteristic of “senior staff” under the CAA. See 2 U.S.C. §1416(d)(7). This filing requirement applies to congressional employees whose rate of pay is 120% of the minimum rate of pay for GS–15 of the General Schedule and to individuals who are designated as a “principal assistant.” See 5 U.S.C. §§13101, 13103. In the Board’s view, exempting all such highly-compensated senior staff positions in the House and the Senate is on par with OPM’s across-the-board exemptions for appointments by the President without Senate confirmation; appointments to a position compensated under the Executive Schedule; and Schedule C appointments.

Because not all positions performing confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions in the House and Senate fall under the Ethics in Government Act, subparagraph (2) sets forth a functional test to determine whether a non-senior staff position falls within the exception for applicants for political appointments. Such positions that require incumbents to perform confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions that are the equivalent to duties of positions under the Executive Schedule or positions appointed under Schedule C would also be excepted political appointments. No commenters contended that a political appointment exception should apply to appointments to employing offices outside of those in the House and Senate. Accordingly, this exception only extends to appointments to employing offices defined in 2 U.S.C. §1301(9)(A)–(C).

Sensitive National Security Positions

The FCA, by reference to 5 U.S.C. §9101(b)(1)(A)(ii) in 5 U.S.C. §9202(c)(1)(A), created an exception for an appointment to sensitive national security duties or positions. OPM included the exception in its section 920.201(b)(1)(iii) regulations for any position that:

Has been designated as a sensitive position under the Position Designation System issued by OPM and the Office of Director of National Intelligence, which describes in greater detail agency requirements for designating positions that could bring about a material adverse effect on the national security.

The Board was not aware of any positions in the legislative branch that were so designated. However, at the urging of the commenters, the Board has adopted the following exception, incorporating an alternative test for whether a position can be considered “sensitive”:

Has been designated as a sensitive position under the Position Designation System issued by OPM and the Office of Director of National Intelligence (or similar authority in the legislative branch), which describes in greater detail agency requirements for designating positions that could bring about a material adverse effect on the national security, or that requires the performance of duties consistent with a national security position as defined in 5 CFR §1400.102.

Posting Requirement

OPM’s regulations require agencies to publicize the FCA’s requirements in its job post-

ings. The Board proposed a similar regulation at section 920.201(c) for job postings in the legislative branch. Two commenters noted, however, that the statutory authority for OPM’s regulation is derived from 5 U.S.C. §9203. Because the CAA only incorporates §§9201(1), (4), and (5), 9202, 9204, and 9206 of title 5, we agree that the Board lacks the statutory authority to adopt such a regulation. Accordingly, we have removed proposed section 920.201(c) from these regulations.

Definition of Criminal History Record Information

One commenter urged the Board to revise its definition of “criminal history record information,” in section 920.101 rather than follow OPM’s definition, which merely cited section 9101. The Board does not find good cause to modify OPM’s definition.

PART 920—TIMING OF CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRIES

Subpart A—General Provisions

Sec.

920.101 Definitions.

920.102 Positions covered by Fair Chance Act regulations.

Subpart B—Timing of Inquiries Regarding Criminal History

920.201 Limitations on criminal history inquiries.

920.202 Violations.

§920.101 Definitions.

For the purpose of this part:

Employing office means:

(1) The personal office of a Member of the House of Representatives or of a Senator;

(2) A committee of the House of Representatives or the Senate or a joint committee;

(3) Any other office headed by a person with the final authority to appoint, hire, discharge, and set the terms, conditions, or privileges of the employment of an employee of the House of Representatives or the Senate; or

(4) The Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, the United States Capitol Police, the Congressional Budget Office, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, the Office of the Attending Physician, the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, the Office of Technology Assessment, the Library of Congress, the Stennis Center for Public Service, the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission, Congressional-Executive Commission on China, and the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Applicant means a person who has applied to an employing office for employment as a covered employee under the employing office’s procedures for accepting applications consistent with governmentwide regulations, as applicable.

Conditional offer means an offer of employment as a covered employee that is conditioned upon the results of a background investigation, including, as relevant here, the results of a criminal history inquiry.

Covered employee means any employee of— (1) the House of Representatives; (2) the Senate; (3) the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services; (4) the United States Capitol Police; (5) the Congressional Budget Office; (6) the Office of the Architect of the Capitol; (7) the Office of the Attending Physician; (8) the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights; (9) the Office of Technology Assessment; (10) the Library of Congress; (11) the Stennis Center for Public Service; (12) the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom; (13) the U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission; (14) the Congressional-Executive Commission on China; or (15) the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Criminal history record information—(1) Has the meaning given the term in section 9101(a) of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) Includes any information described in the first sentence of section 9101(a)(2) of title 5, United States Code, that has been sealed or expunged pursuant to law; and

(3) Includes information collected by a criminal justice agency, relating to an act or alleged act of juvenile delinquency, that is analogous to criminal history record information (including such information that has been sealed or expunged pursuant to law).

Political appointment means an appointment to a position in an employing office defined in 2 U.S.C. § 1301(9)(A)–(C) that requires the incumbent to: (1) file a report under title I of the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. § 101 et seq.); or (2) perform confidential, policy-determining, or policy-advocating functions equivalent to those performed by Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. §§ 5312 through 5316) or Schedule C (5 CFR §§ 213.3301–213.3302) appointees in the executive branch.

§ 920.102 Positions covered by Fair Chance Act regulations.

(a) *Positions covered.* Except as provided in paragraph (b), this part applies to all covered employee positions in any employing office.

(b) *Exempt positions.* For purposes of this part an exempt position is any position for which an employing office is required by statutory authority to make inquiries into an applicant's criminal history prior to extending an offer of employment to the applicant.

Subpart B—Timing of Inquiries Regarding Criminal History

§ 920.201. Limitations on criminal history inquiries.

(a) *Applicability.* An employee of an employing office may not request, in oral or written form (including through the Declaration for Federal Employment (Office of Personnel Management Optional Form 306) or any similar successor form, the USAJOBS internet website, or any other electronic means) that an applicant for employment with an employing office disclose criminal history record information regarding the applicant before the employing office extends a conditional offer to the applicant. This includes the following points in the recruitment and hiring process:

(1) Initial application, through a job opportunity announcement on USAJOBS, or through any recruitment/public notification such as on the employing office's website/social media, etc.;

(2) After an employing office receives an initial application through its back-end system, through shared service providers/recruiters/contractors, or orally or via email and other forms of electronic notification; and

(3) Prior to, during, or after a job interview. This prohibition applies to employing office personnel, including when they act through shared service providers, contractors (acting on behalf of the employing office) involved in the employing office's recruitment and hiring process, or automated systems (specific to the employing office or governmentwide).

(b) *Exceptions for certain positions.* (1) The prohibition under paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply with respect to an applicant for an appointment to a position:

(i) Which is exempt in accordance with § 920.102(b);

(ii) That requires a determination of eligibility for access to classified information;

(iii) Has been designated as a sensitive position under the Position Designation System issued by OPM and the Office of Director of National Intelligence (or similar authority in the legislative branch), which describes in greater detail agency requirements for designating positions that could bring about a material adverse effect on the national security, or that requires the performance of duties consistent with a national security position as defined in 5 CFR § 1400.102.

(iv) Is a Federal law enforcement officer position meeting the definition in section 115(c) of title 18, U.S. Code.

(2) The prohibition under paragraph (a) of this section shall not apply with respect to an applicant for a political appointment.

§ 920.202. Violations.

(a) An employing office employee may not request, orally or in writing, information about an applicant's criminal history prior to making a conditional offer of employment to that applicant unless the position is exempted or excepted in accordance with § 920.201(b).

(b) A violation (or prohibited action) as defined in paragraph (a) of this section occurs when an employing office employee (or employing office personnel, shared service providers, or contractors acting at the direction of an employing office employee) involved in the employing office's recruitment and hiring process, either personally or through automated systems (specific to the employing office or governmentwide), make oral or written requests of an applicant or applicants prior to giving a conditional offer of employment as a covered employee—

(1) In a job opportunity announcement on USAJOBS or in any recruitment/public notification such as on the employing office's website or social media;

(2) In communications sent after an employing office receives an initial application, through an employing office's talent acquisition system, shared service providers/recruiters/contractors, orally or in writing (including via email and other forms of electronic notification); or

(3) Prior to, during, or after a job interview or other applicant assessment.

(c) When a prohibited request, announcement, or communication is publicly posted or simultaneously distributed to multiple applicants, it constitutes a single violation.

(d) Any violation as defined in paragraph (a) of this section is subject to the claim and penalty procedures under subchapter IV of title 2 (other than section 1407 or 1408 of title 2, or a provision of this subchapter that permits a person to obtain a civil action or judicial review) and the OCWR Procedural Rules, consistent with these regulations.

**ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 11, 2024**

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned under the provisions of S. Res. 925 until 11 a.m. on Wednesday, December 11; 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 McFerran nomination; 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 ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 11 A.M.
TOMORROW**

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.

There being no objection, under the previous order, and pursuant to S. Res. 925, as a further mark of respect to the late Fred R. Harris, former Senator from Oklahoma, the Senate, at 6:56 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, December 11, 2024, at 11 a.m.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

To be lieutenant general

LT. GEN. CURTIS A. BUZZARD

FOREIGN SERVICE

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR THE PERSONAL RANK OF CAREER AMBASSADOR IN RECOGNITION OF ESPECIALLY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OVER A SUSTAINED PERIOD:

ELIZABETH H. RICHARD, OF ILLINOIS

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR THE PERSONAL RANK OF CAREER AMBASSADOR IN RECOGNITION OF ESPECIALLY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OVER A SUSTAINED PERIOD:

ALAINA B. TEPLITZ, OF ILLINOIS

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR THE PERSONAL RANK OF CAREER AMBASSADOR IN RECOGNITION OF ESPECIALLY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OVER A SUSTAINED PERIOD:

DANIEL J. KRITENBRINK, OF NEBRASKA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR THE PERSONAL RANK OF CAREER AMBASSADOR IN RECOGNITION OF ESPECIALLY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OVER A SUSTAINED PERIOD:

GEOFFREY R. PYATT, OF CALIFORNIA

THE FOLLOWING-NAMED CAREER MEMBER OF THE SENIOR FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR THE PERSONAL RANK OF CAREER AMBASSADOR IN RECOGNITION OF ESPECIALLY DISTINGUISHED SERVICE OVER A SUSTAINED PERIOD:

TODD D. ROBINSON, OF NEW JERSEY

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 10, 2024:

THE JUDICIARY

CYNTHIA VALENZUELA DIXON, OF CALIFORNIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA.

KELI MARIE NEARY, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING HAROLD AND INEZ
RICHARDS

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Harold and Inez Richards, who are wonderful, loving, patriotic constituents of mine that live in Sun City, Arizona.

Hal and Inez's patriotism started years ago. Harold, also known as Hal, enlisted in the United States Air Force in May 1955. Inez and Hal, high school sweethearts, married in 1956. They raised two sons, Bruce and Eric, and like many military families, lived throughout the U.S. on military assignments.

Hal's military career included serving as the personal pilot for the Iowa Army National Guard's Regiment Commander, graduating from fixed wing flight school as number one in his flight class, serving two tours in the Vietnam war, including as 1st lieutenant assigned to the 1st Cav's CH47 battalion, serving as Inspector General for the 1st Army Headquarters located at Fort Meade, MD, and serving as Professor of Military Science at Sam Houston State University before military retirement in 1984.

After military retirement, Hal and Inez ran a successful business, owned by Inez, called EJR Enterprises that sold custom sportswear throughout the country. They ran the business until they moved to Arizona to take care of Hal's Uncle and Aunt and have been involved in the Luke Air Force Base Retired Officers Association and helping and supporting Arizona elected officials, like myself, ever since.

