

This is an important and timely resolution that seeks to call out a deeply disturbing pattern of support for terrorism and anti-Semitism that we have been seeing on all too many college campuses in recent weeks.

□ 1615

I am appalled by the inability of our institutions of higher education to be able to stand up for what is right and to take on the initiative to use these incidents as a teaching opportunity. After all, what are our colleges and universities for if they are unable to use this opportunity to teach about what is right and what is accurate.

I ask all my colleagues to join me in voting in support of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, in concluding this discussion, I have five words for American colleges: You reap what you sow.

After failing miserably to condemn student support for terrorism on your campuses, Jewish students are now living in fear. The violent anti-Semitic protests of students educated on your campuses have brought to light what for decades has thrived in the dark.

Many American universities are fundamentally adrift. Instead of an environment of enlightenment and one that unites diverse ideas, they have become incubators of hate. They call for inclusion yet exclude the Jewish people. They call for neutrality yet stoke the flames of culture wars that have brought us here.

Deep in the humanities department, seas of bigotry have taken root. The poison fruits of a sanction ideology are now ripe for all to see. In the Committee on Education and the Workforce, we will call out rotten ideologies when we find them.

At this moment, though, we must offer in the clearest terms the condemnation of Hamas brutality and violence. Now is the time for Congress to shine as an example of moral clarity both at home and abroad.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 798, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. OWENS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 798, 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. OWENS. Madam 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.

CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 118-76)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994, is to continue in effect beyond November 14, 2023.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, November 1, 2023.

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, October 30, 2023.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
The 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 October 30, 2023, at 3:20 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 1170.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Acting Clerk.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. AMODEI. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 4364, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. AMODEI. Madam Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 756, I call up

the bill (H.R. 4364) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 756, the amendment printed in part C of House Report 118-242 is adopted, and the bill, is considered read.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4364

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the House of Representatives, \$1,850,998,000, as follows:

HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For salaries and expenses, as authorized by law, \$36,560,000, including: Office of the Speaker, \$10,499,000, including \$35,000 for official expenses of the Speaker; Office of the Majority Floor Leader, \$3,730,000, including \$15,000 for official expenses of the Majority Leader; Office of the Minority Floor Leader, \$10,499,000, including \$17,500 for official expenses of the Minority Leader; Office of the Majority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Majority Whip, \$3,099,000, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Majority Whip; Office of the Minority Whip, including the Chief Deputy Minority Whip, \$2,809,000, including \$5,000 for official expenses of the Minority Whip; Republican Conference, \$2,962,000; Democratic Caucus, \$2,962,000: *Provided*, That such amount for salaries and expenses shall remain available from January 3, 2024 until January 2, 2025.

MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES

INCLUDING MEMBERS' CLERK HIRE, OFFICIAL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS, AND OFFICIAL MAIL

For Members' representational allowances, including Members' clerk hire, official expenses, and official mail, \$810,000,000.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN MEMBER OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 120 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2019 (2 U.S.C. 5322a) for the compensation of interns who serve in the offices of Members of the House of Representatives, \$20,638,800, to remain available through January 2, 2025: *Provided*, That notwithstanding section 120(b) of such Act, an office of a Member of the House of Representatives may use not more than \$46,800 of the allowance available under this heading during legislative year 2024.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN HOUSE LEADERSHIP OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 113 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2020 (2 U.S.C. 5106) for the compensation of interns who serve in House leadership offices, \$586,000, to remain available through January 2, 2025: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$322,300 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in House leadership offices of the majority, to be allocated among such offices by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and \$263,700 shall

be available for the compensation of interns who serve in House leadership offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Minority Floor Leader.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN HOUSE STANDING, SPECIAL AND SELECT COMMITTEE OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 113(a)(1) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103) for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of standing, special, and select committees (other than the Committee on Appropriations), \$2,600,000, to remain available through January 2, 2025: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,300,000 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the majority, and \$1,300,000 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Chair, in consultation with the ranking minority member, of the Committee on House Administration.

ALLOWANCE FOR COMPENSATION OF INTERNS IN HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE OFFICES

For the allowance established under section 113(a)(2) of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2022 (Public Law 117-103) for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the Committee on Appropriations, \$463,000: *Provided*, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$231,500 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the majority, and \$231,500 shall be available for the compensation of interns who serve in offices of the minority, to be allocated among such offices by the Chair, in consultation with the ranking minority member, of the Committee on Appropriations.

COMMITTEE EMPLOYEES

STANDING COMMITTEES, SPECIAL AND SELECT

For salaries and expenses of standing committees, special and select, authorized by House resolutions, \$180,587,000: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2024, except that \$5,800,000 of such amount shall remain available until expended for committee room upgrading.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

For salaries and expenses of the Committee on Appropriations, \$31,294,000, including studies and examinations of executive agencies and temporary personal services for such committee, to be expended in accordance with section 202(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 and to be available for reimbursement to agencies for services performed: *Provided*, That such amount shall remain available for such salaries and expenses until December 31, 2024.

SALARIES, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

For compensation and expenses of officers and employees, as authorized by law, \$324,879,000, including: for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Clerk, including the positions of the Chaplain and the Historian, and including not more than \$25,000 for official representation and reception expenses, of which not more than \$20,000 is for the Family Room and not more than \$2,000 is for the Office of the Chaplain, \$41,455,000, of which \$9,000,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Sergeant at Arms, including the position of Superintendent of Garages and the Office of Emergency Management, and including not more than \$3,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$38,793,000, of which \$22,232,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer including not more than \$3,000

for official representation and reception expenses, \$213,072,000, of which \$26,477,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Whistleblower Ombuds, \$1,250,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Inspector General, \$5,512,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of General Counsel, \$1,987,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Parliamentarian, including the Parliamentarian, \$2,000 for preparing the Digest of Rules, and not more than \$1,000 for official representation and reception expenses, \$2,240,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Law Revision Counsel of the House, \$3,900,000; for salaries and expenses of the Office of the Legislative Counsel of the House, \$14,671,000, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until expended; for salaries and expenses of the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs, \$934,000; for other authorized employees, \$1,065,000.

ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

For allowances and expenses as authorized by House resolution or law, \$433,390,200, including: supplies, materials, administrative costs and Federal tort claims, \$1,555,000; official mail for committees, leadership offices, and administrative offices of the House, \$190,000; Government contributions for health, retirement, Social Security, contractor support for actuarial projections, and other applicable employee benefits, \$392,368,200, to remain available until March 31, 2025, except that \$37,000,000 of such amount shall remain available until expended; salaries and expenses for Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, \$27,264,000, of which \$6,000,000 shall remain available until expended; transition activities for new members and staff, \$5,895,000, to remain available until expended; Green and Gold Congressional Aide Program, \$3,356,000, to remain available until expended; Office of Congressional Ethics, \$1,762,000; and miscellaneous items including purchase, exchange, maintenance, repair and operation of House motor vehicles, interparliamentary receptions, and gratuities to heirs of deceased employees of the House, \$1,000,000.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MODERNIZATION INITIATIVES ACCOUNT

For the House of Representatives Modernization Initiatives Account established under section 115 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2021 (2 U.S.C. 5513), \$10,000,000, to remain available until expended: *Provided*, That disbursement from this account is subject to approval of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives: *Provided further*, That funds provided in this account shall only be used for initiatives approved by the Committee on House Administration.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

REQUIRING AMOUNTS REMAINING IN MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES TO BE USED FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION OR TO REDUCE THE FEDERAL DEBT

SEC. 110. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any amounts appropriated under this Act for "HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—SALARIES AND EXPENSES—MEMBERS' REPRESENTATIONAL ALLOWANCES" shall be available only for fiscal year 2024. Any amount remaining after all payments are made under such allowances for fiscal year 2024 shall be deposited in the Treasury and used for deficit reduction (or, if there is no Federal budget deficit after all such payments have been made, for reducing the Federal debt, in such manner as the Secretary of the Treasury considers appropriate).

