

(3) encourages educators, administrators, school districts, and States to—

(A) promote increasing the number of new National Board Certified teachers; and

(B) provide the necessary incentives and support to candidates for National Board Certification.

SENATE RESOLUTION 130—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. MARY EDWARDS WALKER

Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 130

Whereas, on November 26, 1832, Dr. Mary Edwards Walker (referred to in this preamble as “Dr. Walker”) was born in the town of Oswego, New York;

Whereas, at the start of the Civil War, Dr. Walker decided to serve as an unpaid volunteer surgeon at the United States Patent Office Hospital in Washington, DC, as she was not allowed to serve in the Army as a medical officer because she was a woman;

Whereas, in 1862, Dr. Walker moved to the Commonwealth of Virginia and started treating wounded soldiers near the front lines at Fredericksburg and Chattanooga, Tennessee;

Whereas, during her work as a surgeon in the war, Dr. Walker often crossed battle lines to care for soldiers and civilians;

Whereas, in September 1864, Dr. Walker was contracted as the assistant surgeon of the Ohio 52nd Infantry, becoming the first female surgeon in the Army;

Whereas Dr. Walker served at the Louisville Women's Prison Hospital and at an orphan asylum in Clarksville, Tennessee;

Whereas, after the conclusion of the Civil War in 1865, Dr. Walker was awarded the Medal of Honor for Meritorious Service by President Andrew Johnson; and

Whereas Dr. Walker continued to advocate for women's rights, including promoting dress reform and pushing for women's suffrage, believing strongly in the power of self-determination and equality between men and women: Now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the life and legacy of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, recognizing her as a trailblazer in medicine, a champion for women's rights, and a true United States hero who exemplified the ideals of service, courage, and resilience; and

(2) commits to ensuring the story of Dr. Mary Edwards Walker is remembered and celebrated for generations to come, inspiring others to follow in her footsteps in pursuit of justice and equality.

SENATE RESOLUTION 131—DESIGNATING THE THIRD WEEK OF MARCH 2025 AS “NATIONAL CACFP WEEK”

Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 131

Whereas the third week of March is annually recognized as “National CACFP Week” to raise awareness of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (referred to in this preamble as the “CACFP”) of the Department of Agriculture;

Whereas the Department of Agriculture has reaffirmed—

(1) the vital role positive nutrition habits play in the healthy growth of children in the United States; and

(2) the importance of nutrition education for the most vulnerable and youngest children, as well as adults, through centers and homes throughout the United States;

Whereas, in 2024, the CACFP provided daily meals and snacks to more than 4,500,000 children in child care centers, family day care homes, emergency shelters, and after-school programs, and more than 115,000 adults in adult day care, providing almost 1,700,000,000 meals and snacks in total;

Whereas the CACFP not only provides nutritious meals and education but also increases the overall quality of child care in general, especially for children in low-income areas;

Whereas the innovative approach to oversight of the CACFP, which pairs child care, adult day care, and after-school sites with a non-profit sponsoring organization or a State agency, highlights a unique public-private partnership that supports working families and small businesses;

Whereas, although child care can be expensive in many locations throughout the United States, the CACFP increases the effectiveness and viability of child and adult care small businesses for many providers, especially in rural areas; and

Whereas an increasing number of studies demonstrate that access to the CACFP can measurably and positively impact the cognitive, social, emotional, and physical health and development of children, leading to more favorable outcomes, such as—

(1) a decreased likelihood of being hospitalized;

(2) an increased likelihood of healthy weight gain; and

(3) an increased likelihood of a more varied diet: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week beginning on March 16, 2025, as “National CACFP Week”; and

(2) recognizes the role of the Child and Adult Care Food Program in improving the health of the most vulnerable children and adults in child care centers, family day care homes, emergency shelters, adult day care facilities, and after-school care in the United States by providing nutritious meals and snacks.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1273. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. SCHATZ) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

SA 1274. Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. KIM, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. KELLY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. WARNER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1968, supra.

SA 1275. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1276. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1277. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Ms. ROSEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1278. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her

to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1279. Ms. ALSOBROOKS (for herself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1280. Ms. ALSOBROOKS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1281. Mr. WARNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1282. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1283. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1284. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1285. Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1286. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1966, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 620 East Pecan Boulevard in McAllen, Texas, as the “Agent Raul H. Gonzalez Jr. Memorial Post Office Building”; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1287. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1288. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1272 proposed by Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, and Mr. KAINE) to the bill H.R. 1968, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1273. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. SCHATZ) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 6, line 11, strike “and 639” and insert “639, and 640”.

On page 7, line 15, strike “and”.

On page 7, line 18, insert “, and except section 530” before the period at the end.

SA 1274. Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself, Mr. KIM, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. KELLY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. GALLEGO, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. WARNER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ REINSTATEMENT ELIGIBILITY FOR VETERAN FEDERAL EMPLOYEES; EXECUTIVE AGENCY REPORTS ON REMOVAL OF VETERANS.

