

Our plan is working. Already, my Investing in America agenda has attracted \$650 billion in private investment from companies that are building factories and moving production back to America. We are making things here in America again, with American union workers. We have ignited a manufacturing boom, a semiconductor boom, an electric-vehicle boom, and more. My agenda is creating hundreds of thousands of union jobs, so folks never have to leave their hometowns to find good-paying work they can raise a family on. Today, America once again has the strongest economy in the world. We have created a record 15 million jobs, with unemployment under four percent for the longest stretch in over 50 years. Growth is strong. Wages are rising and inflation is down by two-thirds, with costs having fallen for key household items from a gallon of gas to a gallon of milk. We have more to do, but folks are starting to feel the benefits. Consumer sentiment has surged more in recent months than any time in 30 years. Americans have filed a record 16 million new business applications since I took office; each one of them is an act of hope.

Importantly, we made these historic investments in a fiscally responsible way, while making our tax system fairer. In 2022, I signed a law that imposed a new minimum tax of 15 percent on the Nation's largest corporations, saved \$160 billion by giving Medicare the authority to negotiate prescription drug prices and limit price increases, and boosted funding to the Internal Revenue Service to crack down on wealthy and corporate tax cheats. This is just the beginning. My Budget would do more to close loopholes. It would save another \$200 billion by enabling Medicare to negotiate prices on even more drugs and by limiting other drug price increases. It would cut wasteful subsidies to Big Oil and other special interests; and it would introduce a minimum tax on billionaires, which alone would raise \$500 billion for the American people.

So far, we have already cut the deficit by \$1 trillion since I took office, one of the biggest reductions in history, and I have signed legislation to cut it by \$1 trillion more. My Budget would reduce it by another \$3 trillion over the next 10 years as well, while continuing to pay for our investments in America.

And we are just getting started.

My Administration will keep fighting to lower costs for working families, on everything from housing to childcare to student loans. After decades of talk in Washington, we beat Big Pharma and capped the cost of insulin for seniors at \$35 a month, down from as much as \$400. Starting next year, no senior on Medicare will pay more than \$2,000 a year in total out-of-pocket prescription drug costs, even for expensive cancer medications that now cost many times more. We are cracking down on price gouging by requiring drugmakers that

raise prices of certain drugs faster than inflation to pay a rebate back to Medicare. At the same time, we have protected and expanded the Affordable Care Act, with a record 21 million Americans enrolled in marketplace plans this past year, while saving millions of Americans \$800 per year on their premiums. Today, more Americans have health insurance than ever before. My Budget builds on those gains.

I also know that for too many hard-working families, it costs too much to find a good home, so we are working to lower costs and boost supply of housing nationwide. My Budget will make monthly mortgage payments more affordable for middle-class first-time homebuyers by providing a \$5,000 annual mortgage relief credit for two years. My Budget will expand rental assistance to hundreds of thousands of additional families, continuing the largest expansion in 20 years. It will also help to ease America's long-standing shortage of affordable housing, including by cutting red tape, so that more builders can get Federal financing to build more affordable housing. Important progress is underway: more families own homes today than before the pandemic; rents are easing; and a record 1.7 million housing units are under construction nationwide.

My Budget also makes key investments in childcare and education, so every child in America can have the strong start they need to thrive. It restores the Child Tax Credit expansion I signed into law, which cut child poverty nearly in half in 2021; and it guarantees the vast majority of families high-quality childcare for no more than \$10 a day, while boosting pay for childcare workers. It offers universal free preschool for all four million of America's four-year-olds. Building on the American Rescue Plan's investment in public education, the biggest in history, it also helps States expand tutoring, afterschool, and summer programs; and boosts recruiting to ease teacher shortages.

At the same time, I am keeping my promise to ease the crushing burden of student debt. Despite legal challenges, we have canceled some \$138 billion in student debt for nearly four million Americans, including more than 750,000 teachers, nurses, firefighters, social workers, and other public servants. That is freeing people to finally consider buying a home, having a child, or starting that small business they always dreamed of.

We are also working to secure our border. In October, I sent an emergency request for more funding; my Budget renews that request for additional resources, including for 1,300 more Border Patrol agents, 375 immigration judges, and 1,600 asylum officers, and for cutting-edge technology to help detect fentanyl. We need to pass the Senate bipartisan border deal as well, which would make urgent additional investments to secure the border and help to fix our broken immigration system.

