



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

No. 157

House of Representatives

The House met at 9 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Merciful God, how hard it is in these days of contest and contention not to keep score. Both outside and inside these Chambers, we are hardwired to tally wins and losses, but while this may be the nature of things, forgive us when we gloat over our enemy's loss, when we find ourselves selfishly satisfied when our opponent stumbles.

All around us there are countless situations where we find ourselves so inclined—internationally, when a hegemonic power suffers not just the loss of a certain battlefield advantage, but the devastating attrition of its young men and women sacrificed on the front line. In war, O God, there is no rejoicing. We pray for peace on both sides of the conflict in Ukraine and reconciliation for all who have suffered so terribly and unnecessarily.

So too we pray for ourselves as the battle lines have been drawn between parties, and the debate rages on all sides. Remind us once more that to disparage our opponent is no less an act of hubris than it is to celebrate when our adversary stumbles. Call us to our better selves—with hearts and minds governed by the compassion You have shown us time and again.

May Your mercy be our battle standard and Your love the weapon of our choosing.

In the peace we find only in Your name, we pray.
Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House the approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CAREY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. CAREY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAREY). The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

REMEMBERING LINDA SHANER

(Mr. RUIZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and memorialize community leader and advocate Linda Dale Shaner.

Linda graduated from Imperial High School in 1964 and dedicated her life to improving the lives of others.

She committed her time and energy to improving the health and well-being of those in her community, especially those in the Imperial Valley.

Despite her own diagnosis, Linda showed her passion for fighting cancer through her advocacy and volunteer work with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network for over 20 years and through her incredible contributions to working on policies at the local, State, and Federal levels.

Linda is survived by her husband Steve, daughters Stephanie and Christina, and grandchildren Steve and Avery.

A family and community mourns the loss of a loved one, an advocate, and a friend.

Today, we recognize her and thank her.

NO BUDGET, NO PAY

(Mr. NICKEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NICKEL. Mr. Speaker, right now, we are on the path to a government shutdown caused by extremist Members who are unwilling to put politics aside, to do what is right for the country.

A government shutdown would be a disaster for North Carolina. It would leave 6,574 Federal workers in my district without a paycheck, it would jeopardize benefits for over 49,000 veterans in my district, and it would hurt our economy.

The last shutdown permanently cost our country \$3 billion. That was only a partial shutdown. We can't afford to do that again.

That is why I have introduced the No Budget, No Pay Act. This bill has a simple idea: Members of Congress shouldn't get paid if we don't do our jobs.

I am proud to say this bill now has bipartisan support in the House. I came to Congress to get things done, and I will continue to work in a bipartisan way to avoid a government shutdown and do what is right for North Carolina.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 4365, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H4567

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. DE LA CRUZ). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 723 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4365.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. CAREY) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 0906

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 4365) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, with Mr. CAREY in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees.

The gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 4365, the fiscal year 2024 Defense Appropriations bill, which is a result of months of hearings, briefings, and engagements by all members of the subcommittee.

To provide for our strong national defense, this bill recommends \$826.45 billion for the Department of Defense and the intelligence community, which is \$27.8 billion above the fiscal year 2023 enacted level.

When I became chairman of the subcommittee, I made it clear to the Department they would not receive any blank checks. Any requests that lacked adequate justification, was early to when the funds were needed, had unjustified cost growth, or did not directly support DOD's mission would not be funded in the bill.

It is our constitutional obligation of Congress and this committee in particular to ensure the proper and appropriate use of taxpayer funds. At a time when the Department of Defense leadership is more focused on cultural issues than its warfighting mission, this obligation is more critical than ever.

I am proud to say that, due to the hard work of the members of the subcommittee, the bill funds our defense needs in a fiscally responsible manner.

Specifically, this bill cuts nearly \$20 billion from the President's misguided

request and reinvests these funds into warfighting capabilities and additional support for our servicemembers.

I also approached crafting this bill with a comprehensive strategy focused on specific lines of effort: investing in America's military superiority to deter the People's Republic of China; combating illicit fentanyl and synthetic opioids which are killing over 100,000 Americans every year; shaping a more efficient and effective workforce; creating a culture of innovation; enhancing oversight of all programs to ensure the appropriate use of taxpayer dollars; and taking care of servicemembers and their families.

To counter China, this bill doubles funding for the International Security Cooperation Programs for Taiwan, provides an additional \$200 million to accelerate the delivery of the E-7, prohibits the decommissioning of four ships to grow the fleet, adds aircraft like the F-35 and the CH-53K, continues investments in next-generation platforms, and supports recapitalization of the nuclear triad.

To enhance DOD's efforts to counter the flow of deadly drugs into the country, the bill includes a historic investment of \$1.1 billion in drug interdiction and counterdrug activities account, including increased funding for counter-narcotics support, demand reduction, the National Guard Counterdrug Program, and the National Guard Counterdrug Schools. The bill also moves Mexico into the SOUTHCOM area of responsibility, which will foster a more holistic approach to Latin-American security issues.

To drive reforms to the Department's workforce, this bill cuts over \$1 billion from the budget request for the Department's civilian workforce. This bill accomplishes this goal through attrition while exempting employees engaged in shipyard, depot, healthcare, and sexual assault and response duties.

I want to be clear. No one will be fired as a result of this language. During our analysis of the budget request, the services and agencies across DOD reported attrition rates as high as 14 percent. This bill directs DOD to adopt smart business practices to become more effective and efficient, which is desperately needed.

The bill also mandates a reassessment of DOD's manpower requirements, a plan to adopt technology to improve its business processes and provides \$751 million for the Chief Data and Artificial Intelligence Office to further accelerate business modernization.

This multipronged approach is critical to create a physically sustainable and efficient workforce and is informed by previous Defense reform efforts.

Next, we are aware the Department must innovate faster to keep pace with global threats. To do this, the bill includes over \$1 billion to the Defense Innovation Unit to get needed capability into the hands of the warfighters. The bill focuses on near-term delivery of

capability and partnering with the private sector. We cannot continue to take decades to produce new systems or, even worse, invest billions into programs that must be eventually canceled due to nonperformance.

To bridge the valley of death, the bill includes \$300 million to expand the successful procurement pilot program, APFIT. Further, it creates a new portfolio to rapidly field commercial technologies for the warfighter through nontraditional entities within the Department.

To get the Department focused on its warfighting mission and away from culture wars, the bill includes a number of new general provisions to send a clear message to the Department. These include funding prohibitions on teaching critical race theory, facilitating access to abortions that attempt to ignore the long-standing Hyde amendment, overreach by the Biden administration on climate change, and promoting so-called diversity, equity, and inclusion programs.

The fact that the committee has to address these issues reflects the failure of the Department's leadership.

Finally, investments in weapons systems do not matter if we fail to invest in our most important resource, our servicemembers. With changes in this bill, junior enlisted servicemembers will receive an average pay increase of 30 percent. This will have a significant impact on recruitment, retention, and will improve the quality of life for our servicemembers and their families. I was shocked to see that the Biden administration opposed a pay increase in their Statement of Administration Policy.

As an appropriator, it is our responsibility to ensure our military has the resources necessary to deter conflict and, if we do get into a fight, that we win and they lose. This bill makes it clear to any adversary that challenging the United States military is not in their best interest.

Before I close, I will comment on the number of amendments we have received for this bill. I am supportive of this open, transparent, and inclusive process. However, we have to be mindful not to rob our readiness accounts to fund other priorities. I look forward to working with all Members on this as we move forward in the process.

Finally, I thank all the staff for the incredible work they do to vet the budget request, work with the Members, put forward recommendations, and assemble the final product.

As my ranking member and former chair, Ms. MCCOLLUM, knows, putting together this bill is not an easy task, so I thank her and her staff for their cooperation.

This is a strong bill for our servicemembers and their families.

I look forward to working with my friends on the other side of the aisle, the Senate, and the administration to enact a bill as soon as possible. Not doing so is a disservice to the men and

women of the United States Armed Forces.

I strongly urge support of this bill.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in opposition to H.R. 4365, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024.

As chair of the subcommittee last Congress, I understand fully the difficult process required to put this bill together. That is why I thank the minority staff here with me today, Jennifer Chartrand, Jason Gray, Farouk Ophaso, Ben Peterson, and Mike Clark in my personal office, and Johnnie Kaberle and the fabulous minority staff that gets to work with the great majority staff, who work so hard for all of us.

I wish the bill before us was more focused on our job as appropriators, on training and equipping our troops and ensuring that our servicemembers and their families have their needs met at home. That is why it is disappointing to see the majority use the appropriations process and the Defense bill to push an extreme social policy agenda.

The riders included in this bill divide. They do not unite. Here are just a few examples.

The bill prohibits the Department of Defense's policy to ensure that servicemembers and their families have access to leave and travel allowances for basic reproductive healthcare. The Department's policy is legal under Federal law. The Department of Justice has concluded that fact: "The Department of Defense may lawfully expend funds to pay for servicemembers and their dependents to travel to obtain abortions that DOD cannot itself perform due to statutory requirements."

Why is it important that the DOD itself cannot perform due to statutory requirements? Well, first, to be clear, I do not support the Hyde amendment, but let me address it and what this prohibition does even to services legal under the Hyde amendment. It prohibits the DOD from using funds or facilities to perform an abortion except in the cases of rape, incest, or when the life of the mother is in danger. That is not in keeping with the spirit of the Hyde amendment.

What does that mean to the nearly 20 percent of our force who are women? They do not get to choose where they serve. Eighty thousand of those women are stationed in States that restrict reproductive healthcare. If you serve in those States and are pregnant because of rape or are on a base that does not offer obstetrics and gynecology services, then you must travel. You must travel out of State for healthcare that you are entitled to.

This bill interprets the Hyde amendment in a way that was never intended. Many servicewomen and dependents will lose access to the exceptions of the Hyde amendment if they are not allowed to travel to seek the healthcare that they need.

This language, in fact, is a de facto national abortion ban, and I believe using our servicemembers to do that is shameful. Young women will refuse to serve. Women will exit the force because of this. Husbands and fathers will not want to serve in States where their families will be negatively impacted.

That is why I offered an amendment in the Committee on Rules to strike this provision, but the majority chose not to make it in order. I wish they had. I wish we all would have had the courage to bring this to the floor and allow a debate that our servicemembers deserve.

The majority has also cut programs for diversity, equity, and inclusion, which will discourage recruitment from all across America. The private sector is embracing programs like this to keep a happy, healthy, forceful workforce.

There is language in here that bans critical race theory, but it goes far beyond that, Mr. Chair. In fact, the bill seeks to define what can and cannot be taught in our military academies on whether or not certain topics cause discomfort. This language reads like a ban on teaching American history.

Sometimes facts are uncomfortable. As a former social studies teacher, I want you to know, Mr. Chair, I find this outrageous.

How can our military academies tell the history of the Civil War without teaching about slavery? That is uncomfortable.

How can they discuss the story and history of desegregation in the military without talking about the Jim Crow laws that our Black servicemembers had to struggle with when they returned home from war? That is uncomfortable.

We should be celebrating that the DOD is about to be led by two distinguished Black Americans for the first time in history, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs General C.Q. Brown, who is incoming to this position. Their service shows us how building a diverse workforce can take us into a proud future.

There are provisions in this bill that are offensive to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Americans, and that will impact who serves. The ban on gender-affirming care will drive transgender servicemembers out of the military.

Why, Mr. Chair, do we have an IRS provision on the tax treatment of individuals who hold the belief that marriage is a union between one man and one woman in this bill? It is not germane. Words matter.

Divisive riders will hurt the military, undermine readiness, and make our national security weaker. They must come out of this legislation if we are to gain bipartisan support for this to become law.

Now, turning to the numbers, the majority has funded this bill at \$826.4 billion, very close to the President's

budget, but I am concerned about cuts in two areas.

First, the majority has made a \$714 million cut to military climate programs and banned the assessment of climate impacts on the Department. We know that climate change is a national security threat, and it drives conflict. Ask our Indo-Pacific Commander. He will tell you that climate change impacts how United States forces operate.

Our military installations also face threats from climate change right here at home. Look at the \$10 billion in damage from severe weather events on installations, like Tyndall Air Force Base, Offutt Air Force Base in Nebraska, and Camp Lejeune in North Carolina. This spring alone, a typhoon seriously damaged Anderson Air Force Base in Guam to the tune of \$4 billion, and that is just the Air Force cost.

When we cut climate programs, we pay for it on the back end.

I also oppose the \$1.1 billion in cuts to civilian personnel in this bill. Ten years ago, Congress directed DOD to cut civilian personnel by \$10 billion over 5 years. We achieved no substantial savings. We shifted the workforce from civilian employees to expensive contractors.

Mr. Chair, I have a long history of bipartisan cooperation, and I am proud of that. I am confident that Chair CALVERT and I can find a way to get agreement in conference so that we can move the Defense spending levels forward, but I have to say again how disappointed I am that the majority has included these extreme social policy riders. They will undermine the force of today, discourage building the force of tomorrow, and leave us weaker as a nation.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill at this time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, let's be clear about what critical race theory is. It is a divisive, leftwing intellectual construct that advances the notion that racism is systematic in our country's institutions. It advocates for race-based solutions and rejects equal opportunity in favor of equal outcomes.

My friends on the other side like to deride the prohibition in our bill for funding activities that promote, in part, condoning an individual feeling discomfort, guilt, or anguish. They claim that the bill will prohibit teaching uncomfortable historical truths, but they always omit the last part of that statement, which is "on account of that individual's race or sex."

Do my friends on the other side really want to fund activities that debase individuals because of their race or sex? I don't think so. I reject it, and this bill rejects it.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the

ranking member of the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, which is so important to the defense of our Nation.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I rise to oppose this bill because it is incomprehensible to me that the majority would actually spend as much time—really, any time—on culture war riders and focusing on their extremist priorities as opposed to protecting the national security interests of our Nation.

Here we are, once again, considering a bill that has no chance of becoming law as we hurdle recklessly toward a costly government shutdown that will be damaging most importantly to the morale of our troops, which this bill purports to actually want to protect, and to the defense of our Nation.

Worse, this historically bipartisan national security bill has been hijacked by radical rightwing extremists. Instead of confronting grave national security threats like climate change, this bill is riddled with bigoted attacks on Americans who bravely serve our Nation. It needlessly politicizes the military and undermines the freedoms of those who risk their lives to protect ours.

My colleagues across the aisle were tasked with crafting a Defense bill that supports all of our servicemembers, not just those who are White, straight, and conservative, and they failed miserably on that mission.

I won't stand idly by as culture warriors try to undermine the service of LGBTQ+ individuals who bravely fought and continue to fight for our country every day.

To top it off, listen to this: The report that goes along with this bill puts the word "extremism" in quotes. Republicans can't even admit that this is a real concept or threat.

I plead with my Republican colleagues to put forward a Defense bill that focuses on the real needs of the members of our military, focuses on the actual national security interests of our country, and stops feeding the extremism that is actually emanating from their own party. I beg them to stop using this critical bill, one that we literally count on to keep every American family safe, as a disruptive wedge for partisan, discriminatory policies.

Keep America strong. Don't divide it.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Oklahoma (Mrs. BICE), a member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mrs. BICE. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of this year's Defense appropriations bill, and I thank Chairwoman GRANGER and Chairman CALVERT for their hard work in crafting this important bill.

Today, our Nation faces serious threats from our adversaries—in particular, the People's Republic of China. This legislation focuses on delivering the resources needed to counter these threats and to support our servicemembers and their families.

The bill includes one of the largest pay increases for our troops in years, particularly for our junior enlisted, as well as needed investments in next-generation fighter aircraft, submarines, and modernized tactical vehicles.

I am also pleased that the bill focuses on combating the illicit flow of opioids and fentanyl into the country, which is killing countless Americans on a daily basis.

The legislation takes needed steps to ensure that the DOD is focused on its core mission of being the most lethal and effective fighting force on the planet, not on advancing a woke agenda.

Lastly, I am pleased that the bill includes important Defense priorities in the State of Oklahoma, including funding to accelerate the E-7, which will be based at Tinker Air Force Base.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JACOBS), who is on the Committee on Foreign Affairs as well as a very important member of the Committee on Armed Services.

As many military leaders have told us, diplomacy, defense, and development go together. The more we don't spend in those venues, the more bullets we have to buy.

Ms. JACOBS. Mr. Chair, I rise today in a unique position to oppose this bill, especially section 8146.

I am proud to represent San Diego, the largest military community in the country. I am also proud to serve as one of the youngest Members of this body and the youngest woman on the House Committee on Armed Services.

I am in a unique position to understand the importance of access to reproductive healthcare, including abortion and fertility care for our servicemembers and their dependents, because, as a young woman, reproductive care is my healthcare. That is the case for the 1.62 million women of reproductive age in the military health system, too, not to mention our LGBTQ+ servicemembers, who already have difficulty accessing necessary care. This care is essential to our health, well-being, freedom, economic security, and empowerment, and for our national security, too.

That is why I am thankful for DOD's policy that covers the travel and transportation costs for abortion and fertility care, a policy that is consistent with the law. This is so important now that nearly half of all servicewomen are stationed in States with abortion restrictions because our servicemembers have little say in where they are stationed. They can't freely take days off work, and many can't afford to travel thousands of miles and pay out of pocket to receive the care they need and deserve.

DOD's policy took important steps to address those barriers and make our military more accessible and inclusive. That is why I will proudly fight for our servicemembers, who have fought so

much for all of us here today. The least we can do is ensure they have their necessary healthcare.

For this reason, at the appropriate time, I will offer a motion to recommit this bill back to committee.

If the House rules permitted, I would have offered the motion with an important amendment to this bill. My amendment would strike section 8146.

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD the text of my amendment.

Ms. JACOBS moves to recommit the bill H.R. 4365 to the Committee on Appropriations with the following amendment:

Strike section 8146.

Ms. JACOBS. Mr. Chair, I hope my colleagues will join me in voting for the motion to recommit.

Before I yield, I will also mention that while I am opposed to this bill in general, I am very proud of a bipartisan amendment that we were able to get into the en bloc that would set aside \$5 million in additional funding to recruit and retain direct-care staff in CDCs.

I have heard time and again that staffing shortages are the main driver of our military childcare crisis. In my community that has sacrificed and served so much for us, recently, more than 4,000 military children were waiting for childcare spots at San Diego's military childcare centers. This amendment will help military families access the care they need so they can focus on the mission instead of wondering where their kids are placed or taken care of.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. MIKE GARCIA), a member of the Committee on Appropriations and a champion for our members in the military.

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. Mr. Chair, I thank Chairman CALVERT for this historic bill, and I rise today in support of this very conservative DOD appropriations package.

I remind the American people that the purpose of the military is twofold. The first is to deter a war if diplomacy fails, to augment diplomacy in that deterrence. The second is, if by the exhaustion of all means we have to go to war, to actually give the American people the tools to win the war and keep our security. That is it, to deter a war and win a war.

This bill does exactly that. It trims the fat and removes the excess programs, the woke CRT programs, within the current policies under this administration. It also critically funds our Nation's most essential programs, like the F-35, the Columbia-class submarine, the B-21 Raider, which I am proud is made in my beautiful district, California's 27th Congressional District.

It removes Mexico from a command that is kind of an orphan right now by itself. During this open-border policy, we are now removing Mexico and putting it back into SOUTHCOM so that the combatant commanders can treat Mexico as the threat that it is to our

southern border and the influx of immigrants.

That is very important, but with all those things as important as they are—the weapons systems, the change of Mexico to SOUTHCOM—the single biggest thing that we are taking care of, the single biggest asset within our military that we are taking care of, is our troops.

I stood at this podium about 6 months ago and said I would not support a Defense Department spending bill or an NDAA that did not adequately address the pay issues, especially that our junior enlisted have right now. About a third of junior enlisted live below the poverty line. About a third of our enlisted qualify for food stamps right now.

I am very proud that our Committee on Appropriations' Subcommittee on Defense was able to reconcile and address this adequately. The starting pay of a junior enlisted E1 was \$22,000 a year.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from California.

Mr. MIKE GARCIA of California. The starting salary of an E1 in the military right now is \$22,000 a year. That is the equivalent of \$11 an hour.

This bill takes that to \$31,200, gives them parity with their civilian counterparts, and addresses the record-high civilian pay gap of our junior enlisted.

Mr. Chair, I urge support of the DOD appropriations package and a "yes" vote on the bill.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, everyone is welcome to serve in an All-Volunteer Army. We need everyone to feel that they are welcome to serve in our All-Volunteer Army, and that sometimes means doing a little extra outreach.

I had to do that with my military academies to let all the students know that this was a great opportunity for them to get a great education and serve our country.

It was outreach. It was inclusion. It reached out to diversity. It has made our military academies stronger for that.

The bottom line for me is, if you are willing to take the oath of office, if you are willing to put your life on the line for our country, and you can get through boot camp and want to serve our country, you are welcome to serve.

Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. CASE), who is a fabulous member of the Subcommittee on Defense and invaluable in helping us understand our challenges in the Indo-Pacific.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this measure, and I must say to my friend and the chair of the subcommittee and to my majority colleagues that it is deeply frustrating and deeply regretful to have to stand in opposition to a bill that, in so many ways, is a very good bill.

My colleague Mr. GARCÍA reflected in his comments just now on many provi-

sions of the bill with which I can agree. This bill does great things for the Indo-Pacific. It is eyes wide open to the threat of China. It funds the Pacific Deterrence Initiative. It provides for strengthening our relationships with allies and partners. It helps our servicemembers.

There is so much good in this bill, so what is so frustrating is to see it infected with the same kind of partisan provisions and divisive issues that, for a long time, have not been a part of the Subcommittee on Defense. This has been a refuge of sorts from the culture wars, from the division that we have seen elsewhere. It now no longer is, and this is the consequence.

The consequence is division in the Department of Defense and in our relations with and review of the Department of Defense, which should not be infected by these areas for a Department that is, again, very realistic about the threats we face.

My colleagues have talked about a lot of these issues already that create fatal flaws in this bill, but I am going to focus on one, and that is climate change. Oh, no. Let's not say those words, "climate change." Somehow, we are all supposed to react to this as if it is some kind of thing that we can put up on the shelf.

The Department of Defense does not ignore climate change. The Department of Defense has had its eyes wide open for decades now on the risks of climate change.

We can go back, for example, to January 2019, which is one of its most recent reports. This is a report from the DOD, "Report on Effects of a Changing Climate to the Department of Defense." Is that a better way to say it?

I quote from the executive summary: "The effects of a changing climate are a national security issue with potential impacts to the Department of Defense missions, operational plans, and installations. Our 2018 National Defense Strategy prioritizes long-term strategic competition with great power competitors. . . . To achieve these goals, DOD must be able to adapt current and future operations to address the impacts of a variety of threats and conditions, including those from weather and natural events. To that end, DOD factors in the effects of the environment into its mission planning and execution to build resilience."

That is pretty realistic on the part of the DOD. This is followed up by very definite reports, including the "Department of Defense Climate Adaptation Plan" from September 1, 2021; the "Climate Adaptation Plan 2022 Progress Report"; and the "Climate Risk Analysis," October 2021.

DOD is not ignoring this issue however you want to label it, nor can it. Shall we ignore the rise in sea level at Pearl Harbor, where we are investing billions and billions of dollars? Shall we ignore the consequences to Guam from hurricanes? Of course, we need to do this.

Let's get away from this approach of defunding climate risk analysis in the DOD.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, to my friend, we fund resilience in this bill. What we don't fund is electrifying Bradleys and tanks, which makes no sense.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I am prepared to close as we have no further speakers.

I say again how sad I am to be disappointed to see these divisive riders in the bill. They are all to gratify the extreme right of a few people in the Republican Party.

I also don't make a habit of complimenting the Senate, but we should take note that their appropriators are operating in a bipartisan fashion. Their Defense bill was passed out of committee 27-1 because it had no divisive language, and it made cooperation possible.

Go back and watch our markup of this Defense bill, and you just have to ask yourself: Are we doing our job as appropriators? We are not discussing our increasingly broken military healthcare system, which I have heard from military family and servicemembers, both here at home and when I have traveled abroad on bases; the lack of support for mental health; the lack of access, even here in the United States, to immediate healthcare concerns for themselves and their family members.

As I pointed out, we are solely now facing lack of obstetrics and gynecology on our military bases right here in the United States, making necessary the travel that the Department of Defense put in for women servicemembers and women family members to get their full healthcare needs.

We could be talking about the merits of supporting Ukraine and how the democracies are coming together to show Communism and terrorism that we stand united in our goals and principles; or we could be talking about how to jump-start shipbuilding to compete with what China is already doing in the Indo-Pacific, but we spent our markup arguing about extreme social policies that have no place in this bill.

Now we are running out of time with the shutdown fast approaching. Our servicemembers and their families have made a tremendous, considerable sacrifice to serve our Nation. The least we can do is give them a government that stays open and pays them on time.

Now, I know Chairwoman GRANGER and Chairman CALVERT and I believe that we can get this job done, but the majority must show that it can govern in a bipartisan fashion and work with us to get these bills done. That is what we have done plenty of times and what I am hopeful we will do in the future. For right now, I have to ask my colleagues to oppose this bill, and let's get the appropriations process back on a bipartisan track.

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

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments, and I know that eventually we will work out our differences, but, yes, I admit, this bill prohibits funding for drag queen story hour for kids and drag queens in recruitment. I had to choose between building ships or those kinds of decisions. I chose the ships.

With that, this debate going forward, I want to talk about the readiness of our military operations, building the necessary equipment to make sure that our men and women win any war that we may have to involve ourselves in. Hopefully none.

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

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to this Defense Appropriations Bill. This bill is historically an opportunity to come together on a bipartisan basis to make investments that further American leadership around the world, protect our national security, support American workers and servicemembers, and promote global democracy. I come from a defense state. I have always been proud that this bill creates jobs in Connecticut and boosts my district's long-term economy.

I have supported this critical legislation in the past. But I cannot support this bill, which harms our military readiness by undermining morale and failing to support our servicemembers with its divisive policy riders. Neither the Army, Navy nor the Air Force have been unable to meet their recruiting goals, and this bill will do nothing to rectify this situation—it will only make it harder to recruit and retain service members.

At a time when the Department of Defense is struggling to meet readiness goals, this bill cuts \$1.1 billion in salaries for civilian positions. Research, development, acquisition, and oversight efforts will all suffer from these drastic cuts. The work still needs to get done so the Department will have to hire contractors—which are more expensive and less bang for the buck.

And nearly three-quarters of a billion dollars cut from climate-related programs and a ban on the effort to reduce carbon pollution will tie our hands in the face of the national security risk that will define this century.

House Republicans are using annual funding bills as vehicles to further their goal of making abortion illegal nationally and spreading hate and discrimination. Republicans have once again discarded the majority of the American people's views and injected their own beliefs into the deeply personal health decisions of women and families. This bill bans funding for expenses incurred for the reproductive health care needs of servicemembers and their families.

When women consider serving in our nation's military, they should not have to weigh whether or not politicians in Washington, D.C. think they should have access to reproductive care. They should not worry that an unplanned pregnancy could disrupt their ability to serve or derail the plans they are making for their family. We should trust the American people to make these decisions for themselves—and we should especially trust those who have made the decision to selflessly serve in America's armed forces.

By using this legislation to attack LGBTQ+ servicemembers, ban funding for diversity efforts, and stand between American service personnel and their doctors, the majority is exchanging America's military readiness for cheap political points in the face of escalating conflicts abroad. The bill gives broad license to discriminate and protects disseminators of misinformation while limiting the free speech of those who express ideas the majority opposes.

This bill is dangerous, and this bill leaves women and minority servicemembers behind. Diversity of background and culture is and has long been the preeminent strength of our Nation's military. And it will continue to be. I urge my colleagues to oppose this bill.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 4365—the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024.

This offensive attempt at an appropriations bill is being used by Republicans to sneak partisan and damaging policies under our noses.

H.R. 4365, which should be earnestly attempting to best support the Department of Defense, however, does not reflect the input of nearly half the Members of this body and is strongly opposed by the ranking members who sit on the very committee this bill originated from.

In order to further promote a culture war, the members who oversaw this bill are going to put many Americans at risk.

First, they are targeting the many brave servicewomen currently employed by the Department of Defense by directly going against the Secretary of Defense's promises for them to have access to reproductive healthcare regardless of their station.

Women currently make up 1 in 5 members of our military.

Denying them their previously promised ability to check their reproductive health is not only dangerous, but also grossly irresponsible.

The loss of these rights also increases the risk for low retention amongst female servicemembers who need these benefits this bill would strip away.

Second, the bill targets the LGBTQ+ community, who are increasingly victimized by Republican agendas around the country.

Regardless of your beliefs, it is important to treat everyone with respect and equality, which this bill does not do.

This bill would prohibit hormone therapy or surgical treatment for gender affirming care, directly affecting those who experience gender dysphoria.

Individuals who feel they do not belong in their own body is a serious issue and has led to 1 in 5 transgender and nonbinary young people attempting suicide in the past year.

Our priority as the legislative body of this country is to protect the wellbeing of ALL citizens, regardless of personal beliefs and ideologies.

The language in this legislation would further embolden those who wish to commit harm and violence against a minority group already facing so much hardship, both socially and legally.

This is unacceptable.

The lives and wellbeing of those who live across the country should not be put at risk simply to push a regressive agenda that does not promote the diversity of our nation but rather seeks to suppress it.

This brings me to my third point, which is the underhanded way Republicans sought to eliminate "Critical Race Theory" or "CRT".

Let me be clear: Republicans have a warped understanding of what this term means, and they are using it as a means to remove any diversity in education.

Critical Race Theory is a collegiate field of study that examines the complex ways in which race fits into the structures of our society; it is not an attack on white people for their history, just as it does not victimize Black people based on ours.

Based on an incorrect definition, Republican leaders at all levels of government have worked to eliminate all diverse viewpoints providing a complete framework of the history of this country, and instead wash over the negative to present a false narrative.

At the same time, legislation aimed at elementary schools against Critical Race Theory—which again, is only offered at the collegiate level—deprives diverse students of hearing their voice reflected accurately in the history of this multicultural nation.

Another issue with this Defense Appropriations bill is the cut of \$714 million to adapt military equipment to be more climate friendly.

Climate change is a crisis that requires global attention and efforts.

The refusal to even allow for updating our military alternative source of energy is regressive and promoted under a false message.

It was not Biden who indicated that he wanted an "all electric" fleet of tanks as is commonly stated, but rather the United States Army.

This part of the bill stands directly in the way of innovation as well as keeping us from doing our part in the world to strive towards a net zero future.

In 2020 alone, the United States military was responsible for 51 million tons of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere; more than most countries.

But now, when the U.S. Army decides for themselves that they want to scale back on their emissions, certain members in Congress want to limit their choice.

One bright spot of this bill—though it is short-lived—is the Jackson Lee Amendment [No. 90/No. 233] to H.R. 4365 that was made in order by the committee.

The Jackson Lee Amendment [No. 90/No. 233] to H.R. 4365 seeks to allocate \$10 million to fund triple negative breast cancer research.

This issue is extremely important, especially for the brave men and women in the military, who are up to 20–40 percent more likely to develop breast cancer.

I must offer my appreciation to both the military and the Biden administration for making research into breast cancer a priority, but there is still work to be done.

This amendment would allow for more research so we can one day hopefully learn a way to reduce the number of military personnel affected by breast cancer.

Several initiatives I have designed in the past have aided active-duty servicemen and women along with veterans, such as enforcing accurate reporting of maternity mortality rates among the Armed Forces, addressing physical and mental health concerns, and securing authorization for Triple Negative Breast Cancer as well as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

I am very proud of the work that I and Congress have done to address the health concerns of active duty and veteran servicemen

and women, but there are still improvements to be made.

The men and women who are on the front lines or have already completed their valiant service to this country have many pressing issues and challenges they already must face; breast cancer should not be one of them.

While this amendment is important, the negatives of this defense appropriations bill vastly outweigh this positive amendment—which is why H.R. 4365 must be voted down.

Access to abortion and fertility care is essential to a person's freedom, including for service members, to make decisions about their health and well-being, and having control over their economic security.

Anti-abortion policymakers want to take away service members' ability to make personal decisions about their health and safety.

We must defend their freedom to control their own bodies, lives, and futures.

These attacks on the Department of Defense's policies make it crystal clear: anti-abortion lawmakers will take any action to ensure people cannot access abortion care.

Anti-abortion lawmakers are pushing an extreme agenda to take away service members' freedom and autonomy, all while trying to claim they support those who serve.

Our service members fight and sacrifice for our freedoms.

Now, as lawmakers, we should be working to ensure to protect their freedoms—not trying to take their rights away.

Access to reproductive health care, including abortion and fertility care, is critical to safety and well-being.

As policymakers, we must ensure that all service members can access abortion care without barriers.

We aren't truly free unless we can control our own bodies, lives, and futures.

Our laws and policies should protect our rights, not try to control and dehumanize us.

The numbers are clear in the devastating impact this measure would have on those serving America.

The Military Health System serves approximately 1.62 million women of reproductive age (15–45), including service members, retirees, and their dependents.

As of 2021, there were 116,970 U.S. Armed Forces personnel stationed in Texas, the third most of any state in the Nation.

With Texas being the home to 59 military bases, active military personnel make up 422 out of every 100,000 people among Texas residents—the 16th highest share concentration among the 50 states.

There are currently 2,369,990 Military Health System beneficiaries living in one of the 14 states where abortion is either wholly or almost fully restricted or unavailable—with the state of Texas sadly being one of those states.

The percentage of active-duty service women who have no or severely restricted access to abortion care has increased to 46 percent.

This means that roughly half of all women currently serving in America's active-duty military have restricted access to the full suite of reproductive health care.

As of 2021, there were more than 708,000 Department of Defense civilians in the continental United States, over 250,000 of whom are women.

Roughly 275,000 Department of Defense civilians live in states with a full ban or extreme

restrictions on access to abortion, and of those civilians, over 81,000 are women.

Similar to their active-duty counterparts, nearly 43 percent of civilian women employed by Department of Defense will have no access to abortion or will have their access severely curtailed in their home states.

An estimated several thousand transgender men who may require abortion care also serve on active duty in the Armed Forces and in the reserve components, in addition to nonbinary members and those who identify with a different gender.

We cannot continue to deny our service members their most basic and fundamental healthcare needs.

It must stop now, and it must stop with the voting down of this severely harmful and outrageous bill.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. WEBER of Texas). All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read.

H.R. 4365

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 fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, for military functions administered by the Department of Defense and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

MILITARY PERSONNEL

MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Army on active duty (except members of reserve components provided for elsewhere), cadets, and aviation cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$50,230,906,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Navy on active duty (except members of the Reserve provided for elsewhere), midshipmen, and aviation cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$37,615,388,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Marine Corps on active duty (except members of the Reserve provided for elsewhere); and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of

Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$15,556,629,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Air Force on active duty (except members of reserve components provided for elsewhere), cadets, and aviation cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$36,512,530,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, SPACE FORCE

For pay, allowances, individual clothing, subsistence, interest on deposits, gratuities, permanent change of station travel (including all expenses thereof for organizational movements), and expenses of temporary duty travel between permanent duty stations, for members of the Space Force on active duty and cadets; for members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps; and for payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97–377, as amended (42 U.S.C. 402 note), and to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$1,239,573,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Army Reserve on active duty under sections 10211, 10302, and 7038 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$5,367,436,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Navy Reserve on active duty under section 10211 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$2,486,718,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Marine Corps Reserve on active duty under section 10211 of title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty, and for members of the Marine Corps platoon leaders class, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$898,928,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Air Force Reserve on active duty under sections 10211, 10305, and 9038 of

title 10, United States Code, or while serving on active duty under section 12301(d) of title 10, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing reserve training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$2,459,466,000.

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Army National Guard while on duty under sections 10211, 10302, or 12402 of title 10 or section 708 of title 32, United States Code, or while serving on duty under section 12301(d) of title 10 or section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$9,766,369,000.

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For pay, allowances, clothing, subsistence, gratuities, travel, and related expenses for personnel of the Air National Guard on duty under sections 10211, 10305, or 12402 of title 10 or section 708 of title 32, United States Code, or while serving on duty under section 12301(d) of title 10 or section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, in connection with performing duty specified in section 12310(a) of title 10, United States Code, or while undergoing training, or while performing drills or equivalent duty or other duty, and expenses authorized by section 16131 of title 10, United States Code; and for payments to the Department of Defense Military Retirement Fund, \$5,234,625,000.

TITLE II

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Army, as authorized by law, \$60,525,399,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$12,478,000 may be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended upon the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Army, and payments may be made upon the Secretary's certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Navy and the Marine Corps, as authorized by law, \$73,547,305,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$15,055,000 may be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended upon the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Navy, and payments may be made upon the Secretary's certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Marine Corps, as authorized by law, \$10,909,609,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Air Force, as authorized by law, \$63,460,822,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$7,699,000 may be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended upon the approval or authority of the Secretary of the Air Force, and payments may be made upon the Secretary's certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, SPACE FORCE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Space Force, as authorized by law, \$4,890,886,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance of activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), as authorized by law, \$52,453,715,000: *Provided*, That not more than \$2,981,000 may be used for the Combatant Commander Initiative Fund authorized under section 166a of title 10, United States Code: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$36,000,000 may be used for emergencies and extraordinary expenses, to be expended upon the approval or authority of the Secretary of Defense, and payments may be made upon the Secretary's certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, not less than \$55,000,000 shall be made available for the Procurement Technical Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program, of which not less than \$5,000,000 shall be available for centers defined in 10 U.S.C. 2411(1)(D): *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to plan or implement the consolidation of a budget or appropriations liaison office of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the office of the Secretary of a military department, or the service headquarters of one of the Armed Forces into a legislative affairs or legislative liaison office: *Provided further*, That \$25,968,000 to remain available until expended, is available only for expenses relating to certain classified activities, and may be transferred as necessary by the Secretary of Defense to operation and maintenance appropriations or research, development, test and evaluation appropriations, to be merged with and to be available for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That any ceiling on the investment item unit cost of items that may be purchased with operation and maintenance funds shall not apply to the funds described in the preceding proviso: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading, \$2,304,649,000, of which \$1,343,580,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be available to provide support and assistance to foreign security forces or other groups or individuals to conduct, support or facilitate counterterrorism, crisis response, or other Department of Defense security cooperation programs: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the use and status of funds made available in this paragraph: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

COUNTER-ISIS TRAIN AND EQUIP FUND

For the "Counter-Islamic State of Iraq and Syria Train and Equip Fund", \$397,950,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense in coordination with the Secretary of State, to provide assistance, including training; equipment; logistics support, supplies, and services; stipends; infrastructure repair and renovation; construction for facility fortification and humane treatment; and sustenance, to foreign security forces, irregular forces, groups, or individuals participating, or preparing to participate in activities to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, and their af-

filiated or associated groups: *Provided further*, That amounts made available under this heading shall be available to provide assistance only for activities in a country designated by the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Secretary of State, as having a security mission to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, and following written notification to the congressional defense committees of such designation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall ensure that prior to providing assistance to elements of any forces or individuals, such elements or individuals are appropriately vetted, including at a minimum, assessing such elements for associations with terrorist groups or groups associated with the Government of Iran; and receiving commitments from such elements to promote respect for human rights and the rule of law: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 15 days prior to obligating from this appropriation account, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such obligation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may accept and retain contributions, including assistance in-kind, from foreign governments, including the Government of Iraq and other entities, to carry out assistance authorized under this heading: *Provided further*, That contributions of funds for the purposes provided herein from any foreign government or other entity may be credited to this Fund, to remain available until expended, and used for such purposes: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall prioritize such contributions when providing any assistance for construction for facility fortification: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive a provision of law relating to the acquisition of items and support services or sections 40 and 40A of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2780 and 2785) if the Secretary determines that such provision of law would prohibit, restrict, delay or otherwise limit the provision of such assistance and a notice of and justification for such waiver is submitted to the congressional defense committees, the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committees on Appropriations and Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives: *Provided further*, That the United States may accept equipment procured using funds provided under this heading that was transferred to security forces, irregular forces, or groups participating, or preparing to participate in activities to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria and returned by such forces or groups to the United States, and such equipment may be treated as stocks of the Department of Defense upon written notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That equipment procured using funds provided under this heading and not yet transferred to security forces, irregular forces, or groups participating, or preparing to participate in activities to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria may be treated as stocks of the Department of Defense when determined by the Secretary to no longer be required for transfer to such forces or groups and upon written notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on the use of funds provided under this heading, including, but not limited to, the number of individuals trained, the nature and scope of support and sustenance provided to each group or individual, the area of operations for each group, and the contributions of other countries, groups, or individuals: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading for stipends for foreign security forces, irregular forces, groups,

or individuals participating, or preparing to participate in activities to counter ISIS in Syria, fifty percent shall not be available for obligation or expenditure until the Secretary of Defense reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that measures are in place to ensure accountability of such funds.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY
RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Army Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, \$3,559,248,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Navy Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, \$1,366,710,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS
RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Marine Corps Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, \$323,395,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE
RESERVE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the operation and maintenance, including training, organization, and administration, of the Air Force Reserve; repair of facilities and equipment; hire of passenger motor vehicles; travel and transportation; care of the dead; recruiting; procurement of services, supplies, and equipment; and communications, \$4,056,196,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY
NATIONAL GUARD

For expenses of training, organizing, and administering the Army National Guard, including medical and hospital treatment and related expenses in non-Federal hospitals; maintenance, operation, and repairs to structures and facilities; hire of passenger motor vehicles; personnel services in the National Guard Bureau; travel expenses (other than mileage), as authorized by law for Army personnel on active duty, for Army National Guard division, regimental, and battalion commanders while inspecting units in compliance with National Guard Bureau regulations when specifically authorized by the Chief, National Guard Bureau; supplying and equipping the Army National Guard as authorized by law; and expenses of repair, modification, maintenance, and issue of supplies and equipment (including aircraft), \$8,612,404,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL
GUARD

For expenses of training, organizing, and administering the Air National Guard, including medical and hospital treatment and related expenses in non-Federal hospitals; maintenance, operation, and repairs to structures and facilities; transportation of things, hire of passenger motor vehicles; supplying and equipping the Air National Guard, as authorized by law; expenses for repair, modification, maintenance, and issue of

supplies and equipment, including those furnished from stocks under the control of agencies of the Department of Defense; travel expenses (other than mileage) on the same basis as authorized by law for Air National Guard personnel on active Federal duty, for Air National Guard commanders while inspecting units in compliance with National Guard Bureau regulations when specifically authorized by the Chief, National Guard Bureau, \$7,250,745,000.

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE
ARMED FORCES

For salaries and expenses necessary for the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces, \$16,620,000, of which not to exceed \$10,000 may be used for official representation purposes.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, ARMY
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Army, \$198,760,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Army shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of the Army, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Army, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, NAVY
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Navy, \$345,240,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Navy shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of the Navy, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Navy, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, AIR FORCE
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Air Force, \$359,744,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Air Force shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of the Air Force, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Air Force, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the

appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, DEFENSE-WIDE
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of Defense, \$8,965,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris of the Department of Defense, or for similar purposes, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of Defense, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION, FORMERLY
USED DEFENSE SITES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Department of the Army, \$232,806,000, to remain available until transferred: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Army shall, upon determining that such funds are required for environmental restoration, reduction and recycling of hazardous waste, removal of unsafe buildings and debris at sites formerly used by the Department of Defense, transfer the funds made available by this appropriation to other appropriations made available to the Department of the Army, to be merged with and to be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority provided elsewhere in this Act.

OVERSEAS HUMANITARIAN, DISASTER, AND
CIVIC AID

For expenses relating to the Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid programs of the Department of Defense (consisting of the programs provided under sections 401, 402, 404, 407, 2557, and 2561 of title 10, United States Code), \$142,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

COOPERATIVE THREAT REDUCTION ACCOUNT

For assistance, including assistance provided by contract or by grants, under programs and activities of the Department of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Program authorized under the Department of Defense Cooperative Threat Reduction Act, \$350,999,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ACQUISITION
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

For the Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account, \$54,977,000:

Provided, That no other amounts may be otherwise credited or transferred to the Account, or deposited into the Account, in fiscal year 2024 pursuant to section 1705(d) of title 10, United States Code.

TITLE III PROCUREMENT

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of aircraft, equipment, including ordnance, ground handling equipment, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$3,030,767,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of missiles, equipment, including ordnance, ground handling equipment, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$4,483,806,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of weapons and tracked combat vehicles, equipment, including ordnance, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$3,943,584,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of ammunition, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including ammunition facilities, authorized by section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, and the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$2,971,928,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of vehicles, including

tactical, support, and non-tracked combat vehicles; the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; communications and electronic equipment; other support equipment; spare parts, ordnance, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$8,679,516,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of aircraft, equipment, including ordnance, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$17,450,040,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For construction, procurement, production, modification, and modernization of missiles, torpedoes, other weapons, and related support equipment including spare parts, and accessories therefor; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$5,826,997,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of ammunition, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including ammunition facilities, authorized by section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, and the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$1,238,558,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

SHIPBUILDING AND CONVERSION, NAVY

For expenses necessary for the construction, acquisition, or conversion of vessels as authorized by law, including armor and armament thereof, plant equipment, appliances, and machine tools and installation thereof in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; procurement of critical, long lead time components and designs for vessels to be constructed or converted in the future; and expansion of public and private plants, including land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title, as follows:

Columbia Class Submarine, \$2,443,598,000;
Columbia Class Submarine (AP), \$3,390,734,000;
Carrier Replacement Program (CVN-80), \$1,104,421,000;
Carrier Replacement Program (CVN-81), \$800,492,000;
Virginia Class Submarine, \$7,129,965,000;
Virginia Class Submarine (AP), \$3,215,539,000;
CVN Refueling Overhauls (AP), \$802,988,000;
DDG-1000 Program, \$318,655,000;
DDG-51 Destroyer, \$4,199,179,000;
DDG-51 Destroyer (AP), \$284,035,000;
FFG-Frigate, \$2,133,861,000;
LHA Replacement, \$1,830,149,000;
AS Submarine Tender, \$1,544,595,000;
TAO Fleet Oiler, \$815,420,000;
LCU 1700, \$62,532,000;
Ship to Shore Connector, \$400,000,000;
Service Craft, \$85,115,000;
LCAC SLEP, \$15,286,000;
Auxiliary Vessels, \$142,008,000;
For outfitting, post delivery, conversions, and first destination transportation, \$539,681,000; and
Completion of Prior Year Shipbuilding Programs, \$1,648,559,000.

In all: \$32,906,812,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2028: *Provided*, That additional obligations may be incurred after September 30, 2028, for engineering services, tests, evaluations, and other such budgeted work that must be performed in the final stage of ship construction: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading for the construction or conversion of any naval vessel to be constructed in shipyards in the United States shall be expended in foreign facilities for the construction of major components of such vessel: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided under this heading shall be used for the construction of any naval vessel in foreign shipyards: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for Columbia Class Submarine (AP) may be available for the purposes authorized by subsections (f), (g), (h) or (i) of section 2218a of title 10, United States Code, only in accordance with the provisions of the applicable subsection.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For procurement, production, and modernization of support equipment and materials not otherwise provided for, Navy ordnance (except ordnance for new aircraft, new ships, and ships authorized for conversion); the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; expansion of public and private plants, including the land necessary therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$13,675,677,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That such funds are also available for the maintenance, repair, and modernization of ships under a pilot program established for such purposes.

PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

For expenses necessary for the procurement, manufacture, and modification of missiles, armament, military equipment, spare parts, and accessories therefor; plant equipment, appliances, and machine tools, and installation thereof in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; vehicles for the Marine Corps, including the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; and expansion of public and private plants, including land necessary

therefor, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title, \$3,775,224,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, and modification of aircraft and equipment, including armor and armament, specialized ground handling equipment, and training devices, spare parts, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment; expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes including rents and transportation of things, \$20,196,409,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, and modification of missiles, rockets, and related equipment, including spare parts and accessories therefor; ground handling equipment, and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes including rents and transportation of things, \$4,401,753,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE

For construction, procurement, production, and modification of ammunition, and accessories therefor; specialized equipment and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, including ammunition facilities, authorized by section 2854 of title 10, United States Code, and the land necessary therefor, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; and procurement and installation of equipment, appliances, and machine tools in public and private plants; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes, \$642,448,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For procurement and modification of equipment (including ground guidance and electronic control equipment, and ground electronic and communication equipment), and supplies, materials, and spare parts therefor, not otherwise provided for; the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; lease of passenger motor vehicles; and expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon, prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$29,819,938,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

PROCUREMENT, SPACE FORCE

For construction, procurement, and modification of spacecraft, rockets, and related

equipment, including spare parts and accessories therefor; ground handling equipment, and training devices; expansion of public and private plants, Government-owned equipment and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land, for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway; and other expenses necessary for the foregoing purposes including rents and transportation of things, \$4,109,201,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For expenses of activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments) necessary for procurement, production, and modification of equipment, supplies, materials, and spare parts therefor, not otherwise provided for; the purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only; expansion of public and private plants, equipment, and installation thereof in such plants, erection of structures, and acquisition of land for the foregoing purposes, and such lands and interests therein, may be acquired, and construction prosecuted thereon prior to approval of title; reserve plant and Government and contractor-owned equipment layaway, \$6,289,820,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026.

DEFENSE PRODUCTION ACT PURCHASES

For activities by the Department of Defense pursuant to sections 108, 301, 302, and 303 of the Defense Production Act of 1950 (50 U.S.C. 4518, 4531, 4532, and 4533), \$618,605,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026, which shall be obligated and expended by the Secretary of Defense as if delegated the necessary authorities conferred by the Defense Production Act of 1950.

NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE EQUIPMENT ACCOUNT

For procurement of rotary-wing aircraft; combat, tactical and support vehicles; other weapons; and other procurement items for the reserve components of the Armed Forces, \$1,000,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That the Chiefs of National Guard and Reserve components shall, not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, individually submit to the congressional defense committees the modernization priority assessment for their respective National Guard or Reserve component: *Provided further*, That none of the funds made available by this paragraph may be used to procure manned fixed wing aircraft, or procure or modify missiles, munitions, or ammunition.

TITLE IV

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, ARMY

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, \$16,758,462,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, NAVY

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, \$27,690,777,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That funds appropriated in

this paragraph which are available for the V-22 may be used to meet unique operational requirements of the Special Operations Forces.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, AIR FORCE

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, \$46,479,858,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, SPACE FORCE

For expenses necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation, including maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, \$18,839,144,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE-WIDE

For expenses of activities and agencies of the Department of Defense (other than the military departments), necessary for basic and applied scientific research, development, test and evaluation; advanced research projects as may be designated and determined by the Secretary of Defense, pursuant to law; maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment, \$36,782,566,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025.

OPERATIONAL TEST AND EVALUATION, DEFENSE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the independent activities of the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, in the direction and supervision of operational test and evaluation, including initial operational test and evaluation which is conducted prior to, and in support of, production decisions; joint operational testing and evaluation; and administrative expenses in connection therewith, \$285,444,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025.

TITLE V

REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

For the Defense Working Capital Funds, \$1,666,779,000.

NATIONAL DEFENSE STOCKPILE TRANSACTION FUND

For the National Defense Stockpile Transaction Fund, \$7,629,000, for activities pursuant to the Strategic and Critical Materials Stock Piling Act (50 U.S.C. 98 et seq.).

TITLE VI

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, for medical and health care programs of the Department of Defense as authorized by law, \$39,365,472,000; of which \$36,826,743,000 shall be for operation and maintenance, of which not to exceed one percent shall remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025, and of which up to \$19,762,352,000 may be available for contracts entered into under the TRICARE program; of which \$381,881,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026, shall be for procurement; and of which \$2,156,848,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2025, shall be for research, development, test and evaluation: *Provided*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the amount made available under this heading for research, development, test and evaluation, not less than \$12,000,000 shall be available for HIV prevention educational activities undertaken in

connection with United States military training, exercises, and humanitarian assistance activities conducted primarily in African nations: *Provided further*, That of the funds provided under this heading for research, development, test and evaluation, not less than \$1,154,000,000 shall be made available to the Defense Health Agency to carry out the congressionally directed medical research programs: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees quarterly reports on the current status of the electronic health record program: *Provided further*, That the Comptroller General of the United States shall perform quarterly performance reviews of the electronic health record program.

CHEMICAL AGENTS AND MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION, DEFENSE

For expenses, not otherwise provided for, necessary for the destruction of the United States stockpile of lethal chemical agents and munitions in accordance with the provisions of section 1412 of the Department of Defense Authorization Act, 1986 (50 U.S.C. 1521), and for the destruction of other chemical warfare materials that are not in the chemical weapon stockpile, \$1,091,844,000, of which \$89,284,000 shall be for operation and maintenance, of which no less than \$57,875,000 shall be for the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program, consisting of \$23,676,000 for activities on military installations and \$34,199,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, to assist State and local governments; and \$1,002,560,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be for research, development, test and evaluation, of which \$1,000,467,000 shall only be for the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives program.

DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For drug interdiction and counter-drug activities of the Department of Defense, for transfer to appropriations available to the Department of Defense for military personnel of the reserve components serving under the provisions of title 10 and title 32, United States Code; for operation and maintenance; for procurement; and for research, development, test and evaluation, \$1,162,161,000, of which \$693,848,000 shall be for counter-narcotics support; \$138,313,000 shall be for the drug demand reduction program; \$300,000,000 shall be for the National Guard counter-drug program; and \$30,000,000 shall be for the National Guard counter-drug schools program: *Provided*, That the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for obligation for the same time period and for the same purpose as the appropriation to which transferred: *Provided further*, That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the transfer authority provided under this heading is in addition to any other transfer authority contained elsewhere in this Act: *Provided further*, That funds appropriated under this heading may be used to support a new start program or project only after written prior notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For expenses and activities of the Office of the Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$506,629,000, of which \$502,131,000 shall be for operation and maintenance, of which not to exceed \$700,000 is

available for emergencies and extraordinary expenses to be expended upon the approval or authority of the Inspector General, and payments may be made upon the Inspector General's certificate of necessity for confidential military purposes; of which \$1,098,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2026, shall be for procurement; and of which \$3,400,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be for research, development, test and evaluation.

TITLE VII RELATED AGENCIES

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY RETIREMENT AND DISABILITY SYSTEM FUND

For payment to the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System Fund, to maintain the proper funding level for continuing the operation of the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, \$514,000,000.

INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT ACCOUNT

For necessary expenses of the Intelligence Community Management Account, \$608,820,000.

TITLE VIII GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 8001. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be used for publicity or propaganda purposes not authorized by the Congress.

SEC. 8002. During the current fiscal year, provisions of law prohibiting the payment of compensation to, or employment of, any person not a citizen of the United States shall not apply to personnel of the Department of Defense: *Provided*, That salary increases granted to direct and indirect hire foreign national employees of the Department of Defense funded by this Act shall not be at a rate in excess of the percentage increase authorized by law for civilian employees of the Department of Defense whose pay is computed under the provisions of section 5332 of title 5, United States Code, or at a rate in excess of the percentage increase provided by the appropriate host nation to its own employees, whichever is higher: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to Department of Defense foreign service national employees serving at United States diplomatic missions whose pay is set by the Department of State under the Foreign Service Act of 1980: *Provided further*, That the limitations of this provision shall not apply to foreign national employees of the Department of Defense in the Republic of Turkey.

SEC. 8003. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 8004. No more than 20 percent of the appropriations in this Act which are limited for obligation during the current fiscal year shall be obligated during the last 2 months of the fiscal year: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to obligations for support of active duty training of reserve components or summer camp training of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8005. Upon determination by the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary in the national interest, the Secretary may, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer not to exceed \$6,000,000,000 of working capital funds of the Department of Defense or funds made available in this Act to the Department of Defense for military functions (except military construction) between such appropriations or funds or any subdivision thereof, to be merged with and to be available for the

same purposes, and for the same time period, as the appropriation or fund to which transferred: *Provided*, That such authority to transfer may not be used unless for higher priority items, based on unforeseen military requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which funds are requested has been denied by the Congress: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall notify the Congress promptly of all transfers made pursuant to this authority or any other authority in this Act: *Provided further*, That no part of the funds in this Act shall be available to prepare or present a request to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for reprogramming of funds, unless for higher priority items, based on unforeseen military requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which reprogramming is requested has been denied by the Congress: *Provided further*, That a request for multiple reprogrammings of funds using authority provided in this section shall be made prior to June 30, 2024: *Provided further*, That transfers among military personnel appropriations shall not be taken into account for purposes of the limitation on the amount of funds that may be transferred under this section.

SEC. 8006. (a) With regard to the list of specific programs, projects, and activities (and the dollar amounts and adjustments to budget activities corresponding to such programs, projects, and activities) contained in the tables titled Explanation of Project Level Adjustments in the explanatory statement regarding this Act and the tables contained in the classified annex accompanying this Act, the obligation and expenditure of amounts appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act for those programs, projects, and activities are hereby required by law to be carried out in the manner provided by such tables to the same extent as if the tables were included in the text of this Act.

(b) Amounts specified in the referenced tables described in subsection (a) shall not be treated as subdivisions of appropriations for purposes of section 8005 of this Act: *Provided*, That section 8005 shall apply when transfers of the amounts described in subsection (a) occur between appropriation accounts.

SEC. 8007. (a) Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Department of Defense shall submit a report to the congressional defense committees to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for fiscal year 2024: *Provided*, That the report shall include—

(1) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level;

(2) a delineation in the table for each appropriation both by budget activity and program, project, and activity as detailed in the Budget Appendix; and

(3) an identification of items of special congressional interest.

(b) Notwithstanding section 8005 of this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for reprogramming or transfer until the report identified in subsection (a) is submitted to the congressional defense committees, unless the Secretary of Defense certifies in writing to the congressional defense committees that such reprogramming or transfer is necessary as an emergency requirement: *Provided*, That this subsection shall not apply to transfers from the following appropriations accounts:

(1) "Environmental Restoration, Army";

- (2) "Environmental Restoration, Navy";
- (3) "Environmental Restoration, Air Force";
- (4) "Environmental Restoration, Defense-Wide";
- (5) "Environmental Restoration, Formerly Used Defense Sites"; and
- (6) "Drug Interdiction and Counter-drug Activities, Defense".

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8008. During the current fiscal year, cash balances in working capital funds of the Department of Defense established pursuant to section 2208 of title 10, United States Code, may be maintained in only such amounts as are necessary at any time for cash disbursements to be made from such funds: *Provided*, That transfers may be made between such funds: *Provided further*, That transfers may be made between working capital funds and the "Foreign Currency Fluctuations, Defense" appropriation and the "Operation and Maintenance" appropriation accounts in such amounts as may be determined by the Secretary of Defense, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, except that such transfers may not be made unless the Secretary of Defense has notified the Congress of the proposed transfer: *Provided further*, That except in amounts equal to the amounts appropriated to working capital funds in this Act, no obligations may be made against a working capital fund to procure or increase the value of war reserve material inventory, unless the Secretary of Defense has notified the Congress prior to any such obligation.

SEC. 8009. Funds appropriated by this Act may not be used to initiate a special access program without prior notification 30 calendar days in advance to the congressional defense committees.

SEC. 8010. None of the funds provided in this Act shall be available to initiate: (1) a multiyear contract that employs economic order quantity procurement in excess of \$20,000,000 in any one year of the contract or that includes an unfunded contingent liability in excess of \$20,000,000; or (2) a contract for advance procurement leading to a multiyear contract that employs economic order quantity procurement in excess of \$20,000,000 in any one year, unless the congressional defense committees have been notified at least 30 days in advance of the proposed contract award: *Provided*, That no part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available to initiate a multiyear contract for which the economic order quantity advance procurement is not funded at least to the limits of the Government's liability: *Provided further*, That no part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available to initiate multiyear procurement contracts for any systems or component thereof if the value of the multiyear contract would exceed \$500,000,000 unless specifically provided in this Act: *Provided further*, That no multiyear procurement contract can be terminated without 30-day prior notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That the execution of multiyear authority shall require the use of a present value analysis to determine lowest cost compared to an annual procurement: *Provided further*, That none of the funds provided in this Act may be used for a multiyear contract executed after the date of the enactment of this Act unless in the case of any such contract—

(1) the Secretary of Defense has submitted to Congress a budget request for full funding of units to be procured through the contract and, in the case of a contract for procurement of aircraft, that includes, for any aircraft unit to be procured through the contract for which procurement funds are re-

quested in that budget request for production beyond advance procurement activities in the fiscal year covered by the budget, full funding of procurement of such unit in that fiscal year;

(2) cancellation provisions in the contract do not include consideration of recurring manufacturing costs of the contractor associated with the production of unfunded units to be delivered under the contract;

(3) the contract provides that payments to the contractor under the contract shall not be made in advance of incurred costs on funded units; and

(4) the contract does not provide for a price adjustment based on a failure to award a follow-on contract.

Funds appropriated in title III of this Act may be used for multiyear procurement contracts for Naval Strike Missile, Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System, PATRIOT Advanced Capability-3 Missile Segment Enhancement, Long Range Anti-Ship Missile, Joint Air-to-Surface Standoff Missile, and USS Virginia Class (SSN-774).

SEC. 8011. Within the funds appropriated for the operation and maintenance of the Armed Forces, funds are hereby appropriated pursuant to section 401 of title 10, United States Code, for humanitarian and civic assistance costs under chapter 20 of title 10, United States Code: *Provided*, That such funds may also be obligated for humanitarian and civic assistance costs incidental to authorized operations and pursuant to authority granted in section 401 of title 10, United States Code, and these obligations shall be reported as required by section 401(d) of title 10, United States Code: *Provided further*, That funds available for operation and maintenance shall be available for providing humanitarian and similar assistance by using Civic Action Teams in the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands and freely associated states of Micronesia, pursuant to the Compact of Free Association as authorized by Public Law 99-239: *Provided further*, That upon a determination by the Secretary of the Army that such action is beneficial for graduate medical education programs conducted at Army medical facilities located in Hawaii, the Secretary of the Army may authorize the provision of medical services at such facilities and transportation to such facilities, on a nonreimbursable basis, for civilian patients from American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, and Guam.

SEC. 8012. None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used in any way, directly or indirectly, to influence congressional action on any legislation or appropriation matters pending before the Congress.

SEC. 8013. None of the funds available in this Act to the Department of Defense, other than appropriations made for necessary or routine refurbishments, upgrades, or maintenance activities, shall be used to reduce or to prepare to reduce the number of deployed and non-deployed strategic delivery vehicles and launchers below the levels set forth in the report submitted to Congress in accordance with section 1042 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8014. (a) Funds appropriated in title III of this Act for the Department of Defense Pilot Mentor-Protégé Program may be transferred to any other appropriation contained in this Act solely for the purpose of implementing a Mentor-Protégé Program developmental assistance agreement pursuant to section 831 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991 (Public Law 101-510; 10 U.S.C. 2302 note), as amended,

under the authority of this provision or any other transfer authority contained in this Act.

(b) The Secretary of Defense shall include with the budget justification documents in support of the budget for fiscal year 2025 (as submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code) a description of each transfer under this section that occurred during the last fiscal year before the fiscal year in which such budget is submitted.

SEC. 8015. None of the funds in this Act may be available for the purchase by the Department of Defense (and its departments and agencies) of welded shipboard anchor and mooring chain unless the anchor and mooring chain are manufactured in the United States from components which are substantially manufactured in the United States: *Provided*, That for the purpose of this section, the term "manufactured" shall include cutting, heat treating, quality control, testing of chain and welding (including the forging and shot blasting process): *Provided further*, That for the purpose of this section substantially all of the components of anchor and mooring chain shall be considered to be produced or manufactured in the United States if the aggregate cost of the components produced or manufactured in the United States exceeds the aggregate cost of the components produced or manufactured outside the United States: *Provided further*, That when adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis, the Secretary of the Service responsible for the procurement may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes.

SEC. 8016. None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be used for the support of any nonappropriated funds activity of the Department of Defense that procures malt beverages and wine with nonappropriated funds for resale (including such alcoholic beverages sold by the drink) on a military installation located in the United States unless such malt beverages and wine are procured within that State, or in the case of the District of Columbia, within the District of Columbia, in which the military installation is located: *Provided*, That, in a case in which the military installation is located in more than one State, purchases may be made in any State in which the installation is located: *Provided further*, That such local procurement requirements for malt beverages and wine shall apply to all alcoholic beverages only for military installations in States which are not contiguous with another State: *Provided further*, That alcoholic beverages other than wine and malt beverages, in contiguous States and the District of Columbia shall be procured from the most competitive source, price and other factors considered.

SEC. 8017. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense may be used to demilitarize or dispose of M-1 Carbines, M-1 Garand rifles, M-14 rifles, .22 caliber rifles, .30 caliber rifles, or M-1911 pistols, or to demilitarize or destroy small arms ammunition or ammunition components that are not otherwise prohibited from commercial sale under Federal law, unless the small arms ammunition or ammunition components are certified by the Secretary of the Army or designee as unserviceable or unsafe for further use.

SEC. 8018. No more than \$500,000 of the funds appropriated or made available in this Act shall be used during a single fiscal year

for any single relocation of an organization, unit, activity or function of the Department of Defense into or within the National Capital Region: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the congressional defense committees that such a relocation is required in the best interest of the Government.

SEC. 8019. In addition to the funds provided elsewhere in this Act, \$25,000,000 is appropriated only for incentive payments authorized by section 504 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 1544): *Provided*, That a prime contractor or a subcontractor at any tier that makes a subcontract award to any subcontractor or supplier as defined in section 1544 of title 25, United States Code, or a small business owned and controlled by an individual or individuals defined under section 4221(9) of title 25, United States Code, shall be considered a contractor for the purposes of being allowed additional compensation under section 504 of the Indian Financing Act of 1974 (25 U.S.C. 1544) whenever the prime contract or subcontract amount is over \$500,000 and involves the expenditure of funds appropriated by an Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense with respect to any fiscal year: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 1906 of title 41, United States Code, this section shall be applicable to any Department of Defense acquisition of supplies or services, including any contract and any subcontract at any tier for acquisition of commercial items produced or manufactured, in whole or in part, by any subcontractor or supplier defined in section 1544 of title 25, United States Code, or a small business owned and controlled by an individual or individuals defined under section 4221(9) of title 25, United States Code.

SEC. 8020. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Air Force may convey at no cost to the Air Force, without consideration, to Indian tribes located in the States of Nevada, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Oregon, Minnesota, and Washington relocatable military housing units located at Grand Forks Air Force Base, Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Ellsworth Air Force Base, and Minot Air Force Base that are excess to the needs of the Air Force.

(b) The Secretary of the Air Force shall convey, at no cost to the Air Force, military housing units under subsection (a) in accordance with the request for such units that are submitted to the Secretary by the Operation Walking Shield Program on behalf of Indian tribes located in the States of Nevada, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, Oregon, Minnesota, and Washington. Any such conveyance shall be subject to the condition that the housing units shall be removed within a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Secretary.

(c) The Operation Walking Shield Program shall resolve any conflicts among requests of Indian tribes for housing units under subsection (a) before submitting requests to the Secretary of the Air Force under subsection (b).

(d) In this section, the term “Indian tribe” means any recognized Indian tribe included on the current list published by the Secretary of the Interior under section 104 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-454; 108 Stat. 4792; 25 U.S.C. 5131).

SEC. 8021. Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Defense under the heading “Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide”, not less than \$20,000,000 shall be made available only for the mitigation of environmental impacts, including training and technical assistance to tribes, related adminis-

trative support, the gathering of information, documenting of environmental damage, and developing a system for prioritization of mitigation and cost to complete estimates for mitigation, on Indian lands resulting from Department of Defense activities.

SEC. 8022. Funds appropriated by this Act for the Defense Media Activity shall not be used for any national or international political or psychological activities.

SEC. 8023. (a) Of the funds made available in this Act, not less than \$68,100,000 shall be available for the Civil Air Patrol Corporation, of which—

(1) \$55,100,000 shall be available from “Operation and Maintenance, Air Force” to support Civil Air Patrol Corporation operation and maintenance, readiness, counter-drug activities, and drug demand reduction activities involving youth programs;

(2) \$11,000,000 shall be available from “Air-craft Procurement, Air Force”; and

(3) \$2,000,000 shall be available from “Other Procurement, Air Force” for vehicle procurement.

(b) The Secretary of the Air Force should waive reimbursement for any funds used by the Civil Air Patrol for counter-drug activities in support of Federal, State, and local government agencies.

SEC. 8024. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act are available to establish a new Department of Defense (department) federally funded research and development center (FFRDC), either as a new entity, or as a separate entity administrated by an organization managing another FFRDC, or as a nonprofit membership corporation consisting of a consortium of other FFRDCs and other nonprofit entities.

(b) No member of a Board of Directors, Trustees, Overseers, Advisory Group, Special Issues Panel, Visiting Committee, or any similar entity of a defense FFRDC, and no paid consultant to any defense FFRDC, except when acting in a technical advisory capacity, may be compensated for his or her services as a member of such entity, or as a paid consultant by more than one FFRDC in a fiscal year: *Provided*, That a member of any such entity referred to previously in this subsection shall be allowed travel expenses and per diem as authorized under the Federal Joint Travel Regulations, when engaged in the performance of membership duties.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds available to the Department from any source during the current fiscal year may be used by a defense FFRDC, through a fee or other payment mechanism, for construction of new buildings not located on a military installation, for payment of cost sharing for projects funded by Government grants, for absorption of contract overruns, or for certain charitable contributions, not to include employee participation in community service and/or development.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the funds available to the department during fiscal year 2024, not more than \$2,885,000,000 may be funded for professional technical staff-related costs of the defense FFRDCs: *Provided*, That within such funds, not more than \$456,803,000 shall be available for the defense studies and analysis FFRDCs: *Provided further*, That this subsection shall not apply to staff years funded in the National Intelligence Program and the Military Intelligence Program: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, with the submission of the department's fiscal year 2025 budget request, submit a report presenting the specific amounts of staff years of technical effort to be allocated for each defense FFRDC by program during that fiscal year and the associated budget estimates, by appropriation account and program: *Provided further*, That this subsection shall not apply

to appropriations for the National Intelligence Program and Military Intelligence Program.

SEC. 8025. For the purposes of this Act, the term “congressional defense committees” means the Armed Services Committee of the House of Representatives, the Armed Services Committee of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate, and the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 8026. For the purposes of this Act, the term “congressional intelligence committees” means the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives, the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives, and the Subcommittee on Defense of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

SEC. 8027. During the current fiscal year, the Department of Defense may acquire the modification, depot maintenance and repair of aircraft, vehicles and vessels as well as the production of components and other Defense-related articles, through competition between Department of Defense depot maintenance activities and private firms: *Provided*, That the Senior Acquisition Executive of the military department or Defense Agency concerned, with power of delegation, shall certify that successful bids include comparable estimates of all direct and indirect costs for both public and private bids: *Provided further*, That Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 shall not apply to competitions conducted under this section.

SEC. 8028. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be expended by an entity of the Department of Defense unless the entity, in expending the funds, complies with the Buy American Act. For purposes of this subsection, the term “Buy American Act” means chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

(b) If the Secretary of Defense determines that a person has been convicted of intentionally affixing a label bearing a “Made in America” inscription to any product sold in or shipped to the United States that is not made in America, the Secretary shall determine, in accordance with section 4658 of title 10, United States Code, whether the person should be debarred from contracting with the Department of Defense.

(c) In the case of any equipment or products purchased with appropriations provided under this Act, it is the sense of the Congress that any entity of the Department of Defense, in expending the appropriation, purchase only American-made equipment and products, provided that American-made equipment and products are cost-competitive, quality competitive, and available in a timely fashion.

SEC. 8029. None of the funds appropriated or made available in this Act shall be used to procure carbon, alloy, or armor steel plate for use in any Government-owned facility or property under the control of the Department of Defense which were not melted and rolled in the United States or Canada: *Provided*, That these procurement restrictions shall apply to any and all Federal Supply Class 9515, American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) or American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) specifications of carbon, alloy or armor steel plate: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of the military department responsible for the procurement may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet

Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis and that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes: *Provided further*, That these restrictions shall not apply to contracts which are in being as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 8030. (a)(1) If the Secretary of Defense, after consultation with the United States Trade Representative, determines that a foreign country which is party to an agreement described in paragraph (2) has violated the terms of the agreement by discriminating against certain types of products produced in the United States that are covered by the agreement, the Secretary of Defense shall rescind the Secretary's blanket waiver of the Buy American Act with respect to such types of products produced in that foreign country.

(2) An agreement referred to in paragraph (1) is any reciprocal defense procurement memorandum of understanding, between the United States and a foreign country pursuant to which the Secretary of Defense has prospectively waived the Buy American Act for certain products in that country.

(b) The Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Congress a report on the amount of Department of Defense purchases from foreign entities in fiscal year 2024. Such report shall separately indicate the dollar value of items for which the Buy American Act was waived pursuant to any agreement described in subsection (a)(2), the Trade Agreements Act of 1979 (19 U.S.C. 2501 et seq.), or any international agreement to which the United States is a party.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "Buy American Act" means chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 8031. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used for the procurement of ball and roller bearings other than those produced by a domestic source and of domestic origin: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the military department responsible for such procurement may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, that adequate domestic supplies are not available to meet Department of Defense requirements on a timely basis and that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes: *Provided further*, That this restriction shall not apply to the purchase of "commercial products", as defined by section 103 of title 41, United States Code, except that the restriction shall apply to ball or roller bearings purchased as end items.

SEC. 8032. None of the funds in this Act may be used to purchase any supercomputer which is not manufactured in the United States, unless the Secretary of Defense certifies to the congressional defense committees that such an acquisition must be made in order to acquire capability for national security purposes that is not available from United States manufacturers.

SEC. 8033. (a) The Secretary of Defense may, on a case-by-case basis, waive with respect to a foreign country each limitation on the procurement of defense items from foreign sources provided in law if the Secretary determines that the application of the limitation with respect to that country would invalidate cooperative programs entered into between the Department of Defense and the foreign country, or would invalidate reciprocal trade agreements for the procurement of defense items entered into under section 4851 of title 10, United States Code, and the country does not discriminate against the same or similar defense items produced in the United States for that country.

(b) Subsection (a) applies with respect to—

(1) contracts and subcontracts entered into on or after the date of the enactment of this Act; and

(2) options for the procurement of items that are exercised after such date under contracts that are entered into before such date if the option prices are adjusted for any reason other than the application of a waiver granted under subsection (a).

(c) Subsection (a) does not apply to a limitation regarding construction of public vessels, ball and roller bearings, food, and clothing or textile materials as defined by section XI (chapters 50–65) of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States and products classified under headings 4010, 4202, 4203, 6401 through 6406, 6505, 7019, 7218 through 7229, 7304.41 through 7304.49, 7306.40, 7502 through 7508, 8105, 8108, 8109, 8211, 8215, and 9404.

SEC. 8034. None of the funds made available in this Act, or any subsequent Act making appropriations for the Department of Defense, may be used for the purchase or manufacture of a flag of the United States unless such flags are treated as covered items under section 4862(b) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8035. During the current fiscal year, amounts contained in the Department of Defense Overseas Military Facility Investment Recovery Account shall be available until expended for the payments specified by section 2687a(b)(2) of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8036. During the current fiscal year, appropriations which are available to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance may be used to purchase items having an investment item unit cost of not more than \$350,000: *Provided*, That upon determination by the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary to meet the operational requirements of a Commander of a Combatant Command engaged in a named contingency operation overseas, such funds may be used to purchase items having an investment item unit cost of not more than \$500,000.

SEC. 8037. Up to \$11,000,000 of the funds appropriated under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Navy" may be made available for the Asia Pacific Regional Initiative Program for the purpose of enabling the United States Indo-Pacific Command to execute Theater Security Cooperation activities such as humanitarian assistance, and payment of incremental and personnel costs of training and exercising with foreign security forces: *Provided*, That funds made available for this purpose may be used, notwithstanding any other funding authorities for humanitarian assistance, security assistance or combined exercise expenses: *Provided further*, That funds may not be obligated to provide assistance to any foreign country that is otherwise prohibited from receiving such type of assistance under any other provision of law.

SEC. 8038. The Secretary of Defense shall issue regulations to prohibit the sale of any tobacco or tobacco-related products in military resale outlets in the United States, its territories and possessions at a price below the most competitive price in the local community: *Provided*, That such regulations shall direct that the prices of tobacco or tobacco-related products in overseas military retail outlets shall be within the range of prices established for military retail system stores located in the United States.

SEC. 8039. (a) During the current fiscal year, none of the appropriations or funds available to the Department of Defense Working Capital Funds shall be used for the purchase of an investment item for the purpose of acquiring a new inventory item for sale or anticipated sale during the current fiscal year or a subsequent fiscal year to customers of the Department of Defense Working Capital Funds if such an item would not

have been chargeable to the Department of Defense Business Operations Fund during fiscal year 1994 and if the purchase of such an investment item would be chargeable during the current fiscal year to appropriations made to the Department of Defense for procurement.

(b) The fiscal year 2025 budget request for the Department of Defense as well as all justification material and other documentation supporting the fiscal year 2025 Department of Defense budget shall be prepared and submitted to the Congress on the basis that any equipment which was classified as an end item and funded in a procurement appropriation contained in this Act shall be budgeted for in a proposed fiscal year 2025 procurement appropriation and not in the supply management business area or any other area or category of the Department of Defense Working Capital Funds.

SEC. 8040. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for programs of the Central Intelligence Agency shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, except for funds appropriated for the Reserve for Contingencies, which shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That funds appropriated, transferred, or otherwise credited to the Central Intelligence Agency Central Services Working Capital Fund during this or any prior or subsequent fiscal year shall remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That any funds appropriated or transferred to the Central Intelligence Agency for advanced research and development acquisition, for agent operations, and for covert action programs authorized by the President under section 503 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3093) shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided further*, That any funds appropriated or transferred to the Central Intelligence Agency for the construction, improvement, or alteration of facilities, including leased facilities, to be used primarily by personnel of the intelligence community, shall remain available until September 30, 2026.

SEC. 8041. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), none of the funds made available by this Act may be used—

(1) to establish a field operating agency; or

(2) to pay the basic pay of a member of the Armed Forces or civilian employee of the department who is transferred or reassigned from a headquarters activity if the member or employee's place of duty remains at the location of that headquarters.

(b) The Secretary of Defense or Secretary of a military department may waive the limitations in subsection (a), on a case-by-case basis, if the Secretary determines, and certifies to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that the granting of the waiver will reduce the personnel requirements or the financial requirements of the department.

(c) This section does not apply to—

(1) field operating agencies funded within the National Intelligence Program;

(2) an Army field operating agency established to eliminate, mitigate, or counter the effects of improvised explosive devices, and, as determined by the Secretary of the Army, other similar threats;

(3) an Army field operating agency established to improve the effectiveness and efficiencies of biometric activities and to integrate common biometric technologies throughout the Department of Defense; or

(4) an Air Force field operating agency established to administer the Air Force Mortuary Affairs Program and Mortuary Operations for the Department of Defense and authorized Federal entities.

SEC. 8042. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be available to convert to contractor performance an activity

or function of the Department of Defense that, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, is performed by Department of Defense civilian employees unless—

(1) the conversion is based on the result of a public-private competition that includes a most efficient and cost effective organization plan developed by such activity or function;

(2) the Competitive Sourcing Official determines that, over all performance periods stated in the solicitation of offers for performance of the activity or function, the cost of performance of the activity or function by a contractor would be less costly to the Department of Defense by an amount that equals or exceeds the lesser of—

(A) 10 percent of the most efficient organization's personnel-related costs for performance of that activity or function by Federal employees; or

(B) \$10,000,000; and

(3) the contractor does not receive an advantage for a proposal that would reduce costs for the Department of Defense by—

(A) not making an employer-sponsored health insurance plan available to the workers who are to be employed in the performance of that activity or function under the contract; or

(B) offering to such workers an employer-sponsored health benefits plan that requires the employer to contribute less towards the premium or subscription share than the amount that is paid by the Department of Defense for health benefits for civilian employees under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code.

(b)(1) The Department of Defense, without regard to subsection (a) of this section or subsection (a), (b), or (c) of section 2461 of title 10, United States Code, and notwithstanding any administrative regulation, requirement, or policy to the contrary shall have full authority to enter into a contract for the performance of any commercial or industrial type function of the Department of Defense that—

(A) is included on the procurement list established pursuant to section 2 of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (section 8503 of title 41, United States Code);

(B) is planned to be converted to performance by a qualified nonprofit agency for the blind or by a qualified nonprofit agency for other severely handicapped individuals in accordance with that Act; or

(C) is planned to be converted to performance by a qualified firm under at least 51 percent ownership by an Indian tribe, as defined in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)), or a Native Hawaiian Organization, as defined in section 8(a)(15) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 637(a)(15)).

(2) This section shall not apply to depot contracts or contracts for depot maintenance as provided in sections 2469 and 2474 of title 10, United States Code.

(c) The conversion of any activity or function of the Department of Defense under the authority provided by this section shall be credited toward any competitive or outsourcing goal, target, or measurement that may be established by statute, regulation, or policy and is deemed to be awarded under the authority of, and in compliance with, subsection (h) of section 2304 of title 10, United States Code, for the competition or outsourcing of commercial activities.

(RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 8043. Of the funds appropriated in Department of Defense Appropriations Acts, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts

that were designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985:

“Missile Procurement, Army”, 2022/2024, \$9,093,000;

“Procurement of Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army”, 2022/2024, \$1,900,000;

“Other Procurement, Army”, 2022/2024, \$44,681,000;

“Aircraft Procurement, Navy”, 2022/2024, \$1,428,000;

“Weapons Procurement, Navy”, 2022/2024, \$13,058,000;

“Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps”, 2022/2024, \$1,012,000;

“Other Procurement, Navy”, 2022/2024, \$2,975,000;

“Cooperative Threat Reduction Account”, 2022/2024, \$75,000,000;

“Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide”, 2023/2024, \$75,000,000;

“Counter-ISIS Train and Equip Fund”, 2023/2024, \$50,000,000;

“Other Procurement, Army”, 2023/2025, \$4,066,000;

“Aircraft Procurement, Navy”, 2023/2025, \$10,033,000;

“Weapons Procurement, Navy”, 2023/2025, \$53,139,000;

“Other Procurement, Navy”, 2023/2025, \$1,550,000;

“Procurement, Marine Corps”, 2023/2025, \$155,304,000;

“Other Procurement, Air Force”, 2023/2025, \$45,000,000;

“Procurement, Defense-Wide”, 2023/2025, \$32,148,000;

“Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force”, 2023/2024, \$29,300,000;

“Army Working Capital Fund”, XXXX/XXXX, \$100,000,000; and

“Navy Working Capital Fund”, XXXX/XXXX, \$100,000,000.

SEC. 8044. None of the funds available in this Act may be used to reduce the authorized positions for military technicians (dual status) of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army Reserve and Air Force Reserve for the purpose of applying any administratively imposed civilian personnel ceiling, freeze, or reduction on military technicians (dual status), unless such reductions are a direct result of a reduction in military force structure.

SEC. 8045. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be obligated or expended for assistance to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea unless specifically appropriated for that purpose: *Provided*, That this restriction shall not apply to any activities incidental to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency mission to recover and identify the remains of United States Armed Forces personnel from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

SEC. 8046. Funds appropriated in this Act for operation and maintenance of the Military Departments, Combatant Commands and Defense Agencies shall be available for reimbursement of pay, allowances and other expenses which would otherwise be incurred against appropriations for the National Guard and Reserve when members of the National Guard and Reserve provide intelligence or counterintelligence support to Combatant Commands, Defense Agencies and Joint Intelligence Activities, including the activities and programs included within the National Intelligence Program and the Military Intelligence Program: *Provided*, That nothing in this section authorizes deviation from established Reserve and National Guard personnel and training procedures.

SEC. 8047. (a) None of the funds available to the Department of Defense for any fiscal year for drug interdiction or counter-drug

activities may be transferred to any other department or agency of the United States except as specifically provided in an appropriations law.

(b) None of the funds available to the Central Intelligence Agency for any fiscal year for drug interdiction or counter-drug activities may be transferred to any other department or agency of the United States except as specifically provided in an appropriations law.

SEC. 8048. In addition to the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available elsewhere in this Act, \$49,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense: *Provided*, That upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that it shall serve the national interest, the Secretary shall make grants in the amounts specified as follows: \$24,000,000 to the United Service Organizations and \$25,000,000 to the Red Cross: *Provided further*, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this section may be used to encourage, guide, or otherwise assist in migration towards the United States southwest border.

SEC. 8049. Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act, the Small Business Innovation Research program and the Small Business Technology Transfer program set-asides shall be taken proportionally from all programs, projects, or activities to the extent they contribute to the extramural budget. The Secretary of each military department, the Director of each Defense Agency, and the head of each other relevant component of the Department of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees, concurrent with submission of the budget justification documents to Congress pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, a report with a detailed accounting of the Small Business Innovation Research program and the Small Business Technology Transfer program set-asides taken from programs, projects, or activities within such department, agency, or component during the most recently completed fiscal year.

SEC. 8050. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense under this Act shall be obligated or expended to pay a contractor under a contract with the Department of Defense for costs of any amount paid by the contractor to an employee when—

(1) such costs are for a bonus or otherwise in excess of the normal salary paid by the contractor to the employee; and

(2) such bonus is part of restructuring costs associated with a business combination.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8051. During the current fiscal year, no more than \$30,000,000 of appropriations made in this Act under the heading “Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide” may be transferred to appropriations available for the pay of military personnel, to be merged with, and to be available for the same time period as the appropriations to which transferred, to be used in support of such personnel in connection with support and services for eligible organizations and activities outside the Department of Defense pursuant to section 2012 of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8052. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau may permit the use of equipment of the National Guard Distance Learning Project by any person or entity on a space-available, reimbursable basis. The Chief of the National Guard Bureau shall establish the amount of reimbursement for such use on a case-by-case basis.

(b) Amounts collected under subsection (a) shall be credited to funds available for the National Guard Distance Learning Project

and be available to defray the costs associated with the use of equipment of the project under that subsection. Such funds shall be available for such purposes without fiscal year limitation.

SEC. 8053. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or prior Acts may be obligated or expended to retire, prepare to retire, or place in storage or on backup aircraft inventory status any C-40 aircraft.

(b) The limitation under subsection (a) shall not apply to an individual C-40 aircraft that the Secretary of the Air Force determines, on a case-by-case basis, to be no longer mission capable due to a Class A mishap.

(c) If the Secretary determines under subsection (b) that an aircraft is no longer mission capable, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a certification in writing that the status of such aircraft is due to a Class A mishap and not due to lack of maintenance, repairs, or other reasons.

(d) Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the necessary steps taken by the Department of Defense to meet the travel requirements for official or representational duties of members of Congress and the Cabinet in fiscal years 2024 and 2025.

SEC. 8054. (a) None of the funds appropriated in title IV of this Act may be used to procure end-items for delivery to military forces for operational training, operational use, or inventory requirements: *Provided*, That this restriction does not apply to end-items used in development, prototyping in accordance with an approved test strategy, and test activities preceding and leading to acceptance for operational use.

(b) If the number of end-items budgeted with funds appropriated in title IV of this Act exceeds the number required in an approved test strategy, the Under Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering) and the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), in coordination with the responsible Service Acquisition Executive, shall certify in writing to the congressional defense committees that there is a bonafide need for the additional end-items at the time of submittal to Congress of the budget of the President for fiscal year 2025 pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code: *Provided*, That this restriction does not apply to programs funded within the National Intelligence Program.

(c) The Secretary of Defense shall, at the time of the submittal to Congress of the budget of the President for fiscal year 2025 pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, submit to the congressional defense committees a report detailing the use of funds requested in research, development, test and evaluation accounts for end-items used in development, prototyping and test activities preceding and leading to acceptance for operational use: *Provided*, That the report shall set forth, for each end item covered by the preceding proviso, a detailed list of the statutory authorities under which amounts in the accounts described in that proviso were used for such item: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, at the time of the submittal to Congress of the budget of the President for fiscal year 2025 pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, submit to the congressional defense committees a certification that funds requested for fiscal year 2025 in research, development, test and evaluation accounts are in compliance with this section: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis

by certifying in writing to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate that it is in the national security interest to do so.

SEC. 8055. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or other Department of Defense Appropriations Acts may be obligated or expended for the purpose of performing repairs or maintenance to military family housing units of the Department of Defense, including areas in such military family housing units that may be used for the purpose of conducting official Department of Defense business.

SEC. 8056. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated in this Act under the heading "Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide" for any new start defense innovation acceleration or rapid prototyping program demonstration project with a value of more than \$5,000,000 may only be obligated 15 days after a report, including a description of the project, the planned acquisition and transition strategy and its estimated annual and total cost, has been provided in writing to the congressional defense committees: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense may waive this restriction on a case-by-case basis by certifying to the congressional defense committees that it is in the national interest to do so.

SEC. 8057. The Secretary of Defense shall continue to provide a classified quarterly report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, Subcommittees on Defense on certain matters as directed in the classified annex accompanying this Act.

SEC. 8058. Notwithstanding section 12310(b) of title 10, United States Code, a servicemember who is a member of the National Guard serving on full-time National Guard duty under section 502(f) of title 32, United States Code, may perform duties in support of the ground-based elements of the National Ballistic Missile Defense System.

SEC. 8059. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used to transfer to any non-governmental entity ammunition held by the Department of Defense that has a center-fire cartridge and a United States military nomenclature designation of "armor penetrator", "armor piercing (AP)", "armor piercing incendiary (API)", or "armor-piercing incendiary tracer (API-T)", except to an entity performing demilitarization services for the Department of Defense under a contract that requires the entity to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Department of Defense that armor piercing projectiles are either: (1) rendered incapable of reuse by the demilitarization process; or (2) used to manufacture ammunition pursuant to a contract with the Department of Defense or the manufacture of ammunition for export pursuant to a License for Permanent Export of Unclassified Military Articles issued by the Department of State.

SEC. 8060. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, or their designee, may waive payment of all or part of the consideration that otherwise would be required under section 2667 of title 10, United States Code, in the case of a lease of personal property for a period not in excess of 1 year to any organization specified in section 508(d) of title 32, United States Code, or any other youth, social, or fraternal nonprofit organization as may be approved by the Chief of the National Guard Bureau, or their designee, on a case-by-case basis.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8061. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Army", \$175,943,968 shall remain available until expended: *Provided*,

That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Defense is authorized to transfer such funds to other activities of the Federal Government: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense is authorized to enter into and carry out contracts for the acquisition of real property, construction, personal services, and operations related to projects carrying out the purposes of this section: *Provided further*, That contracts entered into under the authority of this section may provide for such indemnification as the Secretary determines to be necessary: *Provided further*, That projects authorized by this section shall comply with applicable Federal, State, and local law to the maximum extent consistent with the national security, as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

SEC. 8062. (a) None of the funds appropriated in this or any other Act may be used to take any action to modify—

(1) the appropriations account structure for the National Intelligence Program budget, including through the creation of a new appropriation or new appropriation account;

(2) how the National Intelligence Program budget request is presented in the unclassified P-1, R-1, and O-1 documents supporting the Department of Defense budget request;

(3) the process by which the National Intelligence Program appropriations are apportioned to the executing agencies; or

(4) the process by which the National Intelligence Program appropriations are allotted, obligated and disbursed.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall be construed to prohibit the merger of programs or changes to the National Intelligence Program budget at or below the Expenditure Center level, provided such change is otherwise in accordance with paragraphs (1)-(3) of subsection (a).

(c) The Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense may jointly, only for the purposes of achieving auditable financial statements and improving fiscal reporting, study and develop detailed proposals for alternative financial management processes. Such study shall include a comprehensive counterintelligence risk assessment to ensure that none of the alternative processes will adversely affect counterintelligence.

(d) Upon development of the detailed proposals defined under subsection (c), the Director of National Intelligence and the Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) provide the proposed alternatives to all affected agencies;

(2) receive certification from all affected agencies attesting that the proposed alternatives will help achieve auditability, improve fiscal reporting, and will not adversely affect counterintelligence; and

(3) not later than 30 days after receiving all necessary certifications under paragraph (2), present the proposed alternatives and certifications to the congressional defense and intelligence committees.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8063. During the current fiscal year, not to exceed \$11,000,000 from each of the appropriations made in title II of this Act for "Operation and Maintenance, Army", "Operation and Maintenance, Navy", and "Operation and Maintenance, Air Force" may be transferred by the military department concerned to its central fund established for Fisher Houses and Suites pursuant to section 2493(d) of title 10, United States Code.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8064. In addition to amounts provided elsewhere in this Act, \$5,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense, to remain available for obligation until expended: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, that upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that it

shall serve the national interest, these funds shall be available only for a grant to the Fisher House Foundation, Inc., only for the construction and furnishing of additional Fisher Houses to meet the needs of military family members when confronted with the illness or hospitalization of an eligible military beneficiary.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8065. Of the amounts appropriated for "Operation and Maintenance, Navy", up to \$1,000,000 shall be available for transfer 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).

SEC. 8066. None of the funds available to the Department of Defense may be obligated to modify command and control relationships to give Fleet Forces Command operational and administrative control of United States Navy forces assigned to the Pacific fleet: *Provided*, That the command and control relationships which existed on October 1, 2004, shall remain in force until a written modification has been proposed to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate: *Provided further*, That the proposed modification may be implemented 30 days after the notification unless an objection is received from either the House or Senate Appropriations Committees: *Provided further*, That any proposed modification shall not preclude the ability of the commander of United States Indo-Pacific Command to meet operational requirements.

SEC. 8067. Any notice that is required to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate under section 3601 of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 804(a) of the James M. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023, after the date of the enactment of this Act shall be submitted pursuant to that requirement concurrently to the Subcommittees on Defense of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8068. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the headings "Procurement, Defense-Wide" and "Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide", \$500,000,000 shall be for the Israeli Cooperative Programs: *Provided*, That of this amount, \$80,000,000 shall be for the Secretary of Defense to provide to the Government of Israel for the procurement of the Iron Dome defense system to counter short-range rocket threats, subject to the U.S.-Israel Iron Dome Procurement Agreement, as amended; \$127,000,000 shall be for the Short Range Ballistic Missile Defense (SRBMD) program, including cruise missile defense research and development under the SRBMD program; \$40,000,000 shall be for co-production activities of SRBMD systems in the United States and in Israel to meet Israel's defense requirements consistent with each nation's laws, regulations, and procedures, subject to the U.S.-Israeli co-production agreement for SRBMD, as amended; \$80,000,000 shall be for an upper-tier component to the Israeli Missile Defense Architecture, of which \$80,000,000 shall be for co-production activities of Arrow 3 Upper Tier systems in the United States and in Israel to meet Israel's defense requirements consistent with each nation's laws, regulations, and procedures, subject to the U.S.-Israeli co-production agreement for Arrow 3 Upper Tier, as amended; and \$173,000,000 shall be for the Arrow System Improvement Program including development of a long range, ground and airborne, detection suite: *Provided further*, That

the transfer authority provided under this provision is in addition to any other transfer authority contained in this Act.

SEC. 8069. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", \$1,648,559,000 shall be available until September 30, 2024, to fund prior year shipbuilding cost increases for the following programs:

(1) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2013/2024: Carrier Replacement Program, \$624,600,000;

(2) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2015/2024: Virginia Class Submarine Program, \$43,419,000;

(3) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2016/2024: Virginia Class Submarine Program, \$100,115,000;

(4) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2016/2024: DDG-51 Destroyer, \$104,090,000;

(5) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2017/2024: Virginia Class Submarine Program, \$24,646,000;

(6) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2017/2024: DDG-51 Destroyer, \$121,827,000;

(7) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2017/2024: LPD-17, \$16,520,000;

(8) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2018/2024: Ship to Shore Connector Program, \$43,600,000;

(9) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2019/2024: Littoral Combat Ship, \$23,000,000;

(10) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2019/2024: TAO Fleet Oiler, \$27,060,000;

(11) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2020/2024: CVN Refueling Overhauls, \$42,422,000;

(12) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2020/2024: TAO Fleet Oiler, \$93,250,000;

(13) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2020/2024: Towing, Salvage, and Rescue Ship Program, \$1,150,000;

(14) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2021/2024: Towing, Salvage, and Rescue Ship Program, \$21,809,000;

(15) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2022/2024: TAO Fleet Oiler, \$2,585,000;

(16) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2022/2024: Towing, Salvage, and Rescue Ship Program, \$3,300,000; and

(17) Under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy", 2022/2024: T-AGOS Surtass Ships Program, \$355,166,000.

SEC. 8070. Funds appropriated by this Act for intelligence and intelligence-related activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504(a)(1) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3094(a)(1)) until the enactment of the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024.

SEC. 8071. None of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that creates or initiates a new program, project, or activity unless such program, project, or activity must be undertaken immediately in the interest of national security and only after written prior notification to the congressional defense committees.

SEC. 8072. None of the funds in this Act may be used for research, development, test, evaluation, procurement or deployment of nuclear armed interceptors of a missile defense system.

SEC. 8073. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended for the purpose of decommissioning any Littoral Combat Ship, the USS *Germantown*, or the USS *Tortuga*.

SEC. 8074. For purposes of section 1553(b) of title 31, United States Code, any subdivision of appropriations made in this Act under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy" shall be considered to be for the same purpose as any subdivision under the heading "Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy" appropriations in any prior fiscal year, and the 1 percent limitation shall apply to the total amount of the appropriation.

SEC. 8075. None of the funds appropriated or made available in this Act shall be used to reduce or disestablish the operation of the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron of the Air Force Reserve, if such action would reduce the WC-130 Weather Reconnaissance mission below the levels funded in this Act: *Provided*, That the Air Force shall allow the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron to perform other missions in support of national defense requirements during the non-hurricane season.

SEC. 8076. (a) None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to transfer research and development, acquisition, or other program authority relating to current tactical unmanned aerial vehicles (TUAVs) from the Army.

(b) The Army shall retain responsibility for and operational control of the MQ-1C Gray Eagle Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) in order to support the Secretary of Defense in matters relating to the employment of unmanned aerial vehicles.

SEC. 8077. None of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for integration of foreign intelligence information unless the information has been lawfully collected and processed during the conduct of authorized foreign intelligence activities: *Provided*, That information pertaining to United States persons shall only be handled in accordance with protections provided in the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution as implemented through Executive Order No. 12333.

SEC. 8078. None of the funds appropriated by this Act for programs of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, except for funds appropriated for research and technology, which shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and except for funds appropriated for the purchase of real property, which shall remain available until September 30, 2026.

SEC. 8079. (a) Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of National Intelligence shall submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for fiscal year 2024: *Provided*, That the report shall include—

(1) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level;

(2) a delineation in the table for each appropriation by Expenditure Center and project; and

(3) an identification of items of special congressional interest.

(b) None of the funds provided for the National Intelligence Program in this Act shall be available for reprogramming or transfer until the report identified in subsection (a) is submitted to the congressional intelligence committees, unless the Director of National Intelligence certifies in writing to the congressional intelligence committees that such reprogramming or transfer is necessary as an emergency requirement.

