

SENATE RESOLUTION 834—RE-AFFIRMING THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES' CLAIM OVER SECOND THOMAS SHOAL AND SUPPORTING THE FILIPINO PEOPLE IN THEIR EFFORTS TO COMBAT AGGRESSION BY THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE SOUTH CHINA SEA

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. HAGERTY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 834

Whereas Second Thomas Shoal (also known as "Ayungin Shoal") is located within the Spratly Islands inside the Philippines' exclusive economic zone;

Whereas in 1951, the United States and the Republic of the Philippines signed the United States-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty, making the two countries treaty allies;

Whereas in 1999, the Philippine Navy intentionally grounded the BRP Sierra Madre on Second Thomas Shoal to establish a maritime outpost in the Spratly Islands;

Whereas since grounding the BRP Sierra Madre, the Philippines has continuously hosted a contingent of Philippine Marines on the ship;

Whereas the People's Republic of China falsely claims "indisputable sovereignty" over Second Thomas Shoal and other areas surrounding the shoal;

Whereas the People's Republic of China has repeatedly engaged in increasingly hostile and aggressive behavior towards Filipino fishermen and Coast Guard vessels around Second Thomas Shoal, including by deploying tear gas, firing water cannons, deliberately ramming other vessels, and blocking Philippine vessels' maritime routes;

Whereas in December 2023, a vessel operated by the Coast Guard of the People's Republic of China surrounded a Filipino supply ship and assaulted it with water cannons as it operated in an area around Second Thomas Shoal;

Whereas on May 19, 2024, the Coast Guard of the People's Republic of China harassed and attempted to stop a Philippine vessel that was evacuating sick personnel from the BRP Sierra Madre;

Whereas on June 17, 2024, the Coast Guard of the People's Republic of China brutally assaulted a Philippine Coast Guard vessel en route to resupply the BRP Sierra Madre, which injured at least eight Filipino sailors and caused one Filipino sailor to lose a thumb;

Whereas on July 22, 2024, it was reported that the People's Republic of China and the Republic of the Philippines reached an agreement designed to reduce hostilities around Second Thomas Shoal;

Whereas on August 19, 2024, the People's Republic of China ignored the July 22, 2024, agreement and intentionally rammed two Philippine Coast Guard vessels on a resupply mission near Second Thomas Shoal;

Whereas on August 26, 2024, the People's Republic of China deployed 40 ships to block two Philippine vessels, which were attempting to resupply the BRP Teresa Magbanua, the flagship of the Philippine Coast Guard;

Whereas on August 31, 2024, vessels operated by the People's Republic of China repeatedly rammed and surrounded the BRP Teresa Magbanua in an area east of Second Thomas Shoal, which caused damages to its hull;

Whereas Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin has reiterated the United States policy that "an armed attack on Philippine Armed

Forces' public vessels or aircraft in the Pacific, including the South China Sea, would invoke U.S. defense commitments under our mutual defense treaty";

Whereas the Department of State has reaffirmed that the United States "stands with its ally, the Philippines, and condemns the dangerous and escalatory actions by the People's Republic of China (PRC) against lawful Philippine maritime operations ..."; and

Whereas, the Department of State has also stated, "The United States reaffirms that Article IV of the 1951 United States-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty extends to armed attacks on Philippine armed forces, public vessels, or aircraft - including those of its Coast Guard - anywhere in the South China Sea": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that—

(A) Second Thomas Shoal lies within the exclusive economic zone of the Republic of the Philippines; and

(B) the People's Republic of China's effort to harass and endanger Philippine vessels in the area are violations of Philippine sovereign rights;

(2) supports efforts to increase military assistance to the Republic of the Philippines to assist in its effort to combat blatant aggression by the People's Republic of China in the South China Sea, including near Second Thomas Shoal;

(3) reaffirms the commitments made by the United States to the Republic of the Philippines in the 1951 United States-Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty; and

(4) encourages increased cooperation and training with the Republic of the Philippines, including with the Philippine Coast Guard, and strong investments in United States shipbuilding and other United States military capabilities to ensure that our obligations to the Philippines will be carried out.