Today, the world is facing an inflection point in history, at home and abroad. My Administration has restored America's leadership on the world stage, rallying more than 50 nations to support Ukraine in the face of brutal Russian aggression, strengthening and expanding NATO, revitalizing our alliances and partnerships in the Indo-Pacific—including with Japan, South Korea, and Australia—and strengthening democracy across the globe. But we need to do more to prove that America can once again be relied on to stand up for freedom. In October, I submitted a national security supplemental request to cover urgent needs, including support for Ukraine and Israel, and humanitarian aid and relief for Palestinians. My Budget reiterates that request and continues other critical support for NATO allies and partners around the world. It strengthens our deterrence capacity in the Indo-Pacific, expanding our capabilities in the region. It also works to keep our military the best-trained, best-equipped fighting force in the world, integrating advanced innovation technologies, and improving overall readiness. My Budget also takes important steps to honor our Nation's most sacred obligation—to protect and equip our troops when they are in harm's way, and to care for them and their families throughout and after their service. Since I took office, I have signed over 30 significant bipartisan bills to support veterans, including the PACT Act, the biggest-ever expansion of benefits for servicemembers exposed to toxic burn pits during their service; and I have issued the most comprehensive executive actions to date to boost economic security for military families. My Budget builds on that work.

The story of America is one of progress and resilience, of always moving forward and never giving up. It is a story unique among nations. We are the only nation that has emerged from every crisis we have entered stronger than we went in. While my Administration has seen great progress since day one, there is still work to do. My Budget will help make that promise real.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 2024.

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. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. SINEMA, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 3966. A bill to streamline the application of regulations relating to commercial space launch and reentry requirements and licensing of private remote sensing space systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. MARSHALL, and Mr. KING):

S. 3967. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make permanent certain telehealth flexibilities under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 3968. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide community-based training opportunities for medical students in rural areas and medically under-served communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 3969. A bill to amend the Uniform Code of Military Justice to expand the definition of aiding the enemy to include the provision of military education, military training, and tactical advice; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TILLIS, and Ms. SINEMA):

S. 3970. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to ensure that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs repays members of the Armed Forces for certain contributions made by such members towards Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 3971. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to require reporting on additional information with respect to small business concerns owned and controlled by women, qualified HUBZone small business concerns, and small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 3972. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to require the Congressional Budget Office to provide to Congress information on payments from the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Disability Insurance Trust Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 3973. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign persons that knowingly engage in political warfare on behalf of a foreign government or political party and to require a determination regarding the United Front Work Department of the Chinese Communist Party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WELCH, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 3974. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to require the Commissioner of Social Security to use the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers for purposes of determining cost-of-living adjustments under titles II, VIII, and XVI of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WELCH (for himself and Mr. LUJÁN):

S. 3975. A bill to require companies to receive consent from consumers to having their data used to train an artificial intelligence system; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 3976. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the deduction for personal casualty losses as in effect prior to the enactment of Public Law 115-97 (commonly referred to as the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act"); to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. DAINES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 3977. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect beneficiaries with limb loss and other orthopedic conditions by providing access to appropriate, safe, effective, patient-centered orthotic and prosthetic care; to reduce fraud, waste, and abuse with respect to orthotics and prosthetics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VANCE (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. COTTON, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 3978. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit an institution of higher education that employs unauthorized aliens from receiving funds from Federal student assistance or Federal institutional aid and to require institutions of higher education to participate in the E-Verify Program in order to be eligible to participate in any program authorized under title IV of such Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. KING):

S. 3979. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent and codify the pilot program for use of contract physicians for disability examinations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. CORTEZ MASTO):

S. 3980. A bill to award grants to local educational agencies to operate after school programs in certain areas with a high rate of juvenile crime; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HICKENLOOPER (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 3981. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a program of research, training, and investigation related to Down syndrome, and for other purposes; 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. CRAMER (for himself, Mr. KING, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. FETTERMAN, and Mr. RICKETTS):

S. Res. 591. A resolution reaffirming the deep and steadfast partnership between, and the ties that bind, the United States and Canada in support of economic and national security; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Ms. SINEMA):

S. Res. 592. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Social Work Month and World Social Work Day on March 19, 2024; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. Res. 593. A resolution expressing support for the continued value of arms control agreements and condemning the Russian Federation's purported suspension of its participation in the New START Treaty; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. Res. 594. A resolution designating April 17, 2024, as "National Assistive Technology Awareness Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. Res. 595. A resolution recognizing the contributions of AmeriCorps members and alumni and AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in the lives of the people and communities of the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mrs.

SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KING, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. COONS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. CAPITO, and Ms. ERNST):

S. Res. 596. A resolution recognizing Girl Scouts of the United States of America on its 112th birthday and celebrating its legacy of providing girls with a secure, inclusive space where they can explore their world, build meaningful relationships, and have access to experiences that prepare them for a life of leadership; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr.

SCHATZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. RISCH, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 597. A resolution recognizing the heritage, culture, and contributions of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian women in the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 160

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) were added as cosponsors of S. 160, a bill to require U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement to take into custody certain aliens who have been charged in the United States with a crime that resulted in the death or serious bodily injury of another person, and for other purposes.

S. 217

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 217, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special rule for certain casualty losses of uncut timber.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to make daylight saving time permanent, and for other purposes.

S. 652

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 652, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to