SEC. 8080. (a) None of the funds provided for the National Intelligence Program in this or any prior appropriations Act shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a

reprogramming or transfer of funds in accordance with section 102A(d) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024(d)) that—

- (1) creates a new start effort;
- (2) terminates a program with appropriated funding of \$10,000,000 or more;
- (3) transfers funding into or out of the National Intelligence Program; or
- (4) transfers funding between appropriations, unless the congressional intelligence committees are notified 30 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds; this notification period may be reduced for urgent national security requirements.

(b) None of the funds provided for the National Intelligence Program in this or any prior appropriations Act shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming or transfer of funds in accordance with section 102A(d) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3024(d)) that results in a cumulative increase or decrease of the levels specified in the classified annex accompanying the Act unless the congressional intelligence committees are notified 30 days in advance of such reprogramming of funds; this notification period may be reduced for urgent national security requirements.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8081. Upon a determination by the Director of National Intelligence that such action is necessary and in the national interest, the Director may, with the approval of the Office of Management and Budget, transfer not to exceed \$1,500,000,000 of the funds made available in this Act for the National Intelligence Program: *Provided*, That such authority to transfer may not be used unless for higher priority items, based on unforeseen intelligence requirements, than those for which originally appropriated and in no case where the item for which funds are requested has been denied by the Congress: *Provided further*, That a request for multiple reprogrammings of funds using authority provided in this section shall be made prior to June 30, 2024.

SEC. 8082. Any transfer of amounts appropriated to the Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account in or for fiscal year 2024 to a military department or Defense Agency pursuant to section 1705(e)(1) of title 10, United States Code, shall be covered by and subject to section 8005 of this Act.

SEC. 8083. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be expended for any Federal contract for an amount in excess of \$1,000,000, unless the contractor agrees not to—

- (1) enter into any agreement with any of its employees or independent contractors that requires, as a condition of employment, that the employee or independent contractor agree to resolve through arbitration any claim under title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or any tort related to or arising out of sexual assault or harassment, including assault and battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, false imprisonment, or negligent hiring, supervision, or retention; or

- (2) take any action to enforce any provision of an existing agreement with an employee or independent contractor that mandates that the employee or independent contractor resolve through arbitration any claim under title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or any tort related to or arising out of sexual assault or harassment, including assault and battery, intentional infliction of emotional distress, false imprisonment, or negligent hiring, supervision, or retention.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be expended for any Federal contract unless the

contractor certifies that it requires each covered subcontractor to agree not to enter into, and not to take any action to enforce any provision of, any agreement as described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a), with respect to any employee or independent contractor performing work related to such subcontract. For purposes of this subsection, a “covered subcontractor” is an entity that has a subcontract in excess of \$1,000,000 on a contract subject to subsection (a).

(c) The prohibitions in this section do not apply with respect to a contractor’s or subcontractor’s agreements with employees or independent contractors that may not be enforced in a court of the United States.

(d) The Secretary of Defense may waive the application of subsection (a) or (b) to a particular contractor or subcontractor for the purposes of a particular contract or subcontract if the Secretary or the Deputy Secretary personally determines that the waiver is necessary to avoid harm to national security interests of the United States, and that the term of the contract or subcontract is not longer than necessary to avoid such harm. The determination shall set forth with specificity the grounds for the waiver and for the contract or subcontract term selected, and shall state any alternatives considered in lieu of a waiver and the reasons each such alternative would not avoid harm to national security interests of the United States. The Secretary of Defense shall transmit to Congress, and simultaneously make public, any determination under this subsection not less than 15 business days before the contract or subcontract addressed in the determination may be awarded.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8084. From within the funds appropriated for operation and maintenance for the Defense Health Program in this Act, up to \$172,000,000, shall be available for transfer to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund in accordance with the provisions of section 1704 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, Public Law 111-84: *Provided*, That for purposes of section 1704(b), the facility operations funded are operations of the integrated Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center, consisting of the North Chicago Veterans Affairs Medical Center, the Navy Ambulatory Care Center, and supporting facilities designated as a combined Federal medical facility as described by section 706 of Public Law 110-417: *Provided further*, That additional funds may be transferred from funds appropriated for operation and maintenance for the Defense Health Program to the Joint Department of Defense-Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility Demonstration Fund upon written notification by the Secretary of Defense to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 8085. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Department of Defense or a component thereof in contravention of the provisions of section 130h of title 10, United States Code.

SEC. 8086. Appropriations available to the Department of Defense may be used for the purchase of heavy and light armored vehicles for the physical security of personnel or for force protection purposes up to a limit of \$450,000 per vehicle, notwithstanding price or other limitations applicable to the purchase of passenger carrying vehicles.

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 8087. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act for “Shipbuilding and Conversion, Navy”, \$142,008,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2028, may be

used for the purchase of two used sealift vessels for the National Defense Reserve Fleet, established under section 11 of the Merchant Ship Sales Act of 1946 (46 U.S.C. 57100): *Provided*, That such amounts are available for reimbursements to the Ready Reserve Force, Maritime Administration account of the United States Department of Transportation for programs, projects, activities, and expenses related to the National Defense Reserve Fleet: *Provided further*, That notwithstanding section 2218 of title 10, United States Code, none of these funds shall be transferred to the National Defense Sealift Fund for execution.

SEC. 8088. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act, shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public Web site of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Congress in this or any other Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

- (1) the public posting of the report compromises national security; or
- (2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the requesting Committee or Committees of Congress for no less than 45 days.

SEC. 8089. The Secretary of Defense shall post grant awards on a public website in a searchable format.

SEC. 8090. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the National Security Agency to—

- (1) conduct an acquisition pursuant to section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 for the purpose of targeting a United States person; or

- (2) acquire, monitor, or store the contents (as such term is defined in section 2510(8) of title 18, United States Code) of any electronic communication of a United States person from a provider of electronic communication services to the public pursuant to section 501 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

SEC. 8091. None of the funds made available in this or any other Act may be used to pay the salary of any officer or employee of any agency funded by this Act who approves or implements the transfer of administrative responsibilities or budgetary resources of any program, project, or activity financed by this Act to the jurisdiction of another Federal agency not financed by this Act without the express authorization of Congress: *Provided*, That this limitation shall not apply to transfers of funds expressly provided for in Defense Appropriations Acts, or provisions of Acts providing supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense.

SEC. 8092. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act for “Operation and Maintenance, Navy”, \$667,508,000, to remain available until expended, may be used for any purposes related to the National Defense Reserve Fleet established under section 11 of the Merchant Ship Sales Act of 1946 (46 U.S.C. 57100): *Provided*, That such amounts are available for reimbursements to the Ready Reserve Force, Maritime Administration account of the United States Department of Transportation for programs, projects, activities, and expenses related to the National Defense Reserve Fleet.

SEC. 8093. (a) None of the funds provided in this Act for the TAO Fleet Oiler program shall be used to award a new contract that provides for the acquisition of the following components unless those components are

manufactured in the United States: Auxiliary equipment (including pumps) for shipboard services; propulsion equipment (including engines, reduction gears, and propellers); shipboard cranes; spreaders for shipboard cranes; and anchor chains, specifically for the seventh and subsequent ships of the fleet.

(b) None of the funds provided in this Act for the FFG(X) Frigate program shall be used to award a new contract that provides for the acquisition of the following components unless those components are manufactured in the United States: Air circuit breakers; gyrocompasses; electronic navigation chart systems; steering controls; pumps; propulsion and machinery control systems; totally enclosed lifeboats; auxiliary equipment pumps; shipboard cranes; auxiliary chill water systems; and propulsion propellers: *Provided*, That the Secretary of the Navy shall incorporate United States manufactured propulsion engines and propulsion reduction gears into the FFG(X) Frigate program beginning not later than with the eleventh ship of the program.

SEC. 8094. None of the funds provided in this Act for requirements development, performance specification development, concept design and development, ship configuration development, systems engineering, naval architecture, marine engineering, operations research analysis, industry studies, preliminary design, development of the Detailed Design and Construction Request for Proposals solicitation package, or related activities for the T-ARC(X) Cable Laying and Repair Ship or the T-AGOS(X) Oceanographic Surveillance Ship may be used to award a new contract for such activities unless these contracts include specifications that all auxiliary equipment, including pumps and propulsion shafts, are manufactured in the United States.

SEC. 8095. No amounts credited or otherwise made available in this or any other Act to the Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account may be transferred to:

(1) the Rapid Prototyping Fund established under section 804(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (10 U.S.C. 2302 note); or

(2) credited to a military-department specific fund established under section 804(d)(2) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (as amended by section 897 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017).

SEC. 8096. From funds made available in title II of this Act, the Secretary of Defense may purchase for use by military and civilian employees of the Department of Defense in the United States Central Command area of responsibility: (1) passenger motor vehicles up to a limit of \$75,000 per vehicle; and (2) heavy and light armored vehicles for the physical security of personnel or for force protection purposes up to a limit of \$450,000 per vehicle, notwithstanding price or other limitations applicable to the purchase of passenger carrying vehicles.

SEC. 8097. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for Government Travel Charge Card expenses by military or civilian personnel of the Department of Defense for gaming, or for entertainment that includes topless or nude entertainers or participants, as prohibited by Department of Defense FMR, Volume 9, Chapter 3 and Department of Defense Instruction 1015.10 (enclosure 3, 14a and 14b).

SEC. 8098. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to maintain or establish a computer network unless such network is designed to block access to pornography websites.

(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 for any activity necessary for the national defense, including intelligence activities.

SEC. 8099. None of the funds provided for, or otherwise made available, in this or any other Act, may be obligated or expended by the Secretary of Defense to provide motorized vehicles, aviation platforms, munitions other than small arms and munitions appropriate for customary ceremonial honors, operational military units, or operational military platforms if the Secretary determines that providing such units, platforms, or equipment would undermine the readiness of such units, platforms, or equipment.

SEC. 8100. (a) None of the funds made available by this or any other Act may be used to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to any corporation that has any unpaid Federal tax liability that has been assessed, for which all judicial and administrative remedies have been exhausted or have lapsed, and that is not being paid in a timely manner pursuant to an agreement with the authority responsible for collecting such tax liability, provided that the applicable Federal agency is aware of the unpaid Federal tax liability.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply if the applicable Federal agency has considered suspension or debarment of the corporation described in such subsection and has made a determination that such suspension or debarment is not necessary to protect the interests of the Federal Government.

SEC. 8101. Amounts appropriated under title IV of this Act, as detailed in budget activity eight of the "Explanation of Project Level Adjustments" tables in the explanatory statement regarding this Act, may be used for expenses for the agile research, development, test and evaluation, procurement, production, modification, and operation and maintenance, only for the following Software and Digital Technology Pilot programs—

- (1) Defensive CYBER (PE 0608041A);
- (2) Risk Management Information (PE 0608013N);
- (3) Maritime Tactical Command and Control (PE 0608231N);
- (4) Space Command and Control (PE 1208248SF);
- (5) Global Command and Control System (PE 0303150K);
- (6) Acquisition Visibility (PE 0608648D8Z); and
- (7) Defense Innovation Unit Fielding (RDTE,DW Line 281).

SEC. 8102. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to transfer the National Reconnaissance Office to the Space Force: *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit or prohibit cooperation, collaboration, and coordination between the National Reconnaissance Office and the Space Force or any other elements of the Department of Defense.

SEC. 8103. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of the following laws enacted or regulations promulgated to implement the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (done at New York on December 10, 1984):

- (1) Section 2340A of title 18, United States Code.
- (2) Section 2242 of the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (division G of Public Law 105-277; 112 Stat. 2681-822; 8 U.S.C. 1231 note) and regulations prescribed

thereto, including regulations under part 208 of title 8, Code of Federal Regulations, and part 95 of title 22, Code of Federal Regulations.

(3) Sections 1002 and 1003 of the Department of Defense, Emergency Supplemental Appropriations to Address Hurricanes in the Gulf of Mexico, and Pandemic Influenza Act, 2006 (Public Law 109-148).

SEC. 8104. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide", for the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, \$300,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative: *Provided*, That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to provide assistance, including training; equipment; lethal assistance; logistics support, supplies and services; salaries and stipends; sustainment; and intelligence support to the military and national security forces of Ukraine, and to other forces or groups recognized by and under the authority of the Government of Ukraine, including governmental entities within Ukraine, engaged in resisting Russian aggression against Ukraine, for replacement of any weapons or articles provided to the Government of Ukraine from the inventory of the United States, and to recover or dispose of equipment procured using funds made available in this section in this or prior Acts: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not less than 15 days prior to obligating funds made available in this section, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such obligation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not more than 60 days after such notification is made, inform such committees if such funds have not been obligated and the reasons therefor: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall consult with such committees in advance of the provision of support provided to other forces or groups recognized by and under the authority of the Government of Ukraine: *Provided further*, That the United States may accept equipment procured using funds made available in this section in this or prior Acts transferred to the security forces of Ukraine and returned by such forces to the United States: *Provided further*, That equipment procured using funds made available in this section in this or prior Acts, and not yet transferred to the military or national security forces of Ukraine or to other assisted entities, or returned by such forces or other assisted entities to the United States, may be treated as stocks of the Department of Defense upon written notification to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That any notification of funds made available in this section in this or prior Acts shall specify whether such funds support ongoing or new programs, the duration and expected cost over the life of each program, a timeline for the delivery of defense articles and defense services, and any equipment that requires enhanced end-use monitoring: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on the use and status of funds made available in this section.

SEC. 8105. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide arms, training, or other assistance to the Azov Battalion.

SEC. 8106. During the current fiscal year, the Department of Defense is authorized to incur obligations of not to exceed \$350,000,000 for purposes specified in section 2350j(c) of title 10, United States Code, in anticipation of receipt of contributions, only from the Government of Kuwait, under that section: *Provided*, That, such contributions shall,

upon receipt, be credited to the appropriations or fund which incurred such obligations.

SEC. 8107. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide", for the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, \$1,343,580,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be available for International Security Cooperation Programs and other programs to provide support and assistance to foreign security forces or other groups or individuals to conduct, support or facilitate counterterrorism, crisis response, or building partner capacity programs: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not less than 15 days prior to obligating funds made available in this section, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any planned obligation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the use and status of funds made available in this section.

SEC. 8108. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide", for the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, \$410,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be available to reimburse Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia, and Oman under section 1226 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (22 U.S.C. 2151 note), for enhanced border security, of which not less than \$150,000,000 shall be for Jordan: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not less than 15 days prior to obligating funds made available in this section, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any planned obligation and the nature of the expenses incurred: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the use and status of funds made available in this section.

SEC. 8109. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used in contravention of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.).

SEC. 8110. None of the funds made available by this Act for excess defense articles, assistance under section 333 of title 10, United States Code, or peacekeeping operations for the countries designated annually to be in violation of the standards of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-457; 22 U.S.C. 2370c-1) may be used to support any military training or operation that includes child soldiers, as defined by the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008, unless such assistance is otherwise permitted under section 404 of the Child Soldiers Prevention Act of 2008.

SEC. 8111. None of the funds made available by this Act may be made available for any member of the Taliban.

SEC. 8112. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any transfer of funds, appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act, for support to friendly foreign countries in connection with the conduct of operations in which the United States is not participating, pursuant to section 331(d) of title 10, United States Code, shall be made in accordance with section 8005 of this Act.

SEC. 8113. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be used by the Secretary of Defense, or any other official or officer of the Department of Defense, to enter into a contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, or make a grant to, or provide a loan or loan guarantee to Rosoboronexport or any subsidiary of Rosoboronexport.

(b) The Secretary of Defense may waive the limitation in subsection (a) if the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of State and the Director of National Intelligence, determines that it is in the vital national security interest of the United States to do so, and certifies in writing to the congressional defense committees that—

(1) Rosoboronexport has ceased the transfer of lethal military equipment to, and the maintenance of existing lethal military equipment for, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic;

(2) the armed forces of the Russian Federation have withdrawn from Ukraine; and

(3) agents of the Russian Federation have ceased taking active measures to destabilize the control of the Government of Ukraine over eastern Ukraine.

(c) The Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall conduct a review of any action involving Rosoboronexport with respect to a waiver issued by the Secretary of Defense pursuant to subsection (b), and not later than 90 days after the date on which such a waiver is issued by the Secretary of Defense, the Inspector General shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report containing the results of the review conducted with respect to such waiver.

SEC. 8114. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide", for the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, \$15,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, shall be for payments to reimburse key cooperating nations for logistical, military, and other support, including access, provided to United States military and stability operations to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria: *Provided*, That such reimbursement payments may be made in such amounts as the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, and in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, may determine, based on documentation determined by the Secretary of Defense to adequately account for the support provided, and such determination is final and conclusive upon the accounting officers of the United States, and 15 days following written notification to the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided further*, That these funds may be used for the purpose of providing specialized training and procuring supplies and specialized equipment and providing such supplies and loaning such equipment on a non-reimbursable basis to coalition forces supporting United States military and stability operations to counter the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria, and 15 days following written notification to the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the use and status of funds made available in this section.

SEC. 8115. The Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees in writing not more than 30 days after the receipt of any contribution of funds received from the government of a foreign country for any purpose relating to the stationing or operations of the United States Armed Forces: *Provided*, That such notification shall include the amount of the contribution; the purpose for which such contribution was made; and the authority under which such contribution was accepted by the Secretary of Defense: *Provided further*, That not fewer than 15 days prior to obligating such funds, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees in writing a notification of the planned use of such contributions, including whether such contribu-

tions would support existing or new stationing or operations of the United States Armed Forces.

SEC. 8116. (a) The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, in coordination with the Secretaries of the military departments and the Chiefs of the Armed Forces, shall submit to the congressional defense committees, not later than 30 days after the last day of each quarter of the fiscal year, a report on the use of operation and maintenance funds for activities or exercises in excess of \$5,000,000 that have been designated by the Secretary of Defense as unplanned activities for fiscal year 2024.

(b) Each report required by subsection (a) shall also include—

(1) the title, date, and location, of each activity and exercise covered by the report;

(2) an identification of the military department and units that participated in each such activity or exercise (including an estimate of the number of participants);

(3) the total cost of the activity or exercise, by budget line item (with a breakdown by cost element such as transportation); and

(4) a short explanation of the objective of the activity or exercise.

(c) The report required by subsection (a) shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 8117. Not later than 15 days after the date on which any foreign base that involves the stationing or operations of the United States Armed Forces, including a temporary base, permanent base, or base owned and operated by a foreign country, is opened or closed, the Secretary of Defense shall notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the opening or closing of such base: *Provided*, That such notification shall also include information on any personnel changes, costs, and savings associated with the opening or closing of such base.

SEC. 8118. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used with respect to Iraq in contravention of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.), including for the introduction of United States Armed Forces into hostilities in Iraq, into situations in Iraq where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, or into Iraqi territory, airspace, or waters while equipped for combat, in contravention of the congressional consultation and reporting requirements of sections 3 and 4 of such Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1542 and 1543).

SEC. 8119. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used with respect to Syria in contravention of the War Powers Resolution (50 U.S.C. 1541 et seq.), including for the introduction of United States armed or military forces into hostilities in Syria, into situations in Syria where imminent involvement in hostilities is clearly indicated by the circumstances, or into Syrian territory, airspace, or waters while equipped for combat, in contravention of the congressional consultation and reporting requirements of sections 3 and 4 of that law (50 U.S.C. 1542 and 1543).

SEC. 8120. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act shall be obligated or expended by the United States Government for a purpose as follows:

(1) To establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Iraq.

(2) To exercise United States control over any oil resource of Iraq or Syria.

SEC. 8121. None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading "Counter-ISIS Train and Equip Fund", and under the heading "Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide" for Department of Defense security cooperation grant programs, may be used to

procure or transfer man-portable air defense systems.

SEC. 8122. Up to \$500,000,000 of funds appropriated by this Act for the Defense Security Cooperation Agency in “Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide” may be used to provide assistance to the Government of Jordan to support the armed forces of Jordan and to enhance security along its borders.

SEC. 8123. Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, United States Southern Command shall assume combatant command responsibility for activities related to Mexico.

SEC. 8124. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

(1) is not a United States citizen or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is or was held on or after June 24, 2009, at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, by the Department of Defense.

SEC. 8125. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to transfer any individual detained at United States Naval Station Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, to the custody or control of the individual’s country of origin, any other foreign country, or any other foreign entity except in accordance with section 1034 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (Public Law 114-92) and section 1035 of the John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019 (Public Law 115-232).

SEC. 8126. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to construct, acquire, or modify any facility in the United States, its territories, or possessions to house any individual described in subsection (c) for the purposes of detention or imprisonment in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense.

(b) The prohibition in subsection (a) shall not apply to any modification of facilities at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

(c) An individual described in this subsection is any individual who, as of June 24, 2009, is located at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and who—

(1) is not a citizen of the United States or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is—

(A) in the custody or under the effective control of the Department of Defense; or

(B) otherwise under detention at United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

SEC. 8127. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out the closure or realignment of the United States Naval Station, Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

SEC. 8128. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, to reflect savings due to favorable foreign exchange rates, the total amount appropriated in this Act is hereby reduced by \$950,000,000.

SEC. 8129. In carrying out the program described in the memorandum on the subject of “Policy for Assisted Reproductive Services for the Benefit of Seriously or Severely III/Injured (Category II or III) Active Duty Service Members” issued by the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs on April 3, 2012, and the guidance issued to implement such memorandum, the Secretary of Defense shall apply such policy and guidance, except that—

(1) the limitation on periods regarding embryo cryopreservation and storage set forth

in part III(G) and in part IV(H) of such memorandum shall not apply; and

(2) the term “assisted reproductive technology” shall include embryo cryopreservation and storage without limitation on the duration of such cryopreservation and storage.

SEC. 8130. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made used to support, directly or indirectly, the Wuhan Institute of Virology, or any laboratory owned or controlled by the governments of the People’s Republic of China, the Republic of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela under the Maduro regime, or any other country determined by the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to be a foreign adversary.

SEC. 8131. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to fund any work to be performed by EcoHealth Alliance, Inc. in China on research supported by the government of China unless the Secretary of Defense determines that a waiver to such prohibition is in the national security interests of the United States and, not later than 14 days after granting such a waiver, submits to the congressional defense committees a detailed justification for the waiver, including—

(1) an identification of the Department of Defense entity obligating or expending the funds;

(2) an identification of the amount of such funds;

(3) an identification of the intended purpose of such funds;

(4) an identification of the recipient or prospective recipient of such funds (including any third-party entity recipient, as applicable);

(5) an explanation for how the waiver is in the national security interests of the United States; and

(6) any other information the Secretary determines appropriate.

SEC. 8132. The Secretary of the Navy shall continue to provide pay and allowances to Lieutenant Ridge Alkonis, United States Navy, until such time as the Secretary of the Navy makes a determination with respect to the separation of Lieutenant Alkonis from the Navy.

SEC. 8133. The Secretary of Defense may obligate funds made available in this Act for procurement or for research, development, test and evaluation for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter to modify up to six F-35 aircraft, including up to two F-35 aircraft of each variant, to a test configuration: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, with the concurrence of the Secretary of the Air Force and the Secretary of the Navy, notify the congressional defense committees not fewer than 30 days prior to obligating funds under this section: *Provided further*, That any transfer of funds pursuant to the authority provided in this section shall be made in accordance with section 8005 of this Act.

SEC. 8134. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be obligated to integrate an alternative engine on any F-35 aircraft.

SEC. 8135. Funds appropriated in title III of this Act may be used to enter into a contract or contracts for the procurement of airframes and engines for the CH-53K heavy lift helicopter program.

SEC. 8136. (a) Within 45 days of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall allocate amounts made available from the Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors (CHIPS) for America Defense Fund for fiscal year 2024 pursuant to the transfer authority in section 102(b)(1) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 (division A of Public Law

117-167), to the account specified, in the amounts specified, and for the projects and activities specified, in the table titled “Department of Defense Allocation of Funds: CHIPS and Science Act Fiscal Year 2024” in the report accompanying this Act.

(b) Neither the President nor his designee may allocate any amounts that are made available for any fiscal year under section 102(b)(2) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 if there is in effect an Act making or continuing appropriations for part of a fiscal year for the Department of Defense: *Provided*, That in any fiscal year, the matter preceding this proviso shall not apply to the allocation, apportionment, or allotment of amounts for continuing administration of programs allocated using funds transferred from the CHIPS for America Defense Fund, which may be allocated pursuant to the transfer authority in section 102(b)(1) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 only in amounts that are no more than the allocation for such purposes in subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The Secretary of Defense may reallocate funds allocated by subsection (a) of this section, subject to the terms and conditions contained in the provisos in section 8005 of this Act: *Provided*, That amounts may be reallocated pursuant to this subsection only for those requirements necessary to carry out section 9903(b) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283).

(d) Concurrent with the annual budget submission of the President for fiscal year 2025, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate proposed allocations by account and by program, project, or activity, with detailed justifications, for amounts made available under section 102(b)(2) of the CHIPS Act of 2022 for fiscal year 2025.

(e) The Department of Defense shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and Senate quarterly reports on the status of balances of projects and activities funded by the CHIPS for America Defense Fund for amounts allocated pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, including all uncommitted, committed, and unobligated funds.

SEC. 8137. Of the amounts appropriated in this Act under the heading “Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-Wide” for the Office of Strategic Capital, \$99,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, shall be available for the cost of loans and loan guarantees: *Provided*, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

SEC. 8138. In addition to the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act, \$800,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the Department of Defense to assist with increasing pay for certain enlisted grades: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall change the following cells in the military monthly basic pay table that was effective as of January 1, 2023 to the following: E-1 with greater than four months in service to \$2,600.60, E-2 to \$2,799.20, E-3 with less than three years of service to \$2,900.90, E-3 with three years of service to \$2,950.60, E-3 with four years of service to \$3,000.60, E-3 with six or more years of service to \$3,050.60, E-4 with less than two years of service to \$3,010.50, E-4 with two years of service to \$3,060.60, E-4 with three years of service to \$3,100.10, E-4 with four years of service to \$3,150.80, E-4 with six years of service to \$3,210.30, E-4 with eight or more years of service to \$3,260.30, E-5 with less than two years of service to \$3,100.30, E-5 with two years of service to \$3,150.20, E-5 with three years of service to \$3,200.20, E-5 with four years of service to

\$3,250.20, E-6 with less than two years of service to \$3,210: *Provided further*, That the 5.2 percent increase in pay in the fiscal year 2024 budget request for all grades is in addition to the changes identified in this section.

SEC. 8139. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to release information described in paragraph C4.2.2.5.2 of DoD 5400.11-R regarding a current or former member of the Armed Forces to any non-Federal entity or person without the consent of such member or former member or, if the member or former member is deceased, the consent of the next of kin of such member or former member or a legally authorized representative of the estate of such member or former member, unless such information is requested under section 552 of title 5 (commonly referred to as the “Freedom of Information Act”) and such information is not exempt from disclosure under such section: *Provided*, That if such information is requested under such section, the releasing authority shall notify the member or former member who is the subject of the request or, if the member or former member is deceased, the next of kin of such member or former member, or a legally authorized representative of the estate of such member or former member, prior to the release of such information: *Provided further*, That this section shall not apply to a request for such information from a State or local law enforcement agency.

SEC. 8140. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be obligated or expended for acquisition, construction, installation, or leasing of temporary or permanent public works, military installations, facilities, and real property, or otherwise update, modernize, or repair current public works, military installations, and facilities, including leased structures, for United States Space Command until such time as the Secretary of the Air Force formally selects and publicly announces the permanent location of the United States Space Command Headquarters in alignment to the United States Air Force Selection Process for the Permanent Location of the United States Space Command Headquarters, as validated by the United States Government Accountability Office Report to Congress concerning United States Space Command (GAO-22-106055) and United States Department of Defense Inspector General Report titled “Evaluation of the Air Force Selection Process for the Permanent Location of the United States Space Command Headquarters” (DODIG-2022-096).

SEC. 8141. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to carry out sections 554(a) and 913 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283).

SEC. 8142. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to implement, administer, apply, enforce, or carry out the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Strategic Plan of the Department of Defense, or Executive Order 13985 of January 20, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 7009, relating to advancing racial equity and support for under-served communities through the Federal Government), Executive Order 14035 of June 25, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 34593, relating to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in the Federal workforce), Executive Order 14091 of February 16, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 10825, relating to further advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities through the Federal government), or shall be used to execute activities that promote or perpetuate 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 char-

acter or worth is determined by their race or sex.

SEC. 8143. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for surgical procedures or hormone therapies for the purposes of gender affirming care.

SEC. 8144. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to promote, host, facilitate, or support events on United States military installations or as part of military recruiting programs that violate the Department of Defense Joint Ethics Regulation or bring discredit upon the military, such as a drag queen story hour for children or the use of drag queens as military recruiters.

SEC. 8145. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used or transferred to another Federal agency, board, or commission to recruit, hire, or promote any person who has been convicted of a Federal or State child pornography charge, has been convicted of any other Federal or State sexual assault charge, or has been formally disciplined for using Federal resources to access, use, or sell child pornography.

SEC. 8146. None of the funds appropriated by or made available in this Act shall be used to implement, administer, or otherwise carry out the Department of Defense memorandum dated October 20, 2022, or any successor to such memorandum, or to propose, promulgate, or implement any substantially similar rule or policy.

SEC. 8147. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to finalize, promulgate, or implement the rule proposed by the Department of Defense titled “Federal Acquisition Regulation: Disclosure of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate-Related Financial Risk” (87 Fed. Reg. 68312; November 14, 2022), or to propose, promulgate, or implement any substantially similar rule or policy.

SEC. 8148. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to carry out any program, project, or activity that promotes or advances Critical Race Theory, any concept associated with Critical Race Theory, or that teaches or trains any idea or concept that condones an individual being discriminated against or receiving adverse or beneficial treatment based on race or sex, that condones an individual feeling discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress on account of that individual’s race or sex, as well as any idea or concept that regards one race as inherently superior to another race, the United States or its institutions as being systemically racist or sexist, an individual as being inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive by virtue of that individual’s race or sex, an individual’s moral character as being necessarily determined by race or sex, an individual as bearing responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex, or meritocracy being racist, sexist, or having been created by a particular race to oppress another race.

SEC. 8149. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act may be used to—

(1) classify or facilitate the classification of any communications by a United States person as mis-, dis-, or mal-information; or

(2) partner with or fund nonprofit or other organizations that pressure or recommend private companies to censor lawful and constitutionally protected speech of United States persons, including recommending the censoring or removal of content on social media platforms.

SEC. 8150. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to grant, renew, or maintain a security clearance for any individual listed as a

signatory in the statement titled “Public Statement on the Hunter Biden Emails” dated October 19, 2020.

SEC. 8151. (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).

SEC. 8152. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Secretary of Defense or the Service Secretaries to fly or display a flag over or within a facility of the Department of Defense other than the flag of the United States; the flag of a State, Territory, or District of Columbia; the flag of the Department of Defense; the flag of a Military Service; the flag of Flag or General Officers; the flag of Presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed civilians; the flag of Senior Executive Service (SES) and Military Department-specific SES; the POW/MIA flag; the flags of other countries with which the United States is an ally or partner, or for official protocol purposes; the flags of organizations in which the United States is a member, such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization; or ceremonial, command, unit, or branch flags or guidons.

SEC. 8153. (a) Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of both the

House of Representatives and Senate a report on excessive contractor payments that exceed the Truthful Cost and Pricing Act (10 U.S.C. chapter 271 and 41 U.S.C. chapter 35) threshold and with respect to which none of the exceptions to certified cost or pricing data requirements applies.

(b) The report required by subsection (a) shall also include the following:

(1) The amounts collected, adjusted, or offset from contractors as a result of providing defective cost and pricing data.

(2) The mechanisms used to identify violations of the Truthful Cost and Pricing Act (10 U.S.C. chapter 271 and 41 U.S.C. chapter 35).

(3) Disciplinary actions taken by the Department of Defense when violations of the Truthful Cost and Pricing Act (10 U.S.C. chapter 271 and 41 U.S.C. chapter 35) are identified, regardless of whether included in the System for Award Management.

(4) Any referrals made to the Department of Justice where appropriate.

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 8154. \$0.

This Act may be cited as the "Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024".

The Acting CHAIR. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived.

No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in part A of House Report 118–216, amendments en bloc described in section 3 of House Resolution 723, and pro forma amendments described in section 13 of that resolution.

Each amendment printed in the report shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 13 of House Resolution 723, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, except as provided by section 13 of House Resolution 723, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

During consideration of the bill for amendment, the chair and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to ten pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. CALVERT OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, pursuant to House Resolution 723, I offer an amendment en bloc.

The Acting CHAIR. The clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc No. 1, consisting of amendments Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 46, 47, 49, 51, and 65, printed in part A of House Report No. 118–216 offered by Mr. CALVERT of California:

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MR. JAMES OF MICHIGAN

Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$15,000,000)".

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$15,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$3,000,000) (increased by \$3,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000)".

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. CARBAJAL OF CALIFORNIA

Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$2,000,000)".

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$2,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MS. JACOBS OF CALIFORNIA

Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000)".

Page 9, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000)".

Page 9, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000)".

Page 10, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000)".

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$1,000,000)".

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 6 OFFERED BY MRS. KIGGANS OF VIRGINIA

Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000) (reduced by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MR. MCCORMICK OF GEORGIA

Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$7,750,000)".

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$7,750,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MS. STEVENS OF MICHIGAN

Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MR. WILSON OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Page 9, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MS. CARAVEO OF COLORADO

Page 9, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

Page 39, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$10,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. DAVIS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 9, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$8,606,779)".

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$8,606,779)".

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MR. FALLON OF TEXAS

Page 9, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$55,000,000)".

Page 27, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$55,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 13 OFFERED BY MR. DUNN OF FLORIDA

Page 10, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 14 OFFERED BY MR. TONY GONZALES OF TEXAS

Page 10, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$7,200,000) (increased by \$7,200,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MR. JOYCE OF OHIO

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$4,000,000) (increased by \$4,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 16 OFFERED BY MR. CROW OF COLORADO

Page 10, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000)".

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 17 OFFERED BY MR. EZELL OF MISSISSIPPI

Page 10, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$8,000,000)".

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$8,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 18 OFFERED BY MR. KELLY OF MISSISSIPPI

Page 10, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$10,000,000)".

Page 24, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$10,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 19 OFFERED BY MR. LAMBORN OF COLORADO

Page 10, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$2,500,000)".

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$2,500,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 20 OFFERED BY MR. BACON OF NEBRASKA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 21 OFFERED BY MR. BACON OF NEBRASKA

Page 10, line 19, after the first dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

Page 38, line 9, after the first dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 22 OFFERED BY MR. BANKS OF INDIANA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

Page 36, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 23 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT OF COLORADO

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$3,000,000)".

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$3,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 24 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT OF COLORADO

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,000,000)".

Page 28, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$5,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 25 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT OF COLORADO

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$3,000,000)".

Page 44, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 15, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 26 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT
OF COLORADO

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 27 OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLLY
OF VIRGINIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000) (reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 28 OFFERED BY MR. CROW OF
COLORADO

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,500,000)”.

Page 39, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 30 OFFERED BY MR.
FITZGERALD OF WISCONSIN

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$4,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$4,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 31 OFFERED BY MR.
FITZPATRICK OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 32 OFFERED BY MR. GARAMENDI
OF CALIFORNIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000) (increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MR. GARBARINO
OF NEW YORK

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 35 OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN
OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 1 after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MR. ISSA OF
CALIFORNIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 37 OFFERED BY MR. JAMES OF
MICHIGAN

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 38 OFFERED BY MR. JAMES OF
MICHIGAN

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$122,600,000)”.

Page 33, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$122,600,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 39 OFFERED BY MR. JOYCE OF
PENNSYLVANIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$15,000,000)”.

Page 27, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$15,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 40 OFFERED BY MS. KAMLAGER-
DOVE OF CALIFORNIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$7,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 41 OFFERED BY MR. KEATING OF
MASSACHUSETTS

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 42 OFFERED BY MR. KELLY OF
MISSISSIPPI

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 46 OFFERED BY MRS. LUNA OF
FLORIDA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 47 OFFERED BY MR. LUTTRELL
OF TEXAS

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$15,000,000)”.

Page 24, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$15,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 49 OFFERED BY MR. LUTTRELL
OF TEXAS

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 43 OFFERED BY MRS. MCCLAIN
OF MICHIGAN

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$7,500,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 65 OFFERED BY MS. SHERRILL
OF NEW JERSEY

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, these are noncontroversial amendments supported by both sides.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I support this amendment. It contains a series of bipartisan amendments in support of Member priorities on both sides. We have no objections, and we encourage the adoption of this amendment, and I wish this in the spirit in which this bill had originally been written.

If the gentleman from California has no other comments, I am ready to yield back.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 2 OFFERED BY MR.
CALVERT OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, pursuant to House Resolution 723, I offer amendment en bloc.

The Acting CHAIR. The clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

En bloc No. 2, consisting of amendment Nos. 43, 44, 45, 50, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 99, 101, 103, 105, 106, 107, 108, and 109, printed in part A of House Report 118–216, offered by Mr. CALVERT of California:

AMENDMENT NO. 43 OFFERED BY MS. KUSTER OF
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$12,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$12,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 44 OFFERED BY MR. LIEU OF
CALIFORNIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$7,500,000)”.

Page 39, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 45 OFFERED BY MR. LIEU OF
CALIFORNIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 50 OFFERED BY MR. LYNCH OF
MASSACHUSETTS

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(decreased by \$4,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$4,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 52 OFFERED BY MRS. MCCLAIN
OF MICHIGAN

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 53 OFFERED BY MRS. MCCLAIN
OF MICHIGAN

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$25,000,000)”.

Page 27, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$25,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 54 OFFERED BY MR. MCCORMICK
OF GEORGIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$4,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$4,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 55 OFFERED BY MRS. MILLER OF
WEST VIRGINIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 56 OFFERED BY MR. MILLS OF
FLORIDA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 58 OFFERED BY MR. NORCROSS
OF NEW JERSEY

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 59 OFFERED BY MR. PERRY OF
PENNSYLVANIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 60 OFFERED MR. RASKIN OF
MARYLAND

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(reduced by \$2,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(increased by \$2,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(increased by \$2,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(increased by \$2,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 61 OFFERED BY MR. AUSTIN
SCOTT OF GEORGIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$4,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$4,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 62 OFFERED BY MR. SESSIONS
OF TEXAS

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 63 OFFERED BY MS. SEWELL OF
ALABAMA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 64 OFFERED BY MS. SHERRILL
OF NEW JERSEY

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,500,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 75 OFFERED BY MR. SORENSEN
OF ILLINOIS

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 76 OFFERED BY MR. STRONG OF
ALABAMA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,500,000)”.

Page 36, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 77 OFFERED BY MR. STRONG OF
ALABAMA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 78 OFFERED BY MRS. TRAHAN
OF MASSACHUSETTS

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 79 OFFERED BY MRS. TRAHAN
OF MASSACHUSETTS

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$6,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$6,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 80 OFFERED BY MR. TURNER OF
OHIO

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,500,000)”.

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 81 OFFERED BY MS.
WASSERMAN SCHULTZ OF FLORIDA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 82 OFFERED BY MR. WILSON OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$16,500,000)”.

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$16,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 83 OFFERED BY MR. WILSON OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$6,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$6,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 84 OFFERED BY MR. LAMBORN
OF COLORADO

Page 19, line 3, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,500,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 85 OFFERED BY MR. VASQUEZ
OF NEW MEXICO

Page 21, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 87 OFFERED BY MR. JOYCE OF
PENNSYLVANIA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 88 OFFERED BY MS. TENNEY OF
NEW YORK

Page 33, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$150,000,000)(increased by \$150,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 90 OFFERED BY MS. JACKSON
LEE OF TEXAS

Page 36, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 91 OFFERED BY MR. DUNN OF
FLORIDA

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$7,000,000) (increased by \$7,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 92 OFFERED BY MRS.
FISCHBACH OF MINNESOTA

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$8,400,000)(increased by \$8,400,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 93 OFFERED BY MR. GUEST OF
MISSISSIPPI

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 94 OFFERED BY MR. HERN OF
OKLAHOMA

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000) (reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 95 OFFERED BY MR. HUDSON OF
NORTH CAROLINA

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 96 OFFERED BY MRS. LESKO OF
ARIZONA

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000) (increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 97 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN
OF MASSACHUSETTS

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$11,000,000) (increased by \$11,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 99 OFFERED BY MRS. MILLER OF
WEST VIRGINIA

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$7,000,000) (increased by \$7,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 101 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO
OF NEW YORK

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000) (increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 103 OFFERED BY MR. MOYLAN
OF GUAM

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$100,000,000)”.

Page 40, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 105 OFFERED BY MR. WILSON OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000) (increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 106 OFFERED BY MR. EZELL OF
MISSISSIPPI

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$4,000,000)”.

Page 41, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$4,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 107 OFFERED BY MR. C. SCOTT
FRANKLIN OF FLORIDA

On page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increase by \$10,000,000)(decrease by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 108 OFFERED BY MR. C. SCOTT
FRANKLIN OF FLORIDA

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$6,500,000)”.

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(decreased by \$6,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 109 OFFERED BY MR. JOHNSON
OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$7,000,000)(increased by \$7,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, these are noncontroversial amendments supported by both sides.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR).

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, our country has no greater responsibility than to protect and defend this Nation and its Constitution from all enemies, foreign and domestic, and I thank Ranking Member MCCOLLUM for yielding me time to speak as a member of the Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations.

I am deeply disappointed, I have to say, overall by the bill that the majority has forced to the Floor today. America and our allies are grappling with an increasingly dynamic and dangerous world. Global challenges include real enemies, as well as the unpredictability of nature and climate change, and we now see artificial intelligence threatening to further destabilize the world that we rely on for liberty and prosperity.

Russia is waging a war of aggression against a neighboring democratic state, while China is outpacing our

military development and has positioned itself as a significant geopolitical competitor on many levels.

It is our responsibility and that of the annual Defense Appropriations legislation to ensure we are prepared to surmount these threats. However, the majority's legislation is distracted and consumed by division instead of policies that would ensure the safety of our Nation's most important Defense asset, our brave men and women in uniform.

In another year, I could be proud of important provisions, including support for research, testing and manufacturing of space technologies that would define how our future wars might be fought, many of which, by the way, are being developed in my home State of Ohio.

Instead, this legislation focuses on divisive policies never seen in a Defense Appropriations bill, like banning diversity and inclusion programs in this diverse Nation, targeting women and LGBTQ and servicemembers, and preventing the Department of Defense from addressing the very real dangers of disinformation campaigns and extremist rhetoric in our military.

Enacting these proposals would have disastrous consequences for the morale and readiness of our Armed Forces, worsening the unprecedented recruitment shortfalls they already face. While the legislation maintains funding for many key security commitments to our crucial allies by fully funding key regional security initiatives, it fails to innovate or provide expansion of funding necessary to meet the moment, which is newly defined by the largest war for liberty since World War II, being fought as we speak in the Nation of Ukraine. I could say so much on this.

The Ukrainian people and their east European neighbors—

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. KAPTUR. Might I ask for an additional 10 seconds.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. CALVERT. I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Guam (Mr. MOYLAN).

Mr. MOYLAN. Mr. Chair, I rise to speak up for the people of Guam, who are facing immediate danger from the Chinese and North Korean missiles. China's DF-26 missiles has been dubbed the Guam Killer.

Also, North Korea repeatedly threatens my island, and our American defense systems cannot simultaneously track or shoot down missiles from two directions at once.

Let's also be mindful of the fact that servicemembers from across the Nation serve on Guam and face similar peril.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment with the safety of your constituents in mind. Please vote to protect the people of Guam and vote in favor of my amendment to truly fund Guam missile defense.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from

Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of Representative WILSON of South Carolina and my bipartisan amendment supporting efforts to modernize personal equipment for female servicemembers and small-statured servicemembers.

Twenty percent of our servicemembers are women serving our Nation. It is alarming, Mr. Chair, that, according to a new Army report, nearly half of female servicemembers in the Army Special Operations Command have trouble accessing and acquiring equipment that is the right size for them.

Imagine one of these warriors are in the battlefield, they are facing an enemy combatant, and their ill-fitting body armor prevents them from proper use of their rifle. That puts them at severe risk for harm and prevents them from executing their duty.

There is no excuse for not giving these patriots the equipment and tools to allow them to do their job safely and effectively. Our military women, they leave their families, they train hard, and are willing to risk their lives to defend our freedom. We need to do a better job to stand up for theirs.

I urge my colleagues to join me and my friend Representative WILSON of South Carolina in a bipartisan amendment to make sure that all our servicemembers have the equipment that they need to keep them safe and do their job effectively.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chair, this amendment provides \$11 million within Army Research, Development, Testing and Evaluation, Line 44, for the Autonomous Vehicle Mobility project to modernize combat vehicles for multi-domain operations.

The development of next generation combat vehicles for multi-domain battle operations is one of the Army's six modernization priorities. These military vehicles are meant to increase the firepower, speed, and survivability of land forces, allowing them to maneuver into superior positions on the battlefield and to pair with robotic vehicles. The has been actively conducting basic and applied R&D of autonomous ground vehicles, but additional resources are needed to successfully transition novel technologies into functioning prototypes.

This amendment provides funding to establish the nation's first national-level laboratory facility of the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Ground Vehicle Systems Center. The facility will be dedicated to autonomous mobility, maneuverability, and energy efficiency with an emphasis on complex terrains and adversarial environments. It will serve as a research hub and amplify collaboration between the U.S. military, universities, industry partners, and NATO nations. The results of such collaboration will enable our troops to have an unparalleled edge on the battlefield and in tactical situations.

I urge my colleagues to support this modest investment and to vote in favor of En Bloc No. 2.

Mr. SORENSEN. Mr. Chair, the annual Defense Appropriations bill is one of the best tools we have to strengthen our national security and foster innovation.

This year's bill includes a well-deserved 5.2 percent pay raise for our troops and \$12.5 million dollars to support the Rock Island Arsenal and manufacturing jobs in my district.

Workers in Central and Northwestern Illinois take great pride in supplying our military with new equipment that helps service members safely defend and protect our nation.

That is why I'm proud to introduce my amendment to fund novel technology that can 3D print high-strength, lightweight carbon fiber composite parts into state-of-the-art wings for Unmanned Air Vehicles.

This new technology will produce wings roughly 10 times faster than traditional technologies on the market, allowing for the fabrication of a wing in a single day and assisting the military in meeting the demand for Collaborative Combat Aircraft.

At the same time, this funding will create good-paying jobs for the families in my neighborhood.

I urge Congress to pass my amendment and get this project off the ground for our taxpayers and for our national defense.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. CALVERT OF CALIFORNIA

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, pursuant to House Resolution 723, I offer an amendment en bloc.

The Acting CHAIR. The clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

En bloc No. 3, consisting of amendment Nos. 86, 89, 98, 100, 102, 104, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, and 159, printed in part A of House report No. 118-216, offered by Mr. CALVERT of California:

AMENDMENT NO. 86 OFFERED BY MS. TITUS OF NEVADA

Page 27, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$750,000)".

Page 36, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$750,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 89 OFFERED BY MR. LAHOOD OF ILLINOIS

Page 35, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$4,300,000) (increased by \$4,300,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 98 OFFERED BY MR. MCGOVERN OF MASSACHUSETTS

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$8,400,000)(increased by \$8,400,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 100 OFFERED BY MR. MILLS OF FLORIDA

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$3,000,000)(reduced by \$3,000,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 102 OFFERED BY MR. MORELLE OF NEW YORK

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$5,600,000) (increased by \$5,600,000)".

AMENDMENT NO. 104 OFFERED BY MS. SCANLON OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$15,000,000)(increased by \$15,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 110 OFFERED BY MR. LALOTA OF NEW YORK

Page 38, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,500,000)(increased by \$5,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 111 OFFERED BY MR. PETERS OF CALIFORNIA

Page 38, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$8,000,000)(increased by \$8,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 112 OFFERED BY MR. PETERS OF CALIFORNIA

Page 38, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$8,500,000)(increased by \$8,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 113 OFFERED BY MR. SELF OF TEXAS

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 41, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 114 OFFERED BY MR. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY

Page 38, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$4,000,000)”.

Page 41, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$4,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 115 OFFERED BY MR. BILIRAKIS OF FLORIDA

On page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$4,500,000) (increased by \$4,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 116 OFFERED BY MR. CAREY OF OHIO

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,000,000) (reduced by \$7,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 117 OFFERED BY MR. JOYCE OF OHIO

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 118 OFFERED BY MR. LAMBORN OF COLORADO

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 40, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 119 OFFERED BY MS. LETLOW OF LOUISIANA

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000) (reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 120 OFFERED BY MS. PETTERSEN OF COLORADO

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 41, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 121 OFFERED BY MS. SEWELL OF ALABAMA

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(decrease by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increase by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 122 OFFERED BY MR. SOTO OF FLORIDA

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 123 OFFERED BY MS. TENNEY OF NEW YORK

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$44,000,000)(increased by \$44,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 124 OFFERED BY MR. WENSTRUP OF OHIO

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 126 OFFERED BY MR. HUIZENGA OF MICHIGAN

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000) (increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 127 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 128 OFFERED BY MR. CAREY OF OHIO

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 129 OFFERED BY MR. DAVIS OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$8,000,000)(increased by \$8,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 130 OFFERED BY MR. DELUZIO OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 131 OFFERED BY MR. ELLZEY OF TEXAS

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 132 OFFERED BY MRS. HOUCHIN OF INDIANA

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$6,500,000) (increased by \$6,500,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 133 OFFERED BY MR. HUDSON OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 134 OFFERED BY MRS. KIGGANS OF VIRGINIA

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000) (reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 135 OFFERED BY MR. MILLS OF FLORIDA

Page 39, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000) (increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 136 OFFERED BY MR. WENSTRUP OF OHIO

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$7,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 138 OFFERED BY MRS. KIGGANS OF VIRGINIA

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 139 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO OF NEW YORK

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$4,000,000) (reduced by \$4,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 140 OFFERED BY MR. ROUZER OF NORTH CAROLINA

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,800,000) (reduced by \$7,800,000)”.

Page 42, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$7,800,000)”.

Page 42, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$7,800,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 141 OFFERED BY MR. COHEN OF TENNESSEE

Page 42, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$200,000)”.

Page 42, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$200,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 142 OFFERED BY MRS. KIGGANS OF VIRGINIA

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1,000,000) (reduced by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 143 OFFERED BY MR. FINSTAD OF MINNESOTA

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 144 OFFERED BY MR. BERGMAN OF MICHIGAN

Page 42, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$842,000) (increased by \$842,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 145 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO OF NEW YORK

Page 42, line 25, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$9,000,000) (reduced by \$9,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 146 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO OF NEW YORK

Page 44, line 12, after the first dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 13, after the first dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 45, line 10, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 45, line 11, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 147 OFFERED BY MR. WILLIAMS OF NEW YORK

Page 39, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(reduced by \$5,000,000) (increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 148 OFFERED BY MR. ALFORD OF MISSOURI

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 38, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 159 OFFERED BY MR. FRY OF SOUTH CAROLINA

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. ____ None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to eliminate a unit of the Senior Reserve Officers' Training Corps at an institution of higher education.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT) and the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

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Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, these are noncontroversial amendments supported by both sides.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE), in support of this en bloc, which I also support.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman for her courtesies.

However, I am particularly concerned as we move forward. This bill directly impacts the men and women who have unselfishly put on the uniform.

I am grateful to the chair and ranking member for working together, but let me be very clear, we have an overall defense bill that is enormously challenging for the American people.

First, it is important for them to know that the members of the United States military, women in particular—1 in 5 members of the military are women—will be blocked from reproductive services that are necessary. Those women, in particular, that live in the State of Texas will be blocked from achieving the reproductive health that they need.

The LGBTQ+ community is also negatively impacted by healthcare.

Mr. Chairman, this has nothing to do with military preparedness and should not be involved. In addition, the general has offered a commitment to electric vehicles, but yet this bill cuts \$714 million.

Mr. Chair, I rise today to say I do not want a government shutdown, but I would like us to do the right thing. Democrats don't want a government shutdown. We are obviously fighting against those who are getting direction from the former President who says to shut it down.

I am very grateful that my amendment dealing with triple negative breast cancer is in this legislation. This is very important to me. It seeks to allocate \$10 million to fund triple negative breast cancer research. This issue is extremely important, especially for the brave men and women in the military who are 20 to 40 percent more likely to develop breast cancer.

Mr. Chair, I offer my appreciation to both the military and the Biden administration for making research into breast cancer a priority. This amendment would allow for more research so that we can one day, hopefully, learn a way to reduce this most devastating aspect of breast cancer. This has a more deadlier impact—that is why it is called triple negative breast cancer—that targets women.

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to support this amendment, the Jackson Lee amendment, and a complete defense bill that responds to the needs of the United States military.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chairman, I rise to speak in support of the Jackson Lee Amendment [#90/#233] to H.R. 4365—the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024.

I want to thank my colleagues on the Rules Committee for making this amendment in order.

The Jackson Lee Amendment [#90/#233] is a simple and straightforward amendment in an unfortunate and distracting appropriations bill.

Namely, the Jackson Lee Amendment [#90/#233] seeks to allocate \$10 million to fund triple negative breast cancer research.

This issue is extremely important, especially for the brave men and women in the military, who are up to 20–40 percent more likely to develop breast cancer.

I must offer my appreciation to both the military and the Biden administration for making research into breast cancer a priority, but there is still work to be done.

The Jackson Lee Amendment [#90/#233] would allow for more research so we can one day hopefully learn a way to reduce the number of military personnel affected by breast cancer.

Several initiatives I have designed in the past have aided active-duty servicemen and women along with veterans, such as enforcing accurate reporting of maternity mortality rates among the Armed Forces, addressing physical and mental health concerns, and securing authorization for Triple Negative Breast Cancer as well as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

I am very proud of the work that I and Congress have done to address the health concerns of active duty and veteran servicemen and women, but there are still improvements to be made.

The men and women who are on the front lines or have already completed their valiant service to this country have many pressing issues and challenges they already must face; breast cancer should not be one of them.

Our service members fight and sacrifice for our freedoms.

Now, as lawmakers, we should be working to ensure to protect their lives and freedoms—not trying to take their rights away.

While the negatives of this defense appropriations bill disappointedly outweigh my positive amendment, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of the Jackson Lee Amendment [#90/#233]—notwithstanding my strong opposition and encouragement to vote down the underlying bill.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Wisconsin, a retired Navy SEAL.

Mr. VAN ORDEN. Mr. Chair, I rise today with deep, deep reservations about the provisions in this bill funding the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, a program that has been in place since 2016.

Today, the United States has given \$113 billion in security and humanitarian aid to Ukraine for their war against Russia. I acknowledge the fact that is an illegal war and Vladimir Putin should be punished. However, I am not happy with the level of visibility that we have given to this funding.

The United States Government must be in charge of our foreign policy. The United States Government must be in charge of our defense policies, and we should not be handing these over to the Ukrainian Government.

We are funding Ukrainians, we are paying their salaries for their troops and giving them stipends when we are potentially looking forward to shutting down our government due to Democratic intransigence, which means we will not be funding our own troops. This is simply unacceptable.

Before any new money is dispensed to Ukraine, we need a strategic exit plan from the Biden administration with quantifiable metrics. Still, I will not allow D.C.'s dysfunction to undermine our national security and hurt our military families and will support the

underlying bill, again, with great reservations.

We must fund our military and we must pay our troops.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I just want to be clear, in this bill we pay for our troops and our military to equip and do training, but in this bill there is no funding for salaries for Ukrainian troops.

Mr. Chair, I thank the chair for working in such a bipartisan fashion for these en bloc amendments, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Chair, this amendment offered by Congressman BRIAN FITZPATRICK and myself provides a modest \$8.4 million within Army Research, Development, Evaluation and Testing, Line 59, Night Vision System Advanced Development, for the Micro-LED Soldier Systems Display Prototype.

The funds provided by this amendment will support the design, development, and delivery of the U.S. Army's next generation full-color LED micro-display prototype, which will be specifically tailored for dismounted soldier applications such as the Integrated Visual Augmentation System Heads Up Display and the Next Generation Squad Weapon Sight Optic.

The next generation of LED displays promise brightness levels that significantly exceed the Pentagon's most stringent requirements for both monochrome and full-color displays. The funds provided in this amendment will support the design, development, and delivery of a technology readiness Level 7 full-color LED micro-display prototype. In addition, this project will enhance the soldier's target detection capability and eye safety. Clearly, Mr. Chair, this is a win-win that provides desperately needed solutions and safeguards the health and security of our soldiers.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment and to vote in favor of En Bloc No. 3.

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Chair, I want to commend the managers of the House Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2024 Appropriations bill for including my amendment No. 122 in En Bloc 3, to provide a \$5 million increase within the Air Force RDT&E account, to the Air Force Research Lab (AFRL) trusted microchip manufacturing prototype program in the en bloc package.

Microelectronics support nearly all DoD activities, enabling capabilities such as the global positioning system, radar, command and control, and communication. Ensuring secure access to leading-edge microelectronics, however, is a challenge. The pandemic exposed the challenges associated with the global supply chain, the changing global semiconductor industry, and the sophistication of U.S. adversaries, who might target military electronic components.

The AFRL is working on a new modeling and simulation research program to advance next generation semiconductor design and manufacturing, called a secure digital twin. Funding for the zero-trust environment for semiconductor technology will help provide the capabilities to deliver solutions to protect against malicious function insertion, fraudulent products, theft of intellectual property, and reliability failures within DoD semiconductors.

I believe Congress should continue to provide the resources necessary to update our domestic microelectronics security framework. I am proud of the work being undertaken in

my district's semiconductor technology district, known as NeoCity, to support domestic semiconductor manufacturing technology development as we work to address this critical supply chain. I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues to support this goal.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 29 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 34 OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 34 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$50,000,000)".

Page 36, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$50,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Chairman, defense-centric, small businesses, and the industrial base face unique challenges in creating new advanced production lines, scaling, expanding manufacturing capacity, and in competing and leading to issues with how to best support our warfighters with key advanced defense capabilities.

For many of these U.S. businesses, translating investments into marketable products and services remains a challenge. As job creation engines, start-ups are vital to the American economy, but they often lack the resources to bring good ideas to market or to establish a contract with the Department of Defense.

That is why I introduced my bipartisan bill, H.R. 3147, which establishes a defense industrial base advanced capabilities pilot program, to help small businesses bridge that gap between creating innovative ideas to help our servicemembers, and the time that it takes to get to full production capacity.

This bill builds on the success of SBIR and STTR programs to further increase private-sector commercialization of innovations derived from federally funded R&D.

I was very proud to see this bill included in this year's NDAA in Section 853 of the House-passed bill and in Section 831 of the Senate-passed bill, and now we just need to fund it.

Due to its targeted support to small businesses, it is no surprise that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has made this effort a top legislative priority, and I am very proud to have had their support over the years to make this much-needed change.

What does this amendment do?

This amendment would direct \$50 million in O&M defense-wide to the Defense Production Act purchases account to fund the Advanced Defense Capabilities Pilot Program. Funding in fiscal year 2024 would accelerate the scaling, production, manufacturing, and acquisition of defense-centric advanced capabilities to bolster DIB resilience and modernize and increase our competition advantage versus China and other adversaries.

The public-private partnership pilot funding would increase support and investments for domestic small, advanced defense-focused businesses, and stimulate key defense-centric industrial base markets, create new production lines, decrease defense-centric manufacturing supply chain vulnerabilities, provide advisory and scaling support, and unlock private equity capital for advanced warfighting capability aligned with the National Defense Strategy.

Due to this targeted support to small businesses, it is really no surprise that the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has made this effort a top legislative priority, and I am very proud to have their support.

As a former engineer and entrepreneur, I know how urgent this legislation is, and we have to support our talented entrepreneurs in translating their innovative ideas into marketable products and cutting edge technologies and to make sure that many endeavors don't fail because they lack access to capital.

Mr. Chair, I very much appreciate your support for this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chairman, I claim time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. VAN ORDEN). The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment. The bill has a constrained top line. I cannot support directing \$50 million to a pilot program.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote against this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Chairman, I yield 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), the ranking member, in support of my amendment.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania for bringing this forward. I wholeheartedly support her amendment, and I hope that it will be adopted in the bill.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 48 OFFERED BY MR. LUTTRELL

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 48 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount insert the following: "(reduced by \$15,000,000) (increased by \$15,000,000)".

Page 42, line 14, after the dollar amount insert the following: "(reduced by \$15,000,000) (increased by \$15,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LUTTRELL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer an amendment to H.R. 4365, which would provide \$15 million in funding for a plant-based or psychedelic clinical trial authorized in the House version of the fiscal year 2024 NDAA.

Mr. Chairman, I can personally attest to the benefits in treating post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, and chronic traumatic encephalopathy through the use of psychedelic substances. There is a stigma that exists within this body that I believe stems from a lack of education and experience around the clinical use of plant-based or psychedelic medications.

I understand that when many of my colleagues hear the word psychedelics they think of mushrooms and so on. This isn't what we are talking about today. Unfortunately, the stigma has led to the slow or no adoption of medical procedures that may have saved countless lives of our servicemembers, veterans, and first responders.

Mr. Chairman, it is our duty to explore all options when the lives of our Nation's most precious resources, our sons and daughters, mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters are at stake.

Mr. Chair, I urge the adoption of my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman from Texas for sharing his journey, and I am glad he is doing well.

I don't oppose the study of many of these drugs, but I am going to lay out why, in this particular instance, I am going to oppose this.

On this floor we have had many a debate about whether or not medical

marijuana should be used for post-traumatic stress for veterans and whether we should do research and all kinds of things, things I have supported. Time and time again we haven't done that, in part because it is a schedule I class drug.

The Department is concerned about a study involving Active-Duty servicemembers. They acknowledge, and I am glad that they do, that the benefits are being pursued by veterans. The implementation for Active-Duty servicemembers would be much more challenging at this time because it involves questions around clearances, legal hurdles, and the logistics that would just appear to hamper the success of a pilot program or study with Active-Duty servicemembers.

As I said, schedule I—I gave the example of marijuana—under the Controlled Substances Act means that they have a high potential for abuse and there is no currently accepted medical treatment in the United States for this right now. There is a lack of accepted safety and there is no medical supervision in a way we can move forward.

For this reason, the Defense Health Agency does not believe it could be implemented. I support working with the Department of Veterans Affairs to look at anything we can do to help welcome our servicemen and servicewomen home and to find the help that they need.

Currently, with the way that this amendment is written, I reluctantly cannot support the gentleman's amendment. I look forward to working with the gentleman in the future on this.

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

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Chairman, I thank the gentlewoman and I appreciate that as a veteran.

I hold degrees in psychology and applied cognizant neuroscience. I have spent the better part of a decade studying our servicemembers, Active-Duty members, veterans, and first responders in the space of cognitive disability and decline.

We lose 22-plus a day in the veterans' space. We lose members in the active-service space as well, daily. I have traveled the country studying the aggressive nature of treatments in spaces like our cognitive decline, like selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, and other modalities.

The numbers that we are seeing are not decreasing, they are increasing. As we transition out of these wars that we fought for so many years, we have to do something more aggressive.

I say clinical studies and clinical trials inside the DOD because it is applicable and it is appropriate. We have some of the most brilliant researchers on the planet that can study this and move this effectively so we can treat the men and women that serve our country.

These medications have short-term—no long-term residual side effects—

short-term, if anything. The effects are groundbreaking. We are at a preface. I hate the fact that the word psychedelic scares everybody. I hate that word myself. When I try to think of a creative term to title this, it always cycles back to the word psychedelics, and that is unfortunate, it is. We have to look past that.

I have never done a drug in my entire life. As a matter of fact, I would tell no one to do this because the aggressiveness of it is so life-changing, but it is effective. That is why I continue to push forward, and I think it is time and its effectiveness needs to be implemented now.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. LUTTRELL).

The amendment was agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 57 will not be offered.

The Chair understands that amendment Nos. 66 through 74 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 125 OFFERED BY MS. NORTON

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 125 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 39, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000) (reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would allocate \$10 million for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Space Force, with the intent that the funds be used for the Space Force Rocket Systems Launch Program. This funding would continue the ongoing single-stage-to-orbit propulsion research that we have funded over the past 3 years and ensure that the commercial space access provider supply chain is as large as possible.

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to support this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chairman, I claim time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I rise in reluctant opposition to this amendment. The amendment proposes to develop a single-stage-to-orbit rocket. The idea of a single-stage-to-orbit rocket is appealing, but the laws of physics are stubborn.

In the early 2000s, I was the chair of the Space and Aeronautics Committee

at the time, and NASA and industry spent more than a billion dollars on such a concept and concluded that it wasn't practical or feasible.

I am not aware of any facts that changed that conclusion. I urge my colleagues to vote against this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 137 OFFERED BY MR. CRENSHAW

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 137 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 42, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert the following: “(reduced by \$200,000) (increased by \$200,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CRENSHAW) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. CRENSHAW. I rise today to offer amendment No. 137, which takes the simple yet important step of directing the Defense Health Agency to report to Congress on options for allowing Active-Duty servicemembers to participate in VA psychedelic-assisted therapy clinical trials.

I repeat, these clinical trials are already happening in partnership with the VA, and there is no reason that we should not be looking at the benefits of this research for our men and women that are already currently serving our country actively.

Mr. Chair, I want to be really clear about why I am supporting this small step to research psychedelic-assisted therapy for Active-Duty servicemembers. This is not about legalization. This is not about recreational use. It is about honoring our promise to our military families and confronting the high incidence of suicide in the military and veteran community.

There is a reason for the high rate of suicide—it is the trauma of serving. There are more than 20 veterans who kill themselves every day and 27 percent of post-9/11 veterans are diagnosed with PTSD.

We have a crisis, and the idea that we wouldn't research potential breakthrough treatments is unacceptable. The status quo is inadequate and it won't stop servicemembers and veterans from committing suicide. I believe this research will.

I have good reason for believing that, so let's look at the data. The most recent phase III clinical trials with MDMA found that 86 percent of the study participants had reduced PTSD symptoms and 71 percent didn't even qualify as having PTSD anymore.

Most people hear the word psychedelics and think of Woodstock. This is not the 1960s LSD trip that many people might be imagining. Some groups are actively lobbying Congress—no, this is not the work of the devil.

It is not the work of the devil when this treatment is actually saving families and keeping families together. This therapy is supervised by medical practitioners, and it occurs with repeat treatments in a very controlled setting. Oftentimes, it is a one- or two-time treatment and follow-up results reveal that the positive effects continue for years, even after just one treatment.

These clinical trials are already changing the lives of people I know. I have so many close friends of mine who can say that they are alive today because of this treatment. Their marriages have survived because of this treatment. The idea that we wouldn't even research it—that we would keep this out of the hands of people who need it is appalling, frankly.

We should be listening to these stories. They have come up on Capitol Hill multiple times. For the Members we say: We need to learn more. We don't know enough. Well, why would you get in the way of more research?

You haven't come and listened to these veterans and these servicemembers when they have come up and told their stories. They have come up many, many times. We shouldn't make them come up here and spill their guts anymore. We should listen to them and we should act on it.

Mr. Chair, I unapologetically support this research. We shouldn't think twice about it. We owe this to our servicemembers and we owe it to their families. This is a really small but a positive step in the right direction.

I think the VA and the Department of Defense need to coordinate on this research into this psychedelic-assisted therapy, and that is all this amendment does. I encourage my colleagues to support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CRENSHAW).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 149 OFFERED BY MR. BIGGS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 149 printed in part A of House Report 118–216.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 10, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$300,000,000)”.

Page 118, line 4, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$300,000,000)”.

Page 146, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$300,000,000)”.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Chair, I rise to speak in support of my amendment that cuts \$300 million in funding for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative. I encourage all of my colleagues to support that.

The fiscal year 2024 Defense Appropriations bill authorizes a total \$826.45 billion in new discretionary spending. This figure is \$28.71 billion or 3.6 percent more than the fiscal year 2023 enacted level.

Currently, the United States has committed over \$113 billion in military, economic, and humanitarian assistance to protect Ukraine's border, but we can't fund our own border to protect our citizens from the fentanyl pouring across our southern border that is killing over 290 Americans daily, and the trafficking that the Mexican cartels are engaging in.

Mr. Chair, I find myself asking this question: How is it that we are willing to send over \$100 billion to Ukraine, and in this bill an additional \$300 million, but we can't spend the money or find the ability and will to secure our own border?

With no end in sight, we cannot continue to blank-check fund a war when this administration said that we are going to stay there as long as it takes and spend as much as it takes. We don't really know why we are there, but we have morphed into a regime-change objective.

I would ask: What does that regime change look like? How are you going to get there? What is going to be the extent of our participation?

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, Ukraine is a democracy. It is a democracy fighting for its life every single day, and the world is watching. The brave men and women of Ukraine are fighting to protect their democracy.

Vladimir Putin violated international law with his illegal invasion of Ukraine. Putin and his thugs are committing war crimes on a mass scale in Ukraine, including the senseless murder of civilians, even while they are in the hospital.

He continues to violate international laws by deliberately targeting marketplaces, supermarkets, daycares, and apartment buildings. Putin has also broken other international laws by permitting—encouraging, not just permitting—encouraging the abduction of Ukrainian children to be taken from their families and their parents.

Democracies need to stand together, and that is what they have been doing. It is the responsibility of the United States, the strongest democracy, and all nations that respect democratically elected governments to support Ukraine's fight against this unlawful Russian aggression.

That is exactly why we have seen such a global response to these atrocities. Our allies, our partners, our fellow democracies are also supporting Ukraine in this fight by providing tanks donated by allies and partners; air defense artillery rounds donated by allies and partners; fighter aircraft donated 100 percent by allies and partners; mid- to long-range air defense systems 75 percent donated by allies and partners; counter unmanned aerial systems 69 percent donated by allies and partners; 155-millimeter artillery systems 64 percent donated by allies and partners; Armor, personnel carriers, infantry fighting vehicles 63 percent donated by allies and partners; Stinger missiles 52 percent donated by allies and partners; Javelin command launch units 52 percent donated by allies and partners; Javelin missiles 46 percent donated by allies and partners.

America is not providing support alone. The democracies are together on this.

I would point out for a fact that when Ukraine decided to become a democracy, to engage in the free world, they gave up their nuclear weapons. They gave them up. What they are just asking for us right now is to support a fellow democracy.

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Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to strongly oppose this amendment. Support Ukrainians in their struggle to defend their homeland.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Chair, it is interesting to hear that. I appreciate those comments. Explain to me, then, how this administration and our allies have lost contact and cannot provide a full accounting of all of the money we have sent and all the materiel we have sent.

Here is an example of that: When we talk about insufficient oversight of funding going towards Ukraine, the Pentagon has overestimated the value of the weapons it has sent to Ukraine by \$6.2 billion over the past 2 years. They have overestimated it.

How have central African nations reported that U.S. materiel has been found in the hands of warlords in their areas, in their own countries, rebellious warlords fighting them with U.S. materiel?

How is it that we have gone from supplying surplus to supplying our own inventory, where our own stocks are going to take in some instances 7 to 10 years to rebuild, to put our own Nation in jeopardy?

The democratic peace theory was debunked 20 years ago, and that is the argument I heard today; basically, the democratic peace theory. That was utterly debunked.

This administration has also provided no explanation on what the objective is, what does it look like. The objective is to stay as long as it takes. What does that mean? Another 20-, 30-year war that we are participating in funding? Not only as long as it takes, but as much as it takes.

We are \$33 trillion in debt. Our structural deficit this year is going to be more than \$2 trillion. It will be that next year. Our interest cost is \$700 billion. Everything we are sending to Ukraine, we are borrowing. It is our children and grandchildren who are effectively paying for this.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I have some disagreement with some of the, I want to say, opinions put forward by the gentleman.

We do have oversight at our embassy on where equipment is going. The chair and I have been in classified briefings asking these very tough questions together because, you are right, we want accountability.

As we saw, when the President of Ukraine didn't think he was getting the accountability he deserved from his military leaders and people in his government, he very publicly removed them and said: No, this is not acceptable to me. The oversight is taking place, and our allies are also doing oversight.

As I pointed out earlier, this is an invasion that was brought on for no other reason than a land grab. Putin is trying to put Russia back in an image that he wants to see it in the future.

Who is watching him do this and who is watching who stands up to him? Well, Russia is watching as to what we do, and we know China is with all the chatter we are now hearing about Taiwan.

What does that mean? That means that democracies have to stand together to support another democracy.

As I mentioned earlier today, I was previously a social studies teacher. Take out a map and take a look at the emerging democracies in the area who feel under threat from Russia. Take a look at our allies that have suffered through World War II with aggression from Germany. The democracies, Germany included, have learned from that lesson: We cannot be silent. We have to be there for each other.

Mr. Chair, I will also point out that the money that is being put forward, again, is for equipment and training, and we are doing that with NATO. We are doing that together. As I said, I feel

very passionately about supporting Ukraine.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Chair, I yield 30 seconds to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CRANE), a great American.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my colleague's amendment. As my colleague pointed out, we can't afford it. The gentlewoman just said that all the money that we are sending over there is for training and equipment. That is not true.

"60 Minutes" just discovered the U.S. is financing more than weapons in Ukraine. The government is buying seeds and fertilizer for farmers, paying the salaries of 57,000 first responders, and subsidizing small business.

Again, like my colleague said, we are \$33 trillion in debt. It is no wonder we are \$33 trillion in debt. This is getting out of hand, and we need to stop it.

Mr. BIGGS. Mr. Chair, in closing, our national interests are best rooted in solving our national debt crisis, which has been determined by many national security leaders as being our number one security threat. I urge Congress to adopt this amendment.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. BIGGS).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona will be postponed.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, as the designee of the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER), I move to strike the last word.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

First, I want to address some confusion surrounding this funding. This is not the same funding that is included in the supplementals for Ukraine. This funding is not sent directly to Ukraine. Rather, it pays for training and procurement of U.S. equipment.

Congress has funded this initiative in every single year since it was authorized in 2016 during both Democrat and Republican administrations. In July, the House voted to authorize this funding at the same level. After the invasion of Crimea by Russia, we decided to fund this training for the Ukrainian military.

Not only would this amendment strike the funding, it would also strike the important conditions on funding. We have sent a very clear message to the Department, no blank checks. That is why this bill contains many new oversight provisions, including notification requirements before funds are spent, a GAO report review of the De-

fense Department's execution of Presidential drawdown authority, a reporting requirement on increasing burden sharing for Ukraine, and a requirement that the inspector general review the Department's end-use monitoring program. This bill also includes funding for a special inspector general for Ukraine, if authorized by the final NDAA.

The funding included in this bill is not supplemental funding. It is not a blank check. It has broad support. I urge a "no" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

AMENDMENT NO. 150 OFFERED BY MR. GRIFFITH

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 150 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 132, beginning line 18, strike "in China on research supported by the government of China".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Chairman, Section 8131 of this bill states: None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to fund any work to be performed by EcoHealth Alliance, Inc. in China on research supported by the Government of China unless the Secretary of Defense determines that a waiver is in the best interests of the country.

My amendment simply strikes out "in China on research supported by the Government of China."

EcoHealth Alliance was the agency or the private company that got a grant from the NIH to do research on coronavirus, and they are the ones that gave the money as a subcontractor to the Wuhan Institute of Virology. This was not research being done on behalf of China. It was being done on behalf of us.

The problem is, EcoHealth Alliance didn't fulfill their contract. They were supposed to get regular reports from Wuhan. They did not follow up on that. As a result, we are missing nearly a year of data prior to the outbreak of COVID-19 that the American taxpayers paid to have. Instead of just saying EcoHealth can't do things in China that are supported by the Chinese Government, my amendment makes it clear, we are not going to fund EcoHealth Alliance at this point in time.

To make matters worse—you think, how can it be worse?—as a part of our oversight, the Energy and Commerce Committee in February asked 41 questions trying to get information from EcoHealth Alliance. As of this date, we have answers to only seven of those

questions, and they are the most general answers, like when did you get your contract with the NIH. It is not the tough information that we need to do proper oversight to make sure that we never have a situation again where a virus occurs where we are doing research, and we can't answer the questions of the American taxpayers as to whether or not it came out of a lab that we were funding and that we weren't getting the reports from. That is all it does.

It says, no, EcoHealth for right now, at least during this fiscal year, isn't going to receive money through the DOD.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment to have a discussion with the gentleman.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, we have had this provision in the bill for the last 2 years to prohibit funding for the work performed by EcoHealth Alliance for research within China. As the gentleman is very aware of, because he is very knowledgeable of this, it is a global nonprofit organization that works to protect wildlife and public health from the emergence of disease.

This is enacted in law, and we have worked in a bipartisan manner on the committee on this.

The gentleman's amendment, if I understand it correctly, now seeks to establish a full prohibition on funding to EcoHealth Alliance, Inc., in this bill.

I thank the gentleman for the fact that his amendment preserves the waiver option for the Secretary of Defense to make a determination that working with EcoHealth Alliance remains a national security interest. As we move forward, I would like to better understand any ramifications as we move to this broader exemption that the gentleman wants to do as we go to committee to make sure that it lives up to what I heard him say on the floor, to my understanding, with the waiver.

I work a lot on the ICC, the International Conservation Caucus, so I want to make sure that the wildlife work that we are doing is protected as well as the research.

I thank the gentleman for bringing this forward, but I have a few more questions, and we will work on it during conference.

Mr. Chair, I would also just reflect on something that the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CRANE) said in our last debate, where he implied fertilizer and other materials were being supported by the United States Government. That is correct, but that is in the State Department bill. What I said about what we were supporting and not doing in this bill, I was factual with, and I just wanted the gentleman from Arizona to understand that what he was talking about, I wasn't confused, it is

in the State and Foreign Operations bill.

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

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Chairman, here is the bottom line: We have EcoHealth that breaches their contract. While they may be working on some wildlife things—and having once been a pole holder on a mission with a team of British scientists to study bats in northern Burma, I am all for studying wildlife, but we have to make sure that those people who get American taxpayer dollars are living up to their contract, living up to their obligations to give us the information so that if something happens, we can make appropriate decisions.

Whether you believe it was a lab leak or whether you believe it came out of bats, we needed the information that we paid for, to try to make a better decision. They haven't followed through. As of this date, they haven't given us the information that we need for oversight. Hopefully, it will come forward, but until we establish that EcoHealth Alliance understands that if they are going to use taxpayer dollars to do research, we need to get the information we contracted to get, I think that we should not be granting them awards.

I did leave the waiver in, that was very important to me because if it is in the national security interest, I wanted to make sure we weren't taking that power away from the Secretary, but I don't think at this moment in history, we should be funding EcoHealth Alliance with any taxpayer dollars.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GRIFFITH).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 151 OFFERED BY MS. PLASKETT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 151 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Strike section 8149.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands for 5 minutes.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Chair, this amendment would strike Section 8149 from the bill, removing language banning the Department of Defense from classifying or facilitating the classification of any communications by a United States person as misinformation, disinformation, or malinformation, and banning the Department of Defense from partnering with nonpartisan, nonprofit, outside experts to identify these threats.

As we know, misinformation, disinformation, and malinformation are three of the most important and far-reaching weapons of America's adversaries in Beijing, Tehran, and particularly the Kremlin.

According to the State Department, Russia has operationalized the concept of perpetual adversarial competition in the information environment by encouraging the development of a disinformation and propaganda ecosystem. This ecosystem then creates and spreads false narratives to strategically advance the Kremlin's policy goals. There is no subject off limits to this firehose of falsehoods. Everything from human rights and environmental policy to assassinations and civilian-killing bombing campaigns are fair targets in Russia's malign playbook.

Only truth disarms these disinformation weapons, and the House of Representatives must support our government to ensure that foreign adversaries do not use the American people to disseminate lies with the goal of destroying our democracy without identifying them as misinformation, disinformation, or malinformation.

Here are some truths: The Federal Government of the United States of America and the Department of Defense that we are working here to fund today are unequivocally responsible for the protection of American citizens from all enemies, all threats foreign or domestic. All threats mean all threats, whether the threat is kinetic, economic, infectious, in cyberspace or on Main Street. It is our job to provide the defense of the Nation and its people.

We must continue to come together to seek and promote the truth, and I urge my colleagues to approve this amendment.

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

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment. Under the guise of fighting misinformation, our government agencies have become increasingly weaponized against America's right to free speech.

In the last month, a panel of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled the Biden administration and the FBI likely violated the First Amendment by pressuring social media firms to suppress or remove posts.

The bill addresses the case of over 50 former intelligence officials misusing their clearances and status to interfere in our Presidential election by signing the bogus Hunter Biden letter.

The gentlewoman's amendment would facilitate this continued war on the First Amendment. I strongly urge a "no" vote and yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Chair, we all believe in the importance of the First

Amendment. We all believe in the American people's ability and their right to be able to speak out. What we also need to be aware of is the use of misinformation, disinformation by our foreign adversaries, and for the ability of our government to label that as such. It is not to stop people from saying it. It is the ability for us to tell what are lies and what is truth.

I am the ranking member on the Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government, and what the American people have seen thus far from that committee is the weaponization of Congress to be able to put forward conspiracy theories and lies to support power and quest for conquest over the American people.

Mr. Chair, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM).

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of the amendment by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT). We know that these countries are seeking to influence our way of life, to find ways to divide us and ultimately make us weaker. We know that China and Russia are very active in this. They are even working to seek to influence our elections and disrupt our democracy.

This amendment is necessary to ensure that we have the tools necessary to fight against these nefarious actions. I support this amendment, and I hope my colleagues will do the same.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Chair, I have nothing further, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Ms. PLASKETT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 152 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 152 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. The salary of Shawn Skelly, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer my amendment that utilizes the Holman rule to reduce the salary of Shawn Skelly, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness. That salary shall be reduced to \$1.

As the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Mr. Skelly is the principal adviser to the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness on all matters related to the readiness of our Armed Forces.

In that capacity, he is supposed to develop policies and plans, provide advice, and make recommendations for total force readiness programs, reporting, and assessments of readiness to execute the national defense strategy.

Like many of Biden's bureaucrats, Mr. Skelly is failing at his job and the basic responsibilities. On his watch, the Army missed their recruiting goal by 15,000 soldiers last year, and all other branches were forced to dig deep into their pools of delayed entry applicants to meet their recruitment goals.

On top of that, the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard are all expected to fall short of their recruitment goals this year.

Mr. Skelly has also been with the Biden administration since the beginning and was appointed to the transition team—some irony there—in November of 2020.

As the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness, Mr. Skelly played an instrumental role in the disastrous and shameful withdrawal from Afghanistan that killed 13 of America's finest, 13 American heroes in that embarrassing surrender to the Taliban.

As DOD's highest ranking trans official, this delusional man, thinking he is a woman, embodies and espouses the wokeism that is causing significant harm to our military readiness and troop morale.

The military shouldn't be focused on this woke agenda and combating climate change. With Mr. Skelly at the helm of readiness, these misguided policy pursuits will continue to be at the forefront of DOD's priorities.

I urge my colleagues to support my amendment to restore the focus of our Department of Defense to defend our Nation. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in the strongest opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, people deserve to be treated with dignity and respect when being addressed.

Assistant Secretary Skelly has served in her role admirably, as she has done as her time as a naval officer. Assistant Secretary Skelly has been a naval fighter for over 20 years. I am a little upset because the lack of respect that has been shown to Secretary Skelly by the last speaker is surprising for me on this House floor, which we hold in such high esteem.

She has been a naval flight officer for 20 years, including time spent in the Pacific. While we are all aware of how important this region is right now, there is absolutely no basis for this amendment. The colleague who offers this amendment provides no real substantive reason why Assistant Secretary Skelly should have her salary reduced.

There is only one reason why Assistant Secretary Skelly is being targeted, because she is simply a woman. I have fought long and hard with many women before me and with our allies for pay equity. We still have a long way to go, but I am never going to vote to reduce a woman's salary. I urge my colleagues to vote "no," and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I guess delusion runs deep in the Democratic Party. I would go on the record to say that science is a friend in this case and, sure, if you want to call Mr. Skelly a "her," his chromosomes are still X-Y, and we trust the science over here rather than delusion and playing dress-up and imaginary games with our military readiness.

Our military needs to be lethal and able to defend our national security, not pander to the woke extremist left and make up fairy tales.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, when it comes to service to our country, there are a couple of things we ask from people: To take a loyalty oath, and they do that; to pass basic training and to be up and fit for the job that they are called upon to do, and they do that. Secretary Skelly qualifies in all those areas.

As far as the conversation that my colleague is having, I am not going to engage in hateful rhetoric, Mr. Chair. Instead, I will focus on the admirable service that our transgender, gay, bisexual members do in an all-volunteer Army. They volunteer to put their lives on the line. They deserve the dignity and respect this House can give them.

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

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I just want the RECORD to reflect that there is nothing hateful about truth. Again, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment to restore the focus of our Department of Defense to defend our Nation. I look forward to this Holman rule being utilized to reduce the salary of Secretary Shawn Skelly, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness, to \$1.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I am just baffled here that we can pick and choose what is science and what is not science, what is human rights and dignity and respect and what is not human rights and dignity and respect. I look forward to having a discussion on climate change based on science

with the gentlewoman from Colorado at some point in time.

Mr. Chair, I thank all our servicemen and -women for their service, and their families, who serve alongside them. I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado will be postponed.

□ 1100

AMENDMENT NO. 153 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 153 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ The salary of Norvel Dillard, Director of Diversity and Inclusion Management at the Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion of the Department of Defense, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Colorado.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, I rise in favor of my amendment, which will reduce the salary of Norvel Dillard, director of Diversity and Inclusion Management at the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion of the Department of Defense, to \$1.

Norvel "Rock" Dillard is a part of Joe Biden and Lloyd Austin's attempt to woken and weaken our military. He works in an office that should not exist doing a job that also should not exist.

Our military is not a social experiment, and we definitely should not be treating it like one or spending taxpayer dollars to do so.

Woke ideology undermines military readiness. It undermines cohesiveness by emphasizing differences based on race, ethnicity, and sex.

It undermines leadership authority by introducing questions about whether promotion is based on merit or quota requirements. It leads to military personnel serving in specialty areas for which they are not qualified or ready. It takes time and resources away from training activities and weapons development to contribute to readiness.

Unelected bureaucrats at the DOD need to be held responsible for their

failed leadership, which has distracted from DOD's mission and jeopardized the United States military's ability to defend our country.

From the botched Afghanistan withdrawal that left 13 American soldiers dead to the implementation of a woke agenda that has weakened our military and caused recruitment to suffer, bureaucrats like Norvel Dillard have continued to put a leftist agenda ahead of our national security.

The Federal Government's obsession with diversity, equity, and inclusion needs to come to an end, especially at DOD, where our brave servicemembers volunteer to put themselves in harm's way to fight for freedom. They don't care about the skin color of their brothers and sisters in uniform. They care about completing the mission and going home to their families. Our Defense Department should have the same mindset.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment to restore the focus of our Department of Defense to defend our Nation.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, Dr. Dillard has dedicated his life to service to the United States. Commissioned in the United States Army in 1981, he served for 26 years and retired as a colonel after numerous command and staff positions. I thank him for his service.

In his current position as director of diversity and inclusion, he provides oversight and guidance to individuals working across the Department of Defense on these issues, and he has the experience to know where improvements can be made.

The goals of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion promote the Department of Defense culture of dignity and respect that values diversity and inclusion and readiness imperatives.

As the Department executes the Secretary of Defense's direction to "take care of our people," it is about supporting both the servicemember and their family, regardless of who they are. It is about having their backs while they put their lives on the line in the defense of this country.

The chairman and others in this room are fond of Ronald Reagan, so I offer a quote: "Government's first duty is to protect the people, not to run their lives."

Rather than trying to run the lives of each servicemember into the ground, let us concentrate on what should be the focus of this bill—ensuring that our military servicemembers have the tools they need to defend our Nation and to come home safely.

Need I remind everyone in the room that we are in the middle of a recruitment crisis? The chair and I have heard

why we are in the middle of a recruitment crisis. Many companies and private businesses are in the middle of a recruitment crisis. What are they doing? They are opening up positions for diversity and inclusion to make sure people know that they are welcome in their companies.

We want to make sure that people are welcomed in the Department of Defense. We must find ways to attract young people to choose to serve this country, to know that their service will be honored.

If they feel that serving in different branches of the Department will open them up to ridicule, disrespect, or worse, why would they volunteer to serve and put their lives on the line?

Mr. Dillard is trying to ensure that all feel welcome. He should not be vilified for that. He should be applauded.

Let's stop the attacks on building a diverse force that represents all of America.

Mr. Chair, I remember as a young high school student—I am not afraid to admit my age with my gray hair—in 1972, all the discussions about women in the military academy. That was a radical idea. You know what the military had to do. They had to go out and recruit, and they had to show that they wanted the diversity. They wanted the respect.

I am proud I do that with my military academies, where I have Hmong, African Americans, and people from different sexual orientations apply to serve our country. They put their lives on the line. It is duty first for them.

Let's stop the attacks on building a diverse force.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BOEBERT. Mr. Chair, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle agree that there is a recruitment crisis. Why is that? I think it is because our brave men and women who put their lives on the line to serve our Nation dutifully, with honor, don't see a true Commander in Chief in office. They don't see true leadership that they can be proud to serve alongside, to serve under.

I don't believe that our brave men and women see that they will be taken care of when they put their lives in harm's way to defend our Nation, to defend our allies throughout the world.

Let me ask my colleagues a broad question: This Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, did that save our 13 servicemembers in Afghanistan, or did it distract from the actual mission?

I heard from my colleagues, Mr. Chair, on the other side of the aisle that this was a way to ridicule and disrespect. I think it is ridiculing to promote someone who does not have the qualifications needed for a position just because of how they identify, their race.

This is what is ridiculing. This is what is disrespectful.

This woke agenda, this DEI, this movement that the left has created, I see it as a way to erase women. I heard my colleague on the other side of the aisle talk about, in the 1970s, there was a recruitment effort to bring more women to our military, and if that were the case today, if that were the mission today, to offer a more diverse military and recruit more women, well, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would simply put men in a dress and put them in heels. Heck, I got some red lipstick you could borrow.

That is not the answer. The answer is readiness. The answer is that we are all equal under the law, and you do not promote someone simply because of these qualifications.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to the time remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota has 1½ minutes remaining.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, some of the remarks that my colleague made, I am not even going to bother to respond to because I don't think they are appropriate for this august Chamber which we are in.

The military only takes people who are qualified to serve. Then after they have done their service for our country, they should still be respected. This is a very sad conversation that we are having, and I go back to the fact about diversity.

I will use the example of the Hmong in my community who fought along with our soldiers in Vietnam and protected and rescued many of our pilots. They came here, and they didn't have a written language. They came here, and they didn't know about military academies. They wanted to honor and serve our country, but they weren't quite sure how to go about it.

What did we do? We created opportunities for diversity and inclusion, and it is amazing when you put a hand out to somebody and say: We want you to be part of this great Nation. You are willing to put your life on the line, and we thank you for that.

The chair and I know why we have a recruitment problem. I understand why we have a recruitment problem. I serve on the committee, and I am doing everything I can to address it, and part of that is this office.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 154 OFFERED BY MR. CLYDE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 154 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to administer, implement, or enforce—

(1) the proposed action outlined in the Notice published by the Department of Army to the Federal Register on August 4, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 51786); or

(2) recommendations of the Naming Commission regarding any monument in Arlington National Cemetery.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Chair, my amendment to the FY24 Defense appropriations bill would simply prohibit the Department of Defense from using funds to administer, implement, or enforce the proposed action by the Department of the Army regarding the removal of the Reconciliation Monument at Arlington National Cemetery.

Following 4 brutal years of the American Civil War, our Nation's great leaders, President Abraham Lincoln and future President Union General Ulysses S. Grant, took great measures to ensure that our Nation reconciled and unified after the conflict that turned fellow countryman against fellow countryman. These unifying actions included pardons for Confederate leaders that waged war as well as the restoration of confiscated property.

What these great American leaders understood is that a nation divided against itself cannot stand.

Then, in 1898, following the Spanish-American War, where Union and Confederate veterans fought side by side under one flag, the American flag, President McKinley declared in the heart of the South, in Atlanta, Georgia, the capital of my home State, that the U.S. Government would commit to sharing the burden of honoring and properly burying the Confederate dead, stating: "Sectional feeling no longer holds back the love we feel for each other. The old flag waves over us in peace with new glories."

In 1900, Congress authorized Confederate remains to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. In 1906, President McKinley allowed for the construction of a new monument honoring our country's new shared reconciliation from its troubled divisions.

In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson, a Democrat, unveiled this new memorial to national unity, which was designed by a Jewish-American sculptor. The memorial is topped with a woman

crowned by an olive wreath to symbolize peace.

Beginning with the unveiling of the statue and now every year since, it is the tradition of the President of the United States to send a wreath to the memorial, honoring the dead buried in a circle around the monument. This tradition, which shows tremendous national unity, has been carried on regardless of party or politics of the sitting President.

In fact, even President Obama understood the Reconciliation Monument in the context for which it stood, which was unity, not division, when he continued the Presidential tradition of sending a wreath to the monument.

Despite the bipartisan support for this monument, the renaming commission established by the fiscal year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act overstepped its legislative authority and recommended that the Department of the Army remove the memorial from Arlington National Cemetery. The renaming commission's authority given to them by Congress empowers them to recommend the removal of "names, symbols, displays, monuments, and paraphernalia that honor or commemorate the Confederate States of America."

Yet, as described previously, the Reconciliation Monument does not honor nor commemorate the Confederacy. It commemorates reconciliation and national unity.

Furthermore, the renaming commission's authority explicitly prohibits the desecration of gravesites. There are hundreds of gravestones encircling the monument, and I do not know how in the world these graves will remain untouched if the Department of the Army proceeds with its proposal to remove the monument.

Former Virginia Democrat Senator Jim Webb, a decorated Marine Corps officer who served multiple combat tours in Vietnam and later became the Secretary of the Navy, recently published an op-ed in *The Wall Street Journal* concerning the Reconciliation Monument at Arlington Cemetery.

Senator Webb describes his own journey of reconciliation following his combat tours in Vietnam. He explains how he hosted a delegation of Vietnamese officials in Washington to encourage them to be peaceful toward former South Vietnamese veterans, who were labeled as traitors after the war and had been treated as such.

Senator Webb described how to make his point to the delegation. He brought them to the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington and pointed across the Potomac toward the Lincoln Memorial to show that old wounds can be healed. Senator Webb concludes with this: If the monument is taken apart and removed, "it would send a different message, one of a deteriorating society willing to erase the generosity of its past, in favor of bitterness and misunderstanding."

Mr. Chair, I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to take a stand

against such a divisive and history-erasing action and support my amendment to defund the effort to remove the Reconciliation Monument from the Arlington National Cemetery.

My amendment prevents this tyrannical encroachment by legislative authority, ignorance of congressional intent, and disregard of national unity.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, in 2021, Congress passed the NDAA, creating a naming commission with the intent of renaming military installations and relocating memorials that celebrate the Confederate attempt to rip apart the United States for the sake of maintaining slavery.

The NDAA was passed with overwhelming bipartisan support. In fact, the NDAA had so much bipartisan support that it defeated President Trump's veto by a vote of 322-87.

The few remaining Confederate monuments at minor installations that have already not been renamed or removed will happen soon.

As required by Congress and implemented by the Secretary of Defense, Arlington National Cemetery is required to remove a Confederate memorial and has initiated the process for careful removal and relocation of the memorial located in section 16 of the cemetery.

Therefore, this amendment not only attempts to defy the overwhelming bipartisan support and will of Congress, but it is likely too late to even make a difference. Congress decided in a unified fashion that it was time to move on from the regretful error of the Civil War and human rights atrocities. This amendment will do nothing to stop that.

Mr. Chair, I encourage my colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Chair, it would be an absolute disgrace if this Reconciliation Monument to our Nation's national unity is removed from Arlington National Cemetery and the graves that encircle it are desecrated.

Mr. Chair, I urge all of my colleagues to support my amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 155 OFFERED BY MR. CLYDE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 155 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to implement or enforce section 370 of Public Law 116-283 (10 U.S.C. 113 note).

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Chair, my amendment prevents any funds in this year's Defense appropriations bill from being spent on section 370 of the fiscal year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act, providing a commonsense solution to block unnecessary and frivolous efforts to rename military bases across the country.

As a Navy combat veteran, an area of great concern for me is the inessential renaming of military bases and facilities as this issue is not a matter of national security nor an improvement of our military's combat readiness.

The Department of Defense's focus should remain on bolstering our defense capabilities and ensuring that we maintain the most lethal fighting force in the world. Instead, the Department of Defense is continuing to pursue plans to rename military bases, two of which, Fort Benning and Fort Gordon, are in my home State of Georgia.

The Department of Defense's renaming efforts are expected to cost taxpayers over \$62 million and would have a detrimental economic impact in the surrounding communities.

Take Fort Gordon, for example, where local small business owners who take great pride in our Nation's military have named their establishments or attractions after the local Army base. If the name of the base is changed, then local entrepreneurs will be forced to rename and rebrand businesses, replacing merchandise and creating completely new marketing strategies, which is not cheap. In fact, in many cases, you may see that rebranding of businesses actually will cause the businesses to fail.

In rural communities like those in Georgia, this economic burden would be catastrophic, and I know communities across the country will be confronted with the same issues if we allow the Department of Defense to continue this reckless plan.

I was disappointed that earlier this year, when I offered a similar amendment to the fiscal year 2024 National Defense Authorization Act, these amendments were not even considered

or debated on the House floor. However, we have a second opportunity right now as we look to fund the Department of Defense.

We must carefully examine how taxpayer dollars are being used to fund the Department of Defense and its policies, and I adamantly believe that Americans' hard-earned tax dollars should not be wasted on renaming military bases but should be focused on making our military the most lethal in the world.

Due to President Biden's failed leadership and Big Government socialist agenda, our Nation is facing an ongoing economic crisis. Excessive Washington spending has not only ballooned our national debt, which just surpassed \$33 trillion last week, but has also inflated the prices of basic goods and services for our constituents, while running an annual deficit of almost \$2 trillion.

It is simply unacceptable to spend millions of dollars of borrowed money to rename military bases and facilities only to undoubtedly burden hard-working Americans and small business owners already struggling in Joe Biden's disastrous economy.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support my commonsense amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, 2 years ago, we passed the NDAA, which established a bipartisan commission, including both civilians and military, to rename installations that were associated with the Confederate States of America. This amendment attempts to stop the implementation of the commission's recommendations.

I am pleased to see that the administration has already started the renaming process, officially renaming seven installations with two more to go by the end of October. I will provide some context for these renamings.

Fort Benning in Georgia was named after a Confederate general who strongly supported slavery and was a leader in the secession movement. Now that fort has been renamed Fort Moore after Army Lieutenant General Hal Moore and his wife, Julia Compton Moore.

General Moore commanded the first large-scale battle of the Vietnam war, and Julia Compton Moore was instrumental in setting up survivor support networks and casualty notification teams.

Then there is Fort Bragg in North Carolina. That was named after a former slave owner and one of the most hated generals in history. In fact, he was hated by his own Army, and some of the Confederate soldiers tried to end his life. He is also known to be a military failure. That base has now been renamed Fort Liberty.

Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia, which was named after a failed Confederate general, will be renamed Fort Walker after

Dr. Mary Edwards Walker, the first woman surgeon in the Civil War and the only woman awarded the Medal of Honor.