(b) The Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives shall have authority to prescribe regulations to carry out this section.

(c) As used in this section, the term "Member of the House of Representatives" means a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Congress.

LIMITATION ON AMOUNT AVAILABLE TO LEASE VEHICLES

SEC. 111. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives to make any payments from any Members' Representational Allowance for the leasing of a vehicle, excluding mobile district offices, in an aggregate amount that exceeds \$1,000 for the vehicle in any month.

CYBERSECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEC. 112. The head of any Federal entity that provides assistance to the House of Representatives in the House's efforts to deter, prevent, mitigate, or remediate cybersecurity risks to, and incidents involving, the information systems of the House shall take all necessary steps to ensure the constitutional integrity of the separate branches of the government at all stages of providing the assistance, including applying minimization procedures to limit the spread or sharing of privileged House and Member information.

JOINT ITEMS

For Joint Committees, as follows:

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Economic Committee, \$4,283,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

For salaries and expenses of the Joint Committee on Taxation, \$13,059,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

For other joint items, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE ATTENDING PHYSICIAN

For medical supplies, equipment, and contingent expenses of the emergency rooms, and for the Attending Physician and their assistants, including:

- (1) an allowance of \$3,500 per month to the Attending Physician;
- (2) an allowance of \$2,500 per month to the Senior Medical Officer;
- (3) an allowance of \$900 per month each to three medical officers while on duty in the Office of the Attending Physician;
- (4) an allowance of \$900 per month to 2 assistants and \$900 per month each not to exceed 11 assistants on the basis heretofore provided for such assistants; and
- (5) \$3,054,000 for reimbursement to the Department of the Navy for expenses incurred for staff and equipment assigned to the Office of the Attending Physician, which shall be advanced and credited to the applicable appropriation or appropriations from which such salaries, allowances, and other expenses are payable and shall be available for all the purposes thereof, \$4,270,000, to be disbursed by the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses of the Office of Congressional Accessibility Services, \$1,766,000, to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Senate.

CAPITOL POLICE

SALARIES

For salaries of employees of the Capitol Police, including overtime, hazardous duty pay, and Government contributions for health, retirement, social security, professional liability insurance, and other applicable employee benefits, \$588,070,000 of which overtime shall not exceed \$74,976,000 unless

the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate are notified, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or a duly authorized designee: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$15,000,000 shall be available for retention bonuses.

GENERAL EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Capitol Police, including motor vehicles, communications and other equipment, security equipment and installation, uniforms, weapons, supplies, materials, training, medical services, forensic services, stenographic services, personal and professional services, the employee assistance program, the awards program, postage, communication services, travel advances, relocation of instructor and liaison personnel for the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers, and not more than \$7,500 to be expended on the certification of the Chief of the Capitol Police in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$192,846,000, to be disbursed by the Chief of the Capitol Police or a duly authorized designee: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cost of basic training for the Capitol Police at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers for fiscal year 2024 shall be paid by the Secretary of Homeland Security from funds available to the Department of Homeland Security.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSIONAL WORKPLACE RIGHTS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for the operation of the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, \$8,000,000, of which \$2,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and of which not more than \$1,000 may be expended on the certification of the Executive Director in connection with official representation and reception expenses.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary for operation of the Congressional Budget Office, including not more than \$6,000 to be expended on the certification of the Director of the Congressional Budget Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses, \$64,637,000: *Provided*, That the Director shall use not less than \$500,000 of the amount made available under this heading for (1) improving technical systems, processes, and models for the purpose of improving the transparency of estimates of budgetary effects to Members of Congress, employees of Members of Congress, and the public, and (2) to increase the availability of models, economic assumptions, and data for Members of Congress, employees of Members of Congress, and the public.

ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL

CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATIONS

For salaries for the Architect of the Capitol, and other personal services, at rates of pay provided by law; for all necessary expenses for surveys and studies, construction, operation, and general and administrative support in connection with facilities and activities under the care of the Architect of the Capitol including the Botanic Garden; Senate and House office buildings, and other facilities under the jurisdiction of the Architect of the Capitol; including furnishings and office equipment; including not more than \$5,000 for official reception and representation expenses, to be expended as the Architect of the Capitol may approve; for purchase or exchange, maintenance, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle, \$149,073,000, of which \$3,200,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

CAPITOL BUILDING

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol, \$74,304,000, of which \$42,599,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

CAPITOL GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for care and improvement of grounds surrounding the Capitol, the Senate and House office buildings, and the Capitol Power Plant, \$16,365,000, of which \$2,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

HOUSE OFFICE BUILDINGS

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the House office buildings, \$168,439,000, of which \$53,140,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, and of which \$41,800,000 shall remain available until expended for the restoration and renovation of the Cannon House Office Building.

CAPITOL POWER PLANT

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Capitol Power Plant; and all electrical substations of the Capitol; lighting, heating, power (including the purchase of electrical energy) and water and sewer services for the Capitol, Senate and House office buildings, Library of Congress buildings, and the grounds about the same, Botanic Garden, Senate garage, and air conditioning refrigeration not supplied from plants in any of such buildings; heating the Government Publishing Office and Washington City Post Office, and heating and chilled water for air conditioning for the Supreme Court Building, the Union Station complex, the Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building and the Folger Shakespeare Library, expenses for which shall be advanced or reimbursed upon request of the Architect of the Capitol and amounts so received shall be deposited into the Treasury to the credit of this appropriation, \$131,751,000, of which \$43,400,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That not more than \$10,000,000 of the funds credited or to be reimbursed to this appropriation as herein provided shall be available for obligation during fiscal year 2024.

LIBRARY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

For all necessary expenses for the mechanical and structural maintenance, care and operation of the Library buildings and grounds, \$117,120,000, of which \$80,900,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

CAPITOL POLICE BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND SECURITY

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of buildings, grounds and security enhancements of the United States Capitol Police, wherever located, the Alternate Computing Facility, and Architect of the Capitol security operations, \$81,172,000, of which \$21,100,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

BOTANIC GARDEN

For all necessary expenses for the maintenance, care and operation of the Botanic Garden and the nurseries, buildings, grounds, and collections; and purchase and exchange, maintenance, repair, and operation of a passenger motor vehicle; all under the direction of the Joint Committee on the Library, \$21,187,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That, of the amount made available under this heading, the Architect of the Capitol may obligate and expend such sums as may be necessary for the maintenance, care and operation of the National Garden established under section 307E of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 1989 (2 U.S.C. 2146), upon

vouchers approved by the Architect of the Capitol or a duly authorized designee.

CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER

For all necessary expenses for the operation of the Capitol Visitor Center, \$27,692,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

NO BONUSES FOR CONTRACTORS BEHIND SCHEDULE OR OVER BUDGET

SEC. 113. None of the funds made available in this Act for the Architect of the Capitol may be used to make incentive or award payments to contractors for work on contracts or programs for which the contractor is behind schedule or over budget, unless the Architect of the Capitol, or agency-employed designee, determines that any such deviations are due to unforeseeable events, government-driven scope changes, or are not significant within the overall scope of the project and/or program.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Library of Congress not otherwise provided for, including development and maintenance of the Library's catalogs; custody and custodial care of the Library buildings; information technology services provided centrally; special clothing; cleaning, laundering and repair of uniforms; preservation of motion pictures in the custody of the Library; operation and maintenance of the American Folklife Center in the Library; preparation and distribution of catalog records and other publications of the Library; hire or purchase of one passenger motor vehicle; and expenses of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board not properly chargeable to the income of any trust fund held by the Board, \$582,605,481, and, in addition, amounts credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2024 under the Act of June 28, 1902 (chapter 1301; 32 Stat. 480; 2 U.S.C. 150), shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That the Library of Congress may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under the Act of June 28, 1902, in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, not more than \$18,000 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses, including for the Overseas Field Offices: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$12,739,000 shall remain available until expended for the Teaching with Primary Sources program: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$1,509,000 shall remain available until expended for upgrade of the Legislative Branch Financial Management System: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$250,000 shall remain available until expended for the Surplus Books Program to promote the program and facilitate a greater number of donations to eligible entities across the United States: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$4,205,000 shall remain available until expended for the Veterans History Project to continue digitization efforts of already collected materials, reach a greater number of veterans to record their stories, and promote public access to the Project: *Provided further*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$1,500,000 shall remain available until expended for the COVID-19 American History Project.

COPYRIGHT OFFICE

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses of the Copyright Office, \$101,011,000, of which not more than \$38,025,000, to remain available until expended, shall be derived from collections

credited to this appropriation during fiscal year 2024 under sections 708(d) and 1316 of title 17, United States Code: *Provided*, That the Copyright Office may not obligate or expend any funds derived from collections under such section in excess of the amount authorized for obligation or expenditure in appropriations Acts: *Provided further*, That not more than \$7,566,000 shall be derived from collections during fiscal year 2024 under sections 111(d)(2), 119(b)(3), 803(e), and 1005 of such title: *Provided further*, That the total amount available for obligation shall be reduced by the amount by which collections are less than \$45,591,000: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not less than \$10,300,000 is for modernization initiatives, of which \$9,300,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That not more than \$100,000 of the amount appropriated is available for the maintenance of an "International Copyright Institute" in the Copyright Office of the Library of Congress for the purpose of training nationals of developing countries in intellectual property laws and policies: *Provided further*, That not more than \$6,500 may be expended, on the certification of the Librarian of Congress, in connection with official representation and reception expenses for activities of the International Copyright Institute and for copyright delegations, visitors, and seminars: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any provision of chapter 8 of title 17, United States Code, any amounts made available under this heading which are attributable to royalty fees and payments received by the Copyright Office pursuant to sections 111, 119, and chapter 10 of such title may be used for the costs incurred in the administration of the Copyright Royalty Judges program, with the exception of the costs of salaries and benefits for the Copyright Royalty Judges and staff under section 802(e).

CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses to carry out the provisions of section 203 of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 166) and to revise and extend the Annotated Constitution of the United States of America, \$135,797,000: *Provided*, That no part of such amount may be used to pay any salary or expense in connection with any publication, or preparation of material therefor (except the Digest of Public General Bills), to be issued by the Library of Congress unless such publication has obtained prior approval of either the Committee on House Administration of the House of Representatives or the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate: *Provided further*, That this prohibition does not apply to publication of non-confidential Congressional Research Service (CRS) products: *Provided further*, That a non-confidential CRS product includes any written product containing research or analysis that is currently available for general congressional access on the CRS Congressional Intranet, or that would be made available on the CRS Congressional Intranet in the normal course of business and does not include material prepared in response to Congressional requests for confidential analysis or research.

NATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICE FOR THE BLIND AND PRINT DISABLED SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For all necessary expenses to carry out the Act of March 3, 1931 (chapter 400; 46 Stat. 1487; 2 U.S.C. 135a), \$69,924,519: *Provided*, That of the total amount appropriated, \$650,000 shall be available to contract to provide newspapers to blind and print disabled residents at no cost to the individual.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISION REIMBURSABLE AND REVOLVING FUND ACTIVITIES

SEC. 114. (a) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2024, the obligational authority of the Library of Congress for the activities described in subsection (b) may not exceed \$324,110,000.

(b) ACTIVITIES.—The activities referred to in subsection (a) are reimbursable and revolving fund activities that are funded from sources other than appropriations to the Library in appropriations Acts for the Legislative Branch.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE CONGRESSIONAL PUBLISHING (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For authorized publishing of congressional information and the distribution of congressional information in any format; publishing of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed to Members of Congress; and publishing, and distribution of Government publications authorized by law to be distributed without charge to the recipient, \$82,992,000: *Provided*, That this appropriation shall not be available for paper copies of the permanent edition of the Congressional Record for individual Representatives, Resident Commissioners or Delegates authorized under section 906 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That this appropriation shall be available for the payment of obligations incurred under the appropriations for similar purposes for preceding fiscal years: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding the 2-year limitation under section 718 of title 44, United States Code, none of the funds appropriated or made available under this Act or any other Act for printing and binding and related services provided to Congress under chapter 7 of title 44, United States Code, may be expended to print a document, report, or publication after the 27-month period beginning on the date that such document, report, or publication is authorized by Congress to be printed, unless Congress reauthorizes such printing in accordance with section 718 of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That unobligated or unexpended balances of expired discretionary funds made available under this heading in this Act for this fiscal year may be transferred to, and merged with, funds under the heading "GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND" no later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated, to be available for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding sections 901, 902, and 906 of title 44, United States Code, this appropriation may be used to prepare indexes to the Congressional Record on only a monthly and session basis.

PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS SALARIES AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses of the public information programs of the Office of Superintendent of Documents necessary to provide for the cataloging and indexing of Government publications in any format, and their preservation and distribution to the public, Members of Congress, other Government agencies, and designated depository and international exchange libraries as authorized by law, \$35,257,000: *Provided*, That amounts of not more than \$2,000,000 from current year appropriations are authorized for producing and disseminating Congressional serial sets and

other related publications for the preceding two fiscal years to depository and other designated libraries: *Provided further*, That unobligated or unexpended balances of expired discretionary funds made available under this heading in this Act for this fiscal year may be transferred to, and merged with, funds under the heading "GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND" no later than the end of the fifth fiscal year after the last fiscal year for which such funds are available for the purposes for which appropriated, to be available for carrying out the purposes of this heading, subject to the approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE BUSINESS OPERATIONS REVOLVING FUND