I thank Hal and Inez Richards for their lifetime of dedication to our country and for their friendship and kindness to me. May God continue to Bless them now and in future years.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR JOHN
ZARAGOZA AND HIS REMARK-
ABLE SERVICE TO THE CITY OF
OXNARD, CALIFORNIA

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize John Zaragoza, the esteemed Mayor of the City of Oxnard, for his outstanding and unwavering commitment to public service, which has positively impacted the lives and livelihoods of all who call this vibrant community home.

Throughout his remarkable career, John has been a dedicated public servant and his work on an array of projects and initiatives have shaped the city for future generations. For almost three decades, he has faithfully served our community, proving himself to be a tireless advocate for the people of Oxnard. From his

time on the Oxnard City Council from 1996 to 2008, to his tenure on the Ventura County Board of Supervisors from 2008 to 2020, and as Mayor of Oxnard since 2020, John has worked relentlessly to address the city's most pressing needs.

During his time in office, John has led efforts to improve public infrastructure, expand community services, and enhance the quality of life for residents. He has played an instrumental role in addressing the region's evolving transit and infrastructure needs. From street restorations to park maintenance to pipeline replacements to sidewalk repairs, John has delivered critical investments that have helped maintain and fortify the city's timeless character, all while ensuring that its residents have safe and equitable access to the resources they need to survive and thrive.

John has also been a steadfast champion for children and families. As Supervisor, he established the Nyeland Acres Center, an invaluable community resource providing after-school and family services. In recognition of his advocacy for the Nyeland Acres community, the County Board of Supervisors dedicated the John C. Zaragoza Community Park in his honor.

John's commitment to improving the quality of life for Oxnard's residents has been evident in his hands-on approach to engaging with constituents and driving community projects that directly respond to their needs.

A long-time resident of Oxnard, John has a deep and personal connection to the city and its people. His life story is a testament to his dedication to service and to the betterment of the community. He has consistently led with integrity, humility, and a fierce commitment to making Oxnard a better place for all.

I must also acknowledge the unwavering support of his wife, Mary Ellen Zaragoza, who has been a steadfast partner in John's public service journey. Mary Ellen's dedication and commitment to their shared vision for the city have been instrumental in his success. Her support, both in public and behind the scenes, has been a pillar of strength throughout the years, and together, they have made an indelible impact throughout the city.

As John steps down from his role as Mayor, I am proud to join our community in acknowledging his immeasurable contributions to our region and expressing our gratitude for his outstanding public service. It has been my sincere privilege to work alongside John throughout my career in Congress.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration and respect that I recognize Mayor John Zaragoza for his invaluable service to the City of Oxnard, and I join the people of Oxnard in wishing him all the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING GRACE NUHFER AS
OHIO'S 13TH CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT CHAMPION OF THE
WEEK

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Grace Nuhfer as Ohio's 13th Congressional District Champion of the Week.

This summer, Grace won a silver medal in the 100-meter butterfly at the 2024 Paralympic Games in Paris. She also set personal bests in multiple events, including the 200 meter individual medley, 50 meter freestyle, and 100 meter backstroke.

Despite being diagnosed with Ehlers-Danlos syndrome and brittle cornea syndrome, conditions that impact her joints and vision, Grace has not allowed these physical challenges to hinder her success in athletics and academics. Her drive to succeed is commendable. Grace has much to be proud of and deserves the utmost respect for her accomplishment.

Grace earned her spot in the 2024 Paralympic Games by taking first place in the 100-meter butterfly at the U.S. Paralympic Swimming Trials. Additionally, her exceptional performances at the Parapan American Games and the U.S. Paralympic National Championships leading up to the 2024 Paralympics established her as one of the top swimmers in her classification.

Grace is not only a renowned Paralympic swimmer, but also a college senior at the University of Akron, studying data analytics with a focus on marketing. She is on the university's swim team and is the school's first Paralympian.

Again, I would like to congratulate Grace on this amazing accomplishment and commend her for her hard work and dedication, it is those like Grace who make Ohio's 13th District the birthplace of champions.

HONORING POLICE OFFICER
THOMAS JOY

HON. NICK LaLOTA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. LaLOTA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in honor of Police Officer Thomas Joy from the Suffolk County Police Department to recognize his achievement in receiving the 7th Annual U.S. Attorney General's Award for Distinguished Service in Community Policing. This achievement is not only a testament to Officer Joy's incredible exceptional skills and bravery but also to his relentless dedication to making Suffolk County a safer place for all of us to live, work, and raise our families.

Officer Joy has consistently demonstrated a deep understanding of the challenges facing

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

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

our community and a remarkable ability to address them through proactive and community-oriented policing. His work embodies the principle that public safety is not just about enforcement but also about building trust and fostering collaboration between law enforcement and the residents they serve. Suffolk County could not be prouder to have Officer Joy amongst its ranks.

In New York and on Long Island, we know the value of a strong and dedicated police force. Officer Joy's efforts to combat crime, protect vulnerable individuals, and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods have left an indelible impact on our community. We owe him a debt that we could never repay.

On behalf of the people of Suffolk County and the 1st Congressional District of New York, I offer my heartfelt congratulations and deepest gratitude to Officer Thomas Joy for his outstanding service and his unwavering commitment to justice and public safety. His contributions to Suffolk County serve as an inspiration to us all, and I am proud to honor his remarkable achievements here today.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF COMMISSIONER KATE DEAN

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kate Dean for her years of public service to the Jefferson County community. As a member of the Jefferson County Commission, Commissioner Dean demonstrated unparalleled leadership and advocacy for the Jefferson County community as she prepares to step down from the Commission.

Commissioner Dean moved to Jefferson County, Washington in 1999 and spent 10 years farming and working to grow the local food economy through small business development, including co-founding FinnRiver Farm and Mt. Townsend Creamery. She also started a consulting business that focused on natural resource and economic development issues both locally and across the region. Later, she served as the Regional Director for the North Olympic Development Council.

Commissioner Dean was then elected to the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners in 2017 representing Port Townsend. While on the board, she became a driving force for rural economic development and environmental sustainability in the county. She has been behind groundbreaking work that has bridged public, private, and nonprofit sectors tackling complex rural issues.

Outside of our region, the impact of Commissioner Dean's efforts has been felt around the state. In 2023, Governor Inslee appointed Commissioner Dean to the Washington State Board of Health, where she advocated for rural healthcare issues and access. She also serves as a member of the Leadership Council for the Puget Sound Partnership.

Commissioner Dean has been a staunch advocate for public funding of major infrastructure projects, increased access to supporting housing, and overall economic growth in a county that desperately needs it. And this advocacy has led to record levels of public in-

vestment, including successful Community Project Funding wins for the Port Hadlock Sewer and Caswell-Brown Emergency Shelter and Supportive Housing Projects. The impact of Commissioner Dean's work has been profound and will have lasting impacts for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I have been grateful for Commissioner Dean's leadership, partnership, and friendship—and I applaud her for her successes in working to make her community stronger. Commissioner Dean's leadership and passion for revitalizing rural Jefferson County has forever impacted the future of the communities she served. Her advocacy and energy will be sorely missed.

For these reasons, I am pleased to recognize Commissioner Kate Dean in the United States Congress.

HONORING THE LANSING REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Ms. SLOTKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce, a vital institution that has provided transformative leadership to Greater Lansing, Michigan, since 1901. Over that time the Chamber has worked tirelessly to help businesses connect, grow, and thrive, while also strengthening local communities and fostering an equitable and vibrant economic landscape.

Through its advocacy, programming, and partnership, it plays an instrumental role in making the Lansing region one of the best places to live and work in Michigan. By collaborating with corporate executives, small business owners, elected officials, and local leaders, the Chamber drives initiatives that promote shared success.

The Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce's focus on equity, reflects a commitment to creating an inclusive environment where all individuals and businesses can thrive together. By providing resources, mentorship, and professional development opportunities, the Chamber is helping to shape a future that celebrates and supports diverse and equitable communities. Initiatives like ATHENA Lansing exemplify this mission by empowering women to achieve leadership and professional growth, ensuring that their voices are at the forefront of progress.

What sets the Lansing Regional Chamber further apart is its belief in bipartisanship and its ability to unite people across political and ideological lines. The Chamber consistently brings together stakeholders from all walks of life to find common ground for the benefit of the entire region. Its leadership in tackling issues like infrastructure, housing, education, and healthcare has established it as a trusted voice and a force for positive change. We need more practical, common-sense, solution-oriented influence in our civic life, and I applaud generations of Chamber leaders for their work to put community interest ahead of politics.

For over 100 years, the Chamber has provided valuable tools and resources to members, helping them navigate challenges, inno-

vate, and succeed. By fostering a stronger, more connected, and supportive network of businesses and individuals, it has enriched communities and left an indelible mark on the Greater Lansing area.

It is with great respect and gratitude that I recognize the Lansing Regional Chamber of Commerce and its outstanding contributions and enduring legacy of service here in the official record of the People's House.

THOMAS R. CARPER WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2024

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2024

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the "Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2024." I would like to thank Ranking Members LARSEN (D-WA) and NAPOLITANO (D-CA) and Chairs GRAVES (R-MO) and ROUZER (R-NC), as well as their committee and personal office staffs, for crafting the bipartisan "Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2024."

This is the sixth consecutive biennial WRDA since 2014, continuing the bipartisan tradition of enacting a new WRDA every two years that meets the water infrastructure needs of communities across the country. This year's WRDA will strengthen community resilience in addressing the climate crisis, improve water resource projects that safeguard human health, and enrich America's vital natural ecosystems.

The legislation before us today would not have been possible without the leadership of my longtime friend and incredible public servant, Ranking Member GRACE NAPOLITANO. Since 2014, Ranking Member NAPOLITANO has led the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee, helping protect our communities from droughts, restore our ecosystems, and invest in America's ports and harbors. While her presence on the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee will be missed, her commitment to protecting America's water supply will benefit countless communities for years to come.

The "Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2024" (S. 4367) includes key priorities for Solano and Contra Costa Counties, the Bay Area, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and all of California's 8th Congressional District. As a senior member of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I was pleased to secure several provisions in this bill to create local jobs by directing new federal investment into Mare Island, restore Bay Area wetlands, bolster water supply for local communities in California's 8th Congressional District, and more.

Specifically, the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2024" (S. 4367):

Expands on my ongoing work to support the redevelopment of Mare Island by directing the Army Corps to complete a feasibility study with the City of Vallejo to deepen the Mare Island Strait Channel;

Addresses the impact of sea level rise on the San Francisco Bay Area, by authorizing

the Army Corps to complete a comprehensive study focusing on the effects of sea level rise on disadvantaged communities in the Bay Area;

Helps restore Bay Area wetlands in San Pablo, Grizzly, Honker, and Suisun Bays by requiring the Army Corps to use at least 70 percent of dredged materials;

Fortifies Contra Costa County's water supply by authorizing \$57 million in federal funding for water supply projects in central Contra Costa County by the Delta Diablo and Ironhouse Sanitary Districts;

Further supports the crucial use of recycled water in the East Bay by investing an additional \$20 million to the East Bay Municipal Utility District's East Bayshore Recycled Water Project and Integrated Recycled Water Program; bringing in a total of \$45 million invested in the District;

Helps restore the Sacramento River floodplain by directing the Army Corps to use natural infrastructure in all Army Corps projects;

Incorporates key provisions from my "Abandoned and Derelict Vessel Removal Act" (H.R. 7719), expanding the Army Corps' ability to remove abandoned and derelict vessels on the shoreline.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working with the Chairs and Ranking Members, and my colleagues from both parties to get this timely legislation to President Biden's desk for signature by the end of the calendar year.