Renaming these installations helps us remember that they deserve to be remembered in a way that celebrates the true patriots of this Nation who supported this country and who have contributed to its advancement. Why would we continue to honor and celebrate traitors to this very Nation? They were also involved in horrific crimes.

In my home State of Minnesota, we have been renaming several buildings and schools and other areas that were named at one time honoring who we thought were a great territorial Governor and State officials, but as history was finally taught in its entirety, we found out they committed atrocities. They were part of the genocide against Tribal nations.

My State, my community, decided they should not be honored, and I believe that is also true in the case of these military installations. Congress and the administration set up an appropriate and fair process to review and rename them.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote “no” on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Chair, renaming does nothing to make our military more combat-ready. In fact, it is a waste of taxpayer funds. Our military defense funding should be used to make our troops the most lethal in the entire world, the most feared in the entire world. It should be spent on training, not renaming, which does absolutely nothing but divert resources from the critical mission of our military.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, when we name something, whether it is a post office, whether it is a road named by a local government, we do so to honor something that is significant. We do that to show we are proud of this person. We are proud of their actions. What we are doing with the renaming in these commissions is saying: Let's reflect back. Why was this named this way? Are we proud of people who led the secession against this country? Should we look toward the new patriots, the people who have served in the past and the people who are currently serving to give them the honor, the privilege, of showing forward their courage and actions as we strive to be a more perfect Union?

Mr. Chair, I continue to oppose this amendment. I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CLYDE).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further pro-

ceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 156 OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLLY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 156 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used in violation of section 129a of title 10, United States Code.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer an amendment regarding the Department of Defense workforce, which is particularly important as we face a shutdown.

However, first, I need to address two of the biggest workforce challenges facing the military, both wholly manufactured by my friends on the other side of the aisle.

First and foremost, to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle, do not shut down the Federal Government. Step up to the plate and govern on a bipartisan basis. I know it is hard, but the country needs you to set aside impeachment inquiries, ideological crusades, and infighting to do your job.

Second, Senator TOMMY TUBERVILLE's holds on more than 300 military promotions are a direct threat to our national security and undermine the leadership of our military.

For the first time in the history of the Department of Defense, three of the five military services were operating without Senate-confirmed leaders. General and flag officers are being required to perform double duty in acting roles. Military families are having their lives put on hold.

How are we going to retain talented officers if their careers face a graveyard in the U.S. Senate, buried under the desk of one Senator who cannot name the three branches of government?

Senator TUBERVILLE's holds, which would require more than 700 hours of floor time in the Senate to overcome individually, are an outrageous assault on our Nation's military at the altar of a far-right culture war.

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I call on my colleagues to join me in condemning this reckless behavior. But I digress.

My amendment would prevent Congressional Republicans from further compounding their attacks on the Department's workforce. The amendment

would prevent any cuts to the Department of Defense civilian workforce that undermine our military and national security.

Please follow along closely.

Defense appropriations bills routinely include language that says: None of the funds appropriated by this act may be used to reduce the civilian workforce programmed full-time equivalent levels absent the appropriate analysis of the impacts of those reductions.

This language has received broad bipartisan support. It was included in the 2023 omnibus. It is in the current FY24 Department of Defense Appropriations bill in the Senate, and it was adopted as part of other past fiscal year Department of Defense appropriations bills in this body and in the other.

This language is derived from section 129(a) of Title 10, General Policy For Total Force Management, which states, “The Secretary may not reduce the civilian workforce programmed full-time equivalent levels unless the Secretary conducts an appropriate analysis of the impacts of such reductions on workload, military force structure, lethality, readiness, operational effectiveness, stress on the military force, and fully burdened costs.”

My amendment would restore that important language and legacy by prohibiting dangerous civilian workforce cuts that do not prioritize those enumerated priorities. It is helpful to understand the broader context to appreciate why this is essential.

The underlying bill cuts the civilian workforce by \$1.1 billion. The Committee Report for the bill refers vaguely to robotic process automation and artificial intelligence as ways to reduce the civilian workforce. That is a low bar for due diligence.

Forgive me, but I prefer the previous standard Congress reiterated and endorsed, which was to remind the Department that any such reduction in the civilian workforce must first prioritize the lethality, readiness, and operational effectiveness of the military.

My amendment would restore that consideration and that language.

Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD a letter from the American Federation of Government Employees in support of my amendment.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT
EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO,

Washington, DC, September 21, 2023.

DEAR MEMBER OF CONGRESS: On behalf of the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO (AFGE), which represents over 750,000 federal and District of Columbia employees, including 250,000 Defense Department civilian employees, I write to provide AFGE's views on several amendments that were made in order by the House Rules Committee with respect to H.R. 4365, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024, that the House is expected to consider today.

Specifically, AFGE strongly urges you to oppose amendment 168 that will be offered by

Rep. Hageman (R-AZ), amendment 167 that will be offered by Rep. Greene (R-GA), amendments 155 and 156 that will be offered by Rep. Boebert (R-CO), amendment 161: that will be offered by Rep. Fallon (R-TX), amendment 178 that will be offered by Rep. Roy (R-TX), amendment 172 that will be offered by Rep. Norman (R-SC), and amendments 176 and 184 that will be offered by Rep. Rosendale (R-MT) during floor consideration of H.R. 4365, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024.

Hageman amendment 168 would arbitrarily and without justification prohibit regular telework and remote work for Defense Department civilian employees and contractors. Longstanding policy has, with considerable success, directed DoD agency managers and personnel to collaboratively develop and implement telework policies that address the specific needs of agencies and further their missions. Importantly, the workplace flexibility that telework enables has improved DoD's capacity to maintain continuous operations in the event of a natural or national security crisis. It has also helped DoD agencies recruit and retain talent, be more productive, and reduce traffic congestion and emissions. Not insignificantly, remote work and telework are particularly important for military spouses who are frequently deployed to remote places with few job opportunities but can otherwise contribute to the federal civilian workforce.

Greene amendment 167, Boebert amendments 155 and 156, Fallon amendment 161, and Roy amendment 178 would invoke the so-called Holman Rule to either reduce to \$1.00 the annual salaries of various DoD officials. These cynical amendments, if enacted, would do great damage to the Department's ability to maintain readiness and recruit and retain personnel who reflect the diversity of America.

Rosendale amendments 176 and 184 would strip the Defense Department of its authority to set policy as it pertains to the prevention of COVID-19. These amendments are singularly irresponsible and reckless. Enactment would risk the health of tens of thousands of DoD military personnel and civilian employees in the event of a future COVID-19 outbreak—all to make a cynical political point. Senior Defense Department officers and medical personnel are in a much better position than Congress to determine appropriate measures to protect the health of military personnel and civilian employees.

Norman amendment 172 would, if enacted, reverse important strides the Defense Department—one of the least diverse agencies in the federal government—has made in recent years to recruit and retain the best and the brightest personnel from all corners of America.

AFGE recommends that you support amendment 159 that will be offered by Rep. Connolly (D-VA). This amendment would restore important language included in previous Defense Appropriations Acts prohibiting the Defense Department from reducing its civilian workforce absent the appropriate analysis of the effects of these reductions on workload, military force structure, lethality, readiness, operational effectiveness, stress on the military force, and fully burdened costs. By omitting the provision that Rep. Connolly's amendment proposes to restore, H.R. 4365, if enacted, could lead to reckless cuts in the civilian workforce that the armed services depend on to protect and defend our nation.

Please vote against these amendments should recorded votes be requested. For questions or more information please contact Julie Tippens or Keith Abouchar.

Sincerely,

JULIE N. TIPPENS,
Director, Legislative Department.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I claim time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment. The amendment is unnecessary.

Section 129(a) has long been codified in Title 10. However, I am compelled to point out that the section in question directs the Secretary of Defense to achieve a cost-efficient personnel mix.

The administration has failed in this regard and continues to grow the Department civilian workforce to a fiscally unsustainable level. The bill before us directs the Secretary of Defense to address the issue by noting the unsustainable cost of civilian personnel within the Department over \$101 billion in fiscal year 2022 alone.

Reducing the civilian workforce request by \$1.1 billion, which is less than 1 percent of the total request, and achievable through attrition, to fund a historic 30-percent pay raise for our junior enlisted—a 30-percent pay raise which they richly deserve—and directing the Secretary to reassess manpower requirements against core missions and adopt technology to create a cost-efficient workforce, is essentially directing the Secretary to abide by section 129(a).

Mr. Chair, I urge a “no” vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Virginia has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chair, I yield the balance of my time to the distinguished gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM).

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I support this amendment. This amendment advocates for civilian personnel in the Department.

As I pointed out earlier in my opening remarks, we tried this once before and we did not see substantial savings. People who work in the civilian part of our Department of Defense do an admirable job. They work very hard for all of us, and they are loyal to us.

They are loyal to the Department of Defense. They are not loyal to a contractor or at the whim of a contractor if they decide they want to change a pay scale or to do something different, or raise the price of the contract and hold us hostage.

When it comes to the Secretary to determine what is necessary for staffing, I am going to leave it to the Secretary at this time, and I encourage my colleagues to support the amendment of the gentleman from Virginia.

The Acting CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Virginia will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 157 OFFERED BY MR. CRANE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 157 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), add the following:

SEC. __. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deploy United States Armed Forces to Ukraine.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CRANE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chairman, I rise to offer my amendment to the Department of Defense appropriations bill, which would prohibit American troops from being sent to fight on the ground in Ukraine.

The United States ought to be encouraging peace talks between Russia and Ukraine, not giving into calls for deadly escalation that could turn nuclear.

It is well past time for the United States to disentangle itself from this misguided war effort and start promoting a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

To date, we have shipped more than 100 billion American tax dollars to Ukraine, a country not known for its strict commitment to anticorruption measures.

Sending money is bad enough. Our men and women being sent to die over this conflict is unthinkable.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this amendment to prevent American lives from being sacrificed.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, let me be crystal clear. The United States does not currently plan to deploy forces to Ukraine in the ongoing defense against the Russian invasion. The United States does not currently plan to deploy forces.

There is no current or future year funding for the deployment of U.S. Armed Forces to Ukraine in this bill or any other bill that I am aware of. Therefore, this amendment would not impact any current or planned support to Ukraine. However, this amendment

would impede the ability of the Department to provide security aid to American personnel in the region. I am not talking about in Ukraine, just in the region, it would impede it.

For example, this prohibition would block the Department from providing security forces to assist congressional or executive delegation travel to Ukraine. I don't think that was the gentleman's intention, but that is what this amendment does.

Additionally, it would hinder the Department's ability to provide emergency security assistance to American personnel in the U.S. Embassy if there was ever a threat or a need for an evacuation.

This amendment would not change how the U.S. is aiding Ukraine in their war against Russian aggression. Meanwhile, it would change the way we protect Americans abroad.

We put our elected and civil service in danger by doing that, so I strongly oppose this amendment. I don't think this was the gentleman's intention, but I have to oppose this amendment.

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

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Chair, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the gentleman's amendment. I don't support the deployment of U.S. troops into Ukraine. The Ukrainians are doing an able job against Russian aggression.

They degraded the third-largest standing army in the world and taken out 50 percent of the Russian conventional capability. They are doing fine on their own. They don't need U.S. troops.

Mr. Chair, I urge a "yes" on the gentleman's amendment.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I understand what the distinguished chair of the Defense Subcommittee just said. He doesn't support U.S. troops in Ukraine. That would be a vote we would have to take here in Congress, but this amendment does so much more than that, and that is why I was clear that I don't think it was the gentleman's intention.

This amendment would impede the ability of the Department to provide security and aid to American personnel in the region. It would block the Department from providing security forces to even assist congressional or executive delegation travel to Ukraine: the military escorts that go with us.

Additionally, it would hinder the Department's ability to provide emergency security assistance to American personnel at the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine if there was ever a threat or a need for an urgent evacuation.

I understand clearly the gentleman's intentions. This amendment does more than that. I would possibly ask the gentleman to consider withdrawing the amendment at this time and remove the things that I am concerned about in it, and then I would be happy to look

at supporting not having U.S. forces go to Ukraine without Congress having a discussion.

Mr. Chair, unfortunately, this amendment does so much more than what the gentleman's, I believe, true and honest intentions are.

Mr. Chair, I oppose the amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CRANE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ).

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Chairman, the American people need to observe what is happening on this floor. My colleague from Arizona is simply saying that in the \$886 billion we are sending across the river to the Pentagon, we at least don't want that to fund U.S. troops, boots on the ground, in Ukraine, and there seems to be no guardrail that some in this body would not accept so as to stop our country from inadvertently stumbling into world war III.

Mr. Chair, I have amendments coming to stop security assistance, but this is the humblest of amendments seemingly to comport with what this body in a bipartisan way has expressed.

We do not want American servicemembers dying in Ukraine. That risks escalation and that risks accident. It always starts with just a few security advisers. That is how we got entangled in the Syrian civil war. We ought to be disentangling ourselves from Ukraine and embracing the good amendment from my colleague from Arizona.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, once again, I want to be crystal clear. This amendment does so much more than what the gentleman from Florida refers to, and the gentleman from Arizona who offered it.

When we have Members who are doing oversight, this would prohibit the military escorts that go on codels with us or with the executive branch from taking us on those missions. I don't think that was the gentleman's intention, and that is why I am asking for the amendment to be withdrawn and written in a way that truly reflects what both my colleagues just spoke to.

I think you will get a lot more support on that than saying that we couldn't even bring troops in if we needed to do something at our embassy to evacuate State personnel. The Marines on post wouldn't be enough to do it by themselves.

Mr. Chair, I ask the gentleman to reconsider the way this amendment is written so that we can have bipartisan support.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CRANE. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Ms. FOXX). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. CRANE).

The amendment was agreed to.

VACATING DEMAND FOR RECORDED VOTE ON
AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MS. NORTON

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw the re-

quest for a recorded vote on amendment No. 125 offered by the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) to the end that the amendment stands disposed of by the earlier voice vote thereon.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the request for a recorded vote is withdrawn. Accordingly, the amendment is not adopted.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT NO. 158 OFFERED BY MR. FALLON

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 158 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. FALLON. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. The salary of Kelisa Wing, within the Department of Defense, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 732, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. FALLON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. FALLON. Madam Chair, I rise today to offer an amendment to reduce the salary of Ms. Kelisa Wing to \$1.

Until recently, Ms. Wing was with the Department of Defense Education Activity, better known as DoDEA. She was the chief diversity, equity, and inclusion officer. As a self-proclaimed woke administrator, she used her authority to promote racist, divisive, and quite frankly, hateful ideology.

In a tweet from September 23, 2020, Ms. Wing said: "I'm so exhausted at these White folx in these PD [professional development] sessions. This lady actually had the CAUDacity to say that Black people can be racist too . . . I had to stop the session and give Karen the business. . . ."

If you replace the word "White" with any other race or minority group, we would have people from both sides of the aisle clamoring for her immediate removal.

Instead, she continued to serve unfettered for an unbelievable 3 additional years. Moreover, the mission of DoDEA is to provide a high-quality education to the children of servicemembers. This is a position of great trust.

Ms. Wing broke the trust of the American people, our servicemembers, and their children. We should be focused on providing these young minds with a world-class education, not indoctrinating them with divisive, radical, and again, hateful ideology.

Madam Chair, let me take a moment right now to speak directly to the children of DoDEA, and quite frankly, the children across this country, to remind them of a few things.

What you are isn't important. Who you are is everything. Pigmentation is immaterial. It is what is in your heart and what is on your mind that matters.

Further, to be American, it is not an ethnicity, it is an ideal. You want to live your dreams in this country? Work smart, work hard, stay focused, persevere, delay gratification, and constantly improve. In 2023 America, you might just get there, because the secret to your future is hidden in your daily routine. It is not, and nor does it have anything to do with what you are.

Thankfully, I believe Ms. Wing saw the writing on the wall and recently resigned from her position within DoDEA. It is my earnest hope that this amendment sends a message to the American people that racism will not be tolerated.

Madam Chair, I served in the military 30 years ago, and the idea was you would advance on merit and merit alone. It was a meritocracy. We didn't have any tolerance for any kind of isms. I wish we could get back to that and not be promoting Democratic generals or Republican generals, but rather American generals.

In the very building where we work and stand today, the Statue of Freedom, right underneath it are three words: E pluribus unum. Out of many one.

That is a focus that DoDEA should be promoting instead of this awful and, quite frankly, toxic poison.

Madam Chair, I withdraw my amendment, and I urge support for the underlying bill.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The amendment is withdrawn.

AMENDMENT NO. 160 OFFERED BY MR. GAETZ

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 160 printed in part A of House Report 118–216.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to provide security assistance to Ukraine.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 732, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, this Congress has authorized \$115 billion to Ukraine. My amendment would ensure that this Defense appropriations bill sends no more.

Madam Chair, \$115 billion is an astonishing amount of money, especially when you consider that our Nation sits atop a \$33 trillion debt and we are facing \$2 trillion in annual deficits. It is

not as if the \$115 billion has brought this conflict any closer to an end. In fact, the massacres and the killings and the death continue.

The next statement is so obvious I can't believe I have to say it out loud.

It does not make the United States of America stronger to borrow money from China to give it to Ukraine.

I hear a lot of the war hawks in this Congress stand up and say, well, we have to send a message to China by fighting for however long it takes at whatever cost in Ukraine. The message we are sending to China is that they are engaged in a leverage buyout of Russia and increasingly of our own country.

We have problems here in America with our own borders. Americans are watching as foreign flags are being erected in the middle of the Rio Grande River while our Nation is being invaded by tens of thousands of people every month. Yet, we go spend all this money on the border of another country.

I do not fear broken Russian tanks rolling through Europe. I fear Russia's nuclear weapons and the risk that we could be sleepwalking into a nuclear conflict that could end life as we know it on the planet, all for what? To live out some neoconservative dream in Ukraine? Give me a break.

Right now, a lot of this funding that we have sent for Ukraine has been inflationary. Fuel and food, these are the markets that have been affected globally because of this crisis and because of the money we are spending to extend the conflict.

At the beginning of this Congress, Speaker MCCARTHY said there is not going to be a blank check to Ukraine, but when we bring witnesses before us to ask them whether or not we are complying with our own laws regarding end-use monitoring of materiel, they cannot say we are even following our own laws.

Enough is enough. I am putting my countrymen first. I don't think we should send another nickel to Ukraine.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in strong opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, here again is an attempt to cut off any support for Ukraine as they fight to defend their country from an illegal Russian invasion.

As I said earlier, once again, Putin is attempting to rewrite the map of Europe through the use of force. He is doing so in violation of international law. He is deliberately targeting civilians, as I mentioned: hospitals, daycare centers, apartment buildings.

While he is doing that, yes, he is destroying the economy and the livelihood of Ukrainians in the process.

Putin and his thugs are committing war crimes on a mass scale. The United

States and the other democratic nations of the world must continue to oppose him. If we do not, then he or another authoritarian leader will try something like this again, yes, either in Ukraine or elsewhere in the world.

Earlier, I laid out that America is not alone in the support of Ukraine. Our allies and our partners are donating tanks, air defense systems, artillery, vehicles, rockets, and infantry fighting vehicles. This list goes on and on.

Let's not abandon our fellow democracies.

Let's not abandon the EU and our NATO allies now.

Let's not abandon Ukraine.

Faced with daunting odds against Russian forces, they have taken up a mantle to defend themselves, defend their values, and our shared democratic principles. They deserve our continued support.

Madam Chair, I understand my colleague has a different view than I do, but I thank him for a respectful engagement in this discussion, and I urge my colleagues at this time to oppose this amendment.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, indeed, this is a respectful policy dispute that we have over this matter, and I am grateful that we are taking up the Defense appropriations bill as a single subject bill to work through these things, and let the votes fall where they may, but it seems the full sum of the argument against my amendment is: Putin bad, which I concede.

As a matter of fact, Vladimir Putin has sanctioned me personally, so I don't have to be sold on that argument. He is a bad guy.

The question is whether after \$115 billion, it is the \$300 million in this bill that is going to really kick the door in. There has been no argument that that is the case, because of course that would not comport with logic and reason. When my colleagues say we cannot abandon the EU, that is like fingernails on a chalkboard to my fellow Americans who often feel like they are the ones who have been abandoned as we send \$115 billion to Ukraine and ignore what is going on on our own border.

Madam Chair, we also ignore what is going on with a lot of our first responders.

In our country, there are police and firemen who do not know if their pension fund will be strong enough to support their benefits throughout their life. We do very little on that front, but we have underwritten the full pension of every civil servant and government employee in Ukraine.

Abandon them? I just don't think we should bankroll them, and that is why I would encourage the adoption of my amendment.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Chair, I move to strike the last word as the designee of the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GRANGER).

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Arkansas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment which prohibits security assistance for Ukraine.

The bill contains funding and conditions for the Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative, which is different from the funding that has been included in supplementals for Ukraine. This funding is not sent directly to Ukraine; rather, it pays for training and procurement of U.S. equipment.

Congress has funded this initiative every single year since it was authorized in 2016 during both Democrat and Republican administrations. Just last month, the House voted to authorize this funding at the same level.

Madam Chair, this assistance and the partnership between Ukraine and the California National Guard is what enabled the Ukrainians to beat back the Russian invasion and greatly diminish Russia's conventional military forces.

I have been very clear to the Department: No blank checks. That was why this bill contains many new oversight provisions and funding for a special inspector general for Ukraine, if authorized in the final NDAA.

The gentleman has often noted that funds used in support of Ukraine should go to securing our southern border. I argue that we should secure the border and partner with Ukraine to degrade Russia while never taking our eye off China.

We do not yet know how the war will play out, but I do know that voting for this amendment will send the wrong message at the wrong time.

Madam Chair, I urge a "no" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Florida has 1 minute remaining.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, the argument my colleague made is, well, we have always sent this \$300 million. That may be true, but we used to send that \$300 million when we weren't sending \$100 billion in supplementals on top of that, so I don't think that argument really holds water.

When my colleague says: Well, we can do both. We can secure Ukraine's border and we can secure our border; my argument would be: Can we at least secure our own border first? How about that? How about prioritizing our own people first before we start going and engaging in misadventures throughout Europe.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, may I inquire as to how much time I have remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota has 3 minutes remaining.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman from Arkansas who struck the last word and also spoke on behalf of the chair of the full Appropriations Committee.

I had the pleasure of being with Mr. WOMACK in Poland where we did oversight of the very money that we are talking about right now. I have been in other theaters where we were supporting other troops, and what we saw was the enthusiasm, the commitment, and the dedication from the Ukrainians who were under our supervision getting ready to receive training, and it was outstanding. It was like nothing else I have ever seen before.

We do need to do our due diligence. That is one of the reasons why I opposed an earlier amendment which would have actually restricted the military from escorting us on those types of codels into the future.

In my years in Congress, I have worked on many international foreign affairs issues. When I was in Germany just before the Ukrainian invasion took place, I have never in my life seen the democracies so united to work together because they know of the threat of what is happening. They want to make sure—and we want to make sure—that we continue to give the Ukrainians the support they deserve.

I have a friend who is returning home from just visiting, and her cousin is going back after taking some R&R after being wounded. The stories that she is sharing and the stories that I have heard from other people in Ukraine is everybody is participating; 60-year-olds are driving the tanks because they can't be out there on the frontlines. They are doing that, and they are able to do that because of the support and the equipment and the training that we have given them, not only to fight against Russia, but to also maintain the equipment they have.

I thank the gentleman for striking the last word and speaking to this, and we need to do our due diligence to make sure that the oversight is done right.

I do not support Mr. GAETZ's amendment as offered today, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, the United States of America is not the world's piggy bank, and we are not the world's policeman.

I applaud all of the enthusiasm in Ukraine. I am rooting for them, but enthusiasm in this country is waning to continue to support all of that effort abroad.

We want to secure our border. We want to see enthusiasm with our Border Patrol. We do not support continued inflationary, escalatory, dangerous spending in this war on Ukraine.

Madam Chair, I appreciate the House's indulgence for considering my amendment. I would encourage its adoption, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I thank the gentleman for this respectful

debate, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 161 OFFERED BY MR. GAETZ

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 161 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to transfer cluster munitions.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, this is an amendment to prohibit the transfer of cluster munitions pursuant to this legislation.

Madam Chair, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. JACOBS), a member of the Armed Services Committee, someone who has led this Congress to try to stop the transfer of cluster munitions.

Ms. JACOBS. Madam Chair, I thank Congressman GAETZ for his partnership on this important issue.

Many of us have this idea of American exceptionalism—that America is set apart from the rest of the world.

Well, that is certainly true when it comes to cluster munitions and not in the way that we want.

America is an outlier. We are one of the few countries that hasn't become party to the Convention on Cluster Munitions, and that is a grave mistake.

These weapons maim and kill indiscriminately. In 2021, the Landmine and Cluster Munitions Monitor found that over 97 percent of casualties from cluster bomb remnants were civilians; and two-thirds of those were children.

That is because these bomblets are small, colorful, and interesting shapes, so to children they look like toys. So when kids find these unexploded bomblets stuck in trees or in the water or simply on the ground and try to pick them up and play with them, they can lose a limb or their life in the blink of an eye.

Unfortunately, there is no amount of guardrails or promised precautions for cluster munitions that are enough.

These weapons are unpredictable, and the human cost is far too high to justify.

Now, let's be clear. This isn't about one country. This is not about Ukraine. This is about protecting civilian lives and ensuring our national security all over the world because sending these weapons anywhere makes us complicit in unavoidable civilian harm and creates blowback that undermines our national security.

Our partners and allies look to us and expect us to do the right thing to protect the marginalized, defend human rights, and strengthen democracy. This reputation is what allows us to build and maintain international coalitions that further our goals.

If other countries don't look up to us and don't expect us to do the right thing, we will be alone on the world stage.

I urge my colleagues from both sides of the aisle to avoid all of these horrific consequences and support our bipartisan amendment to ensure that no funds can be used to transfer cluster munitions.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment. Artillery has been a critical part of Ukrainians' fight for survival. Cluster munitions fill a needed gap right now until the U.S. production and inventory of 155 ammunition can catch up.

The Russians have been using cluster munitions for 1½ years—from day one. We should not limit Ukrainians' ability to fight the Russians.

I also note that there must be a commitment for all parties involved to clean up any remnants after this war ends.

This amendment goes beyond prohibiting the transfer of cluster munitions to Ukraine and would tie our hands in future conflicts.

It is not hard to imagine, unfortunately, a situation where we might need to transfer these munitions to our allies and partners, for example, during a conflict on the Korean Peninsula or over Taiwan.

Finally, the amendment may prevent the Department from transferring used munitions among the military services, limiting the flexibility to support our war fighters. Madam Chair, I urge a "no" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, I would observe that we cannot have a goal of creating parity with the Ukrainian military and the Russian military. If that is the case, why not send nuclear weapons?

These cluster bombs are indiscriminate. They have killed tens of thousands of people. You just heard my colleague say that when this is all done

we will be right back here on the floor appropriating money to demine the cluster munitions that we are now sending, which seems ludicrous to me.

Madam Chair, I yield to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), the distinguished ranking member, for her thoughts on the matter.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in support of this amendment.

The decision by the Biden administration to transfer cluster munitions to the Ukraine, in my opinion, was unnecessary and a sad mistake.

Congress has been clear in prohibiting the transfer of any cluster munitions with a dud rate greater than 1 percent.

The legacy of U.S. cluster munitions into the battlefield in Ukraine undermines our moral authority and places the U.S. in a position that directly contradicts 23 of our NATO allies who have joined the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

The legacy of cluster bombs is misery, death, and an expensive cleanup after generations of use, and I have been in Laos, and I have worked with other countries to clean up this legacy.

As has been pointed out, the U.S. pays tens of millions of dollars annually to remove cluster munitions from Laos and the Vietnam area. These remnants of war continue to kill and maim civilians as we are here today.

As a strong supporter of the Biden administration's policy in Ukraine, I must state in the strongest possible terms my absolute opposition to the U.S. transferring cluster munitions. These weapons should be eliminated from the stockpiles.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman has the only time remaining.

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Chair, I appreciate the bipartisan support for this amendment. I thank Mr. MASSIE of Kentucky and Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts on the Rules Committee for having made this amendment in order.

I look forward to us working together to ensure that we have humane policies when it comes to our munitions.

Just to respond to the argument that there is somehow a Taiwan nexus here, I have studied the war games and the plans around Taiwan pretty extensively, and I have seen no scenario in which we believe that the appropriate utilization of munitions in Taiwan is going to require cluster munitions. It is largely going to be torpedoes, sea mining.

We are still demining the cluster munitions in Laos. We can make a wiser choice now and one certainly that doesn't put any of our allies in jeopardy.

Madam Chair, I encourage adoption of this bipartisan amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Florida will be postponed.

The Chair understands that amendment No. 162 will not be offered.

The Chair understands that amendment No. 163 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 164 OFFERED BY MS. GREENE OF GEORGIA

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 164 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. _____. The salary of Lloyd James Austin III, the Secretary of Defense, shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Georgia.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Chair, today I will introduce an amendment that uses the Holman rule to slash the Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin's salary to no more than \$1, and \$1 is too much money.

Let's talk about the job description of the Secretary of Defense. That role oversees the Defense Department and acts as the principal defense policymaker and adviser to the President of the United States.

The Department of Defense's mission statement states: "With our military tracing its roots back to pre-Revolutionary times, the Department has grown and evolved with our Nation. Our mission is to provide the military forces needed to deter war and ensure our Nation's security."

Secretary Austin has not fulfilled his job duties. As matter of fact, he is destroying our military.

During Secretary Austin's tenure, military recruitment has reached crisis levels of low recruitment. The numbers show that the Army expects to fall 15,000 recruits short of its annual recruiting goal this year. The Navy is expecting to be short 10,000 recruits. The Air Force is down another 3,000.

This cannot stand, especially with our government funding and fueling a war in Ukraine that is leading us undoubtedly to world war III.

Secretary Lloyd Austin failed America with his withdrawal from Afghanistan, making American forces leave in retreat and feeling like a failure.

Secretary Austin also forced more than 8,000 troops to be kicked out of

the military for refusing the COVID vaccine.

My amendment is a strong amendment, and many Americans agree. We do not want the United States military led by failure causing us to be weak. We need to pass my amendment.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, we have seen several of these amendments. I think, Madam Chair, you know how disappointed I am that these types of amendments have been proposed by the majority, but especially this one.

Secretary Austin has dedicated his life to service in the United States. For 41 years, he served in the United States Army, which began as an appointment to West Point and rose to the rank of four-star general. He served as the 33rd vice chief of the staff of the Army and completed his career as the head of Central Command.

Secretary Austin was awarded the Silver Star for his leadership in the Army's 3rd Infantry Division during the invasion of Iraq in 2003.

He didn't have to return to service for the Nation after giving 41 years of his life, but when called by President Biden, he served again.

You may disagree with the administration's policies as well as we have done over our careers with different administrations, but Secretary Austin has done nothing to merit this amendment.

Upon taking the job of Secretary of Defense, Secretary Austin has outlined his priorities for himself and the Department:

First, defend the Nation, which included prioritizing China as a pacing threat and address advanced and persistent threats.

Second, take care of our people, this includes growing our talent, building our resilience and our readiness and ensuring accountable leadership.

Third, and finally, succeed through teamwork. Focus on working with allies and partners and building unity within the Department.

Each one of these principles should be policies and qualities that we support in our Secretary of Defense, no matter what administration he or she serves in.

Secretary Austin has worked tirelessly to ensure that our allies and partners remain united.

Secretary Austin has personally pulled together the ministers of defense from all over NATO to mount an unprecedented coordination of equipment, training, and tools that the Ukrainians need to fight Vladimir Putin's illegal invasion.

Upon taking office, our relationship with the Philippines was at an all-time low. Secretary Austin reaffirmed our Visiting Forces Agreement, which led

to the creation of a rotational access to nine total locations, strengthening our defense in the critical Indo-Pacific area.

He has made historic breakthroughs through our cooperation with Japan, leading to Japan updating their national strategy documents, which increases security burden sharing in the region with a key ally.

He has worked to cement the principles of a trilateral security pact between Australia, the U.K., and the United States, and that helps us with our U.S. military position in the Pacific.

He has introduced programs that will help our military personnel, for example. As pointed out, recruitment is at an all-time low, but it is not because of anything Secretary Austin did.

Here is what he is doing to keep retention and attract military personnel: introducing universal pre-K, which will cut daycare costs for our military men and women; instituting increases in basic allowance for housing for Active-Duty servicemembers in 28 military housing areas that have experienced an average cost of more than 20 percent spike in rental housing costs; expanding military spouse employment opportunities, strengthening support to our families; and cutting the cost of food at commissaries.

Each one of these efforts help retain our servicemen and -women in service to our Nation.

There, of course, is more work to do, and there always is, but Secretary Austin is making the effort, and there is no need for us to make such a personal drastic attack by eliminating his pay.

For these reasons, I ask you and my fellow colleagues to vote "no" on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Chair, I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. VAN ORDEN), who has also proudly served in the United States military.

Mr. VAN ORDEN. Madam Chair, I have multiple combat tours as a Navy SEAL, including two to Afghanistan, and that is why I rise today in support of the amendment to use the Holman rule to reduce Secretary Austin's salary to \$1.

To paraphrase a famous British officer's evaluation: Secretary Austin consistently sets low standards and then fails to meet them.

Secretary Austin remains in charge of the Pentagon, despite the fact that he has been responsible for the greatest degradation of the United States military since the Vietnam war and the highest Active Duty and veteran suicide rate in our history.

He is directly responsible for abandoning thousands of American citizen and our allies to terrorists in Afghanistan and the subsequent deaths of 13 of our brave men and women in uniform during that fiasco.

I support applying the Holman rule to reduce his salary to \$1 simply because we cannot reduce it to zero.

Secretary Austin could save further controversy and redeem his honor by resigning immediately and publicly apologizing to all of the Gold Star families he is directly responsible for creating at the bombing of Abbey Gate.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I will be brief. The loss of our veterans to suicide is tragic. Coming from a family with many who have served, and in going to military reunions, I know how serious this issue is. To put this on Secretary Austin, to me, is just wrong, and it is disrespectful. I have had these conversations with him personally about this.

I remind Members that the Trump administration started the immediate, quick, fast-paced withdrawal out of Afghanistan. When President Biden came into office, he knew we were at a critical juncture to try to get people out safely. He was able to negotiate a small extension, but that was it.

It is a shared responsibility for what happened in Afghanistan.

Maybe the administration could have planned it better, but the Biden administration's hand was forced by what the Trump administration had put into action.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Chair, there is no excuse. You can't blame President Trump for the failure in Afghanistan. That failure lies on Secretary Lloyd Austin, Joe Biden, the President of the United States, and his administration.

President Trump would have never led our troops to failure in Afghanistan. He would have never abandoned \$7 billion worth of military equipment. President Trump would have never left the Afghan people in complete ruin to be controlled by a terrorist government, the Taliban.

That is a complete excuse. Democrats need to stop blaming President Trump and his administration for Joe Biden's failures.

I urge the House to adopt my amendment, Madam Chair, to take Secretary Lloyd Austin's salary using the Holman rule, which is a rule that allows us to fire failures that are serving our government and serving our country.

Lloyd Austin is not serving the United States military.

Lloyd Austin is leading the United States into failure.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Georgia (Ms. GREENE).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 165 OFFERED BY MS. HAGEMAN
The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 165 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay for the costs of teleworking or remote working for any employee or contractor of the Department of Defense on a regular and recurring basis.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wyoming.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Chair, I rise today in favor of my amendment No. 165 to H.R. 4365.

My amendment prohibits the use of funds to pay regular remote and telework for the civilian and contractor workforce of the Department of Defense.

Madam Chair, at the very beginning of this Congress, our majority brought the voice of the American people to this Chamber saying that enough was enough, that it was time for the Federal workforce to return to work.

To this end, we passed the SHOW UP Act because our constituents were sick and tired of the lack of service from the Federal Government.

While progress has been made to some extent, there are still legacy and recent telework and remote work agreements that keep Federal workers who are supposed to be delivering for the American people out of the office. This includes the Department of Defense workforce, which is allowed to work from home in varying capacities.

In 2019, the Office of the Director of National Security found that across the entire Federal Government 4.2 million employees were eligible to access classified information. The Defense Department is responsible for 3.8 million of these clearances. Of these clearances for employees of the DOD, 20 percent are civilian workforce and 26 percent are contractors.

The DOD works largely in a classified setting. Its responsibilities are to safeguard this Nation. How this mission can be fulfilled when the employees are sitting at home is beyond me.

Madam Chair, it is time for the Federal workforce, including those who work for the DOD, to return to work so the American people can receive a full and fair return on the services that they fund through their tax dollars.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASE. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Hawaii is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CASE. Madam Chair, I am reading the text of this amendment, and it says here none of the funds appropriated may be used for the purposes of teleworking or remote working for any employee or any contractor of the Department of Defense on a regular and recurring basis.

That seems pretty excessive to me.

Now, I would agree with my colleague from Wyoming that certainly telework presents opportunities in some cases for abuse just as regular work does, but we are living in a new world. We are living in a post-COVID world.

There is a place in our workforce for regular work, which is not so regular anymore, and there is a place in our world for telework.

I can certainly envision legitimate purposes for an employee or a contractor of the Department of Defense to engage in telework; for example, particularly, a valuable contractor who does, in fact, choose to work at home and that contractor's services are desired by the Department of Defense.

Why should we limit the Department of Defense in its ability to utilize telework if and as appropriate? By the way, it may be not only about the efficiency of the work, but it may be more cost effective. It may be more cost effective for that work to be engaged in from the telework perspective. We have the technology to do that.

There are a lot of ways that we can provide for work. We are obviously in a significant recruiting and retention challenge for the Department of Defense, and if the Department of Defense wants to engage in telework or offer that as an alternative to satisfy its own needs, I see no reason to provide an excessive amendment that essentially rules out an entire option that is available really to the rest of our society.

Madam Chair, for those reasons, I must oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Chair, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the amendment.

Regular telework was a necessary evil to sustain DOD operations during the COVID lockdown, but that time is over.

Main Street small business went back to work in person years ago, and big business is steadily ending full telework policies.

Leaders across the country have found that full-time telework drives more meetings, reduces productivity, and hinders the development of new employees.

Further, DOD personnel must also access and work on highly classified national security issues.

Madam Chair, I urge a "yes" vote.

□ 1230

Mr. CASE. Madam Chair, to my friend and colleague, Mr. CALVERT, Main Street small business is engaging in telework today. It is finding the opportunities to utilize telework where appropriate. Main Street government is engaging in telework where appropriate.

I completely agree with the concerns for telework in a national security environment. Presumably, if one was ex-

ercising flexibility from a responsible perspective, one would not engage in telework, especially in the national security area.

Obviously, we have a great part of our Federal Government that does not engage in national security directly. Why shouldn't the Department of Defense have this particular flexibility?

Again, the excessiveness of the amendment and the no exceptions at all nature of the amendment, I think, advise against it.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Chair, I believe that my colleague on the other side misunderstands the amendment or the scope of it. The amendment does not prevent DOD employees from working from home if needed, such as for health or emergency situations. In fact, the Defense Civilian Personnel Advisory Service is responsible for policy oversight of the DOD telework and remote work programs. These programs are administered in accordance with DOD Instruction 1035.01.

This amendment specifically prevents only telework and remote work on a regular, recurring basis. The other categories that accommodate health issues, emergency situations, and more would be left untouched, providing the necessary flexibility.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASE. Madam Chair, to my colleague, I am simply reading the language of the amendment, "on a regular and recurring basis." There may well be suitable reasons why telework would be advisable on a regular and recurring basis which is not health related and not very specifically narrow as she has pointed out.

We have belabored this point long enough. I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Chair, this should be a no-brainer that our Federal workers and our employees should actually go to work. In fact, it is actually bipartisan. President Biden called on his Cabinet members to aggressively execute plans for Federal employees to work more in their offices.

The President and I do not see eye to eye on very much—in fact, very little. In this instance, putting workers back in the office is common sense.

This amendment would not defund telework and remote work for servicemen and -women. This amendment specifically prevents funds for DOD employees, civilians, and contractors.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to support my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASE. Madam Chair, suitable oversight of telework by the DOD is appropriate. It is something that we should engage in. To foreclose it under all circumstances, I believe, is unwise.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. HAGEMAN. Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Wyoming (Ms. HAGEMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 166 OFFERED BY MS. JAYAPAL

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 166 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to carry out section 222a or 222b of title 10, United States Code.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Washington.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Chair, my bipartisan amendment would prevent funding from this bill to be used to carry out the Defense Department's "unfunded priorities list." This list that the DOD is required to send to Congress is simply a wish list of things that individual commanders and generals would like to fund and by definition have been determined non-essential to our national security.

This practice does not serve the national security interests of the United States, and it was not mandatory until the passage of the fiscal 2017 NDAA. Mandating these wish lists only serves special interests in the defense contractor industry eager to grow their profits by selling expensive equipment that was not important enough to make it into the Pentagon's own budget. This is corruption and a waste of taxpayer dollars.

This practice has long been criticized by DOD officials and lawmakers of both parties. Bush-appointed Defense Secretary Robert Gates all but banned the list, strongly discouraging his generals from submitting wish lists to Congress during his tenure. Senator John McCain, chair of the Senate Armed Services Committee, publicly stated his skepticism of the practice.

In fact, in response to a letter that I sent to the Department of Defense on this practice, Under Secretary of Defense Michael McCord said on behalf of Defense Secretary Austin: "Therefore, the Department supports your proposal to repeal the requirement in 10 U.S.C. 222a"—that is, to send Congress an unfunded priorities list.

These wish lists are packed with billions of dollars of excessive line items, this year totaling more than \$17 billion on top of the \$842 billion requested by the White House. The Space Force alone requested half a billion in unfunded priorities, almost all classified. Meanwhile, we cannot verify that the

money that we authorize for DOD is even spent responsibly because the Department of Defense has never passed a budget audit.

Madam Chair, I urge my colleagues, especially those across the aisle who are interested in fiscal conservatism, to vote "yes" on this bipartisan and commonsense amendment.

I thank my Republican colleagues, Congressman MCCLINTOCK and Congressman DAVIDSON, as well as members of my own party, Congressman GARAMENDI and Congressman MOULTON, who understand that this is wrong and have worked in concert with me to rein in this wasteful spending that has no benefit to our national security.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from California is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

Unfunded priorities lists are a critical tool to provide Congress with unfiltered information on what the military services and combatant commanders need. Access to this information is so important that the FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act established a statutory requirement.

Unfunded priorities lists give our military services and combatant commanders a direct channel to Congress, which allows Congress to make more informed decisions.

I would just say, for instance, USINDOPACOM obviously has challenges dealing with China, and unfortunately, we are constrained by our budget in getting the resources there that they would like to have. If, in fact, resources become available, we would like to take care of those combatant commanders to deal with the threats that they have.

Madam Chair, I urge opposition to this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Madam Chair, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Minnesota (Ms. MCCOLLUM), the top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee's Defense Subcommittee.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Washington has 2½ minutes remaining.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in support of my colleague's amendment. We all support funding for our national security, but should any department, agency, or entity really get an opportunity to request additional funding outside of the President's and administration's request?

The service chiefs appear before the committee each year to discuss how their budget needs are included in the National Defense Strategy. Most of the

combatant commanders testify before committees also. Congress is able to assess, with strength and oversight, what we believe the needs are for our country and its national security.

With the levers that we have in place, I support my colleague's amendment, and I urge others to support it.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chair, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GARCÍA).

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Chair, I understand that we are living in uncertain times. We are witnessing an unjustifiable war of aggression in Ukraine and a global democratic backslide. Congress can respond to national security needs as they arise. We don't have to spend billions of dollars on what-ifs.

These risks are already built into the Pentagon's budget request. If military leaders want more funding for their wish lists, there is nothing in this amendment that will prevent the DOD from supplying an unfunded priorities list to Congress, but this process should be optional just as it was 7 years ago.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on this amendment.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chair, I include in the RECORD the letter from Under Secretary of Defense Michael McCord that I quoted from earlier.

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE,

Washington, DC, March 20, 2023.

Hon. PRAMILA JAYAPAL,

House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE JAYAPAL: I am responding on behalf of Secretary Austin to your letter of January 31, 2023, regarding the submission of unfunded priorities lists (UPLs) to Congress.

The Department appreciates your sustained commitment to our service members, their families, and our entire work force. We are grateful for your leadership, and we share your commitment to maximizing the impact of every dollar Congress appropriates.

The practice of senior military leaders providing to Congress a list of unfunded priorities was initiated by Congress, first as a request and, since 2017, as a statutory requirement. This process was created by Congress and we agree the Congress should reconsider the merits of this approach. Every Department of Defense (DoD) budget supervised and submitted by Secretary Austin is built to implement his National Defense Strategy and represents the Department's highest priorities. The current statutory practice of having multiple individual senior leaders submit priorities for additional funding absent the benefit of weighing costs and benefits across the Department is not an effective way to illuminate our top joint priorities.

Although Secretary Austin follows a similar practice to that of former Secretary Gates by requiring that these lists are submitted for his review, that process alone does not effectively address the underlying issue of requiring individual leaders to submit proposals with no necessary connection to the Secretary's global priorities. Therefore, the Department supports your proposal to repeal the requirement in 10 U.S.C. 222a.

In contrast to the UPL requirement, in November 2022, after the Congress had already decided to increase the Department's budget, and in response to multiple Congressional inquiries as to how higher than expected inflation was impacting the Department, DoD

provided the congressional defense committees, as drafting assistance for conference, our best assessment of the highest priorities for additional funding, with a focus on addressing unbudgeted inflation. This document was in lieu of, not in addition to, any unfunded priority list submitted under 10 U.S.C. 222a.

That list included upward adjustments for various fact-of-life increases including service member's Basic Allowances for Housing and Subsistence rates, health care costs, additional costs to complete military construction projects, and fuel price impacts. The list also included other critical emergent requirements such as the Civilian Harm Mitigation and Response Action Plan you noted, as well as additional funds to increase capacity to enable the Defense Industrial Base to accelerate the replacement of defense articles being drawn down and provided to Ukraine.

I hope that this information is helpful and look forward to working with you in the 118th Congress. A similar letter is being sent to the other signatories of your letter.

MICHAEL MCCORD

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chair, I close out by saying that we know that the Department of Defense is necessarily a hierarchical institution where the top leaders identify the most important priorities across a very vast swath of departments within the Department of Defense, and they are the ones who we confirm, frankly, to be in charge of that appropriations request and budget.

What is happening now with this unfunded priorities list—and we have had testimony on this in the Budget Committee and other committees—is that these lists are just coming from people who simply do not have any authority to determine the importance.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of the amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. GRIFFITH). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. JAYAPAL).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentlewoman from Washington will be postponed.

VACATING DEMAND FOR RECORDED VOTE ON
AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. CLYDE

Mr. MOLINARO. Mr. Chair, I ask unanimous consent that the request for a recorded vote on amendment No. 154 be withdrawn to the end that the amendment stands disposed of by the earlier voice vote thereon.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. Without objection, the request for a recorded vote is withdrawn. Accordingly, the amendment is agreed to.

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT NO. 167 OFFERED BY MR.
D'ESPOSITO

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 167 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk as the designee of Ms. MALLIOTAKIS.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to provide assistance to the Department of Homeland Security to house persons on a military installation located in the United States.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Chair, today is September 27, 2023, and because of the dereliction of duty of Secretary Mayorkas and the Biden administration, this Nation is under siege. We have record numbers of migrants coming into this country, estimated at 10,000 a day that we know of and an unknown amount of got-aways.

In places like New York City, where people like Mayor Eric Adams and Governor Kathy Hochul have celebrated sanctuary cities, we now see, in fact, that they had no plans to be a sanctuary. They just wanted to pander.

In places like New York City, we have migrants who are coming into the United States of America through our points of entry. They are coming to the United States of America for a better way of life. They are leaving their homes, their families, risking their lives to cross this border. Instead of being given that sanctuary, they are in old hotels and empty warehouses at airports.

This amendment today will ensure that no funds made available by this act may be used by the Department of Defense to provide assistance to the Department of Homeland Security to house migrants or illegal immigrants or illegal aliens on military installations located in the United States of America.

Back in May, Governor Hochul sent a letter to President Biden, and cc'd members of the New York delegation, asking that he allow military installations to be utilized for housing migrants.

Just recently, we have seen that there is a deal in place for migrants to not only be housed but buildings to be erected at Floyd Bennett Field, a military installation in Brooklyn, New York. Not only is it a military installation, but like many others throughout this country, Floyd Bennett Field plays host to my brothers and sisters from the New York City Police Department, housing our aviation team, our

scuba team, special operations, and more.

This simply says no funds will be utilized, given to the Department of Homeland Security, to house migrants and illegal aliens on military installations.

Mr. Chair, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. CALVERT).

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the amendment. The Biden administration is failing our country and undermining our security with the unmitigated crisis along our southern border.

This policy-driven crisis affects more than just the four States that share a border with Mexico, mine included. Today, every city in America is dealing with the influx of illegal migrants because the Biden administration has failed to secure the border and is unwilling to enforce the Nation's immigration laws.

The administration's refusal to act has created a looming crisis at our Nation's military installations, which should not be used to house migrants. They are not designed or equipped for refugee camps.

Housing illegal immigrants on military installations negatively impacts our security and readiness. I understand that New York Democrats have created over 200 migrant camps in the gentleman's area, and I stand with them on the need for real solutions to the border crisis.

Mr. Chair, I urge a "yes" vote.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Hawaii is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, I just heard my friend and chair of the subcommittee say something that I completely agree with, which is we need real solutions to immigration and the border crisis, and that is true. This takes a piecemeal approach that is unnecessarily broad and unnecessary in general.

To our knowledge, there is no current or planned use of active military bases to support DHS' need for temporary or long-term detention of migrants crossing the southern border. Certainly, if the claims by my colleague from New York are correct, that is worthy of debate.

However, the amendment goes much further than that particular point. It says that the military cannot provide any assistance to the Department of Homeland Security to house persons on a military installation. Therefore, we have to ask the question: Is that too broad in an amendment?

Let's take a look at a couple of examples or at least one example in particular. It would apply in that case to governmentwide efforts like Operation Allies Welcome, which was the evacuation of Afghan refugees after the collapse of the government in Afghanistan in 2021. The DHS at the time worked with the Departments of Defense and

State to use military installations to temporarily house Afghan refugees fleeing imminent danger and persecution. This was a critical tool to save lives.

There are, I am sure, other situations that we can envision in which we would want to access our military installations for very tailored purposes, with congressional oversight, that are under the control of the Department of Homeland Security.

If we want to have a debate over immigration, let's have it. If we want to recognize that we have a real problem, I am the first to recognize that, as well. The amendment certainly takes a very broad approach to a problem that I think we can all agree is definitely a problem and rules out many other situations that, in all honesty, we would want the discretion for the DOD. It is much better for Congress to retain that discretion to the DOD where necessary for national security purposes with congressional oversight and with very tailored congressional restrictions.

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

Mr. D'ESPOSITO. Mr. Chair, I am glad to see that we are all looking for solutions to the failed policies of Joe Biden.

What we are focused on today is the fact that military installations, our national parks, like Floyd Bennett Field, where military operations actually take place, are critical to defense. They are not equipped to house migrants. That is what we are focused on today, that there are no plans in place and that these plans, the ones that they are rushing to, are not the ones that we support.

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

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, first of all, I think we are trying to confirm whether or not Floyd Bennett Field is, in fact, a military installation within the definition of the gentleman's amendment.

That point aside, again, I would say that if we are trying to solve the particular issue that my colleague and friend from New York is trying to solve, let's try to solve that one. Let's not do so with a blunt instrument that takes away discretion across the board for legitimate uses of military installations under congressional oversight, such as the Afghan refugee situation.

We can talk about this on the floor. Yes, it is completely necessary to discuss and debate this, but let's not overplay this so that the DOD never has the flexibility to have any military installation used for legitimate purposes that we would all agree with.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. D'ESPOSITO).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 168 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 168 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for any office of diversity, equity, or inclusion.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, I cannot believe I am up here having this debate, particularly at this critical time for our military—\$1.4 billion in 2022 for money spent on diversity, equity, and inclusion.

A woke military is a weak military. The military's sole purpose is to provide for the defense of our great Nation. Our military's focus should be the protection of the American people and our freedoms, not liberal feelings.

Therefore, my amendment would eliminate any offices of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Armed Forces and the Department of Defense.

Woke ideology undermines our readiness in a variety of ways. It undermines cohesiveness by emphasizing differences based on race, ethnicity, and sex.

We recently had 160 retired flag officers write a letter to Speaker MCCARTHY and House Armed Services Committee Chair ROGERS about the dangers of DEI and the opposition to it in the military.

The officers wrote: "We respectfully request that Congress, pursuant to its constitutional powers 'to raise and support Armies' and 'to provide and maintain a Navy,' take legislative action to remove all diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs from the Department of Defense."

Another one: "Our military must be laser focused on one mission: readiness, undiminished by the culture war engulfing our country."

DEI is dividing, not unifying, our military and society.

Another one: "We have fought for our Nation and are sounding the alarm that DEI poses a grave danger to our military warfighting ethos and is degrading warfighting readiness. Social engineering, commonly called wokeism, has no place in our military."

Finally: These indoctrination programs differentiate servicemembers along racial and gender lines, which runs completely counter to the military imperative to build cohesiveness based on common loyalties, training, and standards.

What is more, the Army missed its recruitment target by 25 percent in 2022 at this critical time in the history of this great Republic. This is a Bud Light level of failure.

Mr. Chair, I urge that this amendment be adopted in light of an administration that has completely left our Nation vulnerable.

President Biden told a group of overseas Air Force airmen that the Joint Chiefs of Staff had determined that the greatest threat facing America was global warming, a claim that the Joint Chiefs had to walk back.

He didn't mention Russia. He didn't mention China. He didn't mention the threat of the debt that has engulfed this country. He mentioned global warming.

As I mentioned, the DOD spent \$1.4 billion on their equity action plan. That is money we don't have, and it just adds to the national debt.

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

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Hawaii is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, we have confirmed, to the prior amendment, that Floyd Bennett Field in New York is not a military installation.

Do we not value diversity in our military? That is the question in this amendment.

Does it matter that we have a diverse military? Does it matter or not?

Do we not value equity in our military? Does it matter?

Do we not value inclusion? Do we want a military that represents our society or just a slice of it? That is the question.

If you say that you value a diverse, equal, and inclusive military, if you say that that is of value to you, it doesn't happen automatically. It takes effort.

That is why our military leaders over a long period of time now have valued the investment in diversity, equity, and inclusion. They understand that a military that reflects the society that we live in values our military and accelerates, enhances, and improves the overall service that it provides. They understand that that military in that situation will be supported by the American people.

They understand that it will be respected around the world where many other militaries of our partners and allies around the world do value diversity, equity, and inclusion. They don't have these debates in their parliaments and congresses. They don't face these attacks on the attempt to value these attributes within our military.

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We need to back those up, and yes, that does take an investment. Where you think that those efforts are wrong, where you think they have gone too far, where you think that they are somehow affecting military service, then go ahead and oversee those efforts.

Your solution is to cut the funding from all of them because you don't

value these attributes in our military. You think that valuing these attributes leads to a weak military. I heard you say that. I don't agree with that. That is fundamentally not a position that we agree with.

From our perspective, again, to take a blunt instrument and wipe out an entire department that values efforts that will improve military service, and, by the way, improve military recruitment, I hope the author of the amendment agrees that military recruitment is a major challenge for our military.

Yet, let's just say to whole parts of our society, sorry, we don't value you at all because we are not going to take care of trying to provide for diversity, equality, and inclusion. That is the wrong approach.

Fundamentally, this is a difference in policy. It is a difference in goal. Apparently, it is a difference in assessment of what makes our military strong and will continue to make it strong.

For those reasons, I have to strongly oppose this amendment. I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, this is just more liberal gibberish. \$1.4 billion? Sir, you tell these young people behind me, you tell them instead of building ships, instead of building airplanes, instead of protecting cybersecurity, you are going to really pay for transgender operations. Hogwash.

You try to make that case to anybody in this room, and they would laugh—well, it is so serious, they wouldn't laugh.

Let me tell you some other things that I am sick and tired of—feelings. Talk to the military Gold Star mothers who have lost their children. Tell them what you just said on this House floor.

An Admiral told midshipmen at the Naval Academy that they need to read "How to Be an Antiracist," a book that teaches the only remedy to pass discrimination.

Another one. Military recruitment videos in recent years have touted the military's inclusivity to LGBT members. They use a rainbow flag.

Enough is enough. Americans are tired of this. Why do you think there is a shortage of people entering the military who have to put up with this kind of thinking?

For this reason, we shouldn't even be wasting our time debating this thing, but it is what it is. Thanks to the Biden administration and their anti-military and anti-readiness, it is a time in America that we are in severe danger economically and security-wise.

I reserve the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the chair.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, obviously we have a difference of opinion here.

I would also submit that the leadership of our military have a difference

of opinion with the perspectives expressed by the author of this amendment.

Again, they understand the values of pursuing a diverse, equitable, equal, and inclusive military. They understand the challenges of a military that is not representative of the American people. They understand the need to provide for that investment.

Again, we can oversee this particular effort. We can question particular representations of that policy. To take a blunt instrument to this entire effort and defund it and say that it has no value at all, that is what is objectionable in this amendment.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 169 OFFERED BY MR. NORMAN

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 169 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. 8155. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used, with regards to a member of the Armed Forces with a minor dependent child enrolled in an EFMP—

(1) to provide gender transition procedures, including surgery or medication, to such child through such EFMP;

(2) to provide a referral for a procedure described in paragraph (1) to such child through such EFMP; or

(3) to approve a change of duty station for such member through such EFMP for the purpose of providing such child with access to procedures described in paragraph (1).

(b) In this section, the term "EFMP" means a program under section 1781c(e) of title 10, United States Code.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, again, like the other amendment I have, I cannot believe we are sitting here debating this.

What my amendment does is prohibits provisions of gender transition procedures, including surgery or medication, through the Exceptional Family Member Program.

Let me tell you what the Exceptional Family Member Program is. It provides resources to military families with special needs.

This program is designed for military spouses, children, and other dependent family members who require ongoing medical educational services such as individuals with autism, asthma, chronic respiratory illnesses, Down syndrome, and many others.

The military has tried to politicize this matter, and my amendment ensures that we reserve the valuable programs and the dollars for these programs, which would go toward the intent of what it was put in for in the first place, which is to help families with special needs and prevent the further dissolution and misguided dollars spent on something like gender transition procedures.

My amendment also prohibits the change of duty station simply for the purpose of providing a child with easier access to these procedures.

I urge adoption of this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Hawaii is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, again, we have an amendment that would want us, apparently, to occupy some other state of reality as opposed to the world as we have it today.

In that world, we do have transgender individuals who need help, children whose parents are looking for the right courses of conduct for them.

This measure would say that those parents do not have the right to make those decisions in consultation with their doctors and with their children.

Further, what this amendment says is that those parents need not apply to join our military because they will not be welcomed there with the decisions that they need to make for their families.

This amendment that cuts gender-affirming care options for servicemembers' children will drive individuals out of the military, prevent recruitment to start with, and is, frankly, needlessly cruel. These decisions should be reserved for parents and their children.

I hear all the time from the other side of the aisle talk about parents' rights—all the time. Parents should have the right to make these decisions.

Is there an exception for military families? Parents get to make these decisions, but by the way, if you are a member of our military, you don't get to make these decisions.

This is a very personal decision for parents to make with their families, with their children, and with their doctors.

It is probably, in all honesty, unconstitutional as courts believe healthcare bans like this violate the equal protection clause of the Constitution, but let's just leave that aside and talk about the policy.

Is the policy wise to say to servicemembers and their families that they cannot access care that is provided to them in a non-servicemember world?

I think that is the wrong policy, so I oppose this amendment and reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, let me tell you the dollar amount spent for the past 5 years—\$15 million. That is \$15 million for surgery for a man who can't

decide whether he is a man, or a girl who can't decide whether she is a girl. Imagine that.

You tell those families that have children with Down syndrome, you tell those families that have severely autistic children you are going to spend it for changing genders?

I don't mind somebody questioning their gender but pay for it yourself when you have to have it, not on the backs of our brave military families.

In the past 5 years, \$15 million was spent to treat 1,892 transgender troops. Well, isn't that something? You want somebody who is trying to decide if they are a man or a woman on the firing line?

Is that really a question to decide in the military? There was \$11.5 million spent on psychotherapy and \$3.1 million for surgeries.

The price tag for individuals getting this surgery and treatments after have ranged from \$8,000 to \$100,000. Related healthcare coverage is only going up.

My point is, I think, to make this argument, particularly with dollars that could be spent helping meaningful children who have disabilities should be made. To spend this money that we don't have just really spits in the face of our military families.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chair, first of all, we can certainly debate the efficient use of our funds for expenses and the cost, but I strongly suspect that my colleague's objections in this amendment do not relate to cost but to a judgment about what should and shouldn't be provided to our military families.

Now, we can have this debate about transgender care for our military servicemembers, and the debate will look something like this one, but this particular amendment would ban any care for minor children.

What this amendment would do is to say to our military servicemembers, you cannot have the full range of recognized medical options for your children that are available in a non-military setting.

That is what this amendment would do. This is about children. It is about parents making decisions for their children.

This is a situation where that decision should be left to the servicemember parents who have a choice as to whether they serve in the military or not, have a choice as to whether to join the military or not, or stay in the military.

We should provide them the same basic rights and options as are available in the private sector. Otherwise, aside from not being fair to them, in my estimation, we also will not have a strong military because they will choose not to join or to stay in.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from South Carolina has 1½ minutes remaining.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Chair, I will just say that it is this kind of thinking that has the military in a demoralized state.

It is this kind of thinking, this kind of rationalization of our hard-earned tax money that has the military recruitment numbers way down.

It is this kind of woke thinking that is penalizing families that want to serve this country, families who have children with these disabilities who need the care that they would deprive them of because they want to fund somebody who doesn't know what gender they are.

It is this kind of thinking that America is sick and tired of. Ask any military family, and they will tell you the same thing.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 170 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania). It is now in order to consider amendment No. 170 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to remove a Chinese military company from the list required by section 1260H of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, the section 1260H list maintained by the Department of Defense was created by the fiscal year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act and intended to identify any Chinese military companies operating directly or indirectly in the United States.

Section 1260H is a part of a largely bipartisan, years-long effort to name and shame CCP companies operating in our Nation.

While the Biden administration has made important additions to this list, including military companies such as ChemChina and China State Construction Engineering, the administration has still fallen short of a full commitment to countering the malign influences of the CCP.

Earlier this year, we saw Secretaries Yellen, Blinken, and Raimondo take trips to China as part of a diplomatic overture.

Many of my colleagues would undoubtedly agree that the CCP could

care less about diplomacy and that these trips have very little, if any, bearing on how China chooses to behave on the international stage.

One could argue that these trips only serve to demonstrate the limits and the lack of American resolve to confront the PRC's obviously petulant behavior.

For instance, it is a daily occurrence to see the PRC infringe on Taiwan's Air Defense Identification Zone. The PRC regularly makes threats to wage war against Taiwan.

They manipulate international organizations to do their bidding. They entrap developing countries into contracts that make them de facto vassal states. They construct dual-use ports across the world, and it goes on and on and on, Mr. Chairman.

In the face of the CCP's belligerent escalatory actions, the gut reaction of the American administration ought not to be for the Secretary of the Treasury to fly to China and consume psychedelic mushrooms. Yet, that is what we saw from Janet Yellen.

Before Secretary Raimondo's visit to China, the Department of Commerce, acting through the Bureau of Industry and Security, unilaterally removed 27 CCP entities from the bureau's so-called unverified list.

Our Department of Commerce literally chose to make a concession to an aggressive state in order to get the CCP to meet with our Secretary of Commerce.

It is clear that this President's judgment cannot be trusted. This administration's assessment of China has only emboldened our Nation's foremost enemy. Appeasement has long failed as a strategy, and it continues to fail today.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of my amendment. I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 171 OFFERED BY MR. OGLES

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 171 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be made available to NewsGuard Technologies Inc.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, it would appear that many in the Democratic Party have taken it upon themselves to offer their talents and considerable abilities to help determine which information is reliable and which isn't. Thanks, but no thanks.

Mr. Chairman, in September 2021, the Department of Defense offered NewsGuard, a self-proclaimed fact-checker, a \$750,000 grant to effectively censor conservative viewpoints and opinions.

Want proof of NewsGuard's censorship efforts? I am more than happy to provide undisputed facts.

NewsGuard has given extremely subjective and clearly biased ratings to several conservative news outlets, including *The Federalist*, a 12½ percent accuracy and credibility score; *Newsmax*, 15 percent; *The Epoch Times*, a 17½ percent score; and *OAN*, 17½ percent.

I am sure these conservative news outlets have lost out on crucial ad revenue from these ratings. It is censorship.

It is fundamentally pathetic that this administration thinks they can sideline conservative viewpoints and demonize conservative platforms without the American people finding out about this.

All this is happening while *Politico*, *NPR*, and *The New York Times* have previously received a perfect 100 percent; *CBS*, 95 percent.

Mr. Chairman, we are supposed to have an open and free press. There should be no censorship. This is the United States of America. The fact that we are funding an organization that is censoring viewpoints and news is untenable.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. NewsGuard does a service that provides tools to counter misinformation, and it has been around since 2018.

It uses tools to catalog and track all of the top false narratives spreading online, which is effective in countering hostile misinformation targeting Democratic governments like our own.

There is no doubt that China, Russia, Iran, and other bad actors are trying to influence our country through its mis-, dis-, and mal-information.

We need every tool available to determine what is real and what is not when it comes to what is being reported by the press.

The amendment does nothing but weaken our ability to do that, so I oppose this amendment. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, it should be noted that *Newsmax TV* is more than just online. *CBS* isn't just online. *The New York Times* isn't just online.

These are news outlets with multiple platforms, so it is not about censoring online. It is about censorship.

The irony here is abundant, especially when considering that these leftist news outlets parroted the lie promoted by 51 intelligence officials and our disaster of a Secretary of State that the Hunter Biden laptop story was a production of Russian disinformation.

Only in America could a guy who helped steal an election and undermine our democracy be promoted to oversee our Nation's policy on Ukraine, but that is the story of Antony Blinken in a nutshell.

The Hunter Biden laptop debacle was literally the biggest story of the 2021 election, and a story, if taken seriously, that might have resulted in a different outcome.

Instead, our government is subsidizing a self-identified fact-checker who completely whiffed on the biggest story of a Presidential cycle.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, just a few facts about NewsGuard. Journalists are employed by NewsGuard. They have technology people that score websites based on their reliability and general trustworthiness.

It is not censored. People still have the freedom to read and to believe whatever they choose to, but this analysis is designed to be transparent.

It also includes the name of the staffer who analyzed the information. If somebody has a dispute with it, they know exactly who made the score system happen.

Let me just tell you a couple of things, Mr. Chair, about what they do. They look at the frequency of publication that has inaccurate information, the extent of sourcing and original reporting on information, and the degree of demarcation between news and opinion journalists.

Mr. Chair, I attended both public and private grade schools and colleges, and I remember the good Sister saying, you are entitled to your own opinion, it should be said so respectfully, but you are not entitled to your own facts.

One of the things that they try to do is ferret out what is hard news and what is somebody's opinion. We are entitled to read people's opinions.

When opinions somehow get woven in and they become fact, it becomes very confusing for people. What NewsGuard tries to do is kind of help separate that out; the accuracy of headlines, including those that are click-bait headlines and the degree of disclosure of the website's owner.

If you are reading something and you want to know who owns it, is it owned by your next-door neighbor? Is it owned by an American company? Is it owned by a Chinese company? Is it owned by a foreign national? It discloses all those kinds of things.

I am the daughter of a librarian. I am not about censorship, but I am about people being able to sort out in this day and age what is opinion, what is fact, and who is writing what, so we know what their bias is.

That is why I strongly oppose this amendment and believe that NewsGuard is a service that provides some tools to counter misinformation, and they have been around since 2018.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. OGLES. Mr. Chairman, while I appreciate my colleague's perspective, it should be noted that when conservative versus other news sources are compared with similar metrics that the more liberal-leaning news outlets are ranked 27 points higher.

This has a direct impact on revenue streams. To say that they are somehow unbiased literally defies the facts that I have laid out before you and that you have conservative news sites on the bottom end of the spectrum, whereas the more mainstream, liberal-leaning news sites are at the top.

Mr. Chairman, it should also be noted that NewsGuard is known to be reliant on and working with the WHO, the World Health Organization, which is known for disinformation and lying and is unduly influenced by the CCP.

This is a grant that should not be authorized, it should not be continued, and they should not be relied upon.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I would love to see the source for NewsGuard working directly with the World Health Organization.

They might report things from the World Health Organization, but that is different than working directly with them because that implies something else.

I am going to close this up just saying there are many people, when they are sorting through something, that just want to know that there is a fact-checker.

I am sorry if the gentleman, Mr. Chair, feels that somehow or another, some of the papers or the websites or the news programs he wants to watch don't have as high a rating from NewsGuard. He is still free to watch and do that.

For people who just want to make sure that things are fact-checked, they want to know who owns the site, who is operating the site, where they are getting their sources and cites from, that is what NewsGuard's function is.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. OGLES).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 172 OFFERED BY MR. ROSENDALE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 172 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. 8155. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to require a member

of the Armed Forces or a civilian employee of the Department of Defense to receive a vaccination against COVID-19.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Chair, my amendment No. 172 would prohibit funds made available by this act to require a member of the Armed Forces or a civilian employee of the Department of Defense to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

The fiscal year 2023 National Defense Authorization Act rescinded Secretary Austin's memorandum requiring that members of the Armed Forces be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Unfortunately, the NDAA did not prohibit future mandates. The last mandate resulted in over 8,400 troops being kicked out of the military for refusing this experimental vaccine, and we lost about 60,000 reservists. Countless individuals also decided not to enlist because of this mandate.

While our military is failing dramatically to meet recruiting goals, it is outrageous that the Department of Defense would condition employment on receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.

For example, in 2022, the Army sought 60,000 recruits but only enlisted 45,000. For 2023, the Army is aiming to recruit 65,000 new members but is only expected to recruit between 50- and 55,000 Active-Duty members.

Additionally, young, healthy males are the least at risk of getting a severe case of COVID-19 while they are the most likely group to have an adverse reaction from the vaccine, making the mandate not just counterproductive but potentially dangerous.

□ 1350

The Biden administration is already urging all Americans to get a booster shot, despite no human-outcome data on the new shot. Congress must preemptively stop all COVID-19 vaccine requirements before these unelected bureaucrats try to take more control of our lives.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. I rise in opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. The Department took bold and effective action to confront the COVID-19 pandemic, protect our personnel across the force, and ensure that the U.S. military can fight and win wherever they are needed.

In fact, the Department of Defense lost 96 servicemembers to COVID. There were 96 servicemembers that died from COVID. More than 2 million servicemembers have been vaccinated against COVID-19.

All the servicemembers in the Department of Defense are required to

comply with applicable medical readiness requirements. One such requirement is when you go to boot camp—and a lot of us have seen the movies and know people who have served—all servicemembers must receive, if they have not already, inoculations and immunizations. They usually are the same ones that we have had as children. They just want to make sure they are up-to-date because you have to get your tetanus redone and things like that that are required.

These vaccinations also include measles, mumps, rubella, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, and chicken pox. In some cases, service personnel are required to take certain medications if they are deployed to an area, for example, to prevent malaria or maybe yellow fever. That is to make sure that they are safe.

Applicants for military service and servicemembers may seek an exemption—that has always been available to them and it continues to be available to them. They can seek an exemption for vaccine requirements based on qualifying medical or religious—so they can ask for that, and they are often granted it.

Members of Congress should not be directing or deciding what vaccines or medications are needed for our military personnel.

Madam Chair, I would ask my colleagues to take a second and for you to come along with me. Just imagine you are on a submarine. My father-in-law served on a submarine in World War II, and he would tell me how close those quarters are. I have been on a submarine, so I know how close they are. There is no place for total privacy and germs are all over.

Just think what would happen if there was a COVID-19 outbreak, how that could possibly affect national security. All of our service personnel are in close quarters with one another. We must try to protect them from any disease that could inhibit their ability to execute that mission.

At this point there are no COVID vaccine requirements. There aren't for any members of the total force. There aren't any requirements pending for this right now. The Department of Defense says, no, you don't have to get this one, there are other ones you have to get.

Madam Chair, since there are no COVID-19 vaccine requirements pending, I don't know why we are debating this amendment. For this reason, I would ask my colleagues to vote against this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Chair, I am glad we are talking about the effectiveness and the readiness of our military. Again, 60,000 reservists left the military because of a mandate. Fortunately, we did learn something from it and it was removed from the NDAA, and Austin went along with it.

These are the mandatory vaccinations that all servicemembers are re-

quired to receive before initial entry in basic training: adenovirus, hepatitis A, hepatitis B, influenza, measles, mumps, rubella, meningococcal, poliovirus, tetanus-diphtheria, and varicella.

However, the main difference is that these other vaccines are much different and more effective than the COVID-19 vaccine. Take measles, for example. One estimate found that the measles vaccine is 85 times more effective than the Pfizer COVID vaccine.

Madam Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), my dear friend.

Mr. ROY. Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of this amendment because it is extremely important. The reason there isn't a mandate at the Department of Defense right now is because we demanded that it end. That is the truth. We forced it through on that ridiculous omnibus spending bill last December.

Here is the reality. We have a doctor here in the building right now speaking to a group of members from Johns Hopkins University talking about the extent to which the current iteration of the COVID vaccine has been tested on 10 lab rats. It hasn't gone through any human trials that are necessary.

When my father had polio and the vaccine came after, it was a decade of testing and trials. We have stuck this vaccine out because of panic. We have undermined the health and well-being of our soldiers, airmen, and marines. We should stop it. We should prohibit it in the future, and we should make backpay available to our former members of the military that were kicked out.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, at some point I would like the gentleman from Montana to show me his statistics. We might have had 60,000 people who chose not to re-up. To attribute it all to COVID, I would like to see that information. I am sure Chair CALVERT would like to see that information because that would be important to see. That is a statistic I would like to see where it came from.

Madam Chair, I will state again that the COVID-19 vaccine currently isn't required, but to ban it in such a blanket way in which we are doing, takes away some of the ability for the Department. You volunteer to be on a submarine. It takes away some of the flexibility that the Department or commander or someone in the height of a pandemic—should it come again—they should have every tool in their toolbox. Right now there is no current reason for it.

Madam Chair, I am like you, talking to friends and neighbors. Some are deciding to get it, some are deciding not to get it, just like people do with the flu shot. There are certain times that the Department of Defense says you need to take these certain medications.

The gentleman from Montana listed off a lot of them. We have had them.

Our kids have had them. Our servicemembers have them. COVID-19 isn't on a list right now of anything that is being required. This seems to me to be superfluous and kind of creates more friction and anxiousness about how we talk about medicine that is being provided. This is medicine that should be optional.

Is this an option that would be available if a servicemember going in said, hey, I want to get the COVID vaccine? I want to have it, and I would like the Department of Defense to provide it to me.

I really think we should leave it up to the medical professionals at the Department of Defense to say what is necessary. Right now they are saying this isn't a mandated vaccine.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Chair, we don't have a single problem with this being an option. If any servicemembers want to go and get an experimental vaccination plugged into their arm, they are welcome to do so.

What we are saying is that the dollars that are going to be issued to the Department of Defense should not include any mandate for this experimental vaccination.

In August of 2022, The Washington Post reported that 58 percent of the deaths related to COVID-19 were among vaccinated or boosted persons. This raises serious questions about even the effectiveness of this vaccine.

I would also like to state that the COVID-19 vaccine requirements also continue to ignore natural immunity. As renowned Dr. Marty Makary testified in the Select Subcommittee on the Coronavirus Pandemic this year, "Over the past 3 years, over 200 studies have shown that natural immunity is at least as effective than vaccinated immunity. A recent Lancet review . . . natural immunity is at least as effective as vaccinated immunity, and probably better."

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mrs. HOUGHIN). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 173 OFFERED BY MR. ROY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 173 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. ROY. Madam Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 45, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$20,000,000) (increased by \$20,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. Madam Chair, the amendment that I have offered increases funding for the inspector general by \$20 million for an Office of the Special Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance, if authorized, to enhance the oversight and accountability measures for funds appropriated for Ukraine, increasing the inspector general by \$20 million.

Over the last year and half, Congress has appropriated approximately \$113 billion in response to Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

I am one of these individuals that believes that we did have agreements with Ukraine, and we have got to recognize those from the mid-1990s when we asked them to denuclearize and work with our partners in Eastern Europe.

I also don't believe that we ought to be just providing an endless supply of funds to Ukraine with no clear mission, with no clear accountability of the dollars, and without clear accountability of whether NATO and our European allies are upholding their end of the bargain.

This is a step to try to rectify at least one part of that: by making sure there is a fully empowered inspector general, to make sure that the information that we have is complete, and that we have a full understanding of every dollar that has already been appropriated and might be appropriated in the future, and to make sure that we are tracking it to the level that is necessary.

There have been a number of different issues that we have identified in the past. For example, if you look at other conflicts like Afghanistan, the lead for the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan found at least \$19 billion in U.S. taxpayer funds sent to Afghanistan was lost to waste, fraud, and abuse from 2002 to 2020.

It is critically important that we track this and follow it and understand it.

Madam Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I claim time in opposition only to have a discussion.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Chair, let it be said loud and clear, the chair and I and all the members on the Appropriations Defense Subcommittee have been bird-dogging, asking questions, wanting to have great reports on what is happening with the money.

You are in lockstep with what your ultimate goal is and what we have been doing on the committee. In fact, we fund a lot of this. In general, I support the idea of this amendment, but the bill already includes funding the oversight of all of the dollars we are spending to support Ukraine.

I am kind of a penny-pincher, believe it or not. You are smiling, but I ask

people a lot of questions. I won't get into that. I ask a lot of questions. I am kind of concerned about some duplicity and inefficiencies in here, which I know is something we are striving to make sure that that doesn't happen.

Madam Chair, keeping track of every dollar, especially when it comes to DOD is something that when I was on the Oversight Committee during the Iraq war and the way that we didn't have oversight over equipment and dollars and cold, hard cash that was being delivered there is something that I am very, very interested in and support doing.

I thank the gentleman for the amendment. The committee has it in hand. I want you to know that this is a bipartisan, full Appropriations Defense Subcommittee thing. We are asking these questions every time somebody is in to see us.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROY. Madam Chair, I thank the gentlewoman for her comments, and I think we have a general agreement on what we are trying to accomplish.

I would note that in the NDAA we passed an authorization for this, and this would be the appropriation necessary to carry it out. That was the desire of our efforts to try to put a birds-eye view on this across agencies to ensure that dollars are being spent the way they are supposed to.

Madam Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. WOMACK).

Mr. WOMACK. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the amendment. As the ranking member of the Defense Subcommittee just said, the Defense Subcommittee is united in this entire process to try to bring accountability to the table. It is practical and it is rational that we have complete accountability and oversight.

That is why this bill contains many new oversight provisions, including notification requirements before funds are spent, a GAO review of the Defense Department's execution of Presidential draw-down authority, a reporting requirement on increasing burden-sharing for Ukraine, and a requirement that the inspector general review the Department's end use monitoring program. These are provisions that go directly to the heart of the gentleman's concerns about accountability.

This bill also includes funding for a Special Inspector General for Ukraine, if authorized, in the National Defense Authorization Act. This amendment furthers these efforts.

Madam, I urge a "yes" vote. I think I can speak for a good segment of our Defense Subcommittee, including those on the other side of the aisle, and I encourage a "yes" vote.

Mr. ROY. Madam Chair, may I inquire how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman has 1½ minutes.

Mr. ROY. Madam Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. SPARTZ).

Mrs. SPARTZ. Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of this amendment. I know that accountability is a foreign concept in Washington, but accountability builds trust. It is very important, considering the track record of this administration, considering the track record of the Department of Defense that hasn't been audited, and considering the track record of the Ukrainian Government, that the American people do have proper accountability.

Accountability will be the key to success for the very brave Ukrainian people fighting the fight against evil and winning that fight. I will strongly urge support for this amendment. It is a very, very serious war, and we don't want to have another pull-out like Afghanistan.

Mr. ROY. Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Roy).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 174 OFFERED BY MR. ROY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 174 printed in part A of House Report 118–216.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. The salary of Cyrus Salazar shall be reduced to \$1.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. Roy) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. Madam Chair, the amendment I am offering reduces the salary of Cyrus Salazar, the director of the Department of Defense's Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to \$1. You might ask why we would do that.

It is a power that we have in the House of Representatives under the Holman rule to try to restrain the executive branch, both in terms of expense, dollars and how they are being used, and in terms of what they are being used for.

The American people are frankly getting a little tired of a Department of Defense that is being taken far too often off mission, I hear it all the time. I hear it from veterans. I hear it from Active-Duty servicemembers. I hear it from recruits. With recruiting numbers at low levels, with morale at questionable levels, we need to re-instill in our military a crystal clear focus on mission first.

Importantly, when we are—to use the gentlewoman's term, which I take to heart—pinching pennies and trying to find dollars, we need to stop racking up \$33 trillion in debt when we can't even figure out how to fund the salaries of our rank-and-file men and women in

uniform at the level that we might need to when we are dealing with issues of increasing health costs, when we are dealing with issues of having a fully armed military with the latest and greatest technology to defeat China.

It would seem questionable that, for example, we would have positions like the following: The Air Force is looking for a supervisory Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion accessibility officer in Arlington, Virginia, that will pay between \$155,700 to \$183,500 per year.

Another one, the Air Force is looking for a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion manager to work at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland, that pays between \$94,199 to \$122,459 per year. There is another position in Alaska. There is another position in Alabama. I could go down the list, and this is the top of that pyramid.

What we are trying to say is we shouldn't do this. We need to stop this. We need to stop diverting the mission of the military, which is a laudable goal of ensuring you got a workforce that is representative of the population of this country. You don't need an entire bureaucracy within the Pentagon to do it that is then perpetuating a lot of divisive policies.

For example, West Point Academy slides told cadets that “whiteness” is “a location of structural advantage, of race privilege,” is “a standpoint or place from which White people look at themselves and the rest of society,” and “refers to a set of cultural practices that are usually unmarked and unmarked.”

There is another, Kelisa Wing, former chief diversity officer at DOD's schools. “I'm so exhausted at these White folks in these PD [professional development] sessions. This lady actually had the CAUDacity to say that Black people can be racist too.”

This is not the kind of thing that should be going on at the United States military and the Pentagon. This is one step of many that we need to take to return the military to its core mission and end this social engineering wrapped in a uniform, rather than doing the job of defending this great country.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Chair, Cyrus Salazar, as has been pointed out, is the director of the Department of Defense for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and is charged with promoting diversity within the DOD.

The Department has a responsibility to make sure all Americans are welcome in the service of our Nation and that it reflects America's defense.

I worked in the private sector until basically, I mean, I served part-time in city councils and that, but I worked in

the private sector until I came here to Congress. I still have a lot of friends in the private sector where I represent 3M. Right across the river in Minneapolis, there are General Mills, Target, and I could go on and on with the companies that we have.

These companies are competing for talent, whether it is the person who is helping you at the Target store with the checkout or whether it is the person that is being recruited to go into teaching or a person who is going to become a CEO or a compliance officer or a bank auditor. We are all competing in the workforce right now.

Our labor trades are competing for the workforce. There are fewer and fewer people entering the workforce, so there is a great competition going on. These companies have diversity offices. They are going out and talking to groups that maybe have never been in the industry before. I will use the building trades again.

In our building trades they are knocking down the doors going to our high schools. They have people just working on diversity, saying, these are great paying jobs, let me tell you about them. Maybe nobody in your family has been a plumber, maybe nobody in your family has been an electrician or a pipe fitter, or maybe you never worked road construction. These are great jobs for you. They are going out and they are recruiting these people.

We are up against the same challenge of recruitment and retention that the private sector is. In fact, we are competing for the same workforce. Of course, in my opinion, we need to be doing some of this diversity and inclusion.

The gentleman from Texas, when he quoted what was said at West Point, I totally agree, those are horrific statements and that person is gone and they should be gone. But the DOD is struggling with a challenge. Right now, our civilian workforce doesn't reflect the diversity of other Federal agencies.

We are trying to get more women, more men, more everybody in this country to know that the DOD is a great place to work and that once you are there, you are going to love the job, and we are going to give you the tools in the toolbox to do it.

Madam Chair, I will close with this. One of the things that I have been working on is cybersecurity and IT and linguistics. I come from a culturally rich district. If you come to University Avenue in St. Paul, the diversity of the restaurants and small businesses that are there, it will blow your mind away. It is rich in diversity.

But we still find, even all being in the same neighborhoods and communities, we still have to do outreach to say you are welcome. One of those places is cybersecurity. A lot of these businesses are being hacked. They are having issues with it. We are going to the high schools and to the community colleges, and we are looking at folks like—there is a place for you in cybersecurity. They are like, me? Yeah, you.

Sometimes people need to be welcomed in, they need to have the opportunity to be recruited.

I really think that having someone that oversees opportunity, equal opportunity, diversity and inclusion, making sure that disability programs—we have our servicemembers who come back and sometimes have to be relocated into another position or a job, that is what this office can do.

I know we have gotten down this track of how we can divide ourselves talking about diversity and inclusion. I want us to embrace it in a way to have a more unified workforce and to recruit and retain the best and the brightest to work in the Department of Defense.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time because I think we have had this discussion over and over again today.

Mr. ROY. Madam Chair, the United States military is one of the few institutions in America where the skills of the men or women on either side of you could mean the difference between life and death.

At the end of the day, it embodies I think Dr. King's notion of judging men and women on the content of their character, not the color of their skin. Yet, the Biden administration is infatuated with divvying us up by race, with divvying us up by our immutable characteristics.

The fact is, with all due respect—and I appreciate the gentlewoman's remarks and the tone in which they were offered—corporate America is slashing DEI officers amid a backlash of diversity programs across the country.

There is a story right here about the numbers of how many offices have been slashed over the last year, in part because they don't add much value to the bottom line in which the economy is hurting and people are suffering; and also in part because they are getting a backlash from having so much focus on divvying us up by race and all these characteristics—it is not actually good.

We are seeing this in countless corporations across the country. There is story after story, if you just Google it and see what is going on out there. I think the Department of Defense should be in line with where we are seeing our society recoil at this divvying us up by race. This is one way to accomplish that objective.

Madam Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. DUARTE). The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 175 OFFERED BY MR. ROY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 175 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act for the Department of Defense or the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute may be used to carry out the observance of Pride Month as specified in the Cultural Observances and Awareness Events List of the Department of Defense and authorized by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, the amendment that is being put forward here would say that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to carry out the observance of Pride Month authorized by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness for the Cultural Observances and Awareness Events list.

First of all, that whole title should give you a little bit of pause. At the end of the day, in line with the amendment that I just offered, the goal here should be to ensure that our military is focused on the mission and building cohesion to accomplish the mission.

□ 1400

Now we have got the Department of Defense focusing on, for example, the Air Force releasing a memo entitled Department of the Air Force Observance of LGBTQ Pride Month which empowered installation commanders to plan and conduct appropriate activities in honor of Pride Month, which they then did. That then resulted in, for example, the Department of the Navy issuing a memo declaring June's month theme, "Peace, Love, Revolution." There was a flyer advertising Robins Air Force Base 2023 Pride Month events, which included information for servicemembers and their families to attend the Pride Night game night and unity and diversity color run. Because some of the colleagues voiced opposition, Nellis Air Force Base approved and then canceled a scheduled drag show to celebrate Pride Month.

What on Earth are we doing? I represent Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. I represent countless veterans attached to or who have served at Joint Base San Antonio or otherwise in central Texas. My constituents come to me, and they just shake their heads, and say: What are we doing? What happened?

We need to beat China. We need to be able to be in a position to carry out multiple-front wars around the globe, if necessary. We need to have the finest fighting force in the world with the best technology and the best training.

Again, it is one thing to respect someone's private life and differences, but to carry out your objective in the office without having the Department of Defense promoting events dividing us up by our various characteristics. That is the reality.

On social media, the marines tweeted a Pride Month image with rainbow-tipped bullets on a marine helmet featuring the words: Proud to serve. I am sure the Chinese military is quaking in its boots with the rainbow-tipped bullets being tweeted around the world.

The Air Force tweeted an image with the silhouette of an airman saluting in front of a Pride flag. The Navy changed their logo on social media to ships and aircraft in front of a rainbow flag.

Again, that is the flag right there: Red, white, and blue. That is the flag—no other flag—when we are talking about what the United States military should be standing in front of and should be projecting.

I have very few constituents who disagree with this sentiment that we should be focused on having a military that is designed to, when called upon, blow stuff up and kill people in defense of this country, as needed, and to be the best fighting force to accomplish that objective in the world. They need to be trained and to have a clear mission. And, oh by the way, side note, while I am sitting here on the floor talking about the Department of Defense appropriations, the military should not be engaged in endless conflict without congressional engagement in terms of authorization of the use of military force, which, by the way, we were supposed to be addressing by the end of this month. I will save that for a different speech.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I claim the time to oppose this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, we honor and celebrate many cultural events. We celebrate Hanukkah on the National Mall. We light a Christmas tree outside in front of the Capitol. When my father was with the DOD, he served in many bases that the gentleman mentioned in Texas. I can tell you about some observations that I had of celebrating Texas pride. Our country has a history of celebrating a lot of things.

Black History Month was first observed in 1976 by President Ford. Yes, we celebrate Pride Month, and we celebrate other cultural awareness months. This is national Hispanic Pride Month. What they do when the DOD does that is they show that they are committed to creating and affirming an inclusive environment and that everybody is welcome with their diversity. Everybody has somebody to offer.

At a time when the LGBTQ community, along with so many other minority groups in this country, are facing attacks and threats—just think of what happened, Mr. Chair, we had a moment of silence on this House floor after what happened at the Pulse nightclub shooting in Florida—it is more important than ever that people know that we have their backs when they are under attack.

Mr. Chair, I was in the chair that you are in when this floor ended Don't Ask, Don't Tell in the NDAA, and that made our military feel open and more inclusive. I think of a dear friend of mine who served in the Navy, who served when he couldn't be who he was openly. He was serving proudly in the Navy, but he had to hide who he was until he was discharged, and then he felt he could come out. It was a burden that he carried with him.

This amendment has no place in the Defense bill. I don't think it has any place in the legislation that we do here. We are about coming together as a country, not trying to fight what divides us. We need to be focused on what unites us. One of the things that unites us is we are a country that, awkwardly at times, not everybody agrees all the time, but we are a diverse community. We celebrate that.

I mean, the people who came here when there were originally Thirteen Colonies came here because they were looking for freedom to be who they were. It was religious freedom at the time, but that is what they were looking for.

The Federal Government recognizes these cultural awareness months. The House of Representatives recognizes many cultural awareness events. We do that because we honor the contributions and services of all communities. Pride Month should be no different.

Mr. Chair, that is why I oppose this amendment, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I will be brief in the interest of moving things along. The only thing I would note is, with respect to the difference, for example, of talking about Christmas trees and celebrating the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and putting up a Pride flag, I would say those things are different.

I would also note that there have been problems at the Department of Defense with people expressing their faith. In fact, there are Christians who are being limited in their ability to have Christian displays in their offices, and we had to have groups like First Liberty go litigate it in court in order to defend their right to be able to display said Christian symbols and statements in their office cubicle.

This is what is going on at the Department of Defense, and people don't understand it.

I think this is a commonsense effort to refocus our military on the mission to which it should be focused. Acknowledging that we are a diverse community is great, but the Department of Defense can acknowledge that diversity and bring people together to carry out the mission without perpetuating essentially social engineering at the Department of Defense.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I will close in just a minute. I mentioned a

friend. I had several friends in high school—I graduated in 1972—who were gay. They hid the fact that they were. They served when recruitment was kind of down after the Vietnam war. They served honorably and had honorable discharges. When we were in markup in the full committee, Mr. POCAN shared this, and it was very moving to me, so I am going to share it. It refers to the sacrifice that our LGBTQ friends made before Don't Ask, Don't Tell. It is a quote on a tombstone of Sergeant Leonard Matlovich. "When I was in the military, they gave me a medal for killing two men and a discharge for loving one."

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

The question was taken; and the Acting Chair announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I demand a recorded vote.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas will be postponed.

AMENDMENT NO. 176 OFFERED BY MR. ROY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 176 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. 8155. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the Reynolds Scholars Program of the Brute Krulak Center for Innovation and Future Warfare of Marine Corps University.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, the amendment that I am offering here would prohibit funds from being available under this act for the Marine Corps University Krulak Center's Reynolds Scholars program.

Now, I was unaware of this, relatively blissfully, I don't know, a couple months ago, but then the Marine Corps University's Reynolds Scholars Program at the Krulak Center is a year-long program for students who wish to explore "gender and security issues." That may not have jumped up onto my radar screen, but I became aware because the official Krulak Center Twitter account publicly criticized the user for calling this program "woke" and calling this individual a stain on the legacy of marines.

Well, it seems inappropriate for a federally funded center, so it caught

my attention. Then it became clear to me when I had a syllabus presented to me about what was being presented. Here are a few examples of the program themes listed in the official syllabus: "Gendering War." "What is gender and how is it different from biological sex?" "How are war narratives constructed through gender discourse?" "How can we imagine nonviolent masculinities and the role they might play in conflict?"

We are pretty darn violent.

"How might the United States Marine Corps strategic narrative be problematic for women, peace and security?"

Again, this is just something that my constituents, and I think a large block of the American electorate—dare I say a very sizable majority—would say, what are you doing?

I mean, again, let's assume we were swimming in money. Let's just assume that we had money coming out of our ears, that we had a \$33 trillion surplus that we had banked up that we were just saving for a rainy day to spend \$33 trillion. I don't know how you do that, by the way. Let's just assume that was the case. Let's assume we had a \$2 trillion surplus this year instead of a \$2 trillion deficit. Let's assume further that our recruiting numbers were excellent. Let's assume further that we had really strong morale. Let's assume further that our healthcare costs in the military were manageable or that our healthcare costs anywhere in this country at all were manageable in the post-Obamacare world in which prices have skyrocketed and insurance companies have made gazillions of dollars. Again, that is another speech for another day.

In that imaginary world where that were the state of things, would this still be a good idea to spend even \$1 or \$10 or \$100,000 or \$5 million or whatever the amount is that might be here, would it be a good idea to spend that money for this: "How are war narratives constructed through gendered discourse?" "How can we imagine nonviolent masculinities and the role they might play in conflict?"

Again, the American people just want us to focus on making this government do its core constitutional duty, do it within its fiscal responsibilities; do it in terms of providing a mission to defend this country; secure our borders, provide for the general welfare in the sense that you are allowing the American people to do what they do best if the government gets out of the way. Stop bleeding money, stop racking up debt, defend the United States, stop social engineering, and just do your damn job as Congress. I think that ought to be a pretty simple goal and a bipartisan goal.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I claim the time to strongly oppose this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, this feels to me like another attempt by the majority to go after minority groups in the military.

Here is the history. The Reynolds Scholars Program was designed to study women in the military and was named after Lori Reynolds, a decorated female Marine Corps general.

The program was established to comply with the Peace and Security Act of 2017, the FY 2021 National Defense Authorization Act, the Department of Defense Women, and the Peace and Security Strategic Framework, so this is something that Congress has weighed in on.

Let me read the program description to you. The gentleman from Texas has read some excerpts, and I didn't see them in full context. I will take them at face value that he is upset with this, but I will read some of the descriptions for you. I can cite the sources and put them in the full remarks later for the committee to have.

"... women account for the majority of individuals adversely affected by today's armed conflicts, and it affirms the critical role women play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building."

"... advocates for the recognition of diverse perspectives that increase military effectiveness, and [b] supports the empowerment of half the world's population as equal partners in preventing and managing conflict."

Now, I have not been to the scholarship program, but I have traveled with military, I have traveled with State, and I have been with women who have been adversely affected by armed conflicts—raped, tortured, bullied, harassed—and it is often our military and our military women who sometimes in these conflicts are having conversations with them and trying to get the facts if there have been war crimes committed. It takes a very special person to do that.

It affirms the critical role, as I said, that women play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and peacekeeping. President Bush, the Bush administration, when I was first serving in Congress, actually had me go to Yemen and speak with our military at a graduation of Yemen soldiers that we had been working and training with. Part of the message that the State Department and the Bush administration and our Department of Defense wanted to communicate was the importance of young girls going to school.

In Chad, I witnessed, in the refugee camp after the Janjaweed had attacked an area, not only what had happened to the women there, but our military female leaders interacting with the troops there in Chad that we were working with, peacekeeping troops reinforcing that women needed to be treated with dignity and respect.

I will end this particular part of talking about this by saying: Often when

we go to build peace, whether it is sustaining the peace in Northern Ireland, whether it is looking for peace in conflict in Africa, whether it is working with terrible situations in Latin America, it is the women whom we bring to the table who can get the attention of the community, the community elders, because they talk about their children and the need for peace.

I don't know if these people were graduates from this program, but I have seen where women make a difference. The male members of our military who are part of these programs are indispensable, and they are very important.

As a woman who stands up for our women in the military and our allies in the military, I have to tell you, I see nothing woke, I see nothing woke about trying to understand the intersection of women and conflict. I only see it as a benefit.

In my opinion, this amendment is antifemale in what it is purporting to take away from the scholarship program moving forward. I oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I have nothing more to say except that I don't think it is intentional sometimes some of the things that are happening on the floor today, but one of the things that we chant as kids is "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Words hurt; they hurt.

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

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I agree with the gentlewoman that words hurt. The question is, how those words are deployed and what they do for the mission of our United States military. When I see taxpayer dollars going to fund a syllabus which was not something in public view, which then became in public view after an online kind of disagreement with things like, What is gender and how is it different from biological sex? And all of the things that we are focusing on, and we have talked about it in other contexts with funding transgender surgeries and funding other manners of the social engineering currently going on that I believe is ripping apart the fabric of our country, the strength of our military, and the cohesion of the finest fighting force in the world. I believe it is important for us to try to maintain that.

I am enormously proud of the women whom I have nominated for academies. I met with women and men just 2 weeks ago with my staff in a retreat where we went to the United States Naval Academy. I am enormously proud of their service, proud of everybody who has worn the uniform and been honorably discharged for their service, but we need to stand up for a military that is focused on its mission.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 177 OFFERED BY MR. ROY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 177 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title) insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to implement any of the following executive orders:

(1) Executive Order 13990, relating to Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science To Tackle the Climate Crisis.

(2) Executive Order 14008, relating to Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad.

(3) Section 6 of Executive Order 14013, relating to Rebuilding and Enhancing Programs To Resettle Refugees and Planning for the Impact of Climate Change on Migration.

(4) Executive Order 14030, relating to Climate-Related Financial Risk.

(5) Executive Order 14057, relating to Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability.

(6) Executive Order 14082, relating to Implementation of the Energy and Infrastructure Provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

(7) Executive Order 14096, relating to Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, the amendment before us would prohibit any of the funds in the Defense appropriations bill from being used to carry out President Biden's executive orders on climate change.

Our military should be, as I have stated in these other amendments, focused on deterring and, if necessary, defeating our adversaries. President Biden wants to continue to sacrifice the strength of our defense in deference to the climate cult.