For payment to the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund, \$11,605,000, to remain available until expended, for information technology development and facilities repair: *Provided*, That the Government Publishing Office is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds available and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 9104 of title 31, United States Code, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs and purposes set forth in the budget for the current fiscal year for the Government Publishing Office Business Operations Revolving Fund: *Provided further*, That not more than \$7,500 may be expended on the certification of the Director of the Government Publishing Office in connection with official representation and reception expenses: *Provided further*, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund shall be available for the hire or purchase of not more than 12 passenger motor vehicles: *Provided further*, That expenditures in connection with travel expenses of the advisory councils to the Director of the Government Publishing Office shall be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of title 44, United States Code: *Provided further*, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund shall be available for temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of such title: *Provided further*, That activities financed through the Business Operations Revolving Fund may provide information in any format: *Provided further*, That the Business Operations Revolving Fund and the funds provided under the heading "PUBLIC INFORMATION PROGRAMS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS" may not be used for contracted security services at Government Publishing Office's passport facility in the District of Columbia.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Government Accountability Office, including not more than \$12,500 to be expended on the certification of the Comptroller General of the United States in connection with official representation and reception expenses; temporary or intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not more than the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay for level IV of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of such title; hire of one passenger motor vehicle; advance payments in foreign countries in accordance with section 3324 of title 31, United States Code; benefits comparable to those payable under sections 901(5), (6), and (8) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (22 U.S.C. 4081(5), (6),

and (8)); and under regulations prescribed by the Comptroller General of the United States, rental of living quarters in foreign countries, \$806,004,000, of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*, That, in addition, \$73,976,000 of payments received under sections 782, 791, 3521, and 9105 of title 31, United States Code, shall be available without fiscal year limitation: *Provided further*, That this appropriation and appropriations for administrative expenses of any other department or agency which is a member of the National Intergovernmental Audit Forum or a Regional Intergovernmental Audit Forum shall be available to finance an appropriate share of either Forum's costs as determined by the respective Forum, including necessary travel expenses of non-Federal participants: *Provided further*, That payments hereunder to the Forum may be credited as reimbursements to any appropriation from which costs involved are initially financed.

CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP FUND

For a payment to the Congressional Office for International Leadership Fund for financing activities of the Congressional Office for International Leadership under section 313 of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2001 (2 U.S.C. 1151), \$6,000,000.

JOHN C. STENNIS CENTER FOR PUBLIC SERVICE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

For payment to the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Development Trust Fund established under section 116 of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1105), \$430,000.

TITLE II

GENERAL PROVISIONS

MAINTENANCE AND CARE OF PRIVATE VEHICLES

SEC. 201. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall be used for the maintenance or care of private vehicles, except for emergency assistance and cleaning as may be provided under regulations relating to parking facilities for the House of Representatives issued by the Committee on House Administration and for the Senate issued by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

FISCAL YEAR LIMITATION

SEC. 202. No part of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond fiscal year 2024 unless expressly so provided in this Act.

RATES OF COMPENSATION AND DESIGNATION

SEC. 203. Whenever in this Act any office or position not specifically established by the Legislative Pay Act of 1929 (46 Stat. 32 et seq.) is appropriated for or the rate of compensation or designation of any office or position appropriated for is different from that specifically established by such Act, the rate of compensation and the designation in this Act shall be the permanent law with respect thereto: *Provided*, That the provisions in this Act for the various items of official expenses of Members, officers, and committees of the Senate and House of Representatives, and clerk hire for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives shall be the permanent law with respect thereto.

CONSULTING SERVICES

SEC. 204. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract, under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued under existing law.

COSTS OF LEGISLATIVE BRANCH FINANCIAL MANAGERS COUNCIL

SEC. 205. Amounts available for administrative expenses of any legislative branch entity which participates in the Legislative Branch Financial Managers Council (LBFMC) established by charter on March 26, 1996, shall be available to finance an appropriate share of LBFMC costs as determined by the LBFMC, except that the total LBFMC costs to be shared among all participating legislative branch entities (in such allocations among the entities as the entities may determine) may not exceed \$2,000.

LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS

SEC. 206. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriation Act.

GUIDED TOURS OF THE CAPITOL

SEC. 207. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available to the Architect of the Capitol in this Act may be used to eliminate or restrict guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns of offices of Members of Congress and other offices of the House of Representatives and Senate, unless through regulations as authorized by section 402(b)(8) of the Capitol Visitor Center Act of 2008 (2 U.S.C. 2242(b)(8)).

(b) At the direction of the Capitol Police Board, or at the direction of the Architect of the Capitol with the approval of the Capitol Police Board, guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by employees and interns described in subsection (a) may be suspended temporarily or otherwise subject to restriction for security or related reasons to the same extent as guided tours of the United States Capitol which are led by the Architect of the Capitol.

LIMITATION ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT

SEC. 208. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used to acquire telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation for a high or moderate impact information system, as defined for security categorization in the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) Federal Information Processing Standard Publication 199, "Standards for Security Categorization of Federal Information and Information Systems" unless the agency, office, or other entity acquiring the equipment or system has—

(1) reviewed the supply chain risk for the information systems against criteria developed by NIST to inform acquisition decisions for high or moderate impact information systems within the Federal Government;

(2) reviewed the supply chain risk from the presumptive awardee against available and relevant threat information provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and other appropriate agencies; and

(3) in consultation with the Federal Bureau of Investigation or other appropriate Federal entity, conducted an assessment of any risk of cyber-espionage or sabotage associated with the acquisition of such telecommunications equipment for inclusion in a high or moderate impact system, including any risk associated with such system being produced, manufactured, or assembled by one or more entities identified by the United States Government as posing a cyber threat, including but not limited to, those that may be owned, directed, or subsidized by the People's Republic of China, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, or the Russian Federation.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used to acquire a high or moderate impact information system reviewed and assessed under subsection (a) unless the head of the assessing entity described in subsection (a) has—

(1) developed, in consultation with NIST and supply chain risk management experts, a mitigation strategy for any identified risks;

(2) determined, in consultation with NIST and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that the acquisition of such telecommunications equipment for inclusion in a high or moderate impact system is in the vital national security interest of the United States; and

(3) reported that determination to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in a manner that identifies the telecommunications equipment for inclusion in a high or moderate impact system intended for acquisition and a detailed description of the mitigation strategies identified in paragraph (1), provided that such report may include a classified annex as necessary.

PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

SEC. 209. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network blocks the viewing, downloading, and exchanging of pornography.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds necessary for any Federal, State, tribal, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities or other official government activities.

LIMITATION ON TREATMENT AS FIDUCIARY RELATIONSHIP

SEC. 210. (a) Section 13144 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) LIMITATION ON TREATMENT AS FIDUCIARY RELATIONSHIP.—For purposes of this section, the relationship between a Member who is providing care directly to a patient in the form of medical services or dental services and the patient to whom such care is provided shall not be considered a fiduciary relationship.”.

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to compensation received in fiscal year 2024 or any succeeding fiscal year.

SEC. 211. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for any office, program, or activity for the purposes of diversity, equity, and inclusion training or implementation that promotes or perpetuates divisive concepts related to race or sex, such as the concepts that one race or sex is inherently superior to another, or that an individual's moral character or worth is determined by their race or sex.

SEC. 212. (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 7 of title 1, United States Code, section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, or any other provision of law, none of the funds provided by this Act, or previous appropriations Acts, shall be used in whole or in part to take any discriminatory action against a person, wholly or partially, on the basis that such person speaks, or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief, or moral conviction, that marriage is, or should be recognized as, a union of one man and one woman.