SENATE RESOLUTION 835—RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE QUADRILATERAL SECURITY DIALOGUE (THE "QUAD") AND WELCOMING THE UPCOMING QUAD LEADERS SUMMIT

Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. SULLIVAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 835

Whereas Australia, India, Japan, and the United States are 4 leading maritime democracies representing nearly 2,000,000,000 people and over ⅓ of global gross domestic product;

Whereas this grouping of countries, known as the "Quad", was launched 20 years ago in response to the devastating 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami;

Whereas, since its inception, the Quad partners have demonstrated their commitment to the success of the Indo-Pacific region by supporting regional institutions and promoting cooperation, mutual respect for sovereignty, and a rules-based international order;

Whereas Quad Foreign Ministers have met 8 times since 2019;

Whereas Quad Leaders have met 5 times, including twice virtually, since 2021, including most recently in Sydney in 2023;

Whereas Quad country representatives convene on a regular basis at all levels to exchange ideas and drive cooperation toward our shared vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific region;

Whereas the United States has directed over \$100,000,000 in foreign assistance to

Quad-related programs, designed to build an Indo-Pacific region that is prosperous, secure, connected, and resilient;

Whereas the Quad, through the Quad Vaccine Partnership, provided 400,000,000 COVID-19 vaccines and expanded vaccine production capacity in the Indo-Pacific region during the COVID-19 pandemic and has strengthened the Indo-Pacific's ability to detect and respond to outbreaks of diseases with pandemic potential through the Health Security Partnership;

Whereas, in 2022, the Quad established the Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness to provide near-real-time, cost-effective, cutting-edge maritime domain awareness, enabling over 2 dozen countries to monitor their waters, counter illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, respond to climate change and natural disasters, and enforce their laws within their own territorial waters;

Whereas the Quad continues to deliver quality, resilient infrastructure around the Indo-Pacific region to increase connectivity, build regional capacity, and meet critical needs;

Whereas the Quad welcomed the 2023 launch of the Quad Investors Network, a nongovernmental network fostering private sector investment into critical and emerging technologies in Quad countries and across the Indo-Pacific region;

Whereas the Quad has demonstrated leadership in promoting the development and governance of critical and emerging technologies, ensuring the protection of democratic values and human rights in the digital age;

Whereas, in 2023, Quad Leaders launched the Quad Partnership for Cable Connectivity and Resilience and have invested in trusted undersea cables to enhance digital connectivity and secure, sustainable, and resilient telecommunications infrastructure among the Pacific Islands;

Whereas, in 2023, the Quad launched an Open RAN deployment in Palau to bring secure, trusted information and communications technology infrastructure, the first project of its kind in the Pacific;

Whereas the Quad has fostered people-to-people exchanges between citizens of the United States, Japan, India, and Australia through exchange programs for infrastructure experts and STEM students, including the Quad Fellowship program; and

Whereas, in September 2024, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of Australia, Prime Minister Narendra Modi of India, and Prime Minister Kishida Fumio of Japan will visit the United States for the fourth Quad Leaders Summit at the invitation of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) welcomes the Quad Leaders to the United States;

(2) recognizes the Quad's significant contributions to global health security, climate resilience, maritime security, technological cooperation, and economic development;

(3) welcomes and encourages sustained cooperation among Quad countries;

(4) stands ready to support efforts to strengthen the Quad and advance its objective of delivering tangible benefits for the Indo-Pacific region;

(5) affirms the Quad as a centerpiece of United States foreign policy within the Indo-Pacific region;

(6) views the Quad as an important mechanism for upholding the rules-based international order and a source of United States strength;

(7) recognizes the importance of expanding people-to-people programs between the 4 Quad member countries, Southeast Asia, South Asia, and the Pacific Islands;

(8) supports the annual provision of foreign assistance funding to facilitate Quad-related programs; and

(9) commits its support for the enduring partnership among the Quad nations and their commitment to promoting peace, security, and prosperity.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3289. Mr. PAUL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 9468, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

SA 3290. Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3291. Mrs. MURRAY (for Mr. CARDIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 288, to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally.

SA 3292. Mrs. MURRAY (for Mr. PETERS) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 4698, to authorize the Joint Task Forces of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3289. Mr. PAUL proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 9468, making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ OFFSET.

Of the unobligated balances of the amount made available under section 50141(b) of Public Law 117-169 (136 Stat. 2043) (commonly referred to as the “Inflation Reduction Act”), \$2,882,482,000 are rescinded.

SA 3290. Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 4638, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

DIVISION E—ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

TITLE LI—PROCUREMENT

Subtitle E—Defense-wide, Joint, and Multiservice Matters

SEC. 5141. PROCUREMENT OF F-35 DEVELOPMENTAL TESTING AIRCRAFT.

Section 225(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law 118-31; 137 Stat. 195) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking “two” each place it appears and inserting “three”; and

(B) by striking “2030” and inserting “2034”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) DEVELOPMENTAL TESTING MODIFICATIONS.—Any developmental testing modifications to aircraft designated under paragraph (1) may be procured using funds made available to the F-35 aircraft program for research, development, test, and evaluation or procurement of aircraft.”.