In 2021, Department of Defense spokesman John Kirby refused to say China was a bigger national security threat to the United States than climate change. He called them "equally important" and said it doesn't do anybody good to make a relative assessment of national security issues.

Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin has said "climate change is an existential threat to our Nation's security."

Secretary of State John Kerry literally travels to China to discuss climate change, not China's increased aggression against Taiwan, not its expansion in the Pacific, not the oppression of its people.

Biden's executive orders have served as the catalyst for massive reforms in the Department of Defense that compromise and undermine national security to advance a climate fetish.

The Department of Defense's Climate Adaptation Plan includes radical proposals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at the expense of our warfighting capabilities. According to the plan, the Department of Defense has identified climate change as a critical national security issue. It contains mandates on "environmental justice" because why miss an opportunity to push such an ideology.

The Department of Defense says it will transition to 100 percent carbon-free electricity, meaning America's war machine will literally depend on the wind and the Sun unless they are going to be moving, I guess, nuclear power, which my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have not been all too quick to help us move.

Meanwhile, China has 1100 coal-fired plants and is building close to 2 a week. We have been building zero. We have been constraining the development of natural gas-fired electricity, and we have only recently finally had one nuclear plant get launched I think for the first time since the mid-1970s.

The DOD has mandated that all non-tactical vehicles be EVs by 2035. It is fair to say the tactical vehicles we need to win wars are not far behind. That means our defense will become wholly dependent on Chinese batteries and other critical minerals. I always wonder why my colleagues are not too bothered by the fact that 80 percent of these batteries are using cobalt, and they are being mined heavily by slave labor, often child labor.

There doesn't seem to be any concern about what that means by continuing to perpetuate a mandate to send us down that road when it won't dent CO₂ production. It is living in a fantasy land. If you eliminated the internal combustion engine in the United States tomorrow you might dent all of worldwide CO₂ production by about 1 percent, 1½ percent. Meanwhile, China and India are pumping it out in mass volumes. Yet we are going to inject this directly into the veins of our national security.

That is why I offered this amendment and believe that it is critically important, so that we can again have our military focused on a core mission of defending this country.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I claim the time to oppose this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, the fact is, our Earth is warming. The fact is, our climate is changing, and it is unprecedented. I have been to Alaska several times. The last time I was on some of our bases in Alaska, they were dealing with permafrost now not being reliable to land planes on the runways that we have constructed. The Army Corps of Engineers is up there trying to figure out what they do about what is happening with the permafrost and the

thawing that they are seeing to make our buildings be resilient and sustainable and how do we build buildings in the future to address this.

That is just in Alaska. I won't even talk about what has been happening with some of our radar facilities sliding off into the ocean.

The start of the hurricane season has begun, and it is historic. Hurricane Hilary brought southern California its first tropical storm watch. That is new. We know that these weather events are worldwide, and we know that they know no boundaries, as evidenced by the recent Canadian wildfires.

The U.S. has already set a new world record for the number of weather disasters this year that could cost \$1 billion or more. We have had 23 so far. I am going to refer again to what I had in my opening remarks. This is Tyndall Air Force Base. We flew planes out of there because we knew it was coming, but we weren't able to protect the infrastructure. We are spending billions and billions and billions of dollars.

The other thing I mentioned was what happened in Guam with the recent storms there. The Air Force alone in Guam is saying \$40 billion. We have to wake up here. We have to wake up and do what we can to mitigate these costs.

The Department of Defense is the largest and most wide-reaching government agency. It can make a huge difference by climate-friendly changes in the way that they operate. I am proud of the fact that we have worked on them in the Defense bill.

This amendment is needless, and it makes it difficult for the Department of Defense to achieve its climate goals. It jeopardizes our military readiness when we have bases like the one I just showed on Tyndall and what has happened in Guam.

The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Milley, testified that climate change is a serious threat that is facing our country and one that the military must take into account. He went on to say that climate change has a significant effect on military operations: "Climate change is going to impact natural resources. It is going to impact the increased instability in various parts of the world, and it is going to impact migrations."

Yes, it is a problem not only here at home on our bases with resilience, but it is a problem with people fleeing climate change and what has happened in their lives and in their countries.

Each of these situations increases the instability in different regions, which could trigger more hostilities that we have to respond to to protect ourselves. Each of these situations can impact different regions in very, very different ways, even in our own hemisphere, so we need to ensure that our military is aware of the problems climate change can cause, and if they can play a role in either resilience of buildings or different energy sources that they use so we are not burning as much fossil fuel, I think we should do that.

Now, obviously, the gentleman disagrees, but I am looking to the future. I am not looking to the past. I am looking for a stronger, more flexible, more resilient and more economically empowered United States because the dollars that we put into much of this climate resilience and that is also transferrable into the private sector. The work that the Department of Defense is doing to reduce its energy costs, whether it is in materials that it is building, whether it is in use with all the equipment that our soldiers are having to carry, ways in which we can solar power some of the equipment that they use so we are not bringing these huge oil trucks in that we all watched every night for how many weeks of our soldiers, many of them dying in front of our own eyes transporting fuel.

I think it can be a win-win, and we need to look at it as a win-win. We can't always be looking at it as a loss-loss.

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

□ 1430

Mr. ROY. Mr. Chair, I note that recently China's military sent 103 warplanes toward Taiwan in a 24-hour period in what the island's Defense Ministry called a recent new high. Forty of these planes crossed the symbolic median line between mainland China and Taiwan.

There is a lot going on in the world. We are going to have debates about Ukraine. I am hopeful we will have a debate about Ukraine rather than just tacking on a continuing resolution and jamming it through to the American people, but that is a debate for another day.

The question here is whether or not we are going to have, in the gentlewoman's words, a strong military, a resilient military, and a strong economy on the back of that or wrapped around that when, in fact, what we are doing through the Inflation Reduction Act is spending almost a trillion dollars, according to The Wall Street Journal, in massive subsidies, 90 percent to billion-dollar corporations, heavily to the most elite, rich, frankly, usually White liberals in this country, driving around their EV-powered cars. We are subsidizing the crud out of that while we are decimating the natural gas strength of this country, which puts us in a much stronger position from a national security perspective vis-a-vis Russia, vis-a-vis China, rather than empowering China by saying, sure, let us please buy all of your solar panels and all of your batteries so that we can transfer our military to something that isn't even remotely ready to be transferred to.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 178 OFFERED BY MR. TIFFANY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 178 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), add the following:

SEC. ____ None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be expended to create, procure, or display any map that depicts Taiwan, Kinmen, Matsu, Penghu, Wuciou, Green Island, or Orchid Island as part of the territory of the People's Republic of China.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. TIFFANY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, my amendment would prohibit the Department of Defense from creating, procuring, or displaying any map which depicts Taiwan as part of the territory of the People's Republic of China.

This should not be a problem since all of us know that Taiwan is not, nor has it ever been, part of Communist China. Any claims to the contrary are simply false.

Since the 1970s, America's so-called One China policy has acknowledged Beijing's bogus claims over Taiwan. This is an antiquated and dishonest policy, and it is one that we should abandon.

While my amendment will not end that misguided policy, it will at least require that the maps that we use reflect a simple reality: China is China; Taiwan is Taiwan.

Mr. Chair, I ask for a "yes" vote on my honest maps amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment, oddly enough, as a social studies teacher who taught some geography. The Department of Defense, the administration, and this Congress have been pretty clear in its opposition to the unwelcomed Chinese assertions of control over Taiwan.

This amendment will do nothing to prevent the Chinese aggression in the Indo-Pacific, but it would prevent the Department of Defense from buying or displaying a map on how China views the world. Now, if you are going to have a discussion with students about geography and China's ambitions, China has maps. China has maps which rewrite history.

Whether they rewrite history including Taiwan, or whether they rewrite

history as they have done in Tibet or what they are looking at doing in other parts of the world with their Belt and Road Initiative, they have maps. We can't be blinded or not acknowledge how they view the world physically and what the world really is.

This would force the Department to put its head in the sand or obtain intelligence or something on what the Chinese have labeled as theirs.

Mr. Chair, I think we can all agree that it is important to know what our allies and adversaries are thinking, and sometimes we have to physically look at it.

Instead, I believe Congress and the Department should focus our time and energy on being clear with China about the respect for international boundaries and the rule of law. One way you can show that is the international boundaries and the rule of law on a map that we can all agree on that is correct and showing how China is coming up with their own maps, reinterpreting the boundaries themselves.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, I am stunned. This is the type of appeasement that gets the world in trouble. We have a long history of this, and our country is very familiar with it, going back to probably the most classic example that is taught in our history books from the 1930s, where there isn't this clear demarcation, where you do not have definitive language, like President Reagan when he said, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

There are times when you have to be very clear with your adversaries about where you stand. This is one of them in regard to Taiwan because Communist China would like to take over that island nation, an island nation that they never controlled. It was never under their control.

We can appease, and we will continue to see dozens, perhaps hundreds, of sorties being flown over Taiwan as aggression comes from that appeasement.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I am certain that the gentleman from Wisconsin does not think I appease China. I don't. I do not.

In fact, China, when we went to visit Taiwan at one point while I was on a delegation, they were going to refuse us entry because they see us as hostiles.

China doesn't see me as an appeaser. I want to be really clear. Maybe it is not the intention of this gentleman, but I am going to say it again: You are in a military college situation. You are talking about how China views the world. You put up the real map and somehow or another the Department of Defense can't even procure, create, or display a map that shows how China sees themselves viewing the world.

We are in conflict with China right now in the South China Sea. Not to show how China sees these islands as

theirs when we are sending our Navy in there to protect freedom of seas, a map which shows the freedom of seas that they are protecting, that just doesn't make any sense to me.

Mr. Chair, I am at a loss for words why we can't show how China views the world when we are getting ready to defend our democracy, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, I will take the point in good faith from the gentlewoman on the other side. If you have a good instructor, they can clearly explain how China views the world. If you have a good instructor in the Department of Defense, perhaps in the military college, they can explain very clearly how China views the world. This does not preclude that in any way, but when we make a trip like I did recently with the Natural Resources Committee, and we have a map that is put before us that shows Taiwan as part of Communist China, that is just simply not the truth. That is what we were getting at.

I think this legislation is going to have strong bipartisan support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. TIFFANY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 179 OFFERED BY MR. TIFFANY

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 179 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. ____ None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to enforce the restrictions outlined under the headings "Visits and Travel" (regarding limitations on "Travel to Taiwan") and "Communications" (regarding limitations on "Name", "Symbols of Sovereignty", and "Correspondence") in the Department of State's June 29, 2021, Memorandum for All Department and Agency Executive Secretaries entitled "Revised Guidelines on Interacting with Taiwan".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. TIFFANY) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, my amendment would prevent the enforcement of several arbitrary State Department restrictions that limit communication and cooperation between U.S. officials and their counterparts in Taiwan.

These restrictions, which are imposed at the behest of Communist China, are not only counterproductive, but they actually conflict with existing U.S. law. They prevent high-ranking officials from traveling to Taiwan, which makes it more difficult for us to coordinate with military planners in Taipei.

They police language, warning American officials not to refer to Taiwan as a country or its elected leaders as a government. They even impose degrading restrictions that serve no reasonable purpose, such as a ban on displaying Taiwan's flag and the playing of Taiwan's national anthem at functions held on U.S. Government property. In essence, they are designed to prevent and limit high-level interaction between U.S. and Taiwanese officials.

Despite the fact that it has been official U.S. policy since 2018 to encourage and facilitate them, Mr. Chair, these rules do not help the United States and do not help Taiwan. The only country they help is Communist China.

These Taiwan rules, like so many elements of our failed One China policy, simply perpetuate Beijing's lies and reward their bad behavior. America does not need a permission slip from Communist China to talk to our friends and allies, and that policy should end today.

Mr. Chair, I ask for a "yes" vote on this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, the executive branch has the ability to determine how the United States engages and manages our relationship with Taiwan, just as, at times, this Congress has decided when and where to travel. It is because Congress has left it to the executive branch, however, to conduct the diplomacy and the recognition or nonrecognition of foreign states and governments in this case.

Now, I believe, Mr. Chair, if we want to legislate on how the executive branch should engage with Taiwan, then what we should do is mark it up in a separate bill in the Foreign Affairs Committee that deals just with that, either have the authorization handle it or if we are going to have the Foreign Affairs appropriations bill on the floor at some point, I hope.

In the absence of that, the executive branch needs to determine how to handle diplomatic engagements abroad. It is their job to weigh multiple equities and balance delicate factors that are simply not considered by this amendment today.

The gentleman knows and understands that Taiwan is a sensitive geopolitical subject with respect to our relations with the People's Republic of China, and I appreciate that. However, Mr. Chair, we have a select committee in this House, and I think it is something that we should allow them, in a bipartisan fashion, to examine.

There is just too much at stake, in my opinion, to have this amendment decide what guidelines of engagement will be here today on the House floor.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, America has always done best in regard to foreign policy when we are strong and resolute. This is anything but strong and resolute.

Let me read to you from an unclassified document from the State Department: You should not refer to Taiwan as a country or to the authorities on Taiwan as a government. Instead, refer to Taiwan authorities or Taiwan counterparts. Please avoid the public display or use of any ROC symbols of sovereignty. Taiwan authorities should not wear their uniforms on U.S. Government premises unless necessary for safety reasons.

In other words, in effect, you are almost saying to them we need you to grovel. You are second-class citizens when you are interacting with the United States of America.

We should never treat a friend like that, in particular a friend like Taiwan where you see the Communist Chinese Government is working day after day and have been successful in some places, like the Solomon Islands in Central America, where they have undermined support for Taiwan.

We should be standing resolutely with Taiwan and send a very clear message. When we send a clear message to Communist China, it is important for them to hear that, but our partners, our allies around the world, also see that clear message and are more likely to be resolute, also.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, the Department of Defense appropriation bill, we are sending a message, a clear message, and I support that message. What the gentleman from Wisconsin is talking about, Mr. Chair, is the Department of State, and that is not germane to this bill.

There are bills on the floor where it will be germane, and that is my biggest concern with this amendment. I don't want to be a party to not respecting the chairs of the authorizing committees or the chairs and ranking members of the Appropriations Committee that oversees that funding.

That is not what this bill is about today. For that reason alone, to respect the different roles that we have in this body, this amendment, although well-intentioned by my colleague from Wisconsin, is not germane to this bill. We should not overstep our jurisdiction. We should stay with what we are doing with China and Taiwan in the Defense bill, which the chair has marked out clearly.

I support that, but I do not support starting to dictate what the authorizing committee and the Appropriations Committee for State-Foreign Ops should be doing.

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

Mr. TIFFANY. Mr. Chair, if there is a point of order that is being raised here, my amendment does not change any existing law or require any new duty or

determination on the part of any employee of the Department of Homeland Security. It simply prohibits the expenditure of funds in contravention of a longstanding existing law, which the Department ought to comply with already.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. TIFFANY).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 180 OFFERED BY MR.

ROSENDALE

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 180 printed in part A of House Report 118-216.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to enforce any COVID-19 mask mandates.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Montana.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Chair, my amendment No. 180 would prohibit the use of funds being made available by this act from enforcing any COVID-19 mask mandates.

Now, I want to make sure that everyone understands there is a huge difference between a COVID-19 mask mandate and having a section of a medical facility that is quarantined off because of highly contagious diseases or folks that are immune deficient. That has nothing to do with the COVID-19 mandate. This is only about COVID-19 mandates.

Last month, Morris Brown College in Atlanta reinstated its COVID-19 mask mandate. They eventually rescinded the mandate, in large part due to public outcry, but make no mistake, tyrants will go out of their way to control our lives if we allow them to.

The simple fact is that masks don't work. A recent study confirmed this fact, stating: "Wearing masks in the community probably makes little or no difference to the outcome of influenza-like illness/COVID-19-like illness compared to not wearing masks."

This was obvious to anyone with common sense, but our experts lied to us for the past 3 years about everything.

There are also negative consequences and potential safety concerns for children being forced to wear a mask. There are almost 70,000 children that attend Department of Defense Education Activity schools. We have seen the negative consequences of children masking, and children of our service-members who are risking their lives

overseas should not be subject to this cruel treatment.

Nobody should be turned away for refusing to wear a mask, but the real purpose of the mask mandate is for unelected bureaucrats to control our behavior, which is unacceptable and something that I will not tolerate.

Moreover, a potential mask mandate based on vaccination status would create a division among servicemembers. There has been a lot of discussion on enacting police policies that create cohesion among members of the Armed Forces and stigmatizing some servicemembers by forcing them to wear masks that would create a group of second-class citizens. This would, ultimately, create division among enlisted members.

The American people are sick of COVID-19 hysteria by unelected bureaucrats and will not comply with any more unscientific edicts.

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

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentlewoman from Minnesota is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I appreciate what the gentleman from Montana said about protecting medical facilities, but I am going to read the amendment: "At the end of the bill, before the short title, insert the following: Section," and the section will be numbered, "None of the funds made available by this act may be used to enforce any COVID-19 mask mandate." It says "any."

So, at a DOD facility or at a hospital or something like that, they would not be able to enforce a mask mandate if they felt one was necessary in a certain section of a hospital or clinic.

To the amendment in general, if this was enacted, the Department, as I pointed out, would be limited in what they could do, but they couldn't even purchase any masks in case of a COVID surge. The CDC and the World Health Organization have recommended using a mask as a tool to protect people, especially the vulnerable, in cases of a COVID-19 surge.

Here is why an option is necessary in the military, and I mentioned this earlier, Mr. Chair. I, once again, ask you and my colleagues to consider life in a submarine—the close quarters, the lack of privacy. Think what would happen if there is a COVID outbreak in a submarine. It would have the potential of impacting the ability of that submarine to stay on station or deploy, putting our national security at risk.

If enacted, this amendment would take away a safety tool for the commander, a tool that they have in their toolbox.

One person tests positive for COVID on a submarine. They are all breathing the same air. They are in tight quarters. They are all going to have to put a mask on so they can complete their mission.

Our commanders deserve our trust. They deserve our respect that they are going to act in the best interest of their crew so they can execute their mission.

I don't want to take any tools away from people in that circumstance, and this amendment would do exactly that.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Chair, I am glad that the gentlewoman from Minnesota brought up the bill, the actual bill. "None of the funds made available by this act may be used to enforce any COVID-19 mask mandates."

Again, let me reiterate: Highly contagious diseases or folks that are immune deficient have nothing to do with the COVID-19 mandate.

Here is the other thing. If someone is concerned or chooses to virtue signal by wearing a mask, they are free to do so. They are absolutely free to do so. If they have an immune deficiency and want to wear a mask, they are free to do so, but do not impose the mandates on us freedom-loving individuals who don't want to walk around covering our faces up just to let someone else feel a little better about things.

We have problems right now with recruitment. The numbers are down as much as 35 percent. We are missing goals dramatically. Approving arbitrary mandates that don't help the military mission to be the most effective fighting force on Earth is not the way that we are going to get those numbers up.

Mr. Chair, this is a good amendment. It is going to help us with recruiting efforts. It is going to help us make sure that our team works together better, and I ask everyone in here to support it.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise.

The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. TIFANY) having assumed the chair, Mr. DUARTE, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4365) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to re-

vises and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 4367, and that I may include tabular material on the same.

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

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 723 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 4367.

The Chair appoints the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. FULCHER) to preside over the Committee of the Whole.

□ 1459

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 4367) making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, with Mr. FULCHER in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered read the first time.

General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed 1 hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees.

The gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

□ 1500

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chair, I begin by thanking the chairwoman of the full committee, Ms. GRANGER, for her leadership and her tireless efforts to bring these appropriation bills to the floor.

I also thank the ranking member of the subcommittee, my good friend, Mr. CUELLAR, who has worked with us in good faith on the bill despite some disagreements on policy.

Lastly, I have enjoyed my time sitting next to the ranking member of the full committee, the gentlewoman from Connecticut, not once, but twice in the last few days.

The bill before us today provides \$62.8 billion for the Department of Homeland Security, an increase of \$2.1 billion above the fiscal year 2023 level.

In addition, the bill also includes \$20.3 billion for disaster response and recovery activities, including to support communities after the devastating wildfires in Maui and Hurricane Idalia.

One of the most pressing challenges this country faces is a border security crisis that has raged under the Biden administration. Two million migrants illegally crossed the border in each of

the last 2 years, and we are on track for that same amount this year. Just yesterday alone, there were 11,000 migrant encounters. Let me repeat that—nearly 11,000 migrant encounters in 1 day.

Regardless of your definition of border security, it is clear that the policies of this administration are not working. The reason is obvious. The White House is sending a message to cartels and migrants that the border is open, and there will be no consequences if you cross illegally.

This bill forces the Biden administration to do what it has not and will not do on its own—act to address the border security crisis. The funding and policy provisions included in this bill are in lockstep with the provisions of H.R. 2, which together will put us on a path to securing the border.

Unlike recent Homeland Security appropriations bills and the President's request, this bill returns to a tried-and-true border security approach by investing in methods to both secure the border and deter those who have no legitimate basis for entry.

This bill includes \$2.1 billion for physical barriers with explicit conditions that the funds be put on contract quickly. The chief of the Border Patrol and other border security professionals have confirmed time and time again that walls work.

The bill also provides nearly \$500 million to hire more Border Patrol agents to reach an end strength of 22,000 agents. The bill increases funding levels for border security technology, so our agents and officers have the latest, most effective equipment to detect and deter illegal activity.

Stopping fentanyl and other narcotics that have been ravaging our communities is a priority for all of us, so this bill provides \$305 million for nonintrusive inspection equipment at our Nation's ports of entry. Detention is a deterrent to those who seek to abuse our immigration system and falsely claim asylum.

As a result, the bill provides funding for 41,500 detention beds, which is 16,500 more than this administration requested, to ensure that ICE has adequate capacity to detain those with final removal orders or who pose a risk to public safety, as well as migrants who illegally cross our borders.

To counter the growing strength of Chinese influence in the Indo-Pacific, the bill provides an additional \$335 million to the Coast Guard for fast-response cutters. Also, to increase our presence in the Arctic, the bill provides funds for the Coast Guard to acquire a commercially available icebreaker to extend U.S. sovereignty and counter China and Russian expansion into the polar regions.

Simply put, the bill before us today ensures that the men and women of the Department of Homeland Security, who work tirelessly on our behalf, have the resources and the tools that they need to protect this great Nation.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First of all, I thank Chairwoman KAY GRANGER and Ranking Member DELAURO for working together as much as possible. I certainly would thank our chairman, DAVID JOYCE. I know we have some disagreements, but at the end of this process, we are going to be working together making sure that the Homeland Security bill passes in a bipartisan way.

Democrats and Republicans had a deal when we passed the debt bill some months ago. Now our colleagues, the House Republicans, are backing away from this deal and yielding to some extreme demands that will not help border security.

Now the House remains in chaos as the Republicans have been infighting and that will all but guarantee a government shutdown at the hands of the far right in just a few days. Instead of working on a bipartisan continuing resolution that will keep the government open, one that will pass both Chambers and be signed into law, we are here talking about bills that are not going to go very far in the Senate.

Again, I want to make sure that people understand that we want to work together. We want to make this a bipartisan bill to get it done.

As the ranking member of Appropriations Homeland Security Subcommittee and as a Member that actually lives on the border, I am very concerned about ensuring that the border is secure and that the Department has the resources it needs to do that successfully. Instead of that, what are we doing? If we have a shutdown, we are going to have over 226 folks, employees from the Department of Homeland Security, that are going to continue to work for a period of time and not get paid, and, again, that is not the way to create morale for our Border Patrol and other agents that we have down there at the border.

I strongly support the hiring of additional agents, but, if there is a shutdown, what is going to happen is that this will prevent us from onboard the anticipated 150 additional agents in October. It would also stop the recruitment and vetting efforts that impact CBP ability to onboard additional agents later on. We cannot have a shutdown, and we have got to make sure that we work together to prevent the shutdown itself.

Now, if you look at the bill itself, the proposed bill, let's look at a couple of things. Yes, we did have some bipartisan investments and oversight requirements that we worked together on, but there are certain funding decisions and policy riders that I cannot support at this moment.

We have to understand the border. Some of my colleagues don't understand the border, and they call it a war zone. If my colleagues look at the

criminal records or the criminal figures that we have, whether it is murder, rape, assault, the border is actually safer than so many other parts of the country. In fact, Washington, D.C., is about two or three times more dangerous, if you want to look at those figures, than the border community.

Now, when it comes to migration issues, yes, we do have a problem, and we do need to address it, but I think we need to stop playing defense on the 1-yard line, which is the U.S.-Mexico border.

What we need to do is extend the perimeter where we can work with partners like Mexico, Central America, South America to make sure that we provide that perimeter and stop folks before they come over to our border itself. This bill has some very outdated strategies, and one of them I know doesn't work, and I will call that the 14th century solution to a 21st century problem, which is the border wall. We are spending \$2.1 billion, or we intend to spend \$2.1 billion on a wall that really doesn't stop. If I can show you some of the figures, I will explain why.

If you look at the border wall, you will see that the fence is in many parts of the border itself, but if you see the heat maps where people are coming into the border, it is usually where the border fence is at.

If I can show south Texas as an example, you will see that, in south Texas, you have a fence, and if you see the heat map, we have a fence here, we have a fence here, we have a fence there, we have a fence there, and so on, but the activity is where the fence is at.

Let me explain why. If you look at the fence, we have a river. The middle of the river is actually the U.S. boundary with Mexico. We don't have a fence there. If you look at the riverbanks, we don't have a fence there also because it is going to get washed away.

What we do is we actually put a fence about a quarter of a mile or sometimes even a half a mile away, and what happens, you see the fence here, the one in the red itself, and then you see the river over here. Instead of having a fence over here, it is actually put a quarter mile or a mile away. Therefore, what happens when you have this situation?

Well, first of all, if you are asking for asylum, like most people are asking, you are going to see people that will touch the riverbank. They walked half a mile or a quarter of a mile to the fence over here and asked for asylum, so does the fence stop them? No, it doesn't.

If you asked all those landowners, they will say, you are ceding away thousands and thousands of acres of good farming land, good ranching land, because you put the fence here and the river is over here.

Again, if you want to stop drugs, I know we added some money for technology, but we have got to have the money at the ports of entry where 90 to

94 percent of the meth, the fentanyl, the cocaine are coming in, instead of through this particular area.

Again, this bill also has no funding for USCIS that would help reduce the backlog of the migration, so the people that have been waiting for a while, we are not putting any resources in for the USCIS. We have got to make sure that we help the folks who are trying to come in the legal way.

We do lose a lot of opportunities. We can do a lot more to add money to counter the fentanyl, the opioids. Again, most drugs will come in through the ports of entry, and that is where we need to put the focus.

Finally, also, we should have an updated border security improvement plan.

Again, I certainly want to work with my good friend, Mr. JOYCE. We are going to be together later on in the process. I know we have got some disagreements, but we will get there.

With that, I hope that we have a good bipartisan bill at the end of the process.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Iowa (Mrs. HINSON), a distinguished member of our Appropriations Committee.

Mrs. HINSON. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the fiscal year 2024 Homeland Security Appropriations bill that will help to secure our border.

Since President Biden took office, there have been over 6 million illegal immigrant encounters at our southern border, and because of President Biden's open-border policies, we have seen countless illegal immigrants, including known people on the terror watch list, violent gang members and sex offenders released into the homeland. With this bill, we are finally doing what President Biden won't. We are securing our border.

My colleagues and I have been to the border, something the President hasn't bothered to do. We have spoken with law enforcement on the front lines. These brave men and women told us directly that this administration has undercut them at every turn and that they needed more resources to deter illegal immigration rather than incentivize it.

While their pleas seem to have fallen on deaf ears at the White House, we here as House Republicans have heard them loud and clear. In this bill, we deliver for them and for every State that, as a result of these policies, has become a border State.

We are restoring border security technology funding to its highest level. We are funding the 22,000 Border Patrol agents that CBP requested, and we are finally restarting border wall construction instead of letting those materials that taxpayers paid for rust away on the side of the road.

We are fully funding ICE detention capacity as a deterrent, and we are providing funding to deport illegal immigrants. Our southern border is a lawless free-for-all under the Biden admin-

istration, undermining the safety and security of Iowans and every American.

This bill delivers on our promise to secure the border and keep America safe, so let's shut down our border, and let's keep our government open and move this bill forward.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from New York (Mr. JEFFRIES), the distinguished Democratic leader.

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Chair, I thank my good friend, the distinguished gentleman from the great State of Texas and the all-American city of Laredo for yielding and for his continued leadership.

I also have great respect for the distinguished gentleman from Ohio, the chair of the subcommittee, and of course the top Democrat on the Appropriations Committee from Connecticut.

At the beginning of this Congress, House Democrats made it clear that we are willing, ready, and able to find common ground with the other side of the aisle, our Republican colleagues, whenever and wherever possible, to make progress for everyday Americans, to build a healthy economy, to address cost-of-living issues that consume the American people that we were sent to Washington to work on, that President Biden has made progress on with House and Senate Democrats, but of course, there is still more work to be done.

From the beginning of this Congress, House Democrats have made clear we are ready, willing, and able to find common ground with the other side of the aisle, to make progress for the American people, but we have also made it clear that we are going to fight extremism whenever necessary. We are headed toward an extreme MAGA Republican government shutdown in just a few days.

Now, we can avoid it, because there is a bipartisan bill that is working its way through the Senate right now that will continue to fund the government in a way that makes sense for the American people, that would provide funding at the fiscal year 2023 levels for 6 weeks beginning on October 1st, to give us time for the appropriations process to run its course, to find an agreement to fund the government in a bipartisan way.

It is a continuing resolution right now pending before the Senate, strongly bipartisan, that doesn't contain any of the extreme policy poison-pill riders that House Republicans have been trying to jam down the throats of the American people but have no part in any bipartisan agreement, particularly when we are faced with a possible government shutdown that will hurt the American people.

It is a continuing resolution that also meets the needs of everyday Americans by providing robust funding for Americans who have been adversely impacted by extreme weather events all across America in blue States and in red States, because extreme weather events aren't partisan in nature, and we should be there for the people of Florida and California and Hawaii and

Vermont and the Northeast and the Midwest and the Deep South, those everyday Americans who have been impacted by extreme weather events.

That is what the bipartisan continuing resolution pending in the Senate will do, and it will allow the Ukrainian people to continue their brave, valiant, and courageous effort to push back against illegal Russian brutal, violent aggression.

We have a bipartisan continuing resolution working its way through the Senate that meets the needs of the American people. It has input from those of us in this Chamber and that will pass if it reaches the floor of this Chamber and would avoid an extreme MAGA Republican shutdown.

Just yesterday, a bipartisan group in the Senate voted, I believe, 77-19 to advance this bipartisan continuing resolution. It will reach the floor of the House in a few days.

The question is: What will the House Republican majority do? There are only two paths forward: Allow that bipartisan continuing resolution that meets the needs of the American people to receive an up or down vote, and it will pass and we will avoid a shutdown, or refuse to allow that bill to receive an up or down vote and stick the American people with an extreme MAGA Republican government shutdown that will hurt children, hurt families, hurt seniors, hurt veterans, hurt everyday Americans, and hurt the economy.

If we find ourselves dealing with an extreme MAGA Republican shutdown, what will it all be for? Well, this week is very revealing, because we are considering bills, including the one that is before us right now, that have zero chance of becoming law—zero chance—and they are filled with extreme policy poison pills relating to things like cutting Social Security; criminalizing abortion care; slashing public school funding; taking food out of the mouths of women, infants, and children; hurting the ability of veterans and seniors to make ends meet.

That is why the government will shut down, because extreme MAGA Republicans have determined that it needs to try to jam rightwing ideology down the throats of the American people, and, if we don't pay that ransom note, you want to shut the government down.

We know this playbook because we have seen it over and over again. We saw it in the 1990s under Newt Gingrich when the House Republican majority at the time shut the government down twice, demanding that we slash and burn Medicaid. Well, that government shutdown ended with an unconditional surrender, because the American people were unwilling to pay that ransom note to slash and burn Medicaid.

The same thing happened in 2013 when the Tea Party forced a reluctant John Boehner to shut the government down for 14 days. What was the extreme ransom note demand at the

time? That President Obama should repeal the Affordable Care Act, his signature legislative accomplishment. It ended the same way, an unconditional surrender, because the American people were unwilling to pay the extreme ransom note.

Then, again, in 2018 into 2019, another government shutdown, longest in American history, 35 days. What was the extreme ransom note demand at the time? That the American taxpayer be forced to pay billions and billions of dollars to fund a medieval, ineffective border wall that Donald Trump wanted to make happen. That government shutdown ended exactly the same way after 35 days—unconditional surrender, because the American people were unwilling to pay that extreme ransom note.

Why are we going through this exercise again when we know it is going to end the same way? Because the American people are not willing to pay a ransom note that will allow my extreme Republican colleagues to criminalize abortion care or to cut Social Security or to slash public school funding or to take food out of the mouths of women or infants or children. That is not a ransom note that will ever be paid.

You have a bipartisan vehicle coming out of the Senate that will be before the House in a few days, and there is only one responsible course of action. House Democrats are prepared to support that bipartisan agreement so we can avoid a government shutdown that will hurt the American people, and the only question is: Will our Republican colleagues join us?

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. COLLINS).

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Chair, as a Member of Congress, our job description up here is really short: Just take care of your constituency and just have oversight of the Federal Government, and we do that through things called appropriations and hearings. Appropriations are what we are working on right now.

Well, I want to tell you: The past 9 months, I have been out here crossing this country attending field hearings. I have also been speaking with and listening to members of our industries about the overreach and the out-of-control government agencies that we have up here, and that is why I rise today.

I rise today to speak about an important issue that, sadly, this bill is going to fail to address. You see, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's boat speed limiter proposed rule, which, by the way, NOAA is an unauthorized Federal agency, never authorized by Congress, but NOAA's rule limits the speed now of all boats 35 feet and longer to 10 knots, and this is up and down almost the entire eastern seaboard.

Now, they are doing this by claiming that this rule is necessary to save the North Atlantic whale, which, by what I

have been able to find, they have been able to maintain roughly the same population since the 1980s, so I just wanted to go over a few quick facts.

Now, approximately 15 of these whales have been killed by boats in the last 18 years. Now, there are approximately 63,000 registered boats in this 35- to 65-foot length. That is a one in a million—in a million—chances that you are going to hit one of these whales. If you do, you are going to come out on the short end of the stick, and they are going to know it.

This is what is going to happen. This is going to have an \$84 billion economic impact just on the East Coast. Also on the East Coast, 340,000 jobs will be impacted. This rule is not just going to cripple the boating and sport fishing industry. It is going to crush it, and it is also going to crush and kill the communities that support them.

Now, I offered an amendment to prohibit the Coast Guard from enforcing this rule, because I think our Coast Guard has a whole lot more important things to be out there doing, but, sadly, my amendment was not made in order.

Therefore, Mr. Chair, I stand today and I urge my colleagues to fight for language that is going to prevent the Coast Guard from enforcing this misguided rule during our conference committee.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 4 minutes to the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), the distinguished ranking member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chair, the Homeland Security Appropriations bill before us weakens our national security, defunds border security, harms the Homeland Security workforce, and leaves Americans vulnerable to escalating disasters. That we are debating this bill on September 27, 3 days before the end of the fiscal year, when House Republicans have provided no path forward to keep our government open is irresponsible.

The House majority has exhibited their own inability and unwillingness to govern by ensuring this bill cannot become law without other partisan legislation moving first, but it cannot become law. Rather than voting to keep our government open and ensuring border protection officers and immigration officials get paid, Republicans are pursuing a path explicitly designed to shut down the Federal Government. A shutdown will have consequences for every American family and on the border and border communities.

Mr. Chair, Democrats do not support an open border, but let me be unequivocal. There is a crisis on our southern border. Our border communities are struggling with the influx of immigration. The status quo cannot be maintained. That much, we agree on.

Where the majority and minority differ is how we address this issue. We must continue to invest in our proc-

essing facilities and in transportation and medical care. We need to have an effective process of determining who is eligible to enter the country and who is not.

We must continue to invest in newer technology and in our immigration and border security officials and invest in immigration judges, but we must also think bigger, broader, bolder. We cannot hope to resolve this issue if we only begin addressing it right at the border.

We must invest in our partnerships with Latin-American countries and fund the expansion of safe mobility offices. Our Republican colleagues refuse to negotiate with Democrats on these issues. We were kept on the sidelines, and, thus, this bill does not make the sound investments that would actually reduce the burden on our border facilities and our communities.

This bill misses important opportunities to address the dire opioid crisis that we face as a Nation. It provides insufficient funding for our ports of entry where the vast majority of these drugs enter our country.

We should be focusing resources where we agree they are needed most, like combating fentanyl crossing the border, helping our border communities, advancing our cybersecurity posture, protecting Americans from violent extremism and foreign adversaries.

I am also deeply concerned about the conditions that greet migrants and asylum seekers, people who leave their homes out of desperation and necessity. We have a responsibility to ensure the safety of these migrants, especially children, and to provide resources so that those who are entitled to stay under our immigration laws can do so.

□ 1530

Please understand, by law the United States is required to take in unaccompanied children from neighboring countries, screen them, house them, and provide safe placement.

This bill leaves Americans vulnerable to the growing number and increasing severity of natural disasters, exposes Americans to foreign threats with inadequate cyber and infrastructure security investments, and does not fully fund the Transportation Security Administration personnel.

House Republicans claim to care about oversight, but this bill proposes several cuts to programs throughout the Department of Homeland Security which are critical to the oversight of our immigration facilities.

This bill also eliminates discretionary funding for refugee processing. It shifts the burden of those costs to an already backlogged and overwhelmed system.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Connecticut.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chair, we all know the enactment of appropriations

will require bipartisan agreement on sound investments, not reckless cuts and partisan policy riders.

Let us focus. Let us focus on opening the government and keeping it open. There is a bipartisan bill in the Senate that we are now debating—77-19—that is overwhelmingly bipartisan. It will come here. Let's put that bill up. Get bipartisan support on this floor. Bring these harmful consequences to the American people to a close.

Don't close the government down.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MEUSER).

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Chair, I thank Chairman JOYCE, my good friend and colleague from Ohio, very much.

Mr. Chair, I do rise in support of the Homeland appropriations bill. We all know that our country, our citizens, are in dire need of stronger Homeland Security.

We know that we have an unmitigated disaster at our borders. Three years ago, Mr. Chair, we also all know that our borders were, in fact, secure. Today, almost 10,000 illegals in despair are crossing our border—not including the so-called got-aways.

Human trafficking and deadly drugs are killing Americans, primarily our young people, by the tens of thousands.

This bill adds to our Customs and Border Patrol, Mr. Chair, and provides for border barriers which work and for fentanyl detection. This bill strengthens our asylum laws and forces Secretary Mayorkas to do his job. This bill also, Mr. Chair, ceases the ability for HHS through the DHS funding to send ghost flights into my district in the middle of the night. That can't happen anymore under this bill.

This bill also provides for our Coast Guard and eliminates over \$500 million in go-green initiatives that have absolutely nothing to do with Homeland Security.

This bill is a vote for our Nation's Homeland Security. A "no" vote is a vote for the status quo.

Mr. Chair, by the way, if we want to keep our government open, we have a plan. We have a plan to keep our government open, and it includes border security and reasonable fiscal sanity with some moderate spending reductions within our discretionary spending.

We, unfortunately, have a handful of Republicans on our side not supporting it, but every single Democrat does not support securing our border and moderate reductions to our outrageous spending that is taking place.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. TRONE), a member of the Appropriations Committee.

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding. Here we are, 3 days from a government shutdown voting again on extreme Republican-led bills that do nothing to prevent it. The ink wasn't even dry on the bipartisan debt ceiling bill deal be-

fore Republican leadership reneged on their word, reneged on their promise.

Instead, the bills we are considering this week include disastrous funding cuts and culture war priorities—priorities that apparently play well in fundraising emails but fail to address our Nation's problems like the opioid crisis.

This Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill would dedicate \$2 billion in taxpayer money to build a border wall—a 6th century solution to a 21st century problem, especially considering 90 percent of fentanyl comes to the border at legal points of entry driven by American citizens.

As a member of this subcommittee, I find this unbelievable.

Across the board, the Republicans' funding bill undercuts our ability to take care of America today and build a brighter future for our children and grandchildren.

It is about time the Republicans put the needs of the majority over the loud few and pass a government funding bill that meets America's needs.

Campaign season is over.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 15 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. TRONE. Campaign season is over. It is time to govern. I urge my colleagues to reject this hyperpartisan bill and pass the bipartisan Senate bill.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. RAMIREZ).

Mrs. RAMIREZ. Mr. Chair, as the proud daughter of immigrants, the wife of a Dreamer, the Representative of a district proud of its immigrants and how they contribute to our economy, I am disgusted with the Republicans' relentless persecution and scapegoating of immigrants.

While we should be looking for ways forward to keep providing essential services for our districts, Republicans want to play games with lives and livelihoods because of their inability to lead.

They are repeating false claims that the border is open and conditioning government funding on dangerous and irresponsible requests that will neither make the border more secure nor protect our security.

There is a dissonance between this party of fiscal responsibility that is driving us to a shutdown while immigrants—supposedly our economic downfall—are contributing more than \$20.4 billion in taxes just in Illinois.

With 11 million more immigrants ready to boost our economy through needed pathways to work, it is time to leave the political theater behind. People are tired of it. Let's recognize the positive fiscal contributions of immigrants to our Nation and do the work our constituents sent us here to do.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Chair, I want to comment a little bit on the last speech from the other side. They said the vast majority of fentanyl coming across the border to this country comes from designated points of entry. You hear that said, but I think what they should say is the vast majority of fentanyl that we catch comes across from designated points of entry.

There are—depending on the month—30- or 40,000 people who are got-aways who come across between designated points of entry. We never catch them because they are called got-ways, and nobody is monitoring places that are not designated points of entry.

Clearly, if you want to sneak fentanyl across the border you would do it between designated points of entry, and it would not show up on any statistics because we don't catch those people.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding. I said that I would come to the floor and each time I would say that I do not want a government shutdown. I don't want the American people to suffer, and I want the government to be able to function.

As an almost 20-year member of the authorizing committee of Homeland Security, I am stunned at the lack of concern that my friends on the other side of the aisle would have on the government shutdown on Homeland Security.

These are extensive government employees, many of them represented by the American Federation of Government Employees. TSOs, of course, would continue to work in the Transportation Security Administration, but so many would be working without compensation.

If we are concerned about the border, I don't know why the Southwest Border Initiative is out, why money for USCIS is eliminated, why opportunities for shelter services are eliminated, particularly when we realize that throngs of people are coming here that aren't having the ability to apply for asylum.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentlewoman from Texas.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, the answer to this, of course, is to give ourselves more time to address the question of serving the American people.

I rise, as the leader did, to support the bipartisan Senate continuing resolution, which maintains current funding, takes care of communities impacted by natural disasters, and provides funding to Ukraine and contains no poison pills.

If we are serious about doing the job of keeping this government open, supporting the hardworking American workers, then we will support the Senate continuing resolution. We will do it

tomorrow or the next day and save this Nation.

Do not shut down.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I am prepared to close, and we have no further speakers.

Mr. Chair and to my good colleague, Mr. JOYCE, we are apart right now. I know we are going to get together, but I do want to remind some of our colleagues that we had an opportunity under the current bill that we have right now. We added in the last couple years \$2.4 billion. That is a 15 percent increase for border patrol agents, pay increases, add more Border Patrol agents, ICE, CBP, the other folks in.

We had the moneys to do that, but at the end of the day—and I will just take one example—we gave money to Homeland, a 15 percent increase, yet there are only two Members—when we all voted—on the Republican side that actually supported the appropriations bill, Homeland. So if we care so much about Homeland, why did we vote “no” on the final appropriations bill?

I know some of us are going to vote “no,” and I am voting “no” on this one, but on the final one, I will support the final appropriations bill.

The other thing is as the Democratic leader, Mr. JEFFRIES, said, we have 3 days to work this out, and by passing this bill to the Senate it is not going to get there. I would just like to remind Members that we ought to be working on preventing the shutdown.

If you look at the shutdowns that we have had since the 1990s, in 1995 it was a Republican House that had a 5-day shutdown. That was November 13, 1995. On December 15, 1995, there was another Republican-led House with 21 days of a shutdown. Then on September 30, 2013, again, for 16 days it was a Republican-led House that allowed the shutdown. Then on January 19, 2018, another Republican-led House shutdown lasted for 2 days. Then on December 21, 2018, there was another Republican-led House shutdown for 34 days.

So, again, I hope that on Saturday or on Sunday at 12:01 there is not another Republican-led shutdown. We are asking you please give us input. Let's sit down. Let's talk about it. I have a lot of respect for Mr. JOYCE and his staff. I know we can do this together. We will be voting “no” on this, but I know at the end of this process we will be voting together on this on a “yes” bill.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I thought we were here to talk about the Homeland Security appropriations bill, and I look forward to having further discussion and reviewing these amendments.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The CHAIR. All time for general debate has expired.

Pursuant to the rule, the bill shall be considered for amendment under the 5-

minute rule. The bill shall be considered as read.

H.R. 4367

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 Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT, INTELLIGENCE, SITUATIONAL AWARENESS, AND OVERSIGHT

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary and for executive management for operations and support, \$279,606,000; of which \$5,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That \$5,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary submits, to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, responses to all questions for the record for each hearing on the fiscal year 2025 budget submission for the Department of Homeland Security held by such Committees prior to July 1: *Provided further*, That \$25,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the Secretary submits the reports required by subsection (g) of section 1092 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (6 U.S.C. 223) and subsection (b) of section 386 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1368).

MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Management Directorate for operations and support, \$1,695,326,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Management Directorate for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$127,758,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

FEDERAL PROTECTIVE SERVICE

The revenues and collections of security fees credited to this account shall be available until expended for necessary expenses related to the protection of federally owned and leased buildings and for the operations of the Federal Protective Service.

INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS, AND SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of Intelligence and Analysis and the Office of Homeland Security Situational Awareness for operations and support, \$348,736,000, of which \$105,701,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,825 shall be for official reception and representation expenses and not to exceed \$2,000,000 is available for facility needs associated with secure space at fusion centers, including improvements to buildings.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General for operations and support, \$228,371,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$300,000 may be used for certain confidential operational expenses, including the payment of informants, to be expended at the direction of the Inspector General.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 101. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a report not later than October 15, 2024, to the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security listing all grants and contracts awarded by any means other than full and open competition during fiscal years 2023 or 2024.

(b) The Inspector General shall review the report required by subsection (a) to assess departmental compliance with applicable laws and regulations and report the results of that review to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than February 15, 2025.

SEC. 102. Not later than 30 days after the last day of each month, the Chief Financial Officer of the Department of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a monthly budget and staffing report that includes total obligations of the Department for that month and for the fiscal year at the appropriation and program, project, and activity levels, by the source year of the appropriation.

SEC. 103. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security, in consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of any proposed transfers of funds available under section 9705(g)(4)(B) of title 31, United States Code, from the Department of the Treasury Forfeiture Fund to any agency within the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) None of the funds identified for such a transfer may be obligated until the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified of the proposed transfer.

SEC. 104. All official costs associated with the use of Government aircraft by Department of Homeland Security personnel to support official travel of the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary shall be paid from amounts made available for the Office of the Secretary.

SEC. 105. (a) The Under Secretary for Management shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 45 days after the end of each fiscal quarter on all Level 1 and Level 2 acquisition programs on the Master Acquisition Oversight list between Acquisition Decision Event and Full Operational Capability, including programs that have been removed from such list during the preceding quarter.

(b) For each such program, the briefing described in subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of the purpose of the program, including the capabilities being acquired and the component(s) sponsoring the acquisition;

(2) the total number of units, as appropriate, to be acquired annually until procurement is complete under the current acquisition program baseline;

(3) the Acquisition Review Board status, including—

(A) the current acquisition phase by increment, as applicable;

(B) the date of the most recent review; and

(C) whether the program has been paused or is in breach status;

(4) a comparison between the initial Department-approved acquisition program baseline cost, schedule, and performance thresholds and objectives and the program's current such thresholds and objectives, if applicable;

(5) the lifecycle cost estimate, adjusted for comparison to the Future Years Homeland Security Program, including—

(A) the confidence level for the estimate;

(B) the fiscal years included in the estimate;

(C) a breakout of the estimate for the prior five years, the current year, and the budget year;

(D) a breakout of the estimate by appropriation account or other funding source; and

(E) a description of and rationale for any changes to the estimate as compared to the previously approved baseline, as applicable, and during the prior fiscal year;

(6) a summary of the findings of any independent verification and validation of the items to be acquired or an explanation for why no such verification and validation has been performed;

(7) a table displaying the obligation of all program funds by prior fiscal year, the estimated obligation of funds for the current fiscal year, and an estimate for the planned carryover of funds into the subsequent fiscal year;

(8) a listing of prime contractors and major subcontractors; and

(9) narrative descriptions of risks to cost, schedule, or performance that could result in a program breach if not successfully mitigated.

(c) The Under Secretary for Management shall submit each approved Acquisition Decision Memorandum for programs described in this section to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than five business days after the date of approval of such memorandum by the Under Secretary for Management or the designee of the Under Secretary.

SEC. 106. (a) None of the funds made available to the Department of Homeland Security in this Act or prior appropriations Acts may be obligated for any new pilot or demonstration unless the component or office carrying out such pilot or demonstration has documented the information described in subsection (c).

(b) Prior to the obligation of any such funds made available for "Operations and Support" for a new pilot or demonstration, the Under Secretary for Management shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on the information described in subsection (c).

(c) The information required under subsections (a) and (b) for a pilot or demonstration shall include the following—

(1) documented objectives that are well-defined and measurable;

(2) an assessment methodology that details—

(A) the type and source of assessment data;

(B) the methods for, and frequency of, collecting such data; and

(C) how such data will be analyzed; and

(3) an implementation plan, including milestones, cost estimates, and implementation schedules, including a projected end date.

(d) Not later than 90 days after the date of completion of a pilot or demonstration described in subsection (e) the Under Secretary for Management shall provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate detailing lessons learned, actual costs, any planned expansion or continuation of the pilot or demonstration, and any planned transition of such pilot or demonstration into an enduring program or operation.

(e) For the purposes of this section, a pilot or demonstration program is a study, demonstration, experimental program, or trial that—

(1) is a small-scale, short-term experiment conducted in order to evaluate feasibility, duration, costs, or adverse events, and im-

prove upon the design of an effort prior to implementation of a larger scale effort; and

(2) uses more than 10 full-time equivalents or obligates, or proposes to obligate, \$5,000,000 or more, but does not include congressionally directed programs or enhancements and does not include programs that were in operation as of December 29, 2022.

(f) For the purposes of this section, a pilot or demonstration does not include any testing, evaluation, or initial deployment phase executed under a procurement contract for the acquisition of information technology services or systems, or any pilot or demonstration carried out by a non-federal recipient under any financial assistance agreement funded by the Department.

TITLE II

SECURITY, ENFORCEMENT, AND INVESTIGATIONS

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for operations and support, including the transportation of unaccompanied alien minors; the provision of air and marine support to Federal, State, local, and international agencies in the enforcement or administration of laws enforced by the Department of Homeland Security; at the discretion of the Secretary of Homeland Security, the provision of such support to Federal, State, and local agencies in other law enforcement and emergency humanitarian efforts; the purchase and lease of up to 7,500 (6,500 for replacement only) police-type vehicles; the purchase, maintenance, or operation of marine vessels, aircraft, and unmanned aerial systems; and contracting with individuals for personal services abroad; \$16,241,678,000; of which \$3,274,000 shall be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund for administrative expenses related to the collection of the Harbor Maintenance Fee pursuant to section 9505(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 9505(c)(3)) and notwithstanding section 1511(e)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 551(e)(1)); of which \$700,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2025; and of which such sums as become available in the Customs User Fee Account, except sums subject to section 13031(f)(3) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(f)(3)), shall be derived from that account: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$34,425 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$150,000 shall be available for payment for rental space in connection with preclearance operations: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$2,000,000 shall be for awards of compensation to informants, to be accounted for solely under the certificate of the Secretary of Homeland Security.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of U.S. Customs and Border Protection for procurement, construction, and improvements, including procurement of physical barriers, marine vessels, aircraft, and unmanned aerial systems, \$2,965,653,000, of which \$741,885,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026; and of which \$2,223,768,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

U.S. IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for operations and support, including the purchase and lease of up to 3,790 (2,350 for replacement only) police-type vehicles; overseas vetted

units, including stipends for members of such units; and maintenance, minor construction, and minor leasehold improvements at owned and leased facilities; \$9,758,297,000; of which not less than \$6,000,000 shall remain available until expended for efforts to enforce laws against forced child labor; of which \$46,696,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025; of which not less than \$2,000,000 is for paid apprenticeships for participants in the Human Exploitation Rescue Operative Child-Rescue Corps; of which not less than \$15,000,000 shall be available for investigation of intellectual property rights violations, including operation of the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center; and of which not less than \$5,310,547,000 shall be for enforcement, detention, and removal operations, including transportation of unaccompanied alien minors: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$11,475 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$10,000,000 shall be available until expended for conducting special operations under section 3131 of the Customs Enforcement Act of 1986 (19 U.S.C. 2081): *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$2,000,000 shall be for awards of compensation to informants, to be accounted for solely under the certificate of the Secretary of Homeland Security: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$11,216,000 shall be available to fund or reimburse other Federal agencies for the costs associated with the care, maintenance, and repatriation of smuggled aliens unlawfully present in the United States: *Provided further*, That not less than \$2,000,000 shall be for entering into new agreements for the delegation of law enforcement authority authorized under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act: *Provided further*, That funding made available under this heading shall maintain a level of not less than 41,500 detention beds through September 30, 2024.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$50,520,000, of which \$35,420,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, and of which \$15,100,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration for operations and support, \$10,118,131,000, of which \$600,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$7,650 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That security service fees authorized under section 44940 of title 49, United States Code, shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections and shall be available only for aviation security: *Provided further*, That the sum appropriated under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2024 so as to result in a final fiscal year appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than \$7,498,131,000.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$130,340,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Transportation Security Administration for research

and development, \$33,532,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

COAST GUARD

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard for operations and support including the Coast Guard Reserve; purchase or lease of not to exceed 25 passenger motor vehicles, which shall be for replacement only; purchase or lease of small boats for contingent and emergent requirements (at a unit cost of not more than \$700,000) and repairs and service-life replacements, not to exceed a total of \$31,000,000; purchase, lease, or improvements of boats necessary for overseas deployments and activities; payments pursuant to section 156 of Public Law 97-377 (42 U.S.C. 402 note; 96 Stat. 1920); and recreation and welfare; \$10,222,488,000, of which \$530,000,000 shall be for defense-related activities; of which \$24,500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)); of which \$20,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026; of which \$24,717,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028, for environmental compliance and restoration; and of which \$100,000,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025, which shall only be available for vessel depot level maintenance: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$23,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard for procurement, construction, and improvements, including aids to navigation, shore facilities (including facilities at Department of Defense installations used by the Coast Guard), and vessels and aircraft, including equipment related thereto, \$1,981,194,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026; of which \$20,000,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)).

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Coast Guard for research and development; and for maintenance, rehabilitation, lease, and operation of facilities and equipment; \$7,476,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026, of which \$500,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund to carry out the purposes of section 1012(a)(5) of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (33 U.S.C. 2712(a)(5)): *Provided*, That there may be credited to and used for the purposes of this appropriation funds received from State and local governments, other public authorities, private sources, and foreign countries for expenses incurred for research, development, testing, and evaluation.

RETIRED PAY

For retired pay, including the payment of obligations otherwise chargeable to lapsed appropriations for this purpose, payments under the Retired Serviceman's Family Protection and Survivor Benefits Plans, payment for career status bonuses, payment of continuation pay under section 356 of title 37, United States Code, concurrent receipts, combat-related special compensation, and payments for medical care of retired personnel and their dependents under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, \$1,147,244,000, to remain available until expended.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service for operations and support, including purchase of not to exceed 652 vehicles for police-type use; hire of passenger

motor vehicles; purchase of motorcycles made in the United States; hire of aircraft; rental of buildings in the District of Columbia; fencing, lighting, guard booths, and other facilities on private or other property not in Government ownership or control, as may be necessary to perform protective functions; conduct of and participation in firearms matches; presentation of awards; conduct of behavioral research in support of protective intelligence and operations; payment in advance for commercial accommodations as may be necessary to perform protective functions; and payment, without regard to section 5702 of title 5, United States Code, of subsistence expenses of employees who are on protective missions, whether at or away from their duty stations; \$2,949,463,000; of which \$114,599,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025, and of which \$6,000,000 shall be for a grant for activities related to investigations of missing and exploited children; and of which up to \$30,000,000 may be for calendar year 2023 premium pay in excess of the annual equivalent of the limitation on the rate of pay contained in section 5547(a) of title 5, United States Code, pursuant to section 2 of the Overtime Pay for Protective Services Act of 2016 (5 U.S.C. 5547 note), as last amended by Public Law 116-269: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$19,125 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That not to exceed \$100,000 shall be to provide technical assistance and equipment to foreign law enforcement organizations in criminal investigations within the jurisdiction of the United States Secret Service.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$61,098,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the United States Secret Service for research and development, \$4,217,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 201. Section 201 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2018 (division F of Public Law 115-141), related to overtime compensation limitations, shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such section applied to funds made available in that Act, except that "fiscal year 2024" shall be substituted for "fiscal year 2018".

SEC. 202. Funding made available under the headings "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Operations and Support" and "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements" shall be available for customs expenses when necessary to maintain operations and prevent adverse personnel actions in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, in addition to funding provided by sections 740 and 14061 of title 48, United States Code.

SEC. 203. As authorized by section 601(b) of the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement Implementation Act (Public Law 112-42), fees collected from passengers arriving from Canada, Mexico, or an adjacent island pursuant to section 13031(a)(5) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(a)(5)) shall be available until expended.

SEC. 204. (a) For an additional amount for "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Operations and Support", \$31,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be reduced by amounts collected and credited to this appropriation in fiscal year 2024 from amounts authorized to be collected by section 286(i) of

the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(i)), section 10412 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 8311), and section 817 of the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-125), or other such authorizing language.

(b) To the extent that amounts realized from such collections exceed \$31,000,000, those amounts in excess of \$31,000,000 shall be credited to this appropriation, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 205. None of the funds made available in this Act for U.S. Customs and Border Protection may be used to prevent an individual not in the business of importing a prescription drug (within the meaning of section 801(g) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act) from importing a prescription drug from Canada that complies with the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act: *Provided*, That this section shall apply only to individuals transporting on their person a personal-use quantity of the prescription drug, not to exceed a 90-day supply: *Provided further*, That the prescription drug may not be—

(1) a controlled substance, as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802); or

(2) a biological product, as defined in section 351 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262).

SEC. 206. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be used to approve a waiver of the navigation and vessel-inspection laws pursuant to section 501(b) of title 46, United States Code, for the transportation of crude oil distributed from and to the Strategic Petroleum Reserve until the Secretary of Homeland Security, after consultation with the Secretaries of the Departments of Energy and Transportation and representatives from the United States flag maritime industry, takes adequate measures to ensure the use of United States flag vessels.

(b) The Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate within 2 business days of any request for waivers of navigation and vessel-inspection laws pursuant to section 501(b) of title 46, United States Code, with respect to such transportation, and the disposition of such requests.

SEC. 207. (a) Beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall not—

(1) establish, collect, or otherwise impose any new border crossing fee on individuals crossing the Southern border or the Northern border at a land port of entry; or

(2) conduct any study relating to the imposition of a border crossing fee.

(b) In this section, the term "border crossing fee" means a fee that every pedestrian, cyclist, and driver and passenger of a private motor vehicle is required to pay for the privilege of crossing the Southern border or the Northern border at a land port of entry.

SEC. 208. (a) Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall submit an expenditure plan for any amounts made available for "U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements" in this Act and prior Acts to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(b) No such amounts provided in this Act may be obligated prior to the submission of such plan.

SEC. 209. Section 211 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2021 (division F of Public Law 116-260), prohibiting the use of funds for the construction of fencing in certain areas, shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such section applied to funds made available in that Act.

SEC. 210. (a) Funds made available in this Act may be used to alter operations within the National Targeting Center of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

(b) None of the funds provided by this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the components funded by this Act, may be used to reduce anticipated or planned vetting operations at existing locations unless specifically authorized by a statute enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 211. (a) Of the total amount made available under “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements”, \$2,965,653,000 shall be available only as follows:

- (1) \$2,104,000,000 for the acquisition and deployment of physical barriers;
- (2) \$276,000,000 for the acquisition and deployment of border security technologies;
- (3) \$305,400,000 for trade and travel assets and infrastructure;
- (4) \$119,768,000 for facility construction and improvements;
- (5) \$123,232,000 for integrated operations assets and infrastructure; and
- (6) \$37,253,000 for mission support and infrastructure.

(b) None of the funds allocated for pedestrian physical barriers may be made available for any purpose other than the construction of steel bollard pedestrian barrier built at least 18 to 30 feet in effective height and augmented with anti-climb and anti-dig features.

(c) None of the funds allocated for pedestrian physical barriers may be made available for any purpose other than construction of pedestrian barriers consistent with the description in subsection (b) at locations identified in the Border Security Improvement Plan submitted to Congress on August 1, 2020.

(d) The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may reprioritize the construction of physical barriers outlined in the Border Security Improvement Plan and, with prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, add additional miles of pedestrian physical barriers where no such barriers exist, prioritized by operational requirements developed in coordination with U.S. Border Patrol leadership.

(e) The Secretary of Homeland Security shall begin to obligate amounts for physical barrier construction no later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(f) For purposes of this section, the term “effective height” refers to the height above the level of the adjacent terrain features.

SEC. 212. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be obligated, expended, or transferred to another Federal agency, board, or commission to be used to dismantle, demolish, remove, or damage existing United States-Mexico physical barriers at any location where such barriers have been constructed as of the date of enactment of this Act unless such barrier is simultaneously being repaired or replaced.

SEC. 213. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to utilize the U.S. Customs and Border Protection CBP One Application,

or any successor application, to facilitate the parole of any alien into the United States.

SEC. 214. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to reduce participation in or substantively diminish the delegation of law enforcement authority authorized under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, except as provided in section 215 of this Act.

SEC. 215. None of the funds provided under the heading “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” may be used to continue a delegation of law enforcement authority authorized under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357(g)) if the Department of Homeland Security Inspector General determines that the terms of the agreement governing the delegation of authority have been materially violated.

SEC. 216. (a) None of the funds provided under the heading “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” may be used to continue any contract for the provision of detention services if the two most recent overall performance evaluations received by the contracted facility are less than “adequate” or the equivalent median score in any subsequent performance evaluation system.

(b) The performance evaluations referenced in subsection (a) shall be conducted by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Professional Responsibility.

SEC. 217. Without regard to the limitation as to time and condition of section 503(d) of this Act, the Secretary may reprogram within and transfer funds to “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” as necessary to ensure the detention of aliens prioritized for removal.

SEC. 218. The reports required to be submitted under section 216 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2021 (division F of Public Law 116-260) shall continue to be submitted semimonthly and each matter required to be included in such reports by such section 216 shall apply in the same manner and to the same extent during the period described in such section 216.

SEC. 219. The terms and conditions of section 217 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2020 (division D of Public Law 116-93) shall apply to this Act.

SEC. 220. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, or otherwise carry out the activities and policies described in the memorandum issued by the Secretary of Homeland Security on September 30, 2021, entitled “Guidelines for the Enforcement of Civil Immigration Law” or described in the memorandum issued by Kerry Doyle, Immigration and Customs Enforcement Principal Legal Advisor on April 3, 2022, entitled “Guidance to OPLA Attorneys Regarding the Enforcement of Civil Immigration Laws and the Exercise of Prosecutorial Discretion” or any successor or similar memorandum or policy.

SEC. 221. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to transport aliens unlawfully present in, paroled into, or inadmissible to the United States into the interior of the United States for purposes other than enforcement of the immigration laws (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101)).

(b) The limitation under subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to amounts made available to transport unaccompanied alien children (as such term is defined in section 462 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279)).

SEC. 222. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for

“U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement” may be used to pay for or facilitate an abortion, except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus would be carried to term, or in the case of rape or incest.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act for “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement” may be used to require any person to perform, or facilitate in any way the performance of, any abortion.

SEC. 223. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to administer hormone therapy medication or perform or facilitate any surgery for any person in custody of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the purpose of gender-affirming care.

SEC. 224. The Secretary of Homeland Security shall allocate amounts appropriated or otherwise made available under the heading “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” by this Act in order to—

(1) prioritize detention by using such amounts to ensure that the average daily population of detainees is maintained at the full capacity funded by this Act throughout the fiscal year; and

(2) ensure that every alien on the non-detained docket is enrolled into the Alternatives to Detention Program with mandatory GPS monitoring throughout the duration of all applicable immigration proceedings (including any appeals) and until removal, if ordered removed.

SEC. 225. Members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate, including the leadership; the heads of Federal agencies and commissions, including the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Under Secretaries, and Assistant Secretaries of the Department of Homeland Security; the United States Attorney General, Deputy Attorney General, Assistant Attorneys General, and the United States Attorneys; and senior members of the Executive Office of the President, including the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, shall not be exempt from Federal passenger and baggage screening.

SEC. 226. Notwithstanding section 44923 of title 49, United States Code, for fiscal year 2024, any funds in the Aviation Security Capital Fund established by section 44923(h) of title 49, United States Code, may be used for the procurement and installation of explosives detection systems or for the issuance of other transaction agreements for the purpose of funding projects described in section 44923(a) of such title.

SEC. 227. Not later than 45 days after the submission of the President’s budget proposal, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations and Homeland Security in the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a single report that fulfills the following requirements:

(1) a Capital Investment Plan, both constrained and unconstrained, that includes a plan for continuous and sustained capital investment in new, and the replacement of aged, transportation security equipment;

(2) the 5-year technology investment plan as required by section 1611 of title XVI of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended by section 3 of the Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act (Public Law 113-245); and

(3) the Advanced Integrated Passenger Screening Technologies report as required by the Senate Report accompanying the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2019 (Senate Report 115-283).

SEC. 228. None of the funds made available under the heading “Transportation Security Administration—Operations and Support” may be made available for the purpose of implementation of any structural pay reform that would alter the pay structure in place as of October 1, 2022, for any employee that is not a Transportation Security Officer.

SEC. 229. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act under the heading “Coast Guard—Operations and Support” shall be for expenses incurred for recreational vessels under section 12114 of title 46, United States Code, except to the extent fees are collected from owners of yachts and credited to the appropriation made available by this Act under the heading “Coast Guard—Operations and Support”.

(b) To the extent such fees are insufficient to pay expenses of recreational vessel documentation under such section 12114, and there is a backlog of recreational vessel applications, personnel performing non-recreational vessel documentation functions under subchapter II of chapter 121 of title 46, United States Code, may perform documentation under section 12114.

SEC. 230. Without regard to the limitation as to time and condition of section 503(d) of this Act, after June 30, in accordance with the notification requirement described in subsection (b) of such section, up to the following amounts may be reprogrammed within “Coast Guard—Operations and Support”—

(1) \$10,000,000 to or from the “Military Personnel” funding category; and

(2) \$10,000,000 between the “Field Operations” funding subcategories.

SEC. 231. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Commandant of the Coast Guard shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a future-years capital investment plan as described in the second proviso under the heading “Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements” in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 114-4), which shall be subject to the requirements in the third and fourth provisos under such heading.

SEC. 232. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to reduce the Coast Guard’s legacy Operations Systems Center mission or its government-employed or contract staff levels.

SEC. 233. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to conduct, or to implement the results of, a competition under Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 for activities performed with respect to the Coast Guard National Vessel Documentation Center.

SEC. 234. Funds made available in this Act may be used to alter operations within the Civil Engineering Program of the Coast Guard nationwide, including civil engineering units, facilities design and construction centers, maintenance and logistics commands, and the Coast Guard Academy, except that none of the funds provided in this Act may be used to reduce operations within any civil engineering unit unless specifically authorized by a statute enacted after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 235. Amounts deposited into the Coast Guard Housing Fund in fiscal year 2024 shall be available until expended to carry out the purposes of section 2946 of title 14, United States Code, and shall be in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes.

SEC. 236. (a) Notwithstanding section 2110 of title 46, United States Code, none of the funds made available in this Act shall be used to charge a fee for an inspection of a towing vessel, as defined in 46 CFR 136.110, that utilizes the Towing Safety Management System option for a Certificate of Inspection

issued under subchapter M of title 46, Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply after the date the Commandant of the Coast Guard makes a determination under section 815(a) of the Frank LoBiondo Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115-282) and, as necessary based on such determination, carries out the requirements of section 815(b) of such Act.

SEC. 237. The United States Secret Service is authorized to obligate funds in anticipation of reimbursements from executive agencies, as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code, for personnel receiving training sponsored by the James J. Rowley Training Center, except that total obligations at the end of the fiscal year shall not exceed total budgetary resources available under the heading “United States Secret Service—Operations and Support” at the end of the fiscal year.

SEC. 238. (a) None of the funds made available to the United States Secret Service by this Act or by previous appropriations Acts may be made available for the protection of the head of a Federal agency other than the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(b) The Director of the United States Secret Service may enter into agreements to provide such protection on a fully reimbursable basis.

SEC. 239. For purposes of section 503(a)(3) of this Act, up to \$15,000,000 may be reprogrammed within “United States Secret Service—Operations and Support”.

SEC. 240. Funding made available in this Act for “United States Secret Service—Operations and Support” is available for travel of United States Secret Service employees on protective missions without regard to the limitations on such expenditures in this or any other Act if the Director of the United States Secret Service or a designee notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate 10 or more days in advance, or as early as practicable, prior to such expenditures.

SEC. 241. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, or otherwise carry out the policies described in the directive issued by the Acting Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection on January 10, 2023, entitled “Emergency Driving and Vehicular Pursuits”, or any successor or similar directive or policy.

SEC. 242. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to admit an alien into the United States based on a Department of Homeland Security Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status) issued by a college, university, or other institution of higher education that is not accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association recognized by the Secretary of Education pursuant to part H of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1099a et seq.).

SEC. 243. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to parole into the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the purpose of temporary visit for business or pleasure without a visa, an alien who is a national of the People’s Republic of China.

SEC. 244. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or previous appropriations Acts under the heading “Coast Guard—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” that remain available for obligation in fiscal year 2024 within the Waterways Commerce Cutter Program may be used to enter into or carry out a procurement contract with any entity deemed not eligible for an award from a size standpoint by the Small Business Administration.

TITLE III

PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECURITY AGENCY OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for operations and support, \$2,370,963,000, of which \$24,424,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$3,825 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: *Provided further*, That \$5,000,000 shall be withheld from obligation until the reports and briefings directed under this heading in the explanatory statement accompanying Public Law 117-103 have been submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$553,537,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency for research and development, \$1,791,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for operations and support, \$1,521,248,000: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$119,137,000, of which \$81,637,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2026, and of which \$37,500,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2028.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

For activities of the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Federal assistance through grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other activities, \$3,742,460,342, which shall be allocated as follows:

(1) \$530,000,000 for the State Homeland Security Grant Program under section 2004 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 605), of which \$100,000,000 shall be for Operation Stonegarden and \$15,000,000 shall be for Tribal Homeland Security Grants under section 2005 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 606): *Provided*, That notwithstanding subsection (c)(4) of such section 2004, for fiscal year 2024, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall make available to local and tribal governments amounts provided to the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico under this paragraph in accordance with subsection (c)(1) of such section 2004.

(2) \$615,000,000 for the Urban Area Security Initiative under section 2003 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 604).

(3) \$315,000,000 for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program under section 2009 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609a), of which \$157,500,000 is for eligible recipients located in high-risk urban areas that receive funding under section 2003 of such Act and \$157,500,000 is for eligible recipients that are located outside such areas: *Provided*, That eligible recipients are those described in section 2009(b) of such Act (6 U.S.C. 609a(b)) or are an otherwise eligible

recipient at risk of a terrorist or other extremist attack.

(4) \$105,000,000 for Public Transportation Security Assistance, Railroad Security Assistance, and Over-the-Road Bus Security Assistance under sections 1406, 1513, and 1532 of the Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007 (6 U.S.C. 1135, 1163, and 1182), of which \$10,000,000 shall be for Amtrak security and \$2,000,000 shall be for Over-the-Road Bus Security: *Provided*, That such public transportation security assistance shall be provided directly to public transportation agencies.

(5) \$100,000,000 for Port Security Grants in accordance with section 70107 of title 46, United States Code.

(6) \$720,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, of which \$360,000,000 shall be for Assistance to Firefighter Grants and \$360,000,000 shall be for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants under sections 33 and 34 respectively of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229 and 2229a).

(7) \$355,000,000 for emergency management performance grants under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121), the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977 (42 U.S.C. 7701), section 762 of title 6, United States Code, and Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.).

(8) \$312,750,000 for necessary expenses for Flood Hazard Mapping and Risk Analysis, in addition to and to supplement any other sums appropriated under the National Flood Insurance Fund, and such additional sums as may be provided by States or other political subdivisions for cost-shared mapping activities under section 1360(f)(2) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4101(f)(2)), to remain available until expended.

(9) \$12,000,000 for Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grants.

(10) \$130,000,000 for the emergency food and shelter program under title III of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11331), to remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed 3.5 percent shall be for total administrative costs.

(11) \$40,000,000 for the Next Generation Warning System.

(12) \$181,223,342 for Community Project Funding grants, which shall be for the purposes, and the amounts, specified in the table entitled “Homeland Security—Community Project Funding” in the report accompanying this Act, of which—

(A) \$65,627,263, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose, is for emergency operations center grants under section 614 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5196c); and

(B) \$115,596,079, in addition to amounts otherwise made available for such purpose, is for pre-disaster mitigation grants under section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5133(e)), notwithstanding subsections (f), (g), and (l) of that section (42 U.S.C. 5133(f), (g), (l)).

(13) \$326,487,000 to sustain current operations for training, exercises, technical assistance, and other programs.

DISASTER RELIEF FUND

For necessary expenses in carrying out the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), \$20,406,341,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$20,261,000,000 shall be for major disasters declared pursuant to the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emer-

gency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) and is designated by the Congress as being for disaster relief pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

For activities under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 (Public Law 112-141, 126 Stat. 916), and the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-89; 128 Stat. 1020), \$239,983,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, which shall be derived from offsetting amounts collected under section 1308(d) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4015(d)); of which \$18,917,000 shall be available for mission support associated with flood management; and of which \$221,066,000 shall be available for flood plain management and flood mapping: *Provided*, That any additional fees collected pursuant to section 1308(d) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4015(d)) shall be credited as offsetting collections to this account, to be available for flood plain management and flood mapping: *Provided further*, That in fiscal year 2024, no funds shall be available from the National Flood Insurance Fund under section 1310 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4017) in excess of—

(1) \$230,504,000 for operating expenses and salaries and expenses associated with flood insurance operations;

(2) \$1,300,000,000 for commissions and taxes of agents;

(3) such sums as are necessary for interest on Treasury borrowings; and

(4) \$175,000,000, which shall remain available until expended, for flood mitigation actions and for flood mitigation assistance under section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4104c), notwithstanding sections 1366(e) and 1310(a)(7) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 4104c(e), 4017):

Provided further, That the amounts collected under section 102 of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (42 U.S.C. 4012a) and section 1366(e) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4104c(e)), shall be deposited in the National Flood Insurance Fund to supplement other amounts specified as available for section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, notwithstanding section 102(f)(8), section 1366(e) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, and paragraphs (1) through (3) of section 1367(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 4012a(f)(8), 4104c(e), 4104d(b)(1)–(3)): *Provided further*, That total administrative costs shall not exceed 4 percent of the total appropriation: *Provided further*, That up to \$5,000,000 is available to carry out section 24 of the Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014 (42 U.S.C. 4033).

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. (a) The Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (or the Director's designee) shall provide the briefings to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate described under the heading “Quarterly Budget and Staffing Briefings” in the explanatory statement for division F of Public Law 117-103 described in section 4 in the matter preceding division A of such Public Law—

(1) with respect to the first quarter of fiscal year 2024, not later than the later of 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act or January 30, 2024; and

(2) with respect to each subsequent fiscal quarter in fiscal year 2024, not later than 21 days after the end of each such quarter.

(b) In the event that any such briefing required during this fiscal year under sub-

section (a) is not provided, the amount made available in title III to the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency under the heading “Operations and Support” shall be reduced by \$50,000 for each day of non-compliance with subsection (a), and the amount made available under such heading and specified in the detailed funding table in the report accompanying this Act for Mission Support shall be correspondingly reduced by an equivalent amount.

SEC. 302. (a) Notwithstanding section 2008(a)(12) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 609(a)(12)) or any other provision of law, not more than 5 percent of the amount of a grant made available in paragraphs (1) through (5) under “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, may be used by the recipient for expenses directly related to administration of the grant.

(b) The authority provided in subsection (a) shall also apply to a state recipient for the administration of a grant under such paragraph (3).

SEC. 303. Applications for grants under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for paragraphs (1) through (5), shall be made available to eligible applicants not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, eligible applicants shall submit applications not later than 80 days after the grant announcement, and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall act within 65 days after the receipt of an application.

SEC. 304. (a) Under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for grants under paragraphs (1) through (5) and (9), the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate 5 full business days in advance of announcing publicly the intention of making an award.

(b) If any such public announcement is made before 5 full business days have elapsed following such briefing, \$1,000,000 of amounts appropriated by this Act for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Operations and Support” shall be rescinded.

SEC. 305. Under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for grants under paragraphs (1) and (2), the installation of communications towers is not considered construction of a building or other physical facility.

SEC. 306. The reporting requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2) under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Disaster Relief Fund” in the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015 (Public Law 114-4), related to reporting on the Disaster Relief Fund, shall be applied in fiscal year 2024 with respect to budget year 2025 and current fiscal year 2024, respectively—

(1) in paragraph (1) by substituting “fiscal year 2025” for “fiscal year 2016”; and

(2) in paragraph (2) by inserting “business” after “fifth”.

SEC. 307. In making grants under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response grants, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may grant waivers from the requirements in subsections (a)(1)(A), (a)(1)(B), (a)(1)(E), (c)(1), (c)(2), and (c)(4) of section 34 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229a).

SEC. 308. (a) The aggregate charges assessed during fiscal year 2024, as authorized in title III of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development,

and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (42 U.S.C. 5196e), shall not be less than 100 percent of the amounts anticipated by the Department of Homeland Security to be necessary for its Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program for the next fiscal year.

(b) The methodology for assessment and collection of fees shall be fair and equitable and shall reflect costs of providing such services, including administrative costs of collecting such fees.

(c) Such fees shall be deposited in a Radiological Emergency Preparedness Program account as offsetting collections and will become available for authorized purposes on October 1, 2024, and remain available until expended.

SEC. 309. In making grants under the heading “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, for Assistance to Firefighter Grants, the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency may waive subsection (k) of section 33 of the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 (15 U.S.C. 2229).

TITLE IV

RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND SERVICES

U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services for operations and support of the E-Verify Program, \$111,865,000: *Provided*, That such amounts shall be in addition to any other amounts made available for such purposes, and shall not be construed to require any reduction of any fee described in section 286(m) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(m)).

FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTERS

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers for operations and support, including the purchase of not to exceed 117 vehicles for police-type use and hire of passenger motor vehicles, and services as authorized by section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, \$361,398,000, of which \$66,665,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$7,180 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$20,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028, for acquisition of necessary additional real property and facilities, construction and ongoing maintenance, facility improvements and related expenses of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Science and Technology Directorate for operations and support, including the purchase or lease of not to exceed 5 vehicles, \$333,632,000, of which \$206,548,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$10,000 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Science and Technology Directorate for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$58,466,000, to remain available until September 30, 2028.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Science and Technology Directorate for research and de-

velopment, \$444,545,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

COUNTERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OFFICE

OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For necessary expenses of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office for operations and support, \$164,315,000, of which \$69,364,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2025: *Provided*, That not to exceed \$2,250 shall be for official reception and representation expenses.

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, AND IMPROVEMENTS

For necessary expenses of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office for procurement, construction, and improvements, \$42,338,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office for research and development, \$64,201,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE

For necessary expenses of the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office for Federal assistance through grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and other activities, \$142,885,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds otherwise made available to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may be used to acquire, operate, equip, and dispose of up to 5 vehicles, for replacement only, for areas where the Administrator of General Services does not provide vehicles for lease.

(b) The Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may authorize employees who are assigned to those areas to use such vehicles to travel between the employees' residences and places of employment.

SEC. 402. None of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to process or approve a competition under Office of Management and Budget Circular A-76 for services provided by employees (including employees serving on a temporary or term basis) of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services of the Department of Homeland Security who are known as Immigration Information Officers, Immigration Service Analysts, Contact Representatives, Investigative Assistants, or Immigration Services Officers.

SEC. 403. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any Federal funds made available to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may be used for the collection and use of biometrics taken at a U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Application Support Center that is overseen virtually by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services personnel using appropriate technology.

SEC. 404. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, or enforce the rule entitled “Procedures or Credible Fear Screening and Consideration of Asylum, Withholding of Removal, and CAT Protection Claims by Asylum Officers” (87 Fed. Reg. 18078).

SEC. 405. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to issue any employment authorization document or similar document to any alien whose application for asylum in the United States has been denied, or who is convicted of a Federal or State crime while his or her application for asylum in the United States is pending.

SEC. 406. (a) Section 214(g)(9)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.

1184(g)(9)(A)) is amended to read as follows: “(A) Subject to subparagraphs (B) and (C), an alien shall be considered a returning worker and shall not again be counted toward the numerical limitation of paragraph (1)(B) during fiscal year 2024 if such alien has already been counted toward such numerical limitation during any of the 3 preceding fiscal years.”.

(b) The amendment made by this section shall apply on and after October 1, 2023.

SEC. 407. In fiscal year 2024, nonimmigrants shall be admitted to the United States under section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(a)) to perform agricultural labor or services, without regard to whether such labor is, or services are, of a temporary or seasonal nature.

SEC. 408. Notwithstanding section 286(n) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1356(n)), the Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services may use not more than \$5,000 of the amounts deposited in the Immigration Examinations Fee Account for official reception and representation expenses in fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 409. The Director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers is authorized to distribute funds to Federal law enforcement agencies for expenses incurred participating in training accreditation.

SEC. 410. The Federal Law Enforcement Training Accreditation Board, including representatives from the Federal law enforcement community and non-Federal accreditation experts involved in law enforcement training, shall lead the Federal law enforcement training accreditation process to continue the implementation of measuring and assessing the quality and effectiveness of Federal law enforcement training programs, facilities, and instructors.

SEC. 411. (a) The Director of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers may accept transfers to its “Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” account from Government agencies requesting the construction of special use facilities, as authorized by the Economy Act (31 U.S.C. 1535(b)).

(b) The Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers shall maintain administrative control and ownership upon completion of such facilities.

SEC. 412. The functions of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers instructor staff shall be classified as inherently governmental for purposes of the Federal Activities Inventory Reform Act of 1998 (31 U.S.C. 501 note).

TITLE V

GENERAL PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 501. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 502. Subject to the requirements of section 503 of this Act, the unexpended balances of prior appropriations provided for activities in this Act may be transferred to appropriation accounts for such activities established pursuant to this Act, may be merged with funds in the applicable established accounts, and thereafter may be accounted for as one fund for the same time period as originally enacted.

SEC. 503. (a) None of the funds provided by this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the components in or transferred to the Department of Homeland Security that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2024, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury of the United States derived by the collection of fees available to the components funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that—

(1) creates or eliminates a program, project, or activity, or increases funds for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress;

(2) contracts out any function or activity presently performed by Federal employees or any new function or activity proposed to be performed by Federal employees in the President's budget proposal for fiscal year 2024 for the Department of Homeland Security;

(3) augments funding for existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of \$5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less;

(4) reduces funding for any program, project, or activity, or numbers of personnel, by 10 percent or more; or

(5) results from any general savings from a reduction in personnel that would result in a change in funding levels for programs, projects, or activities as approved by the Congress.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply if the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 15 days in advance of such reprogramming.

(c) Up to 5 percent of any appropriation made available for the current fiscal year for the Department of Homeland Security by this Act or provided by previous appropriations Acts may be transferred between such appropriations if the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate are notified at least 30 days in advance of such transfer, but no such appropriation, except as otherwise specifically provided, shall be increased by more than 10 percent by such transfer.

(d) Notwithstanding subsections (a), (b), and (c), no funds shall be reprogrammed within or transferred between appropriations based upon an initial notification provided after June 30, except in extraordinary circumstances that imminently threaten the safety of human life or the protection of property.

(e) The notification thresholds and procedures set forth in subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) shall apply to any use of deobligated balances of funds provided in previous Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Acts that remain available for obligation in the current year.

(f) Notwithstanding subsection (c), the Secretary of Homeland Security may transfer to the fund established by 8 U.S.C. 1101 note, up to \$20,000,000 from appropriations available to the Department of Homeland Security: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 5 days in advance of such transfer.

SEC. 504. (a) Section 504 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2017 (division F of Public Law 115-31), related to the operations of a working capital fund, shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such section applied to funds made available in that Act.

(b) Funds from such working capital fund may be obligated and expended in anticipation of reimbursements from components of the Department of Homeland Security.

SEC. 505. (a) Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2024, as recorded in the financial records at the time of a reprogramming notification, but not later than June 30, 2025, from appropriations for "Operations and Support" for fiscal year 2024 in this Act shall remain available through September 30, 2025, in the account and for the purposes for which the appropriations were provided.

(b) Prior to the obligation of such funds, a notification shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in accordance with section 503 of this Act.

SEC. 506. (a) Funds made available by this Act for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414) during fiscal year 2024 until the enactment of an Act authorizing intelligence activities for fiscal year 2024.

(b) Amounts described in subsection (a) made available for "Intelligence, Analysis, and Situational Awareness—Operations and Support" that exceed the amounts in such authorization for such account shall be transferred to and merged with amounts made available under the heading "Management Directorate—Operations and Support".

(c) Prior to the obligation of any funds transferred under subsection (b), the Management Directorate shall brief the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate on a plan for the use of such funds.

SEC. 507. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security, or the designee of the Secretary, shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate at least 3 full business days in advance of—

(1) making or awarding a grant allocation or grant in excess of \$1,000,000;

(2) making or awarding a contract, other transaction agreement, or task or delivery order on a multiple award contract, or to issue a letter of intent totaling in excess of \$4,000,000;

(3) awarding a task or delivery order requiring an obligation of funds in an amount greater than \$10,000,000 from multi-year funds;

(4) making a sole-source grant award; or

(5) announcing publicly the intention to make or award items under paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4), including a contract covered by the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(b) If the Secretary of Homeland Security determines that compliance with this section would pose a substantial risk to human life, health, or safety, an award may be made without notification, and the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate not later than 5 full business days after such an award is made or letter issued.

(c) A notification under this section—

(1) may not involve funds that are not available for obligation; and

(2) shall include the amount of the award; the fiscal year for which the funds for the award were appropriated; the type of contract; and the account from which the funds are being drawn.

SEC. 508. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no agency shall purchase, construct, or lease any additional facilities, except within or contiguous to existing locations, to be used for the purpose of conducting Federal law enforcement training without advance notification to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, except that the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers is authorized to obtain the temporary use of additional facilities by lease, contract, or other agreement for training that cannot be accommodated in existing Centers' facilities.

SEC. 509. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used for expenses for any construction, repair, alteration, or acquisition project for which a prospectus otherwise required under chapter 33 of title 40, United States Code, has not been approved, except that necessary funds may be expended for each project for

required expenses for the development of a proposed prospectus.

SEC. 510. Sections 522 and 530 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2008 (division E of Public Law 110-161; 121 Stat. 2073 and 2074) shall apply with respect to funds made available in this Act in the same manner as such sections applied to funds made available in that Act.

SEC. 511. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used in contravention of the applicable provisions of the Buy American Act.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a), the term "Buy American Act" means chapter 83 of title 41, United States Code.

SEC. 512. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to amend the oath of allegiance required by section 337 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1448).

SEC. 513. None of the funds provided or otherwise made available in this Act shall be available to carry out section 872 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 452) unless explicitly authorized by the Congress.

SEC. 514. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for planning, testing, piloting, or developing a national identification card.

SEC. 515. Any official that is required by this Act to report or to certify to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate may not delegate such authority to perform that act unless specifically authorized herein.

SEC. 516. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for first-class travel by the employees of agencies funded by this Act in contravention of sections 301-10.122 through 301-10.124 of title 41, Code of Federal Regulations.

SEC. 517. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to employ workers described in section 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a(h)(3)).

SEC. 518. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used to pay award or incentive fees for contractor performance that has been judged to be below satisfactory performance or performance that does not meet the basic requirements of a contract.

SEC. 519. (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, territorial, or local law enforcement agency or any other entity carrying out criminal investigations, prosecution, or adjudication activities.

SEC. 520. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used by a Federal law enforcement officer to facilitate the transfer of an operable firearm to an individual if the Federal law enforcement officer knows or suspects that the individual is an agent of a drug cartel unless law enforcement personnel of the United States continuously monitor or control the firearm at all times.

SEC. 521. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to pay for the travel to or attendance of more than 50 employees of a single component of the Department of Homeland Security, who are stationed in the United States, at a single international conference unless the Secretary of Homeland Security, or a designee, determines that such attendance is in the national interest and notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate within at least 10 days of that determination and the basis for that determination.

(b) For purposes of this section the term “international conference” shall mean a conference occurring outside of the United States attended by representatives of the United States Government and of foreign governments, international organizations, or nongovernmental organizations.

(c) The total cost to the Department of Homeland Security of any such conference shall not exceed \$500,000.

(d) Employees who attend a conference virtually without travel away from their permanent duty station within the United States shall not be counted for purposes of this section, and the prohibition contained in this section shall not apply to payments for the costs of attendance for such employees.

SEC. 522. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to reimburse any Federal department or agency for its participation in a National Special Security Event.

SEC. 523. (a) None of the funds made available to the Department of Homeland Security by this or any other Act may be obligated for the implementation of any structural pay reform or the introduction of any new position classification that will affect more than 100 full-time positions or costs more than \$5,000,000 in a single year before the end of the 30-day period beginning on the date on which the Secretary of Homeland Security submits to Congress a notification that includes—

(1) the number of full-time positions affected by such change;

(2) funding required for such change for the current fiscal year and through the Future Years Homeland Security Program;

(3) justification for such change; and

(4) for a structural pay reform, an analysis of compensation alternatives to such change that were considered by the Department.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to such change if—

(1) it was proposed in the President’s budget proposal for the fiscal year funded by this Act; and

(2) funds for such change have not been explicitly denied or restricted in this Act.

SEC. 524. (a) Any agency receiving funds made available in this Act shall, subject to subsections (b) and (c), post on the public website of that agency any report required to be submitted by the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate in this Act, upon the determination by the head of the agency that it shall serve the national interest.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to a report if—

(1) the public posting of the report compromises homeland or national security; or

(2) the report contains proprietary information.

(c) The head of the agency posting such report shall do so only after such report has been made available to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate for not less than 45 days except as otherwise specified in law.

SEC. 525. (a) Funding provided in this Act for “Operations and Support” may be used for minor procurement, construction, and improvements.

(b) For purposes of subsection (a), “minor” refers to end items with a unit cost of \$250,000 or less for personal property, and \$2,000,000 or less for real property.

SEC. 526. The authority provided by section 532 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141) regarding primary and secondary schooling of dependents shall continue in effect during fiscal year 2024.

SEC. 527. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the Department of Homeland Security by this Act may

be used to prevent any of the following persons from entering, for the purpose of conducting oversight, any facility operated by or for the Department of Homeland Security used to detain or otherwise house aliens, or to make any temporary modification at any such facility that in any way alters what is observed by a visiting Member of Congress or such designated employee, compared to what would be observed in the absence of such modification:

(1) A Member of Congress.

(2) An employee of the United States House of Representatives or the United States Senate designated by such a Member for the purposes of this section.

(b) Nothing in this section may be construed to require a Member of Congress to provide prior notice of the intent to enter a facility described in subsection (a) for the purpose of conducting oversight.

(c) With respect to individuals described in subsection (a)(2), the Department of Homeland Security may require that a request be made at least 24 hours in advance of an intent to enter a facility described in subsection (a).

SEC. 528. (a) For an additional amount for “Federal Emergency Management Agency—Federal Assistance”, \$3,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2025, exclusively for providing reimbursement of extraordinary law enforcement or other emergency personnel costs for protection activities directly and demonstrably associated with any residence of the President that is designated or identified to be secured by the United States Secret Service.

(b) Subsections (b) through (f) of section 534 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2018 (Public Law 115-141), shall be applied with respect to amounts made available by subsection (a) of this section by substituting “October 1, 2024” for “October 1, 2018” and “October 1, 2023” for “October 1, 2017”.

SEC. 529. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to place restraints on a woman in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security (including during transport, in a detention facility, or at an outside medical facility) who is pregnant or in post-delivery recuperation.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to a pregnant woman if—

(1) an appropriate official of the Department of Homeland Security makes an individualized determination that the woman—

(A) is a serious flight risk, and such risk cannot be prevented by other means; or

(B) poses an immediate and serious threat to harm herself or others that cannot be prevented by other means; or

(2) a medical professional responsible for the care of the pregnant woman determines that the use of therapeutic restraints is appropriate for the medical safety of the woman.

(c) If a pregnant woman is restrained pursuant to subsection (b), only the safest and least restrictive restraints, as determined by the appropriate medical professional treating the woman, may be used. In no case may restraints be used on a woman who is in active labor or delivery, and in no case may a pregnant woman be restrained in a face-down position with four-point restraints, on her back, or in a restraint belt that constricts the area of the pregnancy. A pregnant woman who is immobilized by restraints shall be positioned, to the maximum extent feasible, on her left side.

SEC. 530. (a) None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to destroy any document, recording, or other record pertaining to any—

(1) death of,

(2) potential sexual assault or abuse perpetrated against, or

(3) allegation of abuse, criminal activity, or disruption committed by an individual held in the custody of the Department of Homeland Security.

(b) The records referred to in subsection (a) shall be made available, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations, and Federal rules governing disclosure in litigation, to an individual who has been charged with a crime, been placed into segregation, or otherwise punished as a result of an allegation described in paragraph (3), upon the request of such individual.

SEC. 531. Section 519 of division F of Public Law 114-113, regarding a prohibition on funding for any position designated as a Principal Federal Official, shall apply with respect to any Federal funds in the same manner as such section applied to funds made available in that Act.

SEC. 532. (a) Not later than 10 days after the date on which the budget of the President for a fiscal year is submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, the Under Secretary for Management of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on the unfunded priorities, for the Department of Homeland Security and separately for each departmental component, for which discretionary funding would be classified as budget function 050.

(b) Each report under this section shall specify, for each such unfunded priority—

(1) a summary description, including the objectives to be achieved if such priority is funded (whether in whole or in part);

(2) the description, including the objectives to be achieved if such priority is funded (whether in whole or in part);

(3) account information, including the following (as applicable):

(A) appropriation account; and

(B) program, project, or activity name; and

(4) the additional number of full-time or part-time positions to be funded as part of such priority.

(c) In this section, the term “unfunded priority”, in the case of a fiscal year, means a requirement that—

(1) is not funded in the budget referred to in subsection (a);

(2) is necessary to fulfill a requirement associated with an operational or contingency plan for the Department; and

(3) would have been recommended for funding through the budget referred to in subsection (a) if—

(A) additional resources had been available for the budget to fund the requirement;

(B) the requirement has emerged since the budget was formulated; or

(C) the requirement is necessary to sustain prior-year investments.

SEC. 533. (a) Not later than 10 days after a determination is made by the President to evaluate and initiate protection under any authority for a former or retired Government official or employee, or for an individual who, during the duration of the directed protection, will become a former or retired Government official or employee (referred to in this section as a “covered individual”), the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a notification to congressional leadership and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives (referred to in this

section as the “appropriate congressional committees”).

(b) Such notification may be submitted in classified form, if necessary, and in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as appropriate, and shall include the threat assessment, scope of the protection, and the anticipated cost and duration of such protection.

(c) Not later than 15 days before extending, or 30 days before terminating, protection for a covered individual, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit a notification regarding the extension or termination and any change to the threat assessment to the congressional leadership and the appropriate congressional committees.

(d) Not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report to the congressional leadership and the appropriate congressional committees, which may be submitted in classified form, if necessary, detailing each covered individual, and the scope and associated cost of protection.

SEC. 534. (a) None of the funds provided to the Department of Homeland Security in this or any prior Act may be used by an agency to submit an initial project proposal to the Technology Modernization Fund (as authorized by section 1078 of subtitle G of title X of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (Public Law 115-91)) unless, concurrent with the submission of an initial project proposal to the Technology Modernization Board, the head of the agency—

(1) notifies the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the proposed submission of the project proposal;

(2) submits to the Committees on Appropriations a copy of the project proposal; and

(3) provides a detailed analysis of how the proposed project funding would supplement or supplant funding requested as part of the Department’s most recent budget submission.

(b) None of the funds provided to the Department of Homeland Security by the Technology Modernization Fund shall be available for obligation until 15 days after a report on such funds has been transmitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(c) The report described in subsection (b) shall include—

(1) the full project proposal submitted to and approved by the Fund’s Technology Modernization Board;

(2) the finalized interagency agreement between the Department and the Fund including the project’s deliverables and repayment terms, as applicable;

(3) a detailed analysis of how the project will supplement or supplant existing funding available to the Department for similar activities;

(4) a plan for how the Department will repay the Fund, including specific planned funding sources, as applicable; and

(5) other information as determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 535. Within 60 days of any budget submission for the Department of Homeland Security for fiscal year 2025 that assumes revenues or proposes a reduction from the previous year based on user fees proposals that have not been enacted into law prior to the submission of the budget, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate specific reductions in proposed discretionary budget authority commensurate with the revenues assumed in such proposals in the event that they are not enacted prior to October 1, 2024.

SEC. 536. None of the funds made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to implement the Arms Trade Treaty until the Senate approves a resolution of ratification for the Treaty.

SEC. 537. No Federal funds made available to the Department of Homeland Security may be used to enter into a procurement contract, memorandum of understanding, or cooperative agreement with, or make a grant to, or provide a loan or guarantee to, any entity identified under section 1260H of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283) or any subsidiary of such entity.

SEC. 538. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this or any other Act may be used to transfer, release, or assist in the transfer or release to or within the United States, its territories, or possessions Khalid Sheikh Mohammed or any other detainee who—

(1) is not a United States citizen or a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; and

(2) is or was held on or after June 24, 2009, at the United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, by the Department of Defense.

SEC. 539. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall, on a bimonthly basis beginning immediately after the date of enactment of this Act, develop estimates of the number of migrants anticipated to arrive at the southwest border of the United States.