(b) DISCRIMINATORY ACTION DEFINED.—As used in subsection (a), a discriminatory action means any action taken by the Federal Government to—

(1) alter in any way the Federal tax treatment of, or cause any tax, penalty, or payment to be assessed against, or deny, delay,

or revoke an exemption from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 of, any person referred to in subsection (a);

(2) disallow a deduction for Federal tax purposes of any charitable contribution made to or by such person;

(3) withhold, reduce the amount or funding for, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, any Federal grant, contract, subcontract, cooperative agreement, guarantee, loan, scholarship, license, certification, accreditation, employment, or other similar position or status from or to such person;

(4) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, any entitlement or benefit under a Federal benefit program, including admission to, equal treatment in, or eligibility for a degree from an educational program, from or to such person; or

(5) withhold, reduce, exclude, terminate, or otherwise make unavailable or deny access or an entitlement to Federal property, facilities, educational institutions, speech fora (including traditional, limited, and non-public fora), or charitable fundraising campaigns from or to such person.

(c) ACCREDITATION; LICENSURE; CERTIFICATION.—The Federal Government shall consider accredited, licensed, or certified for purposes of Federal law any person that would be accredited, licensed, or certified, respectively, for such purposes but for a determination against such person wholly or partially on the basis that the person speaks, or acts, in accordance with a sincerely held religious belief or moral conviction described in subsection (a).

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 213. \$11,000,000.

SEC. 214. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no adjustment shall be made under section 601(a) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (2 U.S.C. 4501) (relating to cost of living adjustments for Members of Congress) during fiscal year 2024.

This division may be cited as the “Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2024”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The bill shall be debatable for 1 hour, equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees.

The gentleman from Nevada (Mr. AMODEI) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. ESPAILLAT) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Nevada.

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

The legislative branch bill is what we do to ourselves. We don't need the President's budget. This is what the House, in its wisdom, does for spending with respect to the House accounts and also some accounts we share with the Senate—Capitol Police, Congressional Budget Office, other agencies like that.

As we look at what we are doing here in the context of this appropriations season, the amount of money that is spent on this represents about a 4.7 percent cut from the previous budget year for purposes of the legislative branch. It gets a little bit less when you add the Senate in, but the House has done its job in terms of leading by example.

Now, you may say, how have you done your job? Let me tell you this:

What we have done with respect to Members' office budgets, committee budgets, and some of the support functions—for instance, in the Library of Congress, the Congressional Budget Office, and the General Accountability Office—we have left those accounts at or near what their previous levels were.

Some of them enjoy modest increases, but if you care about constituent services, if you care about doing a good job of being able to hold the Senate's feet to the fire, the White House's feet to the fire, or the people on the other side of the aisle's feet to the fire, you need resources to do that.

The time has never been more important than it is now for us to be able to do our jobs in a way that is appropriate for the challenges that confront our country.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. Today I rise in opposition to H.R. 4364, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act of 2024.

First, let me thank Mr. AMODEI for his efforts and, of course, my Democratic staffers, Faye Cobb, Monica Garay, and Raquel Spencer, as well as our Republican staffers, Michelle Reinshuttle and Jacquelynn Ripke for their tireless contributions to this subcommittee.

As the chairman indicated, the bill before us today includes \$5.3 billion in discretionary appropriations to fund the offices of the House of Representatives and joint legislative branch items. It also has a decrease of 4.7 percent from the fiscal year 2023 enacted House level and a 2.4 percent decrease in total allocation including Senate items. This bill merely keeps the lights on, but it could and should have done so much better.

Unfortunately, extreme MAGA culture war provisions have haunted all 12 of the House appropriations bills and, of course, legislative branch was not spared. This bill, too, contains provisions that harm diversity, equity, and inclusion programs and the LGBTQ+ community.

Moreover, this bill does not allow legislative branch agencies to employ individuals under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, the DACA program. These are young kids who are capable and have contributed to this Nation. All they are missing is a piece of paper, but they are Americans in every sense of the word you can imagine.

This bill eliminates funding for diversity, equity, and inclusion training or program implementation, including our very own House Office of Diversity and Inclusion, which Republicans have benefited from. All of us have benefited from the efforts of diversity and inclusion. We have more women in our staff. We have greater diversity, greater life experiences. I think that makes this House stronger. Yet, this bill eliminates funding for that.

This House and the many agencies that make up the entire legislative branch of government should make every effort possible to be reflective and considerate of all the people that exist in our great Nation and the many districts that our Members represent.

This bill does nothing to facilitate the use of funds for collective bargaining rights to congressional staffers. Our staffers should be able to do that.

This bill removes a provision to eliminate or reduce plastic waste across the legislative branch of government, further contributing to the impacts of climate change. We are here at the center of government, and we should be fighting climate change, but we are not reducing the use of plastic.

Mr. Speaker, after the attack on January 6, the attack on two congressional staffers in their Virginia district office, and numerous threats to our cybersecurity, I feel strongly that our staff deserves to have a safe place to work, and our visitors deserve to have an even safer place to visit and receive services.

However, in my opinion, this bill misses opportunities to further invest in and enhance our physical and cybersecurity posture.

Our men and women who work hard every day to secure this campus deserve to have the best equipment, tools, and state-of-the-art technology resources readily available to them. Securing this campus both physically and virtually has always been a priority of this subcommittee. Various requests from the Capitol Police and the legislative branch cybersecurity offices have not been met. We must work to protect the campus that supports the governance of our democracy.

The legislative branch bill should never be a place for divisive politics. This bill should be used to ensure that Congress has all the tools it needs to legislate and support the constituents we serve. It should be used to ensure we have a successful democracy through effective and responsible governance.

Folks on the other side of the aisle are obsessed with cutting Federal funding and eliminating programs that help to grow and diversify our country as well as welcome everybody to the table, a big tent approach to government.

Mr. Speaker, when I took the role as the ranking member of this subcommittee, I was looking forward to working with my colleagues on creating a bipartisan bill. However, this bill does not represent a collaboration between two parties. Instead, it includes provisions that have no place within the legislative branch appropriations bill and are hurtful to many Americans, including many of the staff who support this great institution.

Extreme rightwing politics that were so focused on silencing the voices of many in this country turned around and silenced themselves. They created

a situation where no one had a voice, rendering at times this body inoperable for many weeks.

Mr. Speaker, I don't agree with these divisive ideas and tactics. For these reasons, I cannot support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1630

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I was remiss in not saying thank you, so I will follow the lead of my esteemed ranking member and thank him and his staff as well as my staff for the way we were able to conduct the committee's business. Even though we disagreed on many things, we weren't disagreeable about it, which, some days, is quite a unique thing in this business. My hat is off to them, and my thank-you is on the record for the help from everybody on both sides.

I will cover a couple of areas in the spirit that the committee worked. My colleague has mentioned the DACA program, which is, frankly, something that, while we may have some disagreements on it, overall, we may agree on more than we disagree. However, as the clerk indicated, this is the Legislative Branch appropriations bill. When we are talking about issues that deal with immigration or the DACA program or anything else, that is the appropriate jurisdiction, in most cases, of the Judiciary Committee.