HONORING CARRIE ROWELL

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the very large number of members who have learned and become more educated on important subjects on Aspen Institute study trips for the past years, we honor the service of Carrie Rowell, who has worked with members of Congress from both sides of the aisle and both sides of the Capitol for the last 14 years. Carrie has worked diligently as the Conference Director for the Aspen Institute Congressional Program, a nonprofit working to bring members of Congress together with policy experts to solve the greatest challenges of our time around the world.

The Aspen Congressional Program conducts several bipartisan, bicameral conferences around the world throughout the year. Carrie, as Conference Director, has been responsible for all logistics and operations of these conferences, including monitoring late or missed flights for 65 plus conference participants, making sure site visits and educational sessions stay on time, and always personally greeting and sending members back to the United States with a smile. This stalwart programming has been instrumental in many members forming working relationships with each other that might not otherwise exist.

Before the Aspen Institute, Carrie had a distinguished career in journalism, communications, and conference operations. She was the conference coordinator of a University of Maryland journalism foundation, press secretary for former Representative for South Carolina, Butler Derrick, and media relations

manager for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta and First Union Corporation of South Carolina. She started her career as a political reporter for a North Carolina daily newspaper and was editor of a South Carolina weekly newspaper. A native of Charlotte, North Carolina, Carrie graduated from St. Andrews University.

Carrie has led with poise, grace under pressure, and kindness for the last 14 years. She expresses these valuable traits at all times to members of Congress, her colleagues, and all those around her, whether before a 5 a.m. flight or after a long, 12-hour day.

We thank Carrie for her years of service and wish her the best in retirement.

RECOGNIZING DR. NANCY REICHMAN

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Nancy Reichman, Professor Emerita at the University of Denver. On December 4, 2024, Dr. Reichman received the Joyce and Kal Zeff Humanitarian Award, a well-deserved recognition of her dedicated work in academia and to our community.

Dr. Reichman worked in the Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Denver for 40 years. Her commitment to education and to the Denver community had a profound impact on undergraduate students at the University of Denver over the years. During Dr. Reichman's time at the University, her research areas included financial regulation, workplace regulation, and white-collar crime.

Dr. Reichman's commitment to the Jewish community is evident through her dedication to relaunching the Jewish Family Services' Refugee Resettlement program. This program assists refugee families in finding affordable housing, providing food and mental health counseling, and supporting overall efforts to acclimate to life in the United States. She also sits on Denver's Racial Equity Council and works alongside her colleagues to address systemic inequalities and racial inequity in our state.

Dr. Reichman's work in academia and across our community created lasting changes in Colorado. I join many others in extending my gratitude for her service to our state.

HONORING BRIAN MURRAY

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize my consultant, Brian Murray, for his years of service to me, our state, and our Nation.

Prior to consulting, Brian worked on Capitol Hill for multiple members, including his last role as Chief of Staff to former U.S. Representative Rick Renzi. Brian also worked in the U.S. Senate as a staff member on the Senate Subcommittee on Science, Technology and Space and on numerous statewide, con-

gressional, and independent expenditure committees.

Brian was essential in my quest to become a member of Congress and served as a confidant throughout my tenure. No matter the challenge, Brian was already ready to fight and guide me through even the most difficult of days.

I cannot thank Brian enough for his commitment and dedication to me, my district, our state, and our Nation.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF SCOTT PERKINS

HON. MARK DESAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Scott Perkins as he retires from his role with the San Ramon City Council.

Scott has spent his life serving his country and his community. He attended the US Naval Academy and earned his BS in Mechanical Engineering before serving five years in active duty with the Navy. During this time, he spent 3 years aboard the USS *Gray* as a First Lieutenant, Assistant Navigator, and Missile/Gunnery Officer and 2 years serving as an Instructor at the Landing Force Training Command Pacific. Scott remained in the Naval Reserves serving in a variety of roles before he was called back into active duty to support Operation Desert Storm. He served in Germany, Turkey, and Iraq assisting with refugee support activities. Scott retired from the Armed Forces in 2005 with the rank of Captain, serving more than 34 years in uniform. Scott continued to serve his Nation with his acquired expertise, moving into an engineering role at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In this role, Scott worked as the Resource Manager and Facility Manager for the X-Ray Laser Program, served as a Test Engineer for the SLBM Weapon Protection Program, and supported the Lab's Nuclear Materials Surveillance Program. He retired from the Lab after 36 years of dedicated service and continues to consult for their Weapons Complex Integration program.

Scott has also demonstrated his steadfast commitment to our community and improving the lives of San Ramon residents. He was first elected to the San Ramon City Council in 2003, where he has worked to maintain the financial health of the City and improving quality of life in San Ramon. He served as chair of the City's Finance Committee and played a key role in renovating and expanding San Ramon's library. Beyond his work on City Council, Scott has been instrumental in supporting local Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. Having earned his rank of Eagle Scout at the age of 13, Scott went on to serve as Den Leader and Cubmaster for the pack at Montevideo Elementary School and was a founding leader of Troop 84. He has led backpack trips in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and has mentored over 100 Eagle Scouts.

Throughout his life, Scott has bravely served his country and has worked tirelessly to empower members of our community. Please join me in congratulating Scott Perkins on his well-deserved retirement after decades of public service.

HONORING PASTOR TOM BEERS

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. BANKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom Beers, the longtime pastor of Columbia City Church of the Nazarene and my own childhood pastor, as he retires at the end of this year.

Born in Elkhart, Indiana, Pastor Tom grew up in the church and accepted Jesus as his Savior at the early age of five. After graduating high school and marrying his sweetheart, Deborah Goble, he began to feel the call to full-time ministry. In 1976, he enrolled at Olivet Nazarene College with only \$250 in his pocket, a new job at Arby's, and faith that God would provide for him and his young family.

Pastor Tom graduated in 1982 and began his pastoral journey as an associate pastor at the Lansing Church of the Nazarene in Illinois. He went on to serve as the senior pastor at the Brookfield church for three years and the Waukesha, Wisconsin, church for another three before moving to Columbia City in 1991.

Since then, Pastor Tom's leadership has guided Columbia City Church of the Nazarene, establishing it as a steadfast beacon of faith in the community. Under his care, the church has flourished as a sanctuary of worship, spiritual growth, and fellowship. Pastor Tom's vision and dedication have shaped a congregation deeply committed to both local outreach and global missions, creating a legacy within the community and beyond.

Jeremiah 3:15 states: "Then I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will lead you with knowledge and understanding." Pastor Tom's ministry has been a testament to the heart of a shepherd, providing wisdom, guidance, and love to countless lives—including my own.

As he prepares to depart from his current role, I wish Pastor Tom many joyful years ahead to cherish time with his family, enjoy the community he has called home for so long, and cheer on his Indiana Hoosiers. His remarkable life of service, faith, and leadership will continue to inspire all who have been touched by his ministry.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ROBERT DUMAS

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of Robert Dumas. Mr. Dumas was a beloved father, brother, and friend, who passed away peacefully in his home on November 24, 2024.

Born on April 5, 1939, in Safford, Alabama to his parents, Andy and Queenie Dumas, Robert was known all his life for his warm heart, sense of humor, and deep love for his family.

Robert held many jobs throughout his life but was most proud of becoming an owner of

a trucking company where he operated an 18-wheeler truck. In 1980, he founded the Dumas Trucking. His work brought him great joy, and he poured his heart into the work that he loved.

After a long day at work, Robert enjoyed the simple things in life and would often relax in his recliner while watching Westerns. He was an old-fashioned man who appreciated every moment of life. He was a friend to all. Robert was affectionately referred to as "Joe" by his brothers, sons, grandsons, close friends, and nephews because of his pleasant, easy to approach demeanor.

Throughout his life Robert was a devout Christian who lived a life of faith and service to his church, Messiah Temple Missionary Baptist Church. He served as a Deacon, a member of the Brotherhood, and a cherished member of the men's chorus until his health failed. His service and spiritual counsel as a beloved member of his church community will not be soon forgotten, nor will the sound of his voice with his chorus partners.

Robert was devoted to his family and his final message to us was "In your hearts, always remember me as the gentle giant and love me as I always loved you. To me, and to all who knew me, family is and will always be everything."

He is survived by his children: Robert Dumas, Dorothy Wash, Donna Dumas, Tony Wash (Kim), Christopher Zorich, Cedric Dumas, and Tiffany Beard (Edward). He is also survived by his siblings, James Dumas (Lucy), Alice Allen, Maple Moppins, Quennie McEwen, Daisy Moore (Ezekiel), and Ann Cole. He will be lovingly remembered by all his family, including his grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and a host of friends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in remembering the life and legacy of Mr. Robert Dumas and in sending our deepest condolences to his family and friends at this time.

TRIBUTE TO SARA PETERS

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sara Peters, an exceptional staff member of the House Committee on Appropriations, whose decade-long service in the federal government exemplifies the hard work and dedication of an esteemed public servant.

Sara's career in government began in 2010 as Legislative Counsel to Senator Thad Cochran. In that role, she advised the Senator on budget, banking, finance, trade, justice, and ethics issues. Her contributions were particularly significant in the vetting of judicial nominees and the development of landmark legislation such as the Dodd-Frank Act and the Budget Control Act of 2011. Additionally, Sara managed all justice-related appropriations issues for the influential Senator.

In 2011, Sara brought her talents to the House Committee on Appropriations as a Professional Staff Member for the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Develop-

ment. Her portfolio included the Federal Highway Administration and transportation safety agencies, such as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the United States Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. She also managed vital programs supporting Native American housing, homeless assistance, and community development.

Following her initial tenure with the House Committee on Appropriations, Sara expanded her expertise in the private sector as a Senior Associate at the King & Spalding law firm. Sara specialized in environmental, energy, transportation, and consumer product safety law. She then served as Assistant General Counsel at the Volkswagen Group of America, with a specific focus on emissions, regulatory, and settlement oversight.

After five years in the private sector, Sara's commitment to public service led her back to government as the Deputy Director of Government Affairs, Policy, and Strategic Planning for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Focusing on transportation safety initiatives and technologies, Sara bridged the gap between the agency and Congress, managing key policy initiatives and preparing agency leadership for congressional hearings, budget rollouts, and briefings.

In November 2020, Sara returned to Congress where her extensive expertise and knowledge earned her the position of Counsel and Senior Advisor on the House Committee on Appropriations under then Ranking Member KAY GRANGER. It was in this role that Sara successfully advanced House Republican funding priorities in the Minority. When Republicans took control of the House in 2023, she was rightly promoted to Deputy Staff Director of the full committee. Her understanding of the complexities of the federal budget has fostered crucially important reforms in the appropriations process. She has demonstrated remarkable skill in managing complex budget data, coordinating between the twelve Appropriations subcommittees, and facilitating communication with leadership offices, authorizing committees, external stakeholders, and support agencies such as the Congressional Budget Office and the Government Accountability Office. Sara played an invaluable role in crafting and negotiating full-year, supplemental, and continuing appropriations legislation.

Throughout her career, Sara has consistently demonstrated an extraordinary ability to navigate complex political landscapes and achieve meaningful results on challenging policy issues. Her deep understanding of government processes and her strategic approach have been instrumental in securing important policy victories, even in times of a divided government.

After countless early mornings and late nights of devoted work to our country, I know Sara is looking forward to a change of pace that allows her to spend more time with her family. Sara will be greatly missed, and I extend my deepest gratitude for her exemplary service to the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING MY SENIOR ADVISOR, BRYAN DOYLE, FOR HIS EXCELLENT WORK ON BEHALF OF MINNESOTA'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. DEAN PHILLIPS

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my Senior Advisor, Bryan Doyle, for his work on behalf of every constituent in Minnesota's Third Congressional District. I could not be more proud or grateful for his service.