(b) The Secretary shall ensure that, at a minimum, the estimates developed pursuant to subsection (a)—

(1) cover the current fiscal year and the following fiscal year;

(2) include a breakout by demographics, to include single adults, family units, and unaccompanied children;

(3) undergo an independent validation and verification review;

(4) are used to inform policy planning and budgeting processes within the Department of Homeland Security; and

(5) are included in the budget materials submitted to Congress in support of the President’s annual budget request pursuant to section 1105 of title 31, United States Code, for each fiscal year beginning after the date of enactment of this Act and, for such budget materials shall include—

(A) the most recent bimonthly estimates developed pursuant to subsection (a);

(B) a description and quantification of the estimates used to justify funding requests for Department programs related to border security, immigration enforcement, and immigration services;

(C) a description and quantification of the anticipated workload and requirements resulting from such estimates; and

(D) a confirmation as to whether the budget requests for impacted agencies were developed using the same estimates.

(c) The Secretary shall share the bimonthly estimates developed pursuant to subsection (a) with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, and the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

SEC. 540. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to establish or support the activities of:

(1) a Disinformation Governance Board at the Department of Homeland Security, or any other entity carrying out similar activities relating to mis-, dis-, or mal-information in a similar manner or to a similar extent to such a Board; or

(2) any entity responsible, directly or indirectly, under color of countering mis-, dis-,

or mal-information or otherwise, for instructing, influencing, directing, or recommending that private companies censor, prohibit, or obstruct lawful and constitutionally protected speech of United States persons on social media platforms, including by—

(A) terminating speakers’ accounts;

(B) temporarily suspending accounts;

(C) imposing warnings or strikes against accounts to stop future speech;

(D) “shadowbanning” speakers;

(E) demonetizing content or speakers;

(F) adjusting algorithms to suppress or de-emphasize speakers or messages;

(G) deboosting speakers or content;

(H) promoting or demoting content;

(I) placing warning labels or explanatory notes on content;

(J) suppressing content in other users’ feeds;

(K) promoting negative comments on disfavored content;

(L) requiring additional click-through(s) to access content; or

(M) any other such methods.

SEC. 541. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to require an employee of the Department of Homeland Security to receive a vaccination against COVID-19.

SEC. 542. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to administer, implement, or enforce the rules entitled “Amended Order Implementing Presidential Proclamation on Advancing the Safe Resumption of Global Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic” (87 Fed. Reg. 20405 et seq.) or “Notification of Temporary Travel Restrictions Applicable to Land Ports of Entry and Ferries Service Between the United States and Mexico” (87 Fed. Reg. 24041) (or any successor rules).

SEC. 543. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to:

(1) classify or facilitate the classification of any communications by a United States person as mis-, dis-, or mal-information; or

(2) partner with or fund nonprofit or other organizations that in any way instruct, influence, direct, or recommend that private companies in any way censor, prohibit, or obstruct lawful and constitutionally protected speech of United States persons on social media platforms, including by—

(A) terminating speakers’ accounts;

(B) temporarily suspending accounts;

(C) imposing warnings or strikes against accounts to stop future speech;

(D) “shadowbanning” speakers;

(E) demonetizing content or speakers;

(F) adjusting algorithms to suppress or de-emphasize speakers or messages;

(G) deboosting speakers or content;

(H) promoting or demoting content;

(I) placing warning labels or explanatory notes on content;

(J) suppressing content in other users’ feeds;

(K) promoting negative comments on disfavored content;

(L) requiring additional click-through(s) to access content; or

(M) any other such methods.

(b) Any officer or employee of the Federal Government whose salary is funded by this Act and who conducts any activity described in subsections (a)(1) or (a)(2) shall be removed from the Federal service.

SEC. 544. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, or enforce the rule related to “Circumvention of Lawful Pathways” (88 Fed. Reg. 11704).

SEC. 545. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to implement, administer, apply, enforce, or carry out the Equity Action Plan of the Department of Homeland

Security, or Executive Order 13985 of January 20, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 7009, relating to advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities through the federal government), Executive Order 14035 of June 25, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 34593, relating to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in the federal workforce), Executive Order 14091 of February 16, 2023 (88 Fed. Reg. 10825 relating to further advancing racial equity and support for underserved communities through the federal government) or any program, project, or activity that promotes or advances Critical Race Theory or any concept associated with Critical Race Theory.

SEC. 546. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act under the heading “Office of the Secretary and Executive Management—Operations and Support” may be made available for the purpose of paying counsel outside the Federal Government—

(1) before the date on which all funds provided in section 211(a)(1) of this Act are obligated; and

(2) to prepare for or defend against impeachment.

SEC. 547. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available to be used to purchase, maintain, or continue to operate any Unmanned Aircraft Systems that are manufactured in the People’s Republic of China or a country identified as a foreign adversary in the Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community or by an entity domiciled in the People’s Republic of China or a country identified as a foreign adversary in the most recent Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community.

(b) Nothing in subsection (a) shall limit the use of funds for counterintelligence, research and development, test and evaluation, or counter Unmanned Aircraft System mitigation efforts, including the activities of the Coast Guard authorized by section 8414 of Public Law 116-283 (14 U.S.C. 1156 note).

SEC. 548. (a) Section 538 of the Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2022 (division F of Public Law 117-103) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking “may” and inserting “shall”; and

(2) by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“(d) Amounts in the Fund may not be obligated until after the date on which the Act making full-year appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the applicable fiscal year is enacted into law, subject to subsection (e).

“(e) The Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall be notified at least 15 days in advance of the planned use of funds.”.

(b) The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts transferred under such section 538 on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 549. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used to execute an inspection of any detention facility that is in a contractual agreement with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the provision of detention services within six months of a previous inspection of such facility.

(b) Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to inspections executed by the Office of Inspector General.

SEC. 550. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any other Act shall be used to execute an inspection of any detention facility that is in a contractual agreement with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement for the provision of detention services, except solely for compliance with the terms, conditions, and

standards found within the National Detention Standards 2019 for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

(b) Subsection (a) shall take effect for detention facilities operating under existing contracts, as of the date of enactment of this Act, not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 551. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to admit an alien, who is a national of the Republic of Chile, under section 217 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1187), until the Secretary of Homeland Security verifies that the Republic of Chile provides access to appropriate criminal databases and the Department of Homeland Security screens Chilean nationals against such criminal databases.

SEC. 552. (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).

(RESCISSIONS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 553. Of the funds appropriated to the Department of Homeland Security, the following funds are hereby rescinded from the following accounts and programs in the specified amounts: *Provided*, That no amounts may be rescinded from amounts that were designated by the Congress as an emergency

requirement pursuant to a concurrent resolution on the budget or the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985:

(1) \$800,000 from unobligated balances available in the “Office of the Secretary and Executive Management—Operations and Support” account (70 23/24 0100).

(2) \$4,100,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Management Directorate—Office of the Chief Information Officer and Operations” account (70 X 0113).

(3) \$1,473,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” account (70 X 0532).

(4) \$1,842,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Border Security Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology” account (70 X 0533).

(5) \$452,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Air and Marine Interdiction, Operations, Maintenance, and Procurement” account (70 X 0544).

(6) \$1,159,000,000 from the unobligated balances available under the heading “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” of the amounts provided by Public Law 116-93 for the construction of barrier system along the southwest border.

(7) \$945,000,000 from the unobligated balances available under the heading “U.S. Customs and Border Protection—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” of the amounts provided by Public Law 116-260 for the construction of barrier system along the southwest border.

(8) \$3,000,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” account (70 23/24 0540).

(9) \$2,092,841 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Operations and Support” account (70 X 0540).

(10) \$10,439 from the unobligated balances available in the “U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement—Automation Modernization” account (70 X 0543).

(11) \$154,515,000 from the unobligated balances available under the heading “Transportation Security Administration—Operations and Support” of the amounts provided by Public Law 117-328.

(12) \$22,600,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Coast Guard—Acquisition, Construction, and Improvements” account (70 X 0613).

(13) \$3,500,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” account (70 23/27 0412).

(14) \$2,000,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency—Research and Development” account (70 23/24 0805).

(15) \$5,821,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Federal Emergency Management Agency—National Predisaster Mitigation Fund” account (70 X 0716).

(16) \$800,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers—Procurement, Construction, and Improvements” account (70 20/24 0510).

(17) \$900,000 from the unobligated balances available in the “Science and Technology Directorate—Operations and Support” account (70 X 0800).

(18) \$388,522 from the unobligated balances available in the “Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office—Research and Development” account (70 22/24 0860).

(19) \$11,478 from the unobligated balances available in the “Countering Weapons of

Mass Destruction Office—Research and Development” account (70 X 0860).

SEC. 554. Of the unobligated balances of amounts made available under section 70001 of Public Law 117-169, \$312,000,000 are hereby rescinded.

SEC. 555. Of the unobligated balances of amounts made available in the Department of Homeland Security Nonrecurring Expenses Fund (70 X 1914), \$3,800,000 are hereby rescinded.

SPENDING REDUCTION ACCOUNT

SEC. 556. The amount by which the applicable allocation of new budget authority made by the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under section 302(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 exceeds the amount of proposed new budget authority is \$0.

This division may be cited as the “Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2024”.

The CHAIR. All points of order against provisions in the bill are waived.

No amendment to the bill shall be in order except those printed in Part B of House Report 118-216, amendments en bloc described in section 6 of House Resolution 723, and pro forma amendments described in section 13 of that resolution.

Each amendment printed in the report shall be considered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, may be withdrawn by the proponent at any time before action thereon, shall not be subject to amendment except as provided by section 13 of House Resolution 723, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

It shall be in order at any time for the chair of the Committee on Appropriations or her designee to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in the report not earlier disposed of. Amendments en bloc shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their designees, shall not be subject to amendment, except as provided by section 13 of House Resolution 723, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question.

During consideration of the bill for amendment, the Chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees may offer up to 10 pro forma amendments each at any point for the purpose of debate.

AMENDMENTS EN BLOC OFFERED BY MR. JOYCE OF OHIO

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, pursuant to House Resolution 723, I offer amendments en bloc.

The CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendments en bloc.

Amendments en bloc consisting of amendment Nos. 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35,

36, and 37 printed in part B of House Report 118-216, offered by Mr. JOYCE of Ohio:

AMENDMENT NO. 1 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT OF COLORADO

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 56, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 4 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$2,000,000)”.

Page 21, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,000,000)”.

Page 21, line 10, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$2,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 5 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$3,000,000)”.

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$3,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 7 OFFERED BY MS. LOIS FRANKEL OF FLORIDA

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 9 OFFERED BY MRS. WAGNER OF MISSOURI

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert “(decreased by \$27,500,000)”.

Page 15, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$24,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 12 OFFERED BY MRS. KIM OF CALIFORNIA

Page 4, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$5,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 7, after the first dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$5,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 14 OFFERED BY MR. GOTTHEIMER OF NEW JERSEY

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 15 OFFERED BY MR. GROTHMAN OF WISCONSIN

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 16 OFFERED BY MR. PENCE OF INDIANA

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 17 OFFERED BY MRS. WAGNER OF MISSOURI

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$1) (reduced by \$1)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 18 OFFERED BY MRS. TRAHAN OF MASSACHUSETTS

Page 13, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 20 OFFERED BY MR. VASQUEZ OF NEW MEXICO

Page 14, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 21 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO OF NEW YORK

Page 18, line 12, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 22 OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN OF PENNSYLVANIA

Page 27, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 30 OFFERED BY MR. MENENDEZ OF NEW JERSEY

Page 41, line 9, insert after the first dollar amount the following: “(reduced by \$1,000,000, increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 31 OFFERED BY MR. GOTTHEIMER OF NEW JERSEY

Page 42, line 7, after the first dollar amount insert “(reduced by \$1,000,000) (increased by \$1,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 32 OFFERED BY MR. MOLINARO OF NEW YORK

Page 42, line 7, after the first dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 33 OFFERED BY MR. TONY GONZALES OF TEXAS

Page 42, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 21, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 42, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 56, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 34 OFFERED BY MR. PASCRELL OF NEW JERSEY

Page 42, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 14, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 44, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 56, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 35 OFFERED BY MR. PASCRELL OF NEW JERSEY

Page 42, line 20, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 43, line 13, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$20,000,000)”.

Page 43, line 16, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 43, line 18, after the dollar amount, insert “(increased by \$10,000,000)”.

Page 56, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$20,000,000)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 36 OFFERED BY MR. ROSE OF TENNESSEE

Page 44, line 6, strike “\$2,000,000” and insert “\$5,000,000”.

AMENDMENT NO. 37 OFFERED BY MR. BUCHANAN OF FLORIDA

Page 46, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert “(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)”.

The CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CUELLAR) each will control 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, this bipartisan en bloc amendment before you is comprised of 23 amendments offered by my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

This en bloc contains proposals that would strengthen the underlying bill, and I want to highlight just a few.

The en bloc will provide additional funding to bolster investigations for exploited children with Secret Service and Homeland Security Investigations.

It will increase the nonintrusive inspection equipment at CBP ports of entry to improve detection of fentanyl and other opioids that plague communities across our country.

It would also increase funding for FEMA grant programs, for firefighters and other first responders, and for physical security for nonprofit organizations at risk of terrorist attack.

Lastly, I want to highlight a proposal that would strengthen our National Urban Search and Rescue Response System.

I was on the ground in Maui last month and learned firsthand the critical role these teams play in saving lives and protecting communities in the immediate aftermath of a disaster.

The base bill includes a modest increase for this program, but I strongly support the proposal to further increase funds for this force-multiplying Federal asset.

Again, I thank my colleagues for their participation in this process, and I urge Members to support this bipartisan en bloc.

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I support this en bloc amendment. It contains a series of bipartisan amendments in support of the Members' priorities on both sides. This is the way we ought to do it—bipartisan. Certainly, I have no objection, and I encourage adoption of this amendment because it supports shared priorities, including counter fentanyl detention, Border Patrol checkpoints and ports of entry, investigations for missing and exploited children, and more technology for the frontline officers and agents.

Mr. Chair, I support this en bloc, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER).

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I thank the chairman for yielding, and I thank the ranking member for his support of this amendment also.

Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my amendment, which has been included in the bipartisan en bloc for the Department of Homeland Security appropriations bill.

Last year, there were over 32 million reports of online child sexual abuse material previously referred to as "child pornography."

That is an 89 percent increase since 2019 and equals over 87,000 reports per day of images and videos of children being raped and sexually exploited spreading across the internet.

Homeland Security Investigations, or HSI, is on the front lines fighting to locate and rescue these vulnerable children and apprehend their abusers.

My amendment would ensure that HSI receives the fully offset \$24 million that they requested to investigate these unconscionable crimes.

Mr. Chair, Congress must do more to reverse this horrific trend, and I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the distinguished ranking member of the Financial Services and General Government Subcommittee.

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chair, the chairman has indicated he supports this en bloc amendment, and I support that, as well. I do not support the bill.

I want to speak on the bill, and I rise today to speak against the majority's inability or unwillingness to govern—take your pick.

Republicans have had 9 months to pass all their spending bills. They passed one. Now they are struggling to pass the rest 96 hours before the government shuts down.

It is the theater of the absurd. They did not merely sit on their hands, they actively slowed down this process with manufactured debt-limit crises, an illegitimate impeachment inquiry, and the meaningless messaging bills that will never become law.

Wasting our time with these pointless proposals is not just inept, irresponsible, and idiotic, it is dangerous. It is costly. It is unwarranted.

This bill is supposed to be about Homeland Security. We can have a legitimate debate about that.

Instead, however, this bill, this entire process makes our Nation less secure and for what? A laundry list of far-right poison pills that prevent Congress from addressing the challenges at hand.

How much time is spent on these pointless, negative, and unacceptable provisions of these bills, other than what these bills actually are supposed to do?

Do we want to pad the ego of some extreme rightwing Members or pay the border agents and servicemembers who protect America?

Do we indulge in petulant tantrums or uphold our oath of office?

Do we want to help the partisan fringe secure a segment on Newsmax or keep our government functioning for the people?

A shutdown isn't a cudgel to score political points. It is a consequence of failed governance that should be avoided at all costs.

Republicans, the majority of whom do not want this path to be followed, should say no.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chair, I believe the majority of the Republicans don't want to go down this path, but I say to the majority of Republicans: Shut them up. Let's work in a bipartisan manner. We will have an overwhelming vote as we did with the debt limit. Over 300 of us voted to do the rational, necessary thing. We could do that again. How sad that we are not doing it.

Republicans ought to have learned by now after shutting down the Federal Government for 81 days since 1995, costing the American people billions of dollars and the confidence of the American people and our allies abroad. I fear they are about to add to that shameful tally.

The CHAIR. The time of the gentleman has again expired.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield an additional 30 seconds to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chair, I urge Republicans to work with us to pass a clean continuing resolution just as MITCH MCCONNELL and 26 Republicans did yesterday.

Now, they haven't gotten it to us yet. There is one Republican holding it up.

Stop holding America hostage. Start holding your members accountable.

Govern as if Americans are depending upon us because they are.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I believe we are on the bipartisan en bloc amendment.

To that point, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. WAGNER) for an encore performance on another amendment.

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of my amendment to direct Customs and Border Protection to eliminate the serious delay in the Trusted Traveler Program application processing time, known as Global Entry.

I have heard from so many frustrated constituents who have paid for Global Entry, a \$100 up front processing fee that is not cheap only to wait months in some cases for CBP to approve them for an interview. Those who succeed in getting to that point are finding that there simply are no interview slots available.

Today, Global Entry processing time averages 11 months. This is utterly unacceptable.

My amendment will direct CBP to do its job and get the situation and backlog under control.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. LOIS FRANKEL).

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of my bipartisan amendment supporting the Department of Homeland Security implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security Act, which was passed in 2017.

Relevant to our debate today, that bill recognizes that women bear the brunt of harm during disasters, and importantly, they can play an essential role in responding and preventing them.

Whether it is a hurricane, a flood, a fire, a refugee seeking asylum, evidence shows that women are more often vulnerable during disasters and crises that the Department responds to, and sadly, there is more gender-based violence and often more responsibility for care put on women to provide for their families.

Our amendment ensures that gender perspectives are included in DHS' responses to crises to ensure that the needs of women and their families are met, they have the resources they need to recover, and ensure that DHS is taking steps to prevent these outcomes in the first place.

It also recognizes the impact of women's participation. The amendment supports efforts to increase the number of women in law enforcement, senior DHS leadership, including staffing, programming, research, and department-wide training.

When women are at the table where decisions are made and on the ground to prevent and respond to disasters, outcomes are better for women and for their communities.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ).

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Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Chair, I rise today to advocate for the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards program, often referred to as CFATS, and in support of my amendment included in the en bloc to improve training for the facility inspectors who advance this critical work.

Since 2007, CFATS has helped thousands of sensitive chemical facilities strengthen their security posture and reduce onsite risks.

I am particularly invested in the CFATS program because there are four facilities covered by the program in New Jersey's Eighth Congressional District, which is also home to what homeland security experts call the 2 most dangerous miles in America.

For my constituents, it is vitally important to ensure that these facilities, their workers, and surrounding communities are adequately protected.

Two months ago, this Chamber passed a reauthorization of the CFATS program to prevent its lapse at the end of July. Unfortunately, our colleagues in the Senate have not advanced this critical national security priority, and the CFATS program has lapsed.

We are no longer able to inspect the more than 3,000 high-risk chemical facilities covered by this program, enforce security measures at those facilities, or vet individuals who are seeking to access dangerous chemicals.

It is also critical that the CFATS program is fully funded. My amendment supports robust CFATS funding, particularly for improved and regular training of facility inspectors.

This amendment builds on my earlier work on the Committee on Homeland Security to update the CFATS program and improve training for facility inspectors.

Our facility inspectors deserve our full support so that they can do their best work to keep us safe. I will continue to fight for this funding as we move forward in the appropriations process.

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

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN).

Mr. GROTHMAN. Mr. Chair, first of all, one comment on the people who are more likely to be victims of violence in a natural disaster. Just doing a quick Google search, I noticed that 80 percent of the murder victims in this country are men. Maybe the men are getting killed when the weather is good. I don't know.

In any event, as chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, the Border, and Foreign Affairs, I have had the opportunity to go down to the border several times. It amazes me what a good job dogs do at detecting drugs coming across our southern border. They are not only able to detect drugs. They also detect explosives, money, and even human beings being trafficked or smuggled.

We wonder, if canine units are so effective, why not expand their use along the southern border? To find the answer to this question, my amendment in this en bloc would express the need for a study on the expanded use of canine units along the southern border.

Mr. Chair, I would appreciate it if that amendment was included.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I yield 1 minute to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ), the distinguished ranking member of the Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I rise to express grave concern that the majority has included in the Homeland Security appropriations bill a cut to the Nonprofit Security Grant Program. In the face of the grave and significant threats against nonprofit organizations across this country, rising threats toward religious and other nonprofit institutions, these cuts will likely have a profound impact on the safety of our community across the country and in Florida and our community in particular.

We strive to foster an open and safe environment in our communities and our houses of worship, in line with the core value of welcoming the stranger.

According to the Department of Homeland Security, the FBI, and the CTC, faith-based institutions are more susceptible to attacks by violent extremists due to their symbolism, perceived lack of security, and accessible locations.

We are going in the wrong direction in this bill, and the amendment to increase the amount of funding provided for nonprofit security grants is critical. At a time of increased vulnerability to threats of hate-motivated violence by domestic extremists, the House should be significantly increasing funding for religious institutions and at-risk nonprofit organizations,

not cutting them and putting more people at risk. Shame on us if we don't increase the bottom-line number for nonprofit security grants.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, this is a bipartisan amendment. I support it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR (Mr. DESJARLAIS). The question is on the amendments en bloc offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. JOYCE).

The en bloc amendments were agreed to.

The Acting CHAIR. The Chair understands that amendment No. 2 will not be offered.

The Chair understands that amendment No. 6 will not be offered.

AMENDMENT NO. 8 OFFERED BY MR. SANTOS

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 8 printed in part B of House Report 118-216.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk as the designee of Mr. NEHLS of Texas.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

Page 3, line 16, after the first dollar amount, insert "(decreased by \$39,860,000)".

Page 15, line 9, after the first dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$34,860,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Chair, my amendment would reestablish the Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement Office, also known as the VOICE office, within the Department of Homeland Security.

In 2017, President Donald J. Trump, the greatest President of my lifetime, established the VOICE office. Its mission was to provide support for the victims and family members of crimes committed by illegal aliens, also known as angel families, and to hold criminal illegal aliens accountable for these heinous actions.

American citizens should never have to pay the consequences of Biden's open border policies. Sadly, angel families are becoming far too common.

Just a couple of weeks ago, a criminal illegal alien murdered yet another American citizen in the State of Texas. The family of this American would have had access to the critical services that the VOICE office offered, but by the stroke of a pen, the Biden administration converted the VOICE office in 2021 to instead help criminal illegal aliens.

Let me repeat that, Mr. Chair. An office intended to help families who had fallen victim to criminal illegal aliens, individuals who should have never been here in the first place, is now helping those very same criminals.

Secretary Mayorkas himself said: "All people, regardless of their immigration status, should be able to access victim services without fear," at U.S. tax dollar expense.

What part of America First do Democrats not understand, Mr. Chair?

When the VOICE office was fully operational, it assisted thousands of angel families, connected them to crucial services, and worked to hold criminal illegal aliens accountable for their heinous actions.

It is a shame that the VOICE office must exist, but until the Biden border crisis and full-scale release of criminal aliens are stopped, angel families need this support.

To my Democrat colleagues, mark my words: If you haven't already, you or someone you know will reap the consequences of an open border, and you will wish you had the support offered by the VOICE office.

Mr. Chair, I hope my colleagues across the aisle will start to put America first.

Mr. Chair, I urge adoption of my amendment, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment.

There are already avenues for victims of crime to engage with both the Department of Homeland Security's Victims Engagement and Services Line or the Department of Justice's Office of Victims of Crime. The Department of Homeland Security has protection for victims, and the Department of Justice also has the Office of Victims of Crime.

This office would be duplicative of those efforts and would be a waste of taxpayer dollars. We are doing that already. Frankly, when you say this, you are basically taking the position that crime only occurs when you have a migrant.

The stats do not support this conclusion. In fact, the Department of Justice released a study in 2020 and found that undocumented immigrants had substantially lower crime rates than native-born citizens and legal immigrants across the range of felony offenses.

I don't care where the attack came from. I want to support the victims. I want to support the victims, and that is what the Department of Justice's Office of Victims of Crime does. Let's support that office and provide it more funding.

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

Mr. SANTOS. Mr. Chair, as my colleague said, we already have the service, and it is supported. The problem that I find is taking this office and converting it into a mechanism to support the same people we were supposed to give refuge to our victims from.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleague to come clean, come to the table, and tell the American people why he opposes

funding another office to help victims on a very targeted basis instead of funding the office to actually go help the people who are causing harm and the purpose of why the office was established.

Mr. Chair, I find it troubling that we can't simply put America first when it comes down to discussing it with the other side of the aisle. It is a sad day for America, and it is very unfortunate that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle don't see the necessity to protect angel families.

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment. Again, the Department of Justice Office of Victims of Crime supports everybody. They don't ask you where the crime came in. They will support you. This office would be duplicative of those efforts and would be a waste of taxpayer dollars. Let the Victims Engagement and Services Line office and the Office of Victims of Crime do their job. Let's make sure that they get the support.

Mr. Chair, I oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. SANTOS).

The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 10 OFFERED BY MR. MCCORMICK

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 10 printed in part B of House Report 118-216.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 3, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert "(increased by \$10,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. MCCORMICK) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

Mr. MCCORMICK. Mr. Chair, I rise to offer amendment No. 10 to H.R. 4367, the Homeland Security appropriations bill for fiscal year 2024.

Amendment No. 10 will increase the amount of funds withheld from the Office of the Secretary of DHS if it does not submit the "State of the Border" report and the report on detention facilities by the designated time required by law.

Agencies have a strong and problematic tendency to ignore or loosely follow congressionally mandated reports. This amendment would put pressure on DHS to provide these reports in a timely manner.

With the ongoing crisis at the U.S.-Mexico border, it is vital that Congress receives accurate and up-to-date information from the agencies.

A cornerstone of any Nation is its boundaries. A border defines where one government ends and another begins. It

denotes the separation between two distinct peoples, cultures, and languages. Without a border, we have no nation, no sovereignty.

In the first half of September alone—that is only 2 weeks—U.S. border authorities had more than 142,000 encounters at the U.S.-Mexico border. Fentanyl seizures at the border increased 164 percent from 2020 to 2022. This year, there have been over 21,000 pounds of fentanyl confiscated. We have had over 110,000 overdose deaths just this last year.

As an ER doctor who treated overdoses every shift last year, and somebody who could not revive four of my patients from an overdose, I take this very personally.

This isn't the only public health consequence of an open border. Whether it is tuberculosis, measles, COVID, which many of the members from the opposing party seem to be so concerned about, there is no way to ensure that those who are crossing the border do not bring these diseases into our country. This doesn't even address the chronic problems such as congestive heart failure, emphysema, kidney failure, cancer, which these patients will come to the ER for and you will wait behind them in order to pay their bills.

The Biden administration has ignored the rule of law and refused to secure our border. Not only will President Biden not do what is necessary to stop the flow of migrants and drugs but encourages problems by using humanitarian parole as a loophole to bring in up to 30,000 migrants each month from Central and South America.

Many of those individuals crossing the border are coming to make a better life for themselves. However, too many of them have ties to terrorist organizations and dangerous criminal cartels.

Worst yet, the Biden administration has lost count of 85,000 children. Our open border is giving the child exploitation industry a huge boost.

We must secure the southern border. This is not just a bipartisan problem and not just a bicameral problem. It is an American problem.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support amendment No. 10 for better accountability of DHS to provide Congress with the information needed to make the right decisions for America.

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

I understand what my colleague is talking about. We do want to make sure that we address border issues, but we have to make sure that we address it in the right way.

I will talk about the report. In fact, I will be happy to tell you that I also get frustrated sometimes when we don't get the reports, and I will be happy to work with you and with the chairman to get you that report.

I will tell you that in the bill already, there is a \$25 million hold for this report. If you add another \$10 million, does that make the pain more painful?

Keep in mind that this account doesn't just fund bureaucracy. It also funds suicide prevention efforts and other health security measures. It funds child welfare professionals for tender-age kids in DHS custody. It funds the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties also.

I also get frustrated when we don't get the report. If you add another \$30 million, another \$40 million, will that get you there?

You mentioned the border. Keep in mind that we are concerned, and I want to make sure that we control our border. If you want to stop drugs, as one of our colleagues said, most drugs will come in through ports of entry, but we are not putting the emphasis on ports of entry.

We need to do a lot more, more canines, more technology. If you want to look at the people who are illegally here, I remind everybody that the number one violator for visa overstays, which have been millions over the years, has been Canada. I don't hear any of you talking about putting a wall between the U.S. and Canada. I say that because, again, we have to be smart on how we address it.

I invite you down to the border. I love when people come in and spend a few hours. I live there, and I will tell you, I will take the biggest cities in your State—I would say if you take Atlanta and, on the border, I take Laredo, murder, rape, and assault, we have lower crime rates than the city, per 100,000. If you look at the national crime rate for murders, the border crime rate is lower.

We have to look at crime as one issue and then look at migration. I am with you. I hate open borders. I want to make sure that we work together, but we have to do this in a bipartisan way.

I feel their frustration. There are some reports I wish we could get faster. I will work with them and the chairman to get this report to them.

Mr. Chair, for those reasons, I oppose this amendment, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. McCORMICK. Mr. Chair, I understand that he would get us the report. I want a timely report, an accurate report, and I want it as we agreed.

The one thing we have noticed is that agencies react very well when we take away their money when they don't do what they are supposed to do.

We cannot make the right decisions and the right arguments in front of the American public unless we have complete and accurate information.

This is just another tool to encourage the agency to do what they are already obligated to do for us anyway. That should be a bipartisan appeal to do the right thing and to be punished if they do the wrong thing.

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

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. McCORMICK). The amendment was agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 11 OFFERED BY MR. ARRINGTON

The Acting CHAIR. It is now in order to consider amendment No. 11 printed in part B of House Report 118-216.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment at the desk.

The Acting CHAIR. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Page 4, line 9, after the dollar amount, insert "(reduced by \$10,000,000) (increased by \$10,000,000)".

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to House Resolution 723, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON) and a Member opposed each will control 5 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Chair, I rise to offer an amendment to this appropriations for Homeland Security where we would include H. Res. 50, which affirms every sovereign State's right to self-defense.

In the face of this unprecedented and unmitigated humanitarian and security crisis, States do not have to be a passive victim of a failed Federal Government.

The Federal Government has failed because our Commander in Chief has failed to do his first and most important job, provide for the common defense. He has also failed to uphold the laws of the land. In fact, title 8 of the U.S. Code says that no other citizen can induce people to break the law, says that you can't harbor people who have broken the law. In fact, it goes on to say that if you are doing that, you are aiding and abetting lawbreaking.

I believe this administration has aided and abetted what I believe is an invasion by drug cartels pushing their poison into our country, my State, and our communities, killing our family and friends at hundreds per day. It is the leading cause of death in this country.

We have a President and a Homeland Security Secretary with the audacity to say that this border is under operational control of the Department of Homeland Security of these great United States.

Baloney. Nobody believes it.

I just got back from Eagle Pass. The chaos and lawlessness have never burned hotter. The people of those border towns have never felt more abandoned.

It is shameful that a country as great as the United States of America would surrender control of our border to paramilitary terrorist cartels.

Here is the good news. Here is the saving grace for Texas and every State in this country. They have the constitutional power of self-defense, and it is explicit and crystal clear in the Constitution.

The Federal Government didn't create the States. The sovereign States

created the Federal Government. They made darn sure that in a situation like this, when the Federal Government failed in its obligation to repel an invasion, they would maintain the authority to defend their border and their citizens from this chaos and the criminal elements that are just deluging our great Lone Star State.

Article IV, Section 4, is the obligation of the Federal Government to repel an invasion for each and every State. Article I, Section 10, is clear: If there is an actual invasion or there is imminent danger such that will not permit delay.

Now, I want my Democrat colleagues to explain to me why the current conditions at the southern border, on account of this administration's failures, is not imminent danger to the citizens of Texas such that will not permit delay.

I stand with Governor Abbott and State leaders all along the southern border and everywhere in this country. Stand up, fill the gap, enforce the laws, deport, detain, secure the border, and for God's sake, protect the citizens of Texas and all the good people of this country and restore law and order.

We welcome the immigrant who wants a better life. We welcome the immigrant who wants a better future for their family, but we will only welcome those who respect our laws, our sovereignty, and the safety of the American people.

That is where I stand, Mr. Chair, and I can do no other, say no other. I am going to stand on that until we get a change up here in Washington or we have all resources deployed to do the job the Federal Government just apparently will not do on account, I believe, of a President who would rather placate and appease a fringe group in his party than prioritize the safety of the American people.

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

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I claim the time in opposition to the amendment.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Chair, I rise respectfully in opposition to this amendment.

The U.S. Constitution grants the Federal Government the sole authority to control immigration and secure the national borders.

I would say that if we would do this in partnership, working with the State and local government, like we do with the program that we started called Stonegarden where we provide funding, that would be the way to do it. Unfortunately, there are some States that want to go solo on doing certain things.

Let me give you an explanation. When the Governor from the State of Texas put out the buoys, those buoys were less than a quarter of a mile for a river that is 1,200 miles. Less than a quarter of a mile for a river that is 1,200 miles long is like putting a postage stamp in the middle of a football

field to stop a running back from crossing the 1-yard line.

The second thing is, when the Governor has talked about stopping every truck like he is doing, what he is doing is—he said he is inspecting every truck. I used to do the budget for the DPS. The only thing they can do is check license plates, driver's licenses, or the brakes and windshield wipers. They can't even open the trucks.

What they are doing is, in Eagle Pass, in El Paso, and other places, they are stopping millions and hundreds of millions of dollars of trade itself. Again, we want to work with the States, but you just can't go solo on this.

Again, when you say lawlessness at the border, I would say in the State of Texas, if you look at the most dangerous cities that we have, none of them are on the border. I am not going to name any of my Texas cities, but they are the big urban areas, per 100,000, where murder, rape, and assault are a lot higher than at the border. Again, the border is safe when we talk about crime.

On the issue of migration, I am with you. We need to have repercussions, but we need to put money outside the 1-yard line and put it on the 20-yard line and work with other countries.

In fact, when you look at 2015, when President Obama had the numbers go down, it was because Mexico was stopping people. In 2019, when President Trump was taking credit for stopping the numbers and having the lowest crossings, do you know why? Because we got Mexico to do its job on the southern border.

Again, we can either play defense on the 1-yard line or we can play defense on the 20-yard line, and we have to look at this and how we address it.

If you want to talk about crime, look at the big urban cities. Do we want to make sure we secure the border? I am with you. We have to have repercussions. We have to make sure that we play defense outside the 1-yard line, but we can't have a State go solo.

They want to work with us? My brother was a DPS officer for 27 years. I want to make sure that they work with us hand in hand, and Stonegarden does that where we provide money to the cities, counties, and States.

We are on the same page. We are just looking at this in a very different way.

My good friend from my State of Texas, I am with him. I just oppose this particular amendment.

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

□ 1630

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Chair, may I inquire as to how much time is remaining.

The Acting CHAIR. The gentleman from Texas has 15 seconds remaining.

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Chair, I love HENRY CUELLAR, and I couldn't disagree more. More is said than done in this town. Ain't nothing getting done on the border.

Texas, do your job. The Constitution is behind you, and so am I. God bless, and go, West Texas.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The Acting CHAIR. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ARRINGTON).

The amendment was agreed to.

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Mr. Chair, I move that the Committee do now rise. The motion was agreed to.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DESJARLAIS) having assumed the chair, Mr. MURPHY, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4367), making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, had come to no resolution thereon.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 723 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4368.

Will the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. MURPHY) kindly resume the chair.

□ 1630

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4368), with Mr. MURPHY (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose on the legislative day of Tuesday, September 26, 2023, a request for a recorded vote on amendment no. 102 printed in part F of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE) had been postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in part F of House Report 118–216 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment No. 76 by Mrs. SPARTZ of Indiana.

Amendment No. 79 by Mrs. BOEBERT of Colorado.

Amendment No. 83 by Ms. HAGEMAN of Wyoming.

Amendment No. 85 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 89 by Mrs. BOEBERT of Colorado.

Amendment No. 90 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 91 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 92 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 93 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 94 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 95 by Mr. GOOD of Virginia.

Amendment No. 99 by Mr. STAUBER of Minnesota.

Amendment No. 101 by Mrs. MILLER of Illinois.

Amendment No. 102 by Mr. ROSENDALE of Montana.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for any electronic vote after the first vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 76 OFFERED BY MRS. SPARTZ

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 76, printed in part F of House Report 118–216, offered by the gentlewoman from Indiana (Mrs. SPARTZ), on which further proceedings were postponed, and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 49, noes 377, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 417]

AYES—49

Beyer	Gaetz	Norton
Biggs	Garcia (IL)	Ocasio-Cortez
Blumenauer	Good (VA)	Ogles
Boebert	Gosar	Omar
Bowman	Greene (GA)	Perry
Burchett	Hageman	Pressley
Burgess	Harris	Raskin
Clyde	Harshbarger	Rosendale
Collins	Huffman	Roy
Crane	Johnson (GA)	Santos
DeLauro	Kamlager-Dove	Schweikert
DeSaulnier	Larson (CT)	Spartz
Doggett	Lee (PA)	Tlaib
Donalds	Lieu	Van Drew
Evans	Massie	Williams (TX)
Foxx	McClintock	
Frost	Mooney	

NOES—377

Adams	Boyle (PA)	Clark (MA)
Aderholt	Brecheen	Clarke (NY)
Aguilar	Brown	Cline
Alford	Brownley	Cloud
Allen	Buchanan	Clyburn
Allred	Buck	Cohen
Amodei	Bucshon	Cole
Armstrong	Budzinski	Comer
Arrington	Burlison	Connolly
Auchincloss	Calvert	Correa
Babin	Cammack	Costa
Bacon	Caraveo	Courtney
Baird	Carbajal	Craig
Balderson	Cárdenas	Crawford
Balint	Carey	Crenshaw
Banks	Carl	Crockett
Barr	Carson	Crow
Barragán	Carter (GA)	Cuellar
Bean (FL)	Carter (LA)	Curtis
Beatty	Casas	D'Esposito
Bentz	Case	Daids (KS)
Bera	Casten	Davidson
Bergman	Castor (FL)	Davis (IL)
Bice	Castro (TX)	Davis (NC)
Bilirakis	Chavez-DeRemer	De La Cruz
Bishop (GA)	Cherfilus-	Dean (PA)
Bishop (NC)	McCormick	DeGette
Blunt	Chu	DeBene
Rochester	Ciscomani	Deluzio
Bonamici		

DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee

Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luttrell
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Moylan
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Pallone
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Khanna
Posey
Quigley
Radewagen

Ramirez
Reschenthaler
Kim (CA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Titus
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Duyn
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Wilson (FL)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NOT VOTING—13

Bost
Bush
Carter (TX)
Cartwright
Cleaver
González-Colón
Luetkemeyer
Luna
McHenry
Owens

Peltola
Pence
Scalise

□ 1658

Messrs. GREEN of Tennessee, GIMENEZ, ARRINGTON, Ms. LEE of Nevada, and Mr. PALMER changed their vote from “aye” to “no.”

Ms. TLAIB, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, and Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania changed their vote from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 79 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 79, printed in part F of House Report 118-216 offered by the gentlewoman from Colorado (Mrs. BOEBERT), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 210, noes 216, not voting 13, as follows:

[Roll No. 418]

AYES—210

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brecheen
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw

Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Flood
Foa
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Gonzales, Tony
González-Colón
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Grothman

Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis

Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Moylan
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles

Owens
Palmer
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Santos
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel

Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyn
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NOES—216

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)

Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano

Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Radewagen
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas

Vasquez Waters Wilson (FL)
Veasey Watson Coleman Wilson (SC)
Velázquez Wexton
Wasserman Wild
Schultz Williams (GA)

NOT VOTING—13

Bost Griffith Pence
Bush Luetkemeyer Phillips
Carter (TX) Luna Scalise
Cartwright McHenry
Cleaver Peltola

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1703

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 83 OFFERED BY MS. HAGEMAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 83, printed in
part F of House Report 118–216 offered
by the gentlewoman from Wyoming
(Ms. HAGEMAN), on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 97, noes 336,
not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 419]

AYES—97

Armstrong Gonzales, Tony Moylan
Barr Good (VA) Murphy
Bean (FL) Gosar Nunn (IA)
Bentz Graves (MO) Ogles
Biggs Greene (GA) Palmer
Bishop (NC) Grothman Perry
Boebert Hageman Pingree
Bost Harris Radewagen
Brecheen Harshbarger Rosendale
Burchett Hern Roy
Burlison Higgins (LA) Santos
Carey Hunt Smith (MO)
Carl Issa Smith (NE)
Casar Johnson (LA) Smith (NJ)
Cline Johnson (SD) Smucker
Cloud Jordan Spartz
Collins Joyce (PA) Stauber
Comer Kelly (MS) Stefanik
Crane Kelly (PA) Steube
Davidson Kiggans (VA) Strong
Donalds LaMalfa Lamborn
Duarte Lesko Tenney
Duncan Lesko Tiffany
Feenstra Loudermilk Timmons
Ferguson Luetkemeyer Van Drew
Finstad Luttrell Van Orden
Fischbach Mace Wagner
Fitzgerald Mace Walberg
Foxy McClinton Williams (NY)
Fry McCormick Williams (TX)
Fulcher Miller (WV) Wilson (SC)
Gaetz Mills
Gallagher Mooney

NOES—336

Adams Babin Bergman
Aderholt Bacon Beyer
Aguilar Baird Bice
Alford Balderson Billakis
Allen Balint Bishop (GA)
Allred Banks Blumenauer
Amodei Barragán Blunt Rochester
Arrington Beatty Bonamici
Auchincloss Bera Bowman

Boyle (PA) Brown
Brown Brownley
Buchanan Buchanan
Buck Buchanan
Bucshon Buchanan
Budzinski Buchanan
Burgess Buchanan
Calvert Buchanan
Cammack Buchanan
Caraveo Buchanan
Carbajal Buchanan
Cárdenas Buchanan
Carson Buchanan
Carter (GA) Buchanan
Carter (LA) Buchanan
Cartwright Buchanan
Case Buchanan
Casten Buchanan
Castor (FL) Buchanan
Castro (TX) Buchanan
Chavez-DeRemer Buchanan
Cherfilus- Buchanan
McCormick Buchanan
Chu Buchanan
Ciscomani Buchanan
Clark (MA) Buchanan
Clarke (NY) Buchanan
Cleaver Buchanan
Clyburn Buchanan
Clyde Buchanan
Cohen Buchanan
Cole Buchanan
Connolly Buchanan
Correa Buchanan
Costa Buchanan
Courtney Buchanan
Craig Buchanan
Crawford Buchanan
Crenshaw Buchanan
Crockett Buchanan
Crow Buchanan
Cuellar Buchanan
Curtis Buchanan
D'Esposito Buchanan
Davids (KS) Buchanan
Davis (IL) Buchanan
Davis (NC) Buchanan
De La Cruz Buchanan
Dean (PA) Buchanan
DeGette Buchanan
DeLauro Buchanan
DelBene Buchanan
Deluzio Buchanan
DeSaulnier Buchanan
DesJarlais Buchanan
Diaz-Balart Buchanan
Dingell Buchanan
Doggett Buchanan
Dunn (FL) Buchanan
Edwards Buchanan
Elizy Buchanan
Emmer Buchanan
Escobar Buchanan
Eshoo Buchanan
Españal Buchanan
Estes Buchanan
Evans Buchanan
Ezell Buchanan
Fallon Buchanan
Fitzpatrick Buchanan
Fleischmann Buchanan
Fletcher Buchanan
Flood Buchanan
Foster Buchanan
Foushee Buchanan
Frankel, Lois Buchanan
Franklin, C. Buchanan
Scott Buchanan
Frost Buchanan
Gallego Buchanan
Garamendi Buchanan
Garbarino Buchanan
Garcia (IL) Buchanan
Garcia (TX) Buchanan
Garcia, Mike Buchanan
Garcia, Robert Buchanan
Gimenez Buchanan
Golden (ME) Buchanan
Goldman (NY) Buchanan
Gomez Buchanan
Gonzalez, Buchanan
Vicente Buchanan
González-Colón Buchanan
Gooden (TX) Buchanan
Gottheimer Buchanan
Granger Buchanan
Graves (LA) Buchanan
Green (TN) Buchanan

Green, Al (TX) Buchanan
Griffith Buchanan
Grijalva Buchanan
Guest Buchanan
Guthrie Buchanan
Harder (CA) Buchanan
Hayes Buchanan
Higgins (NY) Buchanan
Hill Buchanan
Himes Buchanan
Hinson Buchanan
Horsford Buchanan
Houchin Buchanan
Houlahan Buchanan
Hoyer Buchanan
Hoyle (OR) Buchanan
Hudson Buchanan
Huffman Buchanan
Huizenga Buchanan
Ivey Buchanan
Jackson (IL) Buchanan
Jackson (NC) Buchanan
Jackson (TX) Buchanan
Jackson Lee Buchanan
Jacobs Buchanan
James Buchanan
Jayapal Buchanan
Jeffries Buchanan
Johnson (GA) Buchanan
Johnson (OH) Buchanan
Joyce (OH) Buchanan
Kamlager-Dove Buchanan
Kaptur Buchanan
Kean (NJ) Buchanan
Keating Buchanan
Kelly (IL) Buchanan
Khanna Buchanan
Kildee Buchanan
Kiley Buchanan
Kilmer Buchanan
Kim (CA) Buchanan
Kim (NJ) Buchanan
Krishnamoorthi Buchanan
Kuster Buchanan
Kustoff Buchanan
LaHood Buchanan
LaLota Buchanan
Landsman Buchanan
Langworthy Buchanan
Larsen (WA) Buchanan
Larson (CT) Buchanan
Latta Buchanan
LaTurner Buchanan
Lawler Buchanan
Lee (CA) Buchanan
Lee (FL) Buchanan
Lee (NV) Buchanan
Lee (PA) Buchanan
Leger Fernandez Buchanan
Letlow Buchanan
Levin Buchanan
Lieu Buchanan
Lofgren Buchanan
Lucas Buchanan
Lynch Buchanan
Magaziner Buchanan
Malliotakis Buchanan
Mann Buchanan
Manning Buchanan
Mast Buchanan
Matsui Buchanan
McBath Buchanan
McCarthy Buchanan
McCaul Buchanan
McClain Buchanan
McClellan Buchanan
McCollum Buchanan
McGarvey Buchanan
McGovern Buchanan
McHenry Buchanan
Meeks Buchanan
Menendez Buchanan
Meng Buchanan
Meuser Buchanan
Mfume Buchanan
Miller (IL) Buchanan
Miller (OH) Buchanan
Miller-Meeks Buchanan
Molinaro Buchanan
Moolenaar Buchanan
Moore (AL) Buchanan
Moore (UT) Buchanan
Moore (WI) Buchanan
Moran Buchanan
Morelle Buchanan
Moskowitz Buchanan
Moulton Buchanan
Mrvan Buchanan
Mullin Buchanan

Nadler Buchanan
Napolitano Buchanan
Neal Buchanan
Neguse Buchanan
Nehls Buchanan
Newhouse Buchanan
Nickel Buchanan
Norcross Buchanan
Norman Buchanan
Norton Buchanan
Obernolte Buchanan
Ocasio-Cortez Buchanan
Omar Buchanan
Owens Buchanan
Pallone Buchanan
Panetta Buchanan
Pappas Buchanan
Pascrell Buchanan
Payne Buchanan
Pelosi Buchanan
Perez Buchanan
Peters Buchanan
Pettersen Buchanan
Pfluger Buchanan
Phillips Buchanan
Plaskett Buchanan
Pocan Buchanan
Porter Buchanan
Posey Buchanan
Pressley Buchanan
Quigley Buchanan
Ramirez Buchanan
Raskin Buchanan
Reschenthaler Buchanan
Rodgers (WA) Buchanan
Rogers (AL) Buchanan
Rogers (KY) Buchanan
Rose Buchanan
Ross Buchanan
Rouzer Buchanan
Ruiz Buchanan
Ruppersberger Buchanan
Rutherford Buchanan
Ryan Buchanan
Sablan Buchanan
Salazar Buchanan
Salinas Buchanan
Sánchez Buchanan
Sarbanes Buchanan
Scanlon Buchanan
Schakowsky Buchanan
Schiff Buchanan
Schneider Buchanan
Scholten Buchanan
Schrier Buchanan
Schweikert Buchanan
Scott (VA) Buchanan
Scott, Austin Buchanan
Scott, David Buchanan
Self Buchanan
Sessions Buchanan
Sewell Buchanan
Sherman Buchanan
Sherrill Buchanan
Simpson Buchanan
Slotkin Buchanan
Smith (WA) Buchanan
Sorensen Buchanan
Soto Buchanan
Spanberger Buchanan
Stansbury Buchanan
Stanton Buchanan
Steel Buchanan
Steil Buchanan
Stevens Buchanan
Strickland Buchanan
Swalwell Buchanan
Sykes Buchanan
Takano Buchanan
Thanedar Buchanan
Thompson (CA) Buchanan
Thompson (MS) Buchanan
Thompson (PA) Buchanan
Titus Buchanan
Tlaib Buchanan
Tokuda Buchanan
Tonko Buchanan
Torres (CA) Buchanan
Torres (NY) Buchanan
Trahan Buchanan
Trone Buchanan
Turner Buchanan
Underwood Buchanan
Valadao Buchanan
Van Duyn Buchanan
Vargas Buchanan
Vasquez Buchanan
Veasey Buchanan
Velázquez Buchanan

Waltz Buchanan
Wasserman Buchanan
Schultz Buchanan
Waters Buchanan
Watson Coleman Buchanan
Weber (TX) Buchanan
Webster (FL) Buchanan
Wenstrup Buchanan
Westerman Buchanan
Wexton Buchanan
Wild Buchanan
Williams (GA) Buchanan

NOT VOTING—6

Bush Luna Pence
Carter (TX) Peltola Scalise

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1706

Mrs. RADEWAGEN changed her vote
from “no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 85 OFFERED BY MR. GOOD OF VIRGINIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 85, printed in
part F of House Report 118–216 offered
by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr.
GOOD), on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the ayes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 152, noes 278,
not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 420]

AYES—152

Aderholt Fitzgerald Lesko
Alford Flood Loudermilk
Babin Foxx Luetkemeyer
Barr Franklin, C. Luttrell
Bean (FL) Scott Malliotakis
Bentz Fry Mann
Bergman Fulcher Massie
Bice Gaetz Mast
Biggs Gallagher McCarthy
Bishop (NC) Garcia, Mike McCaul
Boebert Gimenez McClain
Bost Gonzales, Tony McClintock
Brecheen Good (VA) McCormick
Buck Gooden (TX) McHenry
Burchett Gosar Meuser
Burlison Granger Miller (IL)
Cammack Graves (LA) Miller (OH)
Carey Graves (MO) Miller (WV)
Carl Green (TN) Mills
Cline Greene (GA) Moolenaar
Cloud Grothman Mooney
Clyde Guest Moore (AL)
Collins Hageman Moran
Comer Harris Murphy
Crane Harshbarger Nehls
Crawford Hern Norman
Davidson Higgins (LA) Nunn (IA)
De La Cruz Hill Ogles
DesJarlais Houchin Palmer
Diaz-Balart Hudson Perry
Donalds Huizenga Posey
Duarte Hunt Reschenthaler
Duncan Issa Rogers (AL)
Dunn (FL) Jackson (TX) Rose
Ellzey Johnson (LA) Rosendale
Emmer Johnson (SD) Rouzer
Estes Jordan Roy
Ezell Joyce (PA) Rutherford
Fallon Kelly (MS) Santos
Feenstra LaHood Scott, Austin
Ferguson LaMalfa Self
Finstad Lamborn Sessions
Fischbach Langworthy Smith (MO)

Smith (NJ)	Thompson (PA)	Wenstrup	Vasquez	Wasserman	Wild	McClain	Pfluger	Steil
Smucker	Tiffany	Westerman	Veasey	Schultz	Williams (GA)	McClintock	Posey	Steube
Spartz	Timmons	Williams (NY)	Velázquez	Waters	Wilson (FL)	McCormick	Radewagen	Strong
Stauber	Van Drew	Williams (TX)	Wagner	Watson Coleman	Womack	McHenry	Reschenthaler	Tenney
Stefanik	Van Duyne	Wilson (SC)	Walberg	Wexton		Meuser	Rodgers (WA)	Thompson (PA)
Steube	Waltz	Wittman				Miller (IL)	Rogers (AL)	Tiffany
Strong	Weber (TX)	Yakym				Miller (OH)	Rogers (KY)	Timmons
Tenney	Webster (FL)	Zinke				Miller (WV)	Rose	Turner
			Bush	Luna	Phillips	Miller-Meeks	Rosendale	Valadao
			Carter (TX)	Peltola	Scalise	Mills	Rouzer	Van Drew
			Griffith	Pence	Smith (NE)	Molinaro	Roy	Van Duyne

NOES—278

Adams	Garamendi	Moulton
Aguilar	Garbarino	Moylan
Allen	Garcia (IL)	Mrvan
Allred	Garcia (TX)	Mullin
Amodei	Garcia, Robert	Nadler
Armstrong	Golden (ME)	Napolitano
Arrington	Goldman (NY)	Neal
Auchincloss	Gomez	Neguse
Bacon	Gonzalez,	Newhouse
Baird	Vicente	Nickel
Balderson	González-Colón	Norcross
Balint	Gottheimer	Norton
Banks	Green, Al (TX)	Oberholte
Barragán	Grijalva	Ocasio-Cortez
Beatty	Guthrie	Omar
Bera	Harder (CA)	Owens
Beyer	Hayes	Pallone
Billirakis	Higgins (NY)	Panetta
Bishop (GA)	Himes	Pappas
Blumenauer	Hinson	Pascarell
Blunt Rochester	Horsford	Payne
Bonamici	Houlihan	Pelosi
Bowman	Hoyer	Perez
Boyle (PA)	Hoyle (OR)	Peters
Brown	Huffman	Pettersen
Brownley	Ivey	Pfuger
Buchanan	Jackson (IL)	Pingree
Bucshon	Jackson (NC)	Plaskett
Budzinski	Jackson Lee	Pocan
Burgess	Jacobs	Porter
Calvert	James	Pressley
Caraveo	Jayapal	Quigley
Carbajal	Jeffries	Radewagen
Cárdenas	Johnson (GA)	Ramirez
Carson	Johnson (OH)	Raskin
Carter (GA)	Joyce (OH)	Rodgers (WA)
Carter (LA)	Kamlager-Dove	Rogers (KY)
Cartwright	Kaptur	Ross
Casar	Kean (NJ)	Ruiz
Case	Keating	Ruppersberger
Casten	Kelly (IL)	Ryan
Castor (FL)	Kelly (PA)	Sablan
Castro (TX)	Khanna	Salazar
Chavez-DeRemer	Kiggans (VA)	Salinas
Cherfilus-	Kildee	Sánchez
McCormick	Kilroy	Sarbanes
Chu	Kilmer	Scanlon
Ciscomani	Kim (CA)	Schakowsky
Clark (MA)	Kim (NJ)	Schiff
Clarke (NY)	Krishnamoorthi	Schneider
Cleaver	Kuster	Scholten
Clyburn	Kustoff	Schrier
Cohen	LaLota	Schweikert
Cole	Landsman	Scott (VA)
Connolly	Larsen (WA)	Scott, David
Correa	Larson (CT)	Sewell
Costa	Latta	Sherman
Courtney	LaTurner	Sherrill
Craig	Lawler	Slotkin
Crenshaw	Lee (CA)	Smith (WA)
Crockett	Lee (FL)	Sorensen
Crow	Lee (NV)	Soto
Cuellar	Lee (PA)	Spanberger
Curtis	Leger Fernandez	Stansbury
D'Esposito	Letlow	Stanton
Davids (KS)	Levin	Steel
Davis (IL)	Lieu	Steil
Davis (NC)	Lofgren	Stevens
Dean (PA)	Lucas	Strickland
DeGette	Lynch	Swalwell
DeLauro	Mace	Sykes
DelBene	Magaziner	Takano
Deluzio	Manning	Thanedar
DeSaulnier	Matsui	Thompson (CA)
Dingell	McBath	Thompson (MS)
Doggett	McClellan	Titus
Edwards	McCollum	Tlaib
Escobar	McGarvey	Tokuda
Eshoo	McGovern	Tonko
Espallat	Meeks	Torres (CA)
Evans	Menendez	Torres (NY)
Fitzpatrick	Meng	Trahan
Fleischmann	Mfume	Trone
Fletcher	Miller-Meeks	Turner
Foster	Molinaro	Underwood
Foushee	Moore (UT)	Valadao
Frankel, Lois	Moore (WI)	Van Orden
Frost	Morelle	Vargas
Gallego	Moskowitz	

NOT VOTING—9

Bush	Luna	Phillips
Carter (TX)	Peltola	Scalise
Griffith	Pence	Smith (NE)

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1709

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 89 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 89, printed in
part F of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentlewoman from Colorado
(Mrs. BOEBERT), on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 217, noes 214,
not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 421]

AYES—217

Aderholt	Davidson	Hern
Alford	De La Cruz	Higgins (LA)
Allen	DesJarlais	Hill
Amodei	Diaz-Balart	Hinson
Armstrong	Duncan	Houchin
Arrington	Dunn (FL)	Hudson
Babin	Edwards	Huizenga
Bacon	Ellzey	Hunt
Baird	Emmer	Issa
Balderson	Estes	Jackson (TX)
Banks	Ezell	James
Barr	Fallon	Johnson (LA)
Bean (FL)	Feenstra	Johnson (OH)
Bentz	Ferguson	Johnson (SD)
Bergman	Finstad	Jordan
Bice	Fischbach	Joyce (OH)
Biggs	Fitzgerald	Joyce (PA)
Billirakis	Fleischmann	Kean (NJ)
Bishop (NC)	Flood	Kelly (MS)
Boebert	Fox	Kelly (PA)
Bost	Franklin, C.	Kiggans (VA)
Brecheen	Scott	Kiley
Buchanan	Fry	Kim (CA)
Buck	Fulcher	Kustoff
Bucshon	Gaetz	LaHood
Burchett	Gallagher	LaLota
Burgess	Garbarino	LaMalfa
Burlison	Garcia, Mike	Lamborn
Calvert	Gimenez	Langworthy
Cammack	Gonzales, Tony	Latta
Carey	González-Colón	LaTurner
Carl	Good (VA)	Lawler
Carter (GA)	Gooden (TX)	Lee (FL)
Chavez-DeRemer	Gosar	Lesko
Ciscomani	Granger	Letlow
Cline	Graves (LA)	Loudermilk
Cloud	Graves (MO)	Lucas
Clyde	Green (TN)	Luetkemeyer
Cole	Greene (GA)	Luttrell
Collins	Griffith	Mace
Comer	Grothman	Malliotakis
Crane	Guest	Mann
Crawford	Guthrie	Massie
Crenshaw	Hagman	Mast
Curtis	Harris	McCarthy
D'Esposito	Harshbarger	McCaul

NOES—214

Adams	Garcia, Robert	Norcross
Aguilar	Golden (ME)	Norton
Allred	Goldman (NY)	Ocasio-Cortez
Auchincloss	Gomez	Omar
Balint	Gonzalez,	Pallone
Barragán	Vicente	Panetta
Beatty	Gottheimer	Pappas
Bera	Green, Al (TX)	Pascarell
Beyer	Grijalva	Payne
Bishop (GA)	Harder (CA)	Pelosi
Blumenauer	Hayes	Perez
Blunt Rochester	Higgins (NY)	Peters
Bonamici	Himes	Pettersen
Bowman	Horsford	Phillips
Boyle (PA)	Houlihan	Pingree
Brown	Hoyer	Plaskett
Brownley	Hoyle (OR)	Pocan
Budzinski	Huffman	Porter
Caraveo	Ivey	Pressley
Carbajal	Jackson (IL)	Quigley
Cárdenas	Jackson (NC)	Ramirez
Carson	Jackson Lee	Raskin
Carter (LA)	Jacobs	Ross
Cartwright	Jayapal	Ruiz
Casar	Jeffries	Ruppersberger
Case	Johnson (GA)	Ryan
Casten	Kamlager-Dove	Sablan
Castor (FL)	Kaptur	Salinas
Castro (TX)	Keating	Sánchez
Cherfilus-	Kelly (IL)	Sarbanes
McCormick	Khanna	Scanlon
Chu	Kildee	Schakowsky
Clark (MA)	Kilmer	Schiff
Clarke (NY)	Kim (NJ)	Schneider
Cleaver	Krishnamoorthi	Scholten
Clyburn	Kuster	Schrier
Cohen	Landsman	Scott (VA)
Connolly	Larsen (WA)	Scott, David
Correa	Larson (CT)	Sewell
Costa	Lee (CA)	Sherman
Courtney	Lee (NV)	Sherrill
Craig	Lee (PA)	Slotkin
Crockett	Leger Fernandez	Smith (WA)
Crow	Levin	Sorensen
Cuellar	Lieu	Soto
Davids (KS)	Lofgren	Spanberger
Davis (IL)	Lynch	Stansbury
Davis (NC)	Magaziner	Stanton
Dean (PA)	Manning	Stevens
DeGette	Matsui	Strickland
DeLauro	McBath	Swalwell
DelBene	McClellan	Sykes
Deluzio	McCollum	Takano
DeSaulnier	McGarvey	Thanedar
Dingell	McGovern	Thompson (CA)
Doggett	Meeks	Thompson (MS)
Escobar	Menendez	Titus
Eshoo	Meng	Tlaib
Espallat	Mfume	Tokuda
Evans	Moore (WI)	Tonko
Fitzpatrick	Morelle	Torres (CA)
Fleischmann	Moskowitz	Torres (NY)
Fletcher	Moulton	Trahan
Foster	Mrvan	Trone
Foushee	Mullin	Underwood
Frankel, Lois	Nadler	Vargas
Frost	Napolitano	Vasquez
Gallego	Neal	Veasey
	Neguse	Velázquez
	Nickel	

Wasserman	Watson Coleman	Williams (GA)
Schultz	Wexton	Wilson (FL)
Waters	Wild	

NOT VOTING—8

Bush	Duarte	Pence
Carter (TX)	Luna	Scalise
Donalds	Peltola	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1713

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 90 OFFERED BY MR. GOOD OF VIRGINIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 90, printed in part F of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 158, noes 272, not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 422]

AYES—158

Aderholt	Franklin, C.	Massie
Alford	Scott	Mast
Amodei	Fry	McCarthy
Arrington	Fulcher	McCaul
Babin	Gaetz	McClain
Banks	Gallagher	McClintock
Barr	Garcia, Mike	McCormick
Bean (FL)	Good (VA)	McHenry
Bentz	Gooden (TX)	Meuser
Bergman	Gosar	Miller (IL)
Bice	Granger	Miller (OH)
Biggs	Graves (LA)	Miller (WV)
Bishop (NC)	Graves (MO)	Miller-Meeks
Boebert	Green (TN)	Mills
Bost	Greene (GA)	Moolenaar
Brecheen	Grothman	Mooney
Buck	Guest	Moore (AL)
Burchett	Hageman	Moran
Burgess	Harris	Murphy
Cammack	Harshbarger	Nehls
Carey	Hern	Norman
Carl	Higgins (LA)	Nunn (IA)
Cline	Hill	Ogles
Cloud	Hinson	Palmer
Clyde	Houchin	Perry
Collins	Hudson	Pfluger
Comer	Huizenga	Posey
Crane	Hunt	Reschenthaler
Crawford	Issa	Rogers (AL)
Davidson	Jackson (TX)	Rose
De La Cruz	Johnson (LA)	Rosendale
DesJarlais	Johnson (SD)	Rouzer
Diaz-Balart	Jordan	Roy
Donalds	Joyce (PA)	Rutherford
Duarte	Kelly (MS)	Scot
Duncan	LaHood	Scott, Austin
Dunn (FL)	LaMalfa	Self
Ellzey	Lamborn	Sessions
Emmer	Langworthy	Smith (MO)
Estes	Latta	Smith (NE)
Ezell	LaTurner	Smith (NJ)
Fallon	Lesko	Smucker
Feenstra	Loudermilk	Spartz
Finstad	Luetkemeyer	Staubert
Fischbach	Luttrell	Stefanik
Fitzgerald	Malliotakis	Steube
Fox	Mann	Strong

Tenney	Thompson (PA)
Tiffany	
Timmons	
Van Drew	
Van Duyne	

NOES—272

Adams	Garcia (TX)
Aguilar	Garcia, Robert
Allen	Jimenez
Allred	Golden (ME)
Armstrong	Goldman (NY)
Auchincloss	Gomez
Bacon	Gonzales, Tony
Baird	Gonzalez,
Balderson	Vicente
Balint	González-Colón
Barragán	Gottheimer
Beatty	Green, Al (TX)
Bera	Grijalva
Beyer	Guthrie
Bilirakis	Harder (CA)
Bishop (GA)	Hayes
Blumenauer	Higgins (NY)
Blunt Rochester	Himes
Bonamici	Horsford
Bowman	Houlahan
Boyle (PA)	Hoyer
Brown	Hoyle (OR)
Brownley	Huffman
Buchanan	Ivey
Bucshon	Jackson (IL)
Budzinski	Jackson (NC)
Calvert	Jackson Lee
Caraveo	Jacobs
Carbajal	James
Cárdenas	Jayapal
Carson	Jeffries
Carter (GA)	Johnson (GA)
Carter (LA)	Johnson (OH)
Cartwright	Joyce (OH)
Casar	Kamlager-Dove
Case	Kaptur
Casten	Kean (NJ)
Castor (FL)	Keating
Castro (TX)	Kelly (IL)
Chavez-DeRemer	Kelly (PA)
Cherfilus-	Khanna
McCormick	Kiggans (VA)
Chu	Kildee
Ciscomani	Kiley
Clark (MA)	Kilmer
Clarke (NY)	Kim (CA)
Cleaver	Kim (NJ)
Clyburn	Krishnamoorthi
Cohen	Kuster
Cole	Kustoff
Connolly	LaLota
Correa	Landsman
Costa	Larsen (WA)
Courtney	Larson (CT)
Craig	Lawler
Crenshaw	Lee (CA)
Crockett	Lee (FL)
Crow	Lee (NV)
Cuellar	Lee (PA)
Curtis	Leger Fernandez
D'Esposito	Letlow
Davids (KS)	Levin
Davis (IL)	Lieu
Davis (NC)	Lofgren
Dean (PA)	Lucas
DeGette	Lynch
DeLauro	Mace
DelBene	Magaziner
Deluzio	Manning
DeSaulnier	Matsui
Dingell	McBath
Doggett	McClellan
Edwards	McCollum
Escobar	McGarvey
Eshoo	McGovern
Espallat	Meeks
Evans	Menendez
Ferguson	Meng
Fitzpatrick	Mfume
Fleischmann	Molinaro
Fletcher	Moore (UT)
Flood	Moore (WI)
Foster	Morelle
Foushee	Moskowitz
Frankel, Lois	Moulton
Frost	Moylan
Gallego	Mrvan
Garamendi	Mullin
Garbarino	Nadler
Garcia (IL)	Napolitano

Williams (NY)	Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)	Wittman
Yakym	Zinke

Watson Coleman	Wild	Wilson (FL)
Wexton	Williams (GA)	Womack

NOT VOTING—9

Burlison	Griffith	Peltola
Bush	Luna	Pence
Carter (TX)	Newhouse	Scalise

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1716

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 91 OFFERED BY MR. GOOD OF VIRGINIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 91, printed in part F of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOOD), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 159, noes 272, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 423]

AYES—159

Aderholt	Franklin, C.	McCarthy
Alford	Scott	McCaul
Allen	Fry	McClain
Amodei	Fulcher	McClintock
Babin	Gaetz	McCormick
Balderson	Gallagher	McHenry
Banks	Good (VA)	Meuser
Barr	Gooden (TX)	Miller (IL)
Bean (FL)	Gosar	Miller (OH)
Bentz	Granger	Miller (WV)
Bergman	Graves (LA)	Mills
Bice	Graves (MO)	Moolenaar
Biggs	Green (TN)	Mooney
Bishop (NC)	Greene (GA)	Moore (AL)
Boebert	Grothman	Moran
Bost	Guest	Murphy
Brecheen	Hageman	Nehls
Buck	Harris	Norman
Burchett	Harshbarger	Nunn (IA)
Burlison	Hern	Ogles
Cammack	Higgins (LA)	Palmer
Carey	Hill	Perry
Carl	Hinson	Posey
Cline	Houchin	Reschenthaler
Cloud	Hudson	Rodgers (WA)
Clyde	Huizenga	Rogers (AL)
Collins	Hunt	Rose
Comer	Issa	Rosendale
Crane	Jackson (TX)	Rouzer
Crawford	Johnson (LA)	Roy
Davidson	Johnson (SD)	Rutherford
De La Cruz	Jordan	Santos
DesJarlais	Joyce (PA)	Scott, Austin
Diaz-Balart	Kelly (MS)	Self
Donalds	LaHood	Sessions
Duarte	LaMalfa	Smith (MO)
Duncan	Lamborn	Smith (NE)
Dunn (FL)	Langworthy	Smith (NJ)
Ellzey	Latta	Smucker
Emmer	LaTurner	Spartz
Estes	Lesko	Staubert
Ezell	Loudermilk	Stefanik
Fallon	Luetkemeyer	Steube
Feenstra	Luttrell	Strong
Finstad	Malliotakis	Tenney
Fischbach	Mann	Thompson (PA)
Fitzgerald	Massie	Tiffany
Fox	Mast	Timmons

Turner
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Walberg
Waltz

Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)

Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

Watson Coleman
Wexton

Bush
Carter (TX)
Griffith

Wild
Williams (GA)

Luna
Miller-Meeks
Peltola

Wilson (FL)
Womack

Pence
Scalise

Van Duyne
Van Orden
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)

Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)

Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NOES—272

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Bacon
Baird
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burgess
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)

Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez, Tony
Vicente
González-Colón
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Joyce (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaLota
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Molinaro
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Moylan
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler

Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Obernoite
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Radewagen
Ramirez
Raskin
Rogers (KY)
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Steel
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
The Acting CHAIR. (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1719

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 92 OFFERED BY MR. GOOD OF
VIRGINIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 92, printed in
part F of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr.
GOOD), on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the ayes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 156, noes 273,
not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 424]

AYES—156

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Babin
Balderson
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buck
Burchett
Burlison
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Foxy

Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Guest
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kelly (MS)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Loudermilk
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast

McCarthy
McCauley
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Mills
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Ogles
Palmer
Perry
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rogers (AL)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Santos
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Staubert
Stefanik
Steube
Strong
Tennet
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Drew

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Bacon
Baird
Balint
Banks
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burgess
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)

NOES—273

Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez, Tony
Vicente
González-Colón
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaLota
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Molinaro
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Moylan
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel

Norcross
Norton
Obernoite
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Radewagen
Ramirez
Raskin
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Steel
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Womack

NOT VOTING—10

Bush	Luna	Scalise
Carter (TX)	Miller-Meeks	Smith (MO)
Griffith	Peltola	
Joyce (OH)	Pence	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1722

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 93 OFFERED BY MR. GOOD OF
VIRGINIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 93, printed in
part F of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr.
GOOD), on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the ayes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 161, noes 270,
not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 425]

AYES—161

Aderholt	Franklin, C.	McCaul
Alford	Scott	McClain
Allen	Fry	McClintock
Amodei	Fulcher	McCormick
Babin	Gaetz	McHenry
Balderson	Gallagher	Meuser
Barr	Good (VA)	Miller (IL)
Bean (FL)	Gooden (TX)	Miller (OH)
Bentz	Gosar	Miller (WV)
Bergman	Granger	Mills
Bice	Graves (LA)	Moolenaar
Biggs	Graves (MO)	Mooney
Bishop (NC)	Green (TN)	Moore (AL)
Boebert	Greene (GA)	Moran
Bost	Grothman	Murphy
Brecheen	Guest	Nehls
Buck	Guthrie	Newhouse
Burchett	Hageman	Norman
Burgess	Harris	Nunn (IA)
Burlison	Harshbarger	Ogles
Cammack	Hern	Palmer
Carey	Higgins (LA)	Perry
Carl	Hill	Pfuger
Cline	Hinson	Posey
Cloud	Houchin	Radewagen
Clyde	Hudson	Reschenthaler
Collins	Huizenga	Rogers (AL)
Comer	Hunt	Rose
Crane	Issa	Rosendale
Crawford	Jackson (TX)	Rouzer
Davidson	Johnson (LA)	Roy
De La Cruz	Johnson (SD)	Rutherford
DesJarlais	Jordan	Santos
Diaz-Balart	Joyce (PA)	Scott, Austin
Donalds	Kelly (MS)	Self
Duarte	LaHood	Sessions
Duncan	LaMalfa	Smith (MO)
Dunn (FL)	Lamborn	Smith (NE)
Ellzey	Langworthy	Smith (NJ)
Emmer	Latta	Smucker
Estes	LaTurner	Spartz
Ezell	Lesko	Staubert
Fallon	Loudermilk	Stefanik
Feenstra	Luetkemeyer	Steube
Ferguson	Luttrell	Strong
Finstad	Malliotakis	Tenney
Fischbach	Mann	Thompson (PA)
Fitzgerald	Massie	Tiffany
Foxx	Mast	Timmons
	McCarthy	Van Drew

Van Duyne
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)

Adams
Aguiar
Allred
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Bacon
Baird
Balint
Banks
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budzinski
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casas
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Dauids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike

Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)

NOES—270

Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
González-Colón
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Joyce (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaLota
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Molinaro
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Moylan
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel

Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

Norcross
Norton
Obenrolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Steel
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Weston
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Womack

NOT VOTING—8

Bush	Luna	Pence
Carter (TX)	Miller-Meeks	Scalise
Griffith	Peltola	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1726

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 94 OFFERED BY MR. GOOD OF
VIRGINIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 94, printed in
part F of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr.
GOOD), on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the ayes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 160, noes 271,
not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 426]

AYES—160

Aderholt	Fulcher	McHenry
Alford	Gaetz	Meuser
Allen	Gallagher	Miller (IL)
Amodei	Garcia, Mike	Miller (OH)
Babin	Good (VA)	Miller (WV)
Balderson	Gooden (TX)	Mills
Barr	Gosar	Moolenaar
Bean (FL)	Granger	Mooney
Bentz	Graves (LA)	Moore (AL)
Bergman	Graves (MO)	Moran
Bice	Green (TN)	Murphy
Biggs	Greene (GA)	Nehls
Bishop (NC)	Grothman	Norman
Boebert	Guest	Nunn (IA)
Bost	Hageman	Ogles
Brecheen	Harris	Palmer
Buck	Harshbarger	Perry
Burchett	Hern	Pfuger
Burlison	Higgins (LA)	Posey
Calvert	Hill	Radewagen
Cammack	Hinson	Reschenthaler
Carey	Houchin	Rogers (AL)
Carl	Hudson	Rose
Cline	Huizenga	Rosendale
Cloud	Hunt	Rouzer
Clyde	Issa	Roy
Collins	Jackson (TX)	Rutherford
Comer	Johnson (LA)	Santos
Crane	Johnson (SD)	Scott, Austin
Crawford	Jordan	Self
Davidson	Joyce (PA)	Sessions
De La Cruz	Kelly (MS)	Smith (MO)
DesJarlais	LaHood	Smith (NE)
Diaz-Balart	LaMalfa	Smith (NJ)
Donalds	Lamborn	Smucker
Duarte	Langworthy	Spartz
Duncan	Latta	Staubert
Dunn (FL)	LaTurner	Stefanik
Ellzey	Lesko	Steube
Emmer	Loudermilk	Strong
Estes	Luetkemeyer	Tenney
Ezell	Luttrell	Thompson (PA)
Fallon	Malliotakis	Tiffany
Fennstra	Mann	Timmons
Ferguson	Massie	Van Drew
Finstad	McCarthy	
Fischbach		
Fitzgerald		
Foxx		

Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)

Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman

Yakym
Zinke

Bush
Carter (TX)
Griffith

NOT VOTING—8
Luna
Miller-Meeks
Peltola

Pence
Scalise

Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup

Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)

Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NOES—271

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Bacon
Baird
Balint
Banks
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budzinski
Burgess
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert

Jimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
González-Colón
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Joyce (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaLota
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Molinaro
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Moylan
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel

Norcross
Norton
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Steel
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Womack

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1729

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 95 OFFERED BY MR. GOOD OF VIRGINIA

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 95, printed in
part F of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr.
GOOD), on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the ayes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 163, noes 267,
not voting 9, as follows:

[Roll No. 427]

AYES—163

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Babin
Balderson
Banks
Cohen
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecht
Buchanan
Buck
Burchett
Burgess
Burton
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Foxy

Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Guest
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kelly (MS)
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lesko
Loudermilk
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy

McCaul
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Mills
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Ogles
Palmer
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Reschenthaler
Rogers (AL)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Santos
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Staubert
Stefanik
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Drew
Van Dune
Van Orden
Walberg

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Bacon
Baird
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Bucshon
Budzinski
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Edwards
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)

NOES—267

Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
González-Colón
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Joyce (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaLota
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Molinaro
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Moylan
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel

Norcross
Norton
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (KY)
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Steel
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)
Womack

NOT VOTING—9

Bush	Luna	Pence
Carter (TX)	Miller-Meeks	Radewagen
Griffith	Peltola	Scalise

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1733

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 99 OFFERED BY MR. STAUBER

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 99, printed in part F of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. STAUBER), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 217, noes 216, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 428]

AYES—217

Aderholt	Duncan	James
Alford	Dunn (FL)	Johnson (LA)
Allen	Edwards	Johnson (OH)
Amodei	Ellzey	Johnson (SD)
Armstrong	Emmer	Jordan
Arrington	Estes	Joyce (OH)
Babin	Ezell	Joyce (PA)
Bacon	Fallon	Kean (NJ)
Baird	Feenstra	Kelly (MS)
Balderson	Ferguson	Kelly (PA)
Banks	Finstad	Kiggans (VA)
Barr	Fischbach	Kiley
Bean (FL)	Fitzgerald	Kim (CA)
Bentz	Fleischmann	Kustoff
Bergman	Flood	LaHood
Bice	Fox	LaLota
Biggs	Franklin, C.	LaMalfa
Bilirakis	Scott	Lamborn
Bishop (NC)	Fry	Langworthy
Boebert	Fulcher	Latta
Bost	Gaetz	LaTurner
Brecheen	Gallagher	Lee (FL)
Buchanan	Garbarino	Lesko
Buck	Garcia, Mike	Letlow
Bucshon	Gimenez	Loudermilk
Burchett	Gonzales, Tony	Lucas
Burgess	González-Colón	Luetkemeyer
Burlison	Good (VA)	Luttrell
Calvert	Gooden (TX)	Malliotakis
Cammack	Gosar	Mann
Carey	Granger	Massie
Carl	Graves (LA)	Mast
Carter (GA)	Graves (MO)	McCarthy
Chavez-DeRemer	Green (TN)	McCaul
Ciscomani	Greene (GA)	McClain
Cline	Griffith	McClintock
Cloud	Grothman	McCormick
Clyde	Guest	McHenry
Cole	Guthrie	Meuser
Collins	Hageman	Miller (IL)
Comer	Harris	Miller (OH)
Crane	Harshbarger	Miller (WV)
Crawford	Hern	Miller-Meeks
Crenshaw	Higgins (LA)	Mills
Curtis	Hill	Molinaro
D'Esposito	Hinson	Moolenaar
Davidson	Houchin	Mooney
De La Cruz	Hudson	Moore (AL)
DesJarlais	Huizenga	Moore (UT)
Diaz-Balart	Hunt	Moran
Donalds	Issa	Moylan
Duarte	Jackson (TX)	Murphy

Nehls	Salazar
Newhouse	Santos
Norman	Schweikert
Nunn (IA)	Scott, Austin
Oberholte	Self
Ogles	Sessions
Owens	Simpson
Palmer	Smith (MO)
Perry	Smith (NE)
Pfluger	Smith (NJ)
Posey	Smucker
Radewagen	Spartz
Reschenthaler	Stauber
Rodgers (WA)	Steel
Rogers (AL)	Stefanik
Rogers (KY)	Steil
Rose	Steube
Rosendale	Strong
Rouzer	Tenney
Roy	Thompson (PA)
Rutherford	Tiffany

NOES—216

Adams	Gomez	Pallone
Aguilar	Gonzalez,	Panetta
Allred	Vicente	Pappas
Auchincloss	Gottheimer	Pascarell
Balint	Green, Al (TX)	Payne
Barragán	Grijalva	Pelosi
Beatty	Harder (CA)	Perez
Bera	Hayes	Peters
Beyer	Higgins (NY)	Petterson
Bishop (GA)	Himes	Phillips
Blumenauer	Horsford	Pingree
Blunt Rochester	Houlahan	Plaskett
Bonamici	Hoyer	Pocan
Bowman	Hoyle (OR)	Porter
Boyle (PA)	Huffman	Pressley
Brown	Ivey	Quigley
Brownley	Jackson (IL)	Ramirez
Budzinski	Jackson (NC)	Raskin
Caraveo	Jackson Lee	Ross
Carbajal	Jacobs	Ruiz
Cárdenas	Jayapal	Ruppersberger
Carson	Jeffries	Ryan
Carter (LA)	Johnson (GA)	Sablan
Cartwright	Salinas	Sánchez
Casar	Kaptur	Sarbanes
Case	Keating	Scanlon
Casten	Kelly (IL)	Schakowsky
Castor (FL)	Khanna	Schiff
Castro (TX)	Kildee	Schneider
Cherfilus-	Kilmer	Scholten
McCormick	Kim (NJ)	Schrier
Chu	Krishnamoorthi	Scott (VA)
Clark (MA)	Kuster	Scott, David
Clarke (NY)	Landsman	Sewell
Cleaver	Larsen (WA)	Sherman
Clyburn	Larson (CT)	Sherrill
Cohen	Lawler	Slotkin
Connolly	Lee (CA)	Smith (WA)
Correa	Lee (NV)	Sorensen
Costa	Lee (PA)	Soto
Courtney	Leger Fernandez	Spanberger
Craig	Levin	Stansbury
Crockett	Lieu	Stanton
Crow	Lofgren	Stevens
Cuellar	Lynch	Strickland
Davis (KS)	Mace	Swallow
Davis (IL)	Magaziner	Sykes
Davis (NC)	Manning	Takano
Dean (PA)	Matsui	Thanedar
DeGette	McBath	Thompson (CA)
DeLauro	McClellan	Thompson (MS)
DelBene	McCollum	Titus
Deluzio	McGarvey	Tlaib
DeSaulnier	McGovern	Tokuda
Dingell	Meeks	Tonko
Doggett	Menendez	Torres (CA)
Escobar	Meng	Torres (NY)
Eshoo	Mfume	Trahan
Guest	Moore (WI)	Trone
Españlat	Moore	Underwood
Evans	Morelle	Vargas
Fitzpatrick	Moskowitz	Vasquez
Fletcher	Moulton	Veasey
Foster	Mullan	Velázquez
Foushee	Nadler	Wasserman
Frankel, Lois	Napolitano	Schultz
Frost	Neal	Waters
Gallego	Neguse	Watson Coleman
Garamendi	Nickel	Wexton
Garcia (IL)	Norcross	Wild
Garcia (TX)	Norton	Williams (GA)
Garcia, Robert	Ocasio-Cortez	Wilson (FL)
Golden (ME)	Omar	
Goldman (NY)		

NOT VOTING—6

Bush	Luna	Pence
Carter (TX)	Peltola	Scalise

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1736

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 101 OFFERED BY MRS. MILLER OF ILLINOIS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 101, printed in part F of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. MILLER), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 217, noes 216, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 429]

AYES—217

Aderholt	Dunn (FL)	Johnson (LA)
Alford	Edwards	Johnson (OH)
Allen	Ellzey	Johnson (SD)
Amodei	Emmer	Jordan
Armstrong	Estes	Joyce (OH)
Arrington	Ezell	Joyce (PA)
Babin	Fallon	Kelly (MS)
Bacon	Feenstra	Kelly (PA)
Baird	Ferguson	Kiggans (VA)
Balderson	Finstad	Kiley
Banks	Fischbach	Kim (CA)
Barr	Fitzgerald	Kustoff
Bean (FL)	Fleischmann	LaHood
Bentz	Flood	LaLota
Bergman	Fox	LaMalfa
Bice	Franklin, C.	Lamborn
Biggs	Scott	Langworthy
Bilirakis	Fry	Latta
Bishop (NC)	Fulcher	LaTurner
Boebert	Gaetz	Lawler
Bost	Gallagher	Lee (FL)
Brecheen	Garbarino	Lesko
Buchanan	Garcia, Mike	Letlow
Buck	Gimenez	Loudermilk
Bucshon	Gonzales, Tony	Lucas
Burchett	González-Colón	Luetkemeyer
Burgess	Good (VA)	Luttrell
Burlison	Gooden (TX)	Mace
Calvert	Gosar	Malliotakis
Cammack	Granger	Mann
Carey	Graves (LA)	Massie
Carl	Graves (MO)	Mast
Carter (GA)	Green (TN)	McCarthy
Ciscomani	Greene (GA)	McCaul
Cline	Griffith	McClain
Cloud	Grothman	McClintock
Clyde	Guest	McCormick
Cole	Guthrie	McHenry
Collins	Hageman	Meuser
Comer	Harris	Miller (IL)
Crane	Harshbarger	Miller (OH)
Crawford	Hern	Miller (WV)
Crenshaw	Higgins (LA)	Miller-Meeks
Curtis	Hill	Mills
D'Esposito	Hinson	Molinaro
Davidson	Houchin	Moolenaar
De La Cruz	Hudson	Mooney
DesJarlais	Huizenga	Moore (AL)
Diaz-Balart	Hunt	Moore (UT)
Donalds	Issa	Moran
Duarte	Jackson (TX)	Moylan
Duncan	James	Murphy

Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Radewagen
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford

NOES—216

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)

Salazar
Santos
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany

Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Dwyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—6
Bush
Carter (TX)
Luna
Peltola
Pence
Scalise

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1740

Mr. MURPHY changed his vote from
“no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was agreed to.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 102 OFFERED BY MR.
ROSENDALE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 102, printed in
part F of House Report 118–216 offered
by the gentleman from Montana (Mr.
ROSENDALE), on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 71, noes 362,
not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 430]

AYES—71

Bean (FL)
Biggs
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Brecht
Buck
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Collins
Comer
Crane
Curtis
Davidson
Donalds
Duncan
Estes
Fallon
Foxy
Fry
Fulcher

NOES—362

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Banks
Barragán
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer

Gaetz
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Houchin
Hudson
Hunt
Johnson (LA)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Lamborn
Lesko
Luttrell
Mace
Massie
McCarthy
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Miller (WV)

Mills
Mooney
Moylan
Nehls
Norman
Ogles
Perry
Posey
Rosendale
Roy
Santos
Schweikert
Self
Smucker
Spartz
Steube
Timmons
Van Drew
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Zinke

Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Duarte
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Ezell
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Franklin, C.
Scott
Frost
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
González-Colón
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)

Joyce (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lynch
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Mann
Manning
Mast
Matsui
McBath
McCaul
McClain
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller-Meeks
Molinaro
Moonenar
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Nunn (IA)
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Owens
Pallone
Palmer
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips

Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Radewagen
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Tenney
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Dwyne
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Wilson (FL)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym

NOT VOTING—6

Bush Luna Pence
Carter (TX) Peltola Scalise

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote). There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1743

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The Acting CHAIR. Under the rule, the Committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BOST) having assumed the chair, Mr. MURPHY, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4368) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 723, he reported the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 4368 is postponed.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 723 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill, H.R. 4365.

Will the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. CAMMACK) kindly take the chair.

□ 1750

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for the further consideration of the bill (H.R. 4365) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, with Mrs. CAMMACK (Acting Chair) in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The Acting CHAIR. When the Committee of the Whole rose earlier today, amendment No. 180, printed in part A of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentleman from Montana (Mr. ROSENDALE) had been disposed of.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR. Pursuant to clause 6 of rule XVIII, proceedings will now resume on those amendments printed in part A of House Report 118–216 on which further proceedings were postponed, in the following order:

Amendment 34 by Ms. HOULAHAN of Pennsylvania;

Amendment 149 by Mr. BIGGS of Arizona;

Amendment No. 151 by Ms. PLASKETT of the Virgin Islands;

Amendment No. 152 Mrs. BOEBERT of Colorado;

Amendment No. 153 by Mrs. BOEBERT of Colorado;

Amendment No. 155 by Mr. CLYDE of Georgia;

Amendment No. 156 by Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia;

Amendment No. 160 by Mr. GAETZ of Florida;

Amendment No. 161 by Mr. GAETZ of Florida;

Amendment No. 166 by Ms. JAYAPAL of Washington;

Amendment No. 175 by Mr. ROY of Texas.

The Chair will reduce to 2 minutes the minimum time for every electronic vote in this series.

AMENDMENT NO. 34 OFFERED BY MS. HOULAHAN

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 34, printed in part A of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentlewoman from Pennsylvania (Ms. HOULAHAN), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 240, noes 191, not voting 8, as follows:

[Roll No. 431]

AYES—240

Adams	Carbajal	Curtis
Agullar	Cárdenas	Daids (KS)
Alford	Carson	Davis (NC)
Allen	Carter (LA)	Dean (PA)
Allred	Case	DeGette
Auchincloss	Casten	DeLauro
Bacon	Castor (FL)	DelBene
Balint	Castro (TX)	Deluzio
Barragán	Chavez-DeRemer	Desaulnier
Beatty	Cherfilus-	DesJarlais
Bera	McCormick	Dingell
Bergman	Chu	Doggett
Beyer	Clark (MA)	Dunn (FL)
Bishop (GA)	Clarke (NY)	Escobar
Blumenauer	Cleaver	Eshoo
Blunt Rochester	Clyburn	Espallat
Boebert	Cohen	Estes
Bonamici	Connolly	Evans
Boyle (PA)	Correa	Fallon
Brown	Costa	Feenstra
Brownley	Courtney	Fitzpatrick
Buchanan	Craig	Fletcher
Budzinski	Crockett	Foster
Cammack	Crow	Foushee
Caraveo	Cuellar	Frankel, Lois

Frost	Manning	Salinas
Gaetz	Matsui	Sánchez
Galleo	McBath	Sarbanes
Garcia, Robert	McClain	Scanlon
Jimenez	McClellan	Schakowsky
Golden (ME)	McCollum	Schiff
Goldman (NY)	McGarvey	Schneider
Gomez	McGovern	Scholten
Gonzales, Tony	Meeks	Schrier
Gonzalez, Vicente	Menendez	Scott (VA)
Gottheimer	Meng	Scott, Austin
Green, Al (TX)	Mfume	Scott, David
Grijalva	Miller (OH)	Self
Harder (CA)	Mills	Sessions
Harshbarger	Molinaro	Sewell
Hayes	Moolenaar	Sherman
Higgins (LA)	Moore (UT)	Sherrill
Higgins (NY)	Moore (WI)	Slotkin
Himes	Morelle	Smith (WA)
Horsford	Moskowitz	Sorensen
Houlahan	Moulton	Spanberger
Hoyer	Mrvan	Stansbury
Hoyle (OR)	Mullin	Stanton
Huffman	Murphy	Stevens
Huizenga	Nadler	Strickland
Ivey	Napolitano	Strong
Jackson (IL)	Neal	Swalwell
Jackson (NC)	Neguse	Sykes
Jackson Lee	Nickel	Takano
Jacobs	Norcross	Thanedar
James	Norton	Thompson (CA)
Jayapal	Nunn (IA)	Thompson (MS)
Jeffries	Owens	Thompson (PA)
Johnson (GA)	Pallone	Titus
Kamlager-Dove	Panetta	Tokuda
Kaptur	Pappas	Tonko
Keating	Pascrell	Torres (CA)
Kelly (IL)	Payne	Torres (NY)
Khanna	Pelosi	Trahan
Kildee	Perez	Trone
Kilmer	Peters	Underwood
Kim (NJ)	Pettersen	Vargas
Krishnamoorthi	Phillips	Vasquez
Lamborn	Pingree	Veasey
Landsman	Plaskett	Velázquez
Larsen (WA)	Pocan	Walberg
Larson (CT)	Porter	Wasserman
Lee (CA)	Posey	Schultz
Lee (NV)	Quigley	Watson Coleman
Leger Fernandez	Raskin	Webster (FL)
Levin	Rogers (AL)	Westerman
Lieu	Ross	Wexton
Lofgren	Ruiz	Wild
Lynch	Ruppersberger	Williams (GA)
Magaziner	Ryan	Wilson (FL)
	Salazar	Wittman

NOES—191

Aderholt	De La Cruz	Hill
Amodei	Diaz-Balart	Hinson
Armstrong	Donalds	Houchin
Arrington	Duarte	Hudson
Babin	Duncan	Hunt
Baird	Edwards	Issa
Balderson	Ellzey	Jackson (TX)
Banks	Emmer	Johnson (LA)
Barr	Ezell	Johnson (OH)
Bean (FL)	Ferguson	Johnson (SD)
Bentz	Finstad	Jordan
Bice	Fischbach	Joyce (OH)
Biggs	Fitzgerald	Joyce (PA)
Bilirakis	Fleischmann	Kean (NJ)
Bishop (NC)	Flood	Kelly (MS)
Bost	Foxx	Kelly (PA)
Bowman	Franklin, C.	Kiggans (VA)
Brecheen	Scott	Kiley
Buck	Fry	Kim (CA)
Bucshon	Fulcher	Kuster
Burchett	Gallagher	Kustoff
Burgess	Garamendi	LaHood
Burlison	Garbarino	LaLota
Calvert	Garcia (IL)	LaMalfa
Carey	Garcia (TX)	Langworthy
Carl	Garcia, Mike	Latta
Carter (GA)	González-Colón	LaTurner
Cartwright	Good (VA)	Lawler
Ciscomani	Gooden (TX)	Lee (FL)
Cline	Gosar	Lee (PA)
Cloud	Granger	Lesko
Clyde	Graves (LA)	Letlow
Cole	Graves (MO)	Loudermilk
Collins	Green (TN)	Lucas
Comer	Greene (GA)	Luetkemeyer
Crane	Griffith	Luttrell
Crawford	Guest	Mace
Crenshaw	Guthrie	Malliotakis
D'Esposito	Hageman	Mann
Davidson	Harris	Massie
Davis (IL)	Hern	Mast

McCarthy Radewagen Stefanik
McCaul Ramirez Steil
McClintock Reschenthaler
McCormick Rodgers (WA)
McHenry Rogers (KY)
Miller (IL) Rose Timmons
Miller (WV) Rosendale Tlaib
Miller-Meeks Rouzer Turner
Mooney Roy Valadao
Moore (AL) Rutherford Van Drew
Moran Sablan Van Duyne
Moylan Santos Van Orden
Nehls Scalise Wagner
Newhouse Schweikert Waltz
Norman Simpson Waters
Obernolte Smith (MO) Weber (TX)
Ocasio-Cortez Smith (NE) Wenstrup
Ogles Smith (NJ) Williams (NY)
Omar Smucker Williams (TX)
Palmer Soto Wilson (SC)
Perry Spartz Womack
Pfluger Stauber Yakym
Pressley Steel Zinke

NOT VOTING—8

Bush Grothman Peltola
Carter (TX) Luna Pence
Casar Meuser

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1750

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

Stated against:

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Chair, had I been
present, I would have voted “nay” on rollcall
No. 431.

AMENDMENT NO. 149 OFFERED BY MR. BIGGS

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 149, printed in
part A of House Report 118–216 offered
by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr.
BIGGS), on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the ayes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 104, noes 330,
not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 432]

AYES—104

Allen Crane Guest
Amodei Davidson Hageman
Arrington Donalds Harshbarger
Babin Duncan Hern
Banks Edwards Higgins (LA)
Bean (FL) Estes Houchin
Biggs Ezell Hunt
Bilirakis Fallon Jackson (TX)
Bishop (NC) Finstad Johnson (LA)
Boebert Fischbach Jordan
Bost Fitzgerald Joyce (PA)
Brecheen Franklin, C. LaHood
Burchett Scott LaLota
Burgess Fry LaMalfa
Burlison Fulcher Langworthy
Cammack Gaetz LaTurner
Carey Garcia, Mike Letlow
Carl Good (VA) Loudermilk
Carter (GA) Gooden (TX) Luttrell
Cline Gosar Mace
Cloud Graves (LA) Mann
Collins Green (TN) Massie
Comer Greene (GA) Mast

McClain Nunn (IA)
McClintock Ogles
Miller (IL) Owens
Miller (OH) Palmer
Miller (WV) Perry
Mills Posey
Mooleenaar Rosendale
Mooney Roy
Moore (AL) Santos
Moran Self
Nehls Smith (MO)
Norman Stauber

Adams
Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allred
Armstrong
Auchincloss
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Balint
Barr
Barragán
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Budzinski
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick

Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crawford
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
Kildee
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Dingell
Doggett
Duarte
Dunn (FL)
Ellzey
Emmer

NOES—330

Escobar
Eshoo
Españillat
Evans
Feenstra
Ferguson
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foster
Foushee
Fouxx
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallagher
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
González-Colón
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (MO)
Green, Al (TX)
Griffith
Grijalva
Grothman
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Hudson
Huffman
Huizenga
Issa
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Joyce (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Kustoff
Lamborn
Landsman
Larsen (WA)

Steube
Tenney
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Zinke

Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lesko
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Lynch
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McCaul
McClellan
McCollum
McCormick
McGarvey
McGovern
McHenry
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Meuser
Mfume
Miller-Meeks
Molinaro
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Moylan
Mrvan
Mullin
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Peters
Petterson
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Radewagen
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rose
Ross
Rouzer
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford

Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)

Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stansbury
Stanton
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)

NOT VOTING—5

Bush Luna
Carter (TX) Peltola Pence

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1755

Messrs. LaLOTA and GRAVES of
Louisiana changed their votes from
“no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 151 OFFERED BY MS. PLASKETT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 151, printed in
part A of House Report 118–216 offered
by the gentlewoman from the Virgin
Islands (Ms. PLASKETT), on which fur-
ther proceedings were postponed and
on which the noes prevailed by voice
vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 203, noes 231,
not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 433]

AYES—203

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleave
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DeBene
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Evans
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego

Garamendi Manning
Garcia (TX) Matsui
Garcia, Robert McBath
Goldman (NY) McClellan
Gomez McCollum
Gonzalez, McGarvey
Vicente McGovern
Gottheimer Meeks
Green, Al (TX) Menendez
Grijalva Meng
Harder (CA) Mfume
Hayes Moore (WI)
Higgins (NY) Morelle
Himes Moskowitz
Horsford Moulton
Houlahan Mrvan
Hoyer Mullin
Hoyle (OR) Nadler
Huffman Napolitano
Ivey Neal
Jackson (IL) Neguse
Jackson (NC) Nickel
Jackson Lee Norcross
Jacobs Norton
Jayapal Ocasio-Cortez
Jeffries Pallone
Johnson (GA) Panetta
Kamlager-Dove Pappas
Kaptur Pascarell
Keating Payne
Kelly (IL) Pelosi
Khanna Peters
Kildee Pettersen
Kilmer Phillips
Kim (NJ) Pingree
Krishnamoorthi Plaskett
Kuster Pocan
Landsman Porter
Larsen (WA) Quigley
Larson (CT) Ramirez
Lee (CA) Raskin
Lee (NV) Ross
Leger Fernandez Ruiz
Levin Ruppersberger
Lieu Ryan
Lofgren Sablan
Lynch Salinas
Magaziner Sanchez

NOES—231

Aderholt De La Cruz
Alford Deluzio
Allen DesJarlais
Amodei Diaz-Balart
Armstrong Donalds
Arrington Duarte
Babin Duncan
Bacon Dunn (FL)
Baird Edwards
Balderson Ellzey
Banks Emmer
Barr Estes
Bean (FL) Ezell
Bentz Fallon
Bergman Feenstra
Bice Ferguson
Biggs Finstad
Bilirakis Fischbach
Bishop (NC) Fitzgerald
Boebert Fitzpatrick
Bost Fleischmann
Bowman Flood
Brecheen Foxx
Buchanan Franklin, C.
Buck Scott
Bucshon Fry
Burchett Fulcher
Burgess Gaetz
Burlison Gallagher
Calmack Garbarino
Carey Garcia (IL)
Carl Garcia, Mike
Carter (GA) Gimenez
Casar Golden (ME)
Chavez-DeRemer Gonzales, Tony
Ciscomani González-Colón
Cline Good (VA)
Cloud Gooden (TX)
Clyde Gosar
Cole Granger
Collins Graves (LA)
Comer Graves (MO)
Crane Green (TN)
Crawford Greene (GA)
Crenshaw Griffith
Curtis Grothman
D'Esposito Guest
Davidson Guthrie
Hageman Hageman

Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swalwell
Sykes
Takano
Thamadar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Underwood
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Moylan
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ogles
Omar
Owens
Palmer
Perez
Perry

Bush
Carter (TX)

Pf luger
Posey
Pressley
Radewagen
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Santos
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik

NOT VOTING—5

Luna
Peltola
Pence

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1759

Mr. HIMES changed his vote from
“no” to “aye.”