(a) **ELIGIBILITY FOR REINSTATEMENT.**—Any individual who is a veteran and who was involuntarily removed or otherwise dismissed without cause from a position in the civil service during the period beginning on January 20, 2025, and ending on the date of the enactment of this Act shall be eligible for reinstatement to such position or any other position in the civil service for which the individual is qualified.

(b) **REPORTS REQUIRED.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days thereafter until January 20, 2029, the head of each Executive agency shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on former employees of such agency who are veterans and were removed or otherwise dismissed from the agency.

(2) **ELEMENTS.**—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) The total number of former employees of the agency who are veterans and were removed or otherwise dismissed from the agency during the period covered by the report.

(B) The reason for each such removal or dismissal.

(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate; and

(B) the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives.

(2) **CIVIL SERVICE.**—The term “civil service” has the meaning given that term in section 2101 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) **EXECUTIVE AGENCY.**—The term “Executive agency” has the meaning given that term in section 105 of title 5, United States Code.

(4) **VETERAN.**—The term “veteran” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

SA 1275. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ EXEMPTING SOCIAL SECURITY, MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM FROM THE JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY (DOGE) AND THE APPLICATION OF CERTAIN EXECUTIVE ORDERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—With respect to the agencies, personnel, systems, and benefits and programs described in subsection (b)—

(1) the U.S. DOGE Service Temporary Organization shall have no authority or jurisdiction; and

(2) the executive orders described in subsection (c) shall not apply.

(b) **COVERED AGENCIES, PERSONNEL, SYSTEMS, AND BENEFITS AND PROGRAMS.**—The agencies, personnel, systems, and benefits and programs described in this subsection are the following:

(1) **SOCIAL SECURITY.**—The Social Security Administration, any officer or employee of

the Social Security Administration, the data, information technology, and operating systems of the Social Security Administration, and any benefits or program administered by the Social Security Administration, including the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Disability Insurance programs and associated benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.).

(2) **MEDICARE, MEDICAID, AND CHIP.**—The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, any officer or employee of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, the data, information technology, and operating systems of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and any benefits or program administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, including the Medicare program, the Medicaid program, and the Children’s Health Insurance Program and associated benefits under titles XVIII, XIX, and XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq., 1396 et seq., 1397aa et seq.).

(c) **EXECUTIVE ORDERS.**—The executive orders described in this subsection are—

(1) Executive Orders 14158, 14210, 14219, and 14222 (90 Fed. Reg. 8441, 9669, 10583, 11095); and

(2) any other order relating to the U.S. DOGE Service Temporary Organization.

SA 1276. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS FOR EMPLOYEE TERMINATIONS, FUNDING CUTS, AND CONTRACT RESCISSIONS THAT WOULD IMPEDE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PACT ACT.

None of the funds made available under any provision of any division of this Act may be used for terminations of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, cuts to funding for the Department, or contract rescissions that would impede the implementation of the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-168) (commonly known as the “PACT Act”) or the amendments made by that Act.

SA 1277. Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Ms. ROSEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division A, insert the following:

SEC. ____ (a) No funds made available under this Act may be used for any removal, demotion, or suspension of a veteran, military spouse, caregiver, survivor, or member of a reserve component who is serving in a position in the civil service.

(b) In this section—

(1) the term “caregiver” means an adult family member or other individual who has a significant relationship with, and who provides a broad range of assistance to, a wounded, ill, injured, or disabled member of the armed forces or veteran or a dependent of such a member or veteran with a chronic or other health condition, disability, or functional limitation;

(2) the term “civil service” has the meaning given that term in section 2101 of title 5, United States Code;

(3) the term “demotion” means a reduction in grade (as defined in section 7511(a) of title 5, United States Code);

(4) the term “member of the armed forces” has the meaning given that term in 315.612(b)(4) of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor thereto;

(5) the term “military spouse” means—
(A) the husband or wife of a member of the armed forces;

(B) the husband or wife of a retired, totally disabled, or separated member of the armed forces; or

(C) the widow or widower of a member of the armed forces killed while performing active duty or who died from a service-connected injury or illness;

(6) the term “removal” means removing an individual from the civil service;

(7) the term “reserve component” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code;

(8) the term “suspension” means the placing an individual in a temporary status without duties and pay for a period of longer than 7 days;

(9) the term “survivor” means a family member of a member of the armed forces or veteran who died while on active duty or after military retirement or of a service-connected injury or illness; and

(10) the term “veteran” means a person who served on active duty as a member of the armed forces, regardless of length of service, and who was discharged or released therefrom, except that the term “veteran” does not include a person who—

(A) received a dishonorable discharge from the Armed Forces; or

(B) was discharged or dismissed from the Armed Forces by reason of the sentence of a general court-martial.

