

(B) the length of time needed by each applicable Bureau office during the most recent calendar year to provide the notices required under subsection (b)(1).

(2) **REQUIREMENT.**—In submitting the report required under paragraph (1), the Director shall maintain the confidentiality of personally identifiable information of the parties involved in requesting the completion of residential leasehold mortgage packages, business leasehold mortgage packages, land mortgage packages, and right-of-way document packages (including any corresponding first certified title status reports and subsequent certified title status reports).

(f) **GAO STUDY.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

(1) an evaluation of the need for residential leasehold mortgage packages, business leasehold mortgage packages, land mortgage packages, and right-of-way document packages of each Indian Tribe to be digitized for the purpose of streamlining and expediting the completion of mortgage packages for residential mortgages on Indian land (including the corresponding first certified title status reports and subsequent certified title status reports); and

(2) an estimate of the time and total cost necessary for Indian Tribes to digitize the records described in paragraph (1), in conjunction with assistance in that digitization from the Bureau.

#### **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF REALTY OMBUDSMAN POSITION.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Director shall establish within the Division of Real Estate Services of the Bureau the position of Realty Ombudsman, who shall report directly to the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) **FUNCTIONS.**—The Realty Ombudsman shall—

(1) ensure that the applicable Bureau offices are meeting the mortgage review and processing deadlines established by section 3(a);

(2) ensure that the applicable Bureau offices comply with the notices required under subsections (a) and (b) of section 3;

(3) serve as a liaison to other Federal agencies, including by—

(A) ensuring the Bureau is responsive to all of the inquiries from the relevant Federal agencies; and

(B) helping to facilitate communications between the relevant Federal agencies and the Bureau on matters relating to mortgages on Indian land;

(4) receive inquiries, questions, and complaints directly from Indian Tribes, members of Indian Tribes, and lenders in regard to executed residential leasehold mortgages, business leasehold mortgages, land mortgages, or right-of-way documents; and

(5) serve as the intermediary between the Indian Tribes, members of Indian Tribes, and lenders and the Bureau in responding to inquiries and questions and resolving complaints.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 3387. A bill to require the search and retention of certain records with respect to conducting criminal background checks, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today, I am reintroducing legislation

that would help bolster the Nation's background check system for firearms.

Under current law, the FBI is forced to remove records from incomplete background checks from their systems if those checks are not finalized within 90 days. As a result, many firearms are sold without completed background checks—a dangerous practice that allows individuals to access a firearm even if they are prohibited by law from possessing such weapons.

In 2020, Americans purchased a record number of guns—over 23 million firearms—and this year is expected to set records once again. That record number of purchases is overwhelming our background check system.

The large majority of background checks are straightforward and are completed within 3 days, but especially due to the volume of checks required by the increase in gun purchases, some can take significantly longer.

According to Everytown for Gun Safety, between March 2020 and July 2020, the FBI was unable to resolve 207,694 background checks within 90 days and was therefore required to wipe the incomplete checks from their systems. Since these background checks were never completed, it is impossible to know how many firearms were transferred to prohibited purchasers.

As firearms sales continue to soar, Congress must act to protect public safety by ensuring background checks are completed.

This bill would do exactly that. It would allow the FBI to maintain gun purchase records until the background checks is completed. It would also require the FBI to query additional relevant databases as part of a firearm-related background check. This would guarantee that the information necessary for conducting effective firearm background checks is maintained.

I thank Senators BLUMENTHAL, BOOKER, BROWN, MENENDEZ, MURPHY, PADILLA, and WHITEHOUSE for their support and urge the rest of my colleagues to support the bill as well.

#### **SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS**

#### **SENATE RESOLUTION 478—AMENDING RULE XXII OF THE STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE TO INCREASE THE VOTING THRESHOLD TO INVOKE CLOTURE ON GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILLS DURING PERIODS OF HIGH INFLATION**

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 478

#### **Resolved, SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This resolution may be cited as the “Stop Inflationary Spending Resolution”.

#### **SEC. 2. CLOTURE THRESHOLD FOR GENERAL APPROPRIATION BILLS DURING PERIODS OF HIGH INFLATION.**

Paragraph 2 of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate is amended in the second undesignated subparagraph by inserting “, or on a general appropriation bill, or an amendment thereto, amendment between the Houses in relation thereto, conference report thereon, or motion thereon, that is considered during a period during which the increase in the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers with respect to the preceding 12-month period, as determined by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, is more than 4.0 percent, in which case the necessary affirmative vote shall be two-thirds of the Senators present and voting” after “present and voting”.