Therefore, the folks standing up on either side of you, Mr. Speaker, from the Parliamentarian's Office go through that drill and figure out the appropriate jurisdiction for this bill. We came to the conclusion that it wasn't. It doesn't mean that we disagree on a lot of that stuff, but nonetheless, you can't do that in the Legislative Branch bill, so we didn't.

On the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, I am not going to go through what happened in that office over the last few years. I will just say this: It was created by a rule in a previous Congress.

In exercising our appropriate oversight authority in seeing how that money was spent, I will just say that there was a sincere belief that that was not what was intended. When we talk about retreats, gift cards for employees, office bling, and multiple other things, it is not that the mission isn't important. It is, which is why the mission was preserved and moved under the supervision of the Chief Administrative Officer for the House, and an appropriate budget to do that work is fine.

There was part of a reorganization, which now puts them under a different office that is a subset of the Chief Administrative Officer for the House. However, to continue on in a largely unsupervised, autonomous role, where the use of funds was not impressive, the committee thought that it was appropriate to maintain the mission but change the structure for more supervision.

Also, when we talk about staff security, my colleague, the ranking mem-

ber, is absolutely right. It is a concern for everybody. What the committee has done was say that we don't want to just throw a bunch of money at it and say go do good things with security. We wanted to have a plan.

I will tell you this: Each office can designate one of their district offices for planning. My colleague's district is in the Big Apple downtown. Mine is a long way away from there. One size doesn't fit all, so we wanted to be a little thoughtful about that. That is why we deferred from just going in whole hog.

You need to know that the Office of the Sergeant at Arms will now provide cybersecurity. This was done after the committee adjourned. It will now provide cybersecurity support to offices that ask for it.

By the way, my figures indicate there are 364 Members who have availed themselves of some form of funding through the Office of the Sergeant at Arms for security for those offices.

I look forward to continuing that when we get plans that are appropriate for the settings that those district offices are in so we can make a rational, well-based, intelligent decision on how to spend that money.

Mr. Speaker, while we may not be in agreement over the amounts we are spending on each one, I don't know if there is a lot of disagreement on the mission. It is just how much emphasis it gets and how we use taxpayer dollars in a responsible manner to go ahead and pursue those goals.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. MORELLE), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on House Administration and a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, first, to my colleagues on Appropriations' Legislative Branch Subcommittee, Mr. AMODEI as well as my longtime dear friend Mr. ESPAILLAT, I thank them for their hard work.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4364 because it inadequately funds the legislative branch, which is the branch charged with funding responsibilities under Article I of the U.S. Constitution. It dramatically underfunds the Capitol Police, drastically cuts funding to the Architect of the Capitol, and guts the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

As my colleague has mentioned, I serve as the ranking member of the Committee on House Administration. I know firsthand how important it is that our House officers and congressional support agencies are adequately resourced.

We all rely on our nonpartisan institutional partners, some of whom are in this Chamber right now, helping us carry out our constitutional obligations, keeping us safe, providing sub-

ject matter expertise, and facilitating the legislative process.

For that reason, I am very disappointed. This bill, which includes a nearly 5 percent cut to House and joint legislative branch items, inadequately funds many of these entities and the responsibilities that they are required to carry out.

For example, at a time in which the Capitol Police is experiencing an officer shortage crisis, this bill fails to fully fund the department's salaries appropriation requests. How can we hope to attract qualified officers if we don't provide competitive salaries? How can we ensure officers are better trained if they are regularly forced to work overtime rather than attend training sessions? How do we improve officer morale if they need to work double shifts instead of going home to spend time with their families?

The men and women of the Capitol Police have our backs. They have demonstrated that in a time of crisis in this Chamber. We need to have theirs with more than just words.

The bill would also cut funding for the Architect of the Capitol by hundreds of millions of dollars and fail to meet the agency's budget request for the Capitol Police buildings, grounds, and security account. This would hinder the AOC's ability to fulfill all of its responsibilities, making Congress less secure, harming our national security, and putting Members, staff, and our visiting constituents at risk during a time of heightened threats.

Finally, I am deeply frustrated that this bill includes culture war initiatives like eliminating the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion was established based on a bipartisan, unanimous modernization committee recommendation. It provides important services for and works closely with offices on both sides of the aisle. In fact, since its inception in 2019, 225 Republican offices have utilized its services.

It is astonishing that my majority colleagues are going to sabotage their own ability to recruit the best and brightest just to satisfy rightwing extremist grievances about diversity.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons and more, I cannot support the bill, and I urge that we do not adopt this bill.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, I guess since we are going to stay on it for a minute, I will go ahead and stay on it.

Nobody is opposed to diversity or inclusion. Here are some of the reasons why this office was focused on. This bill that you have before you, Mr. Speaker, is consistent with administrative restructuring to streamline human resources activities consistent with the House Committee on Administration. Bringing the best person for the job in any agency or office under this bill is what we are trying to encourage.

There are currently multiple staff support offices focused on human resources that can be reorganized and streamlined into one. The Chief Administrative Office is consumer focused

and is best suited to create a House-wide office of talent and development. That is a new office that is created under this bill, which, by the way, has the mission of the old ODI.

ODI was created under House rules as its own office but will be moving to the repropoed CAO to become a part of the new office of talent and development. By this restructuring, we expect to increase accessibility to resources provided to House staff by creating a one-stop shop while also saving millions by streamlining duplicative efforts. Not only will the reorganization make activities more efficient, but it will help with oversight.

Now, let's talk about the Capitol Police for a minute. Yes, there were cuts in the requested budget for Capitol Police, but let's talk about uniformed personnel. Let's talk about the Intelligence Division. Let's talk about what the Capitol Police do to protect our campus and our operations. By the way, that is leadership details, as well.

When we talk about all those functions, all of their uniformed officer positions have been fully funded. I will say that again: fully funded. Now, it takes a while to recruit, vet, and train a Capitol Police officer. It is not one of those things where you throw the switch and say we need 500 or 600 more so that we are at our full complement of around 2,200.

It takes a while to train them in the academy before we turn them loose on the job. For the ones you see that they are fully trained, fully vetted, and ready to go, that takes time. It is not a budget function. They were fully funded for that.

We also maintain their intelligence functions, and we also maintain their protective detail functions. There were cuts to the Capitol Police budget, but not in those areas. I will also point out that some of the cuts were in funds that they weren't able to spend in this cycle anyhow.

As we are looking for savings to do the best job in terms of budget responsibility, we also wanted to recognize the reality that if you can't spend it in this cycle, let's not keep it in this cycle.

Mr. Speaker, I will indicate that those were not things that were in a MAGA rush to do this, that, or the other sort of thing. It was trying to be responsible with the legislative branch allocation that we have, which, by the way, is four-tenths of 1 percent of all spending. That doesn't mean that because it is that, we don't care about it. It means we need to do our part, too.

Similarly, the part that you didn't hear is that MRAs were kept the same so Members can keep doing their thing. Committee accounts on both sides were kept the same so Members could keep doing the committees' work on both sides of the aisle. Frankly, in the context that we live in, we think it was the responsible way to lead by example.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I think it is undeniable that during these uncertain times, particularly when we witnessed the regrettable incident in Virginia, where staffers in one of our colleague's district offices were hurt, and given the tension in the world, in our communities, in our cities, and in our district offices, it requires greater investment in security for our constituents that visit on a regular basis our offices, for our staff who are on the front lines in what we do, and for ourselves. I think that, in many ways, we are wide open, and we require the kind of investment that we have not seen in this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the distinguished ranking member of the Appropriations Committee.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the House Republican 2024 Legislative Branch funding bill.