Bryan is an experienced leader, executive coach and strategic analyst with a proven track record of effective counsel across multiple industry sectors. His service, first as my Communications Director and then as my Senior Advisor, has been invaluable. Bryan taught our entire team how communications builds influence, influence builds power, and power moves policy.

Bryan has coached business executives, college professors, Congressional staff, students, and fast-food workers in strategic policy communications. A lifelong campaign professional, Doyle's skills as a community organizer complement his ability to communicate and problem-solve with diverse audiences with overlapping interests.

Bryan secured press bookings on Politically Incorrect with Bill Maher, The Today Show, NPR's Morning Edition, Good Morning America, and several hits for multiple shows on CNN, MSNBC, and Fox News. He led the charge for my successful Let's Grow! Caucus-wide campaign for Democratic Policy and Communications Committee co-chair in 2022, to which his skills in communications were critical. He has since taken on tech policy for the office, with a special emphasis on artificial intelligence, labor, international competition and small business.

Bryan brings a fresh and outside the box perspective when looking at the long-term trajectory of the office. His love of music and lyrics especially lightens the mood on tough days. He is willing to put himself out there, even dressing up as Teddy Roosevelt to bid farewell to a dear colleague on his last day in the office. Bryan brought his authenticity to work every day. My office wouldn't be the same without his zeal, sharp mind and propensity to break out in song.

Bryan often says, "peace and love are action words," and I'm grateful he lent his considerable talents to our mission to inspire more of both in Congress during his 3 years on my team. His colleagues and I will miss his booming voice and big heart.

The people of Minnesota's Third Congressional District were lucky to have his dedication and leadership. I wish Bryan all the best in his future endeavors and thank him for three years of faithful service to this Nation.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
VINCENT OMAR LEGGETT

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Vincent Omar

Leggett, a tireless advocate for the Chesapeake Bay and the founder of the Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation.

Vince Leggett was a devoted historian and conservationist whose passion for the Chesapeake Bay was unmatched. Through his leadership of the Blacks of the Chesapeake Foundation, Vince shed light on the untold stories of Black life along the Bay and brought new depth to our understanding of the Bay's heritage.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to Vince's family, friends and all who knew him. His commitment to the Chesapeake community inspired countless individuals—including myself—we will honor his memory by continuing his vital work to protect and celebrate the Bay and its diverse communities.

I include in the RECORD an article by Christine Condon.

'HE WAS THE FIRST': VINCENT LEGGETT REMEMBERED AS A SINGULAR VOICE FOR BLACK HISTORY OF THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

(By Christine Condon)

Carnelious Jones was volunteering aboard the Amistad, a replica of the historic cargo schooner, when Vince Leggett walked into his life.

Jones, whose company had donated fuel to the Amistad, had been told that an "admiral" would board the vessel before it sailed into Baltimore's Inner Harbor. So Jones, a Navy veteran, expected a stern military man in uniform—not the sedan that pulled up nearby (several minutes late), and the jovial man who climbed aboard in a white captain's hat.

That was Vince Leggett, who had been named an Admiral of the Chesapeake Bay in 2003 by then-Gov. Parris N. Glendening. He was the third Black person to receive the honor, recognizing a lifetime of service to the Nation's largest estuary.

"I saw that he had done some astonishing things," Jones said. "So, I approached him and I shook his hand, I told him I was happy to meet him, and thanked him for his accomplishments."

When the ship reached the shore, Leggett brought Jones to his tent, featuring artifacts he'd collected for his book about the Black history of the Chesapeake Bay. Jones was enthralled.

"I'm from the south—in Tennessee," Jones said. "I was amazed at just how outspoken everything was, and how much development as it relates to the African American story was so publicized and so published."

Vincent Omar Leggett died Nov. 23 at 71-years-old. A pillar of the Anne Arundel County community, who served on the school board, directed the Annapolis housing authority and even became the first Black chaplain of the Annapolis fire department, Leggett was perhaps best known for his work on the Chesapeake Bay.

Beginning in the 1980s, through his foundation, Blacks of the Chesapeake, Leggett gathered and preserved the legacy of Black bayside communities, watermen, captains, seafood industry workers, and sail makers. For Leggett, it began with the recognition that the history books often omitted these stories. So, he told them himself, penning "The Chesapeake Bay Through Ebony Eyes," and serving for decades as an encyclopedia of the Bay's Black legacy.

"He wanted everybody else to know that it was more. We were just not shucking them oysters," said Jones, the vice president for new business development at Blacks of the Chesapeake. "We had contributors, to this day, into this maritime industry."

Leggett also had stints at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, as chair-

man of the Wiley H. Bates Legacy Center, as a board member for the Seafarers Yacht Club of Annapolis, and on the list goes. Friends remember him as a talented historian and orator, who also served as a lobbyist, an advocate, and perhaps above all—a leader.

Leggett was also the driving force behind a successful decades-long effort to preserve the historic Elktonia-Carr's Beach Heritage Park, the last remnant of the Black-owned beach land that welcomed Black families during segregation, and hosted music legends such as Ella Fitzgerald and Aretha Franklin.

Along the way, Leggett inspired a new generation of historians and environmental advocates, forging a path for Black voices where none existed before, said R. Kenyatta Rowel Jr., CEO of Breaking Boundaries Environmental, a Maryland-based environmental restoration firm he started in 2022.

"Vince paved the way as a trailblazer for all of these activities, all of these places and spaces for people like me," Rowel said. "He was the first."

Rowel remembers a recent event he attended with Leggett at the Whitehall Plantation near Annapolis. For Rowel, who grew up nearby in a historically African American community called Mulberry Hill on the Broadneck Peninsula, the event was already special. But Leggett made it even more so.

"He was talking on the mic, and he introduced me and my company to have a few words. And to me, that was a moment I'm never going to forget," Rowel said.

For Leggett, it began with his upbringing in Baltimore, and family trips fishing and boating on the Chesapeake Bay, Jones said. The experiences tied him to the outdoors, and were the first spark for his eventual effort as a historian.

"It wasn't a research project. It was part of his livelihood," Jones said. "That's the difference." Though he grew up in Baltimore, where he also earned his bachelor's degree from Morgan State University, Leggett ultimately built his life in Anne Arundel County. He and his wife Aldena lived in Arundel-on-the-Bay enclave in Annapolis, according to an online biography, where they enjoyed "beautiful bay views, fishing with their grandchildren and planning their next trip to the golf green." For Jones, that day aboard the Amistad—a reproduction of the ship famous for its 1839 slave revolt—began a yearslong partnership and friendship with Leggett, focused on achieving shared goals for the Bay's Black community and its legacy.

He looks back fondly on their frequent early morning phone calls, beginning as soon as 4 a.m. and continuing for 90 minutes—or until Leggett left to make his wife coffee or breakfast as she headed off to work, Jones said.

To this day, Jones and others marvel at Leggett's ability to balance it all. The early morning and late evening meetings, the positions on countless boards and committees, the appointments with legislators, community members and advocates.

"There are people every now and then that come through, that—it's unexplainable," Jones said.

Much of Leggett's legacy lives on in the vast array of artifacts he amassed amid decades of research on the Bay's Black history. Today, much of the collection is stored in warehouses, but it is being digitized and shared publicly online, thanks to a partnership with the Maryland Archives.

To Leggett, the history of the Bay should include not only Harriet Tubman and Frederick Douglass, but everyday Black Marylanders, who let him into their homes—and into their worlds. In a way, he became their representative—their messenger, Jones said.

"The ones that passed, he would put a book inside of their coffin. The family would give

him the artifacts of the waterman," Jones said. "They trusted that he would do something with it."

In the archives, Leggett himself, and his foundation, is a part of the history. In 2000, the Library of Congress designated the foundation as a Local Legacy Project.

The archive includes not only artifacts and images documenting Black life in the Bay region, but also documenting Leggett and his foundation—photos of him at a book release or a boat show, examples of exhibits and more.

"He had collected a large collection at that time. Papers, posters, his own personal documents, correspondence with different officials, really chronicling the 30-year history of Blacks of the Chesapeake," said Corey Lewis, assistant state archivist at the Maryland Archives.

"You couldn't tell the story without Vince," Lewis said. For the past several years, interns from local universities have helped document the collection, conduct research and find places to put the artifacts on display, Lewis said. Leggett made a point of working with each intern directly, pointing out figures in photos and telling their stories, ensuring the online collection would be complete, Lewis said. "He could have just given us the collection. But he found it important—we found it important—for him to come in, sit down and spend time with them," Lewis said.

Joel Dunn, president of the Chesapeake Conservancy, said he was incredibly proud to work alongside Leggett to preserve Carr's Beach, a crowning achievement for Leggett's legacy.

Today, the beach is set to be transformed into public parkland. The more recent acquisition—a home on the property—could become a visitor center. Dunn believes it should bear Leggett's name.

Getting the land was far from simple, Dunn said, as the waterfront properties were incredibly valuable. It took millions, including from local government, the Conservancy and Blacks of the Chesapeake, to save the land from another fate, such as residential development. Leggett, who had an existing relationship with landowners and a proven track record of preservation, was instrumental in sealing the deal.

"Vince was so knowledgeable about that history, and all the acts that played there. And the years and months that they played," Dunn said. "He just was such a great storyteller. That, I think, was a really key part of winning over the landowner and the elected officials and garnering the resources we needed." There is a particular memory of Leggett that still plays on in Dunn's mind. It was Juneteenth this year, when Leggett planned a celebration at Carr's Beach—complete with music acts, a fish fry and fried chicken. And there Leggett was, in the middle of it all, dancing on the very beach that he helped preserve. "Now, multiple generations ever after Vince Leggett will be able to experience that place and learn about that place and experience that history, because of his hard work and passion," Dunn said. "I'm so glad he got to enjoy that. I wish he had more time."

**INTRODUCING THE DECEPTIVE
DOWNSIZING PROHIBITION ACT
OF 2024**

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Deceptive Downsizing Prohibi-

tion Act of 2024 (DDPA). This vital piece of legislation empowers the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to protect consumers and small businesses against deceptive downsizing, the act of maintaining a product's packaging while reducing the content size. By defining deceptive downsizing as a prohibited unfair and deceptive practice, the FTC can pursue an action against a manufacturer of a consumer product who deceives everyday Americans and businesses on Main Street.

DDPA bans the deceptive downsizing of consumer products, making it unlawful for manufacturers to sell products of reduced size, volume, or weight in packaging previously used for the same or similar product of a larger size. Holding manufacturers who engage in this deceptive practice accountable will protect consumers and small businesses.

The practice of deceptive downsizing has become a significant concern for American households, particularly during times of economic uncertainty. Food, personal care items, and household products that Americans rely on most are particularly impacted by this deceptive practice. As manufacturers reduce the size or weight of products while maintaining the same exterior packaging, consumers are left with less, often for the same or even higher price.

Most disturbingly, many consumers do not realize that the item they purchased was smaller than expected because the packaging looked the same, further intensifying the financial burden on hard-working Americans. Honesty in packaging is essential in enabling consumers to make informed choices, and misleading the public is unacceptable.

This is not simply an issue of safeguarding the wallets of Americans—it is about fairness. When hardworking American consumers and businesses shop, they expect the product that comes in the same size packaging will remain the same size. When that happens, consumers and small businesses rightly feel duped. I am introducing this legislation to ensure that no American family or business is deceived and getting less than expected.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this crucial legislation that will help protect American consumers and businesses from the practice of deceptive downsizing so they will know that when they buy a product, they get what they expect and deserve.

