

Funding Source: National Funds.

(iii) Description: On July 20, 2012, Congress was notified by Congressional certification transmittal number 12-39, of the possible sale, under Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, of 4 UH-60M Black Hawk Helicopters, 10 T700-GE-701D Engines (8 installed and 2 spares), warranty, support equipment, spare and repair parts, personnel training and training equipment, publications and technical data, U.S. Government and contractor technical assistance, and other related logistics support. The estimated cost was \$235 million. Major Defense Equipment (MDE) constituted \$170 million of this total.

On July 28, 2017, CN 0M-16 reported the inclusion of eight (8) H-764ACE Embedded Global Position System (GPS)/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) units as MDE. Although the value of the EGI was included in the total value of the case and the original notification, it was not enumerated as MDE in the original notification. Upgrading the status of this equipment to MDE did not result in a net increase in cost of MDE. The total case value remained \$235 million.

On October 17, 2018, CN 0Q-18 reported the addition of two spare Embedded Global Position System (GPS)/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI) units valued at \$371,970. These additions did not result in an increase to the MDE cost of \$170 million or to the total case value of \$235 million.

On April 21, 2021, CN 21-0H reported the addition of the following additional MDE items: 1) eight (8) UH-60M Black Hawk helicopters in standard USG configuration with designated unique equipment and Government Furnished Equipment (GFE); and 2) seventeen (17) T700-GE-701D engines (includes 1 spare). The following non-MDE items were also included: H-764ACE/EAGLE+429 Embedded Global Position System/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGIs); AN/APX-117A Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) transponders; AN/ARC-201E RT-1478E (or designated replacement); MXF-4027 radios (or designated replacement); Aviation Mission Planning Systems (AMPS); Engine Inlet Barrier Filter (EIBF) System; External Rescue Hoist (ERH); C-406 Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT); LRIP Crew Chief Gunner Seats; basic aircraft warranty; CONUS and OCONUS air worthiness support; calibration services; spare and repair parts; aviation and peculiar ground support equipment; communication equipment; publications and technical documentation; personnel and equipment training; site surveys; special tools and test equipment; U.S. Government and contractor technical and logistics support services; and other related elements of logistics and program support. The addition of these items resulted in a net increase in MDE cost of \$240 million, resulting in a revised MDE cost of \$410 million. The additional non-MDE items resulted in a net increase of \$100 million. The total estimated case value increased to \$575 million.

On November 21, 2022, CN 0S-22 reported the inclusion of the following MDE items to replace the previously notified, now unavailable/obsolete H-764ACE/EAGLE+429 EGIs: ten (10) Embedded Global Position System (GPS)/Inertial Navigation Systems (EGI). The estimated total value of the added MDE items was \$1,350,000 but did not increase the MDE cost of \$410 million. The estimated total case value remained \$575 million.

This transmittal reports the inclusion of an additional eight (8) Embedded Global Position System (GPS)/Inertial Navigation System (EGI)+429 with SAASM and/or M-Code (MDE). The estimated total value of the added MDE items is \$1,350,000. These items will not increase the MDE cost of \$410 million. The total case value will remain \$575 million.

(iv) Significance: This notification is being provided because the additional MDE items were not enumerated in the original notification. The inclusion of this MDE represents an increase in capability over what was previously notified. The proposed sale will support Thailand's ongoing effort to modernize its armed forces by updating its military capabilities and improving interoperability with the United States and other allies.

(v) Justification: This proposed sale will support the foreign policy and national security of the United States by helping to improve the security of a Major Non-NATO ally which is an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Indo-Pacific region.

(vi) Sensitivity of Technology:

The Sensitivity of Technology Statement contained in the previous notification applies to items reported here.

The highest level of classification of defense articles, components, and services included in this potential sale is SECRET.

(vii) Date Report Delivered to Congress: December 18, 2023.

#### NOMINATION OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL TIMOTHY HAUGH

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I lift my intent to object to Executive Calendar No. 262, the promotion of Lt. Gen. Timothy Haugh to the grade of general and, consequently, to be the Director of the National Security Agency—NSA—and commander of U.S. Cyber Command. I have received the information I sought from the Department of Defense and NSA in connection with the nomination.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. KING. Mr. President, I rise to provide a brief statement on the nomination votes on December 18, 2023. I was unable to attend the votes due to inclement weather. Had I been here on Monday, December 18, 2023, I would have voted in "yea" on vote No. 347, the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 415, Martin O'Malley, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I was unable to attend yesterday's vote on rollcall vote No. 347 Confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 415, Martin O'Malley, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Social Security. I would have voted yea on the confirmation had I been able to attend the vote.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO PAIGE YOUSCHAK-THOMPSON

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Paige Youschak-Thompson of Laconia as December's Granite Stater of the Month. Paige is known throughout the Lakes Region for her service to different organizations. Although she has always volunteered, she became more active when

her daughter was in school, and now, with her daughter an adult, volunteering has become the equivalent of a full-time job. Paige volunteers 5 days a week for more than 40 hours a week.