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 152 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 152, printed in
part A of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentlewoman from Colorado
(Mrs. BOEBERT), on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 150, noes 282,
not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 434]

AYES—150

Aderholt Cammack
Alford Carey
Allen Carl
Amodei Cline
Arrington Cloud
Babin Clyde
Balderson Collins
Barr Comer
Bean (FL) Crane
Bergman Crawford
Bice Davidson
Biggs De La Cruz
Bilirakis DesJarlais
Bishop (NC) Donalds
Boebert Duarte
Bost Duncan
Brecheen Emmer
Buck Estes
Burchett Ezell
Burgess Fallon
Burlison Feenstra

Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Flood
Foxx
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Grothman
Guest
Hageman

Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Jackson (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kelly (MS)
Kustoff
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NOES—282

Adams
Aguilar
Allred
Armstrong
Auchincloss
Bacon
Baird
Balint
Banks
Barragán
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budzinski
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Ciscomani
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Cole
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio

McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Mills
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Murphy
Nehls
Norman
Ogles
Palmer
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Radewagen
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Salazar
Santos

Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Walberg
Walberg
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Yakym
Zinke

Kiggans (VA)
Kildee
Dingell
Kilmer
Kim (CA)
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
LaLota
Landsman
Langworthy
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Letlow
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lucas
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McCarthy
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Miller-Meeks
Molinaro
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Moran
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Moylan
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Nunn (IA)
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Kelly (PA)
Khanna
Pappas

Pascrell	Schneider	Tlaib
Payne	Scholten	Tokuda
Pelosi	Schrier	Tonko
Perez	Scott (VA)	Torres (CA)
Peters	Scott, David	Torres (NY)
Pettersen	Sewell	Trahan
Phillips	Sherman	Trone
Pingree	Sherrill	Turner
Plaskett	Simpson	Underwood
Pocan	Slotkin	Valadao
Porter	Smith (WA)	Vargas
Pressley	Sorensen	Vasquez
Quigley	Soto	Veasey
Ramirez	Spanberger	Velázquez
Raskin	Stansbury	Wagner
Rogers (KY)	Stanton	Waltz
Ross	Steel	Wasserman
Ruiz	Stefanik	Schultz
Ruppersberger	Stevens	Waters
Rutherford	Strickland	Watson Coleman
Ryan	Swalwell	Wenstrup
Sablan	Sykes	Wexton
Salinas	Takano	Wild
Sánchez	Thanedar	Williams (GA)
Sarbanes	Thompson (CA)	Williams (NY)
Scanlon	Thompson (MS)	Wilson (FL)
Schakowsky	Thompson (PA)	Wittman
Schiff	Titus	Womack

NOT VOTING—7

Bush	Griffith	Pence
Carter (TX)	Luna	
Casas	Peltola	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1802

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 153 OFFERED BY MRS. BOEBERT

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 153, printed in
part A of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentlewoman from Colorado
(Mrs. BOEBERT), on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 184, noes 248,
not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 435]

AYES—184

Aderholt	Burchett	Ellzey
Alford	Burgess	Emmer
Allen	Burlison	Estes
Amodei	Cammack	Ezell
Armstrong	Carey	Fallon
Arrington	Carl	Feenstra
Babin	Carter (GA)	Ferguson
Bacon	Cline	Finstad
Balderson	Cloud	Fischbach
Banks	Clyde	Fitzgerald
Barr	Collins	Flood
Bean (FL)	Comer	Fox
Bentz	Crane	Franklin, C.
Bergman	Crawford	Scott
Bice	Crenshaw	Fry
Biggs	Curtis	Fulcher
Bilirakis	Davidson	Gaetz
Bishop (NC)	De La Cruz	Gallagher
Boebert	DesJarlais	Gimenez
Bost	Donalds	Gonzales, Tony
Brecheen	Duarte	Good (VA)
Buchanan	Duncan	Gooden (TX)
Buck	Edwards	Gosar

Graves (LA)	Mann	Rutherford
Green (TN)	Massie	Salazar
Greene (GA)	Mast	Santos
Grothman	McCarthy	Scalise
Guest	McCauley	Schweikert
Guthrie	McClain	Scott, Austin
Hagman	McClintock	Self
Harris	McCormick	Sessions
Harshbarger	McHenry	Smith (MO)
Hern	Meuser	Smith (NE)
Higgins (LA)	Miller (IL)	Smith (NJ)
Hill	Miller (OH)	Smucker
Houchin	Miller (WV)	Spartz
Hudson	Miller-Meeks	Staubert
Huizenga	Mills	Steel
Hunt	Molinaro	Stefanik
Jackson (TX)	Moolenaar	Steil
James	Mooney	Steube
Johnson (LA)	Moore (AL)	Strong
Johnson (OH)	Moore (UT)	Tenney
Johnson (SD)	Moran	Thompson (PA)
Jordan	Moylan	Tiffany
Joyce (PA)	Murphy	Timmons
Kelly (MS)	Nehls	Van Drew
Kustoff	Norman	Van Duyne
LaHood	Ogles	Van Orden
LaMalfa	Owens	Wagner
Lamborn	Palmer	Walberg
Langworthy	Perry	Waltz
Latta	Pfleger	Weber (TX)
LaTurner	Posey	Webster (FL)
Lee (FL)	Radewagen	Wenstrup
Lesko	Reschenthaler	Westerman
Letlow	Rodgers (WA)	Williams (NY)
Loudermilk	Rogers (AL)	Williams (TX)
Luetkemeyer	Rose	Wilson (SC)
Luttrell	Rosendale	Yakym
Mace	Rouzer	Zinke
Malliotakis	Roy	

NOES—248

Adams	DelBene	Keating
Aguilar	Deluzio	Kelly (IL)
Alfred	DeSaulnier	Kelly (PA)
Auchincloss	Diaz-Balart	Khanna
Baird	Dingell	Kiggans (VA)
Balint	Doggett	Kildee
Barragán	Dunn (FL)	Kiley
Beatty	Escobar	Kilmer
Bera	Eshoo	Kim (CA)
Beyer	Españillat	Kim (NJ)
Bishop (GA)	Evans	Krishnamoorthi
Blumenauer	Fitzpatrick	Kuster
Blunt Rochester	Fleischmann	LaLota
Bonamici	Fletcher	Landsman
Bowman	Foster	Larsen (WA)
Boyle (PA)	Foushee	Larson (CT)
Brown	Frankel, Lois	Lawler
Brownley	Frost	Lee (CA)
Bucshon	Gallo	Lee (NV)
Budzinski	Garamendi	Lee (PA)
Calvert	Garbarino	Leger Fernandez
Caraveo	García (IL)	Levin
Carbajal	García (TX)	Lieu
Cárdenas	García, Mike	Lofgren
Carson	García, Robert	Lucas
Carter (LA)	Golden (ME)	Lynch
Cartwright	Goldman (NY)	Magaziner
Casas	Gomez	Manning
Case	Gonzalez,	Matsui
Casten	Vicente	McBath
Castor (FL)	González-Colón	McClellan
Castro (TX)	Gottheimer	McCollum
Chavez-DeRemer	Granger	McGarvey
Cherfilus-	Green, Al (TX)	McGovern
McCormick	Grijalva	Meeks
Chu	Harder (CA)	Menendez
Ciscomani	Hayes	Meng
Clark (MA)	Higgins (NY)	Mfume
Clarke (NY)	Himes	Moore (WI)
Cleaver	Hinson	Morelle
Clyburn	Horsford	Moskowitz
Cohen	Houlihan	Moulton
Cole	Hoyer	Mrvan
Connolly	Hoyle (OR)	Mullin
Correa	Huffman	Nadler
Costa	Issa	Napolitano
Courtney	Ivey	Neal
Craig	Jackson (IL)	Neguse
Crockett	Jackson (NC)	Newhouse
Crow	Jackson Lee	Nickel
Cuellar	Jacobs	Norcross
D'Esposito	Jayapal	Norton
Davis (KS)	Jeffries	Nunn (IA)
Davis (IL)	Johnson (GA)	Obenolte
Davis (NC)	Joyce (OH)	Ocasio-Cortez
Dean (PA)	Kammlager-Dove	Omar
DeGette	Kaptur	Pallone
DeLauro	Kean (NJ)	Panetta

Pappas	Schakowsky	Titus
Pascrell	Schiff	Tlaib
Payne	Schneider	Tokuda
Pelosi	Scholten	Tonko
Perez	Schrier	Torres (CA)
Peters	Scott (VA)	Torres (NY)
Pettersen	Scott, David	Trahan
Phillips	Sewell	Trone
Pingree	Sherman	Turner
Plaskett	Sherrill	Underwood
Pocan	Simpson	Valadao
Porter	Slotkin	Vargas
Pressley	Smith (WA)	Vasquez
Quigley	Sorensen	Veasey
Ramirez	Soto	Velázquez
Raskin	Spanberger	Wasserman
Rogers (KY)	Stansbury	Schultz
Ross	Stanton	Waters
Ruiz	Stevens	Watson Coleman
Ruppersberger	Strickland	Wexton
Ryan	Swalwell	Wild
Sablan	Sykes	Williams (GA)
Salinas	Takano	Wilson (FL)
Sánchez	Thanedar	Wittman
Sarbanes	Thompson (CA)	Womack
Scanlon	Thompson (MS)	

NOT VOTING—7

Bush	Griffith	Pence
Carter (TX)	Luna	
Graves (MO)	Peltola	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1805

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 155 OFFERED BY MR. CLYDE

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 155, printed in
part A of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr.
CLYDE), on which further proceedings
were postponed and on which the noes
prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 172, noes 261,
not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 436]

AYES—172

Aderholt	Cammack	Ferguson
Allen	Carey	Finstad
Amodei	Carl	Fischbach
Armstrong	Carter (GA)	Fitzgerald
Arrington	Ciscomani	Fleischmann
Babin	Cline	Flood
Baird	Cloud	Fox
Balderson	Clyde	Franklin, C.
Banks	Cole	Scott
Barr	Collins	Fry
Bean (FL)	Comer	Fulcher
Bentz	Crane	Gaetz
Bergman	Crawford	Gallagher
Bice	Curtis	Gimenez
Biggs	DesJarlais	Gonzales, Tony
Bilirakis	Diaz-Balart	Good (VA)
Bishop (NC)	Donalds	Gooden (TX)
Boebert	Duncan	Gosar
Bost	Dunn (FL)	Granger
Brecheen	Edwards	Graves (MO)
Buchanan	Ellzey	Green (TN)
Bucshon	Emmer	Greene (GA)
Burchett	Estes	Griffith
Burgess	Ezell	Grothman
Burlison	Fallon	Guest

Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Houchin
Hudson
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kustoff
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
LaTurner
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy

McCaul
McClain
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Murphy
Nehls
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Radewagen
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer

Roy
Rutherford
Salazar
Santos
Schweikert
Self
Sessions
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Spartz
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Van Drew
Van Duyn
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Yakym
Zinke

NOES—261

Adams
Aguilar
Alford
Alfred
Auchincloss
Bacon
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buck
Budzinski
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell

Doggett
Duarte
Escobar
Eshoo
Españolat
Evans
Feenstra
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Mike
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
González-Colón
Gottheimer
Graves (LA)
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Huizenga
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
James
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Johnson (SD)
Joyce (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (CA)

Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
LaHood
LaLota
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latta
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Molinaro
Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Moylan
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Obernolte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Pelosi
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan

Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scalise
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Sewell

Sherman
Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (NJ)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton
Stevens
Strickland
Swallow
Sykes
Takano
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko

Torres (CA)
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Orden
Vargas
Vasquez
Veasey
Velázquez
Wagner
Walberg
Wasserman
Schultz
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Williams (NY)
Wilson (FL)
Womack

NOT VOTING—6

Bush
Carter (TX)

Letlow
Luna

Peltola
Pence

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1808

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 156 OFFERED BY MR. CONNOLLY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 156, printed in
part A of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr.
CONNOLLY), on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the noes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 215, noes 218,
not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 437]

AYES—215

Adams
Aguilar
Alford
Alfred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Budzinski
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)

Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett

Escobar
Eshoo
Españolat
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garcia (IL)
Garcia (TX)
Garcia, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Herd (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford

Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume

Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascarell
Payne
Pelosi
Peters
Pettersen
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salazar
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff

NOES—218

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess
Burlison
Calvert
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte

Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Flood
Foxy
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Gonzales, Tony
González-Colón
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)

James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kean (NJ)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Mace
Malliotakis
Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
Guest
McCintock
McCormick
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Moylan

Murphy	Rutherford	Tiffany	Van Orden	Webster (FL)	Williams (TX)	Simpson	Sykes	Veasey
Nehls	Santos	Timmons	Weber (TX)	Westerman	Zinke	Slotkin	Takano	Velázquez
Newhouse	Scalise	Turner				Smith (NE)	Thanedar	Wagner
Norman	Schweikert	Valadao				Smith (NJ)	Thompson (CA)	Walberg
Nunn (IA)	Scott, Austin	Van Drew				Smith (WA)	Thompson (MS)	Waltz
Overmote	Self	Van Duyne				Smucker	Timmons	Wasserman
Ogles	Sessions	Van Orden	Adams	Fletcher	Lynch	Sorensen	Titus	Schultz
Owens	Simpson	Wagner	Aderholt	Flood	Magaziner	Soto	Tlaib	Waters
Palmer	Smith (MO)	Walberg	Aguilar	Foster	Malliotakis	Spanberger	Tokuda	Watson Coleman
Perry	Smith (NE)	Waltz	Allen	Foushee	Manning	Spartz	Tonko	Wenstrup
Pfuger	Smith (NJ)	Weber (TX)	Allred	Fox	Mast	Stansbury	Torres (CA)	Wexton
Posey	Smucker	Weber (FL)	Armstrong	Frankel, Lois	McBath	Stanton	Torres (NY)	Wild
Radewagen	Spartz	Wenstrup	Auchincloss	Frost	McCarthy	Steel	Trahan	Williams (GA)
Reschenthaler	Stauber	Westerman	Bacon	Gallagher	McCaul	Stefanik	Trone	Williams (NY)
Rodgers (WA)	Steel	Williams (NY)	Baird	Gallego	McClellan	Steil	Turner	Wilson (FL)
Rogers (AL)	Stefanik	Williams (TX)	Balint	Garamendi	McCormack	Stevens	Underwood	Wilson (SC)
Rogers (KY)	Steil	Wilson (SC)	Barr	Garbarino	McGovern	Strickland	Valadao	Wittman
Rose	Steube	Wittman	Barragán	Garcia (IL)	Meeks	Strong	Vargas	Womack
Rosendale	Strong	Womack	Beatty	Garcia (TX)	Menendez	Swalwell	Vasquez	Yakym
Rouzer	Tenney	Yakym	Bentz	Garcia, Mike	Meng			
Roy	Thompson (PA)	Zinke	Bera	Garcia, Robert	Meuser			
			Bergman	Jimenez	Mfume			
			Beyer	Golden (ME)	Miller-Meeks			
			Bice	Goldman (NY)	Molinaro			
			Bishop (GA)	Gomez	Moore (UT)			
			Blumenauer	Gonzales, Tony	Moore (WI)			
			Blunt Rochester	Gonzalez, Vicente	Moran			
			Bonamici	González-Colón	Morelle			
			Bowman	Gottheimer	Moskowitz			
			Boyle (PA)	Granger	Moulton			
			Brown	Graves (MO)	Moulyan			
			Brownley	Green, Al (TX)	Mrvan			
			Buchanan	Griffith	Mullin			
			Buck	Grijalva	Murphy			
			Bucshon	Grothman	Nadler			
			Budzinski	Guest	Napolitano			
			Calvert	Guthrie	Neal			
			Caraveo	Harder (CA)	Neguse			
			Carbajal	Harris	Newhouse			
			Cárdenas	Hayes	Nickel			
			Carson	Higgins (NY)	Norcross			
			Carter (GA)	Hill	Norton			
			Carter (LA)	Himes	Nunn (IA)			
			Cartwright	Hinson	Overmote			
			Casar	Horsford	Ocasio-Cortez			
			Case	Houlahan	Omar			
			Casten	Hoyer	Pallone			
			Castor (FL)	Hoyle (OR)	Panetta			
			Castro (TX)	Hudson	Pappas			
			Chavez-DeRemer	Huffman	Pascarell			
			Cherfilus-	Huizenga	Payne			
			McCormick	Issa	Pelosi			
			Chu	Ivey	Perez			
			Ciscomani	Jackson (IL)	Peters			
			Clark (MA)	Jackson (NC)	Pettersen			
			Clarke (NY)	Jackson Lee	Pfuger			
			Cleaver	Jacobs	Phillips			
			Clyburn	James	Pingree			
			Clyde	Jayapal	Plaskett			
			Cohen	Jeffries	Pocan			
			Cole	Johnson (GA)	Porter			
			Connolly	Johnson (OH)	Posey			
			Correa	Johnson (SD)	Pressley			
			Costa	Joyce (OH)	Quigley			
			Courtney	Kamlager-Dove	Radewagen			
			Craig	Kaptur	Ramirez			
			Crawford	Kean (NJ)	Raskin			
			Crenshaw	Keating	Reschenthaler			
			Crockett	Kelly (IL)	Rodgers (WA)			
			Crow	Kelly (MS)	Rogers (AL)			
			Cuellar	Kelly (PA)	Rogers (KY)			
			Curtis	Khanna	Rose			
			D'Esposito	Kiggans (VA)	Ross			
			Davids (KS)	Kildee	Rouzer			
			Davis (IL)	Kiley	Ruiz			
			Davis (NC)	Kilmer	Ruppersberger			
			De La Cruz	Kim (CA)	Rutherford			
			Dean (PA)	Kim (NJ)	Ryan			
			DeGette	Krishnamoorthi	Sablan			
			DeLauro	Kuster	Salazar			
			DeBene	Kustoff	Salinas			
			Deluzio	LaHood	Sánchez			
			Nehls	LaHood	Sarbanes			
			Norman	Lamborn	Scalise			
			Ogles	Landsman	Scanlon			
			Harshbarger	Larsen (WA)	Schakowsky			
			Hern	Larson (CT)	Schiff			
			Higgins (LA)	Latta	Schneider			
			Houchin	Lawler	Scholten			
			Hunt	Lee (CA)	Schrier			
			Johnson (TX)	Lee (FL)	Schwartz			
			Johnson (LA)	Lee (NV)	Scott (VA)			
			Jordan	Lee (PA)	Scott, Austin			
			Joyce (PA)	Leger Fernandez	Scott, David			
			LaLota	Lesko	Sessions			
			LaMalfa	Levin	Sewell			
			Langworthy	Lieu	Sherman			
			Langworth	Lofgren	Sherrill			
			Letlow	Loudermilk				
			Luttrell	Lucas				
			Mace	Luetkemeyer				
			Mann					

NOT VOTING—6

Bush Luna Peltola
Carter (TX) McHenry Pence

□ 1812

Mr. NUNN of Iowa changed his vote from “aye” to “no.”

Mr. VARGAS and Ms. WATERS changed their vote from “no” to “aye.” So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 160 OFFERED BY MR. GAETZ

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 160, printed in part A of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 93, noes 339, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 438]

AYES—93

Alford Fischbach Massie
Amodai Franklin, C. McClain
Arrington Scott McClintock
Babin Fry Miller (IL)
Balderson Fulcher Miller (OH)
Banks Gaetz Miller (WV)
Bean (FL) Good (VA) Mills
Biggs Gooden (TX) Moolenaar
Bilirakis Gosar Mooney
Bishop (NC) Graves (LA) Moore (AL)
Boebert Green (TN) Nehls
Bost Greene (GA) Norman
Brecheen Hageman Ogles
Burchett Harshbarger
Burgess Hern Owens
Burlison Higgins (LA) Palmer
Cammack Houchin Perry
Carey Hunt Rosendale
Carl Jackson (TX) Roy
Cline Johnson (LA) Santos
Cloud Jordan Self
Collins Joyce (PA) Smith (MO)
Comer LaLota Stauber
Crane LaMalfa Steube
Davidson Langworthy Tenney
Donalds Langworth Thompson (PA)
Duncan Letlow Tiffany
Ezell Luttrell Van Drew
Fallon Mace Van Duyne
Finstad Mann

NOES—339

Fletcher Lynch
Flood Magaziner
Foster Malliotakis
Allen Foushee Manning
Foxy Mast
Frankel, Lois Matsui
Frost McBath
Gallagher McCarthy
Gallego McCaul
Garamendi McClellan
Garbarino McCollum
Garcia (IL) McCormick
Garcia (TX) McGarvey
Garcia, Mike McGovern
Garcia, Robert Meeks
Jimenez Menendez
Golden (ME) Meng
Goldman (NY) Meuser
Gomez Mfume
Gonzales, Tony Miller-Meeks
Gonzalez, Vicente Molinaro
González-Colón Moore (UT)
Gottheimer Moore (WI)
Granger Moran
Graves (MO) Morelle
Green, Al (TX) Moskowitz
Griffith Moulton
Grijalva Moulyan
Grothman Mrvan
Guest Mullin
Guthrie Murphy
Harder (CA) Nadler
Harris Napolitano
Hayes Neal
Higgins (NY) Neguse
Hill Newhouse
Himes Nickel
Hinson Norcross
Horsford Norton
Houlahan Nunn (IA)
Hoyer Overmote
Hoyle (OR) Ocasio-Cortez
Hudson Omar
Huffman Pallone
Huizenga Panetta
Issa Pappas
Ivey Pascarell
Jackson (IL) Payne
Jackson (NC) Pelosi
Jackson Lee Perez
Jacobs Peters
James Pettersen
Jayapal Pfuger
Jeffries Phillips
Johnson (GA) Pingree
Johnson (OH) Plaskett
Johnson (SD) Pocan
Joyce (OH) Porter
Kamlager-Dove Posey
Kaptur Pressley
Kean (NJ) Quigley
Keating Radewagen
Kelly (IL) Ramirez
Kelly (MS) Raskin
Kelly (PA) Reschenthaler
Khanna Rodgers (WA)
Kiggans (VA) Rogers (AL)
Kildee Rogers (KY)
Kiley Rose
Kilmer Ross
Kim (CA) Rouzer
Kim (NJ) Ruiz
Krishnamoorthi Ruppersberger
Kuster Rutherford
Sablan Ryan
Salazar Sablan
Salinas Salazar
Sánchez Salinas
Sarbanes Sánchez
Scalise Sarbanes
Scanlon Scalise
Schakowsky Scanlon
Schiff Schakowsky
Schneider Schiff
Scholten Schneider
Schrier Scholten
Schwartz Schrier
Scott (VA) Schwartz
Scott, Austin Scott (VA)
Scott, David Scott, Austin
Sessions Scott, David
Sewell Sessions
Sherman Sewell
Sherrill Sherman

NOT VOTING—7

Bush Luna Pence
Carter (TX) McHenry
Diaz-Balart Peltola

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR
The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1815

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 161 OFFERED BY MR. GAETZ

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 161, printed in part A of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. GAETZ), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 160, noes 269, not voting 10, as follows:

[Roll No. 439]

AYES—160

Adams Crockett Hayes
Allen Curtis Hern
Babin Davis (IL) Higgins (LA)
Balint Dean (PA) Houlahan
Barragán DeGette Hoyle (OR)
Bean (FL) DeLauro Hunt
Biggs Dingell Issa
Bilirakis Doggett Jacobs
Boebert Donalds James
Bonamici Duncan Jayapal
Bowman Emmer Johnson (LA)
Brecheen Evans Jordan
Buck Fallon Kamlager-Dove
Burchett Ferguson Kelly (IL)
Burgess Finstad Khanna
Burlison Fischbach Kildee
Cammack Foushee LaMalfa
Cárdenas Frost Langworthy
Carey Fry Larsen (WA)
Casar Gaetz Lee (CA)
Castro (TX) Garcia (IL) Lee (PA)
Chu Garcia, Robert Leger Fernandez
Clark (MA) Gomez Loudermilk
Clarke (NY) Gooden (TX) Luttrell
Cleaver Gosar Malliotakis
Cline Greene (GA) Mann
Cloud Griffith Massie
Collins Grothman Mast
Comer Guest McCollum
Connolly Hageman McGovern
Crane Harris Meng
Crawford Harshbarger Meuser

Mfume
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Mills
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moore (WI)
Neal
Neguse
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Ocasio-Cortez
Ogles
Omar
Owens
Palmer
Pocan
Porter
Posey
Pressley
Ramirez
Raskin
Reschenthaler
Rosendale
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Salinas
Sanchez
Santos
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Scott (VA)
Scott, Austin
Simpson
Smith (NJ)
Stansbury
Stauber

NOES—269

Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Auchincloss
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Beatty
Bentz
Bera
Bergman
Beyer
Bice
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bost
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buchanan
Bucshon
Budzinski
Calvert
Caraveo
Carrabajal
Carl
Carson
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Ciscomani
Clyburn
Clyde
Cohen
Cole
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Crow
Cuellar
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davidson
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Duarte
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Estes
Ezell
Feenstra
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Buchanan
Budzinski
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Cárdenas
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Davids (KS)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
DeLauro
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Manning
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (UT)
Moran
Morelle
Moylan
Mrvan
Murphy
Nadler
Napolitano
Nelson
Norcross
Norton
Oberholte
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Perez
Perry
Peters
Pettersen
Pfluger
Phillips
Pingree
Plaskett
Posey
Radewagen
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sanchez
Santos
Scalise
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman

Stefanik
Steube
Takano
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Titus
Tlaib
Tokuda
Tonko
Torres (NY)
Trahan
Trone
Van Dwyne
Vargas
Velázquez
Weber (TX)
Wild
Williams (GA)
Zinke

Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (WA)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Spartz
Stanton
Steel
Steil
Stevens
Strickland
Strong
Bishop (NC)
Bush
Carter (TX)
Good (VA)

Swalwell
Sykes
Thanedar
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Timmons
Torres (CA)
Turner
Underwood
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Orden
Vasquez
Veasey
Wagner
Walberg

NOT VOTING—10

Grijalva
Jackson (TX)
Luna
McHenry
Peltola
Pence

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1818

So the amendment was rejected.
The result of the vote was announced
as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 166 OFFERED BY MS. JAYAPAL

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished
business is the demand for a recorded
vote on amendment No. 166, printed in
part A of House Report 118-216 offered
by the gentlewoman from Washington
(Ms. JAYAPAL), on which further pro-
ceedings were postponed and on which
the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the
amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amend-
ment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote
has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This will be a 2-
minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic de-
vice, and there were—ayes 176, noes 258,
not voting 5, as follows:

[Roll No. 440]

AYES—176

Adams
Arrington
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Bean (FL)
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Biggs
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brecheen
Brown
Brownley
Buck
Bucshon
Burchett
Burlison
Carrabajal
Carey
Carson
Casar
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaever
Cohen
Collins
Connolly
Crane
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar
Davidson
Davis (IL)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Escobar
Eshoo
Espallat
Evans
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Fry
Garamendi
García (IL)
García (TX)
García, Robert
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Good (VA)
Gosar
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Hageman
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Jordan
Kamlager-Dove
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lieu
Good (VA)
Gosar
Green, Al (TX)
Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grijalva
Hageman
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman
Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Jordan
Kamlager-Dove
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Kuster
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Lee (CA)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Lieu

Lynch
Mann
Massie
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McClintock
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (WI)
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neguse
Norton
Nunn (IA)
Ocasio-Cortez

Ogles
Omar
Pallone
Pelosi
Perez
Perry
Peters
Phillips
Pocan
Porter
Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Rosendale
Ross
Roy
Sablan
Salinas
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schweikert
Sherman
Smith (WA)

NOES—258

Aderholt
Aguilar
Alford
Allen
Allred
Amodei
Armstrong
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Bilirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Buchanan
Budzinski
Burgess
Calvert
Cammack
Caraveo
Cárdenas
Carl
Carter (GA)
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Case
Chavez-DeRemer
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyburn
Clyde
Cole
Comer
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crenshaw
Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (NC)
De La Cruz
DeLauro
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duarte
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes
Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fitzpatrick
Fleischmann
Fletcher
Flood
Foxy
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Gallego
Garbarino
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
Golden (ME)
Gonzales, Tony
González-Colón
Gooden (TX)
Gottheimer
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Harder (CA)
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Himes
Hinson
Horsford
Houchin
Houlahan
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (NC)
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Joyce (OH)
Joyce (PA)
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kiggans (VA)
Kiley
Kim (CA)
Krishnamoorthi
Kustoff
LaHood
LaLota
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Larson (CT)
Latta
LaTurner
Lawler
Lee (FL)
Lee (NV)
Lesko
Letlow
Levin
Lofgren
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Mace
Magaziner
Malliotakis
Manning
Mast
McCarthy
McCaul
McClain
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Molinaro
Moolenaar
Moore (UT)
Moran
Morelle
Moylan
Mrvan
Murphy
Neal
Nehls
Newhouse
Nickel
Norcross
Norman
Oberholte
Owens
Palmer
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pettersen
Pfluger
Pingree
Plaskett
Posey
Radewagen
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rodgers (AL)
Rodgers (KY)
Rose
Rouzer
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Rutherford
Ryan
Salazar
Sanchez
Santos
Scalise
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Scott, David
Self
Sessions
Sewell
Sherman

Sherrill
Simpson
Slotkin
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stanton
Stauber
Steel
Stefanik
Steil
Steube

Strickland
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (MS)
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Trone
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Vasquez
Veasey
Wagner

Walberg
Waltz
Wasserman
Schultz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NOT VOTING—5

Bush
Carter (TX)

Luna
Peltola

Pence

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1821

Mr. CORREA changed his vote from “aye” to “no”.

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

AMENDMENT NO. 175 OFFERED BY MR. ROY

The Acting CHAIR. The unfinished business is the demand for a recorded vote on amendment No. 175, printed in part A of House Report 118–216 offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ROY), on which further proceedings were postponed and on which the ayes prevailed by voice vote.

The Clerk will redesignate the amendment.

The Clerk redesignated the amendment.

RECORDED VOTE

The Acting CHAIR. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The Acting CHAIR. This is a 2-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 202, noes 231, not voting 6, as follows:

[Roll No. 441]

AYES—202

Aderholt
Alford
Allen
Amodei
Armstrong
Arrington
Babin
Bacon
Baird
Balderson
Banks
Barr
Bean (FL)
Bentz
Bergman
Bice
Biggs
Bilirakis
Bishop (NC)
Boebert
Bost
Brecheen
Buchanan
Bucshon
Burchett
Burgess

Burlison
Cammack
Carey
Carl
Carter (GA)
Ciscomani
Cline
Cloud
Clyde
Cole
Collins
Comer
Crane
Crawford
Crenshaw
Davidson
De La Cruz
DesJarlais
Diaz-Balart
Donalds
Duncan
Dunn (FL)
Edwards
Ellzey
Emmer
Estes

Ezell
Fallon
Feenstra
Ferguson
Finstad
Fischbach
Fitzgerald
Fleischmann
Flood
Foxy
Franklin, C.
Scott
Fry
Fulcher
Gaetz
Gallagher
Garcia, Mike
Gimenez
González-Colón
Good (VA)
Gooden (TX)
Gosar
Granger
Graves (LA)
Graves (MO)
Green (TN)

Greene (GA)
Griffith
Grothman
Guest
Guthrie
Hageman
Harris
Harshbarger
Hern
Higgins (LA)
Hill
Hinson
Houchin
Hudson
Huizenga
Hunt
Issa
Jackson (TX)
James
Johnson (LA)
Johnson (OH)
Johnson (SD)
Jordan
Joyce (PA)
Kelly (MS)
Kelly (PA)
Kim (CA)
Kustoff
LaHood
LaMalfa
Lamborn
Langworthy
Latta
LaTurner
Lee (FL)
Lesko
Letlow
Loudermilk
Lucas
Luetkemeyer
Luttrell
Malliotakis

Mann
Massie
Mast
McCarthy
McCauley
McClain
McClintock
McCormick
McHenry
Meuser
Miller (IL)
Miller (OH)
Miller (WV)
Miller-Meeks
Mills
Moolenaar
Mooney
Moore (AL)
Moore (UT)
Moran
Moylan
Murphy
Nehls
Newhouse
Norman
Nunn (IA)
Ogles
Owens
Palmer
Perry
Pfluger
Posey
Radewagen
Reschenthaler
Rodgers (WA)
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rose
Rosendale
Rouzer
Roy
Rutherford

Salazar
Santos
Scalise
Schweikert
Scott, Austin
Self
Sessions
Simpson
Smith (MO)
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smucker
Spartz
Stauber
Stefanik
Steil
Steube
Strong
Tenney
Thompson (PA)
Tiffany
Timmons
Turner
Valadao
Van Drew
Van Duyne
Van Orden
Wagner
Walberg
Waltz
Weber (TX)
Webster (FL)
Wenstrup
Westerman
Williams (NY)
Williams (TX)
Wilson (SC)
Wittman
Womack
Yakym
Zinke

NOES—231

Adams
Aguilar
Alfred
Auchincloss
Balint
Barragán
Beatty
Bera
Beyer
Bishop (GA)
Blumenauer
Blunt Rochester
Bonamici
Bowman
Boyle (PA)
Brown
Brownley
Buck
Budzinski
Calvert
Caraveo
Carbajal
Cárdenas
Carson
Carter (LA)
Cartwright
Casar
Case
Casten
Castor (FL)
Castro (TX)
Chavez-DeRemer
Cherfilus-
McCormick
Chu
Clark (MA)
Clarke (NY)
Cleaver
Clyburn
Cohen
Connolly
Correa
Costa
Courtney
Craig
Crockett
Crow
Cuellar

Curtis
D'Esposito
Davids (KS)
Davis (IL)
Davis (NC)
Dean (PA)
DeGette
DeLauro
DelBene
Deluzio
DeSaulnier
Dingell
Doggett
Duarte
Escobar
Eshoo
Español
Evans
Fitzpatrick
Fletcher
Foster
Foushee
Frankel, Lois
Frost
Gallego
Garamendi
Garbarino
García (IL)
García (TX)
García, Robert
Golden (ME)
Goldman (NY)
Gomez
Gonzales, Tony
Gonzalez,
Vicente
Gottheimer
Green, Al (TX)
Grijalva
Harder (CA)
Hayes
Higgins (NY)
Himes
Horsford
Houlahan
Hoyer
Hoyle (OR)
Huffman

Ivey
Jackson (IL)
Jackson (NC)
Jackson Lee
Jacobs
Jayapal
Jeffries
Johnson (GA)
Joyce (OH)
Kamlager-Dove
Kaptur
Kean (NJ)
Keating
Kelly (IL)
Khanna
Kildee
Kiley
Kilmer
Kim (NJ)
Krishnamoorthi
Kuster
LaLota
Landsman
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Lawler
Lee (CA)
Lee (NV)
Lee (PA)
Leger Fernandez
Levin
Lieu
Lofgren
Lynch
Mace
Magaziner
Manning
Matsui
McBath
McClellan
McCollum
McGarvey
McGovern
Meeks
Menendez
Meng
Mfume
Molinaro

Moore (WI)
Morelle
Moskowitz
Moulton
Mrvan
Mullin
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal
Neguse
Nickel
Norcross
Norton
Oberholte
Ocasio-Cortez
Omar
Pallone
Panetta
Pappas
Pascrell
Payne
Pelosi
Sherman
Sherrill
Slotkin
Smith (WA)
Sorensen
Soto
Spanberger
Stansbury
Stanton

Pressley
Quigley
Ramirez
Raskin
Ross
Ruiz
Ruppersberger
Ryan
Sablan
Salinas
Sánchez
Sarbanes
Scanlon
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schneider
Scholten
Schrier
Scott (VA)
Scott, David
Sewell
Sullivan
Velázquez
Wasserman
Schultz
Waters
Watson Coleman
Wexton
Wild
Williams (GA)
Wilson (FL)

NOT VOTING—6

Bush
Carter (TX)

Kiggans (VA)
Luna

Peltola
Pence

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE ACTING CHAIR

The Acting CHAIR (during the vote).
There is 1 minute remaining.

□ 1824

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

□ 1830

The Acting CHAIR. There being no further amendments under the rule, the committee rises.

Accordingly, the Committee rose; and the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Ohio) having assumed the chair, Mr. GUTHRIE, Acting Chair of the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union, reported that that Committee, having had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4365) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, and, pursuant to House Resolution 723, he reported the bill back to the House with sundry amendments adopted in the Committee of the Whole.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the rule, the previous question is ordered.

Is a separate vote demanded on any amendment reported from the Committee of the Whole? If not, the Chair will put them en gros.

The amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. 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.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 4365 is postponed.

N O T I C E

Incomplete record of House proceedings. Today's House proceedings will be continued in the next issue of the Record.



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 118th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 169

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023

No. 157

Senate

(Legislative day of Friday, September 22, 2023)

The Senate met at 10 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's opening prayer will be offered by Air National Guard Chaplain Lt. Col. Kent Lundy, wing chaplain at the 181st Intelligence Wing from Terre Haute, IN.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

If you would be in prayer with me.

Inspiring God that creates a way where there is no way, inspire these servant Senators to rise to every challenge by putting people over profits and freedom for all over privilege for a few. Bless them and their staff with a passion in their bellies and steel in their spine so that they can do the hard things well. May they never take more power than we the people give them. May the good they seek to do be the good for everyone who calls the United States home.

Give this body a passion to especially make sure our military is ready to defend democracy at home and around the world.

Eternal light that never shuts down, may our Senators answer a higher calling that will care for Your creation for at least the next seven generations, and may You endow them with wisdom as they steward the gift of freedom for such a time as this.

Instill the characteristics of integrity, truth, humility, and compassion in all Americans, just as we expect the same from these servant Senators. And let us commit to making selfless service great again.

Even if the institution of the Senate would last a thousand years, may the people one day say: This—this—was their finest hour.

Mindful of all the names Your children use to call upon You, I pray in the Name of Jesus. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, September 27, 2023.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable PETER WELCH, a Senator from the State of Vermont, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATTY MURRAY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. WELCH thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is closed.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

SECURING GROWTH AND ROBUST LEADERSHIP IN AMERICAN AVIATION ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 3935, which the clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 211, H.R. 3935, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs, and for other purposes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Indiana.

WELCOMING CHAPLAIN KENT A. LUNDY

Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, "Let us all strive to make selfless service great again." Lt. Col. Kent Lundy opened this Chamber in prayer today.

When the Constitutional Convention reached an impasse in the summer of 1787, the oldest delegate offered a suggestion to the assembled. Rather than searching in the dark for truth, Benjamin Franklin reasoned they should instead begin each day's work with an appeal through prayer to the "Father of Lights" to illuminate their path. Without his assistance, Franklin argued, "[w]e shall be divided by our little partial local interests; our projects will be confounded, and we ourselves shall become a reproach and a byword down to the future age."

With that divine assistance, none of these ever came to pass, blessedly; that we stand in this institution that they built, guided by the Constitution that they wrote, is surely proof of it and proof of his blessings. We still need them. We need those blessings over our work here, over our Nation.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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I am honored that, today, that appeal was made by one of Indiana's own. An airman pastor, Lt. Col. Kent Lundy has long served his Nation and the communities he has called home. He wears the uniform of the Air Force as a member of the Indiana National Guard. He is an ordained elder in the United Methodist Church. Chaplain Lundy has been a member of the Indiana Air National Guard for 16 years, 12 of which were with the 122nd Fighter Wing in Fort Wayne as a chaplain.

He has been deployed overseas twice, and for the last 4 years he has been on Active Duty with the 181st Intelligence Wing in Terre Haute, IN.

As wing chaplain, he supports the physical, social, mental, and spiritual needs—the four pillars of airman fitness—of his fellow guardsmen as they do their work, as they seek to make America great again through service from the ground up, as they provide our military critical assistance for missions and rescue efforts during natural disasters.

A testament to the passion he brings to his work, Chaplain Lundy has said being an Air Force chaplain is “the greatest job in the Air Force.” And when you meet him, you get a sense of his enthusiasm for his work, for his service. You come to understand that.

But his work goes beyond that. He is an advocate for Hoosier veterans, and he has worked to destigmatize and increase access to mental health care for those who have served.

Chaplain Lundy originally joined the Air Force in 2006. His calling goes back much further than that, though. He first heard it during a visit to the Holy Land as a seventh grader shortly after joining the church. Over the years, it has led him to pastor churches in Fort Wayne and other parts of northeast Indiana.

His wife, Rev. Dr. Marti Gates Lundy, who is with us today as well, is also a United Methodist pastor.

Chaplain Lundy has devoted his life to God and to meeting the spiritual needs of his fellow Hoosiers and the men and women who serve our country.

I don't know if he found the U.S. Senate as big of a thrill as he has the Indianapolis Motor Speedway—we are not going to ask him that question; he has offered prayers there, too—but we are privileged to have had Chaplain Lundy deliver today's invocation.

After all, to borrow Franklin's words, we still need the assistance of Heaven and its blessings on our deliberations.

Thank you, Chaplain Lundy, for making those appeals on our behalf.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Indiana.

Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, I would like to thank you, Chaplain Lundy, for coming all the way from Terre Haute. That is on kind of the west central side of our State, a pretty good trek out here.

You heard what the senior Senator from Indiana said. You have had a storied career in the military, but I think

having a life led based upon strong faith, there is no substitute for it, serving there with the National Guard.

Indiana has the notoriety for having a lot of veterans in our own State, always coming to the call when there is a need, whether it is through the National Guard or through Active Duty.

You play such an important role because so often the troops who give the most, who serve, need the help of probably the Almighty more than any of us in that task. Thank you for doing that. Caring for that spiritual well-being, it is hard to imagine how that works in some instances. Again, doing it, you ought to feel good about the career you have made and spent, especially back home in Indiana.

We are a State where, I think, faith is the cornerstone of so much of what we do. Our families and our communities all intertwine. Every town, I think, needs that. Every State needs that.

Thank you, again, for doing this today, opened the Senate session in prayer, and for what you have done throughout your storied career.

Chaplain LUNDY. Thank you.

Mr. BRAUN. You are welcome.

I yield the floor.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, well, yesterday afternoon, Democrats and Republicans reached an agreement on a CR that will keep the government open until November 17, and, with a strong bipartisan vote of 77 to 19, the Senate agreed to move forward last night on this legislation. It shows that, in the Senate, both parties can work through our differences for the betterment of the country.

But in the House, Republicans have tried everything but bipartisanship. Last night, the Speaker twisted himself into pretzels yet again, trying to avoid his responsibility of governing. But this is the truth: Every bill House Republicans have pushed has been partisan, every CR has been aimed at the hard right, and every path they have pursued to date will inevitably lead to a shutdown.

Speaker MCCARTHY, the only way—the only way—out of a shutdown is bipartisanship, and by constantly adhering to what the hard right wants, you are aiming for a shutdown. They want it. You know it. You can stop it. Work in a bipartisan way like we are in the Senate, and we can avoid harm to tens of millions of Americans.

Bipartisanship is precisely what we have been pursuing here in the Senate. We haven't agreed on everything, and there is still a lot more work to be done. But we haven't let our differences paralyze us, and the result has been a commonsense, bipartisan, sensible approach for a CR.

It will keep the government funded at current levels until November 17. It

will extend the Federal Aviation Administration until December 31. It will replenish the Disaster Response Emergency Fund to help communities battered by natural disasters. It will continue paying Federal firefighters. It will extend funding for community health centers, the National Health Service Corps, and other healthcare programs. And it will send more help to our friends in Ukraine.

Thank you to my colleagues who negotiated this bill in good faith. Thank you to Chair MURRAY and Vice Chair COLLINS and all the staff on the Approps committees, who worked all day and night through the weekend. And thanks to Leader MCCONNELL and the many, many Republicans who worked with us and joined us in passing this, for moving forward on this bipartisan CR.

Now, there is still much more work to do. Now that we are on the bill, it will require consent and cooperation to move it swiftly through the Chamber. We cannot have Members trying last-minute delay tactics and risk a shutdown. The CR agreement the Senate has released is a good, sensible, and bipartisan—let me emphasize “bipartisan”—bill. It is a bridge toward greater cooperation between the Chambers and away from the paralyzing extremism we have seen in the House.

And a reckless shutdown will serve no purpose except for hard-right partisans, whose only goal is to grind the gears of government down and promote extremism. It will cause grave harm for communities across the country. A reckless shutdown will cause grave harm to our border. It will affect our military by withholding their pay. It will disrupt everything from food safety inspection to TSA operations, to small business loans.

This is the problem with MAGA extremism. It is not serious about governing. Chaos is the only word in their playbook. Conflict seems to be their natural state of being. And some of them seem to exult in shutting down the government.

And if MAGA Republicans get their way, the danger for this country will be great. Extremism will be dominant. The ultrarich will be empowered. Working families will suffer. Women's healthcare will be even more curtailed.

We don't want to go down that troubling road. The Speaker should resist the 30 or so Republicans who want to drag us in that direction, and he can do it by giving bipartisanship a chance, just as we are doing here in the Senate.

SAFER BANKING ACT

Mr. President, now on SAFER Banking, this morning, as we speak, the Banking Committee is holding a markup on our bipartisan SAFER Banking Act. Today's markup of SAFER Banking represents a huge step forward in the Senate's effort to help cannabis businesses operate more efficiently, more safely, and more transparently.

I worked long and hard to get to this point with Chairman BROWN and Ranking Member SCOTT; and special thanks

to Senators Merkley, Daines, Lummis, Sinema, and Reed, because I thank them for their cooperation as well. It has been a goal of mine since we started this session of the Senate to move forward on this legislation.

And the good news: The SAFER Banking bill is about to be reported out of committee with strong bipartisan support this morning. Once it is reported out of committee, I will bring SAFER Banking to the floor for a vote as quickly as possible.

For too long, cannabis businesses have been forced to rely primarily on cash transactions—no credit or debit cards. Dealing only in cash stifles these businesses' growth, opens them up to so many risks, and makes them easy targets for theft, robbery, and other crimes. No industry has the ability to thrive if they can't access banking infrastructure, especially not an industry that is growing as quickly and is as new as the cannabis industry.

Congress has always been in the business of promoting entrepreneurs, promoting small business, and promoting job growth. We should continue doing so with the cannabis industry. Our SAFER Banking Act will connect cannabis businesses, especially ones in minority and underserved communities, to traditional financial resources like bank accounts and small business loans, creating a safer and more transparent environment for the industry to grow.

I am also committed to including criminal justice provisions like HOPE and GRAM in SAFER Banking. I have long advocated for expungement of records for cannabis offenses, and with SAFER Banking moving through the committee in a strong bipartisan way, now is the time to get it done.

So, again, I thank my colleagues on both sides for their work on this legislation, which has been an effort years—in the making. And once it is reported out of committee, I will put SAFER Banking on the floor for a vote very soon.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The Republican leader is recognized.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, yesterday, the Senate took the first step toward avoiding a harmful and unnecessary government shutdown. The business before us now is to pass standard, short-term funding legislation to keep basic and essential government functions operating while work continues on full-year appropriations.

We are talking about making sure that the servicemembers who will con-

tinue to stand watch around the world and the Border Patrol and ICE agents who will continue to contend with the Biden administration's border crisis here at home and the VA medical providers who will continue to care for America's heroes don't have to go without their paychecks.

The choice facing Congress is pretty straightforward. We can take the standard approach and fund the government for 6 weeks at the current rate of operations, or we can shut the government down in exchange for zero meaningful progress on policy.

So let's be clear. There are a number of important discussions on additional funding priorities that are still unresolved. Many colleagues are eager to make real progress in bringing the Democrats' reckless spending to heel; to force the administration to start taking its southern border crisis seriously; to provide greater relief for victims of wildfires, hurricanes, and other natural disasters; and to deliver continued assistance to Ukraine's defense against Russia. And on all of those counts, I am one of them.

We would like to address all of those issues, but these important discussions cannot progress if Congress simply fails to complete our work on standard, short-term funding and the basic functions of government end up being taken hostage. So a vote against a standard, short-term funding measure is a vote against paying over a billion dollars in salary for Border Patrol and ICE agents working to track down lethal fentanyl and tame our open borders. Letting FEMA's Disaster Relief Fund dry up is not a productive way to advocate for victims of disasters. Letting small businesses' loan applications collect dust is not a productive way to help working Americans contend with Washington Democrats' historic inflation.

Shutting down the government isn't an effective way to make a point. Keeping it open is the only way to make a difference on the most important issues we are facing.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Mr. President, on another matter, the American people are absolutely sick—sick and tired—of living under Bidenomics. According to one recent survey, nearly 70 percent of Americans think the economy is actually getting worse. And support for President Biden's handling of the economy is at the lowest level of his Presidency.

It might have something to do with the fact that since President Biden took office, soaring inflation has turned rising wages into net pay cuts for American workers. Real wages are down 2.3 percent since 2021. Household incomes fell in 17 States last year. And for all but the wealthiest 20 percent of households, American families' savings have actually shrunk.

A food truck owner in Atlanta told reporters recently that he is paying—listen to this—25 percent more for ingredients, while the lines for his sand-

wiches are dwindling as customers cut back on their spending. Here is what he said:

I've had to raise some of my prices just to kind of keep up to make it. . . . And gas prices, when you drive a food truck, you only get eight miles a gallon. So the cost of [my] fuel really hurts.

Here is what the Fed Chairman Jerome Powell said last week:

People hate inflation, hate it.

The Chairman of the Fed is absolutely right. Working families are tired of wondering how to make ends meet every month. They are tired of being told that Bidenomics is working for them.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

STOP CSAM ACT

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, a few weeks ago, regulations enacted in the European Union went into effect that cover more than a dozen of the world's biggest tech platforms. This includes online marketplaces, app stores, and social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram.

The European Union regulations address a host of harmful practices, including preventing targeted advertising, minimizing illegal content and hate speech, and, most importantly, protecting kids from horrible content.

If companies fail to comply in the European Union, they could be fined up to 6 percent of their annual global revenue. They can also be banned from operating in the European Union countries.

This shows that Big Tech can be regulated. It is possible to craft rules to protect our families without breaking the miracle of the internet.

In contrast to what has happened in Europe, here in the United States, Congress has failed to regulate high tech. And while we sit on our hands, other nations are moving ahead and shaping the rules of the digital world.

Worse than that, while we fail to act, children are left in harm's way. We can, and we must, regulate Big Tech to protect our kids.

Let me tell you about one young man named Cornell Johnson. He is from Illinois. He is a man who preyed on 17 victims, ranging in age from 4 to 17 years old and located across 8 States. His tool of choice: Facebook.

Johnson would set up profiles claiming to be a woman and then use these Facebook profiles to contact girls all over the country. First, he would entice these girls to send him sexually suggestive images of themselves in various stages of undress. Then he would

use these images to coerce the victims into sending him sexually explicit content. He would threaten to post the nude pictures online unless the young victims submitted to his demands for still more explicit images.

Horrifically, Johnson also directed his teenaged victims to sexually abuse younger children in their household and send him the images. He was prosecuted and sentenced to 45 years in Federal prison.

Johnson was held accountable for his conduct, but what about Facebook? Johnson could not have committed his crimes without the social media platform. He could not have sexually exploited those 17 children in 8 different States. Yet our current law, as written, shields Facebook from any accountability for the role they played in making Cornell Johnson's crimes possible.

Sadly, there are many examples where Big Tech is failing children in America.

Earlier this year, the Wall Street Journal exposed how Instagram's algorithms are connecting pedophiles and guiding them to locations where they can purchase child sexual abuse material. The platform permitted searches with terms associated with child abuse so vile that I won't repeat them in this Chamber. Senator LINDSEY GRAHAM and I wrote to Meta, Instagram's parent company, in June asking for answers to explain these algorithms. We are still waiting.

On X, formerly known as Twitter, Elon Musk reinstated the account of a user who was banned for tweeting an image of a toddler being tortured. As of late July, that image had drawn more than 3 million views and 8,000 retweets. A study released in June found that Twitter failed to stop the uploading of copies of known child sexual abuse material, CSAM. The study also found that Twitter would sometimes allow accounts to remain active until they had uploaded CSAM multiple times. Elon Musk's claims of a zero-tolerance policy for child exploitation on his platform doesn't reflect the disturbing reality.

Another company failing our children is Apple. In 2021, the company paused its plan to detect CSAM uploaded to its cloud service. Then last month, Wired published a letter from Apple in which the company confirmed it will make no effort to address child sexual abuse material stored on its platform. Apparently, Apple views permitting this ongoing child sexual exploitation as an acceptable and necessary cost of protecting their right to privacy.

But I believe we can live in a world where user privacy and child safety can coexist, and I believe I have written a bill that does just that. My STOP CSAM Act will end Big Tech's free ride and give victims a way to hold these companies accountable for their failure to stop online child sexual exploitation and, in some cases, for their actions that make it worse.

Importantly, the bill achieves this goal in a manner that will avoid any unintended impact on technology that protects privacy.

The STOP CSAM Act is the product of extensive consultations with stakeholders. It passed out of the Judiciary Committee, which I chair, unanimously—every Democrat, every Republican supported it—and I am working to bring it to the floor.

The Senate must act. Our failure to do so will preserve the status quo where our children are being sexually exploited online every single day. What a nightmare. As a father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, you think all the time: What are they looking at on those phones all day long? What is on those screens? What message is being sent to them? What is changing them from that experience? And what can I possibly do as a parent or grandparent to police what is going on there?

We need to have the law on our side. Sure, I want to be certain to recognize the basic fundamental constitutional rights in our country, but I have to acknowledge as well that we aren't doing anything at this point. The current law says that these platforms are not responsible for whatever they do or fail to do. It is a get-out-of-jail-free card completely, and it has been that way for decades.

We have to wake up to the reality of the year we live in and the reality of life in families across America. Even the most conscientious parents cannot know what is going on every hour of every day with children and these screens.

The sexexploitation which I outlined here in detail is happening, and what are we doing about it? If we are going to help Americans raise good kids—and we want them all to raise good kids—we have to give them the tools and we have to back them up with laws that say we are going to take it seriously. The European Union has done it, so why not the United States of America? It is time for us to make progress in this area for the good of our children.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

BORDER SECURITY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, “No end in sight”—that is how one Border Patrol chief described the influx of migrants in the Rio Grande Valley sector of the southern border in March 2021. “No end in sight.” That was 2½ years ago, and there is still no end in sight to this crisis.

On Friday, we learned that 232,972 individuals were caught trying to ille-

gally cross our southern border in the month of August—232,972. That is the highest August number yet for the Biden administration. All signs suggest that we are on track for a third record-breaking year of apprehensions at the southern border. In fact, roughly 11,000 individuals were apprehended attempting to cross our southern border in just 24 hours this past weekend—11,000 in 24 hours.

If the White House really thinks it is “stopping the flow at the border,” as the White House Press Secretary said last month, it should think again.

It is important to note that the numbers I have mentioned only reflect individuals who were actually apprehended. They don't include individuals who have made their way into the country illegally without—without—being caught. Since the beginning of the Biden administration, there have been at least 1.5 million known “got-aways,” individuals the Border Patrol detected but was unable to apprehend.

The Biden administration's so-called border plan is clearly not working, and State and local governments are stretched thin. And I am not just talking about border towns and border States; I am talking about places like New York City, Chicago, Massachusetts. As migrants flood into these locations, blue States and blue cities are learning what border States have been experiencing for years, and they are struggling with the costs this crisis is imposing.

Denver, CO, has spent almost \$25 million sheltering migrants.

Chicago is projected to spend more than \$250 million this year on migrant care.

New York City could spend \$12 billion—billion with a “b”—by 2025 on the migrant crisis, possibly precipitating cuts to city services. Just to give you one example of the current crisis, the city has begun housing 3,000 illegal immigrants at a makeshift shelter on local soccer fields, eliminating a popular source of activity and recreation for local children.

Here is what New York City Mayor Eric Adams had to say about this crisis the other day, and I quote:

Let me tell you something, New Yorkers, never in my life have I had a problem that I did not see an ending to—I don't see an ending to this. This issue will destroy New York City.

That from the mayor of New York.

The border crisis we are experiencing is a predictable outcome of the decisions made early in the Biden administration. The President's team was warned of the possibility of a migrant surge. Yet the moment the President took office, he set about dismantling the immigration policies of his predecessor and weakening our Nation's border security. And it wasn't long before the border was overwhelmed.

And while after 2 years the Biden administration finally started to, at least halfheartedly, acknowledge the border crisis, what few proactive measures the

administration has taken have been ineffective, to say the least. As one columnist put it recently in the *Washington Post*:

The Biden administration's various efforts have amounted to Band-Aids on a massive, open wound.

I am also deeply concerned about some of the new policies the administration seems to be considering. The Department of Homeland Security is reported to be considering requiring some illegal migrants to remain in Texas or, perhaps, other border States while they await asylum screening. Now, I am not sure if this an attempt to spare blue States from having to deal with the border crisis or a recognition that releasing tens of thousands of illegal immigrants into the interior of the country isn't a good idea; but, regardless, forcing border communities to shoulder even more of the border crisis is a terrible and profoundly unjust idea.

How about actually turning illegal immigrants back at the borders of this country instead of keeping them within the borders and border States?

And then there is the supplemental funding request the White House sent to Congress. As our colleague Senator HAGERTY has pointed out, the request includes a provision that would allow Immigration and Customs Enforcement funding to be used for shelters and migrant services. In the words of the Senator from Tennessee, this could:

[E]ffectively convert ICE from a law enforcement agency into a U.S. travel agency for illegal aliens and into a grant-making bureaucracy for sanctuary cities.

I am pleased that the administration and Mexico have reached an agreement in which Mexico will attempt to reduce pressure on its border cities by sending migrants back to their home countries, among other reforms. But after letting this crisis deepen for 2½ years, the administration has a lot more work to do.

Currently, immigration is high on Americans' list of concerns, and it is no wonder. Americans can tell that our borders are open and that things are not getting better. They know that our current situation is not sustainable. It would be nice if the President could figure that out as well.

Ultimately, it is really quite simple. President Biden created this crisis—no ifs, ands, or buts about it—and he has the power to end it. He just needs to decide he is going to enforce the law. Pure and simple.

Unfortunately, until he does so, I am afraid that it will continue to be no end in sight at our southern border.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. HICKENLOOPER). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, more than 4½ months ago, title 42 expired. That was on May 11 of this year. Title 42, just to refresh everybody's memory, was a public health order that was designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19, particularly from people entering the country from other countries around the world.

In the lead-up to title 42's expiration, the Biden administration rolled out its plan to address the expected surge in migration. This plan was called the Circumvention of Lawful Pathways rule, and it was sold as a way to discourage illegal immigration and restore some sense of order along the border.

As I and countless others have pointed out, this wasn't a real solution. This was a shell game. It was an attempt to conceal the scope and scale of the border crisis and to process migrants into the United States at an unprecedented rate. Let me just paraphrase that. This was not designed to deter people from illegally immigrating to the United States. It was a way to greet them and welcome them and then invite them to enter into the United States without following the legal rules and laws that Congress had passed.

Well, despite the people who pointed out that this was really a ruse—a Trojan horse, if you will—the administration moved forward with the plan. Just days before title 42 was lifted, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas tried to assure the American people that the Biden administration was in control.

He said:

The border is not open; it has not been open; and it will not be open subsequent to May 11.

Well, at the time, it was clear that at least two parts of his statement were false. The border was open. That is why more than 10,000 migrants a day were crossing the southern border in the final week of title 42. How do you say the border is not open when 10,000 people are traversing the border each day without going through our legal immigration system? And the border had been open, and that is why the United States broke nearly every record in the book for border crossings on President Biden's watch. So it was open, and it had been open, and it is clear today that the border is still open even with the administration's new plan in place.

Despite the initial drop in border crossings after title 42 was lifted, illegal border crossings have surged once again. In August, Customs and Border Protection apprehended just under 233,000 migrants, setting the record for the busiest month this calendar year. As you might have predicted, the cartels simply sat back to assess the lay of the land and this new state of affairs and adapted their operations to exploit the rule's numerous loopholes.

Unfortunately, the challenges at the border have only grown since August. Over the last few weeks, areas along the entire U.S.-Mexico border have ex-

perienced a new surge in immigration. One area that is under tremendous strain is the west Texas town of El Paso. Last week, more than 8,000 migrants crossed into Eagle Pass. Excuse me—Eagle Pass. This isn't a major city. In fact, I mentioned El Paso by mistake. Eagle Pass is actually a much smaller town. This isn't a major city with extensive resources. Eagle Pass is a small border town with a population of roughly 28,000. It doesn't have the resources to house, feed, or transport thousands of migrants each week. Eagle Pass is bearing the brunt of this surge, but it is not alone. El Paso, that I mentioned earlier, is also experiencing a massive influx.

Several weeks ago, El Paso, in far west Texas, was seeing roughly 350 to 400 border crossings per day. In recent days, that number has skyrocketed to more than 2,000 a day.

Customs and Border Protection is releasing more than a thousand migrants a day into the community. And these aren't people, necessarily, who are claiming asylum. They are simply just trying to keep the line from stacking up and overloading the processing facilities of Customs and Border Protection.

So what are they doing? They are simply releasing them into the community, and they are on their own but for the help of some of the nongovernmental organizations that are trying to provide humanitarian assistance.

The city of El Paso has limited resources to care for migrants, and those resources are quickly being depleted. Over the weekend, El Paso Mayor Oscar Leeser said the city had reached a "breaking point" due to the growing number of migrants. That may sound familiar. That sounds like another mayor, Mayor Eric Adams of New York City, who said the influx of migrants into New York City is creating extreme danger and reaching the breaking point.

I am, generally speaking, a pretty optimistic person. But I don't see any indication that anything is going to change in the Biden administration's abdication of its responsibility to secure the border and have orderly, safe, and legal immigration.

People around the world see that America's southern border is wide open, and they are making their way to the United States.

I have mentioned this story before, but when four of our colleagues on the Democratic side of the aisle and four on the Republican side went to Yuma, AZ, with Senator SINEMA and Senator KELLY, who represent that State, we found a sleepy little agricultural community where the chief of the Border Patrol sector there welcomed us saying: Last year we encountered people from 174 different countries speaking more than 200 languages. Senator KELLY, one of the Arizona Senators, pointed out that there was an airport in a northern Mexican city called Mexicali and that, evidently, people

were just flying into that city and then literally Ubering over to the Yuma sector and claiming asylum.

The New York Times reports that in August, nearly 82,000 migrants have passed through what is known as the Darien Gap, which is the sole land route to the United States from South America, describing it as “by far the largest single-month total on record.”

The border crisis has had—and continues to have—a major impact on border communities in my State, but the scale of the Biden border crisis means the burden is now being shared more broadly with communities across the country.

Liberal enclaves, self-styled sanctuary cities like New York and Chicago have been longtime supporters of open-border policies, I suspect, primarily because it hasn't affected them in a negative way like it has always done in my State and my communities.

These cities proudly identify themselves as sanctuary cities and have even criticized commonsense measures to enforce our immigration laws. But as more and more migrants have poured into these liberal cities, the narrative has changed, as I pointed out a moment ago.

Mayor Adams of New York City, for example, issued a stark warning, saying it will “destroy New York City.”

The Democratic Governor of New Jersey, who once vowed to turn New Jersey into a sanctuary State, now says the State is at capacity. We have seen the same story play out in Boston, Chicago, and even right here in Washington, DC.

Even major sanctuary cities that are more than a thousand miles from the southern border can't keep up with the volume of migrants from the Biden border crisis. As our colleagues know, this is more than a humanitarian crisis. This is a public safety crisis as well.

When border agents are pulled off the frontlines to process, transport, and care for migrants, it creates a vulnerability for cartels and criminal organizations to then move illicit drugs across the border. They are given a clear pathway—literally, a multilane highway—to smuggle fentanyl, heroin, and other dangerous drugs across the border and into cities and communities all across this country.

This isn't news to the cartel. This is their business model: Flood the zone with people, divert law enforcement, and then move the drugs into the United States. Last year alone, 108,000 Americans died as a result of those drugs.

The cartels know that this game that they are playing—or this business model—inures to their benefit. We saw this 2 years ago, when 15,000 migrants crossed into Del Rio in a matter of days. Del Rio is this little city of 35,000 people. They had an influx of 15,000 migrants—mostly Haitians—in just a matter of days.

It looks like we are seeing this history repeat itself. Border Patrol Chief

Jason Owens said he believes the surge last week was by design. As I said, cartels and these criminal organizations know they can flood the zone with migrants and distract law enforcement. It creates open corridors for drug traffickers, human smugglers, maybe even terrorists, and criminals of all stripes to sneak across the border.

When talking about the threats posed by fentanyl and criminal organizations, Chief Owens said:

It's about as bad as I've ever seen it.

This is somebody who has given his professional lifetime to serving the country as a member of the Border Patrol.

Communities across our country are being ravaged by the overdose epidemic, which is killing more than 110,000 Americans a year, and President Biden seems content to let the carnage continue. He has shown no interest in securing the border and cutting off the cartels' illicit trade corridors.

I can't reach any other conclusion but to think that President Biden doesn't care. If he did care, he would do something about it. But he, obviously, hasn't done anything about it, and the only obvious conclusion is that he doesn't care.

We are seeing clear and convincing evidence, both at the southern border and major cities, that President Biden's border plan—if you could call it that—isn't working. Apprehensions are on the rise, detention facilities are over capacity, and cities and nonprofit organizations are stretched beyond their limits to deal with the migrants with weak or nonexistent claims for asylum who never should have been released in the first place. The so-called Circumvention of Lawful Pathways rule has made the border crisis worse, not better.

In many ways, that seems to be the theme repeated over and over again: taking a bad situation and making it worse. And nowhere is that more evident than at the border.

What we have seen is the Biden administration is using this rule to funnel migrants into unlawful parole programs, essentially creating another class of immigrants with flimsy immigration status.

Rather than deliver consequences for illegal immigration, the administration is simply creating a new set of magic words migrants have to say in order to avoid immediate removal.

This rule is riddled with loopholes. And when too many migrants claim to fit within these loopholes, they will once again overwhelm DHS capacity. It is not fair to the migrants who have been led to believe that they can depend on these parole programs long term, and it is not fair to those with legitimate claims for asylum—which are maybe 10 to 15 percent of the people claiming asylum—to have to wait in line for years upon years with people who have no legitimate claim to asylum. And the reason they have to do that is because of the backlog in the immigration courts.

As we have seen with DACA, which is Deferred Action on Childhood Arrivals—these are the Dreamers, people who came as children with their parents into the country and for whom I have complete sympathy. We don't hold children responsible for what their parents do. Yet these migrants will face years of uncertainty and heartache as a result of the procedures employed by President Obama at the time, which have now been litigated in court for 10 years. Right now, the current status is the courts have said that what President Obama tried to do was illegal. He didn't have that authority.

It is time for Congress to intervene. We, obviously, can't depend on leadership—or even participation at this point—from the Biden administration.

This summer, I introduced a Congressional Review Act resolution that puts an end to President Biden's shell game. We know from the press that immigration groups, both on the right and the left, oppose the Circumvention of Lawful Pathways rule. Earlier this year, some of our Democratic colleagues said that they were deeply disappointed with the administration's decision to move forward with the rule.

I hope my colleagues on both sides of the aisle who have raised concerns over this policy will support the effort to overturn it.

Our colleagues know the impact of the border crisis, and they know that it is being felt far beyond the U.S.-Mexico border. Cities across the country, from El Paso to New York City, are overwhelmed by the burden of caring for these migrants who have no plausible claim to be in the country legally. Yet by sheer volume, they have overwhelmed the system.

Mayors and Governors are sounding the alarm over the unbearable weight of this crisis. They can't look for help at the White House; so they ought to be looking to us to do our job and provide that help.

At the same time, communities across the country are being terrified by the destruction and the death caused by the fentanyl crisis. On Monday, I sat down with parents, students, and first responders in Dallas, TX, who really drove home this point.

Each of our colleagues should have a vested interest in ending policies that are fueling the humanitarian and public safety crisis that begins at the border and yet reaches into every community across America. I didn't think it was possible for the Biden border crisis to get worse, but it clearly has.

Congress needs to act before the situation gets even more dangerous and worse and to force the Biden administration to put forth a serious plan that actually discourages illegal immigration and doesn't just invite migrants without any plausible or legitimate claims to being in the country and in the great American heartland.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Louisiana.

INFLATION

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I grew up in a wonderful small town in Louisiana called Zachary.

Now, today, Zachary is a city. It is five times larger than in the days I spent there growing up because Zachary, a number of years ago, got very serious about improving elementary and secondary education. The Presiding Officer knows something about that. So Zachary is much larger today, and if anyone ever doubts that growth and economic development is centered around quality public education, all you have to do is look at Zachary.

But when I grew up in Zachary, it was very small—one stoplight. We were so small, we didn't have a town drunk; several people had to take turns. But I loved it. I loved Zachary High School. You know, some people did not like high school. I am not one of them. I cared about two things: basketball and cheerleaders. And I wasn't very good at either one, but I had fun trying.

I also loved baseball, in part because my dad, my late father, was a baseball fan. And I was an OK fielder in baseball, but I had to quit the sport because I couldn't hit a curve. I was OK with the fastball, but I couldn't hit a curve. And I remember my coach telling me: KENNEDY, keep your eye on the ball, OK? Keep your eye on the ball.

And I tried, but I just couldn't do it.

My purpose in rising today is to suggest that we should keep our eye on the ball. We are faced with many difficult issues in the Senate today. We always are, but I think that is especially true today. My colleague Senator CORNYN just talked about one: immigration. Of course, the war in Ukraine is on everyone's mind. And I could go on and on and on.

But I don't want my colleagues to forget about one of the most important issues of all facing the American people today, and that is the cost of living in our extraordinary country—inflation. In my State, the median household income for a family of four is about \$55,000. That means half of our families make more and half of our families make less. But the mean is \$55,000 for a family of four.

As a result of President Biden's inflation—and, as an aside, I would note, I say this with no joy whatsoever—inflation in America today is manmade, and that man's name is President Joe Biden. In my State, where the mean household income is \$55,000, the average American family is paying \$800 a month more—a month; not a year, a month more—to live in this wonderful country as a result of Bidenomics. That is \$9,600 a year that a family of four making \$55,000 a year has to find.

And my people, they have maxed out their credit cards, and they have spent their savings. And they borrowed money, and they have had to take money out of their children's 529 college savings program. It is strangling my people. It is not any better in other States.

I looked at the numbers this morning. What we call overall inflation right now is about 3.7 percent. Core inflation, if you take out food and energy prices, as many of the economists like to do, is 4.3 percent. So 3.7 percent overall, 4.3 percent if you take out food and energy. Now, we are doing better. A year ago, those numbers were double. And I am so pleased that inflation has fallen just a bit, but I want you to understand what that means.

Falling inflation just means that prices—they are still rising, but they are not rising as fast as they were. Let me say that again. Falling inflation just means prices are still going up every month, every day, but they are not going up as fast as they were. We call that disinflation. Falling inflation also means that prices overall are not going down. That is deflation. My point is, even though inflation is falling—and I am so glad it is—all that means is that prices are not going up as fast as they were.

And we are going to be stuck with these high prices. They are going to be permanent, even if inflation goes to zero. What does that mean? Well, let's look at basic goods. Even if inflation goes to zero tomorrow, since February of 2021, electricity is up 24 percent. We are stuck with that. When inflation falls, electricity is not going to go back down to where it was. We are going to continue to pay 24 percent more. And gas—in Louisiana, gas is up 71 percent. We are stuck with that, even if inflation falls to zero. Eggs are up 28 percent; potato chips are up 28 percent; bread, 28 percent—permanent—coffee, 30 percent; rice, 28 percent; flour, 29 percent; milk, 17 percent; ice cream, 20 percent; chicken, per pound, 24 percent. And that is why the American people, in large part, are struggling so economically.

You should not have to sell blood plasma in America, the wealthiest country in all of human history, in order to go to the grocery store. It is not any worse, our inflation—which I am afraid these high prices, as I said, are going to be permanent. It is not any better if you look at necessities by category. All goods—as a result of President Biden's inflation, starting in February of 2021 and running through today, all goods are up an average of 17 percent.

How many American families have seen their income go up 17 percent? Not many. Food—all food, average—an average—is 19 percent. Housing is up 16 percent. Clothing is up 10 percent. Used cars and trucks are up 32 percent. And even if we can get inflation down to zero, we are going to be stuck with those prices. New cars are up 20 percent. Mortgage rates are up 161 percent.

Let me end as I began. We have a lot of issues that we are struggling with right now, but among the five things that moms and dads in America worry about when they lie down to sleep at night and can't is the cost of living in our wonderful country.

And these are the people who made this extraordinary country. America is not great because of the Federal Government. America is great because of ordinary people doing extraordinary things—people who just get up every day, go to work, obey the law, pay their taxes, and try to do the right thing by their kids.

President Biden's inflation is strangling a free people. The American people deserve better. And I don't want us to lose sight of that fact as we grapple with other important issues.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:30 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Ms. ROSEN).

SECURING GROWTH AND ROBUST LEADERSHIP IN AMERICAN AVIATION ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. REED. Madam President, many of us in this Chamber, on both sides of the aisle, work hard to govern responsibly, and we are deeply frustrated by those who are deliberately attempting to shut down the Federal Government.

A fringe element of extremist House Republicans has pushed Congress to the brink of another costly, wasteful shutdown. A government shutdown of any duration would harm hard-working Americans and our economy. Shutdowns cost taxpayers billions of dollars per week. They cost businesses money. They could even cause a downgrade to the Nation's credit rating, and they force an unnecessary disruption of many vital services.

Federal workers in all 50 States who perform essential work, like food inspectors, TSA agents, or park rangers, would stop getting paychecks. A Federal shutdown can halt projects and cause Federal lending to cease. Clinical trials and research at the NIH could be forced to stop. Effective programs like the Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program would be left in a vulnerable state.

As for national defense, a government shutdown would be extremely damaging; and in the midst of the blockade of key military promotions, it would be another Republican-inflicted wound.

A shutdown could halt our munitions production lines as it did in the 2013 shutdown. This would be very shortsighted—very shortsighted—at a time when we are focused on ramping up munitions production for Ukraine and with an eye on future needs in the Indo-Pacific.

There are several other areas where a shutdown would be harmful.

I urge my colleagues to consider the impacts of a shutdown on our military men and women, their families, and our defense civilians. Hundreds of thousands of troops could see delays in their paychecks, and many civilians could lose their contracts. If the shutdown extends, the Defense Department will have to reduce its recruiting, training, and family movement activities.

A shutdown would also include delay-needed investments in military infrastructure, including barracks and childcare centers. Dozens of new projects would not go forward.

This would prevent the Defense Department from effectively modernizing and investing in new programs. There could be no new starts in acquisition programs or military construction projects. Hundreds of new start efforts in procurement and R&D would be prohibited during a government shutdown. As such, the Department could be forced into funding legacy systems that are outdated and inefficient. That is simply congressionally mandated waste.

As Gen. C.Q. Brown, the incoming Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has said about a shutdown, "All the money in the world cannot buy more time; time is irrecoverable, and when you are working to keep pace against well-resourced and focused competitors, time matters." We could easily avoid this outcome by passing a short-term patch while we continue working toward a broader funding agreement.

I commend the leaders of the Senate Appropriations Committee—Senator MURRAY and Senator COLLINS—who hammered out the bipartisan continuing resolution before us, and also the leadership on both sides of the aisle. They have successfully reported out all 12 funding bills—Senator COLLINS and Senator MURRAY—by wide bipartisan votes so that our appropriations process is working on a bipartisan basis and working on a reasonable and responsible basis. In fact, seven of these appropriations bills were voted out unanimously. They are well-crafted and free from policy poison pills.

They fit within the bipartisan agreement among the chair, the vice chair, and the leaders on overall funding levels. More importantly, those bills meet the funding level that Speaker MCCARTHY demanded as the price of preventing the default of the U.S. Government just this summer.

We should pass these bills, and we could pass them but for the objections of some Republican Senators who are working in concert with the House to obstruct the appropriations process from moving forward on a bipartisan basis. Their wanton nihilism is damaging our country.

But we have before us a continuing resolution, or a CR, which, barring any dilatory tactics, should clear the Sen-

ate by a wide margin. I want to emphasize that this CR is nothing more than a patch. For a few more weeks, it keeps the government open; it keeps the aviation system operational and funded; it keeps the Flood Insurance Program authorized; it ensures that we will continue to take care of disaster victims throughout the country; and it will ensure that the Ukrainian people have the resources they need to win their fight for freedom.

This is not extravagance; it is the bare minimum. The question is, What will House Republicans do?

After creating a default crisis that brought the entire economy to the brink of disaster in June, they have accomplished virtually nothing. For months, House Republicans have only been able to pass a single funding bill. The rest of their highly partisan bills have been bottled up in committee or blocked from passing on the floor by Republicans themselves.

In the midst of their palace intrigue, House conservatives seem to be trying to one-up each other with one drastic, unpopular, and irresponsible cut after the other. It seems to be a competition over whose unworkable proposal can inflict more pain. Perhaps they mistakenly believe that their extreme ideas are popular or that they will somehow hurt the President.

But who suffers if title I education funding for low-income schools is cut by 80 percent? Who is harmed when 1.3 million low-income individuals are kicked out of the SNAP program and when food assistance for seniors and kids is cut by 14 percent? How do we address the lack of affordable housing when the HOME Investment Partnership is slashed by \$1 billion? How does Ukraine win when Congress withholds critical funding?

And let me pause here to underscore the significance of funding for Ukraine.

The assistance package the President is seeking for Ukraine will provide much needed military assistance as well as aid to displaced Ukrainians whose cities and towns continue to face indiscriminate bombardment by Putin's forces.

We know, if Putin is successful in seizing Ukraine, he will not stop there. Unless the United States and the international community continue to stand with Ukraine, Putin will continue to look for opportunities to inflict violence and violate the sovereignty and security of our allies and partners around the world. And if Putin succeeds because we have failed to help, our other adversaries and competitors will be emboldened too. Indeed, if Putin succeeds, he will not stop with Ukraine. He will threaten NATO countries.

The bottom line, frankly, is the probability that American military personnel will be engaged in combat goes up. Frankly, one of our major missions should be to ensure, through our efforts, that that probability constantly goes down. We do not want to sacrifice

American military personnel needlessly. Congress should send a strong message to Putin that we stand with the Ukrainians as they bravely fight for their homeland.

This is the second manufactured crisis that House Republicans have created this year. First, they threatened to default on our Nation's debt. So President Biden sat down with the Speaker and negotiated an agreement that set spending levels for this year. Now House Republicans are walking away from that agreement and threatening to shut down the government. It won't work. The American people can see this charade, and if there is a shutdown, they will know who is responsible.

I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

PREVENT GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWNS ACT OF 2023

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, I have come to this floor several times over the past many years and several times even recently to talk about a bill that Senator HASSAN and I have together that we have worked on very hard to end government shutdown threats forever.

This whole conversation that is happening right now in Washington, DC, about a government shutdown is not something that has always happened in our Republic. This conversation of a government shutdown has only really been since the mid-1980s to the present. Before that, there were no government shutdowns. Even when appropriations lapsed—and we had multiple times when appropriations lapsed in the past—we didn't have government shutdowns at that time. It wasn't until there was actually an executive opinion back in the seventies that there was created this moment to say, no, we are going to end up having a government shutdown if appropriations lapse.

We are in this moment again. This is a distinctly modern issue in American history that we need to bring to a close, this chapter. There is a way to do it.

In conversations that we have had for years of how do we actually stop government shutdowns, there have been very partisan bills on both sides, and Senator HASSAN and I sat down 5 years ago and said: Let's just have a dialogue. How can we stop government shutdowns without having a partisan bill at the end of it? It would be a way to be able to fix this that both sides of the aisle can say: That is a good way to be able to end it.

We have a very simple goal: End government shutdowns. Do appropriations bills.

That shouldn't be a radical concept. That should be a head nod from everybody, quite frankly, in this room to

say: Sure, we can agree to end government shutdowns and to do appropriations bills on time.

Our simple idea was this: If you don't finish your work during class, you have to stay after class to finish your work. It is just not that hard. It is something all of us experienced growing up in school.

If I can make it even simpler, when my older brother and I would get into an argument, my mom would put the two of us in a room and would say: You two guys have got to go in this room. Once you solve everything, then you can come out.

That is the genesis of this simple bill. It says: If we don't have our appropriations work done and we are still arguing about appropriations, the government continues to function as it has in the past year—exact same budget line. Everything continues as normal. The American people are held harmless. Federal workers, Federal contractors—all of them—still continue as they have.

But we experience the shutdown here in Washington, DC, not the rest of the country. We would be in session 7 days a week. We could not move the bills other than the appropriations bills. So we are locked in a box to say: If you haven't finished your appropriations bills, you have to stay overtime to finish those appropriations bills, and you can't move to something different than appropriations bills. You have got to be able to do those.

But, again, the American people wouldn't feel it. The Federal workers wouldn't feel it. The Federal contractors wouldn't feel it. We would.

If we didn't get our work done, why are the Border Patrol agents along the border—why are they being punished for us not getting our work done, because the Border Patrol agents, if we don't get this done, next week, they don't get a paycheck, when they have been working overtime hours managing 11,000 people a day coming across the border in chaos that is currently on our border. Those folks have been working as hard as they can, but because we haven't gotten our work done on the budgeting, now they don't get paid. Oh, but we are still asking them to go on the line and to risk their life for their country anyway. That doesn't make sense to me.

So our simple bill is: If the problem is up here, then the problem should remain up here, and we should get this resolved but not actually put the consequences on those folks who are serving us all around the Nation.

As I came through TSA, flying back to DC, as probably most of my colleagues did coming back this week, TSA agents whom I pass by every week—and we have great conversation as I pass by them in the airport every week. As my bag is being checked and as I am going through the scanner, like everyone else, the TSA agents were smiling at me saying: Am I going to get a paycheck next week?

It is not an unreasonable question from them. All they want to know is: I am here defending the Nation. Am I still going to get paid?

Listen, right now on the border—right now—they are being absolutely overrun with people coming across the border in big numbers—huge, overwhelming numbers. It used to be a thousand people a day. That was an overwhelming number. Yesterday, there were 11,000 people who crossed our southern border. They were literally just checked in, as much as could be done to be able to manage them and to be able to put them through.

If we have a shutdown, they are going to lose some of their support help, and we are going to have even more people come just across the border.

Here is what is happening. Anytime that the Border Patrol actually comes in and checks in, they are trying to manage the number of people coming between the borders. With the numbers that are coming across right now, those Border Patrol agents who should be in the field—who should actually be monitoring what is happening with the movement of illegal drugs across our border, illegal weapons across our border, and all the dynamics that are there from criminal elements moving across our border between ports of entry—they are not getting the opportunity to be able to chase those down because they are processing individuals.

The vast majority of our Border Patrol agents, by the end of their time each day, are in the station, not on the line. That only gets worse when we have a shutdown, and they lose part of their help.

By the way, during a shutdown, “nonessential” is also declared for the recruiting folks, which means we are not out there actually recruiting more agents to be able to join them to be able to get more help. There are more and more administrative duties being done by Border Patrol that we desperately need on the line. And we are grateful for them on the line.

Last week, I got a notification that rail traffic had stopped in Eagle Pass, TX. Most folks don't even know about the truck and train traffic that happens around the country. They just know they go to the grocery store, and they buy groceries. They go to the store and buy clothes and furniture. They just know it is there. But that is being moved by a truckdriver. That is being moved by rail very often.

Last week, in Eagle Pass, TX, DHS shut down all rail traffic there because a thousand migrants were riding the Mexican rail coming up through Mexico. They had climbed on the freight trains, and they were riding it all the way to the north—a thousand. But the response from DHS was just to shut the station down entirely. Then they took the CBP folks who are at that station and normally handle legal traffic coming north and south in and out of Mex-

ico into the United States and out of the United States to Mexico. They took those CBP agents, and they moved them over to driving migrants to different stations for their processing.

So it started out that there were a lot of folks riding the rails to be able to come to the United States, and it ended up being that we have so many people here that they literally shut it down.

What was the effect of that? We had American train traffic going south into Mexico that was backed up from Eagle Pass all the way to Nebraska, before it was said and done.

I was on the phone with Secretary Mayorkas saying: We have to get that station back open again. Do we have people illegally crossing the border riding the rails?

And his answer was: No. But those agents were needed to be able to move migrants who were illegally crossing in other areas.

The migration that is happening right now is not only affecting our national security because of the 11,000 people a day who are crossing our border. Those individuals, by and large, are not being checked. They are not being vetted. We are checking to see if they are on the terror watch list. For many of them, we don't have a name or an ID or a reliable country of origin other than the one they just tell us is their name or tell us is their country of origin. We have no idea.

They are being quickly paroled into the country, awaiting a hearing that is often 8 to 10 years in the future—8 to 10 years before they even get the hearing to determine if they are even eligible to be able to ask for asylum. This is insanity.

But it doesn't get better if Border Patrol loses all of its help during the government shutdown. It gets worse.

So we have got to be able to do a couple of things at once. We have to deal with the real fiscal problems that we have. We have over \$2 trillion in overspending this year. That is a real issue we should have grownup conversations about on this floor.

We have to deal with the immigration crisis and call it what it is. When 11,000 people a day illegally enter your country and Members of this body just look the other way, that is a problem. And when there is a national security crisis based on it, and we have Governors and mayors across the Nation crying out to this body and saying, “Make it stop”—they are not Republican and Democrat Governors and mayors; they are just Governors and mayors who are trying to manage their towns and their States. They are saying: Why isn't the Federal Government doing its job? The Federal Government has a responsibility for managing the border. Do it.

We have got to deal with the issue of government shutdowns. They hurt us more than help us. It spends more money than it saves, and it dramatically affects a lot of Federal workers

around the country who just want to be able to serve their neighbors or to be able to do law enforcement and actually get paid for it.

And I hear some of my colleagues and others say: They will eventually get paid.

Do you know what? That might be simple for some Members in this body, that they are not worried about living paycheck to paycheck. But there are an awful lot of folks who live paycheck to paycheck, that just missing a couple of paychecks is a really big deal. And all of those Federal contractors, they don't get backpay. They just don't get paid at all.

So we can't just say: They will all get paid later. They won't. Federal workers will eventually get backpay, but Federal contractors never do, and it really hurts for them. This shutdown is not their fault; it is ours.

So MAGGIE HASSAN and I just have a simple idea: Let's keep working on the problems, but let's not have a shutdown at the same time. Let's actually work out our problems in here and not hurt people all over the country who have no way of affecting what our debate is here. They are just trying to serve their neighbors. That is what I am looking for.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. BALDWIN). The junior Senator from Nevada.

ANNIVERSARY OF ROUTE 91 HARVEST FESTIVAL SHOOTING

Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, it has been nearly 6 years since my hometown of Las Vegas experienced an unimaginable tragedy—an attack that ripped families apart, destroyed lives, and left its mark on our State forever.

During any given weekend, our city is just buzzing with tourists and visitors from all across the country and all around the world.

And on the night of October 1, 2017, tens of thousands of people came to attend a music festival. But that night—that night—would be different—a night that would forever change our city, because that night a gunman opened fire on a crowd of concertgoers. In just 10 minutes—10 minutes—58 innocent people were struck down, hundreds of others were injured by gunfire, and hundreds more were hurt in the chaos that followed.

In the years since, we lost more individuals as a result of this tragedy, the deadliest mass shooting in American history.

Just think about what that means. It means families will forever have an empty chair at their kitchen table—families who will relive this horrific night each and every year, families who didn't get to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, holidays, and families who never got to say good-bye to their loved ones.

That night also changed the lives of everyone here. People who were attending or working at the festival and first responders—well, they ran towards the

danger. The full extent of the damage caused by this brutal attack can never truly be measured.

But in this dark moment, we saw our community go above and beyond to help others. Las Vegas—actually our entire State—we rallied together not just in the immediate aftermath but in the days, weeks, months, and even years after.

In the chaos and confusion of that night, our heroic first responders—police officers, firefighters, paramedics—ran into the scene to help. And their efforts that night saved lives.

And on the following day, we saw lines of people—lines of people—around entire blocks willing to donate blood.

And one story really sticks out to me. I remember speaking to a woman waiting to give blood in line. And when I went up to talk to her, she lifted up her arms like this to me, and she had tears in her eyes, and she said: I don't have much, but I have my blood to give. This is what I can give.

I remember her face to this day. It stays with me. And this kind of selflessness, this really embodies the incredible spirit of our community. And that woman's donation and the stories that she will tell and me meeting her has left an indelible imprint on me.

We come together to mourn those we lost and to support those who survived. This horrible moment showed the country why we are Vegas Strong. And I am here today to honor the memories of those who were impacted by that terrible night.

So as we remember and reflect on this event, we must also commit ourselves to action. And in the years since, we have made some progress. After decades of inaction, Democrats and Republicans in Congress came together to pass the most significant gun safety legislation in almost 30 years.

This bipartisan law is making a difference, but we can—and we must—do more to stop mass shootings. No community—no community—should ever have to experience the same pain and suffering that we went through in Las Vegas. So we can take commonsense bipartisan steps like permanently banning bump stocks and high-capacity magazines. These things allowed the shooter to fire so many rounds and cause so much carnage. And doing nothing is not an option.

We owe it to those who have experienced the pain of gun violence to do more. And we owe it to future generations to do more.

And at the end of the day, what this really is about is about keeping people and communities safe. It is about people and communities—keeping them safe and keeping us safe. And we must keep working to prevent these tragedies.

And as we approach the 6-year mark since this horrific shooting, I ask all of my colleagues in this Chamber to remember and honor the victims of October 1, their lives, their legacy, and their families.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from California.

EL MONTE THAI GARMENT WORKERS

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, there are moments in history that shock our national conscience, news so heartbreaking that we will always remember exactly where we were when we heard the news. One of those moments is the day the El Monte Thai garment workers were found enslaved in California.

As recently as August 2, 1995, there was 72 Thai women and men who were discovered held against their will in the city of El Monte, CA, just outside the city of Los Angeles. There, in a series of apartments-turned-sweatshops, packed in between sewing machines, forced to work 16 hours a day, 7 days a week, and hidden behind barbed wire fences and armed guards, some of them believed help would never come.

They were lured by recruiters with the promise of their own American dream. Seventy-two Thai women and men arrived into the United States only to find a nightmare.

When they were liberated by Federal agents on that day, that nightmare wasn't over. Instead, they were placed into holding cells, where they feared they would actually be deported after the horrific experience. It wasn't until a 26-year-old staff attorney for the Asian Pacific American Legal Center by the name of Julie Su, among others, took on their case for backpay and for dignity in this country that they had once only dreamt about.

When the 72 Thai nationals were finally, truly freed, they actually owed nothing to this country. Yet they stood up and they fought to protect others from going through the hell they had endured. Their advocacy led to meaningful protections in America, including the landmark Federal Victims of Trafficking and Violence Prevention Act, which created a new class of visas for victims of crimes like forced labor and trafficking and strengthened the penalties for trafficking crimes.

Just last week, now-Acting Labor Secretary Julie Su—yes, the same Julie Su—had the opportunity to induct the El Monte Thai garment workers into the Department of Labor's Hall of Honor, honoring the courage they have shown and the progress they have made to protect other workers.

I also had the privilege of getting to meet them in Washington last week, and I was proud to join Senators Duckworth and Feinstein in introducing a resolution to honor them by the U.S. Senate.

But, as each and every one of them has shown us, the best way to respond to the atrocities they went through, the best way to honor them is through our action—by keeping up the fight to end human trafficking, by working to end wage theft that exploits far too many workers in the garment industry and passing the FABRIC Act, and by, in my opinion, finally confirming a champion for workers and worker

rights like Julie Su to be Secretary of Labor.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

CONSTITUTING THE MAJORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 370, submitted earlier today.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 370) to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 370) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD (Legislative day of September 22, 2023) under "Submitted Resolutions.")

Mr. SCHUMER. I yield the floor.

SECURING GROWTH AND ROBUST LEADERSHIP IN AMERICAN AVIATION ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from California.

CONFIRMATION OF RITA F. LIN

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I also rise today just a week after the Senate confirmed Judge Rita Lin to serve on the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California.

Today, I would like to take a moment to celebrate her confirmation and share with the people of California a bit more about the outstanding public servant and jurist they have gained on the Federal bench.

Now Judge Lin earned her undergraduate degree from Harvard College and her law degree from Harvard Law School. After clerking on the First Circuit Court of Appeals for Judge Sandra Lynch, she started out her legal career as an associate and later became partner at the firm of Morrison Foerster in San Francisco.

But in 2014, she left private practice to pursue a career in public service, joining the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California.

Four years later, Governor Brown appointed Judge Lin to the San Francisco

County Superior Court, where she presided over both felony and misdemeanor trials.

At every step, Judge Lin's career has been guided by her dedication to public service, whether by maintaining an extensive pro bono practice in the early years of her career or by leaving behind the promise of a very lucrative career in private practice to serve in the Northern District U.S. Attorney's Office. Judge Lin has proven she has the heart and mind worthy of a Federal district judge.

And as someone who has lived her entire life with a hearing disability, she also brings a unique perspective from a community not often represented in our Nation's Federal judiciary.

The State of California is now lucky to have a Federal district court judge not only with the judicial qualifications of Judge Lin but with the voice, the personal experience, and the passion for public service she brings each and every day.

So I want to thank my colleagues for confirming her nomination, and I want to congratulate Judge Lin once again on her confirmation.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUESTS—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination: Calendar No. 266, Tara K. McGrath, to be the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California; that the Senate vote on the nomination without intervening action or debate, that if confirmed, the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table and the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The junior Senator from Ohio.

Mr. VANCE. Madam President, reserving the right to object. I will continue my hold on unanimous consent for Department of Justice nominations so long as I feel like the Department of Justice is being used for politics instead of justice.

My arguments on this point have already been made, but I will repeat them for the benefit of anybody who hasn't heard me before. From a Catholic pro-life father of seven who was arrested in front of his children like a common criminal for exercising his First Amendment rights to parents who were investigated by the FBI for exercising their First Amendment right to protest at a school board meeting to the leader of the opposition and the likely challenger to President Joe Biden, former President Trump, we have a Department of Justice that has run amok with a focus on politics instead of on justice.

Now, my colleagues make some good points. I agree with my colleagues that U.S. attorneys play an important role. I agree with my colleagues that we need a Department of Justice that is

fully staffed to do its job. But I don't think the solution to the politicization of the Department of Justice is to let these guys through on a glide path. I think it is to provide proper consent, proper advisement, and proper scrutiny of each one of these nominees which we can't let them do if we allow them to sail through unanimous consent.

I will continue this hold, but let me just make one final point before I allow my colleague to respond.

I am the new guy, and I recognize that I am a little naive when it comes to matters of the procedures of the U.S. Senate. But I have had a lot of jobs in my life; and yesterday we passed one vote and today we have passed zero votes. The time that we have spent debating whether we should have unanimous consent over these nominations, we could actually use to vote on these nominations and end this charade and call it out for what it is. If we believe that these nominees must go forward, let's just have a vote on it. Allow me to scrutinize them. Allow my colleagues to vote them up or down. That is a totally reasonable thing to ask of this Chamber and to ask of this leadership; and because of that, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, it has been 2 months since I first came to the floor to call for the confirmation of Tara McGrath, President Biden's nominee to serve as U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California.

On that day in July, my Republican colleague from Ohio chose, as he does today, to put political gamesmanship over the safety of the American people and to hold her nomination hostage to leverage completely unrelated issues.

Two months later, clearly, nothing has changed. And as a result, since early August, the Southern District of California has gone without a confirmed U.S. attorney. That is despite the fact that a highly qualified candidate was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee after a confirmation hearing, after the proper vetting and review, and is awaiting a full vote on the Senate floor.

Yet, because my Republican colleague has chosen to politicize our Justice Department and the confirmation process and hinder the work of multiple law enforcement offices as they await confirmation of their leadership, law enforcement is now forced to work harder than necessary to keep our communities safe. That includes the Senator's own home State of Ohio where the Northern District is currently without a Senate-confirmed U.S. attorney for the longest stretch in that office's history.

Now, in my own State, the Southern District of California has become tangled in this political mess.

Make no mistake, these delays damage the effectiveness of U.S. Attorney Offices across the country. Like the

confirmation of hundreds of our military leaders, these crucial law enforcement nominations are being treated like pawns in their political game.

If we truly care about public safety in our communities, if we truly care about enforcing the law, and if we truly care about cracking down on fentanyl and saving American lives—a claim I hear constantly from my colleagues—then confirm Tara McGrath in the Southern District and allow for the swift confirmation of a host of U.S. attorneys that are still being held up. The people of California and the people of the United States deserve better than this.

So I call on my colleague to stop weaponizing the Senate's procedures, to confirm Ms. McGrath and all the qualified nominees before us, and take seriously the job that Americans have sent us here to do.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority whip.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise today to speak about the critical role that U.S. attorneys play in keeping America safe from the scourge of drugs—like opioids, fentanyl—gun violence and violent crime.

Why are we on the floor? We are on the floor because one Senator has decided to stop the appointment of U.S. attorneys for the Department of Justice across the United States. He has picked four States—one is a pretty red State, Mississippi; California; Ohio, his own home State; and my State of Illinois—to stop the U.S. attorneys from being approved by the U.S. Senate.

This is a pattern.