**TRIBUTE TO CHAIRWOMAN KAY
GRANGER OF TEXAS**

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to join my colleagues to pay tribute to a true pioneer in the House of Representatives.

My good friend KAY GRANGER has been a trailblazer since she was elected in 1991 as the first female Mayor of Fort Worth, Texas. Just a few years later, in 1997 she was elected as the first Republican woman to represent Texas here in the House.

It's been a privilege to work beside KAY for more than a quarter century. Whether it was advancing American space exploration or enhancing our national security, KAY has always fought for our country and for Texas.

In 2017, KAY was named Chair of the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. As the first woman to chair the subcommittee, KAY always put the needs of our warfighters first, advocating that our military must have the advanced capabilities necessary to deny our adversaries a fair fight.

In 2022, KAY was selected to be the Chair of the House Appropriations Committee—making her the first Republican woman to lead the Committee. As a member of the Committee and her successor on the Defense Subcommittee, I saw first-hand how effective she was at collaborating with fellow Appropriators, navigating an always contentious process to achieve our shared goals to the benefit of taxpayers and our Nation.

I will miss serving with KAY in the House as well as on the Appropriations Committee. I already miss her since she is no longer my neighbor here in Washington—but I know she is looking forward to being back home in Texas, and I wish her and her family the very best in the future.

I thank KAY, for making this institution and our country a better place.

**HONORING CHIEF WARRANT
OFFICER JERRY BANKS**

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Chief Warrant Officer Four Jerry Banks, retiring after 40 years of service in the Mississippi National Guard.

Chief Banks joined the National Guard in 1984 while in high school. He mobilized with the 155th for Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1990, served as an Engineer Technician with the 168th EN BDE starting in 1995, and was Soldier of the Year in 2003 at Joint Forces Headquarters. He became a Warrant Officer in 2009 and deployed to Afghanistan in 2012 with the 289th EN Co.

His education includes an associate degree in Survey and Design from East Central Community College, where he played football, a certificate in Computer-Aided Drafting, and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Liberty University. Chief Banks' awards include the Bronze Star Medal, two Army Commendation Medals, and five Army Achievement Medals.

Outside the National Guard, Jerry has officiated high school and collegiate football for over 30 years and was named Mississippi's High School Official of the Year in 2016. He is deeply committed to his family: his wife of 24 years, Karen; their sons, Jarrott (JJ) and Clifton (CJ); daughter-in-law, Madison; and their respective pursuits in contracting, medical school, and college.

Chief Banks embodies dedication to family, service, and community. He is a true American hero and a proud Mississippian, and we are deeply grateful for his service.

HONORING CHAD WILLEMS

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize my longtime friend and consultant, Chad Willems, for his years of service to me, our state, and our Nation.

Chad Willems has managed hundreds of campaigns and public opinion surveys at both the local and national levels. His work has spanned various political offices, from school boards to members of Congress.

Before establishing himself in Arizona, Willems was heavily involved in California politics, particularly as a grassroots organizer and political fundraiser. He also served as the Executive Director of the Adam Smith Institute, a conservative/libertarian think tank, before transitioning to consulting.

Chad has been one of my closest confidants throughout my time in Congress and I am fortunate to have had his counsel during this important time.

I cannot thank Chad enough for his commitment and dedication to me, my district, our state, and our Nation.

HONORING SONOMA COUNTY
SUPERVISOR SUSAN GORIN**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Supervisor Susan Gorin who is retiring after an extraordinary career of dedicated public service representing the residents of the City of Santa Rosa and the County of Sonoma. Her career is marked by a commitment to conservation, to the public's access to parks and to hardening our community against the threat of natural disasters.

Born in Massachusetts and raised in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Ms. Gorin later moved to Sonoma County where she attended the Santa Rosa Junior College and Sonoma State University. In 1991, she earned a degree in Political Science and Economics which set her on a path toward public service. She also established her family in our community. In Santa Rosa, Ms. Gorin married her husband Joe Gorin and raised her two children, Tracey Gorin and Courtney Taylor.

Ms. Gorin's elected and appointed service spans nearly three decades with roots in city governance. Her journey began in 1996 when she was elected to the Santa Rosa City Schools Board of Trustees. Ms. Gorin would go on to serve on the City of Santa Rosa's Board of Public Utilities in 2002 and Planning Commission in 2004. Following those posts in City Hall, Ms. Gorin ran successfully to serve as a member of the Santa Rosa City Council. In 2008, her colleagues on the Council appointed her Mayor. She would lead the city through the tumultuous years of the Great Recession.

In 2012, Ms. Gorin ran successfully to represent the residents of Sonoma County's 1st Supervisorial District. Her district includes the eastern portions of Santa Rosa, the

Mayacamas Mountains, the Sonoma Mountains and the Sonoma Valley. She was re-elected in 2016 and 2020 and was chosen by her colleagues to serve as Chair of the Board in 2015 and 2020. Additionally, throughout her three terms as supervisor, she has been a tireless advocate for vulnerable and underrepresented communities.

In 2017, our community was devastated by wildfires that raged throughout California—many lost their homes, and some lost their lives. Ms. Gorin is one of the survivors of the fires having lost her home to the Nuns Fire. In addition to leading her family's recovery, she has been a fierce advocate for fellow survivors. She continues to advocate for fire recovery and resiliency policy.

During her twelve years as a supervisor, Ms. Gorin has served on numerous regional government boards, including the Sonoma County Transportation Authority, the Regional Climate Protection Authority, the Bay Conservation Development Commission, the Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit Board, the San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority, the Local Agency Formation Commission, and many others.

Mr. Speaker, Supervisor Susan Gorin's legacy of public service, her unwavering commitment to our community and her efforts to improve the lives of those she serves exemplify the best of local government leadership. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

CONGRATULATING TIM BETE ON
HIS RETIREMENT**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Tim Bete, an outstanding community leader and close friend from my Congressional district, who is stepping down as president of St. Mary Development Corporation. St. Mary Development is a faith-based, nonprofit organization in Dayton, Ohio that provides affordable housing for low-income seniors and families.

As president, Tim Bete has successfully carried the torch lit by Sister Rose Helene Wildenhaus and Dayton businessman Dick McBride, who formed St. Mary Development Corporation in 1989. Tim had worked closely with them for seven years, until they retired in 2013 and turned the management of the organization over to him. Under Tim's leadership, St. Mary has continued its focus on creating affordable housing and connecting residents to the services they need.

Since its founding, St. Mary Development Corporation has created 70 affordable apartment communities with nearly 5,000 housing units, including low-income senior apartments, single-family homes and emergency housing, and \$580 million in real estate investment.

From my time as mayor of Dayton, and throughout my service in Congress, I have strongly supported St. Mary's efforts to revitalize the community by creating affordable housing for the poor and elderly. I was proud to collaborate with Tim to secure resources for a pair of senior housing facilities, with priority placement for veterans, on the grounds of the Dayton VA Medical Center. These facilities

provide safe, secure, and affordable housing for veterans, and easy access to the medical care they need.

Tim has dedicated his entire career to making affordable housing available to people who need it. He has served on the boards of housing and homelessness organizations and a nursing home, and currently serves on LeadingAge Ohio's housing subcommittee. Tim is a graduate of the Achieving Excellence in Community Development at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, and has an MBA from Indiana University.

Tim Bete has worked tirelessly to make his community a better place to call home. I wish him all the best in a well-deserved retirement. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking this truly outstanding citizen for his lifetime of service to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, I regret that I missed Roll Call votes on December 5, 2024. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 485 and YEA on Roll Call No. 486.

THE SACRED LIGHTS OF
CHANUKAH**HON. JENNIFER A. KIGGANS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. KIGGANS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a poem submitted at the request of a Virginia Beach constituent, Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman of Temple Lev Tikvah, and are a reflection of his views:

THE SACRED LIGHTS OF CHANUKAH

The fragile yet formidable Chanukah candles
We tenderly lit, daringly defy the suffocating
Darkness around us and in us,

Soothing and softening, we pray, all who
Their magic of evoked memories of elation
And trepidation with oil—dripping levivot
(Potato pancakes) for expectant levavot
(Hearts) while partaking of sustaining sweet
Sufganiyot (donuts) to counteract the bitter-
ness

Of previous and following defeats,
Celebrating a temporary victory before the
Hasmonians' intra-feuds hastened the demise
Of short-lived Jewish sovereignty with warn-
ing

Lessons for the contemporary scene of
mounting

Extremism and spreading strife,
With hostages in death-filled Gaza darkness
Still-second Chanukah's Festival of Lights
In captivity, how tragically ironic!—des-
perately

Yearning for liberating light lagging too
long

Behind and may not come, and for too many
Their wondrous light already snuffed out by
Those adoring the dark with the candle of
each

Unique life burning down before its time and
Forever lost is that consecrated inner oil,
Though only we, today's brave Maccabees,
Possess the priestly power to extinguish

The miracle of the bright Chanukia (menorah)
Embedded deep within us.

Rabbi Dr. Israel Zoberman is the founder of Temple Lev Tikvah in Virginia Beach. Kazakhstan's only born rabbi, he is the son of Polish Holocaust Survivors and spent his early childhood in transit and DP Camps in Austria and Germany. He grew up in Haifa, Israel.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE HONORABLE MILDRED C. CRUMP

HON. LaMONICA McIVER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. McIVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of the Honorable Mildred C. Crump, a visionary leader and trailblazer from my beloved city of Newark, New Jersey. Mildred was a woman of many "firsts" and her wisdom, guidance, and unwavering belief in justice helped shape my life and career—and transformed the lives of so many others. As the first African American woman elected to the Newark City Council and as the council's first woman president, Mildred broke barriers and demonstrated a steadfast commitment to equity, justice, and community empowerment.

Her dedication to improving the lives of others—whether through her pioneering work as New Jersey's first African American Braille teacher or her tireless advocacy for housing, education, and civil rights—has left an everlasting mark on our city, state, and Nation. Council President Crump was more than a role model. She was a relentless advocate and champion for people, and a brilliant community strategist. She blazed a path for so many and was always a source of unwavering support for those of us who had the honor of learning from her. Mildred's leadership, compassion, and vision will be profoundly missed.

All Newarkers mourn the loss of this exceptional woman. I send my deepest condolences to her children, Larry and Sheri, and all her loved ones. I know Mildred's legacy and impact will live on. It lives on in me and many others.

I thank Mildred C. Crump, on behalf of all the little Black and brown girls she has inspired and provided a light to shine. We love you forever.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF CINDY AUBREY

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. Lamborn. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Cindy Aubrey from Pikes Peak United Way after ten years of dedicated service to Colorado's Fifth Congressional District. The CEO role at PPUW has been the culmination of a lifetime of service to her hometown. Cindy is known for her strong work ethic, visionary leadership, and her loving service of others. These qualities manifest in numerous capacities: as a daughter, a sister, a friend, a mentor, or a colleague. Cindy's

career and impact demonstrate the rare combination of utilizing her community-minded as well as an individual-focused approach. Cindy has exemplified putting her neighbors above herself and uplifting those around her in every way that she could.

A proud Colorado native, born and raised in Colorado Springs, Cindy graduated from Mitchell High School. Cindy then graduated from Colorado State University where she was and remains a proud CSU Ram. After college, Cindy started her media career at Fox 21 before moving to KOAA, where she led the Creative Services Department and later the News Department. In these roles Cindy helped inform and shape our community, while gaining the respect of the entire community for her outstanding work.

After developing a heart for the Pikes Peak region in her media career, Cindy continued the mission of community service by taking on the role of Chief Communications Officer with the City of Colorado Springs. It was here that she served during some of the greatest challenges in our region's history—the Waldo Canyon and Black Forest fires. Working tirelessly with first responders and other city officials, Cindy provided residents with vital, accurate, timely information, and did so with empathy and humility.