TITLE LII—RESEARCH, TEST, DEVELOPMENT, AND EVALUATION Subtitle C—Plans, Reports, and Other Matters

SEC. 5231. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-ENABLED WEAPON SYSTEMS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER OF EXCELLENCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish a center of excellence to support the development and maturation of artificial intelligence-enabled weapon systems by organizations within the Department of Defense that—

(A) were in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(B) have appropriate core competencies relating to the functions specified in subsection (b).

(2) DESIGNATION.—The center of excellence established pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be known as the “Artificial Intelligence-Enabled Weapon Systems Center of Excellence” (in this section referred to as the “Center”).

(b) FUNCTIONS.—The Center shall—

(1) capture, analyze, assess, and share lessons learned across the Department of Defense regarding the latest advancements in artificial intelligence-enabled weapon systems, countermeasures, tactics, techniques and procedures, and training methodologies;

(2) facilitate collaboration among the Department of Defense and foreign partners, including Ukraine, to identify and promulgate best practices, standards, and benchmarks;

(3) facilitate collaboration among the Department, industry, and academia in the United States, including industry with expertise in autonomous weapon systems and other nontraditional weapon systems that utilize artificial intelligence as determined by the Secretary;

(4) serve as a focal point for digital talent training and upskilling for the Department, and as the Secretary considers appropriate, provide enterprise-level tools and solutions based on these best practices, standards, and benchmarks; and

(5) carry out such other responsibilities as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall—

(1) submit to the congressional defense committees a report that includes a plan for the establishment of the Center; and

(2) provide the congressional defense committees a briefing on the plan submitted under paragraph (1).

(d) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-ENABLED WEAPON SYSTEM DEFINED.—In this section, the term “artificial intelligence-enabled weapon system” includes autonomous weapon systems, as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

SEC. 5232. REPORT ON STATUS OF REUSABLE HYPERSONIC TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report on the status of reusable hypersonic technology development activities, including the High Mach Turbine Engine.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report submitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall include the following:

(1) A proposed organizational structure for management of a reusable hypersonic aircraft development program.

(2) An assessment of requirements and timeframe to formalize a program office.

(3) A cost estimate and timeline for testing key enabling technologies and programs.

SEC. 5233. PROHIBITION ON RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT OF CELL CULTURE AND OTHER NOVEL METHODS USED FOR THE PRODUCTION OF CULTIVATED MEAT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act may be used for the research or development of cell culture or any other novel method used for the production of cultivated meat for human consumption.

(b) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report assessing the state of research in artificially-produced, cell cultured cultivated meat.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required under paragraph (1) shall include the following elements:

(A) Articulation of the requirements, if any, from the military services or combat support agencies for cultivated meat for human consumption in the near-term (1-3 years) and mid-term (4-5 years).

(B) Analysis of the state of maturity of the research in the cultivated meat market, including the ability of current research to satisfy any of the requirements articulated under subparagraph (A), including an assessment of the research of key allies and adversaries in cultivated meat production.

(C) Any other matters the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

SEC. 5234. ADVANCED COMPUTING INFRASTRUCTURE TO ENABLE ADVANCED ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE CAPABILITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish an advanced computing infrastructure program within the Department of Defense.

(b) DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING INFRASTRUCTURE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall expand upon the current infrastructure of the Department for development and deployment of military applications of high-performance computing and artificial intelligence that are located on-premises at Department installations or accessible via commercial classified cloud providers.

(2) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE APPLICATIONS.—(A) The Secretary shall ensure that some of the infrastructure capacity developed pursuant to paragraph (1) is dedicated to providing access to modern artificial intelligence accelerators, configured consistently with industry best practices, for training, fine-tuning, modifying, and deploying large artificial intelligence systems.

(B) In carrying out subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall ensure, to the extent practical, that new artificial intelligence system development is not performed using infrastructure capacity described in such subparagraph that is duplicative of readily available commercial or open source solutions.

(c) HIGH-PERFORMANCE COMPUTING ROADMAP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop a high-performance computing roadmap that describes the computing infrastructure needed to research, test, develop, and evaluate advanced artificial intelligence applications projected over the period covered by the future-years defense program.

(2) ASSESSMENT.—The roadmap developed pursuant to paragraph (1) shall assess anticipated artificial intelligence applications, including the computing needs associated with their development, and the evaluation, milestones, and resourcing needs to maintain and