The Senator from Alabama, Senator TUBERVILLE, has stopped 300 military officers—career officers—from getting a promotion for more than 6 months. Many of these career officers, women and men, have fought in combat and risked their lives for America. We salute them every Memorial Day. We say that we love our veterans, and I certainly do. I'm sure the Senator from Ohio does too. And yet they are being treated so shabbily here in the U.S. Senate that the leading veterans organization in the United States of America is protesting what this Alabama Republican Senator is doing. He is stopping 300 of the best, highest ranked individuals who will lead our military in the world from being approved in the U.S. Senate for 6 months—more than 6 months.

Does he have a specific complaint about any one of them? No. Just, categorically, this is his political approach: Let's stop all the military from a promotion.

Is that fair to them and their families? I don't think so.

Now let's take a look at this situation. The Senator from Ohio has decided he is upset with the Department of Justice. How upset is he? Here is what he said:

I will hold all [Department of Justice] nominations . . . We will grind [the Justice Department] to a halt.

Grind the Justice Department to a halt, he says.

Well, let's see. Do the people at the Department of Justice, the U.S. attorneys, do they do anything important? Do we really need them?

Well, how about starting with the issue of narcotics: 180,000 Americans died from narcotics last year—180,000. You might know some from your community, your church, your business. And 70,000 died from fentanyl.

Let's talk about fentanyl for a minute. What is this narcotic? Well, it is the new and deadliest narcotic on the streets. Let me tell you a story that breaks my heart, because I know this couple. They had a daughter who graduated from college. She went to a party in Chicago. Marijuana is legal in Illinois. She decides to smoke a joint at a party. It has been laced with fentanyl, and she drops dead on the spot—22 years of age.

Fentanyl is a deadly narcotic. Where does it come from? It comes from Mexico—mainly from Mexico. Two drug cartels are sweeping the United States and into Europe with the sale of fentanyl that is killing people right and left—last year, 70,000 Americans.

Who is trying to fight the scourge of fentanyl? The Department of Justice—the same Agency that this Senator wants to grind to a halt.

Are we going to declare a timeout and call Mexican cartels and say: Don't be selling your fentanyl for a while because we are going to make sure you don't have leadership that you need in your department. How can we do something that irresponsible?

Don't stand up and say you are for law and order, you are for law enforcement, and then turn around and stop the appointment of U.S. attorneys who prosecute the criminals who are responsible for the narcotics sales.

I came to the floor last week and asked unanimous consent for the Senate to take up and confirm these nominations. They are nominations of Todd Gee, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi.

If you think this is partisan, let me tell you the whole story. Todd Gee is from Mississippi with two Republican Senators. Both Republican Senators approved his appointment as U.S. attorney.

Is this political? Both Republican Senators are supporting the nominee that is being held by another Republican Senator. It doesn't make sense.

Tara McGrath—the request was made by the Senator from California just a few moments ago. She wants to be the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California, eminently qualified, no controversy with her nomination.

Rebecca Lutzko—now this is interesting—to be U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, the same State as the Senator who is now objecting to it.

He approved her. She went through the committee. She came out and was reported to the floor, and now she is being held up.

Well, let's take a look here. Does Ohio have a narcotics problem?

Let me make sure we get this right. Oh, my. In the last year, Ohio had 5,155 drug overdose deaths, the fourth highest overdose deaths in America. And the U.S. attorney who would be fighting these narcotics with the appropriate task force of the law enforcement is being held up by which Senator? The same State. The Senator from Ohio is holding up his own U.S. attorney to prosecute narcotics criminals.

And it is not just drugs. In Cleveland, the largest city in the Northern District of Ohio, the number of homicides is up 30 percent compared to last year. Nearly 90 percent of all overall homicides in Cleveland this year has involved a firearm. The city has seen a 99 percent increase in vehicle grand theft, a Federal crime, so far in 2023.

So to deal with the crime in the streets, to deal with the homicides, the firearm violations and the increase in vehicle grand theft, you count on one major prosecutor. Who is it? The U.S. attorney. So you have a vacancy in the U.S. Attorney's Office. The Senator from Ohio approves the person to fill the vacancy and then stops her nomination on the floor of the U.S. Senate.

I can't follow his logic, unless you are determined to grind the Department of Justice to a halt, even at the expense of the people you represent, the people you were sent here to protect. Don't tell me you are for law and order in your own neighborhood when you stop the nomination of the U.S. attorney for no controversy. It makes no sense.

U.S. attorneys are an integral part of our justice system in overseeing important operations that help protect our communities. They are empowered to prosecute all Federal criminal offenses. They play a critical role in enforcing the law.

In the Northern District of Ohio, for example, the U.S. Attorney's Office led the response to a surge in fatal doses from fentanyl. It brought together doctors, State and local law enforcement, addiction specialists, and other stakeholders and created the U.S. attorney's Heroin and Opioid Task Force. This is in the Northern District of Ohio.

This U.S. attorney is to fill the spot to lead that, but she is being held up on the calendar—by whom? The Senator from Ohio.

The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Ohio also recently secured the conviction of a drug trafficker who attempted to traffic 1 kilogram of fentanyl pills, which were made to look like oxycodone, into the State. In addition, the office coordinated with ATF on a 3-month violent-crime-reduction initiative in Cleveland that resulted in the arrest of 59 individuals who have been charged with firearms trafficking, narcotics, conspiracy, and other firearms offenses.

Are these important? They would be important in Chicago. They would be

important in Los Angeles. They are important, I am sure, in Cleveland and in other cities as well. These convictions are trying to keep people safe in their homes and communities and to reduce violent crime.

The lead prosecutor—the lead Federal prosecutor—is a U.S. attorney. It is a vacant position we are trying to fill with a person with demonstrated competence to take it over—and who is holding it up but the Senator from Ohio. I don't understand it.

When he ran for office, Senator VANCE argued that he would “fight the criminals and not the cops.” Well, take a look at what is happening here. In this situation, the people we need to fight these criminals—the prosecutors—are being held up by the Senator before they can be voted on on the floor.

He has pledged to be “tough on crime” and to support our brave law enforcement officers. In fact, just this May, he introduced a resolution in the Senate, saying he has “support for the law enforcement officers of the United States.”

His resolution says:

[T]he Senate . . . highly respects and values the law enforcement officers of the United States and greatly appreciates all that [they] do to protect and serve.

The Senator's resolution then calls on “all levels of government to ensure that law enforcement officers receive the support and resources needed to keep all communities . . . safe.”

Support and resources are great, but give them the job. The job is still vacant because the Senator is withholding his approval for them to move forward.

I say to my colleagues: Reread the resolution he introduced last May, and take your own advice. Give these U.S. Attorneys' Offices the leadership they need to keep their communities safe.

Now I would like to engage the Senator, if he doesn't mind, in a question.

I listened carefully to what you said earlier in objecting to the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of California. What is your position, if you wouldn't mind saying it, in terms of the vote on that nomination?

Mr. VANCE. My position is that we should have a full Senate vote on each one of these judicial nominations, of these Justice Department nominations. My position is that we shouldn't let them sail through with unanimous consent.

Mr. DURBIN. So you want a record vote for each U.S. attorney?

Mr. VANCE. I would like a record vote for all Justice Department nominations in moving forward, yes.

Mr. DURBIN. Do you understand, before President Biden was elected, that that was common practice—that a unanimous consent request was all that was necessary to approve a U.S. attorney?

Mr. VANCE. I don't know that, but I believe my colleague from Illinois in that that is how it worked. What is dif-

ferent now, compared to then, is that we have a Department of Justice that has been weaponized against its political opponents.

I understand much of what you said, Senator DURBIN, and I appreciate your passion for this issue. My heart goes out to your friends who lost somebody to fentanyl. I, too, know a lot of people who have lost a loved one or a child to a fentanyl overdose.

But what will facilitate the effective administration of justice in this country is for the American people to see the Department of Justice as being focused on justice instead of politics. That is what this is fundamentally about. Do we have a Department of Justice that has the trust of the American people?

Senator DURBIN, I don't think that any of my Democratic colleagues could look at public polling and not admit that the Department of Justice has lost a substantial amount of public confidence just in the last year.

How can we have an effective administration of justice if we fill the Department of Justice with people who are perceived, rightfully or not, as political actors by the people who receive that justice?

Mr. DURBIN. Is the Senator aware—I am not going to ask this question. I know you know the answer as well as I do.

I will just state, generally, that the people who were involved in the prosecution of former President Trump were attorneys appointed to that position by President Trump.

Mr. VANCE. OK.

Mr. DURBIN. And a special counsel, separate and apart from the Department of Justice, was independently making those decisions.

Your decision to stop U.S. attorneys from taking these jobs means that they will not be in a position to be able to prosecute individuals of either political party who are guilty of criminal wrongdoing. Do you understand that?

Mr. VANCE. I have two responses to that, Senator.

First of all, you appreciate as well as I do that we have had zero votes today. I don't control how many people we vote on. In fact, I believe you do under the Senate procedures and the Senate rules. If it is so important to confirm these folks, bring them up to the floor for a vote.

Mr. DURBIN. So I am going to make a unanimous consent request consistent with the statement that you just made. I have listened to it carefully. I don't know if you have been given a copy, but I want to make sure you understand.

Mr. VANCE. Yes. As the Senator from Illinois, I assume, knows well, I am not the only person who is holding some of these nominations. I am happy to grant consent to vote on the ones where I am the only hold, but where I have other colleagues, I can't release the holds for other colleagues.

Mr. DURBIN. No, and you are not expected to.

But if individual Senators have an objection to moving forward on a nomination and they know a unanimous consent request is going to be made on the floor, it is their responsibility to be present physically. You can't mail it in.

Mr. VANCE. Senator, I am here representing my colleagues. They object. I am not going to release their holds on their behalf.

Mr. DURBIN. So even if you got your way, even if you got a rollcall vote, which you have asked for twice now, you are still not going to allow us to move to fill these vacancies for U.S. attorneys, even in Ohio?

Mr. VANCE. Senator DURBIN, you know the Senate procedures better than I do, and you could certainly bring these folks up for a vote later today, and all of us would have to vote for them.

Why won't you do that?

Mr. DURBIN. That is what I am going to request right now, so you can decide whether you are going to go along with it or object.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that at a time to be determined by the majority leader, in consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 129, 314, 315, and 266; that there be 2 minutes for debate, equally divided in the usual form, on each nomination; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and that the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Ohio.

Mr. VANCE. Madam President, as the Senator knows well, my colleagues have been given no notice, and they have no sense that this is being done. I am not going to release their objections on their behalf as the Senator from Illinois knows well. I am happy to release my own objection, but I am not going to release theirs.

Therefore, I object on their behalf.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, there again, I just gave him what he asked for, and he said it wasn't enough. He has to have every other Senator come to the floor and agree to this.

Let me say that this is a unanimous consent request for four U.S. attorneys who have gone through the Senate Judiciary Committee, which Senator PADILLA and I serve on. They went through that bipartisan committee, and they have been reported to the floor. This is customary, ordinary. There is nothing controversial about these individuals, but still and all not

good enough. He has objected to even having a vote later in the day on the very nominations that he asked for earlier.

You can't have it both ways. If you are going to vote no against these nominees under any condition, make it clear. To say you want to clear it with every other Senator, they have been given notice of this unanimous consent request. They could be here on the floor if they wanted to object personally. To my knowledge, this junior Senator from Ohio is the only one objecting, and it is a shame he is because these U.S. attorneys are needed desperately in California, Mississippi, Ohio, and my home State of Illinois.

And to think that what we are going through is to the point at which a Congressman who is the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee came to Chicago to hold a hearing this week to outline how much trouble we have with violent crime. We do have problems with violent crime. We certainly need a U.S. attorney, who is one of the persons up for this nomination, to do her best to make sure that we have a safer community in Chicago.

How can she do it if she can't clear the Senate floor?

I hope the Senator will get it straight as to what exactly he is trying to achieve here. If he wanted a rollcall vote, I just offered to it him, and it wasn't good enough. I am going to be returning regularly to the floor to make this unanimous consent request.

Sadly, during the period of time that we debate this, crime will continue to be committed in Ohio, in Illinois, in Mississippi, and in California that, in many instances, could have been avoided if the Senate, on a regular dispatch approach, decided to move these nominations forward as they have been traditionally.

To say that you want the Department of Justice to grind to a halt in the United States of America, come on. That is the kind of statement you make in a speech, come back later, and say: Well, I didn't mean that exactly. Certainly, no one means that exactly.

We don't want the Department of Justice to stop its fight against narcotics and fentanyl in the United States that are claiming thousands of lives, and slowing down that process here on the Senate floor is just unacceptable.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from California.

Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I recognize that my colleague from Ohio cannot or will not speak on behalf of other Republican Members, but I would respectfully ask if he would lift his hold on the nomination of Tara McGrath to be U.S. attorney for the Southern District of California.

I yield to the Senator from Ohio to respond to my question.

Mr. VANCE. My apologies.

Will the Senator repeat that.

Mr. PADILLA. I respectfully ask if my colleague from Ohio will lift his

hold on the nomination of Tara McGrath to be U.S. attorney for the Southern District of California; yes or no?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Ohio.

Mr. VANCE. Senator PADILLA, I would be happy to do that as I am the only person holding 266. As I have said repeatedly, I want these nominations to have a vote so as to be scrutinized by the full Senate, and I am the only Senator holding 266, Ms. McGrath. I am happy to release the hold there and have the—excuse me—not release the holds on the unanimous consent request but certainly to bring this before the full Senate for a vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MURPHY). The Senator from Illinois.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that, notwithstanding rule XXII, at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader, the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 129 and 266; that there be 2 minutes for debate, equally divided in the usual form, for each nomination; that upon the use or yielding back of time, the Senate proceed to vote without intervening action or debate on the nominations in the order listed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's actions and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, for those who are following this debate, we had four nominations that were being held. Two were just approved. We will keep working to make sure all four are approved. The two remaining are in the States of Illinois and Ohio. We feel just as intensely about those vacancies as all the others, but we are seizing the moment to order a rollcall vote on the two that have been approved by both sides.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—S. 2835

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I am going to speak about a really important bill that I am hoping we are going to pass right here on the Senate floor. It was passed, by the way, previously. It is called the Pay Our Military Act.

It is pretty simple. In the event of a shutdown—and right now, we are all working hard to make sure we avoid it—we need to make sure that the men and women who protect us get paid. That is it, simple—really, really simple.

I know back home in the great State of Alaska, there is a lot of frustration

with our government. It seems like every day the Biden administration has another order to shut down Alaska, lock up our lands, put people out of work. There are skyrocketing prices on everything from gas to food. Interest rates are at 40-year highs. Illegal immigration, which is just flooding across the southern border, is a literal invasion happening right now. A lot of people are frustrated with what is happening. The potential of a government shutdown is not going to help any of that, in my view.

But this is something that every Member of the Senate should agree on. If there is a shutdown—a lot of us are working hard to avoid that—we need an insurance policy for our military personnel. The brave men and women who are serving on the frontlines right now, at home and abroad—dangerous work to keep us safe—they need nothing less than the unwavering support of the U.S. Senate. For the men and women who protect us, often at great personal sacrifice, the least we can do as their representatives is to ensure that they receive their hard-earned pay, regardless of the political circumstances that may unfold.

My Pay Our Military Act is not about partisan politics. It is not about ideological differences. It is about fulfilling the solemn obligation to our troops and their families, and it is about providing them the stability and peace of mind that they need to do their jobs.

Regardless of what happens here, they will continue to serve, to deploy, to train. We have seen, in the last couple of weeks, that training can also be very dangerous. We had some marines recently killed down in Australia in an Osprey accident. The last thing these men and women need to worry about is whether or not they are going to get a paycheck next week, whether or not they are going to be able to support their families next week in the event there is a government shutdown.

I want to emphasize again that I hope this bill is unnecessary, but the fact remains that this certainly could happen, a government shutdown, and, if it does, we need to pay our military right now.

There is precedent—very strong precedent—on this very bill, this commonsense bill that has historically received the strong support from both sides of the aisle and in both Houses.

Let me be specific. Facing an imminent government shutdown in 2013, which ended up lasting 16 days, this bill, the Pay Our Military Act, was passed unanimously by the U.S. Senate and unanimously by the U.S. House and signed by the President. Congress recognized then the importance of uninterrupted military pay for our military members and their families.

The political makeup, actually, was the same. You had a Democrat in the White House. You had a Democrat-controlled Senate, and a Republican-controlled House. So it is simple.

While I urge my colleagues to put aside their differences and come together in a spirit of unity to support this bill, I am a little concerned. My colleague and friend Senator CRUZ and I came down to the floor last week to pass another related bill. This would have guaranteed Coast Guard members got paid in a government shutdown. We did that because, in 2019, the only branch of the military services that didn't get paid when there was a government shutdown was the Coast Guard. Everybody else got paid. The Coast Guard didn't. Senator CRUZ and I came down here last week and said: Hey, in the event of a shutdown, we have to make sure the Coast Guard gets paid.

Well, it was blocked. It was blocked. I still don't know what my colleague from Washington State was talking about when she blocked it—something about, well, the authority of the Appropriations Committee. What? Nobody cares about that. Do you support our troops or not?

This bill is even more simple. Our bill, the Pay Our Military Act, covers all branches, including the Coast Guard and civilians that the Department of Defense and the Secretary of Homeland Security believe are necessary also to pay. Again, I hope that, like in 2013, this is going to pass unanimously.

As I mentioned, last week, my colleague from Washington State objected to the Pay Our Coast Guard bill. It was confounding, particularly because she was a cosponsor of the exact same bill in 2019. As a matter of fact, here is what she wrote in 2019, when there was a government shutdown and we were trying to pay the Coast Guard:

It's absolutely unacceptable—

This is the Senator from Washington State—

that our Coast Guard families went without their paychecks during the shutdown. We need to make sure President Trump doesn't put them through this again.

Whoa. That was the Senator from Washington State during the last shutdown. I wish she would have said that last week.

So I am very hopeful that what happened in 2013—the Senate and the House unanimously came together when there was an imminent shutdown and said: Hey, we might not be able to figure out how to keep the government open, but here is one darn thing we are going to do; we are going to pay our military. I sure hope that we can do that again, and I sure hope people who want to try to use the military as political pawns leading up to a shutdown are not going to be tempted to object to this bipartisan, much needed bill that 10 years ago had the support of everyone.

I yield to my colleague from Texas.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I rise today in support of my friend from Alaska in a plea to sanity and common sense in this body.

We are 3 days away from an impending government shutdown. I believe a shutdown is likely because I believe President Biden and Senator SCHUMER want a shutdown. I think they believe it benefits them politically to force a shutdown. Whether I am right or wrong on that, everyone acknowledges there is a very significant risk of a shutdown 72 hours from now.

As it stands right now, if we have that government shutdown 72 hours from now, our service men and women will still go to work. Our military will still show up. Even with a shutdown, the military has to do its job and keep this Nation safe. But what will happen is their paychecks will go away.

Last week, Senator SULLIVAN and I both came to the Senate floor seeking to pass my legislation, the Pay Our Coast Guard Act. That legislation is bipartisan. I am the ranking member on the Senate Commerce Committee. It was authored by me and cosponsored by MARIA CANTWELL, the chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee. It was also cosponsored by Senator SULLIVAN and Senator TAMMY BALDWIN, the chairman and ranking member of the Coast Guard Subcommittee.

The reason my legislation, last week, was introduced is the last time we had a shutdown in 2019—the Schumer shutdown—the government was shut down for 34 days, and soldiers and sailors and airmen and marines were paid because the Department of Defense appropriations had been passed. But coastguardsmen were not because they are not under DOD; they are under the Department of Homeland Security.

So for 34 days, heroic coastguardsmen guarded our coasts, saved people off the coast of Texas, were there when people needed them in times of disaster, and yet they didn't get a paycheck. That was wrong.

In 2019, Senator SULLIVAN and I came to the Senate floor then and tried to pass a bill to pay our coastguardsmen in the middle of the Schumer shutdown, and the Democrats objected. Democrat leadership said: No, we will not pay our coastguardsmen.

Well, last week, I tried to say: We have bipartisan legislation. Let's do it right. Let's not hurt brave young men and women who are protecting this country.

Unfortunately, Democrat leadership stood up and uttered two words: I object. In fact, the Senator from Washington had an argument that I found thoroughly curious. She said: Well, this bill that CRUZ and SULLIVAN are trying to pass—it wouldn't technically mandate that coastguardsmen be paid because what the bill provided is they should be paid if soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines are paid. So it argued we should treat the military evenly and fairly and not discriminate against the Coast Guard. She said: That is the reason I am objecting—because it doesn't mandate that it happen.

Well, you know what, what the Senator from Washington asked for is

what we are right here now doing. This bill does what she said last week was the reason she was objecting. That is what this bill does.

Ten years ago, this bill passed the Senate 100 to 0. The Presiding Officer and I were both in the Senate. That means the Presiding Officer voted for it, and I voted for it. That means the Senator from Washington voted for it. It means the House passed it unanimously. But in the decade that has passed, I guess common sense has gone out the window.

So I want to say something right now to every soldier, every sailor, every airman, every marine, every coastguardsman, every member of the Space Force. If you are a 19-year-old private or corporal stationed at Fort Bliss right now, next week, there is a very good chance your paycheck is going away. We are going to find out in just a few moments whether or not your paycheck is going away.

And just listen very carefully for two words. If we hear two words from the Senator from Washington, the words "I object," those two words uttered on behalf of Democrat leadership will kill this bill.

When your paycheck goes away next week, understand you would have been paid except for the fact that Democrat leadership decided it is in their political interest to hold that 19-year-old hostage. Never mind that you can't pay for groceries for your wife and kid that week. Never mind that you can't pay your rent, you can't pay your bills. Never mind—a marine who is stationed in harm's way—that your paycheck is going to go away. Why? Because partisanship is so rife in this town that the Democrat leadership believes they can hold these young fighting men and women hostage and pay no political price.

I hope the Senator from Washington listens to what I have said and what the Senator from Alaska has said and decides, you know, it is not right to hold these brave men and women hostage, and we are not going to do it. I hope Democrat leadership puts principle above partisan politics, but we are about to find out.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Appropriations be discharged from further consideration of S. 2835 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Washington.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, reserving the right to object, I share my colleague's concern about making sure our servicemembers don't miss a paycheck because of a potential government shutdown. In fact, I don't want

any of our Federal workers to miss a paycheck or any of the programs families rely on to be undermined by a completely unnecessary shutdown, which is why I am working around the clock to make sure we pass the bipartisan CR package, which we released yesterday, because that is the only serious issue and solution here. That is the only way we make sure that everyone is able to keep doing the work the American people count on and get the paycheck they deserve.

Let's be real. There are a lot of programs I care about, a lot of programs we all care about, that would be hurt by a shutdown. So we are not going to solve this problem one by one, bit by bit, carve-out by carve-out. You do not stop a flood one drop at a time; you build a dam.

We do have a straightforward, bipartisan CR package to avoid a shutdown and keep our military paid. We should do our jobs, get that done, and get it passed. That is principle, Mr. President, not politics. Do our jobs and pass this bill so we don't have a shutdown.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The Senator from Alaska.

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, as my colleague Senator CRUZ just mentioned, every member of the military just heard "I object," and the Senator from Washington State just said, "Let's be real." "Let's be real." There is nothing more real than putting your life on the line for the country you love and nothing more important than defending those who defend us. Let's be real. I am having a hard time with "Let's be real."

What she just mentioned had nothing to do with the bill. Again, 10 years ago, when there was an imminent shutdown just like there is today, which I certainly don't want, the Senate and House and White House came together and said: All right. We know there is a risk, but there are some special people who serve in our government—and, mind you, very special people—who deserve to be taken care of; that is, the men and women and their families who are serving right now overseas, all over the country, protecting Americans.

It is an outrage. It is an outrage to utter those two words: "I object." It is an outrage. And if it happens next week, as Senator CRUZ mentioned that there are young men and women around the world protecting us without getting paid and having to worry where they are going to buy or how they are going to buy groceries, I hope they remember the Senator from Washington State's two words: "I object." That was good, old-fashioned hostage-taking, making a marine lance corporal all of a sudden subject to the political whims of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle. It didn't happen in 2013.

I have no idea, truthfully—no idea—why my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would not support this Pay Our Military bill.

I am going to keep coming down here all week to get this passed, and hopefully they will have a change of heart.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I am very frequently in complete agreement with my friend and colleague from Alaska. I do disagree with two words he just said. He said this was good, old-fashioned hostage-taking. There is nothing old-fashioned about this. This is brand new. Even the Democrats, as partisan as they have been, they haven't done this before. Ten years ago, every Democrat—even the most leftwing Democrat—agreed we should pay our service men and women. This hostage-taking is brand new. You want to see the face of vicious partisanship in Washington? You just did.

Now, I will point out also two things that are blazingly obvious. No. 1, last week, when the Senator from Washington objected to my legislation to pay our Coast Guard, to treat our coastguardsmen the same as other Active-Duty military, she stood up and gave a speech in which she said she supported that goal but the bill I introduced didn't mandate that it happen; it only said they had to be treated with parity, and that is why she objected. So Senator SULLIVAN and I came and introduced the bill she asked for that mandated that all of the military be paid.

She didn't explain her change of position, but what she did implicitly is say that every word she said last week was not true, that the reason she gave for objecting to my bill apparently was not the reason she was objecting to the bill because she just objected right here.

I have to say—listen—every Member of this body, every Democrat, when you go home to your State, when you meet with Active-Duty military, when you meet with the veterans, I guarantee you every Member of this body said: I support the troops.

Well, as long as Democrat leadership keeps doing what they just did, it ain't true that you support the troops.

I want to point out right now, there are some Democrats who might try to hide behind the skirts of their leadership and say: We didn't object.

There are no Democrats on this floor. Nobody is here with us. The Senator from Washington didn't even bother to stay and participate in the debate. That is how little she is interested in the merits of this issue. What she said—and I want you to hear the argument she gave. She said, now, the new reason she is objecting is she says she wants everyone to be paid, and if everyone can't be paid, then nobody will be paid.

Understand, she is telling the young marine stationed just a mile from North Korea, facing machine guns, that it is the position of Senate Democrats that they care more about paying IRS agents and EPA regulators and bureaucrats than they do about that

young marine. Right now, there is a sailor in a nuclear submarine a mile underwater who may not even know it, but her paycheck is likely to disappear in 3 days. And Senate Democrats have said there is no difference.

You know what, the military is often referred to as the 1 percent. There is a difference—the men and women who put on the uniform and take the oath and defend this Nation. And my hope is that somewhere in the Democratic Party, saner voices will prevail.

I get there is an attraction to "We have a partisan fight." I get that Democrats want to try to stick it to Republicans. But don't scapegoat the military in the process.

I want to speak for the moment to the press. Part of the reason the Democrats are objecting is they are confident CNN will not report on this. They are confident MSNBC will not say a word about this. They are confident, if you turn on the nightly news, NBC, ABC, CBS will not say a word. And they believe that come Monday, when that young soldier, sailor, airman, marine—his or her paycheck disappears, they believe that they will never know it was the Democrats who blocked their paycheck, who objected to it. Well, it is up to the media to decide are they actually journalists, are they going to report on what happened.

If we end up having a shutdown, I can promise you, Senator SULLIVAN and I will be back. We will be on this floor, and we will see just how many times the Democrats want to object to paying our Active-Duty military.

Mind you, they have to work. They will show up at work regardless. But maybe it is the position of today's Democratic Party that you can show up and work and defend this Nation and keep us safe but Democrats aren't going to pay you. That is really sad. It is unfortunate.

I see my friend the Senator from Virginia has come in on another matter. I hope voices like his will say to his leadership: This is dumb. Don't hold our soldiers and sailors and airmen and marines and coastguardsmen hostage over a political fight in Washington. If politicians can't get their act together by September 30, don't punish the Active-Duty military.

I know the Senator from Virginia cares about those Active-Duty military. It is, right now, his party that is blocking their paychecks.

So my hope is that saner voices prevail in the Democratic Party. I hope we can come back here and do this exact same thing with one minor alteration—that next time we eliminate those two words: "I object."

And once the Democrats decide no longer to say the words "I object," this bill will pass, the House will pass it, and our fighting men and women will get the paychecks they have earned—they have earned—with courage and blood. We owe it to them. This body needs to do the right thing.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Virginia.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, I appear in a very timely way to make clear that our military will be paid if the House Republicans do not shut our government down. But in the off chance that they do, because of Democrats, in the last shutdown we had, we got a bill passed that guaranteed that all of them will at least receive backpay. In earlier shutdowns, that was never a guarantee. So people were forced to come to work not knowing whether they would be paid.

But during the last shutdown, in early 2019, I forwarded a bill to the floor. I used a procedural objection to recess at the end of a week. And using that objection, we were able to get a guarantee in place that all Federal employees, including members of the military, will not be punished when ne'er-do-wells and malefactors in the GOP decide to shut the government down.

Why do I make it so partisan? It is because only the GOP ever threatens to shut government down. In 2013, 2018, 2019, right now—only the GOP threatens to default on the national debt. We in the Senate, with a little cooperation from our Republican colleagues, will pass an overwhelmingly bipartisan continuing resolution within the next couple of days. And if the House will only do their job and agree to be as bipartisan as the Senate is, nobody needs to worry about losing a paycheck. But at least we have put a guarantee in place that nobody serving our Nation, whether in uniform or otherwise, will be at risk of losing pay because of an unnecessary shutdown.

Just a few months ago, the Speaker and the President negotiated a deal to avoid a default, and they set the stage to fund government spending bills. Since then, bipartisan colleagues in the Senate Appropriations Committee have worked in an impressive way.

The Presiding Officer is part of that team, working impressively and in a bipartisan manner to pass 12 appropriations bills out of committee.

But now, Members of the House are backtracking on the agreement that we just made 4 months ago. We made an agreement on spending limits, and the Senate Appropriations Committee has written their bills to those numbers. And yet the House is using Federal shutdown as a bargaining chip to undo the deal they just voted for and to try to get more draconian cuts and unnecessary policies in this year-end deal.

I am a Senator from Virginia. Some of the hardest effects of shutdown will be seen in my State, and they are already starting. Even before we get to midnight on Saturday, September 30, my office has been flooded with more than 600 constituent comments expressing their concerns about government shutdown. And what I would like to do is just share some of the stories that I am hearing from Virginians.

April, from Orange County, writes:

My husband is a member of the Army Reserves and [he] is preparing for a deployment to Africa next year. His training has been delayed due to funding with the close of the fiscal year, and a shutdown will certainly delay [the] training [even further].

So what does that mean? Do you deploy without adequate training or does the deployment date change? Families have planned around this. Employers have planned around this. A government shutdown affects April and her family.

Jennifer from Norfolk writes:

My husband is a USMC veteran who utilizes [the] VA. . . . A government shutdown places an undue financial and emotional burden on [my] family.

Kelsey from Harrisonburg wrote:

My parents, along with two friends, are on a 7-week post-retirement [celebration] camping trip to visit National Parks. [The park] closure would significantly . . . [affect] this trip.

Katie from Fredericksburg, whose husband is a civilian DoD employee wrote:

I work directly with families through the Head Start program in Stafford County. A shutdown to include so many important social services will be devastating to so many families I see and serve every day.

It is interesting that Katie, whose own husband is a Federal employee, does not write about her own family but writes about other families relying on Head Start services.

Mary, who lives in Virginia, but whose husband is overseas in Foreign Service, writes:

It's a huge problem for my family to go without pay for an unknown period of time. I have a son with a chronic illness whose medications are very expensive. This could impact our ability to purchase his . . . medications. As a foreign service family, we spend every day representing our nation and making sacrifices on behalf of our nation. We hope that Congress will do the same and work hard to resolve the issue before the deadline later this week.

Lauren from Glen Allen, near where I live in Richmond, wrote and shared that government shutdowns are a reason she has lost faith in the system. In a letter to my office, she wrote:

My family and I purchased plane tickets to visit Utah about 6 months ago. Our entire itinerary is to visit National Parks . . . and it is heartbreaking to realize now that on the cusp of our trip—

They are supposed to leave on September 30—

we may not get to visit the locations and hike the trails that we have been looking forward to for [many] months now. It may seem like a trivial matter to you, but we saved money for over a year and [we] managed our own household budget in order to afford this trip. Now Congress is on the verge of ruining it.

Amber from Williamsburg wrote:

We recently PCSd—

That is the military phrase for moving to a new duty station—

and a shutdown could not only cost us my husband's paycheck, but it would also delay the reimbursement from our personally procured move. We could face missing payments

on the [credit] card we used to pay for our move and my husband's student loan, taken out so he can pursue a degree he needed for [a] promotion. Not to mention that he will continue to work, doing the job of many more that will be furloughed until a resolution is agreed upon. We are a family that has served this country for generations, and we are still serving, but I am hesitant to encourage my son that dreams of enlisting to pursue a career for a country that is so quick to ignore the needs of its military families.

Cheryl from Centreville writes:

My husband's business will be affected, as he has several government contracts. He will be required by law to pay his employees, whether he receives government funding or not. I also have several friends who will be required to keep working without pay, just as they did last time—and the time before that. They have families to feed.

Tracy from Virginia Beach, who recently relocated to Virginia from California, is worried about how a shutdown will impact relocation and the ability to pay bills. She wrote:

My family . . . has experienced government shutdowns previously. My husband has been a federal employee since 2005. It always creates stress and worry and having to figure out how to pay basic expenses while he has to work without pay.

Lori from Falls Church writes:

As an active duty military family whose income depends on a government job, a shutdown will have a real and lasting impact on our family. The government shutdown affects our ability to pay our mortgage, to pay for groceries, medical expenses . . . the struggle is [very] real. . . . We have had some extra medical expenses from an illness my son has that Tricare won't cover. . . . This is just too much pressure on active duty families.

Yesterday, I met with the director of the Shenandoah National Park. He told me that there are many couples who have weddings planned for this weekend and the following weeks, during the most beautiful month of the year in the Shenandoah National Park. And they are ringing the phone off the hook at the Shenandoah National Park office. They asked what will happen if that park closes and their weddings can't go forward as planned.

This might seem like a minor one compared to people who have medical bills or in whose businesses they have to keep paying their employees when they are not getting paid. This is supposed to be the happiest day of your life. It is supposed to be the happiest day of your life. And because the House wants to backtrack on a spending deal they just reached a few months ago and they are unwilling to act in the same bipartisan manner that the Senate is acting in, these couples, who are going to pledge themselves to each other for the rest of their life, now, don't know whether their weddings will go forward.

Some politicians out there are saying shutdowns aren't that bad. I can assure you these 600 people—and they are writing in, more every day, and it will only get more intense—what they are saying tells you: Don't believe those who say a shutdown isn't a problem.

More than 100,000 Virginians would either be furloughed or forced to work

without pay. And while I am proud of the fact that we worked together to get this backpay guarantee, in an extended shutdown, a backpay doesn't pay the grocery bills, doesn't pay the medical bills, doesn't pay the rent bills. You might be able to take the guarantee to a landlord or to a school that needs a tuition payment and get them to cut you a break. But in an extended shutdown, a backpay guarantee, though OK, is not the same as getting your paycheck.

A shutdown affects us in so many ways. The SBA has to stop approving or modifying small business loans. The FDA delays food inspections. That is not a good thing. Air traffic controllers and TSA agents are working without pay, which in the past has contributed to significant flight delays all across the country. Nutrition benefits are potentially at risk in an extended shutdown, programs that help food insecure Virginian kids put food on the table.

I mentioned my Shenandoah National Park example. October is the busiest month of the year for Virginia communities that surround our National Parks, especially the Shenandoah National Park and the Chin-coteague National Seashore and National Wildlife Refuge. These small communities that surround these two beautiful natural assets have reoriented their economies around tourism, and October is the peak season, especially in Shenandoah. This is not just the park itself and weddings that would take place in the park. This is the outdoor outfitters and the hotels and the B&Bs and the restaurants and diners that are in these small communities that surround these National Parks. This is their busy season. They count on this month of October as being the way they will have a successful year or an unsuccessful year. And if you shut down—because we saw this in October 2013—we have seen this before. If you shut down right at this time of year, they lose business that they will never get back, because the people who want to go in the peak of leaf season to have a vacation with their family, when the park reopens, maybe in a couple of weeks or a month, they are not going to say: OK, the leaves are all brown in November, but let's go. No, they are not going to do it. And so these small businesses don't recoup the revenue they lost during their busiest time of the year.

So whether it is closed parks or people who can't have a wedding or whether it is military members or Foreign Service overseas or people stressing about medical bills, this affects every ZIP Code, every last crossroads in this country, and it affects hundreds of thousands of Americans who are living abroad, serving this Nation in other countries, whether they be serving in the military or in a civilian capacity.

And, most of all, it is completely unnecessary. The President and the Speaker came to a bipartisan, bicameral agreement. It was voted posi-

tively in the House. It was voted positively here.

The only reason we are here is that a small but loud minority of House GOP Members who didn't like the deal that we reached, who voted against it, are now trying to use the leverage of shutting down the government of the greatest Nation on Earth to try to get their way.

I don't know if you noticed one thing they did earlier today. The Members who were loudly in the House, fighting in many instances for shutdown, cast a vote to reduce the salary of the Secretary of Defense, Lloyd Austin, to \$1. This is the complete lack of seriousness with which these Members are taking this issue. The head of the American military? I am on the Armed Services Committee. One of my kids is a marine reservist. Somebody overseeing the military of the most important nation on Earth, a nation that has, through leadership, inspired the democracies of the world to link arms and stand up against an illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russia—the United States has forged a global coalition, and on the verge of a shutdown that would hurt our military members, what is the House doing? Are they even sending us legislation? They can't get their act together to do that. But in a voice vote earlier today, they could get their act together, in the middle of the biggest land war in Europe since World War II, to suggest that the salary of the Secretary of Defense should be reduced to \$1 a year.

The biggest threats we face as a nation are not external to this Nation's borders. They are exemplified by the dysfunction that we are seeing with the House majority that refuses to abide by a deal they just voted on, who would put our military and all others—all other citizens—at risk.

With that, I yield the floor.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO). The Senator from Connecticut.

CONTINUING RESOLUTION

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, right now we are working through a bipartisan proposal to keep the government open and operating, at least for the next several months. But those who study the Constitution might ask: Why is the Senate beginning debate on a continuing resolution? Isn't it the responsibility, constitutionally, of the House to begin debates on spending measures?

That is true. But the reason the Senate is using certain procedural maneuvers to begin the debate on the continuing resolution is because the House refuses to do its job. The House of Representatives is currently pretending like the government isn't shutting down in 3 days.

Instead of doing their job, House Republicans are spending the week impeaching Joe Biden, even though they admit they have no grounds to do it. They are setting this country on a course toward ruin. Shutdowns cost the

economy billions of dollars. Starting on Saturday night, our military won't get paid; Head Start teachers won't get paid; our wildfire firefighters won't get paid; Federal prison guards won't get paid; NIH and CDC scientists won't get paid; border agents won't get paid. And yet the House is pretending that this isn't happening.

So we are attempting—the Senate—to come together, Republicans and Democrats, to solve this problem. But it is absolutely extraordinary—extraordinary—that the House is refusing to do their job. And the reason for that is that there is this cabal of Republicans in the House who want the government to shut down, who hate the government so much that they want to burn it to the ground. And they are willing to compromise the safety of this country. They are willing to put hard-working Federal employees out of work. They are willing to force our military and our Border Patrol to forgo their paychecks. They are willing to lose \$10 billion in revenue to the economy.

So this is a pretty sad moment. The Senate is going to try to come together, Republicans and Democrats, to do our job; but House Republicans are causing this shutdown. They admit it. They go on TV every day—House Republicans go on TV every day and admit that it is their caucus that is causing this shutdown. And, hopefully, sometime between now and this weekend, those arsonists in the House of Representatives will come to their senses and put this country above their politics, above their hatred of government, above their hatred of Joe Biden. The consequences are pretty enormous otherwise.

GUN CONTROL

Mr. MURPHY. Madam President, this past February, a woman by the name of Maria Zapata Escamilla was startled out of her sleep in her home in a relatively small city in Mexico. She was startled out of her sleep because a band of men armed with powerful weapons and wearing military fatigues broke into her family's home. They looked like soldiers, but they weren't soldiers. They were, in fact, drug cartel members. That night they dragged her husband away, and they dragged her 14-year-old son, still in his pajamas, out of the house.

Two weeks later, 10 bodies were found in this town, all dead at the hands of the cartel. One of them was Maria's husband. She still, to this day, has no idea where her 14-year-old son is, but she presumes that he is dead. Maria's story is the norm in this city, Fresnillo, which, for much of this year, has been a war zone between Mexico's two biggest cartels as they battle for space to make and transport drugs to the United States.

Maria says:

Every day there are kidnappings, every day there are shootouts, every day there are deaths. It's terror.

These cartels act with impunity in Mexico because they buy off local officials and police because of endemic

corruption inside Mexico but, also, because these cartels are very often more heavily armed than the police. And this ability of the cartels to control so much space inside of Mexico because of corruption but also because they are often carrying more firepower than law enforcement, this is not just a nightmare for Mexico; this is a nightmare for the United States of America. There is a straight through line between the power of the cartels and the fentanyl trade that is killing American citizens.

Fentanyl is a plague in my community in Connecticut, in my colleagues' communities. And it is not enough for us just to tell Mexico to do better. No doubt, Mexico does not have clean hands. Mexico needs to get in the game to take on these cartels.

But on this question of heavily armed cartels, Mexico has actually acted. It surprises many people to know that there is one single gun store in all of Mexico. Mexico has essentially eliminated the commercial trade of firearms. You can't buy a firearm in the commercial market, for all intents and purposes, in Mexico today.

So why on Earth is Mexico flooded with weapons? Why on Earth do the cartels trade weapons like water? It is because somewhere between 70 to 90 percent of the guns that are found in crime scenes—mostly crime scenes connected to the cartel business—in Mexico can be traced back to the United States.

This is absolutely stunning. It is U.S. guns bought here in the United States, transited to Mexico that is fueling the violence that ends up in fentanyl being made, produced, and transported freely into the United States.

So it is time for the United States to recognize that if we want to do something about fentanyl coming into the United States, if we want to save our citizens from ruin, then we have to do something about the guns that move from the United States into Mexico.

Now why is this happening? Why have the cartels been able to get their hands on these weapons?

Well, there is a handful of reasons. First, without a universal background check law in the United States, these cartel members, most of whom have criminal records, can easily buy guns at gun shows and online, even though they are criminals, because in those settings there are not background checks applied in many of our States. So the cartel members go into these gun shows in places like Texas; they buy the guns; and they bring them to Mexico.

Second, there is no comprehensive effort to stop the trafficking. It is largely Americans that are doing the trafficking—dual citizens, often. We do lots of checks of cars and trucks going from Mexico to the United States, but we don't do significant serious checks on vehicles going from the United States to Mexico. And so the guns, along with the cash, move freely north to south.

And so as long as this gun trade continues, the Mexican authorities, even if they clean up their act, have very little chance to stop these cartels. And what is so maddening is that this is just a choice. We know what to do to stop these guns from being trafficked to the cartels in Mexico, but we choose not to do it.

So for those of us that have relationships with leaders in the Mexican government, we have very few good answers when the Mexican government looks us in the eye and says: Do your part. Stop these guns from moving into Mexico.

The things we can do are all politically popular. Universal background checks are supported by 95 percent of Americans, first and foremost because it will cut down on crime in the United States. But 41 percent of the guns that go into Mexico come from Texas; 15 percent come from Arizona; the lion's share of these weapons comes from States that don't have universal background check laws on the books and so they have all of these loopholes and these ways for criminals to buy guns and transfer them to Mexico.

Second, we can fund DHS to actually do the checks on the cars and the vehicles that are moving into Mexico. Last year, for the first time, because of an initiative that I pushed, we funded 200 more CBP officers to do these outbound inspections. Yet we are still only doing the inspections at a handful of ports of entry, and we should be doing them all across the border. That is something that Republicans and Democrats can come together on.

Last year, we did make progress. With the help of Senator CORNYN and others, we made gun trafficking a crime in this country. It is amazing that it wasn't. We made straw purchasing a crime, which makes it a little bit harder for the traffickers to move weapons from north to south, but it is just a start.

It is really important for us to own the mistakes we have made that have allowed for these cartels to get so big and so powerful. There is no doubt that the lion's share of work lands squarely with the Mexican Government. The corruption there that is endemic is the biggest gift to the cartels.

Second to the corruption is the flow of weapons that the United States has permitted and, at times, facilitated. We need a massive, laser-focused effort to stop the flow of fentanyl into the United States. It is killing thousands of Americans. In my State, there have been 10,000 overdose deaths just in the last 10 years.

We can't just lecture the Mexican Government to do better; we need to do our part. So I am here on the floor today to ask my colleagues to join me in taking some big, bold steps to stop the flow of these weapons from the United States to the Mexican drug cartels.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

PROTECTING HUNTING HERITAGE AND EDUCATION ACT

Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I rise today in support of my bipartisan legislation to protect funding for hunter safety programs.

Senator CORNYN is going to make a UC here in a bit. I just want to thank him and Senator MURKOWSKI for the work that they have done on this bill. It has been incredible.

You know, in Montana and across rural America, our schools have long offered hunter safety classes and taught our kids gun safety and personal responsibility, but recently the Biden administration and the bureaucrats here in this city who really don't understand rural America very well decided to block funding for these important education programs.

I want to be clear. That was a poor decision that will hurt thousands of students who benefit from these resources and these programs every year. That is why I am pushing for this bipartisan fix that would require the Department of Education to restore a school district's ability to use Federal dollars for school archery or gun safety or hunter education programs.

Look, folks, when Republicans and Democrats came together to pass the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act, we did so to ensure that our kids are safe when they go to school. This common-sense bill will make sure that we stay true to that intent by educating future generations on the importance of responsible gun ownership and hunting, which will only make our students and our communities safer. It will protect Montana's longstanding and proud tradition of hunting and shooting sports, which are essential to Montana's way of life.

I would urge my colleagues in this room today to support this bipartisan solution.

With that, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, following the devastating shooting in Uvalde just a little over a year ago, Congress passed the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. As we know, this legislation invested in mental health, school safety, and commonsense measures to prevent dangerous individuals—namely, those with mental health problems or with criminal records—from carrying out acts of violence.

Importantly, it did all of this without impacting the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens. That was a red line. Unfortunately, the Biden administration has misinterpreted a section of this law and is using it as a pretext to defund hunter education and archery programs, which is ironic because one of the things that many people have advocated is, let's teach people how to safely use firearms for recreational or hunting purposes. Yet they want to somehow stop those very programs?

Well, these programs are offered in school districts across Texas and equip

students with invaluable skills, including, as I suggested, firearms safety and wildlife management. They are teaching students to be responsible gun owners and good stewards of the environment, something I would think we would all want.

These programs have overwhelming bipartisan support, and Congress had no intention of impacting them or curbing their availability in any way. Members of Congress worked together in good faith to pass this legislation that will build stronger, safer communities. But the fact that the administration is stretching the law—the words of the law—beyond any meaning that we intended is unjustifiable. When this happens, it undermines the good will between Congress and the White House. It makes it difficult, if not impossible, to legislate on important and contentious issues like this.

The Biden administration is attempting to take creative license with the law, and Congress needs to step in and correct the situation immediately. That is what we are doing today. Senator SINEMA, Senator TILLIS, and Senator MURPHY were my partners in negotiating this Bipartisan Safer Communities Act. We came together with Senator CAPITO and immediately started working on a new bill to clarify congressional intent on this legislation given the overreach by the administration. We worked with our colleagues on the House side to craft a bill that could pass both Chambers of Congress.

The Protecting Hunting Heritage and Education Act clarifies that Federal funds can be used to support archery, hunting, and other valuable enrichment programs in schools.

This legislation passed the House yesterday evening by a vote of 424 to 1, an overwhelming show of bipartisan support. I hope the Senate will follow suit today and send this legislation to the President's desk to clarify, once and for all, that the Biden administration cannot ignore the express will of Congress.

This is the Biden administration, not the Biden kingdom. The wishes and whims of the President and his staff do not outweigh Congress's intent. I am eager for President Biden to sign this legislation and acknowledge that this interpretation of the clear words of the legislation that we passed on a bipartisan basis were totally in conflict.

Once again, Congress has reclaimed its right as a separate, coequal branch of government in a bipartisan way to pass legislation that expresses not the will of the staff at the White House or some administrative Agency but the will of the Members of Congress. I am glad the House acted quickly to correct this shameful behavior, and I hope now the Senate will follow suit.

Madam President, I see the Senator from Arizona here on the floor, and I yield to her.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Arizona.

Ms. SINEMA. Madam President, I join the senior Senator from Texas in

support of our commonsense bill today that ensures the administration follows the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act as we wrote it.

When we wrote this law last year, this was historic legislation to reduce community violence, improve mental health services, and save lives. When we wrote this bill, we were clear in our intent. We wanted to make our schools safer places to learn, our communities safer places to live, and our mental and behavioral healthcare system among the strongest in the world, and we did that with broad bipartisan support.

Our law prohibits the use of new Federal funding for weapons for school staff, but our law very specifically does not prohibit the use of funds for archery classes, hunting safety classes, or any other extracurricular activities of the sort.

What is at issue here is a misinterpretation of this section of our law by the White House, and it is a symptom of a larger issue: the alarming tendency of this administration to ignore the will and intent of Congress when carrying out the very laws that we pass.

Time after time, Congress has come together to pass historic legislation with bipartisan support just to see the current White House interpret provisions—repeated provisions of repeated pieces of legislation—not in line with congressional intent. We pass the laws; that is our job. The administration is supposed to follow and implement those laws; that is their job. But this administration routinely fails to do its job correctly. This creates distrust; it delays meaningful solutions for our constituents; and it wastes taxpayer money.

Enough is enough. We shouldn't have to be here today. We shouldn't have to pass a bill today telling the administration to do its job and follow the law, but here we are.

So, once again, Congress will come together in a bipartisan, bicameral way to pass a bill. We will hold the administration accountable, ensure the accurate interpretation and implementation of our Bipartisan Safer Communities law, and we will allow students in Arizona and all across the country to continue enjoying school-based hunting and archery programs, just as our law intended.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, I want to thank my colleagues from Arizona and Texas for, really, the first historic activity.

It was a historic month last year. In the wake of the Uvalde shootings, we came together in one meeting—and this is a very diverse group of people, Senator MURPHY from Connecticut being one of them. We came together in one meeting, and we developed enough trust to say that we thought we could do something that hadn't been done in a generation: trying to come up with a

bipartisan bill that addresses what we considered to be some of the root causes of community safety. We did it in 30 days with bipartisan support, and we sent it to the President's desk.

I am sure Senator CORNYN and Senator SINEMA are doing the same thing, but I watch it virtually every day. I watch what is happening on the ground. I look at funding for school safety, funding for school hardening, funding for veterans courts, funding for VA courts, funding for family courts, more funding to make sure that background checks are done quickly, and identifying young people who, yes, a couple of hundred should not have a gun out of about 150,000 who have actually tried to purchase a gun over the last year. The short story is it was a very successful bill.

I have been involved, in the last Congress, in every bipartisan bill that went to the floor. I took the heat back home, and Senator CORNYN took the heat back home, but we worked on it, and we had trusted partners who understood the intent. It goes to the President's desk, and what does somebody in his administration do? Get in our heads. All they needed to do was call us. They knew this wasn't our intent. Hunter safety? Archery training? Teaching a young person how to respect and handle a gun safely? They really thought that we did not want to train them on that; that we didn't want to train them about conservation and wildlife stewardship? That is what you also learn when you go to hunter safety.

As a matter of fact, even if you never want to own a gun, I encourage you to go to a hunter safety course. You are going to learn a lot of stuff. You are going to learn a lot of stuff about conservation, wildlife stewardship, and also the safe handling of a gun. It is the same thing for archery.

So I can only assume that the reason we are here today and the reason the House had to cast a vote is that somebody in the administration wanted to play politics—"gotcha."

Well, let me tell you why that is dangerous. It is because it makes people like me question whether or not I should trust the administration to implement a bill in the manner that we intended to implement it. If I am going to get a "gotcha" at the end for something like this, what encourages me to do it again?

So, today, I think we are going to right this wrong, but I really hope the administration recognizes that some of us are sick of the polarizing environment in Washington. Some of us are willing to work on a bipartisan basis to make things different, but we have to have a willing and trusted partner down the street. This rights a wrong now, but I hope the administration recognizes, in the future, if you want to see more people like me stick our necks out for things that need to be done, you had better behave differently.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Alaska.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I am really very pleased to be on the floor with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to talk about this.

As my colleague from North Carolina has pointed out, it was pretty clear—it was more than pretty clear; it was crystal clear—what the intent of this provision was. The intent was really designed to prevent gun violence. What this administration is doing with this interpretation is so far afield of where we were with the Bipartisan Safer Communities Act that it is almost breathtaking.

I had an opportunity less than a week ago to be back home in Fairbanks, and I went to the Tanana Valley shooting range. I was greeted by about probably 25, maybe even 30 high school students from Hutchison, from West Valley, and from Lathrop who were all part of the rifle team. They were there, pretty proud of what they were doing and how they were doing it; but they wanted to know, they wanted to understand how we could possibly—we here in Washington, DC, we in the Congress could possibly be doing something that was going to be limiting or restricting opportunities to understand more about firearms and firearm safety and hunting safety.

This is hunting season in Alaska. It is moose season. It is duck season. We all have our firearms out as we are providing for our families. In my family, one of the first things that you learn in a household that has firearms is about gun safety, firearm safety. Those schools that have those programs that provide for hunters' safety, those are the ones we all want our kids to be part of. It is not just the hunters' safety, it is the archery programs.

Again, when you are thinking about programs that help build young people in strong ways—in leadership skills, in safety, in discipline—that is what these kids from the Fairbanks area schools were telling me.

I said: What else do you learn other than, really, being a sharpshooter?

They said: A sense of discipline—discipline and respect. They said: Every single one of us—there is not one of us in this room here who has been subject to any kind of discipline from within the school. We kind of look out for one another. There is a respect that comes when you are operating around a rifle.

The other issue that they raised was, they said: We understand that the way the Department of Education is interpreting this is not only hunters' safety programs would be at risk, not only archery programs would be at risk, but culinary programs where you have to use a knife with a blade that is in excess of 2½ inches, I believe it is.

So how do you work with a student when you are trying to chop celery in a classroom if you can't use a chopping knife? What do you do in a rural school where all aspects, practically, of your curriculum surround those matters

that are relevant to you, subsistence? So as part of your science class, you are cleaning or preparing a skin from a seal or a walrus, and you are using an ulu. Believe it or not, the Department of Education would say that that ulu that, basically, is preparing your food for your family, would be a dangerous instrument and you can't teach that in the classroom.

Trying to explain what the Department of Education has interpreted this to mean as separate from what we, as the lawmakers who help put this into law—trying to explain to them made no sense.

Do you know what their message was? Can you just fix it? That is what we are here on the floor to do today.

It has not only been the work that Senator TESTER has done with his bill, the work that Senator CORNYN has done with his bill, the work that Senator BARRASSO has done with his bill, the letters that have gone out—we have given the Department the ample opportunity to fix it on their own. But if they don't, we have got to do the legislative fix, and I am standing with my colleagues to do just that.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

Mr. CORNYN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of H.R. 5110, the Protecting Hunting Heritage and Education Act, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5110) to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to clarify that the prohibition on the use of Federal education funds for certain weapons does not apply to the use of such weapons for training in archery, hunting, or other shooting sports.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. CORNYN. I further ask that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, so ordered.

The bill (H.R. 5110) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

SECURING GROWTH AND ROBUST LEADERSHIP IN AMERICAN AVIATION ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Delaware.

NOMINATIONS OF ROBERT G. TAUB AND THOMAS G. DAY

Mr. CARPER. Good afternoon, Madam President. I am here today to urge my Senate colleagues to join me in considering the confirmation of two excellent people to serve on the Postal Regulatory Commission, which is the governing body for the U.S. Postal

Service: Robert Taub, who is currently a commissioner and we are seeking to reconfirm him; and also Thomas Day, who has come through our Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee and, I think, unanimously recommended for a position on the Postal Regulatory Commission.

Both of these public servants have spent literally decades bettering our country.

Mr. Taub has served on the Commission since 2011, and he actually served as its chairman for, I think, more than 6 years.

Mr. Day has spent—listen to this—over 35 years at the Postal Service—35 years at the Postal Service—and another service, as I recall, in uniform for our country.

I would like to add that we have unanimously confirmed Mr. Taub not once but twice previously, and there is no doubt that he has served our country well.

I want to share three stories with you, if I could: a little bit about the history and the importance of the Postal Service; another about Mr. Taub's role in making the Agency what it is today; and a third about Mr. Day's influence on the function of our postal system across this country.

In 1787, the Founding Fathers of our country gathered in Philadelphia literally to draft a constitution to be able to outline how a new country might be formed and actually operate and work for the betterment of people who lived here then and in the future. They drafted the Constitution, and they sent that Constitution out across the 13 colonies and asked the colonies to look at it, kick the tires, find out what they liked and what they thought ought to be changed.

The first State to actually take it up and affirm—ratify, if you will—that Constitution was the colony that is now Delaware, the State of Delaware.

On December 7, 1787, after a week or so of debate at the Golden Fleece Tavern, the Founding Fathers of Delaware said: We like this Constitution. They maybe tweaked it a little bit and sent it on down to the other colonies, who followed suit. Delaware was, for one whole week, the entire United States of America. Then we opened it up. We let in Pennsylvania and Maryland. And the rest, I think, has turned out pretty well, for the most part, until now. Hopefully, we will continue to exist for many, many years, decades, centuries into the future.

One key element of the Constitution was the creation of the Postal Service. Our first Postmaster General was actually, believe it or not, Ben Franklin. Ben Franklin.

The establishment of the Postal Service represented an important early effort to bind us together as a nation—to bind us together as a nation—to unite us in communication with one another. That work continues today as postal workers cover all 50 States. They did it today; they will do it at

least 6 days this week—and to also make sure that we have the ability to provide the Postal Service to the folks who live in the U.S. territories, deliver the mail that helps unite our families and helps to grow our businesses and helps, really, to enable our democracy to function and thrive.

More than two centuries later, we continue to live up to that promise. In 2006, one of our colleagues, Senator SUSAN COLLINS and I led the passage of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act literally on this floor where we are gathered today. That legislation modernized the Postal Service for the first time, I think, since 1970.

Just last year, we went on to pass, on top of that, the Postal Service Reform Act to shore up the Agency's financial foundation, including a requirement for all Postal Service retirees to enroll in Medicare when they became eligible for those benefits.

Over the past couple of years, I have had the opportunity to work with Postmaster General Louis DeJoy and the Postal Commission to make the Agency even more energy efficient.

Together, we successfully secured billions of dollars to expand the number of electrical vehicles in the Postal Service's delivery fleet. The Postal Service has one of the biggest delivery fleets in the country. They also have one of the oldest and one of the most polluted. What we have done is worked with the leadership of the Postal Service to make sure that those old vehicles time out. They really, for the most part, have timed out. They need to be replaced. They are going to be replaced with vehicles that will not only help us deliver the mail—and do an even better job of that—but to make sure the delivery vehicles that are out there aren't making worse the climate crisis that we are going through as a nation, as a planet.

I want to tell you a little bit more about Mr. Taub, if I could, and how he has been integral to the changes that we have seen in the Postal Service, especially as it has become more modern and more efficient.

After spending years as a staff member to Members of Congress and Ambassadors and working for the Government Accountability Office, Mr. Taub, native New Yorker, became chief of staff to then Congressman John McHugh—an old friend and a very good Member of the House; a Republican, as I recall.

Under Representative McHugh's leadership, Mr. Taub helped to craft the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act in the House of Representatives. That is the same legislation that I mentioned earlier that I worked on with Senator COLLINS. Together with Representative McHugh and his team, we ushered the bill to the President's desk, where it was signed into law, again, in 2006.

This transformation of the Postal Service was just the beginning of Mr. Taub's involvement with the Postal

Service. After establishing his expertise in the public sector, he continued on beyond this work when Representative McHugh was appointed Secretary of the Army.

As Secretary McHugh's principal civilian advisor, Mr. Taub helped lead a workforce of more than—get this—1.2 million people and managed an annual budget exceeding \$200 billion—no small feat. For his exemplary work, Mr. Taub was awarded the Army's Decoration for Distinguished Civilian Service.

All this led to Mr. Taub serving on the Postal Regulatory Commission on not one, not two, but three Presidents, including both Democrats and Republicans.

He was first nominated to the Commission in 2011, and his strong leadership led to his appointment as chairman of the Commission in 2014.

As I like to say: In adversity lies opportunity.

And despite the troubles left over from a previous chairman, Mr. Taub took adversity in stride. He embraced the role of chairman with diligence and grace. He led a massive undertaking to study and to revise a postal rate system. As a result was the Postal Accountability Enhancement Act he helped to pass.

In 2016, his work paid off when he was once again confirmed to be chairman to the Commission and continued to serve as chairman.

Mr. Day has had an incredible record with the Postal Service as well. Let me just take a minute to talk about him.

In his 35 years at the Agency, he has held almost every role imaginable, including that of vice president of the engineering department and the government affairs department, as well as the chief sustainability officer.

In his role on the sustainability team, Mr. Day helped lead the Postal Service into the environmentally conscious practices of the 21st century.

As chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, I know the importance—that is my role—but I know the importance of our Agencies carrying out practices that protect our planet. Mr. Day shares this belief and understands it firsthand.

For example, he has been working to reduce the fuel emissions of the aging postal fleet I talked about and has done that over the past decade.

Let me be clear, if I could. The kind of institutional knowledge and expertise that Mr. Day holds is unique, and it would make him an extremely valuable asset on the Commission.

Mr. Day also has experience working with the exchange of mail on an international scale, serving in senior positions at the Universal Postal Union, the United Nations agency, and at the International Post Corporation.

On top of that, he is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and has bravely served in the U.S. Army. Besides being a captain and a Vietnam veteran serving in the U.S. Senate, when I learned about his serv-

ice in the Army—I am a Navy guy—I said: Different uniforms, same team, and thanked him for all of his service in uniform as well.

There is no doubt that someone with his commitment to our Nation would make a terrific addition to the Postal Regulatory Commission.

Together, Mr. Taub and Mr. Day will continue revising the postal rate system and modernizing the Agency for the betterment of our country. For this reason, among many others, we think it is imperative that we confirm both of them—not one of them but both of them—and make sure the Commission is fully, fully staffed.

Congressional and Postal Service customers rely on the Commission to hold the Agency accountable for its service performance and to ensure its prices follow the law and its practices follow the law, and it is our duty to make sure the Agency can perform at the highest level, including for the good of our planet.

I like to say service to others is the rent we pay for the space we take up on this Earth. I think Mr. Taub and Mr. Day's decades of service to this country is more rent than most of us will ever be asked to pay.

I urge our colleagues to confirm both Mr. Taub and Mr. Day to ensure that the Postal Regulatory Commission can continue to do its important work on behalf of all of us, who are the fortunate beneficiaries of the Constitution that was written all those years ago and the promise it provided for our country.

With that, Madam President, I would note the absence of a quorum, and I thank the Presiding Officer and I thank my colleagues and ask for their support of the nomination of these two excellent, excellent candidates.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

TRIBUTE TO TERRY "TITO" FRANCONA

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, sometimes we come to the floor in maybe a less serious vein. We are all incredulous that while we do our work here and keep the government open, the people down the hall there are playing political games and threatening a shutdown. And when 55,000 people in my State and probably 10,000 people in the Presiding Officer's State will lose their jobs temporarily, will be furloughed, will be laid off, all because they are trying to play political games, we talk about that a lot. We need to fix that.

But, today, I want to rise for a moment on something more lighthearted than that, and that is to honor the retiring manager of the Cleveland Guardians, Terry Francona, called in Cleveland—referred to as "Tito" Francona.

Cleveland will play their last home game with Tito as their manager starting in maybe 20 minutes from now, something like that. Tito has been a part of the team since 2013.

I call him by his first name. I don't know the Cleveland manager. I have never met the Cleveland manager. But I have watched him. I watch a lot of games on television. But we all refer to him by his first name, "Tito."

I was at a game earlier this summer, and we were pulling out in a traffic jam, and Tito does what I have read in the Plain Dealer that he does. All of a sudden, he passed us. The game was about an hour over, and he rode by on his little scooter to his little Cleveland condominium downtown, just the manager by himself.

(Mr. OSSOFF assumed the Chair.)

He didn't have airs about him. He is a normal guy, and we will really, really miss him.

In his baseball career, he left Cleveland. He was the manager in the 2016 World Series, where my daughters and my wife and I—they broke our hearts in game 7 to a team like the Chicago Cubs. And it was really amazing that there was a rain delay in the ninth inning, and then they came back and Cleveland lost in extra innings.

A week later, Donald Trump was elected. So I don't think it was a good week for the country. But that is just my biased opinion, perhaps.

But in Ohio, in Cleveland, if you are a Cleveland Guardians fan, you know about perseverance. His baseball career extends back to when he joined Major League Baseball as a player. Spending 9 years in the field, he played a year for Cleveland, but he is a baseball lifer. But his life is very inextricably linked to Cleveland, as a baseball player and manager.

I am not sure he was born in Cleveland. He lived in Cleveland when his dad played for the Cleveland Indians in the old Municipal Stadium. Notably, his dad twice was traded for Larry Doby, the first African-American player in the American League and one of the Hall of Fame members because of his baseball play, his courage, his guts, and his note of being so important to history and breaking the color line.

I grew up watching his father play. I saw his father, once in a double-header, get seven hits. And the eighth time he came to the plate, Brooks Robinson—the third base player from the Orioles who just passed away—Brooks Robinson threw him out. He would have been 8 for 8 in a double-header.

As I said, his dad was traded twice for Larry Doby. His dad, one year, should have led the league at hitting, at .363 but was disqualified because he had one too few plate appearances. He batted 399 times instead of 400, even though he walked a number of times—too much inside baseball, maybe, for the Senate floor and for my colleagues to care about.

But his dad played for years and was an All-Star in 1961. He hit .363 in 1959 and was a fan favorite.

So the Francona family was formed in Cleveland and grew up in Cleveland in that sense. It reminds me of how baseball is a game that spans generations and brings people together.

I grew up 2 hours south of Cleveland. My dad used to take us to Major League Baseball games, to five or six games a year—five or six times a year, often double-headers. And my dad hated the New York Yankees so much that he would never take us to a Yankees game because he didn't want Mickey Mantle, the star of the Yankees, to get 10 cents of his ticket. So I never saw the Yankees play until I could drive myself to New York.

When Tito Francona joined the Montreal Expos in 1981, he succeeded his father as a baseball player. He played in Cleveland for a year. In 1990, he retired from the game and not a particularly stellar baseball career, not as good as his father's.

But then he became a manager. He managed the Phillies. He managed the Red Sox in two world championships. He then came home to us in Cleveland in 2013. In 2016, Cleveland won the American League Championship with the Indians—now, of course, the Guardians. He led the team to the World Series.

As I said, game 7 was quite an experience that I could take my daughters to, then in their thirties. And we had gone to baseball games. And my dad took me for years, and we got to see this team we loved and this team we followed so closely go to the World Series—a team that wasn't considered at the beginning of the season World Series caliber. And it was quite a season.

And the next year, Cleveland came back. They, at one point, won 22 games in a row. Only once in Major League Baseball did a team win more than that, when the Giants, in 1926, won 26 in a row. So it was an incredible streak.

But more important, his players reached a level of excellence that was beyond what most people think was their skill level. Cleveland, to owners that have never spent the money—owners in the Presiding Officer's home State, in Atlanta, they try to buy pennants like the Yankees do and the Mets do and the Dodgers do and the Red Sox do. They spend so much money to try to buy the best players. Cleveland has never had owners that were either that rich or that generous. So Tito had to figure out how to win without that kind of money.

But what he has done, which I so much like, is he gets out of his players a skill and a drive that most managers are not able to achieve. You can tell he loves America's game. I mean, he shared that with all of us.

He loves the city where his team plays and where he manages. He has been there for 10 years, in Cleveland. I guess 11 years.

His players could have gone somewhere else and made more money. The star player for Cleveland, a young man

named Jose Ramirez, signed a long-term contract, made a whole lot of money, but everybody said he could have made so much more money if he had gone to New York or Atlanta or L.A. or Boston and signed huge contracts with really rich, generous owners. I think his players want to play for him, and he helped put our team on the map again.

I just wanted to say to Tito Francona, thank you for everything you have done for Cleveland. Thank you for the memories and the joy you have brought so many of us as fans.

We celebrate his contributions to baseball, his commitment to Cleveland, and his extraordinary career.

REMEMBERING TOM CONWAY

Mr. President, on a much more serious note, I want to honor a friend of mine who passed away this week, a national leader of stature who made such a difference in working people's lives.

I come to this floor to talk about the dignity of work, to talk about people who put their lives on the line and put their careers front and center about workers. Tom Conway did that.

Tom Conway passed away in the last few days, the president of the United Steelworkers. He joined the labor movement in 1978. He worked as a millwright. "Millwright" means those workers who essentially fix and make equipment work inside plants. He worked at the Burns Harbor Works of Bethlehem Steel in northwest Indiana.

Forty years ago, 45 years ago, he joined Local 6787. He dedicated his life to expanding opportunity and economic security for workers. Whether on a picket line or sitting across from the steel executives, his values were on his sleeve. His commitment to workers never wavered.

On trade issues and worker safety, always one of the first calls I made was to talk to Tom Conway, to get wisdom from Tom Conway, to get perspective from Tom Conway, because I knew always he was looking out for the workers whom he represented.

Steelworkers in Ohio knew what those bad trade deals—from NAFTA to PNTR with China, to TPP, to CAFTA—all the issues that, frankly, are a big part of the reasons my State has struggled with so many lost jobs.

Given this devastation, Tom saw across the industry. You might understand if he became a pessimist, threw up his hands, and gave up. He was never that—far from that. He drew his energy from the resilience of American steelworkers and steel communities across the Midwest.

He knew what we know in Ohio, that American workers can compete with anyone. They just need a level playing field. He never stopped fighting for that level playing field, for fair trade, for real investment in American industry, for strong enforcement of our trade laws.

Because of his advocacy and the advocacy of so many Ohio steelworkers, we made real progress. We passed the

original Level the Playing Field Act, the landmark overall of our trade remedy laws, to allow steelworkers to fight back against cheating by China, against dumping steel from China, against other unfair foreign competition. We passed the strongest ever “Buy America” rules to ensure that American tax dollars support American workers.

He never gave up on American steel. He never gave up on American workers. He saw the potential in this union to grow. He knew that, if more people carried a union card, their lives would be better. It would mean higher wages and better benefits. It would mean a more secure retirement. It would mean a safer workplace. It would mean more control over your schedule. That is what carrying a union card means.

My wife will say that her dad’s union card saved her life. She grew up and at 16 had an asthma attack. She lived almost 2 hours from Cleveland Clinic. She got an ambulance to take her to the clinic. She was there for a week. It saved her life. Her dad could afford that care, that ambulance, that time in Cleveland Clinic because he carried a union card, and they negotiated for healthcare benefits. That is what Tom Conway did his whole life.

I wear on my lapel a pin depicting a canary in a birdcage. The mineworkers used to take the canary down in the mines a hundred years ago. If the canary died, the mineworker was on his own. He knew that he didn’t have a union strong enough or a government that cared enough to protect him. That is why he carried the canary down into the mines.

This was given to me by a steelworker some 20 years ago in Lorain, OH. I have worn it on my lapel ever since. And that is what Tom Conway is about.

John Shinn, the secretary-treasurer of USW said: Solidarity wasn’t just a word to Tom. It was a way of life. He understood that, by working together, we balance the scales against greedy corporations.

We see it now. Chrysler, now called Stellantis, has made \$12 billion just in calendar year 2023. Stellantis’ CEO makes 800 times what the entry-level worker at Stellantis makes.

Tom Conway understood that we fight against that kind of worker greed, and we help lift up workers so they can share in the wealth created by their work. Balancing those scales is what unions are all about. It is why autoworkers are in that picket line. That is what they are doing. It is what Tom Conway led the steelworkers to do.

We honor his memory, his legacy best by carrying on his life’s work. His successor at USW is Dave McCall, fellow Ohioan. Dave McCall worked with and has known Tom Conway for over 40 years. He will serve out the remainder of his term. I can’t think of anyone better to carry on Tom’s legacy than Dave McCall.

Dave and I have been in the trenches together for the better part of our entire careers, walking picket lines, talking to Ohio workers at union halls and fighting against bad trade policy that this body far too often falls for because corporate lobbyists swarm this place and push these bad trade agreements, always, always, always at the expense of workers.

Dave McCall understands the dignity of work, as Tom did. He spent his whole life fighting for it. He would have made Tom Conway proud.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Tom Conway today. Our thoughts are with his family, his long-time partner Carol, his three sons and six grandchildren, and with steelworker sisters and brothers in Ohio and around the country.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Rhode Island is recognized.

U.S. SUPREME COURT

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, last week, I spoke about the scheme of corruption by rightwing billionaires out to capture the Supreme Court. I mentioned their lawyers’ blockade of our investigation into this corruption and described how little sense their lawyers’ arguments made.

That brings us to this speech today. The connection is that those, in my view, nonsense lawyers’ arguments badly needed propping up. And who should come to the rescue but U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sam Alito. Alito’s actions propping up that argument caused me to write this ethics complaint against him.

I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD my full letter to Chief Justice Roberts and a portion of the letter from Mr. Rivkin at the end of my remarks.

Mr. President, this complaint highlights some of the Supreme Court’s current legitimacy problems, which are legion. One is that the Court has no procedure for an ethics complaint. I had to write to Chief Justice Roberts, both in his capacity as Chief Justice and in his capacity as Chair of the Judicial Conference, because, unlike in every other Federal court, there is no clarity about process.

The Supreme Court has no formal process for receiving or investigating such complaints, so they go there to die. Complaints about Supreme Court Justices have sometimes been referred to the Judicial Conference, and there, they have mostly disappeared. So it is a mess.

The Supreme Court—the body with the highest responsibility to police proper procedure and fair factfinding throughout the rest of government—has no clear and proper procedure for itself. That is weird, and that is wrong.

Nothing prohibits the Court or the Judicial Conference from adopting procedures to address complaints of misconduct by the Justices. They just haven’t bothered to. The most basic modicum of any due process is fair

factfinding, but they have no process at all to find out even what the facts are. That is simply not defensible. That has to change, and my complaint presents the Court and the conference that opportunity.

Now let’s move from procedure to the substance of my complaint about Justice Alito. At one level, it is an obvious slam-dunk ethics violation. At another, it will take a lot more digging. Let me explain.

My complaint relates to a so-called “interview” published on the Wall Street Journal’s editorial page July 28 of this year. How it is both an interview and on the Wall Street Journal’s editorial page, I am not going to explore.

Justice Alito was the person “interviewed.” His “interviewers” were David Rivkin and James Taranto. In this interview, Justice Alito offered his legal opinion that “[n]o provision in the Constitution gives [Congress] the authority to regulate the Supreme Court—period.” That is the end of his quote.

That comment wasn’t just floating in the ether; it was related to my Supreme Court ethics bill, the Supreme Court Ethics, Recusal, and Transparency Act, which the Senate Judiciary Committee had advanced just 1 week before, and it also related to an array of congressional oversight information requests from the Senate Judiciary Committee and from the Senate Finance Committee.

More on that later. Back to the slam-dunk part. I sit on the Senate Judiciary Committee, where we hear in every Supreme Court confirmation hearing that it would be improper, that it would be wrong even in a confirmation hearing to express opinions on matters that might come before the Court. Well, obviously, Alito’s interview comments—his Wall Street Journal editorial page “opining”—touched on a matter that might come before the Court. That is the slam dunk.

Look at what other Justices have testified about this opining problem, but let’s start with Alito himself, who testified in his confirmation hearing that it would be “improper” and a “disservice to the judicial process” for a Supreme Court nominee to comment on issues that might come before the Court. His words.

Consider also Justice Thomas, who testified that such opining would “leave the impression that I prejudged this issue,” which would be, he said, “inappropriate for any judge who is worth his or her salt.”

Justice Kagan told the committee it would be “inappropriate” for her to “give any indication of how she would rule in a case” even “in a somewhat veiled manner.”

Justice Kavanaugh testified that nominees “cannot discuss cases or issues that might come before them.” He went on that prejudging an issue in this manner is “inconsistent with judicial independence, rooted in Article

III.” He continued that “litigants who come before [the Court] have to know we have an open mind, that we do not have a closed mind.” He quoted Justice Ginsburg: “No hints, no forecasts, no previews.”

Justice Gorsuch went one better in his confirmation hearing. He actually testified that this “no opining” rule applies to discussions about Supreme Court ethics—the exact topic of Justice Alito’s Wall Street Journal opining.

Senator BLUMENTHAL on the committee had asked Judge Gorsuch about proposed ethics rules for the Supreme Court and whether they would violate separation of powers. Gorsuch answered:

Senator, I am afraid I just have to respectfully decline to comment on that because I am afraid that could be a case or controversy, and you can see how it might be. I can understand Congress’ concern and interest in this area. I understand that. But I think the proper way to test that question is the prescribed process of legislation and litigation.

In sum, the Court itself is plainly on record that this sort of opining is wrong. So that is broken rule one, just offering the opinion, but it gets worse. This was not just general opining out into the general ether. Alito’s comments referred to a specific, ongoing legal dispute. Let me explain.

There are ongoing Senate investigations into the scandal of secret billionaire gifts to certain Justices. The Senate Judiciary Committee is investigating reports that Supreme Court Justices accepted and improperly failed to disclose, in violation of Congress’s disclosure laws, lavish gifts from billionaire benefactors seeking to influence the Court. The Senate Finance Committee is investigating Federal tax compliance regarding those undisclosed gifts. Were tax laws broken? Were proper declarations made?

In those congressional investigations, requests for information have been sent out. In response to those requests, objections have been raised. Here is where Alito comes in. The objections by the billionaires’ lawyers assert that Congress has no constitutional authority to legislate in this area—hence, no authority to investigate. They assert—in my view, plainly wrongly—that our constitutional separation of powers blocks any congressional action in this area, which in turn, they assert—also plainly wrongly, in my view—blocks any congressional investigation.

Set aside the demerits of that argument—for which I refer you to the lawyers’ letters I added to the record in my previous speech and my own take-down of that argument—sound or unsound, the point is, it is their argument in that ongoing dispute.

In that ongoing dispute, Justice Alito’s Wall Street Journal comments prop up that argument. The language is nearly identical. You can compare it for yourself. In fact, lawyers for some of the billionaires to whom we have sent information requests have actu-

ally quoted Justice Alito’s comment in declining to respond.

So this is not just some improper general opining; it is a Supreme Court Justice leaning in to one side of a specific ongoing dispute and being used and quoted by one side of a specific ongoing dispute. That is pretty bad. It gets worse.

One of the interviewers in that Wall Street Journal interview, Attorney David Rivkin, wasn’t just some interviewer; he is the attorney for a party in that specific ongoing dispute. Rivkin is the attorney making the precise legal argument that Alito echoed, and he is making it in that ongoing dispute. None of this, of course, was disclosed in the so-called “interview.”

A logical mind would rightfully ask whether Justice Alito opined on this matter at the behest of his interviewer, Attorney Rivkin. A suspicious mind would even wonder whether Attorney Rivkin prepped his witness, as lawyers are wont to do. With no means of fact-finding, all this remains unknown.

Bad enough to opine on some general matter that may come before the Court; worse when the opining brings a Supreme Court Justice’s influence to bear in a specific ongoing legal dispute; and worse yet when the influence of the Justice might have been summoned by counsel to a party in that dispute.

The timeline is suspicious. Mr. Rivkin’s interview with Justice Alito was reportedly conducted in early July 2023. Well, on July 11, Chairman DURBIN and I had sent a letter to Rivkin’s client in that dispute inquiring about undisclosed gifts and travel provided to Justices. On July 20, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted to advance my judicial ethics bill.

By the way, the Rivkin-Alito Congress-has-no-authority argument fared very poorly that day in the committee.

On July 25, Mr. Rivkin, by letter, refused to answer our information requests on the purported ground that “any attempt by Congress to enact ethics standards for the Supreme Court would falter on constitutional objections.” Three days later, on July 28, comes the supportive opining from Justice Alito about those constitutional objections.

There are a lot of questions that need answering under oath about how this mess played out.

But wait, there is more. Attorney Rivkin’s client in that dispute has a relationship with Justice Alito. He is a friend and ally of Justice Alito’s. Rivkin’s client is Leonard Leo. Leo is not just a friend and ally of Alito’s. Our oversight questions that Attorney Rivkin is blocking relate to Mr. Leo’s actions to facilitate gifts for Supreme Court Justices from rightwing billionaires of free and undisclosed transportation and lodging. Mr. Leo didn’t just facilitate; he was Justice Alito’s companion on the luxurious Alaskan fishing trip in 2008 that rightwing billionaires funded.

The relationship goes back. Leo’s political organization “had run an adver-

tising campaign supporting Alito in his confirmation fight, and Leo was reportedly part of the team that prepared Alito for his Senate hearings.”

So it appears that Justice Alito, A, improperly opined in the Wall Street Journal, B, to influence a specific ongoing dispute, C, possibly at the behest of counsel in that dispute, and D, to the benefit of a personal friend and ally.

None of that was disclosed in the interview either, and it brings us to the last and most damning point.

Justice Alito’s opining, potentially at the behest of his friend and ally’s lawyer, props up an argument being used to block inquiry into undisclosed gifts and travel received by Justice Alito himself. Justice Alito himself is the ultimate beneficiary of his own improper opining. It comes full circle.

In the worst-case scenario, Justice Alito broke the rules against opining in order to facilitate an organized campaign to obstruct congressional investigation into tens of thousands of dollars in gifts he, Alito, personally received and doesn’t want investigated.

Whether Justice Alito was unwittingly used to provide fodder for such interference or intentionally participated in that interference plan and whether he did it to protect the rightwing billionaires or himself or both, those are questions whose answers require additional facts.

The heart of any due process is a fair determination of the facts. Uniquely in the whole of government, the Supreme Court has insulated its Justices from any semblance of fair factfinding. The obstruction of our inquiries by Mr. Rivkin and Mr. Leo, fueled by Justice Alito’s opining, prevents Congress from gathering those facts, and the Supreme Court won’t even look. That can’t be—not in a nation of laws. That is flagrantly, obviously wrong.

So I have asked the Chief Justice or the Judicial Conference to take whatever steps are necessary to develop a process to investigate this affair and provide the public with the prompt and trustworthy answers it deserves. The Supreme Court’s legitimacy cannot stand on an edifice of obstruction, secrecy, and lies.

To be continued, Mr. President.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

WASHINGTON, DC,

September 4, 2023.

DEAR CHIEF JUSTICE/CHAIRMAN ROBERTS: I write to lodge an ethics complaint regarding recent public comments by Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito, which appear to violate several canons of judicial ethics, including standards the Supreme Court has long applied to itself.

I write to you in your capacity both as Chief Justice and as Chair of the Judicial Conference because, unlike every other federal court, the Supreme Court has no formal process for receiving or investigating such complaints, and asserted violations by justices of relevant requirements have sometimes been referred to the Judicial Conference and its committees. I include all justices in carbon copy because I am urging the

Supreme Court to adopt a uniform process to address this complaint and others that may arise against any justice in the future.

The recent actions by Justice Alito present an opportunity to determine a mechanism for applying the Judicial Conduct and Disability Act to justices of the Supreme Court. Nothing prohibits the Court or the Judicial Conference from adopting procedures to address complaints of misconduct. The most basic modicum of any due process is fair fact-finding; second to that is independent decision-making.

BACKGROUND

Some of the background facts here were related by members of the Senate Judiciary Committee who signed a letter to you dated August 3, 2023. As that letter explains, the *Wall Street Journal* on July 28, 2023, published an interview with Justice Alito conducted by David Rivkin and James Taranto. Justice Alito's comments during that interview give rise to this complaint. The interview had the effect, and seemed intended, to bear both on legislation I authored and on investigations in which I participate.

During the interview, Justice Alito stated that “[n]o provision in the Constitution gives [Congress] the authority to regulate the Supreme Court—period.” Justice Alito's comments appeared in connection to my Supreme Court Ethics, Recusal, and Transparency Act, which the Senate Judiciary Committee had advanced just one week before the publication of this interview. That bill would update judicial ethics laws to ensure the Supreme Court complies with ethical standards at least as demanding as in other branches of government.

Justice Alito's comments echoed legal arguments made to block information requests from the Senate Judiciary Committee and the Senate Finance Committee, on both of which I serve. Those arguments assert (in my view wrongly) that our constitutional separation of powers blocks any congressional action in this area, which in turn is asserted (also wrongly, in my view) to block any congressional investigation. Sound or unsound, it is their argument against our investigations, as reflected in the letter appended hereto. The subjects of these committee investigations are matters relating to dozens of unreported gifts donated to justices of the Supreme Court.

As the author of the bill at issue, and as the only Senator serving in the majority on both investigating committees, I bring this complaint.

IMPROPER OPINING ON A LEGAL ISSUE THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE COURT

On the Senate Judiciary Committee, we have heard in every recent confirmation hearing that it would be improper to express opinions on matters that might come before the Court. In this instance, Justice Alito expressed an opinion on a matter that could well come before the Court.

That conduct seems indisputably to violate the Code of Conduct for United States Judges. Canon 1 emphasizes a judge's obligation to “uphold the integrity and independence of the judiciary”; Canon 2(A) instructs judges to “act at all times in a manner that promotes public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary”; and Canon 3(A)(6) provides that judges “should not make public comment on the merits of a matter pending or impending in any court.” These canons help ensure “the integrity and independence of the judiciary” by requiring judges' conduct to be at all times consistent with the preservation of judicial impartiality and the appearance thereof.

The Court's *Statement of Ethics Principles and Practices*, “to which all of the current members of the Supreme Court subscribe,”

concur. That document makes clear that, before speaking to the public, “a Justice should consider whether doing so would create an appearance of impropriety in the minds of reasonable members of the public. There is an appearance of impropriety when an unbiased and reasonable person who is aware of all relevant facts would doubt that the Justice could fairly discharge his or her duties.” These same precepts are also enforced through the federal recusal statute, which requires all federal justices and judges to recuse themselves from any matter in which their impartiality could reasonably be questioned.

Making public comments assessing the merits of a legal issue that could come before the Court undoubtedly creates the very appearance of impropriety these rules are meant to protect against. As Justice Kavanaugh pointed out, prejudging an issue in this manner is “inconsistent with judicial independence, rooted in Article III,” because “litigants who come before [the Court] have to know we have an open mind, that we do not have a closed mind.”

Justice Alito and every other sitting member of the Supreme Court told the Senate Judiciary Committee during their confirmation hearings that it would be (in the words of Justice Alito) “improper” and a “disservice to the judicial process” for a Supreme Court nominee to comment on issues that might come before the Court. Justice Thomas said that such comments would at minimum “leave the impression that I prejudged this issue,” which would be “inappropriate for any judge who is worth his or her salt.” Justice Kagan echoed those comments, telling the Committee it would be “inappropriate” for her to “give any indication of how she would rule in a case”—even “in a somewhat veiled manner.” And Justice Kavanaugh explained that nominees “cannot discuss cases or issues that might come before them.” He continued: “As Justice Ginsburg said, no hints, no forecasts, no previews.”

Justice Gorsuch made clear during his confirmation hearing that this rule applies to the precise topic on which Justice Alito opined to the *Wall Street Journal*:

Senator Blumenthal. Thank you. I also want to raise a question, talking about court procedure, relating to conflicts of interest and ethics. I think you were asked yesterday about the proposed ethics rules that have been applied to your court—

Judge Gorsuch. Yes.

Senator Blumenthal: [continuing]. To the appellate court, to the District Court, but not to the Supreme Court. Would you view such legislation as a violation of the separation of powers?

Judge Gorsuch. Senator, I am afraid I just have to respectfully decline to comment on that because I am afraid that could be a case or controversy, and you can see how it might be. I can understand Congress' concern and interest in this area. I understand that. But I think the proper way to test that question is the prescribed process of legislation and litigation.

You, Justice Sotomayor, and Justice Barrett each expressly cited the canons of judicial ethics as the source of a nominee's obligation to refuse to comment on such matters. There seems to be no question that Justice Alito is bound by, and that his opining violated, these principles.

IMPROPER INTRUSION INTO A SPECIFIC MATTER

These principles apply broadly to any opining, on any issue that might perhaps come before the Court. But here it was worse; it was not just general opining, it was opining in relation to a specific ongoing dispute. The quote at issue in the article—“No provision in the Constitution gives [Congress] the au-

thority to regulate the Supreme Court”—directly follows a mention of my judicial ethics bill. Justice Alito's decision to opine publicly on the constitutionality of that bill may well embolden legal challenges to the bill should it become law. Indeed, his comments encourage challenges to all manner of judicial ethics laws already on the books.

Justice Alito's opining will also fuel obstruction of our Senate investigations into these matters. To inform its work on my bill and other judicial ethics legislation, and oversee the performance of the statutory Judicial Conference in this arena, the Senate Judiciary Committee is investigating multiple reports that Supreme Court justices have accepted and failed to disclose lavish gifts from billionaire benefactors. Separately, the Senate Finance Committee is investigating the federal tax considerations surrounding the billionaires? undisclosed gifts to Supreme Court justices. Both committees' inquiries have been stymied by individuals asserting that Congress has no constitutional authority to legislate in this area, hence no authority to investigate. Justice Alito's public comments prop up these theories.

As the author of the bill in question and as a participant in the related investigations, I feel acutely the targeting of this work by Justice Alito, and consider it more than just misguided or accidental general opining. It is directed to my work.

IMPROPER INTRUSION INTO A SPECIFIC MATTER AT THE BEHEST OF COUNSEL IN THAT MATTER

Compounding the issues above, Attorney David Rivkin was one of the interviewers in the *Wall Street Journal* piece, and also a lawyer in the above dispute. This dual role suggests that Justice Alito may have opined on this matter at the behest of Mr. Rivkin himself. Bad enough that a justice opines on some general matter that may come before the Court; worse when the opining brings his influence to bear in a specific ongoing legal dispute; worse still when the influence of a justice appears to have been summoned by counsel to a party in that dispute.

The timeline of the *Wall Street Journal* interview suggests that its release was coordinated with Mr. Rivkin's efforts to block our inquiry. Mr. Rivkin's interview with Justice Alito was reportedly conducted in “early July” 2023. On July 11, Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Durbin and I sent a letter to Mr. Rivkin's client inquiring about undisclosed gifts and travel provided to justices. On July 20, the Senate Judiciary Committee voted to advance my judicial ethics bill mentioned above. (Notably, the Rivkin/Alito Congress-has-no-authority argument fared poorly in the committee that day, with no Republican rising to rebut the arguments against it.) On July 25, Mr. Rivkin by letter refused to provide the requested information on the purported ground that “any attempt by Congress to enact ethics standards for the Supreme Court would falter on constitutional objections.” That response, appended hereto, was instantly published in *Fox News* Three days later, on July 28, the *Wall Street Journal* editorial page published the supportive opining from Justice Alito.

IMPROPER INTRUSION INTO A SPECIFIC MATTER INVOLVING AN UNDISCLOSED PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP

On top of all this, the dispute upon which Justice Alito opined involves an individual with whom Justice Alito has a longstanding personal and political relationship. As my colleagues and I pointed out in our August 3 letter, “Mr. Rivkin is counsel for Leonard Leo with regard to [the Judiciary] Committee's investigation into Mr. Leo's actions to facilitate gifts of free transportation and lodging that Justice Alito accepted from

Paul Singer and Robin Arkley II in 2008.” Mr. Leo was Justice Alito’s companion on the luxurious Alaskan fishing trip in 2008 and facilitated the gifts to the justice of free transportation and lodging. Two years earlier, Mr. Leo’s political organization “had run an advertising campaign supporting Alito in his confirmation fight, and Leo was reportedly part of the team that prepared Alito for his Senate hearings.

The timing of Justice Alito’s opining suggests that he intervened to give his friend and political ally support in his effort to block congressional inquiries. It appears that Justice Alito (a) opined (b) on a specific ongoing dispute (c) at the behest of counsel in that dispute (d) to the benefit of a personal friend and ally. Each is objectionable, and appears to violate, *inter alia*, Canon 2(B) of the Code of Conduct for United States Judges, which provides, “A judge should neither lend the prestige of the judicial office to advance the private interests of the judge or others nor convey or permit others to convey the impression that they are in a special position to influence the judge.”

IMPROPER USE OF JUDICIAL OFFICE FOR PERSONAL BENEFIT

The final unpleasant fact in this affair is that Justice Alito’s opining, apparently at the behest of his friend and ally’s lawyer, props up an argument being used to block inquiry into undisclosed gifts and travel received by Justice Alito. At the end, Justice Alito is the beneficiary of his own improper opining. This implicates Canon 2(B) strictures against improperly using one’s office to further a personal interest: a justice obstructing a congressional investigation that implicates his own conduct.

The Senate Judiciary Committee’s investigation encompasses reports that Justice Alito accepted but did not disclose gifts of travel and lodging valued in the tens of thousands of dollars. Further investigation may reveal additional information that Justice Alito would prefer not come to light. The facts as already reported suggest that Justice Alito likely violated the financial disclosure requirements of the Ethics in Government Act. Perhaps Justice Alito should also have recused himself as required by the recusal statute in a 2014 case involving a company owned by Paul Singer, one of the billionaires who attended and paid for his Alaskan fishing vacation. Justice Alito’s public suggestion that these laws are unconstitutional as applied to the Supreme Court, and that Congress lacks authority to amend them or investigate their implementation or enforcement, appears designed to impede Senate efforts to investigate these and other potential abuses.

CONCLUSION

In the worst case facts may reveal, Justice Alito was involved in an organized campaign to block congressional action with regard to a matter in which he has a personal stake. Whether Justice Alito was unwittingly used to provide fodder for such interference, or intentionally participated, is a question whose answer requires additional facts. The heart of any due process is a fair determination of the facts. Uniquely in the whole of government, the Supreme Court has insulated its justices from any semblance of fair fact-finding. The obstructive campaign run by Mr. Rivkin and Mr. Leo, fueled by Justice Alito’s opining, appears intended to prevent Congress from gathering precisely those facts.

As you have repeatedly emphasized, the Supreme Court should not be helpless when it comes to policing its own members’ ethical obligations. But it is necessarily helpless if there is no process of fair fact-finding, nor independent decision-making. I request that you as Chief Justice, or through the Ju-

dicial Conference, take whatever steps are necessary to investigate this affair and provide the public with prompt and trustworthy answers.

Sincerely,

SHELDON WHITEHOUSE,
Chairman, Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Federal Courts, Oversight, Agency Action, and Federal Rights.

BAKER HOSTETTLER,
July 25, 2023.

Re Response to July 11, 2023 Letter to Leonard Leo.

DEAR CHAIRMAN DURBIN AND SENATOR WHITEHOUSE: We write on behalf of Leonard Leo in response to your letter of July 11, 2023, which requested information concerning Mr. Leo’s interactions with Supreme Court Justices. We understand this inquiry is part of an investigation certain members of the Senate Judiciary Committee have undertaken regarding ethics standards and the Supreme Court. While we respect the Committee’s oversight role, after reviewing your July 11 Letter, the nature of this investigation, and the circumstances surrounding your interest in Mr. Leo, we believe that your inquiry exceeds the limits placed by the Constitution on the Committee’s investigative authority.

Your investigation of Mr. Leo infringes two provisions of the Bill of Rights. By selectively targeting Mr. Leo for investigation on a politically charged basis, while ignoring other potential sources of information on the asserted topic of interest who are similarly situated to Mr. Leo but have different political views that are more consistent with those of the Committee majority, your inquiry appears to be political retaliation against a private citizen in violation of the First Amendment. For similar reasons, your inquiry cannot be reconciled with the Equal Protection component of the Due Process Clause of the Fifth Amendment. And regardless of its other constitutional infirmities, it appears that your investigation lacks a valid legislative purpose, because the legislation the Committee is considering would be unconstitutional if enacted.

THE COMMITTEE’S INQUIRY RAISES SERIOUS FIRST AMENDMENT CONCERNS

Bedrock constitutional principles dictate that “no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion.” *W. Virginia State Bd. of Educ. v. Barnette*, 319 U.S. 624, 642 (1943). In the guise of conducting an investigation concerning Supreme Court ethics, the Committee appears to be targeting Mr. Leo because of disagreement with his political activities and viewpoints on issues pertaining to our federal judiciary. An investigation so squarely at odds with the First Amendment cannot be maintained.

Mr. Leo is entitled by the First Amendment to engage in public advocacy, associate with others who share his views, and express opinions on important matters of public concern. “[T]he freedom to think and speak is among our inalienable human rights.” 303 *Creative LLC v. Elenis*, 143 S. Ct. 2298, 2311 (2023). Indeed, expressive activity of this kind is afforded the greatest protection possible. See *Connick v. Myers*, 461 U.S. 138, 145 (1983) (“[S]peech on public issues occupies the ‘highest rung of the hierarchy [sic] of First Amendment values,’ and is entitled to special protection.” (quoting *NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co.*, 458 U.S. 886, 913 (1982))). Yet Mr. Leo has, for years, been the subject of vicious attacks by members of Congress,

specifically including members of the Committee majority, because of how he chooses to exercise his rights. In reference to Mr. Leo’s public advocacy work, for example, Senator Whitehouse has called Mr. Leo the “little spider that you find at the center of the dark money web.” Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Remarks on the Floor of the United States Senate (Sept. 13, 2022). Similar remarks from Senator Whitehouse and others are too numerous to recount.

This campaign of innuendo and character assassination has now moved beyond angry speeches and disparaging soundbites. In the July 11 Letter, Committee Democrats have now wielded the investigative powers of Congress to harass Mr. Leo for exercising his First Amendment rights. That transforms what has to this point been a nuisance occasioned by intemperate rhetoric into a constitutional transgression.

“[T]he First Amendment prohibits government officials from subjecting an individual to retaliatory actions for engaging in protected speech.” *Nieves v. Bartlett*, 139 S. Ct. 1715, 1722 (2019) (quotation omitted). Thus, an official is prohibited from “tak[ing] adverse action against someone based on” that person’s expressive activity. *Id.* This bar against retaliatory action applies to Congress as much when it acts in its investigative capacity as when it legislates. See *Barenblatt v. United States*, 360 U.S. 109, 126 (1959) (“[T]he provisions of the First Amendment . . . of course reach and limit congressional investigations.”).

The Committee’s investigation into Mr. Leo’s relationship with Justice Alito quite clearly constitutes an adverse action for purposes of the First Amendment. The burden created by a congressional inquiry is significant. See *Watkins v. U.S.*, 354 U.S. 178, 197 (1957) (“The mere summoning of a witness and compelling him to testify, against his will, about his beliefs, expressions or associations is a measure of governmental interference.”). It can chill expressive activity and infringe on First Amendment rights. See, e.g., *Smith v. Plati*, 258 F.3d 1167, 1176 (10th Cir. 2001) (“Any form of official retaliation for exercising one’s freedom of speech, including prosecution, threatened prosecution, bad faith investigation, and legal harassment, constitutes an infringement of that freedom.”); see also *United States v. Hansen*, 143 S. Ct. 1932, 1963 (2023) (Jackson, J., dissenting) (noting that an investigative letter sent by members of Congress “can plainly chill speech, even though it is not a prosecution (and, for that matter, even if a formal investigation never materializes).”).