In some ways as a culmination of her life's mission of community service up to this point, Cindy took on a new endeavor with Pikes Peak United Way, first as the Senior Vice President of Marketing, and eventually, President and Chief Executive Officer. Under Cindy's guidance Pikes Peak United Way created new initiatives and partnerships that expanded the organization's already extensive impact. This included celebrating 100 years of Pikes Peak United Way serving the Pikes Peak region and partnering with many other organizations to launch the Family Success Center, offering a broad range of services to empower those in need in our community.

In addition to her leadership in the Pikes Peak region, Cindy has been recognized for and awarded the Colorado Springs Business Journal Woman of Influence award, the Public Relations Society of America Vista Award, the Colorado Coaches for Charity MVP award, and the Business Leader of the Year from the Southern Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce. It is evident that Cindy's impact is broad and deep in our community.

Cindy and her husband Peter are parents to Liam and his wife Tori and now Grammy to their beautiful granddaughter, Azaela Joy. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in Congress join me in congratulating her upon her retirement and celebrating the life and dedicated service of a true champion for the Pikes Peak region, Cindy Aubrey.

HONORING VIVICA A. FOX

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. Carson. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Vivica A. Fox, a Hoosier trailblazer whose six decades in the arts has helped shape American culture.

Celebrated for her memorable roles in "Independence Day" and "Set It Off," Vivica

solidified her career as a prominent figure in Hollywood from a young age. Her journey to success began with the "Days of Our Lives" soap opera and later the NBC-TV series "The Young and the Restless." Her continued dedication to her craft as a lead actor has filled a much-needed gap in the entertainment industry for representation of Native American and Black communities. Vivica has inspired and uplifted her heritage throughout her career. This week, she is in Indianapolis for the Red Carpet Screening & Talkback for the film *The Lost Holiday*, a new project she proudly joined to explore and the challenging dynamics of grief, family and overcoming obstacles. She shines in this new endeavor, where she continues to inspire the next generation of artists and audiences.

Known as, "the diva who's done it all," Vivica has recently prioritized philanthropic and literary initiatives. Her partnership with The Fractal Group has nurtured the aspirations of the next generation of actors and provided crucial funding to the arts. In her motivational memoir, "Every Day I'm Hustling," Vivica expands on her message of positivity and drive in hopes of inspiring people to never give up—a message that will continue to resonate with new generations of young artists and leaders.

Vivica's professional trajectory has forged a legacy of leadership, compassion, and inspiration. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Vivica A. Fox.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF MRS. BONNA "B" TERSCH

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. Quigley. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our dear late neighbor Mrs. Bonna Jo Tersch, and her lifetime of devotion to the Fifth District of Illinois' Ravenswood community. Bonna, or "B", was a native of small-town Missouri who found her passion living along the Chicago River with her husband and sons, planting gardens for all to enjoy, and promoting peace and beauty in our world.

B co-founded the Greater Rockwell Organization in 1979 and served as its first Secretary—a role she carried for 44 years. B started and managed Greater Rockwell Organization's popular annual neighborhood-wide yard sales, worked with fellow volunteers to report criminal activity, and rose at dawn to paint over graffiti. This nonprofit civic group was recently voted Best Block Club by the Chicago Reader.

B also partnered with the Chicago Transit Authority to modernize, decorate, and clean the Rockwell El station, the cornerstone of a small business hub that she helped make more vibrant than ever. She secured grants, including awards to establish over a dozen "corner gardens" that add distinctive natural charm around the neighborhood, and to create the Montrose Metra Community Gardens.

Although B preferred to humbly volunteer behind the scenes, her decades of public service were recognized by groups like the Ravenswood Community Council and Greening of Ravenswood.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all of our colleagues in the House of Representatives in

recognizing Mrs. Bonna Jo Tersch for her years of service to the City of Chicago, and her legacy of “leaving things better than you found them.”

CELEBRATING THE NEW TESTAMENT TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the history of, and the amazing work carried out by the New Testament Temple Church of God (NTT). A Church that has always put community and congregation first, even in its name. In 1976, Jamaican Immigrant, Reverend Albert Edwards and his family founded the church in affiliation with the Church of God. To honor Jamaican naming preferences New Testament was added into the name, and the church added temple to honor the former Synagogue whose space the church bought. The church was officially named the New Testament Temple Church of God in 2013 to reflect the church's rich history. In 1983, the church purchased the location on Seymour Ave. where it resides today.

NTT has always carried the Lord's work across the community. Originally, Edwards attended a church with his family outside of the Bronx, but soon found the travel distance to be too long. So, Reverend Edwards opened his home to provide a space to for a small fellowship to worship. As the congregation grew, so too did the services provided. Since becoming Senior Pastor in 1994, Bishop Paul Peart helped the church establish a non-profit called the Good Neighbors Community Outreach Agency (est. 2002). The organization provides so many social services within the church and to the broader community. Services have included GED courses, computer access, preschool, after school, housing assistance, food assistance, clothing provision, and a host of other critical community services.

NTT played a key role in the community during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the community will be forever thankful for that. The church was deemed an essential organization and provided food pantry services to families. During the pandemic NTT went from assisting 200 families per week to over 2,000 families per week. Without their services many individuals would have been without food, NTT also partnered with United Way of NYC to provide other essential supplies to the community during the pandemic.

Currently NTT is responding to increased migration by hosting up to 120 asylum seekers per week. Giving them access to kitchen and dining facilities, as well as clothing and other necessities. Importantly NTT provides asylum seekers with local community connections.

I thank the New Testament Temple Church of God and reiterate their motto. G—R—O—W—T—H—S Through Joyful Service. G—Glorifying God, R—Religious Life, O—Outreach Evangelism, W—World Missions, T—Training of Disciples, H—Hospitality, S—Supportive Ministries. I look forward to hearing about NTT's continued community leadership.

HONORING CLINT HICKMAN

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize Maricopa County Supervisor for District 4, Clint Hickman.

Clint, a 4th-generation Arizonan, has served on the Board of Supervisors since March 21, 2013. He also is the Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Hickman's Family Farms, the largest egg producer in the southwest United States. Supervisor Hickman's experience running a business and his deep roots in the West Valley have guided his actions on the Board of Supervisors, leading the Counties' approach to fiscal responsibility and effective governance. He has been a valuable resource to his constituents and small businesses, and helped lead the county through the challenging COVID-19 pandemic.

I sincerely appreciate Clint's service to the 8th Congressional District, Maricopa County, and Arizona.

CONGRATULATING CONGRESSWOMAN CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AFTER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate my friend and colleague, Chair of the Energy and Commerce Committee, CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS, on her retirement from the House of Representatives after a 20-year career representing the folks of Washington's 5th congressional district.

I've had the pleasure of working closely with CATHY on the Energy and Commerce Committee for a long time and together we've been able to accomplish some amazing things for the American people. I've admired her determination and strength to get our priorities across the finish line and she has never stopped working tirelessly on behalf of the people she was elected to serve. What I most admire about CATHY is her dedication to her family and the Down Syndrome community. Over the years I've had the privilege of becoming friends with her son Cole, who has inspired me and is one of the reasons I'm so passionate about supporting CATHY's work on behalf of the Down Syndrome community. She has been a tireless champion for the community and left a lasting legacy with her accomplishments on behalf of the people who are differently-abled, so they can live their lives to their full potential with no barriers or bias or obstacles standing in their way.

While her colleagues will miss her dearly, we wish CATHY and her family all the best as she begins this next chapter of her life.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating my friend Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS on her retirement from

the House of Representatives after 20 years of service to the people of Washington's 5th congressional district.

CELEBRATING THE HOMECOMING OF MR. TIGRAN GAMBARYAN

HON. RICHARD McCORMICK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Tigran Gambaryan and celebrate his return home to the United States of the America, and to his friends and family.

Mr. Gambaryan is an American citizen, a resident of Georgia, and a dedicated former public servant. While on a business trip to Nigeria in February, he was arrested and charged with false accusations of tax evasion and money laundering. Tigran was detained in the notorious Kuje Prison for months, repeatedly denied access to medical care as his health deteriorated, denied basic due process rights, and otherwise treated inhumanely. Despite these severe hardships, Mr. Gambaryan displayed remarkable resilience and an unwavering determination to return home.

Finally, on October 23, 2024, Nigeria dropped all fraudulent charges against Mr. Gambaryan, and he was able to return safely to the United States. I want to thank the hard work and dedication of the Department of State officials for the role they played to bring Mr. Gambaryan home. I also want to extend my deepest gratitude to my colleagues on the House Foreign Affairs Committee for their unwavering support and advocacy in urging the Nigerian government to secure his release. Most importantly, I want to commend Mr. Gambaryan for his courage and for never losing hope during this tumultuous situation.

It is an honor to represent brave individuals like Tigran Gambaryan in Congress, and I celebrate his return home to his wife Yuki and their two young children. God bless their family.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COPS/METRO ALLIANCE

HON. GREG CASAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to call the attention of the House in recognition of the 50th anniversary of the Communities Organized for Public Service/Metro Alliance. Since 1974, the COPS/Metro Alliance has invested billions of dollars into San Antonio families and have fought to make the City a place where everyone's voices are heard.

Led by a West-Side native organizer named Ernesto Cortés Jr., church leaders across the City began to organize and work with one another to secure more opportunities for working class residents. They used their newfound voices to fight for housing for seniors, environmental protections, and safer streets. Members of COPS/Metro Alliance even began running for office, and successfully secured funding for libraries, parks, and public services.

When factories and plants closed in San Antonio, they created job-training programs and worked with businesses to bring more high-paying jobs to the City. In the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, the COPS/Metro Alliance founded an unprecedented education and job placement program called “SA Ready to Work”, offering over 28,000 San Antonio residents job placement, support, and retention services, and tuition for high school equivalency, college degrees, and industry-recognized certifications: the first of its kind in the Nation.

While great strides have been made in the last few decades to make San Antonio a more equitable city, there is still more work to be done. As the Representative for Texas’s 35th Congressional District, I know that the COPS/Metro Alliance will continue its incredible legacy of uplifting the most disadvantaged among us, and work to create an even greater San Antonio.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTIAN COUNTY,
MISSOURI, TREASURER KAREN
MATTHEWS ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ERIC BURLISON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karen Matthews, the Christian County, Missouri, Treasurer, on her retirement. Christian County is home to nearly 90,000 citizens in the southwest part of Missouri, and Ms. Matthews has served as an elected official there for 22 years.

During her tenure, Ms. Matthews has achieved many accomplishments. She manages nearly \$50 million annually in county revenue and transitioned the county’s operations from a third-class county to a first-class county due to the area’s population growth. She initiated online banking for the county, direct deposit payroll for county employees and implemented premier financial software. She also saved the county thousands of dollars by implementing a more efficient time and attendance software. Finally, despite the millions of annual transactions, the county has successfully passed all of its dozens of audits with 100-percent compliance.

Ms. Matthews was honored by her peers by being elected as the treasurer for the Missouri County Treasurer’s Association, a position she has held since 2012. She also is the treasurer for Mt. Zion Baptist Church, serves on the Missouri County Treasurer’s Association legislative board and is a member of several area chambers of commerce. In addition to her public service, she has been the co-owner of several small businesses in the construction and home design fields.

I’d like to congratulate Ms. Matthews on her well-deserved retirement. She has faithfully executed her responsibilities as county treasurer and she will be missed. I wish her the very best in the next phase of her life.

RECOGNIZING MY SUBCOMMITTEE
STAFF DIRECTOR, SOPHIE
MIRVISS, FOR HER EXCELLENT
WORK ON BEHALF OF MIN-
NESOTA’S THIRD CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT

HON. DEAN PHILLIPS

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my Staff Director, Sophie Mirviss, for her work on behalf of every constituent in Minnesota’s Third Congressional District. In October, Sophie departed my office for a new opportunity to serve as the Chief of Staff to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for the Middle East and I could not be more proud or grateful for her service.