#### **SENATE RESOLUTION 479—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH**

Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. SMITH, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. COONS, and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 479

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (referred to in this preamble as the “CDC”)—

(1) 34,200,000 individuals in the United States have diabetes; and

(2) an estimated 88,000,000 individuals in the United States who are 18 years of age or older have prediabetes;

Whereas diabetes is a serious chronic condition that affects individuals of every age, race, ethnicity, and income level;

Whereas the CDC reports that—

(1) Hispanic Americans, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Native Americans are disproportionately affected by diabetes and develop the disease at much higher rates than the general population of the United States; and

(2) an estimated 21.4 percent of individuals with diabetes in the United States have not yet been diagnosed with the disease;

Whereas, in the United States, more than 10.5 percent of the population, including 26.8 percent of individuals who are 65 years of age or older, have diabetes;

Whereas, of the 18,820,000 veterans in the United States, 1 in 4 are receiving care for diabetes from the Department of Veterans Affairs;

Whereas the risk of developing type 2 diabetes at some point in life is 40 percent for adults in the United States;

Whereas, according to the American Diabetes Association, the United States spent an estimated \$237,000,000,000 on direct medical costs for cases of diagnosed diabetes in 2017, and out-of-pocket costs for insulin have grown significantly in recent years for many patients;

Whereas the American Diabetes Association reports that care for people with diagnosed diabetes accounts for 1 in 4 health care dollars spent in the United States;

Whereas the cost of health care is estimated to be 2.3 times higher for individuals in the United States with diabetes than those without diabetes;

Whereas, as of November 2021, a cure for diabetes does not exist;

Whereas there are successful means to reduce the incidence, and delay the onset, of type 2 diabetes;

Whereas, with proper management and treatment, individuals with diabetes live healthy and productive lives; and

Whereas individuals in the United States celebrate American Diabetes Month in November: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month, including—

(A) encouraging individuals in the United States to fight diabetes through increased awareness of prevention and treatment options; and

(B) enhancing diabetes education;

(2) recognizes the importance of awareness and early detection, including awareness of symptoms and risk factors such as—

(A) being—

(i) older than 45 years of age; or

(ii) overweight; and

(B) having—

(i) a racial and ethnic background that is disproportionately affected by diabetes;

(ii) a low level of physical activity;

(iii) high blood pressure;

(iv) a family history of diabetes; or

(v) a history of diabetes during pregnancy;

(3) supports decreasing the prevalence of type 1, type 2, and gestational diabetes in the United States through research, treatment, and prevention; and

(4) recognizes the importance of addressing systemic barriers to health care that—

(A) leave many communities at a heightened risk for diabetes; and

(B) limit access to health care resources that are needed to effectively prevent the onset, and to manage the condition, of diabetes.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4893. Ms. CANTWELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 5746, to amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 4893.** Ms. CANTWELL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 5746, to amend title 51, United States Code, to extend the authority of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to enter into leases of non-excess property of the Administration; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “NASA Enhanced Use Leasing Extension Act of 2021”.

##### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress find the following:

(1) NASA uses enhanced use leasing to enter into agreements with private sector entities, State and local governments, academic institutions, and other Federal agencies for lease of non-excess, underutilized NASA properties and facilities.

(2) NASA uses enhanced use leasing authority to support responsible management of its real property, including to improve the use of underutilized property for activities that are compatible with NASA’s mission and to reduce facility operating and maintenance costs.

(3) In fiscal year 2019, under its enhanced use lease authority, NASA leased 65 real properties.

(4) In fiscal year 2019, NASA’s use of enhanced use leasing resulted in the collection of \$10,843,025.77 in net revenue.

(5) In fiscal year 2019, NASA used a portion of its enhanced use leasing revenues for repairs of facility control systems such as lighting and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning.

(6) NASA’s use of enhanced use leasing authority can contribute to reducing the rate of increase of the Agency’s overall deferred maintenance cost.

#### SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO LEASES OF NON-EXCESS PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION.

Section 20145(g) of title 51, United States Code, is amended by striking “December 31, 2021” and inserting “March 31, 2022”.

#### SEC. 4. DETERMINATION OF BUDGETARY EFFECTS.

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled “Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation” for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, I have 5 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

##### COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 11:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

##### COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing on nominations.

##### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 14, 2021, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on a nomination.

#### ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2021

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the

Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Wednesday, December 15; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the House message to accompany S. 1605; further, that at 11:30 a.m., the motion to concur with amendment No. 4880 be withdrawn and the Senate vote on the motion to concur; and that following disposition of the House message, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Sung nomination and vote on confirmation of the nomination; further, that at 2:15 p.m., the Senate vote on confirmation of the Elliott nomination; and finally, that if any of the nominations are confirmed, the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate and the President be immediately notified of the Senate’s action.

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

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Ms. CANTWELL. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 7:21 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, December 15, 2021, at 10 a.m.

#### CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate December 14, 2021:

##### DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

THEA D. ROZMAN KENDLER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

NICKOLAS GUERTIN, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

##### DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

ALANNA MCCARGO, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE PRESIDENT, GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION.

##### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOHN BRADLEY SHERMAN, OF TEXAS, TO BE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

CARRIE FRANCES RICCI, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY.

##### IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

##### To be major general

BRIG. GEN. WILLIAM J. PRENDERGAST IV

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY WHILE SERVING AS CHIEF DEFENSE COUNSEL FOR MILITARY COMMISSIONS UNDER ARTICLE II, SECTION 2, CLAUSE 2 OF THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION AND SECTION 1037 OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014:

##### To be brigadier general

COL. JACKIE L. THOMPSON, JR.