SA 1278. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XIII of division A, insert the following:

SEC. ____ No funds made available under this Act for the Federal Aviation Administration may be used to purchase equipment from, enter into agreement with, or otherwise contract with Starlink Services, LLC.

SA 1279. Ms. ALSOBROOKS (for herself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 29, line 24, strike “\$40,395,072,000” and insert “\$41,254,072,000”.

On page 30, beginning on line 5, strike “\$1,695,436,000” for” and all that follows through line 7 and insert the following “, and \$2,554,436,000” for “\$2,877,048,000”.

SA 1280. Ms. ALSOBROOKS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out any reduction in force pursuant to subchapter I of chapter 35 of title 5, United States Code, or section 3595 of that title, at any department or agency in the executive branch of the Federal Government unless that reduction in force has been provided for in this Act.

SA 1281. Mr. WARNER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PROHIBITION ON FUNDS FOR CERTAIN RELOCATIONS.

None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by an agency, as defined in section 902 of title 5, United States Code, to relocate the agency to a location outside of the National Capital Region, as defined in section 8702 of title 40, United States Code.

SA 1282. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PROHIBITING THE USE OF FUNDS TO TAKE ACTIONS THAT WEAKEN THE SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM.

No funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act or any other Federal law may be used to—

- (1) close, terminate the lease of, or reduce service levels at any office of the Social Security Administration; or
- (2) initiate any reduction in force procedures at the Social Security Administration.

SA 1283. Ms. CORTEZ MASTO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to remove any Federal employee who is a veteran.

SA 1284. Mrs. SHAHEEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division A, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PROHIBITION ON REDUCTION OF BOP RETENTION INCENTIVES.

The Director of the Bureau of Prisons may not modify the retention incentives made available to employees of the Bureau of Prisons, as in effect on March 13, 2025, until on or after the first day of fiscal year 2026.

SA 1285. Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 29, line 24, strike “\$40,395,072,000” and insert “\$41,576,684,000”.

On page 30, beginning on line 5, strike “, \$1,695,436,000” for” and all that follows through line 7 and insert a period.

SA 1286. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. KING, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 1986, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 620 East Pecan Boulevard in McAllen, Texas, as the “Agent Raul H. Gonzalez Jr. Memorial Post Office Building”; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS TO REDUCE THE WORKFORCE AT PUBLIC SHIPYARDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available under any provision of any division of this Act may be used to reduce the workforce at public shipyards, including probationary employees.

(b) EXEMPTION.—The workforce at public shipyards and any other positions at a public shipyard not specified in subsection (c) shall be exempt from any workforce reductions related to spending cuts, reprogramming of funds, or the probationary status of employees.

(c) WORKFORCE AT PUBLIC SHIPYARDS DEFINED.—In this section, the term “workforce at public shipyards” includes any of the following positions at a public shipyard:

- (1) Welders.
- (2) Pipefitters.
- (3) Shipfitters.
- (4) Radiological technicians and engineers.
- (5) Engineers and engineer technicians.
- (6) Apprentices.
- (7) Positions supporting a workforce development pipeline.
- (8) Positions supporting nuclear maintenance and refueling.
- (9) Mechanics.
- (10) Painters and blasters.
- (11) Positions supporting maintenance and operations of infrastructure.
- (12) Positions supporting implementation of the Shipyard Infrastructure Optimization Program.

SA 1287. Mr. BOOKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FUNDING.

The Secretary of Agriculture—

(1) shall, immediately after the enactment of this Act, unfreeze funding for and implement all contracts entered into by the Secretary prior to the date of enactment of this Act;

(2) shall, as rapidly as possible after the enactment of this Act, pay all past due

amounts owed by the Secretary under contracts described in paragraph (1);

(3) shall not cancel any signed contract with a farmer or an entity providing assistance to farmers, unless the farmer or entity has failed to comply with the terms and conditions of the contract; and

(4) shall not use any funds made available by this Act to close any Farm Service Agency county office or Natural Resources Conservation Service field office.

SA 1288. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1272 proposed by Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Ms. ALSOBROOKS, and Mr. KAINE) to the bill H.R. 1968, making further continuing appropriations and other extensions for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1, line 6, insert “to fund or otherwise pay for the waste, fraud, and abuse identified” after “used.”

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

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

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, March 14, 2025, at 10 a.m., to consider favorably reporting a nomination.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

The Committee on Finance is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Friday, March 14, 2025, at 10:30 a.m., to consider a nomination.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following resolutions, which are at the desk: S. Res. 129, S. Res. 130, S. Res. 131, and H. Con. Res. 17.

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

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to; the preambles, where applicable, be agreed to; and that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

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

The resolutions (S. Res. 129, S. Res. 130, and S. Res. 131) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.
(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)