Sophie’s journey as a public servant began just after she graduated from Johns Hopkins University in 2018 with a bachelor’s degree in international studies and a minor in economics. Though she was initially hired as my scheduler, her expertise in foreign policy led her to become my National Security Legislative Assistant. Soon after, she joined the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Global Counterterrorism in which she served under Reps. Ted Deutch (FL-22) and David Cicilline (RI-01). In this time, she worked her way up from Professional Staff Member to the Subcommittee Staff Director all the while pursuing a master’s degree in defense and strategic studies at the U.S. Naval War College. As a Minnesota District Three native, Sophie understands how diplomacy and conflicts in far-away lands can impact our own communities, which has made her a wonderful advocate for our constituents in the foreign policy sphere.

Sophie is a powerhouse. She is not only a master knitter, but also an embodiment of what every congressional staffer strives to be. Confident in her abilities and fearless in her pursuit of peace through better policy, she brings a fire and intensity to her work that inspires everyone to be the best version of themselves. Sophie is just the type of person you would want with you in the case of a zombie apocalypse—she is smart, determined, loyal, and a joy to be around. For that, we’ve been extremely grateful to have her on our team.

The people of Minnesota’s Third Congressional District were lucky to have her dedication and leadership, and she will be dearly missed. However, I’m extraordinarily happy that she will continue to do this work and serve the Nation. I wish Sophie all the best in her future endeavors and thank her for six years of faithful service to this Nation.

CELEBRATING DETECTIVE EDWIN
HUGH

HON. NICK LaLOTA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mr. LaLOTA. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to celebrate Detective Edwin Hugh of the Suffolk County Police Department, who has been honored with the 7th Annual U.S. Attorney

General’s Award for Distinguished Service in Community Policing. This prestigious recognition highlights Detective Hugh’s outstanding contributions to community safety and his unwavering commitment to making Suffolk County a better place to live. His achievements exemplify the core values of law enforcement: integrity, dedication, and an unrelenting drive to protect and serve.

Detective Hugh has proven himself to be a leader in law enforcement, building trust with residents and strengthening public safety across Suffolk County. Whether pursuing justice for victims of crime or engaging directly with the community to foster partnerships, Detective Hugh consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty. Suffolk County is a safer place because of Detective Hugh’s hard work and steadfast dedication to better our communities.

His efforts to combat crime, reduce harm, and improve the lives of residents reflect his dedication not only to the badge he wears but also to the people he serves. He understands that effective policing is not just about enforcing laws—it is about creating an environment where families feel secure, businesses can thrive, and communities can flourish.

On behalf of the people of Suffolk County and the 1st Congressional District of New York, I extend my sincere congratulations to Detective Edwin Hugh and my heartfelt gratitude for his exceptional service. His work serves as a model for law enforcement professionals across the country, and his contributions to Suffolk County are a source of pride for us all.

RECOGNIZING MONIQUEC CONNER
AS OHIO’S 13TH CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT CHAMPION OF THE
WEEK

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Moniquec Conner as Ohio’s 13th Congressional District Champion of the Week.

Moniquec is a trailblazing civil rights activist. She was recently recognized with a Humanitarian Stone Award from the National Action Network, an organization dedicated to advancing civil rights issues.

This award reflects the years of hard work, dedication, and perseverance that she has invested in our community and fighting for the advancement of civil rights. Her commitment has remained steadfast—the hallmark of concerned and responsible citizenship.

Moniquec is currently the chair of the Ohio Women in the NAACP, and in 1999, she revitalized the Stark County branch of the NAACP, serving as its president in 2000.

In addition to her work for the NAACP, she is also the interim president of the National Action Network chapter that serves Stark and Summit counties.

As she has throughout her remarkable career, Moniquec continues to focus on issues such as police accountability, voting rights, corporate responsibility, pension diversity, youth leadership, crisis intake, victim assistance, and bridging the digital divide.

I would like to thank Moniquec for her dedication to fighting for change, and the amazing

work she does on behalf of the community. As a woman in a position of influence, she has certainly inspired the next generation of leaders to stand strong in their convictions and fight for justice.

Moniquec's unwavering championing of civil rights exemplifies the very spirit that makes Ohio's 13th Congressional District the "Birthplace of Champions." With this national recognition, she has certainly made our community proud.

RECOGNIZING BRYAN MACDONALD
AND HIS DEDICATED SERVICE
TO THE CITY OF OXNARD, CALIFORNIA

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Bryan MacDonald, Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Oxnard, a notable public servant whose unwavering dedication has left an indelible mark on our community.

Bryan's service to Oxnard began in 2008 when he was first elected to the City Council, and his leadership and commitment to public service have been steadfast throughout his tenure. He was re-elected in 2012, 2016, and 2020, demonstrating his ongoing dedication to the city's growth and prosperity. In 2020, Bryan was appointed Mayor Pro Tem, a role that has allowed him to further influence the city's progress and address the needs of its residents. Prior to his time in local government, Bryan served for 30 years in the Oxnard Police Department, retiring as Assistant Chief of Police. His leadership in law enforcement has been a pillar of the city's public safety efforts and continues to serve as a lasting testament to his dedication and commitment to our community.

Beyond his roles in law enforcement and city governance, Bryan continues to share his wealth of knowledge as an Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice at Ventura College. His influence extends well beyond the classroom, as he has taken on leadership positions with organizations that impact the entire community. Bryan has served as the Chairperson for the American Cancer Society Gold Coast Community Council, Board President of the Elite Theatre Company, and is an active member of the Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board for the County of Ventura Behavioral Health Department. He is also deeply involved with the Knights of Columbus, Council 750, and has contributed countless hours to making Oxnard a better place for all.

A long-time resident of Oxnard, Bryan and his wife Lorraine have called this community home since 1985. Together, they have been a constant presence in our city, investing in its people, its future, and its wellbeing.

As Bryan steps down from his role on the City Council, I join our community in expressing our appreciation for his immense contributions to public safety, education, and the overall commitment to building a better and stronger Oxnard. From his distinguished career in law enforcement to his leadership in governance and his community involvement, Bryan MacDonald has served our community well.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great esteem and respect that I recognize Bryan MacDonald for his invaluable service to the City of Oxnard. I thank him for his many years of leadership and commitment, and I wish him continued success in the next chapter of his life's journey.

HONORING RUSSELL SMOLDON

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize my friend, Russell D. Smoldon, CEO of B3 Strategies.

I first met Russell while serving in the Arizona State Legislature in 2009. At the time, Russell was the manager of government relations for Salt River Project (SRP), a major utility and water company in Arizona.

Russell now runs his own company and has over 35 years of public policy experience focused on energy, water, environmental, taxation, healthcare, and economic development issues.

Russell is a respected leader in Arizona and I believe just about everyone knows him and likes him. He serves on the board of the Arizona Tax Research Association (ATRA) and on the board of CrossRoads. Russell has also served in leadership positions with the Western Business Roundtable, the Greater Phoenix Urban League, the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), the National Conference of State Legislators' Advisory Council on Energy, and the National Tax Partnership. He also served as a member of the Arizona Supreme Court's Child Support Guidelines and Domestic Relations Committees and the Arizona Highway Users' Association, and has assisted numerous non-profit organizations, including the Arizona Trails Association.

Russell is caring, fun-loving, funny, and knowledgeable. I have called on him for input on Arizona issues for many years.

I thank Russell for his years of support and for all of the times he has provided me with valuable information and advice. Please know that I appreciate him. May God continue to Bless him and his family for years to come.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S6891–S6939

Measures Introduced: Twelve bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 5460–5471, and S. Res. 923–926. **Pages S6912–13**

Measures Reported:

S. 4579, to reauthorize the Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative Act to promote the protection of the resources of the Northwest Straits, with amendments. **Page S6912**

Measures Passed:

Majority Party's Committee Membership: Senate agreed to S. Res. 926, to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. **Page S6925**

Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act: Senate passed S. 4776, to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2025 through 2029, after withdrawing the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute, and agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Pages S6925–34**

Schumer (for Sanders) Amendment No. 3314, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S6925–34**

First Responder Access to Innovative Technologies Act: Senate passed H.R. 3254, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a process to review applications for certain grants to purchase equipment or systems that do not meet or exceed any applicable national voluntary consensus standards. **Page S6934**

HEARTS Act: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6829, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize and support the creation and dissemination of cardiomyopathy education, awareness, and risk assessment materials and resources to identify more at-risk families, to authorize research and surveillance activities relating to cardiomyopathy, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S6934–35**

Everett Alvarez, Jr. Congressional Gold Medal Act: Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1097, to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Everett Alvarez, Jr., in recognition of his service to the Nation, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6935**

Paperwork Burden Reduction Act: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3797, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an alternative manner of furnishing certain health insurance coverage statements to individuals, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6935**

Employer Reporting Improvement Act: Committee on Finance was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 3801, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to streamline and improve the employer reporting process relating to health insurance coverage and to protect dependent privacy, and the bill was then passed. **Page S6935**

Emergency Medical Services for Children Reauthorization Act: Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 6960, to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the Emergency Medical Services for Children program, and the bill was then passed. **Pages S6935–36**

Colorado River Salinity Control Fix Act: Senate passed H.R. 7872, to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to modify certain requirements applicable to salinity control units. **Page S6936**

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Day: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Con. Res. 43, expressing support for the designation of September 29, 2024, as “Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Day”, and the resolution was then agreed to, after agreeing to the following amendment proposed thereto: **Page S6936**

Schumer (for Carper) Amendment No. 3315, to amend the preamble. **Page S6936**

Hispanic Restaurant Week: Committee on the Judiciary was discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 836, recognizing Hispanic Restaurant

Week and the contributions of Hispanic restaurant owners and employees to the restaurant industry, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S6936**

National Wreaths Across America Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 924, designating December 14, 2024, as “National Wreaths Across America Day”. **Page S6936**

Death of Former Senator Fred R. Harris: Senate agreed to S. Res. 925, relating to the death of the Honorable Fred R. Harris, former Senator for the State of Oklahoma. **Pages S6936–37**

Office Of Congressional Workplace Rights Regulations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that the notice of adoption of regulations from the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights be printed in the Record. **Page S6937**

McFerran Nomination—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the nomination of Lauren McGarity McFerran, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board. **Pages S6891–96, S6896–S6902**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the nomination at approximately 11 a.m., on Wednesday, December 11, 2024. **Page S6939**

Marzano Nomination—Cloture: Senate began consideration of the nomination of Matthew James Marzano, of Illinois, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. **Page S6907**

A motion was entered to close further debate on the nomination, and, in accordance with the provisions of Rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, a vote on cloture will occur on Thursday, December 12, 2024. **Page S6907**

Prior to the consideration of this nomination, Senate took the following action:

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Legislative Session. **Page S6907**

Senate agreed to the motion to proceed to Executive Session to consider the nomination. **Page S6907**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 49 yeas to 48 nays (Vote No. EX. 318), Keli Marie Neary, of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. **Pages S6896, S6939**

By 49 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 319), Cynthia Valenzuela Dixon, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California. **Pages S6902–07, S6939**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

1 Army nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Foreign Service. **Page S6939**

Messages from the House: **Page S6910**

Measures Referred: **Pages S6910–11**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S6911**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S6911, S6937**

Enrolled Bills Presented: **Page S6911**

Executive Communications: **Pages S6911–12**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S6913–14**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S6914–15**

Additional Statements: **Page S6910**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S6915–25**

Notices of Intent: **Page S6925**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Page S6925**