This bill falls short of ensuring we can continue to grow a strong and well-functioning legislative branch that is essential to our democracy.

As an institution, we should be increasing our ability to serve our constituents and recruit and retain talented staff and United States Capitol Police officers. We should not merely be treading water.

This bill eliminates the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and does nothing to facilitate the use of funds for collective bargaining rights for congressional staffers.

This bill also does not allow legislative branch agencies to employ individuals who are authorized for employment under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Act, DACA.

□ 1645

We made progress in the last Congress, but this bill will take us backwards.

Ranking Member ESPAILLAT said during the markup of this bill, but I believe it is a point that we should emphasize again today: We all have an obligation to make sure that our staff, whether they serve here in Washington, D.C., or if they serve in our home districts, are safe.

I support my colleague's efforts to increase funding to bolster that safety.

This bill is not an appropriate venue for divisive and partisan language, especially the extreme and offensive culture wars riders that House Republicans have placed in each one of the appropriations bills that we have considered.

We should be working together to ensure that the Congress is able to serve the American people, complete the people's business safely, securely, and efficiently, our political differences notwithstanding.

Bipartisan, bicameral legislation is required to keep the government open. Otherwise, the President will not sign

a bill. Bipartisan, bicameral legislation is required to fully fund the legislative branch. It is time for House Republicans to abandon a partisan path to nowhere and to join House Democrats at the negotiation table.

We have wasted enough time. Let us move forward. We are here. We are ready to get to work for the American people.

For all of these reasons, I cannot support this bill, and I ask others not to support it.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Mrs. BEATTY), the Buckeye State of Ohio.

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in fierce opposition to H.R. 4364. I thank the chairman, but I specifically thank our ranking member for allowing me to speak.

This totally eliminates the funding for the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion. As former chair of the first-ever House Committee on Financial Services Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion, I have long been an ardent and vocal champion for diversity and inclusion.

As stated in the 116th Congress, the House Office of D&I was created to cultivate a workplace at the United States House of Representatives that reflects the rich diversity of the districts and the constituents we represent.

While I heard what the chairman says, the records do not reflect that in the talent development office. This office also helps place numerous diverse applicants into staff positions on Capitol Hill. It is critical because, in a 2019 House office study, it found that 70 percent of House employees at that time were White, demonstrating in statistical terms the stunning lack of diversity among House employees.

The Republican effort to eradicate the \$3 million in funding for this office is yet another shortsighted attempt to turn back the clock and to undo the hard-fought gains won by Congress, the people's House. Study after study shows the countless benefits of diversity and inclusion in the workplace, most importantly given the indisputable importance of the congressional staffers on the legislative process, and the direct effect they have on the lives of millions of Americans, the constituents, our constituents that they work with in our districts.

For reference, Mr. Speaker, Speaker Johnson's district is almost 50-50 White to Blacks and minorities. Former Speaker McCarthy's district is 50-50. California's 13th District is actually 66 percent persons of color, and I think, when you look at that, it is very important for us to have staff who reflect that.

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

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Ohio.

Mrs. BEATTY. The recent Speaker pro tempore said that diversity and inclusion would be the top priority.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that we reconsider this.

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, can I inquire as to how much time is remaining on either side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Nevada has 20 minutes remaining, and the gentleman from New York has 15 minutes remaining.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise again to oppose this bill. This bill doesn't do enough. It just doesn't do enough to support critical investment for the future of the legislative branch of government, including critical enhancement to strengthen our physical and cybersecurity posture or provide dedicated funding for the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

In addition, I was shocked not to see bipartisan language that has been supported by both sides of the House for years to allow the legislative branch agencies to employ individuals under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA, Program. Every Member's staffer should feel safe as they serve the American people. Every office and committee in Congress should be able to benefit from the bipartisan work carried out by the House Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Importantly, every Member from every district across the Nation should have access to every resource that will allow them to serve the constituency with the services that they need. This includes the ability to hire a staffer who represents the makeup of their district. That is fundamental in a democracy.

This committee has a long tradition of protecting individual Members' ability to operate their offices how they see fit and employing individuals under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program should be no exception.

For this reason, Mr. Speaker, at the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to the committee. If the House rules permitted, I would have offered the motion with an important amendment to this bill.

My amendment includes language that would permit funds in the Act to be used to employ individuals with an employment authorization document under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, DACA, Program.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to insert the text of this amendment into the RECORD immediately prior to the vote on the motion to recommit.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, let me repeat that the legislative branch should never be a place for divisive politics. The legislative branch bill should be used to ensure Congress has the tools it needs to legislate and support the constituents we serve. It should be used to ensure we have a successful democracy through effective and responsible governance.

The Republicans, again, are obsessed with cutting and cutting Federal funds and eliminating programs that help to grow and diversify our country. Passing these partisan bills will not help keep the government open. It just will not make that happen. We should be really focused on keeping our government open and preventing a pending shutdown.

The former Speaker met with the President and had a handshake. Let's honor that handshake. Let's not cut to the bone and hurt the American people. I don't agree also with these divisive ideas and partisan tactics. I believe we can and should do much better.

For these reasons, I cannot support this bill.

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

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, there have been a few areas covered, and so I will try to be brief. I yield myself the balance of my time.

I want to thank my colleague from New York for his collegiality and professionalism in the way that we have gone through this process this year and I look forward to working with him in the future.

Architect of the Capitol, their top ten projects were funded. I know there has been some discussion about it. We didn't pick them. We asked them to pick them, and so they did.

In these times, when we are running deficits that are in the t neighborhood, not the b neighborhood, I don't think it is inappropriate to say we probably ought to look at some of the largest areas that we spend money on. When you look at the leg branch allocation, that pie chart, the biggest slice of the pie in the whole thing, other than running our offices and our committees and paying our employee benefits, is Architect of the Capitol.

Give us your ten top priorities. I don't think that is partisan. I think that is responsible fiscal management. You can keep moving forward, but it is not like we don't have to eventually pay those bills.

The Sergeant at Arms office, as I have indicated—and I won't spend a lot of time on it—is there and funded under this bill for cybersecurity and for one district office. If you have multiple ones, that doesn't make you a bad person. It just means you have to submit a plan, and we have to talk about how we deal with one district versus another based upon the realities on the ground of making that district office secure.

Maybe it is a panic button. Maybe there is something else depending on

that. I don't think it is irresponsible for Americans to expect the people who are responsible for spending their money to ask that we ask a few questions before we just say, Go do what you think you need to, and we will figure out a way to pay for it. That won't work.

They want to make an exception for the House of Representatives that isn't there for most other folks. We are not going to do it. We need to deal with DACA comprehensively, and we should, and I will be there at the first meeting, the middle meeting, and the last meeting to deal with them.

As a matter of fact, in previous Congresses, I have supported some DACA measures, which, quite frankly, weren't in compliance with what some people think a good Republican ought to be doing or whatever, but it was trying to solve a problem. It does not solve the DACA problem by carving out a tiny exception for Congress to be able to pretend like the rules on DACA shouldn't apply to us just like they do everybody else, so that is why we are at where we are at.