Paige will never say no when someone asks for her help. Although she does not have a favorite cause or organization, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, a local thrift shop, has a special place in her heart since it is where she first started to consistently volunteer. In addition, Paige is especially fond of helping kids in the community and believes in giving all children a chance, regardless of their income level. She worked with a local boutique to help provide free prom dresses to girls who may otherwise not be able to have one. Paige is also the chair of the community engagement committee for the Greater Lakes Region Children's Auction, which helps local children and families in need; it has distributed more than \$8 million over the last 40 years to the community.

Paige's strong pull towards volunteer work stems from her deep and lifelong desire to be a person who helps out and holds space for others. Paige makes other people happy in any way that she can. Being able to help the community brings her great joy, and she plans to continue volunteering for as long as she can.

Paige showcases the Granite State spirit of giving every day of the year, and I am honored to name her Granite Stater of the Month. Especially as we enter the holiday season, I hope that we can all aspire to give our time and support to our community as freely as Paige does.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT OF THE VETO OF S.J. RES. 32, A JOINT RESOLUTION THAT WOULD DISAPPROVE OF THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU'S FINAL RULE TITLED "SMALL BUSINESS LENDING UNDER THE EQUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY ACT (REGULATION B)"—PM 34

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States which was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, spread in full upon the Journal, and held at the desk:

*To the Senate of the United States:*

I am returning herewith without my approval S.J. Res. 32, a resolution that would disapprove of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's (CFPB) final rule titled "Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)."

The CFPB's final rule would provide small business owners, lenders, and the public with critical information about the \$1.7 trillion small business financing market. It would bring much needed transparency to small business lending and improve the ability of lenders and community organizations to meet the most critical needs of America's small businesses. This rule implements a long-overdue piece of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. It is also central to the effective implementation of the Community Reinvestment Act, which helps ensure that the needs of all borrowers—including low- and moderate-income borrowers—are met. But this Republican-led resolution would hinder the Government's ability to conduct oversight of abusive and predatory lenders, make it harder for 33 million small businesses across the country to assess lending opportunities and access capital, and make it more difficult for lenders and community groups to address the most acute gaps in capital access for minority- and women-owned businesses.

If enacted, this resolution would harm all those that stand to benefit from expanded transparency and accountability. By hampering efforts to promote transparency and accountability in small business lending, Republicans are siding with big banks and corporations over the needs of small business owners. Small businesses are the engines of our economy, and my Administration will not support policies that hurt their ability to thrive and grow.

Therefore, I am vetoing this resolution.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, December 19, 2023.

## MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

### ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS SIGNED

At 2:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SMITH of Nebraska) has signed the following enrolled bill and joint resolutions:

H.R. 3315. An act to exempt for an additional 4-year period, from the application of the means-test presumption of abuse under chapter 7, qualifying members of reserve components of the Armed Forces and members of the National Guard who, after September 11, 2001, are called to active duty or to perform a homeland defense activity for not less than 90 days.

H. J. Res. 62. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Michael Govan as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H. J. Res. 63. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Antoinette Bush as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

H. J. Res. 64. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Ferguson as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The enrolled bill and joint resolutions were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

## ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 19, 2023, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 788. An act to amend the Permanent Electronic Duck Stamp Act of 2013 to allow States to issue fully electronic stamps under that Act, and for other purposes.

## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. CANTWELL, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

Report to accompany S. 1414, A bill to improve the instant messaging service used by the National Weather Service, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-140).

Report to accompany S. 1416, A bill to provide guidance for and investment in the upgrade and modernization of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Weather Radio All Hazards Network, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-141).

## INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 3557. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to prepare a report that outlines a plan for completing a review of approved opioid analgesic drugs that considers the public health effects of such opioid drugs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MANCHIN, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. Res. 515. A resolution condemning attacks by Iranian military proxies on the armed forces of the United States in Iraq and Syria and emphasizing the urgency of responding to and deterring such attacks; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. Res. 516. A resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Endangered Species Act of 1973; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. RISCH):

S. Con. Res. 24. A concurrent resolution condemning the hostilities in Sudan and standing with the people of Sudan in their calls for peace and their democratic aspirations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 131

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 131, a bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes.

S. 132

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 132, a bill to require a pilot program on activities under the pre-separation transition process of members of the Armed Forces for a reduction in suicide among veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 234

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 234, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 441

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 441, a bill to establish American opportunity accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 639

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 639, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1216

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1216, a bill to amend Public Law 91-378 to authorize activities relating to Civilian Conservation Centers, and for other purposes.

S. 1266

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S. 1266, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for surviving spouses, and for other purposes.

S. 2413

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2413, a bill to expand and strengthen the Abraham Accords and the Negev Forum, and for other purposes.