Record Votes: Two record votes were taken today. (Total—319) **Pages S6896, S6903**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the late Fred R. Harris, former Senator for the State of Oklahoma, in accordance with S. Res. 925, at 6:56 p.m., until 11 a.m. on Wednesday, December 11, 2024. (For Senate’s program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today’s Record on page S6939.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

MASS DEPORTATIONS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine mass deportations, after receiving testimony from Major General Randy Manner, USA (Ret.), Department of Defense; Foday Turay, Philadelphia District Attorney’s Office Assistant District Attorney, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Aaron Reichlin-Melnick, American Immigration Council, and Andrew R. Arthur, Center for Immigration Studies, both of Washington, D.C.; and Patty Morin, Aberdeen, Maryland.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 18 public bills, H.R. 10332–10349; and 1 resolution, H. Res. 1613, were introduced. **Pages H6799–H6800**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H6801**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H. Res. 1612, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 7673) to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing or enforcing energy conservation standards for clothes washers that are not cost-effective or technologically feasible, and for other purposes; providing for consideration of the bill (S. 4199) to authorize additional district judges for the district courts and convert temporary judgeships; and providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 5009) to reauthorize wildlife habitat and conservation programs, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–825);

H.R. 6229, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a program to assess the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of terrorism or other security threats, as appropriate, to certain events, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–826, Part 1);

H.R. 5874, to amend the United States-Mexico Transboundary Aquifer Assessment Act to reauthorize the United States-Mexico transboundary aquifer assessment program, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–827);

H.R. 6235, to amend the Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia Research and Control Act of 1998 to address harmful algal blooms, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–828, Part 1);

H.R. 7072, to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain National Forest System land in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest to Tony's Wabeno Redi-Mix, LLC, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–829, Part 1);

H.R. 7375, to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to improve the assessment of expression of interest fees, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–830);

H.R. 6482, to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to promote timely exploration for geothermal resources under geothermal leases, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–831);

H.R. 1437, to authorize livestock producers and their employees to take black vultures in order to prevent death, injury, or destruction to livestock,

and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–832);

H.R. 8450, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate certain minerals for designation as critical minerals, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–833);

H.R. 7776, to amend the Boulder Canyon Project Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to expend amounts in the Colorado River Dam fund, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–834);

H.R. 1647, to redesignate the Salem Maritime National Historic Site as the "Salem Maritime National Historical Park" and for the purposes (H. Rept. 118–835);

H.R. 3119, to provide for the issuance of a Manatee Semipostal Stamp (H. Rept. 118–836, Part 1);

H.R. 8704, to require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a grant program to foster enhanced coexistence between ocean users and North Atlantic right whales and other large cetacean species, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–837, Part 1);

H.R. 6085, to prohibit the implementation of the Draft Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Rock Springs RMP Revision, Wyoming, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–838);

H.R. 6547, to prohibit the Secretary of the Interior from implementing the Draft Resource Management Plan and Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Colorado River Valley Field Office and Grand Junction Field Office Resource Management Plans, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–839);

H.R. 1395, to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–840, Part 1);

H.R. 5401, to provide a one-time grant for the operation, security, and maintenance of the National September 11 Memorial Museum at the World Trade Center to commemorate the events, and honor the victims, of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–841);

H.R. 6127, to provide for the standardization, consolidation, and publication of data relating to public outdoor recreational use of Federal waterways among Federal land and water management agencies, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–842, Part 1);

H.R. 8931, to redesignate Saratoga National Historical Park as Saratoga National Battlefield Park (H. Rept. 118–843);

H.R. 8946, to convey the reversionary interest of the United States in certain land in Sacramento, California (H. Rept. 118–844);

H.R. 9516, to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to provide for lifetime National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes for family members of members of the Armed Forces who lost their lives while serving their country, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–845, Part 1);

H.R. 7365, to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–846, Part 1);

H.R. 7938, to amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to provide the Secretary of the Interior with certain authorities with respect to projects affecting the Klamath Basin watershed, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–847);

H.R. 8012, to establish the Jackie Robinson Ballpark National Commemorative Site in the State of Florida, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–848);

H.R. 8308, to reauthorize the Nutria Eradication and Control Act of 2003 (H. Rept. 118–849);

H.R. 9668, to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–850, Part 1);

H.R. 8033, to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the information required to be included in a certification by an agency that a rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities (H. Rept. 118–851, Part 1);

H.R. 9030, to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Regulatory Flexibility Act”), to ensure complete disclosure of an agency’s annual regulatory agenda (H. Rept. 118–852, Part 1);

H.R. 9031, to require Federal agency heads to submit a report on the implementation of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–853, Part 1);

H.R. 9032, to amend chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code (commonly known as the “Regulatory Flexibility Act”), to ensure complete analysis of potential impacts on small entities of rules, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–854, Part 1);

H.R. 9033, to amend title 5, United States Code, to apply regulatory flexibility analysis requirements for the Department of Labor (H. Rept. 118–855, Part 1);

H.R. 9085, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications to how agencies con-

duct periodic reviews of agency rules, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–856, Part 1);

H.R. 190, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the exception for de minimis payments by third party settlement organizations with respect to returns relating to payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, as in effect prior to the enactment of the American Rescue Plan Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 118–857);

H.R. 9689, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–858); and

H.R. 9769, to ensure the security and integrity of United States critical infrastructure by establishing an interagency task force and requiring a comprehensive report on the targeting of United States critical infrastructure by People’s Republic of China state-sponsored cyber actors, and for other purposes (H. Rept. 118–859).

Pages H6798–99

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Valadao to act as Speaker pro tempore for today.

Page H6539

Recess: The House recessed at 11:15 a.m. and reconvened at 12 p.m.

Page H6547

Recess: The House recessed at 1:17 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

Page H6555

Suspensions—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures. Consideration began Monday, December 9th.

Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act: S. 4367, amended, to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, by a 2/3 yeand-nay vote of 399 yeas to 18 nays, Roll No. 493; and

Pages H6555–56

Improving Federal Building Security Act of 2024: S. 3613, to require Facility Security Committees to respond to security recommendations issued by the Federal Protective Service relating to facility security, by a 2/3 yeand-nay vote of 410 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 496.

Pages H6557–58

Recess: The House recessed at 4:05 p.m. and reconvened at 4:30 p.m.

Page H6579

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Strengthening Cyber Resilience Against State-Sponsored Threats Act: H.R. 9769, to ensure the security and integrity of United States critical infrastructure by establishing an interagency task force

and requiring a comprehensive report on the targeting of United States critical infrastructure by People's Republic of China state-sponsored cyber actors;
Pages H6562–64

DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program Act: H.R. 9689, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program;
Pages H6564–65

DHS Special Events Program and Support Act: H.R. 6229, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a program to assess the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of terrorism or other security threats, as appropriate, to certain events;
Pages H6565–66

Veterans Expedited TSA Screening Safe Travel Act: H.R. 7365, amended, to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans;
Pages H6566–68

Strategic Homeland Intelligence and Enforcement Legislation to Defend against the CCP Act: H.R. 9668, amended, to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a working group relating to countering terrorist, cybersecurity, border and port security, and transportation security threats posed to the United States by the Chinese Communist Party, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 409 yeas to 4 nays, Roll No. 498;
Pages H6568–70, H6580–81

Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2024: S. 2781, to promote remediation of abandoned hardrock mines; and
Pages H6570–78

Amtrak Transparency and Accountability for Passengers and Taxpayers Act: H.R. 8692, amended, to require that the Amtrak Board of Directors comply with the open meetings requirements of section 552b of title 5.
Pages H6578–79

Liberty in Laundry Act: The House passed H.R. 7673, to prohibit the Secretary of Energy from prescribing or enforcing energy conservation standards for clothes washers that are not cost-effective or technologically feasible, by a yea-and-nay vote of 215 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 497.
Pages H6558–62, H6580

H. Res. 1612, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 7673), (S. 4199), and (H.R. 5009) was agreed to by a recorded vote of 211 yeas to 207 noes, Roll No. 495, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 210 yeas to 205 nays, Roll No. 494.
Pages H6549–55, H6556–57

Senate Referrals: S. 1868 was held at the desk. S. 3606 was held at the desk. S. 4212 was held at the desk.
Page H6558

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate by the Clerk and subsequently presented to the House today appear on page H6558.

Quorum Calls— Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes and one recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6555–56, H6556–57, H6557, H6557–58, H6580, and H6580–81.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Committee Meetings

APPROPRIATIONS—DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Committee on Appropriations: Full Committee held a budget hearing and an oversight hearing on the District of Columbia. Testimony was heard from Muriel Bowser, Mayor, District of Columbia; Phil Mendelson, Chair, District of Columbia City Council; and Glen Lee, Chief Financial Officer, District of Columbia.

GIVEN THE GREEN LIGHT: OPEN BORDER POLICIES AND THREATS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Emergency Management and Technology held a hearing entitled “Given the Green Light: Open Border Policies and Threats to Law Enforcement”. Testimony was heard from Patrick J. Ryder, Commissioner, Nassau County Police Department, New York; and public witnesses.

SAFEGUARDING THE HOMELAND FROM UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Counterterrorism, Law Enforcement, and Intelligence; and Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security held a joint hearing entitled “Safeguarding the Homeland from Unmanned Aerial Systems”. Testimony was heard from Keith Jones, Deputy Executive Assistant Commissioner, Air and Marine Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, Department of Homeland Security; Robert W. Wheeler, Jr., Assistant Director of the Critical Incident Response Group, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice; Brad Wiegmann, Deputy Assistant Attorney General for National Security, Department of Justice; and public witnesses.

**DESECRATING OLD GLORY:
INVESTIGATING HOW THE PRO-HAMAS
PROTESTS TURNED NATIONAL PARK
SERVICE LAND INTO A VIOLENT
DISGRACE**

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations held a hearing entitled “Desecrating Old Glory: Investigating How the Pro-Hamas Protests Turned National Park Service Land into a Violent Disgrace”. Testimony was heard from Mark Lee Greenblatt, Inspector General, Department of the Interior; Charles Cuvelier, Associate Director, Visitor and Resource Protection, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the U.S. Postal Service”. Testimony was heard from Louis DeJoy, Postmaster General, U.S. Postal Service.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 11, 2024**

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of Caroline A. Crenshaw, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Gordon I. Ito, of Hawaii, to be a Member of the Financial Sta-

bility Oversight Council; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine consumer protection, focusing on protecting workers’ money and fighting for the dignity of work, 9:45 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Subcommittee on Communications, Media, and Broadband, to hold hearings to examine communications networks safety and security, 2:30 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Rules and Administration: to hold an oversight hearing to examine the United States Capitol Police, 2:45 p.m., SR-301.

Select Committee on Intelligence: to receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters, 2:30 p.m., SH-219.

House

Committee on the Budget, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Sounding the Alarm: Pathways and Possible Solutions to the U.S. Fiscal Crisis”, 10 a.m., 210 Cannon.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled “Examining the Policies and Priorities of AmeriCorps and Its FY 2024 Audit Failure”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “An Assessment of the State Department’s Withdrawal from Afghanistan by America’s Top Diplomat”, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations, hearing entitled “The Communist Cuban Regime’s Disregard for Human Rights”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, hearing entitled “FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024: Stakeholder Perspectives on Implementation”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, hearing entitled “Examining the Effectiveness of the Veterans Readiness and Employment (VR&E) Program”, 10:30 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

11 a.m., Wednesday, December 11

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, December 11

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Senate will continue consideration of the nomination of Lauren McGarity McFerran, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, and vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon at approximately 12 noon.

Additional roll call votes are expected during Wednesday's session.

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of S. 4199—JUDGES Act of 2024.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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