Finally, I hadn't wanted to do this, but since this is an appropriations subcommittee and we talk about money and we are worried about the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, let me tell you why it was decided to move it. It spent \$15,000 on a staff retreat at the Salamander, a luxury resort in Middleburg, Virginia; spent thousands of taxpayer dollars on customized swag, including windbreakers; spent tens of thousands of dollars on partisan diversity events we talked about not being partisan for Black History Month, Women's History Month, as well as \$25,000 for racial equity group training.

The office went over a year without a director as House Democrats failed to fill the position and even put one of their own staffers down there temporarily in an acting capacity while still serving as the assigned oversight staffer for House admin Democrats, a clear conflict of interest.

It used taxpayer dollars to give away gift cards to staff for attending their programming; spending that is not allowed in any other context, committee or personal office budgets, and which could raise ethics questions. It is not like somebody wanted to be mean to somebody because they had a political disagreement. This is fiscal irresponsibility and needs to be addressed.

I will finish with this: We addressed the oversight problem, which appropriations does, but kept the mission intact in the Chief Administrative Officer.

With that, I would hope that Members would see their way clear to support this bill as a logical step for leading by example, but not basically handicapping us.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 4364, the Republican FY24 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act.

The Legislative Branch Appropriations bill provides the funding that all of our offices rely on for the resources we need to serve our constituents and legislate for the good of the nation. It funds our Capitol Police, Sergeant at Arms, and Architect of the Capitol to keep the Capitol complex safe, secure, and functioning for staff and visitors. It supports the research and preservation work at the Library of Congress and the beloved Botanic Garden.

I am disappointed that the bill before us today stalls the progress that we made under a Democratic majority in recent years by not investing enough in the resources needed to operate Congress as a modern, effective, and co-equal branch of our democratic government.

My opposition to the bill is not solely due to the inadequate funding levels. This bill, like all of the Republican appropriations measures, embraces right-wing social policy fights that have no place in the bills that fund our government.

It eliminates direct funding for the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and prohibits funding from being used to train staff and improve the diversity, equity, and inclusion of the Congressional workplace. It does not include the language that allows the legislative branch to employ Americans certified under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. It creates a license to blatantly discriminate against LGBTQI+ people under the guise of religious liberty and face no penalties for that blatant discrimination.

The People's House should be a place where all people of this diverse nation are welcomed, included, and treated equitably. Instead, this bill advances an agenda that is hurtful to many of the staff that work here and the constituents we represent.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is dead on arrival in the Senate. We may have a new Speaker in this chamber, but Republicans are still pursuing the same partisan path on appropriations bills.

I urge my colleagues to oppose this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MOORE of Utah). All time for debate has expired.

Pursuant to House Resolution 756, 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.

Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 4364 is postponed.

□ 1700

RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of the privileges of the House and offer the resolution I previously noticed.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ELLZEY). The Clerk will report the resolution.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 773

Whereas George Anthony Devolder Santos, known as George Santos, was elected to represent New York's 3d Congressional District in the House of Representatives on November 8, 2022;

Whereas after election day, it was revealed George Santos lied about a significant portion of his background, including his education and previous employment;

Whereas George Santos has a long history of misrepresenting his and his family's connections to major events, including the Holocaust, the September 11th terrorist attacks, and the Pulse nightclub shooting;

Whereas, on May 9, 2023, George Santos was indicted on 13 counts of wire fraud, money laundering, stealing public funds, and lying on Federal financial disclosure forms to the House of Representatives;

Whereas a Federal grand jury indicted an aide to George Santos' campaign on charges of wire fraud and identity theft for defrauding potential donors by impersonating Speaker Kevin McCarthy's former Chief of Staff;

Whereas, on October 5, 2023, George Santos' former campaign treasurer pled guilty to falsifying campaign finance reports, including lying about a \$500,000 loan that George Santos claimed to have donated to the campaign himself;

Whereas, on October 10, 2023, George Santos was federally charged with an additional 10 criminal counts;

Whereas the additional charges were serious in nature, including conspiracy to commit offenses against the United States, wire fraud, aggravated identity theft, access device fraud, false statements to the Federal Election Commission, and falsifying records to obstruct the commission;

Whereas the indictment outlined a vast amount of evidence against Santos, including conversations he held with his former campaign treasurer outlining plans to commit the fraud he is charged with;

Whereas these charges indicate that George Santos engaged in serious financial fraud throughout his 2022 campaign for the House of Representatives;

Whereas George Santos stole over \$44,000 from donors by charging their credit cards without authorization;

Whereas George Santos directly profited from his fraudulent actions, including transferring money to his own bank account to buy luxury items and pay off personal debts;

Whereas George Santos engaged in election fraud throughout his 2022 campaign by deceiving voters regarding his biography, defrauding donors, and engaging in other illegal campaign behavior; and

Whereas, as a result of these actions, George Santos is not fit to serve his constituents as a United States Representative: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That, pursuant to article I, section 5, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States, Representative George Santos, be, and he hereby is, expelled from the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The resolution qualifies.

Pursuant to clause 2 of rule IX, the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO).

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, like many of my colleagues on this floor, we were elected with a commitment to work on both sides of the aisle to represent our constituents and the American people.

Unfortunately, we learned very early into Mr. SANTOS' term that he was elected under false pretenses, which made it clear that he cannot represent the great constituents of Nassau County and across this country.

Since he was elected in November of 2022, we have learned about countless lies, deceptions, and 23 charges against Mr. SANTOS.

It is in the best interest of the constituents of New York's 3rd and all Americans that he is expelled from the House of Representatives.

The lies, the deceptions about September 11 terrorist attacks, his education, his work history, his faith, the fact that he was Jew-ish, claiming that his grandparents escaped the horrors of the Holocaust. We also saw that he pled to a crime in Brazil.

I was one of the first Members of Congress to call for his resignation, doing so in January.

In May, I motioned for an expulsion resolution to be referred to the Committee on Ethics, asking for a thorough and expedient investigation, as there were not yet two-thirds "yes" votes needed from this Chamber for him to be expelled.

Despite my desire to see Mr. SANTOS no longer serving in Congress, I believed that this would be the quickest way to rid him from the institution, and I thanked that committee. They recently released a memo interviewing over 40 witnesses, reviewing over 170,000 pages of documents, doing their due diligence.

Just weeks ago, Mr. SANTOS' former campaign treasurer pled guilty to falsifying campaign finance reports, including lying about a \$500,000 loan that Mr. SANTOS claimed to have donated to the campaign himself.

Days later, Mr. SANTOS was charged with an additional 10 criminal counts. These charges included conspiracy to commit offenses against the United States of America, aggravated identity theft, and the indictment outlined a vast amount of evidence against Mr. SANTOS.

All you have to do is look at the lies and deceptions in the resolution and details of the indictments—multiple indictments—to see that Mr. SANTOS is a stain on this institution and not fit to serve his constituents in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Speaker, over the last days I have heard from many Members saying that there is due process, that there is precedent.

Well, I stand before you today, Mr. Speaker, in saying that if we are going to set a new precedent today, that we are against lying fraudsters coming to the House of Representatives, then I am all for that precedent. I will add to that, Mr. Speaker, that many individuals have come to Washington, D.C., to rid us of the swamp.

Well, today, we have an opportunity to set a new precedent and to remove someone from the House of Representatives that is not properly representing