It seems clear that this targeted inquiry is motivated primarily, if not entirely, by a dislike for Mr. Leo’s expressive activities. Retaliatory motive can be shown in at least two ways: (1) where the “evidence of the motive and the [adverse action] [are] sufficient for a circumstantial demonstration that the one caused the other,” *Hartman v. Moore*, 547 U.S. 250, 260 (2006); or (2) where “otherwise similarly situated individuals not engaged in the same sort of protected speech” were not subjected to the same adverse action, *Nieves*, 139 S. Ct. at 1727. Both circumstances are present here.

As noted, Mr. Leo and the groups with which he is affiliated have been subjected to a barrage of disparaging remarks because of their views on judicial nominations and other judicial matters. Sen. Whitehouse has attacked “creepy right-wing billionaires who stay out of the limelight and let others, namely Leonard Leo and his crew, operate their” supposed “far-right scheme to capture and control our Supreme Court.” Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Remarks on the Floor of the United States Senate (July 12, 2023). Senator Durbin has similarly decried “Leonard Leo and the Federalist Society” for their

“joint effort [with] very conservative groups, special interest, dark money groups, and the Republican party” to shape “what will be the future of the court.” Senator RICHARD DURBIN, Interview with the Washington Post (July 13, 2023). And perhaps most tellingly, the present investigation was announced with a statement titled “Whitehouse, Durbin Ask Leonard Leo and Right-Wing Billionaires for Full Accounting of Gifts to Supreme Court Justices.” Sens. Richard Durbin and Sheldon Whitehouse, Press Statement (July 12, 2023).

These explicitly political attacks, and others like them, made over the course of many years and reaching a crescendo in the days immediately following the transmission of the letter to Mr. Leo, provide an ample basis for concluding that the July 11 Letter is animated by animus toward “conservative” “Right-Wing” views and organizations, rather than a purely genuine concern about Supreme Court ethics. See *Lyberger v. Snider*, 42 F.4th 807, 813 (7th Cir. 2022) (explaining that statements from officials who took adverse action can demonstrate retaliatory motive). The circumstances of the Committee’s investigation show that “retaliatory animus actually caused” the adverse action taken against Mr. Leo. *Nieves*, 139 S. Ct. at 1723.

This conclusion is confirmed by the targeted and one-sided nature of the investigation. Despite professing interest in potential ethics violations and influence-peddling at the Supreme Court, the Committee has focused its inquiries on individuals who have relationships with Justices appointed by Republican Presidents. Reported instances of Democrat-appointed Justices accepting personal hospitality or other items of value from private individuals have been ignored. Here are some examples:

In 2019, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was given a \$1 million award by the Berggruen Institute, an organization founded by billionaire investor Nicolas Berggruen. See Andrew Kerr, *Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s Mysterious \$1 Million Prize*, Washington Free Beacon (July 19, 2023). Justice Ginsburg used the money to make donations to various charitable causes of her choosing, most of which remain unknown. See *id.*

Between 2004 and 2016, Justice Stephen Breyer took at least 225 trips that were paid for by private individuals, including a 2013 trip to a private compound in Nantucket with billionaire David Rubenstein, who has a history of donating to liberal causes. See Marty Schladen, *U.S. Supreme Court justices take lavish gifts—then raise the bar for bribery prosecutions*, Ohio Capital Journal (April 26, 2023).

On September 30, 2022, the Library of Congress hosted an expensive investiture celebration for Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson that was funded by undisclosed donors. See Houston Keene, *Library of Congress explains why it hosted Jackson investiture but not for Gorsuch, Kavanaugh, Barrett*, Fox News (Sept. 30, 2022).

On two occasions, Justice Sonia Sotomayor failed to recuse herself from cases involving her publisher, Penguin Random House, which had paid her \$3.6 million for the right to publish her books. See Victor Nava, *Justice Sonia Sotomayor didn’t recuse her self from cases involving publisher that paid her \$3M*, report, N.Y. Post (May 4, 2023).

Justice Sonia Sotomayor used taxpayer-funded Supreme Court personnel to promote sales of her books, from which she earned millions of dollars, including at least \$400,000 in royalties. See Brian Slodysko & Eric Tucker, *Supreme Court Justice Sotomayor’s I staff prodded colleges and libraries to buy her books*, Associated Press (July 11, 2023).

Throughout her tenure on the Supreme Court, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg main-

tained a close relationship with the pro-abortion group National Organization for Women (“NOW”), which frequently had business before the Court. See Richard A. Serrano & David G. Savage, *Ginsburg Has Ties to Activist Group*, Los Angeles Times (Mar. 11, 2004). Among other things, Justice Ginsburg helped the organization fundraise by donating an autographed copy of one of her decisions, and contributed to its lecture series, even as she participated in cases in which NOW filed amicus briefs. See *id.*; Katelynn Richardson, *Here Are the Times Liberal Justices had Political Engagements that Were Largely Ignored by Democrats*, Daily Caller (May 5, 2023).

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I yield the floor. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

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

SENATE DRESS CODE RESOLUTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, in a moment, my friend from West Virginia will submit a resolution regarding the Senate dress code. Although we have never had an official dress code, the events over the past week have made us all feel as though formalizing one is the right path forward.

I deeply appreciate Senator FETTERMAN’s working with me to come to an agreement that we all find acceptable, and, of course, I appreciate Senator MANCHIN’s and Senator ROMNEY’s leadership on this issue.

I will move for the Senate to adopt this resolution in a few minutes.

I now yield to my colleague from West Virginia.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from West Virginia.

Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, let me thank Senator SCHUMER for working with us to come to this conclusion and bring all of us together. I appreciate it very much. I appreciate Senator MCCONNELL for being a part of this and joining this bipartisan effort and, of course, my dear friend Senator MITT ROMNEY, who has been a part of all of these efforts that we have worked on together and in putting together this small token of our appreciation for what we have been able to do. I want to thank Senator FETTERMAN also. Senator FETTERMAN and I have had many conversations, and he has worked with me to find a solution. I appreciate that very much. It has truly been a team effort.

You know, for 234 years, every Senator who has had the honor of serving in this distinguished body has assumed that there were some basic written rules of decorum and conduct and civility, one of which was a dress code. The presumed dress code was pretty simple. The male Senators were required to wear a coat, tie, and slacks or other long pants while on the floor of the Senate to show the respect that we had for our constituents back home.

Just after a week ago, we learned that there were not, in fact, any written rules about the Senators as to what they could and could not wear on the floor. So Senator ROMNEY and I got together, and we thought maybe it is time that we finally codified something that has been precedent, a rule, for 234 years. We drafted this simple, two-page resolution that will put all of that to bed once and for all by just codifying a longstanding practice into a Senate rule which makes it very clear for the Sergeant at Arms to be able to enforce.

I want to thank Senator ROMNEY for working, as always, in a bipartisan way on so many endeavors. This is just as important, maybe, as any of them we have ever done.

With that, I turn it over and yield to my good friend Senator ROMNEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Utah.

Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, I thank Senator MANCHIN. We have collaborated on quite a number of things together. It has been a great experience and a joy for me. I thank Leader SCHUMER for beginning this process and making sure that we reach a favorable and bipartisan conclusion.

This is not the biggest thing going on in Washington today. It is not even one of the biggest things going on in Washington today. Nonetheless, it is a good thing. It is another example of Republicans and Democrats being able to work together and solve, in this case, what may not be a really big problem but what is an important thing that makes a difference to a lot of people.

I have been thinking about the extraordinary Founders of our country and the leaders in the early days who decided to build this building. I mean, George Washington approved this building. In the years that followed, huge sacrifices were made. They could have built a building that looked like a Walmart, with La-Z-Boy chairs. Instead, they built this extraordinary edifice with columns and marble. Why did they do that? Why make that huge investment? For one, I think it was to show the respect and admiration that we have for the institution of the Government of the United States of America. This was at a time when we were an agricultural society. Yet they made this enormous sacrifice and built this amazing edifice.

I think it is in keeping with that spirit that we say we want those who serve inside this room, in this Hall, to show a level of dignity and respect which is consistent with the sacrifice they made and with the beauty of the surroundings.

So I appreciate the effort that Senator MANCHIN has led and that Senator SCHUMER has put on the floor this evening such that we might be able to proceed and codify what has been a longstanding practice of showing our admiration and respect for the institution in which we serve, the very building in which we are able to serve it,

and our respect for the people whom we represent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, as I mentioned a minute ago, although we have never had an official dress code, the events over the past week have made us all feel that formalizing it is the right way forward.

I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 376, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 376) clarifying the dress code for the floor of the Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to and that the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 376) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions: S. Res. 373, S. Res. 374, S. Res. 375, and S. Res. 377.

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

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles 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. 373, S. Res. 374, S. Res. 375, and S. Res. 377) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

MORNING BUSINESS

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SHRM

• Mr. Kaine. Mr. President, I rise today to salute the Society for Human Resource Management, known today simply by its initials SHRM.

For 75 years, SHRM has contributed to opportunity in our Nation's work-

force. The human resource profession emerged in the early 20th century and was known as "Personnel Administration," as personnel departments over time began developing hiring procedures and employee handbooks to manage personnel according to fair, consistent policies. In 1948, the American Society for Personnel Administration—ASPAs—was born. By 1950, ASPA had 130 members and launched Personnel News, which eventually became HR Magazine and remains one of the Nation's longest running association publications. In 1954, the term "human resources" emerged, reinforcing the value of the profession. In 1964, ASPA launched a nationwide student chapter program, which today hosts chapters at more than 200 colleges and universities. This period also saw the creation of SHRM's research arm to advance higher standards of performance in personnel administration. SHRM Research is now a leader in studies focused on the intersection of people and work.

In 1966, the association created the ASPA Foundation to mobilize members for positive change. Today, the SHRM Foundation supports initiatives on topics like mental health and wellness, inclusive workplaces, and military veterans. In 1968, as ASPA turned 20, its leaders made a commitment to articulate a defined body of HR knowledge. The ASPA Accreditation Institute was born; in 1976, the first HR certification exam was given to 80 test takers, and today, more than 120,000 people are SHRM-certified.

In 1973, ASPA opened its first DC office, and that same year and for the first time, ASPA provided testimony in a congressional hearing on pending legislation, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act.

In 1984, with national legislation becoming a growing focus for ASPA the association moved its national headquarters to Alexandria, VA. Today, SHRM has approximately 275 Alexandria-based employees located on its multibuilding campus, with another 75 employees across the United States. SHRM has 18 chapters throughout Virginia and approximately 11,148 Virginia human resource professionals and business executives who play an active role in this vibrant trade association. SHRM Government Affairs has since become the go-to source for workplace legislative and legal issues. Today, the SHRM Advocacy Team includes more than 17,000 HR professionals in all 435 congressional districts who inform public officials on how legislation will impact employers and employees. Today, SHRM has offices in eight locations worldwide servicing members in 165 countries.

Finally, in 2020, the HR profession faced its biggest challenge ever—and rose to the moment. The COVID-19 pandemic gave HR professionals the opportunity to lead their organizations through every phase of the public health crisis and helped inform busi-

nesses and policymakers on the changing landscape of work and offer thoughtful advice on the evolving human resources issues brought on by the pandemic.

Over the past 75 years, SHRM has become the voice of all things work. Their long history of advocacy before State and local government and 50 years of advocacy of workforce policy before the Congress, Federal Agencies, and the executive branch in the United States. Today, I salute the association and its 325,000 members for their positive impact on our Nation.●

REMEMBERING CARIDAD ROQUE PEREZ

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I pay tribute to a remarkable Cuban-American patriot whose life embodied the American Dream. Caridad Roque Perez, who went to eternal glory at the age of 82, was a beloved journalist and an iconic former political prisoner who unjustly endured more than 15 years of imprisonment under the criminal Castro regime. Cary's tireless pursuit of freedom and justice made a lasting impact not just in South Florida but also within the Cuban-American exile community across our nation. While our community mourns the loss of one of its most resilient and courageous voices, it is our moral duty to honor and remember her legacy as well as to carry on her relentless advocacy for a democratic Cuba, free from tyranny.

Jeanette and I unite in prayer alongside the Cuban exile community for the repose of the soul of this brave anti-Castro dissident who dedicated her life to service and advocacy.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:24 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2795. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend and modify certain authorities and requirements relating to the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, in

which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5110. An act to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to clarify that the prohibition on the use of Federal education funds for certain weapons does not apply to the use of such weapons for training in archery, hunting, or other shooting sports.

PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator RAND PAUL, under the authority of S. Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Jeff Rezmovic, of Maryland, to be Chief Financial Officer, Department of Homeland Security.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. CARPER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 654. A bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2958. An original bill to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2959. An original bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to reauthorize brownfields revitalization funding, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Laura L. Clellan, to be Major General.

Army nomination of Col. John B. Hinson, to be Brigadier General.

Navy nomination of Capt. Michael T. Spencer, to be Rear Admiral (lower half).

*Space Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Stephen N. Whiting, to be General.

*Air Force nomination of Gen. David W. Allvin, to be General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Lisa J. Hou, to be Major General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Jackie A. Huber and ending with Brig. Gen. Warner A. Ross II, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Paul W. Dahlen and ending with Col. Geoffrey G. Vallee, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2023. (minus 1 nominee: Col. Paul T. Sellars)

*Marine Corps nomination of Lt. Gen. Christopher J. Mahoney, to be General.

*Navy nomination of Adm. Lisa M. Franchetti, to be Admiral.

*Navy nomination of Vice Adm. James W. Kilby, to be Admiral.

Air Force nominations beginning with Col. Matthew S. Allen and ending with Col. Lawrence T. Sullivan, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 5, 2023.

Air Force nomination of Col. Trent C. Davis, to be Brigadier General.

*Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. James C. Slife, to be General.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Sean M. Farrell, to be Lieutenant General.

*Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Adrian L. Spain, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Michele H. Bredenkamp, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Mary V. Krueger, to be Lieutenant General.

*Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Stephen G. Smith, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Col. Renea V. Dorvall, to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Robert S. Crockem, Jr., to be Brigadier General.

Army nomination of Col. Clifford R. Gunst, to be Brigadier General.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (lh) Heidi K. Berg, to be Rear Admiral.

*Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Jeffrey T. Jablon, to be Vice Admiral.

*Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Blake L. Converse, to be Vice Admiral.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. (lh) Michael A. Brookes, to be Rear Admiral.

*Space Force nomination of Maj. Gen. David N. Miller, Jr., to be Lieutenant General.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

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

Air Force nomination of David M.P. Spitler, to be Colonel.

Air Force nominations beginning with Heather A. Bodwell and ending with Christian L. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2023.

Air Force nominations beginning with Eglon Aubyn Angel and ending with Thomas H. West, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2023.

Air Force nomination of Martin J. Slovinsky, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Jason E. Little, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Joanne M. Whitlock, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Freddy R. Orellana, to be Major.

Air Force nomination of Melissa L. Hull, to be Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Alicia C. Pallett, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Air Force nomination of Joshua N. Young, to be Major.

Army nomination of Robert M. McTighe, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Edward B. Sauter, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Joan E. Sommers, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Abraham N. Osborn, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Amanda E. Harrington, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Lee W. Doggett, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Eli S. Adams and ending with D012613, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 17, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Drew Q. Abell and ending with G010339, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 17, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Romaine M. Aguon and ending with D017105, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 17, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Michael L. Arner and ending with Mark M. Yearly, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on April 17, 2023.

Army nomination of Robert K. Furtick, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Joseph A. McCarthy, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Vegas V. Coleman, to be Major.

Army nominations beginning with Matthew C. Allstock and ending with 0002350680, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 25, 2023.

Army nomination of Russell W. Forkin, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Jessica L. Godsey, to be Major.

Army nomination of Matthew F. Dabkowski, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Archie L. Bates III, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Jason S. Hawksworth, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Paul A. Barnett, Jr. and ending with Robert P. Mason, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 27, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Larry K. Creel and ending with Audley S. Salmon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Alfred L. Booker, Jr. and ending with Melissa L. Wardlaw, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Christopher J. Hankey and ending with Jennifer M. Jaegers, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Army nomination of Chris R. Larsen, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Christopher J. Calvano and ending with Alfredo E. Urdaneta, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Ryan S. Casper and ending with Benjamin J. Weitzel, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Army nomination of Eugene S. Johnson, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Brian V. Crupi and ending with Nathan C. Parrish, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Daniel J. McIntyre and ending with Kelley A. Peterson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Angela M. Allmer and ending with Barbara J. Webster, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Charles S. Benner and ending with Larry T. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Apolla A. Benito and ending with Seo Y. Yang, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Marvin W. Ashford, Jr. and ending with Matthew B. Woods IV, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Christine C. Ancajas and ending with Kirk A. Yegerlehner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Jessica M. Alarcon and ending with 0002901370, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Olumuyiwa G. Adesoye and ending with Zheng W. Zou, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Richard T. Ahlstrom and ending with 0002535729, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Taylor A. Alton and ending with Sarah M. Waibelwarner, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Army nomination of Matthew W. P. Burgoon, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nomination of Tyler J. Bradley, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Amanda R. Campeau and ending with Charles V. Slider, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 19, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Brian J. Allen and ending with David A. Worthy, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 19, 2023.

Army nominations beginning with Krista L. Bartolomucci and ending with Brendan J. Mayer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 19, 2023.

Army nomination of David A. Boudreaux, Jr., to be Major.

Army nomination of Arthur A. Blain IV, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of James A. Favuzzi, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Bryan A. Shipman, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Peter D. Helzer, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Stephen L. Bossier and ending with Stephen M. Warren, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 19, 2023.

Marine Corps nomination of Michael S. McLeod, to be Major.

Marine Corps nomination of Bradley C. Fromm, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Ryan J. Nowlin, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Cale D. Magnuson, to be Major.

Navy nomination of Douglas E. Cole, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Schadaq Torres, to be Commander.

Navy nomination of Augustine R. Wilson, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nomination of Haney D. Hong, to be Captain.

Navy nomination of Dylan S. Maya, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with David J. Brown and ending with Reno R. Perryman,

which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Jonathan W. Alexander and ending with Leotra L. West, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Vincenzo G. Alberico and ending with Cori R. Wallace, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Rachel S. Abraham and ending with Alton J. Zurlohavey, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Charles D. Ball III and ending with Colin N. Zook, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Christopher B. Abel and ending with Justin B. Woods, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Mark Adjei and ending with Ashly L. Wisniewski, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nomination of Kevin L. Jackson, to be Captain.

Navy nominations beginning with Jason R. Arant and ending with Stephen E. Velthuis, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Michael A. Berl and ending with Christopher M. Willich, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Adrian Aceveshurtado and ending with Michael T. Wyngarden, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Jennifer T. Adecock and ending with Daniel S. Zimmer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Matthew C. Anderson and ending with Ili Yuan, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nomination of Albetro Alshabazz, to be Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Kees A. Anderson and ending with Toby G. Via, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Asia M. Allison and ending with Heather L. Willis, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Skyler S. Barger and ending with Michael P. Watrol, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Jeremy T. Aaron and ending with Jonathan E. Zurita, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 6, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Crystal R. Aandahl and ending with Jaime M. York, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Sarah A. Aguero and ending with Alexandra M.

Stormer, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Temitope O. Ayeni and ending with Gregory A. Wolfley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Brooke T. Ahlstrom and ending with Michael K. Yang, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Miguel M. Alampay and ending with Ashley L. Zander, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Derrick Abson and ending with Roderick A. Yard, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Gerardo A. Arbulubarandiaran and ending with Marianogerard Y. Zamora, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Bradley A. Albers and ending with Sean E. Zetoonney, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Joshua J. Austring and ending with Chris L. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Kristoffer M. S. Abonal and ending with Matthew B. Zinger, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Stefani Ahsanov and ending with Gertian Khafa, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Mohammad K. Bahadar and ending with Brandon T. Vitton, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Luke R. Baden and ending with Gregory I. Basior, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Sarah E. Beemiller and ending with Colleen M. Wilmington, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Charles A. Allen and ending with Martin A. Zuber, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Erin M. Bacon and ending with Caroline A. Weachter, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nominations beginning with Davis J. Anderson and ending with Adagray A. Willis, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nomination of Megan E. Jamison, to be Lieutenant Commander.

Navy nominations beginning with Nathaniel B. Alexander and ending with Bansari Sarkar, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on September 7, 2023.

Navy nomination of Von H. Fernandes, to be Captain.

By Mr. PETERS for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Katherine E. Oler, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Judith E. Pipe, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years.

*Charles J. Willoughby, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia for the term of fifteen years, William M. Jackson, retired.

*Thomas G. Day, of Virginia, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission for a term expiring October 14, 2028.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. RISCH (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 2935. A bill to prohibit any official action to recognize or normalize relations with any Government of Syria that is led by Bashar al-Assad; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. KING, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 2936. A bill to establish as a permanent program the organic market development grant program of the Department of Agriculture; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. TUBERVILLE):

S. 2937. A bill to increase the rate of duty applicable to certain ferrosilicon produced in the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus and to require a domestic production assessment before increasing rates of duty applicable to products of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Belarus under the Suspending Normal Trade Relations with Russia and Belarus Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. KELLY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. PADILLA, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 2938. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to include child development and early learning as community services under the Federal work-study program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 2939. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require reporting on enforcement and oversight of pharmacy access requirements under Medicare part D; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. VANCE, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 2940. A bill to require a comprehensive report that contains a strategy for United

States involvement in Ukraine; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 2941. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage of preventative home visits under Medicare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KING:

S. 2942. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the annual wellness visit under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FETTERMAN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 2943. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require schools to provide fluid milk substitutes upon request of a student or the parent or guardian of such student, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. WICKER:

S. 2944. A bill to enable the people of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to determine the political status of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 2945. A bill to promote and ensure delivery of high-quality special education and related services to children and youth who are blind or visually impaired, deaf, hard of hearing, deafblind, or deafblind through instructional methodologies meeting their unique language and learning needs, to enhance accountability for the provision of such services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 2946. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide funding for trained school personnel to administer drugs and devices for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. 2947. A bill to expand the transactions for which declarations may be required by the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States to include investments in United States businesses that maintain or collect sensitive personal data; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 2948. A bill to require the Secretary of Labor to issue guidance and regulations regarding opioid overdose reversal medication and employee training; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2949. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to complete a data matching agreement with the Secretary of Education in order to ensure individuals who are current or former active-duty military service members or civilian employees and are otherwise eligible for assistance under the public service loan forgiveness program have their periods of employment automatically certified and counted towards the public service loan forgiveness program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KAINE:

S. 2950. A bill to align the fiscal year with the calendar year; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 2951. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a program to provide loans and loan guarantees to assist new and expanded meat processors and renderers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 2952. A bill to extend the African Growth and Opportunity Act; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. SCHMITT):

S. 2953. A bill to consolidate or repeal unnecessary agency major rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. RICKETTS, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 2954. A bill to apply the Medicaid asset verification program to all applicants for, and recipients of, medical assistance in all States and territories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 2955. A bill to designate July 11 as National Day of Remembrance for the Victims of the Srebrenica Genocide; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. OSSOFF (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2956. A bill to support the work of the United States Security Coordinator to Israel and the Palestinian Authority in furthering coordination between Israelis and Palestinians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2957. A bill to protect consumers from unfair and deceptive acts and practices in connection with primary and secondary ticket sales, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 2958. An original bill to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to make improvements to that Act, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Environment and Public Works; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 2959. An original bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to reauthorize brownfields revitalization funding, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Environment and Public Works; placed on the calendar.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. SMITH, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 2960. A bill to modify certain notice requirements, to study certain election requirements, to clarify certain election requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2961. A bill to ensure greater equity in Federal disaster assistance policies and programs by authorizing an equity steering group and equity advisor within the Federal Emergency Management Agency, improving data collection to measure disparate outcomes and participation barriers, and requiring equity criteria to be applied to policies

and programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 370. A resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. Res. 371. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 18 through September 22, 2023, as "Malnutrition Awareness Week"; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. REED, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. Res. 372. A resolution expressing concern about the spreading problem of book banning and the proliferation of threats to freedom of expression in the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 373. A resolution designating the week of September 17 through September 23, 2023, as "Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week"; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 374. A resolution designating September 2023 as "National Student Parent Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ERNST, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WICKER, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RICKETTS, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. Res. 375. A resolution supporting the designation of September 21, 2023, as "National Teach Ag Day" and celebrating 75 years of the National Association of Agricultural Educators; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MORAN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. DAINES, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. Res. 376. A resolution clarifying the dress code for the floor of the Senate; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN,

Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. Res. 377. A resolution recognizing Hispanic Restaurant Week and the contributions of Hispanic restaurant owners and employees to the restaurant industry; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 26

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 26, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the amendments made to reporting of third party network transactions by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

S. 113

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 113, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to study the role of intermediaries in the pharmaceutical supply chain and provide Congress with appropriate policy recommendations, and for other purposes.

S. 133

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 133, a bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

S. 134

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 134, a bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act.

S. 566

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 566, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify and extend the deduction for charitable contributions for individuals not itemizing deductions.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 613

At the request of Mr. TUBERVILLE, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 613, a bill to provide that for purposes of determining compliance with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 in athletics, sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth.

S. 626

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

VANCE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 626, a bill to recommend that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation test the effect of a dementia care management model, and for other purposes.

S. 656

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 656, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the rules for approval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of commercial driver education programs for purposes of veterans education assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 740

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 740, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 843

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 843, a bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to authorize the use of funds for certain additional Carey Act projects, and for other purposes.

S. 866

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VANCE) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 866, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance tax benefits for research activities.

S. 913

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 913, a bill to make Ecuador eligible for designation as a beneficiary country under the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act.

S. 1034

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1034, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to establish a competitive grant program for projects for commercial motor vehicle parking, and for other purposes.

S. 1253

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1253, a bill to increase the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Customs and Border Protection officers and support staff and to require reports that identify staffing, infrastructure, and equipment needed to enhance security at ports of entry.

S. 1266

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) 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. 1409

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1409, a bill to protect the safety of children on the internet.

S. 1478

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1478, a bill to designate United States Route 20 in the States of Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts as the "National Medal of Honor Highway", and for other purposes.

S. 1514

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1514, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to establish a mortgage insurance program for first responders, and for other purposes.

S. 1581

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1581, a bill to remove college cost as a barrier to every student having access to a well-prepared and diverse educator workforce, and for other purposes.

S. 1585

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1585, a bill to allow Federal law enforcement officers to purchase retired service weapons, and for other purposes.

S. 1705

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1705, a bill to amend the Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant program to promote career awareness in accounting as part of a well-rounded STEM educational experience.

S. 1793

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1793, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax credit for installation of regionally significant electric power transmission lines.

S. 1851

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms.

SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1851, a bill to address maternity care shortages and promote optimal maternity outcomes by expanding educational opportunities for midwives, and for other purposes.

S. 2003

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2003, a bill to authorize the Secretary of State to provide additional assistance to Ukraine using assets confiscated from the Central Bank of the Russian Federation and other sovereign assets of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

S. 2090

At the request of Mr. MULLIN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2090, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prevent the elimination of the sale of motor vehicles with internal combustion engines.

S. 2444

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2444, a bill to establish an interactive online dashboard to improve public access to information about grant funding related to mental health and substance use disorder programs.

S. 2496

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2496, a bill to amend the National Housing Act to include information regarding VA home loans in the Informed Consumer Choice Disclosure required to be provided to prospective FHA borrowers.

S. 2514

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2514, a bill to amend the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act to modify certain requirements applicable to salinity control units, and for other purposes.

S. 2589

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2589, a bill to amend the Research Facilities Act and the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 to address deferred maintenance at agricultural research facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 2599

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2599, a bill to impose surcharges on private jet travel and certain first class and business tickets, and for other purposes.

S. 2627

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island

(Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2627, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide for greater spousal protection under defined contribution plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2647

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 2647, a bill to improve research and data collection on stillbirths, and for other purposes.

S. 2669

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2669, a bill to require the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to issue guidance on digital assets, and for other purposes.

S. 2733

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2733, a bill to address the behavioral health workforce shortages through support for peer support specialists, and for other purposes.

S. 2735

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2735, a bill to clarify that section 8526(7) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 does not apply with respect to the use of funds for activities carried out under programs authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 that are otherwise permissible under such programs and that provide students with educational enrichment activities and instruction, such as archery, hunter safety education, or culinary arts.

S. 2768

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2768, a bill to protect hospital personnel from violence, and for other purposes.

S. 2822

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2822, a bill to strengthen and expand the Green Ribbon Schools Program at the Department of Education by boosting the capacity of participating States to expand the number

of schools, applicants, and nominees engaged around environmental, environmental literacy, and environmental health goals, and for other purposes.

S. 2825

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2825, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the United States Army Dustoff crews of the Vietnam War, collectively, in recognition of their extraordinary heroism and life-saving actions in Vietnam.

S. 2828

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2828, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to clarify that the prohibition on the use of Federal education funds for certain weapons does not apply to the use of such weapons in certain programs for activities such as archery, hunting, other shooting sports, or culinary arts.

S. 2835

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2835, a bill making continuing appropriations for military pay in the event of a Government shutdown.

S. 2839

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2839, a bill to clarify the maximum hiring target for new air traffic controllers, and for other purposes.

S. 2851

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2851, a bill to permit employees to request changes to their work schedules without fear of retaliation and to ensure that employers consider these requests, and to require employers to provide more predictable and stable schedules for employees in certain occupations with evidence of unpredictable and unstable scheduling practices that negatively affect employees, and for other purposes.

S. 2895

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2895, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a refundable adoption tax credit.

S. 2905

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2905, a bill to deny asylum to members of a Communist or other totalitarian party, and for other purposes.

S. 2911

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska

(Mr. RICKETTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2911, a bill to prohibit the President and the Secretary of Health and Human Services from declaring certain emergencies or disasters for the purpose of imposing gun control.

S. 2921

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2921, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit 529 plans to be used for certain non-degree technical training certificate programs, apprenticeship programs, and other training programs.

S. 2932

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2932, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide guidance to State Medicaid agencies, public housing agencies, Continuums of Care, and housing finance agencies on connecting Medicaid beneficiaries with housing-related services and supports under Medicaid and other housing resources, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 42

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 42, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Food and Nutrition Service relating to "Application of Bostock v. Clayton County to Program Discrimination Complaint Processing-Policy Update".

S.J. RES. 44

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 44, a joint resolution directing the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities in the Republic of Niger that have not been authorized by Congress.

S. RES. 286

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 286, a resolution recognizing the contributions of African Americans to the musical heritage of the United States and the need for greater access to music education for African-American students and designating June 2023 as African-American Music Appreciation Month.

S. RES. 360

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of S.

Res. 360, a resolution designating the week of September 25 through September 29, 2023, as "National Hazing Awareness Week".

AMENDMENT NO. 1250

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1250 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4366, a bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1284

At the request of Mr. FETTERMAN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1284 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4366, a bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. KAINE:

S. 2950. A bill to align the fiscal year with the calendar year; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. KAINE. Madam President, today I want to discuss legislation I am introducing, the Modernizing the Federal Calendar Act.

This bill would shift the start of each fiscal year from October 1 to January 1 and, in doing so, align the deadline for appropriations with the deadline that Congress typically sees as the real target. This bill would eliminate the risk of government shutdowns in October, reduce the time spent on CRs, and lead to a higher probability of completing government funding work on time.

Congress's recurring reliance on continuing resolutions, CRs, to temporarily fund the government from the start of the fiscal year until the winter holidays poses significant challenges for Federal Agencies due to delays to contracts, grants, and hiring while operating under CRs. Even if Congress misses the December 31 deadline, changing the fiscal calendar will still yield benefits, as it will give Federal Agencies more time to enact the appropriations bills once passed and eliminate the annual uncertainty around a short-term CR in September among Agencies, government employees, and industries that rely on government operations.

In addition, Americans are forced to worry about a potential government shutdown if Congress can't reach an agreement on a year-long government funding bill or CR, creating unnecessary stress and uncertainty for the millions of Americans who work for or with the Federal Government, as well as the countless people and small businesses that rely on full-scale government operations and services. Starting

the fiscal year on January 1 will not end the possibility of shutdowns, but it will eliminate need to pass a CR by October 1 to fund the government and help ensure that Congress passes government funding bills without a shutdown.

Today, as the Federal Government rapidly approaches the end of the fiscal year, I am reminded that Congress has never passed all 12 appropriations bills by the October 1 deadline during my entire time in the Senate. Since the Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 updated the start of the fiscal year from July 1 to October 1, there have only been 4 years where Congress has passed yearlong government funding bills by October 1. The last time Congress did so was for fiscal year 1997. This trend makes clear that Congress already sees the December holidays as the real deadline and that the time to improve the certainty and reliability of the appropriations process is now.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 370—TO CONSTITUTE THE MAJORITY PARTY'S MEMBERSHIP ON CERTAIN COMMITTEES FOR THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS, OR UNTIL THEIR SUCCESSORS ARE CHOSEN

Mr. SCHUMER submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 370

Resolved, the following shall constitute the majority party's membership on the following committees for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen:

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS: Mr. Cardin (Chair), Mr. Menendez, Mrs. Shaheen, Mr. Coons, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Kaine, Mr. Merkley, Mr. Booker, Mr. Schatz, Mr. Van Hollen, Ms. Duckworth.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP: Mrs. Shaheen (Chair), Ms. Cantwell, Mr. Cardin, Mr. Markey, Mr. Booker, Mr. Coons, Ms. Hirono, Ms. Duckworth, Ms. Rosen, Mr. Hickenlooper.

SENATE RESOLUTION 371—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 18 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 22, 2023, AS "MALNUTRITION AWARENESS WEEK"

Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. HASSAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry:

S. RES. 371

Whereas malnutrition is the condition that occurs when an individual does not get enough protein, calories, or nutrients;

Whereas malnutrition is a significant problem in the United States and around the world, crossing all age, racial, class, gender, and geographic lines;

Whereas malnutrition can be driven by social determinants of health, including pov-

erty or economic instability, access to affordable healthcare, and low health literacy;

Whereas there are inextricable and cyclical links between poverty and malnutrition;

Whereas the Department of Agriculture defines food insecurity as when an individual or household does not have regular, reliable access to the foods needed for good health;

Whereas communities of color, across all age groups, are disproportionately likely to experience both food insecurity and malnutrition;

Whereas Black children are almost 3 times more likely to live in a food-insecure household than White children;

Whereas infants, older adults, individuals with chronic diseases, and other vulnerable populations are particularly at risk for malnutrition;

Whereas the American Academy of Pediatrics has found that failure to provide key nutrients during early childhood may result in lifelong deficits in brain function;

Whereas disease-associated malnutrition affects between 30 and 50 percent of patients admitted to hospitals, and the medical costs of hospitalized patients with malnutrition can be 300 percent more than the medical costs of properly nourished patients;

Whereas, according to the report entitled "National Blueprint: Achieving Quality Malnutrition Care for Older Adults, 2020 Update" of the Malnutrition Quality Collaborative, as many as 1/2 of older adults living in the United States are malnourished or at risk for malnutrition;

Whereas, according to recent surveys conducted by the Aging Network—

(1) 76 percent of older adults receiving meals at senior centers and other congregate facilities report improved health outcomes; and

(2) 84 percent of older adults receiving home-delivered meals indicate improved health outcomes;

Whereas disease-associated malnutrition in older adults alone costs the United States more than \$51,300,000,000 each year; and

Whereas the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition established "Malnutrition Awareness Week" to raise awareness about, and promote the prevention of, malnutrition throughout the lifespan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of "Malnutrition Awareness Week";

(2) recognizes registered dietitian nutritionists and other nutrition professionals, health care providers, school food service workers, social workers, advocates, caregivers, and other professionals and agencies for their efforts to advance awareness about, treatment for, and prevention of malnutrition;

(3) recognizes the importance of Federal nutrition programs, including the nutrition programs under title III of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3021 et seq.) and Federal child nutrition programs, for their role in combating malnutrition;

(4) supports increased funding for the critical programs described in paragraph (3);

(5) recognizes—

(A) the importance of medical nutrition therapy under the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.); and

(B) the need for vulnerable populations to have access to nutrition counseling;

(6) recognizes the importance of the innovative research conducted by the National Institutes of Health relating to—

(A) nutrition, dietary patterns, and the human gastrointestinal microbiome; and

(B) how the factors described in subparagraph (A) influence the prevention or devel-

opment of chronic disease throughout the lifespan;

(7) supports access to malnutrition screening and assessment for all patients;

(8) encourages the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to evaluate the implementation of newly-approved malnutrition electronic clinical quality measures; and

(9) acknowledges the importance of access to healthy food for children, especially in childcare settings and schools, and the benefits of evidence-based nutrition standards.

SENATE RESOLUTION 372—EXPRESSING CONCERN ABOUT THE SPREADING PROBLEM OF BOOK BANNING AND THE PROLIFERATION OF THREATS TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. REED, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 372

Whereas the overwhelming majority of voters in the United States oppose book bans;

Whereas an overwhelming majority of voters in the United States support educators teaching about the civil rights movement, the history and experiences of Native Americans, enslaved Africans, immigrants facing discrimination, and the ongoing effects of racism;

Whereas, in 1969, the Supreme Court of the United States held in *Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District*, 393 U.S. 503 (1969), that students do not "shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate";

Whereas, in 1982, a plurality of the Supreme Court of the United States wrote in *Board of Education, Island Trees Union Free School District No. 26 v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 853 (1982), that schools may not remove library books based on "narrowly partisan or political grounds", as this kind of censorship will result in "official suppression of ideas";

Whereas the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States protects freedom of speech and the freedom to read and write;

Whereas article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that "everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers";

Whereas PEN America has identified nearly 3,400 instances of individual books banned, affecting 1,557 unique titles from July 2022 through June 2023 alone, representing a 33-percent increase in bans compared to the prior year of July 2021 through June 2022;

Whereas of the 2,532 bans in the 2021-2022 school year, 96 percent of them were enacted without following the best practice guidelines for book challenges outlined by the American Library Association, the National Coalition Against Censorship, and the National Council of Teachers of English;

Whereas the unimpeded sharing of ideas and the freedom to read are essential to a strong democracy;

Whereas books do not require readers to agree with topics, themes, or viewpoints but instead allow readers to explore and engage with differing perspectives to form and inform their own views;

Whereas suppressing the freedom to read and denying access to literature, history, and knowledge are repressive and antidemocratic tactics used by authoritarian regimes against their people;

Whereas book bans violate the rights of students, families, residents, and citizens based on the political, ideological, and cultural preferences of the specific individuals imposing the bans;

Whereas book bans have multifaceted, harmful consequences on—

(1) students, who have a right to access a diverse range of stories and perspectives, especially students from historically marginalized backgrounds whose communities are often targeted by thought control measures;

(2) educators and librarians, who are operating in some States in an increasingly punitive and surveillance-oriented environment and experience a chilling effect in their work;

(3) authors whose works are targeted and suppressed;

(4) parents who want their children to attend public schools that remain open to curiosity, discovery, and the freedom to read; and

(5) community members who want free access to a range of uncensored information and knowledge from their public libraries;

Whereas classic and award-winning literature and books that have been part of school curricula for decades have been challenged, removed from libraries pending review, or outright banned from schools, including—

(1) “Brave New World” by Aldous Huxley;

(2) “The Handmaid’s Tale” by Margaret Atwood;

(3) “Anne Frank’s Diary: The Graphic Adaptation” adapted by Ari Folman;

(4) “Their Eyes Were Watching God” by Zora Neal Hurston; and

(5) “To Kill a Mockingbird” by Harper Lee;

Whereas books, particularly those written by and about outsiders, newcomers, and individuals from marginalized backgrounds, are facing a heightened risk of being banned;

Whereas according to PEN America, 36 percent of instances of books banned or otherwise restricted in the United States from July 2021 to June 2023 have LGBTQ+ characters or themes that recognize the equal humanity and dignity of all individuals despite differences, including—

(1) “And Tango Makes Three” by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell; and

(2) “This Book Is Gay” by Juno Dawson;

Whereas 37 percent of instances of books, both fiction and nonfiction, that have been banned or otherwise restricted in the United States from July 2021 to June 2023 are books about race, racism, or feature characters of color, including—

(1) “The Story of Ruby Bridges” by Robert Coles and illustrated by George Ford;

(2) “Letter from Birmingham Jail” by Martin Luther King, Jr.;

(3) “Thank You, Jackie Robinson” by Barbara Cohen;

(4) “Malala: A Hero For All” by Shana Corey;

(5) “Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story” by Kevin Noble Maillard;

(6) “Hair Love” by Matthew A. Cherry;

(7) “Good Trouble: Lessons From the Civil Rights Playbook” by Christopher Noxon; and

(8) “We Are All Born Free: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Pictures”;

Whereas the Comic Book Legal Defense Fund has reported a dramatic surge in chal-

lenges at libraries and schools to the inclusion of graphic novels that depict the diversity of civic life in the United States and the painful and complex history of the human experience, including—

(1) “New Kid” by Jerry Craft;

(2) “Drama” by Raina Telgemeier;

(3) “American Born Chinese” by Gene Luen Yang; and

(4) “Maus” by Art Spiegelman;

Whereas books addressing death, grief, mental illness, and suicide are targeted alongside nonfiction books that discuss feelings and emotions written for teenage and young adult audiences that frequently confront these topics;

Whereas during congressional hearings on April 7, 2022, May 19, 2022, and September 12, 2023, students, parents, teachers, librarians, and school administrators testified to the chilling and fear-spreading effects that book bans have on education and the school environment; and

Whereas according to PEN America, from July 2022 to June 2023, States across the country limited access to certain books for limited or indefinite periods of time, including—

(1) Florida, where at least 1,406 books in total have been banned or restricted in 33 school districts;

(2) Texas, where at least 625 books in total have been banned or restricted in 12 school districts;

(3) Missouri, where at least 333 books in total have been banned or restricted in 14 school districts;

(4) Utah, where at least 281 books in total have been banned or restricted in 10 school districts;

(5) Pennsylvania, where at least with 186 books in total have been banned or restricted in 7 school districts;

(6) South Carolina, where at least with 127 books in total have been banned or restricted in 6 school districts;

(7) Virginia, where at least 75 books in total have been banned or restricted in 6 school districts;

(8) North Carolina, where at least with 58 books in total have been banned or restricted in 6 school districts;

(9) Wisconsin, where at least with 43 books in total have been banned or restricted in 5 school districts;

(10) Michigan, where at least with 39 books in total have been banned or restricted in 12 school districts;

(11) North Dakota, where at least with 27 books in total have been banned or restricted in 1 school district;

(12) Tennessee, where at least 11 books in total have been banned or restricted in 5 school districts;

(13) New York, where at least 6 books in total have been banned or restricted in 3 school districts; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses concern about the spreading problem of book banning and the proliferating threats to freedom of expression in the United States;

(2) reaffirms the commitment of the United States to supporting the freedom of expression of writers that is protected under the First Amendment to the Constitution and the freedom of all individuals in the United States to read books without government censorship;

(3) calls on local governments and school districts to follow best practice guidelines when addressing challenges to books; and

(4) calls on local governments and school districts to protect the rights of students to learn and the ability of educators and librarians to teach, including by providing students with the opportunity to read a wide array of books reflecting the full breadth and diversity of viewpoints and perspectives.

SENATE RESOLUTION 373—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 17 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 23, 2023, AS “COMMUNITY SCHOOL COORDINATORS APPRECIATION WEEK”

Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 373

Whereas community schools marshal, align, and unite the assets, resources, and capacity of schools and communities for the success of students, families, and communities;

Whereas community schools are an effective and evidence-based strategy for school improvement included under section 4625 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7275), as added by section 4601 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (Public Law 114–95; 129 Stat. 2029);

Whereas community schools that provide integrated student supports, well-designed and expanded learning opportunities, and active family and community engagement and that use collaborative leadership and practices have positive academic and non-academic outcomes, including—

(1) improvements in—

(A) student attendance;

(B) behavior;

(C) academic achievement;

(D) mental and physical health;

(E) high school graduation rates; and

(F) school climate; and

(2) reduced racial and economic achievement gaps;

Whereas community schools have the potential for helping people of the United States from underserved communities, as indicated in a 2021 report;

Whereas a 2019 report found that mental health care provided through community schools improved access to care, academic performance, and student conduct, including reducing the number of school suspensions and disciplinary referrals;

Whereas a 2020 study found that community schools in New York City had a positive impact on student attendance, on-time grade progression, and credit accumulation for high school students;

Whereas a 2016 report found early indicators that community schools in Baltimore led to improved family-school engagement;

Whereas community schools provide a strong social return on investment, with one study citing a social return of \$3 to \$15 for every dollar invested;

Whereas community school coordinators—

(1) are essential to building successful community schools and creating, strengthening, and maintaining partnerships between community schools and their communities;

(2) facilitate and provide leadership for the collaborative process and development of a system of supports and opportunities for children, families, and others within the community of a school that allow all students to learn and the community to thrive; and

(3) deliver a strong monetary return on investment for community schools and their communities, with one study citing a return of \$7.11 for every dollar invested in the salary of a community school coordinator; and

Whereas Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week, celebrated from September 17 through September 23, 2023, recognizes, raises awareness of, and celebrates the thousands of community school coordinators across the country and the critical role of community school coordinators in the success of students; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the week of September 17 through September 23, 2023, as “Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week”;

(2) thanks community school coordinators for the work they do to serve students, families, and communities; and

(3) encourages students, parents, school administrators, and public officials to participate in events that celebrate Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week.

SENATE RESOLUTION 374—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2023 AS “NATIONAL STUDENT PARENT MONTH”

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. CARPER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 374

Whereas student parents are individuals who have children and who attend postsecondary educational institutions;

Whereas student parents make up roughly $\frac{1}{3}$ of the postsecondary student population, totaling nearly 4,000,000 individuals;

Whereas 70 percent of student parents are women, and 62 percent of student mothers are single parents;

Whereas 54 percent of single mothers who are enrolled at an institution of higher education work 20 hours or more per week and 43 percent work 30 hours or more per week, which requires those individuals to balance school, work, and caring for their dependents;

Whereas 51 percent of student parents are students of color, particularly female students of color, with mothers representing—

(1) 40 percent of Black postsecondary students;

(2) 36 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native postsecondary students;

(3) 35 percent of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander postsecondary students; and

(4) 26 percent of Hispanic postsecondary students;

Whereas 47 percent of student parents are military-connected students;

Whereas approximately 794 surviving military spouses are using education benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for surviving dependents;

Whereas 84 percent of military spouses have some college education or credential and, on average, make 25 percent less than their civilian counterparts;

Whereas 42 percent of student parents attend community colleges and 30 percent attend public or private nonprofit 4-year institutions of higher education;

Whereas the cohort of single mothers currently enrolled in higher education will save approximately \$19,900,000,000 in public assistance spending;

Whereas 53 percent of student parents report food insecurity, and 68 percent report housing insecurity;

Whereas $\frac{2}{3}$ of student parents live at or near the poverty line and 52 percent of student parents are Federal Pell Grant recipients;

Whereas, on average, student parents have higher grade point averages than their non-parenting peers, but student parents are 10 times less likely to complete a bachelor's degree within 5 years than students without children;

Whereas a low-income student parent who earns a degree or credential boosts the income of that individual and the earning potential of the children of that individual when those children become adults; and

Whereas student parents are uniquely motivated to excel in their courses of study but

often face challenges, including lack of affordable child care and balancing work responsibilities while attending postsecondary educational institutions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) expresses support for the contributions and achievements of student parents in seeking and completing a postsecondary education; and

(2) designates September 2023 as “National Student Parent Month”.

SENATE RESOLUTION 375—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2023, AS “NATIONAL TEACH AG DAY” AND CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATORS

Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. DAINES, Ms. ERNST, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HOEVEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KING, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LUJÁN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MORAN, Mr. RISCH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WICKER, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RICKETTS, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 375

Whereas agricultural education and the National FFA Organization change lives and prepare students for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success;

Whereas, in the United States, more than 11,000 agricultural educators across all 50 States, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands teach students about agriculture, food, and natural resources;

Whereas teacher recruitment and retention continues to be a significant challenge, with a significant teacher shortage during the 2022–2023 school year;

Whereas the National Association of Agricultural Educators advances agricultural education and promotes the professional interests and growth of agricultural educators, and recruits and prepares students who have a desire to teach agriculture;

Whereas the National Association of Agricultural Educators was established in 1948; and

Whereas current and future agricultural educators will celebrate “National Teach Ag Day” on September 21, 2023: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of September 21, 2023, as “National Teach Ag Day”;

(2) recognizes the important role of agricultural education and the National FFA Organization in developing the next generation of agricultural leaders who will change the world; and

(3) celebrates the 75th anniversary of the National Association of Agricultural Educators.

SENATE RESOLUTION 376—CLARIFYING THE DRESS CODE FOR THE FLOOR OF THE SENATE

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. KELLY, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MCCONNELL,

Mr. MORAN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. DAINES, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 376

Resolved,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the “Senate Dress Code Resolution”.

SEC. 2. SENATE FLOOR DRESS CODE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term “Senate floor dress code” means a requirement that business attire be worn on the floor of the Senate, which for men shall include a coat, tie, and slacks or other long pants; and

(2) the term “Sergeant at Arms” means the Sergeant at Arms and Doorkeeper of the Senate.

(b) SENATE FLOOR DRESS CODE REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An individual on the floor of the Senate shall abide by the Senate floor dress code.

(2) ENFORCEMENT.—The Sergeant at Arms shall enforce the requirement of paragraph (1).

(c) PROCESS TO REVISE THE SENATE FLOOR DRESS CODE.—Any change to the Senate floor dress code, or the enforcement of the Senate floor dress code, that is made on or after the date of adoption of this resolution shall have no force or effect unless such change is made pursuant to a resolution agreed to by not less than two-thirds of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn.

SENATE RESOLUTION 377—RECOGNIZING HISPANIC RESTAURANT WEEK AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF HISPANIC RESTAURANT OWNERS AND EMPLOYEES TO THE RESTAURANT INDUSTRY

Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KELLY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. SINEMA, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. CRUZ) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 377

Whereas Hispanic Restaurant Week is celebrated from September 22, 2023, through October 3, 2023, during the national celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15, 2023, through October 15, 2023;

Whereas, in 2020, the Bureau of the Census estimated that 41,817 owners of accommodation and food service businesses were Hispanic;

Whereas the restaurant industry plays a significant role in the economy of the United States as the second-largest private sector employer in the United States;

Whereas 25.1 percent of workers in the restaurant industry are Hispanic;

Whereas, according to the 2021 State of Latino Entrepreneurship report, published by the Stanford Graduate School of Business, during the last decade, Hispanic entrepreneurs have started small businesses, including restaurants, at a higher rate than any other demographic;

Whereas, of the nearly 5,000,000 Hispanic-owned businesses in the United States, the

restaurant industry has the second highest number of Hispanic owners;

Whereas 8 in 10 restaurant owners started their restaurant industry careers in entry-level positions;

Whereas 63 percent of adults in the United States have worked in the restaurant industry, making it “the Nation’s training ground”; and

Whereas the restaurant industry employs more minority managers than any other industry: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates Hispanic Restaurant Week; and

(2) acknowledges—

(A) the contributions of Hispanic owners and staff of the restaurant industry to the United States economy; and

(B) the fact that the restaurant industry provides restaurant owners, chefs, dishwashers, and other staff the opportunity to work hard, persevere, support their families, and live the American Dream.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1289. Mr. VANCE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3935, to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1289. Mr. VANCE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3935, to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs, 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 ADDITIONAL UNITED STATES PERSONNEL IN UKRAINE.

None of the amounts appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be made available for additional United States personnel in Ukraine, including members of the United States Armed Forces, direct hire personnel, or contractors, to support, train, advise, or assist the armed forces of Ukraine unless a declaration of war or a specific statutory authorization for such use of the United States Armed Forces or other personnel or contractors has been enacted.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have nine 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 AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

The Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 9:45 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 10:15 a.m., to conduct a business meeting.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Committee on Indian Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

The Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 3:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a hearing.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it recess until 10 a.m. on Thursday, September 28; that following the prayer and pledge, the time for the two lead-

ers be reserved for their use later in the day and morning business be closed; that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of the motion to proceed to H.R. 3935, postcloture, and that all time be considered expired at 11:45 a.m.

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

RECESS UNTIL 10 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask that it stand in recess until the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:54 p.m., recessed until 10 a.m., Thursday, September 28, 2023.

NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate:

THE JUDICIARY

SHANLYN A.S. PARK, OF HAWAII, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE DISTRICT OF HAWAII, VICE LESLIE E. KOBAYASHI, RETIRING.

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12212:

To be major general

BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL J. REGAN, JR.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

WILLIAM D. MAGEE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be colonel

MICHAEL P. KUNKLER

IN THE MARINE CORPS

THE FOLLOWING NAMED INDIVIDUAL FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE REGULAR MARINE CORPS UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 531:

To be major

CHRISTOPHER F. MELLING

IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY RESERVE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be captain

T. M. ALFORD

IN THE SPACE FORCE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be lieutenant colonel

DUSTIN L. WHITE

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICERS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE GRADE INDICATED IN THE UNITED STATES SPACE FORCE UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 624:

To be major

JOHN S. DONELSON
AMBER V. HAGY
BENJAMIN F. MOE
RYAN M. WILSON

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE VILLAGE OF CHAMPLAIN'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of the Village of Champlain in Clinton County, New York.

Champlain Township was one of the first municipalities in Clinton County when the county was created by the New York State Legislature on March 7, 1788. The Town's earliest settlers were veterans of the Revolutionary War who had been granted tracts of land for their service to New York and the fledgling United States, a majority of them French-Canadian families who had been denationalized for joining the War on the side of the colonists.

The Village of Champlain was officially incorporated on September 23, 1873, followed by an additional election reaffirming the incorporation in 1875. Early industries in the Village included a paper mill, brickyards, woodworking and manufacturing, and multiple iron foundries, establishing the Village as a commercial center. Restaurants, parks, and fairgrounds created an early sense of community and local spirit, as did circulars such as *The Herald of Freedom*, an abolitionist publication and the first independent newspaper in the area.

Sitting on the banks of the Great Chazy River, the scenic beauty of this historic Village makes it a fixture of Upstate New York. It continues to be a destination within the North Country hosting many small businesses and a growing commercial sector. Visitors to the region will find the Champlain History Center, located on Elm Street, a valuable resource for understanding the unique history and culture of the Village and the surrounding area.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize and celebrate the 150-year legacy of the Village of Champlain, New York.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF ST. MARY'S SYRIAC ORTHODOX CHURCH IN SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Centennial of St. Mary's Syriac Orthodox Church in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. The Church will celebrate its 100th Anniversary on Saturday, October 7, 2023.

The community's roots date to 1895 when the first members emigrated from greater Syria to the East Coast, settling around Worcester, Massachusetts where many

worked in the burgeoning textile mills of that time. The early faithful of the church worshipped in their homes in their native Syriac language, and eventually gathered enough resources to build their first, modest St. Mary's Church on Hawley Street in Worcester, MA. More recently, they built a new church and social hall in Shrewsbury, MA.

Mr. Speaker, we must reflect next weekend on the challenges that first brought the Syriac immigrants to the United States. Fleeing persecution, Syriac Christians found refuge across the U.S. to practice their religion freely, while still today their sisters and brothers fight for this right in their homeland. We must continue to fight for religious freedom domestically and abroad, so that all may feel the power of community through our faith.

Mr. Speaker, the Syrian community thrives today in the greater Worcester area, in part thanks to the community-building efforts of St. Mary's Syriac Orthodox Church. Thank you to Reverend Father Tony Kasih who continues to lead through festival, worship, and service. I am proud to celebrate the beautiful displays of faith and community hosted by this historic institution.

The parish of St. Mary's Orthodox Church will celebrate its remarkable milestone next weekend with prayer, reflection, a choral concert of Aramaic hymns, and a gala dinner. Please join me in recognizing the Centennial of St. Mary's Syriac Orthodox Church next weekend.

RECOGNIZING DR. MICHELE HANEY

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Michele Haney's contribution to the students of Colorado during her service as President of Red Rocks Community College in Lakewood, Colorado.

Dr. Haney has been the President of Red Rocks Community College (RRCC) since January 2008 and has demonstrated dedicated leadership and a deep commitment to her students during the last 15 years. Her accomplishments include pioneering several academic programs, such as launching the first community college master's degree program in the country and expanding degree options within the Bachelor of Applied Science. She also collaborated with Northrop Grumman to create a cybersecurity apprenticeship and launched Mines Academy, a program to guarantee RRCC students admission to the Colorado School of Mines.

Dr. Haney has received numerous accolades during her career, including the Shirley B. Gordon Award, the Women in Business Award, Outstanding Women in Jefferson County, and Woman of the Year for the City of Westminster. Dr. Haney is also an accom-

plished author and previously served on the Westminster City Council. Although her departure from RRCC will be felt deeply by her students and colleagues, her service to the school has proven an invaluable contribution to our community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, I thank Dr. Michele Haney for her exemplary work and her commitment to higher education in Colorado.

CONGRATULATING MR. BRUCE GROTEWIEL ON RECEIVING THE MISSOURI EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ASSOCIATION'S LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Bruce Grotewiel on receiving the Missouri Emergency Medical Services Association's Lifetime Achievement Award.

This December, Mr. Grotewiel will mark 50 years of service to the greater Jefferson City and Columbia area. His dedication has not gone unnoticed, and his service could not be more deserving of this recognition. Throughout his career as a first responder, Mr. Grotewiel has been on the front lines helping those who need it most, and for that we cannot thank him enough. The great courage and moral judgment he exhibited over the course of his professional and volunteer career should forever be appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Mr. Grotewiel's five decades of service to the people of Missouri.

HONORING DR. CONSTANCE E. CLAYTON

HON. DWIGHT EVANS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Constance E. Clayton, a remarkable woman who made an indelible impact on the Philadelphia school system and the lives of countless students as the first African American and first woman to lead the School District of Philadelphia (1982 through 1993).

During her tenure as superintendent, Dr. Clayton achieved remarkable feats. In an era where few Black women held positions of power, Dr. Clayton fearlessly took on the challenges of a school district plagued by patronage, labor strife, and division. Dr. Clayton brought a sense of stability to a system that had often been engulfed in turmoil. Prior to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

her tenure, the relationship between the district and the teachers' union was toxic, with strikes occurring almost yearly. However, under Clayton's leadership, strikes became a thing of the past, as she worked tirelessly to foster a more productive relationship between the two parties.

Dr. Clayton is credited with stabilizing the district's budget and spearheading a standardized curriculum that aimed to benefit the many students who frequently moved from one school to another within the city.

Dr. Clayton was a true trailblazer, a dedicated education advocate, a humanitarian, and a mentor to many. Her career and achievements served as an inspiration, especially to women and African-American women who aspired to break barriers and make their mark in the world.

Dr. Clayton's impact extended far beyond the School District of Philadelphia. As an advocate for people of color and women in leadership, she paved the way for future generations, inspiring young girls everywhere.

Her unwavering commitment to improving the lives of students through education is a testament to her remarkable leadership style described as regal and no-nonsense. Dr. Clayton demanded excellence and did not tolerate mediocrity. There was never any doubt that her primary concern was for the well-being and future of Philadelphia's children. She was the embodiment of the School District of Philadelphia.

Dr. Clayton was the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including 19 honorary doctorate degrees. In 1992, the Constance E. Clayton Professorship in Urban Education was established at the University of Pennsylvania's Graduate School of Education, making her the first African-American woman to have a chair named for her at an ivy League institution.

Not only was Dr. Clayton a visionary in education, but she was also a patron of the arts, with affiliations to art museums throughout Philadelphia. Her passion for both education and the arts exemplified her dedication to creating a well-rounded educational experience for students.

Dr. Clayton passed away on September 18, 2023. We mourn the loss of a remarkable individual who made significant contributions to our community. Dr. Clayton's legacy will continue to inspire and guide us as we strive for equity, diversity, and excellence in education. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and all those who were fortunate enough to know her.

HONORING THE COURAGEOUS
MILITARY SERVICE OF SPE-
CIALIST 4 MARCUS RAY
OSBORNE

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor SP4 Marcus Ray Osborne from Kingsport in Sullivan County, Tennessee for his courageous service in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. After receiving his draft notice, SPC Osborne reported for duty on July 14, 1969, and completed basic and advance infantry training as an infantryman at Fort Gordon with MOS 11B.

By January of 1970, SPC Osborne was assigned to the Americal Division in Chu Lai, Vietnam. For eleven months, he served with Company C 4/31st 196LIB in the surrounding areas of Hiep Duc. SPC Osborne remembers that most of his days were spent "surviving and making it back home alive." SPC Osborne returned home in December 1970 and was honorably discharged from the Army on July 13, 1971.

SPC Osborne remains grateful that he was able to return to his position at Eastman after his military service. SPC Osborne quickly resumed his career and remained with Eastman for almost 40 years until his retirement in 2007. Following his career at Eastman, he worked for a local golf course for 15 years. SPC Osborne's sacrifice to our country continued long after his service as a result of his exposure to Agent Orange in Vietnam. SPC Osborne is blessed and deeply devoted to his loving wife Rita of 48 years, with whom he had one son, Matthew. Matthew and his wife Kelsey have given them "super loved" granddaughters, Margaret and Marion.

Please join me in recognizing Specialist 4 Marcus Ray Osborne for his distinguished military service to our great Nation.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREDO COMMUNITY CENTER FOR THE TREATMENT OF ADDICTIONS

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Credo Community Center for Treatment and Addictions and to honor their integral service to the health and wellbeing of New York residents.

Started in 1973 by Reverend Raymond J. Wertman and Ms. Edith Marsala, a member of his church, Credo Community Services was formed to approach and mitigate drug use in northern New York. Credo was founded with a simple, singular philosophy: anyone faced with a substance abuse problem that wanted assistance deserved to receive it. Credo's initial services included peer-to-peer treatment, coupling current and recovering drug users with mentors for strength and stability during the recovery and rehabilitation process.

In the early stages, Credo was not a breakthrough success, inhibited by social stigmas and adversity to treatment programs and worsened by a dearth of funding. Until New York State began supplying Credo with funding in 1978, staff hosted public fundraisers such as bake sales and telethons to maintain operations. In the decades since, Executive Directors James P. Scordo (1988–2019) and John Wilson (2019–) have overcome these obstacles and grown the Credo treatment network substantially.

Today, Credo operates outpatient centers in Watertown and Lowville, residence homes for men and women in Watertown, and a renowned rehabilitation program in Pamela known as The Farm, a diversion site for youths faced with juvenile detention to recover. Their range of services includes individual and group counseling, Medication-Assisted Treatment, life-saving Narcan kits, and

connecting patients with detox programs and residential sites outside of their network.

On behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District, I am honored to recognize the lifechanging services that the Credo Community Center has provided to the people of New York State for 50 years, and I applaud their continued efforts to expand these critical treatment practices.

HONORING THE LIFE OF W.K. WEBB

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of W.K. Webb, who passed away on August 13, 2023. Born in Saltillo on January 26, 1941, to the late Elzy Carr Webb and Myrtle Parker Webb, W.K. graduated from Saltillo High School and remained a devoted, dedicated and engaged citizen of the town he dearly loved all his life. He was married on August 25, 1961, to Jewell Franks, his life partner for over 60 years, and they were blessed with 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

W.K. served 20 years as Saltillo's mayor in a time of unprecedented growth and development for this north Lee County town. A "people's mayor," he was beloved by the citizens and his family. Prior to serving as mayor, he served 12 years on the Board of Aldermen. W.K. won numerous awards and served as president of the Mississippi Municipal League, was on its Board of Directors for 18 years and was inducted in the Mississippi Municipal League Hall of Fame. Under his leadership, the town was selected as one of the top 100 best places to live and one of the fastest growing towns in Mississippi.

A longtime member of the Saltillo Baptist Church, where he served as a Deacon, W.K. was also president of the Saltillo Men's Club. He and his wife, Jewell, were members of the Saltillo Methodist Church at the time of his passing. Locally, he served as chairman of the Lee County Council of Governments and for 16 years, was chairman of the Lee County 911 Board. He was active in the Mississippi Municipal Association and won many awards for his stellar leadership. One of W.K.'s proudest commitments to civic leadership and youth engagement was forming the first Park and Recreation Department, which resulted in Saltillo City Park, Wesson Park, and the W.K. Webb Sportsplex, which was named after him.

W.K. was a devoted public servant and trusted friend. It was an honor to know this distinguished and extraordinary Mississippian. He is survived by his wife, Jewell Franks Webb of Saltillo; his children, Randy Webb (Renie) of New Albany, Mike Webb (Amy) of Oxford, and Kristi Montgomery (Mark) of Saltillo; his grandchildren, Isabella and Amelia, Victoria and Brayden, and McKinley and Ramsey; siblings, Hazel Raines of Guntown, Ann Taylor of Saltillo, and Larry "Tody" Webb of Saltillo. He was preceded in death by his parents, Elzy Carr Webb and Myrtle Parker Webb, and his brother, Miles "Spud" Webb.

HONORING THE COURAGEOUS
MILITARY SERVICE OF COR-
PORAL THOMAS RAMEY

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Corporal Thomas Ramey of Kingsport in Sullivan County, Tennessee for his heroic military service during the Vietnam War. CPL Ramey reported for duty in the United States Marines in 1968 after receiving his draft notice. He then transferred to Parris Island for Basic Training before joining the Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Lejeune. At Camp Lejeune, CPL Ramey also received training at the Motor Transport School for Jeeps, as well as 6x6 and PC trucks.

The following year, CPL Ramey was assigned to Camp Pendleton to prepare for a combat tour in Vietnam. Traveling across the Pacific, CPL Ramey stopped in Hawaii and Okinawa, Japan, before he finally arrived in Vietnam. During his tour of duty, CPL Ramey was stationed at Hill 327 Marine Base to conduct transportation operations with the 1st Marine Division Battalion 327 in the Transportation Corps.

As a truck driver, CPL Ramey transported everything—from North Vietnamese POWs to ammunition supplies. On August 12, 1969, within weeks of his arrival, CPL Ramey and his unit were ambushed by North Vietnamese Army Sappers in their own compound. Sappers were commando units, who trained to inflict devastating attacks on key road and bridge assets. During this engagement, CPL Ramey saw many of his comrades, including his roommate, pay the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Nation.

Following his tour of duty in Vietnam, CPL Ramey reported to the USS El Paso, where he sailed from Norfolk, VA to Alexandroupolis, Greece. In Greece, he participated in wargaming exercises along with an international coalition of 5 other countries. In 1970, the El Paso was put on standby by President Richard Nixon due to civil unrest in Jordan in preparation for hostage rescue. Shortly after, CPL Ramey was honorably discharged from the U.S. Marine Corps later that year. I join East Tennessee and the Nation in saying thank you to CPL Ramey for his service, and welcome home.

Please join me in recognizing Corporal Thomas Ramey for his bravery, courage, and valiant military service to the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, on September 26, I was unavoidably detained during the vote on Roll Call No. 409.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 409.

HONORING THE ST. JOSEPH COUN-
TY INDIANA BAR ASSOCIATION
ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RUDY YAKYM III

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and congratulate the St. Joseph County Bar Association on their 150th anniversary this Fall.

For a century and a half now, the St. Joseph County Bar Association has been dedicated to advancing the principles of justice and the Rule of Law. As the oldest county lawyer organization in Indiana, the St. Joseph County Indiana Bar Association has long been a leader in raising the standard for the legal profession in the Hoosier state.

In their distinguished history, the St. Joseph County Bar Association has proved instrumental in bringing a federal district court to northern Indiana with a seat in South Bend. From offering referral services to connect clients with attorneys to implementing programs that provide low and no-cost legal services, the St. Joseph County Bar Association is a body that embodies sharing common ideals to serve the common good.

On the wall inside the chamber of the U.S. House of Representatives are 23 marble relief portraits of great lawgivers throughout history, from Moses to Thomas Jefferson. The portraits serve as a constant reminder of the foundational role the law plays in an ordered society and our daily lives.

The Rule of Law tradition we have inherited helps secure individual liberty, promote justice, and ensures the conditions necessary for human flourishing. It is incumbent on us to do our part to make sure the principles of justice and Rule of Law precepts are passed seamlessly from one generation to the next. I know that mission is one the St. Joseph County Bar Association shares wholeheartedly and works tirelessly to advance.

I am proud to congratulate the St. Joseph County Indiana Bar Association on reaching this impressive milestone and on 150 years of dedicated service. I wish them continued success and many more anniversaries to celebrate going forward.

HONORING THE VALIANT MILI-
TARY SERVICE OF SERGEANT
MALCOLM E. WOLCOTT

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sergeant Malcolm E. Wolcott of Sevierville in Sevier County, Tennessee for his distinguished military service in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War Era.

SGT Wolcott proudly served our country between March 29, 1965, and October 28, 1968. During his military service, SGT Wolcott received many assignments both domestically and abroad, including Lackland Air Force Base in Texas; Hickam Air Force Base in Hawaii; Griffiss Air Force Base in New York; as well as duties at Clark Air Force Base in Okinawa, Japan; the Philippines; Taiwan; and a temporary duty at Yakota Air Force Base in Japan.

nawa, Japan; the Philippines; Taiwan; and a temporary duty at Yakota Air Force Base in Japan.

SGT Wolcott honorably served as Security Police, providing security for nuclear weapons storage areas, perimeter security for Presidential and dignitary arrivals, central security as a Control Communications Plotter, and led as an Area Supervisor. During his last assignment, he inspired the next generation of our service members, providing training to new security police arrivals at Griffiss Air Force Base.

Please join me in recognizing Sergeant Malcom E. Wolcott for his distinguished military service to our great Nation.

HONORING MARY DENNY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the late Mary Denny.

For those who did not have the privilege of knowing her, Mary was a valued public servant who gave back to her North Texas community for nearly five decades. Today, North Texas mourns her unexpected death on September 14, 2023.

Mary graduated magna cum laude from the University of North Texas in 1973, with degrees in education and mathematics. Almost immediately after graduation she heeded the call to public service, entrusted in the role of Denton County precinct chair for ten years. Recognizing her dedication and abilities, her friends and colleagues elevated her as Chairwoman of the Denton County Republican Party in 1983.

During her eight years in that position, she became well known not just in North Texas, but across the state of Texas—all the way to Austin. In 1990, Governor William Clements appointed Mary to the Texas Committee for the Humanities for her work in the community.

One of the greatest honors of her professional life came in 1993, when her neighbors and fellow North Texans elected Mary to a seat in the Texas House of Representatives, a position they would keep honoring her with over and over again.

While in Austin, her fellow Representatives learned what Mary's community already knew. She received numerous awards for her service, including the Outstanding Texas Legislator Award and the 1995 Star of Service Award from Common Cause.

Even when her time in the State House drew to a close, that did not stop Mary. For years after retiring from elected office, the Denton Benefit League, United Way, the Arts Council, City Federation of Women's Clubs, the Current Century Department of Ariel Club, and the board of the YMCA were all enriched through her involvement. Her personal contributions to her community culminated in 2018 when she returned to her alma mater, to serve on the Board of Regents of the University of North Texas. Of all of her achievements however, she always felt her greatest accomplishment was being a mother to her beloved son Bryan.

The Honorable Mary Denny will be remembered in towns as small as Aubrey and cities as big as Austin. Her memory and dedication

to her work will continue to inspire not just her neighbors in Denton County but all Texans. I ask that you please keep Mary's family in your thoughts and prayers in their time of loss, and to give them the strength to carry on Mary's legacy.

HONORING THE LIFE AND NOBLE
MILITARY SERVICE OF AVIATION
MACHINIST'S MATE, FIRST
CLASS, DANIEL T. GRIFFIN

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and noble military service of Aviation Machinist's Mate, First Class, Daniel T. Griffin, who died in the line of duty at Kaneohe Naval Air Station during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

AMM1c Daniel Griffin was born in Allendale, Illinois, and moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado as an infant with his family. While growing up, AMM1c Griffin enjoyed hunting and fishing and worked for the Gazette Telegraph Co. during his years at Colorado Springs High School where he graduated in 1928.

AMM1c Griffin enlisted in the United States Navy at the age of 19 in 1930 with a desire to serve his country and see the world. As he served in the Navy, it became his dream to become a pilot. In 1937, he reported to flight school graduating as an AMM2c Naval Aviation Pilot with his Patrol Bomber Y pilot's license in 1938. Following graduation, AMM1c Griffin was transferred to Pearl Harbor and later Kaneohe Bay in March of 1941.

Kaneohe Bay sits on the east side of the Hawaiian island of Oahu. On December 7, 1941, this area was one of the first parts of Hawaii to be attacked by the Japanese Imperial Forces. During that morning, AMM1c Griffin was standing watch and was one of the first servicemen to alert others of the Japanese attack. Swimming out to his plane, AMM1c Griffin immediately jumped into action to try and save his plane from destruction as it sat in the waters of the bay.

However, his aircraft was hit by Japanese machine gun fire as it became airborne leaving the waters. His plane crashed, but he survived and was badly burned. He attempted to swim to shore, but tragically lost his life at the hands of the Japanese machine gun fire. AMM1c Griffin was the first Coloradan to die in the attack on Pearl Harbor and World War II. He left behind his wife, Lucille, and two children, Danelle and Donald, and was laid to rest in Evergreen Cemetery in Colorado Springs.

AMM1c Griffin was issued a citation by Admiral Nimitz for his valor in combat. In 1943 the United States Navy commissioned the U.S.S. *Daniel T. Griffin* APD 38, an Escort Vessel, in recognition of AMM1c Griffin's sacrifice at Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in Congress join me in honoring the life and service of Aviation Machinist's Mate, First Class, Daniel T. Griffin, who faithfully served his country, community, family, and Colorado's 5th Congressional District.

HONORING THE HEROIC MILITARY
SERVICE OF SPECIALIST 5TH
CLASS KENNETH LEE LOCKHART

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor SP/5 Kenneth Lee Lockhart of Mooresburg in Hawkins County, Tennessee for his valiant service in the United States Army.

SP/5 Lockhart enlisted in the U.S. Army in August of 1969, and was promptly sent to Ft. Jackson, SC, for bootcamp and Ft. Rucker, AL for helicopter school. Immediately after his training, SP/5 Lockhart left for Vietnam, where his first duty station was Vung Tau as a Helicopter Mechanic.

After 6 months, he transferred to the 1st Cavalry Division at Fire Support Base Buttons with the A1/9 1st Cavalry, where he was assigned as a Crew Chief-Door Gunner to a UH-1 D Huey helicopter. Their flights operating as hunter-killer teams, where they provided critical reconnaissance to areas after enemy activity was located. SP/5 Lockhart accumulated a total of 185 hours of flying time, 180 of which were combat assaults, and received the Air Medal and Bronze star for his meritorious achievements.

Please join me in recognizing SP/5 Kenneth Lee Lockhart for his courage and bravery in service of our great Nation.

RECOGNIZING VICKIE MCCURDY'S
50 YEARS IN BANKING

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vickie McCurdy as she celebrates 50 years in the banking industry with Farmers and Merchants Bank.

Vickie was born on January 19, 1955. She married her husband, Gary McCurdy, on June 15, 1973. Her first day at work was October 1, 1973.

Vickie and Gary were blessed with one son, Dr. Matthew McCurdy. Matthew is married to Elisha, and they are expecting Vickie's first grandchild early next year. Vickie attends Lebanon Church of Christ in Piedmont, Alabama, where her husband, Gary, serves as pastor.

Vickie has worked to raise money for the American Cancer Society for a number of years and helped with the Spring Garden Education Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this milestone for Vickie McCurdy. Congratulations to her on 50 years of service.

HONORING JOE DELEON "LITTLE
JOE" HERNANDEZ

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate Temple, Texas music

legend Joe DeLeon "Little Joe" Hernandez, an NEA National Heritage Fellowship honoree for 2023. The "King of the Brown Sound," he helped pioneer Tejano music, a uniquely American synthesis of Mexican and European styles that reflects the resilient spirit of the people and the land in which they live.

Little Joe is a Texas-style success story. Born in poverty to a family of cotton pickers, he took up the trade as a child before finding success as a musician. Joe built his reputation on his live performances in the neon-and-smoke wonderland of bailes grandes, the big public dances that are the essence of Chicano social life throughout the Southwest. With many classic albums and beloved songs in his catalogue, he continues touring the world, trailblazing, looking forward to new challenges, breaking down cultural and musical barriers, and innovating his musical style.

Folk music is the song of the people, their struggles, tragedies, and triumphs. While he's won multiple Grammys and countless civic awards, Joe remains a humble and steadfast champion of equality and justice, using his artistry to bring audiences together for a more harmonious world. His performances are crowd-pleasing showcases of his diverse influences, inspired songwriting, and stellar musicianship that transform into cultural and political celebrations.

Little Joe Hernandez is a most deserving recipient of an NEA National Heritage Fellowship, our Nation's highest honor in folk and traditional arts. He remains a vital part of our Nation's rich artistic tradition and has made indelible contributions to a music that speaks to a uniquely American experience. I proudly celebrate his life, career, and contributions and wish him nothing but the best for the future.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE OF CORPORAL WILLIAM
THEODOR TURNER

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Corporal William Theodor Turner of the United States Marine Corps of Johnson City in Washington County, Tennessee.

Corporal Turner enlisted, along with his friend Norris Shell, in the United States Marine Corps on May 18, 1956. He went to Boot Camp in Parris Island, South Carolina in May until September of that year. While at Parris Island, he was one of two Marines promoted to the rank of Private First Class. After leaving Parris Island, he was stationed at Camp Geiger/Camp Lejeune for advanced infantry training for approximately one month. After Camp Lejeune, he was transferred to the Sixth Marines, 2nd Division Line Company.

While he was at Camp Lejeune, a Major and a Sergeant came down from Washington, D.C. to recruit candidates for service at 8th and I. Every day, Corporal Turner and his unit drilled for at least a week. The Major and Sergeant asked a selected group of Marines if they were interested in serving at 8th and I. Corporal Turner responded Yes. A stipulation of serving at 8th and I was that whatever rank you held when you first entered that duty remained the same. While at 8th and I, Corporal

Turner was a member of the first Evening Parade. He also participated in President Eisenhower's second Inauguration Parade.

While in Washington, D.C., Corporal Turner began training as part of the Silent Drill Team. He was in the First Platoon. His platoon trained at 8th and I, and at Camp David. As part of their duties, he met foreign dignitaries flying into D.C. at the airport.

After a clearance by the FBI and Secret Service, along with 5 other Marines, Corporal Turner was selected to be in the Presidential Guard. He was assigned to guard the parameter around the President in his office, while at Camp David or anywhere else he may be. President Eisenhower gave each Marine an engraved pin knife with his name on it. Corporal Turner has kept his pin knife to this day.

Corporal Turner's first assignment was to accompany President Eisenhower to Newport, Rhode Island in October of 1957. He was reassigned at this point to the Secret Service. The Secret Service told him to forget everything the Marines had trained him for and that if anyone and they meant anyone entered the area where the President was, he was to shoot them and that they (the Secret Service) would take care of the details. Corporal Turner recalls that he would have probably shot his own grandmother.

While at 8th and I, he represented the United States at a sporting event in Bermuda called the British Tattoo Festival. He flew from Washington, D.C. to Bermuda on the Marine Commandant's private plane. On Corporal Turner's return from Bermuda, the Commandant's private plane or any form of transportation was not available to fly him back to Washington, D.C. The only transport available was a C-119. He was then given one day's parachute training. Upon departure, Corporal Turner received a parachute, shark repellent and a life preserver for the flight across the Atlantic Ocean. Thankfully, he did not have to use any of that assigned equipment.

After 2 years at 8th and I, he earned the rank of Corporal. Following his retirement from active-duty service, Corporal Turner joined the United States Marine Corps Reserves and proudly served his country for another 4 years.

Please join me in thanking Corporal William Theodor Turner for his distinguished military service to the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING ALEXANDER ADKISSON

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alexander Adkisson, a manufacturing and construction teacher at Green Mountain High School in Lakewood, Colorado.

Mr. Adkisson is an incredible educator who was recently recognized for teaching excellence due to his experience, insights, creative approach to teaching, and commitment to student success. He draws from his own struggle in academics to workshop innovative ways to ensure that none of his students fall behind. Mr. Adkisson co-developed the Algebra 1, Manufacturing, Processes, Entrepreneurship, and Design (AMPED) program which helps students run a business that creates products

for sale while applying the mathematical principles taught in his class. He fosters a sense of entrepreneurial spirit in his students while also ensuring their grasp of mathematical concepts.

Mr. Adkisson is helping pave the way for the next generation of Coloradans looking to make a difference in STEM fields. On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, I thank Mr. Adkisson for his dedicated service to his students and to our education system.

CONGRATULATING MR. GREG KESTER ON RECEIVING THE 2024 MISSOURI TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Potosi High School's Mr. Greg Kester on receiving the 2024 Missouri Teacher of the Year Award.

Throughout his nearly three decades as a teacher at Potosi High School, Mr. Kester has played a significant role in shaping generations of Missourians. Countless families in my district share an immense appreciation for Mr. Kester's dedication to our children's education and community's success. His decades of public service have made him an invaluable member of our great state.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mr. Greg Kester for being named the 2024 Missouri Teacher of the Year.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED MILITARY SERVICE OF SPECIALIST DONALD W. SCALF

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Specialist Donald W. Scalf of Bluff City in Sullivan County, Tennessee for his honorable military service in the United States Army from 1963 to 1965. SPC Scalf proudly served with the 37th Field Artillery Unit in Schwäbisch Hall, Germany in support of the 24th Infantry Division following the construction of the Berlin Wall.

As a member of the Communications Section, he managed the switchboard to coordinate phone lines between the 8in Howitzer Batteries and protect from interception by the enemy. SPC Scalf often collects the memorable experiences he had in Germany, including digging trenches in the deep snow of Southern Germany to maintain switchboard operations or going ahead of the Howitzer guns to prepare for the next position.

Please join me in recognizing Specialist Donald W. Scalf for his distinguished military service to our great Nation.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT ALTON RUSSEL HEIMBACH

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to recognize Mr. Alton Russel Heimbach on the auspicious occasion of his 100th Birthday on August 7, 2023.

Mr. Heimbach enlisted in the U.S. Army at 19 years old. Earning the rank of Sergeant (SGT), he served in Company C, 157th Combat Engineers and fought with "The Greatest Generation" on the Atlantic front. He served in General George Patton's 3rd U.S. Army, which marched across Northern France.

SGT Heimbach's platoon landed on Utah Beach in Normandy on June 25, 1944. He was instrumental in keeping the 3rd Army moving by building bridges and repairing roads that were destroyed by the Germans. Most significantly, he helped to build the first Bailey Bridge, implemented primarily to help our Troops cross the Seine River, but served many thereafter, these bridges were critical to our mission of pursuing the retreating Axis forces. When Patton's 3rd Army moved into Paris, the 157th Engineers were among the first Soldiers to enter the city. SGT Heimbach went on to serve in Rhineland, Germany, Austria, and other areas in Central Europe, until his return to the United States upon the end of World War II in December 1945.

After military service, Mr Heimbach had a successful and varied career ranging from heavy machine equipment operator to superintendent. He remains dedicated to the Mechanicsburg Church of the Brethren, and his wife, Maria and their 3 children, Alton, Mary, and Brian.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to commemorate Alton Russel Heimbach on his 100th Birthday, but also for his distinguished, tireless, and selfless service to our Nation. He sets the standard by which we all should be judged. I wish him Godspeed, and many more years of great health, prosperity, and happiness.

HONORING THE STEVE AND NANCY FOX CANCER CENTER

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Fox Family Foundation for their transformative investment to Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso to help launch the "Steve and Nancy Fox Cancer Center," the first comprehensive cancer center in West Texas.

Steve Fox, who has called El Paso home for the past 45 years, is President and Chief Executive Officer of Fox Auto Team, a group of car dealerships based in El Paso. He is a cancer warrior, who battled stage 4 tongue and neck cancer over two decades ago. Steve Fox has tirelessly advocated for comprehensive cancer care in our community and has served on the board of the Rio Grande Cancer Foundation and MD Anderson's Board of Visitors and Advance Team. For 20 years, it has

been his dream to bring comprehensive cancer care to El Paso, and this year, that dream came true when the Texas legislature approved a historic \$65 million plan to build a cancer center. The Fox Family's investment will support clinical trials, research and recruitment of world-class physicians, nurses, and researchers to the center.

With Cancer being one of the leading causes of death in the U.S. Hispanic population and El Paso having an 83 percent Hispanic population and 395 cancer cases per every 100,000 Hispanics, the Steve and Nancy Fox Cancer Center is expected to help close gaps and increase Hispanic participation in cancer research and clinical trials.

Today, it is my privilege to honor Steve and Nancy Fox, and their two daughters, Paige, and Ashley, for the magic they have produced through their several community initiatives and thank them for helping bring a center that will serve as a beacon of progress in the fight against cancer.

HONORING JOANNE EPPS,
PRESIDENT, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

HON. DWIGHT EVANS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of JoAnne Epps who passed away unexpectedly on September 19, 2023, while serving as President of Temple University, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. JoAnne Epps was an exceptional leader who left an indelible impact on Temple University and the Philadelphia community at large.

JoAnne Epps was a true embodiment of everything that is great about Temple University. She exemplified grace, passion, humor, humility, empathy, energy, intelligence and so many of the values and ideals that Temple University holds dear.

JoAnne dedicated so much of herself to Temple, as a professor and administrator. Her journey from working in the bookstore over 40 years ago to holding the esteemed position of University President was an inspiration to all.

During her tenure as the Dean of Temple Law School, JoAnne proved to be a strong partner in our judicial education efforts. She relentlessly worked towards preparing the next generation of legal professionals, ensuring that they would become active members of the organized bar.

JoAnne is credited for so much more than her legal expertise and academic administration. Many acknowledge her passion for people, especially African American women, their relationships, and opportunities, and how she could help them advance social justice and equality. During an interview in 2014, she is quoted as saying, "Too often it doesn't even occur to women that they can run the world."

Her professional accomplishments are numerous and include being the first African-American woman to serve as President of Temple University. JoAnne was among those considered for the U.S. Supreme Court by President Barack Obama. She was named one of the 100 most influential Black lawyers in the country by several publications and won the 2014 Justice Sonia Sotomayor Diversity Award from the Philadelphia Bar Association.

JoAnne's legacy lives on through the countless lives she touched. Her memory will forever remain in our hearts, and her contributions will continue to inspire generations to come.

RECOGNIZING BISHOP THOMAS
SCOTT AND HIS LIFETIME OF
PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a faithful and impactful leader for the Tampa Bay community and our country, Bishop Thomas Scott. Bishop Scott has made an extraordinary contribution to the lives of our neighbors as a pastor, public servant and community activist. We celebrate his lifetime achievements with immense gratitude and call to others to learn from his example in public service. Bishop Scott continues to serve as pastor for the 34th Street Church of God, a role which he has held since April of 1980, demonstrating that he is grounded in humility and committed to his faith mission.

Bishop Scott was born in Macon, Georgia to the late William and Jessie Lee Scott. He received a calling and started preaching in August of 1971 at the Community Church of God in Macon, under the ministry of Rev. G. H. Williams. Through his time at the Community Church of God, Bishop Scott was encouraged and called to church leadership.

During the latter part of the 1970's, Bishop Scott relocated to Jacksonville, Florida to work in ministry with his spiritual Father, the late Rev. Dr. Richard Harry Patrick Cleaveland, at the 4th Street Church of God, where he served as the pastor of youth and young adults.

For over 40 years, Bishop Scott has served as the senior pastor for the 34th Street Church of God. Under his leadership, the church has experienced significant growth. His support and commitment to education directed him to open the King's Kids Christian Academy, one of the premier schools in Tampa, Florida. Bishop Scott's work with the community motivated him to initiate the Tampa Bay Family and Community Development Corporation, as well as many other ministries that are far reaching and touching the lives of my Tampa Bay neighbors.

His commitment to the community did not stop at the church leadership. Bishop Scott was elected in 1996 to serve on the Hillsborough County Board of Commissioner until 2006, in which I had the honor to work alongside him for four years. After just one year in the job, his colleagues on the Board elected him chairman. Furthermore, he was elected in 2007 to the Tampa City Council, serving for three terms as chairman. Bishop Scott has a long reputation of building bridges across the community through his work as a public servant and church leader, gaining the trust of colleagues and members of the community. In his public roles, Bishop Scott was an outspoken advocate for affordable housing, health care and care of elders.

The commitment to his values and his family are demonstrated by his 41 years of marriage to his wife, Marva. Bishop Scott and

Mrs. Marva have two sons, Marcus and Marlon, one daughter, Marla, and two daughters-in-law, Tanya Y. Scott and Tiese N. Scott. Their growing family is completed by twelve grandchildren.

Bishop Scott is a role model to my neighbors. His extensive educational background is composed of B.A. in Criminal Justice and a Minor in Sociology from the University of North Florida. Additionally, he earned a M.A. in Biblical Studies from the Assembly of God Theological Seminary. Later, in 1995 he earned a Doctor of Divinity degree from the Southern California School of Ministry. To complete his education, Bishop Scott was conferred a Doctor of Humane Letters degree by the Florida Metropolitan University.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Tampa Bay community, I am honored to celebrate Bishop Thomas Scott for his lifelong dedication to service—to his church, his family, and his community. His story is one that embodies the best of American values and spirit, guided by faith and compassion.

IN MEMORY OF BRERETON C.
JONES

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary Kentuckian, former Governor Brereton Chandler Jones. He was born in Ohio on June 27, 1939, and was raised in West Virginia. Mr. Jones passed away on September 18, 2023. He will long be remembered for his contributions to the Commonwealth of Kentucky and to the thoroughbred horse industry.

Mr. Jones was raised on a West Virginia dairy farm. A star football player and class valedictorian, he went on to attend the University of Virginia, where he played football and graduated in 1961. At the age of 25, he was the youngest person ever elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates and served there until 1968. Mr. Jones met his wife Libby on a trip to Kentucky's Keeneland racetrack and they were married in 1970. They had two children, Lucy and Brereton, Jr. (Bret). The family moved to Woodford County, Kentucky in 1972 and established Airdrie Stud. The farm grew from 350 acres to its current size of over 2,500 acres and is internationally recognized for its horses. A leader in the thoroughbred industry, Mr. Jones chaired the Kentucky Thoroughbred Commission and served as treasurer of the Breeders Cup. Mr. Jones founded the Kentucky Equine Education Project in 2004 and served as KEEP's chair until 2011.

Mr. Jones was elected Lieutenant Governor of Kentucky in 1987 and in 1991 he became Kentucky's 58th governor. His administration highlights included strengthening ethics laws, streamlining state government, and passing health care reform. He advocated for an amendment to the state constitution which allowed governors to succeed themselves once, but he exempted himself from the succession provision. Other accomplishments included increasing funding for state parks and phasing out the state inheritance tax.

Governor Jones was a highly respected leader in the political realm in Frankfort and

was also well-respected in the thoroughbred industry. He was a man who led with ingenuity and integrity. Brereton C. Jones was a true leader, and I am humbled to honor his contributions to Kentucky and to the Nation before the United States Congress.

HONORING THE WORK OF
ZACHARY ISAKOWITZ

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to a valued staff member and trusted advisor, Zachary Isakowitz, as he leaves to embark on the next steps in his career. Although he will be greatly missed, I could not be happier for the impact he will continue making within the technology sector.

Zach has served as my Legislative Director for the last two and a half years. His role has been vital to the passing of some of my most important legislation, including the CHIPS for America Act.

Zach's work was, foremost, dedicated to promoting the growth of semiconductor manufacturing in America. Together, we have seen billions invested in the technology industry in Texas and across the nation. We have secured funding for dozens of projects in Texas—10, including many at institutes of higher education. And we've passed crucial legislation combatting childhood cancer.

I would like to thank Zach for a job well done. I am grateful for the dedication and support he has given to me, the staff, and the people of Texas' 10th Congressional District. I wish him all the best, both in life and throughout the remainder of his career.

While his presence in my office will certainly be missed, I know Zach will continue to leave a positive mark on D.C. and our Nation. And remember, once a member of team McCaul, always a member of team McCaul.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT
WILLIE MANNING

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, as a partner of the Vietnam War Commemoration, I recently had the privilege to honor Master Sergeant Willie Manning of Erwin for his distinguished career of service in the United States Air Force. Throughout his multidecade career, Master Sergeant Manning received numerous accolades and awards from his superiors for his outstanding performance and countless mission accomplishments. From achieving the highest level of training in his field as an "Informational Superintendent" to his numerous AF Commendation Medals, including for his support to the 9th AF during quality inspections of the 116th Fighter Wings' operational readiness, Master Sergeant Manning proved an invaluable member of our nation's military.

Master Sergeant Manning first began his career as a Clerk Typist in 1971. Stationed at

Dobbins Air Force Base, Master Sergeant Manning employed his expertise in quality information management for both operations domestic and abroad. This included ensuring quality maintenance for all forms of information management, from simple communication letters to the most protected forms of classified documentation. And revered for his leadership and computer systems expertise, when the Air Force received new technology, the Georgia State Adjutant General personally asked Master Sergeant Manning to provide the software training to his staff.

However, Master Sergeant Manning always highlights the brotherhood he shared with his comrades as a source of joy and gratitude. In his own words, "we had each other's back . . . I could be counted on, and I knew I could count on my fellow airmen." He fondly remembers his experience flying with officers in F4 and F15 fighter jets as the second seater in appreciation of his administrative efforts; or his ability to pilot Cessna 125, the smallest two-seat single engine aircraft.

After 25 years of distinguished military service, Master Sergeant Manning retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1996 as a Noncommissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) of base administration for a fighter wing in Georgia. Following his retirement, Master Sergeant Manning continued to use his skills to benefit his community, assisting the Chamber of Commerce and supporting his local church and nearby senior center. I thank him for his service and sacrifice. Interested Vietnam era veterans and their families can sign up for recognition at: <https://harshbarger.house.gov/.../honoring-vietnam-veterans>.

COMMEMORATING THE "SGT
JAMES L. SHIPLEY MEMORIAL
HIGHWAY"

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the naming of the portion of U.S. Highway 50 from Bahner Quarry Road to Tower Road the "SGT James L. Shipley Memorial Highway." Sergeant Shipley was a great man who served his country valiantly during the Second World War. At only 19 years of age, Mr. Shipley made the decision to go to his local recruiting station and serve his country during a time of war, which led to him becoming a crew chief and mechanic for the 332nd Fighter Group. Little did Mr. Shipley know this decision would place him in one of the most respected military organizations from World War II which would pave the way for African Americans' service in the armed forces.

After Germany's surrender, Sergeant Shipley returned home to Tipton, Missouri where he ran a farm and operated a gas station along U.S. Highway 50 with his loving wife Mildred. While working hard to support his family, Sergeant Shipley frequently made time to share his experiences with community groups and schools in the area.

Sergeant Shipley's long and storied life charts several important chapters in our state's and country's history. The "SGT James L. Shipley Memorial Highway" will stand as an

important reminder of his tremendous dedication to his community and country for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commemorating the "SGT James L. Shipley Memorial Highway."

RECOGNIZING KAMI WELCH

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Kami Welch for being named an Outstanding Woman in Business by the Denver Business Journal.

Each year, Denver Business Journal chooses 34 exceptional women in the Denver metro area who are the area's top executives, entrepreneurs, philanthropists, and influencers. This year, Kami was selected for this award after 14 years in the Chamber industry, including 10 years with the Arvada Chamber of Commerce. She is an outstanding leader, dedicated to the success of the Arvada community and focused on supporting women in business.

Kami's efforts to develop meaningful industry and business solutions have led to significant improvements in the city's domestic tourism, a more diversified economy, and a stronger environment for local and small businesses. Those who have had the privilege of working with Kami attest to her unwavering commitment to the Arvada community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, I thank Kami Welch for her dedicated service to Arvada as well as the citizens of Colorado.

HONORING SCHUYLER FALLS'
175TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a momentous occasion in the history of New York State, the Town of Schuyler Falls' 175th anniversary.

In the early 19th century, a group of visionaries established a settlement bordered on the north and east by the Saranac River. Through their determination and perseverance, these settlers laid foundations for what would become the prosperous town of Schuyler Falls, formally erected from the Town of Plattsburgh on April 4, 1848. Residents have preserved its unique heritage, embraced progress, and fostered a vibrant spirit of unity that continues to this day.

Schuyler Falls has beautiful rolling hills, accessible agriculture, timber, and waterpower, all of which provided early residents with key resources in the Town's founding industries. The initial successes of the Town's founders paved a way for a stalwart, close-knit community that values hard work and dedication.

Today, Schuyler Falls continues to flourish with a plethora of local farms, small businesses, and a growing commercial businesses sector. On behalf of New York's 21st District, it is my honor to recognize and celebrate the

175th anniversary of Schuyler Falls, a hallmark of the North Country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MONICA De La CRUZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I missed these votes due to an urgent personal matter.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 407 and YEA on Roll Call No. 406.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MANSFIELD NOON OPTIMIST CLUB

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2023

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the Mansfield Noon Optimist Club. Members of the club gathered earlier today to kick off an extended celebration of the centennial of their organization.

Optimist Clubs date back to the early 1900s, established to support young people and encourage their development. The Mansfield club, founded in October 1923, is the second oldest in the State of Ohio. Through the years, its members have devoted countless volunteer hours to promote youth-related programming throughout Richland County, from clothing drives to college scholarship competitions and Adopt-a-Child gift drives.

To commemorate this special anniversary, this year the club has donated \$50,000 to build a children's playground at the Buckeye Imagination Museum in downtown Mansfield.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony will take place next month.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate the members of the Mansfield Noon Optimist Club as they mark 100 years of being "Friends of Youth."

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 28, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

OCTOBER 3

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Communications, Media, and Broadband

To hold hearings to examine protecting Americans from robocalls.

SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold hearings to examine back to school with the SHOP SAFE Act, focusing on protecting our families from unsafe online counterfeits.

SD-226

OCTOBER 4

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

To receive a closed briefing on United States assistance to Ukrainian Air Defenses.

SVC-217

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the BUILD Act reauthorization and Development Finance Corporation oversight.

SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine CHIPS and science implementation and oversight.

SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy
To hold hearings to examine security on the Korean Peninsula.

SD-419

3 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine VA accountability and transparency, focusing on care and benefits for veterans.

SR-418

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S4689–S4727

Measures Introduced: Twenty-seven bills and eight resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2935–2961, and S. Res. 370–377. **Pages S4720–21**

Measures Reported:

S. 654, to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs.

S. 2958, to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to make improvements to that Act.

S. 2959, to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to reauthorize brownfields revitalization funding. **Page S4718**

Measures Passed:

Committee Membership: Senate agreed to S. Res. 370, to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Eighteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen. **Page S4699**

Protecting Hunting Heritage and Education Act: Senate passed H.R. 5110, to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to clarify that the prohibition on the use of Federal education funds for certain weapons does not apply to the use of such weapons for training in archery, hunting, or other shooting sports. **Pages S4707–09**

Senate Dress Code: Senate agreed to S. Res. 376, clarifying the dress code for the floor of the Senate. **Pages S4716–17**

Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 373, designating the week of September 17 through September 23, 2023, as "Community School Coordinators Appreciation Week". **Page S4717**

National Student Parent Month: Senate agreed to S. Res. 374, designating September 2023 as "National Student Parent Month". **Page S4717**

National Teach Ag Day: Senate agreed to S. Res. 375, supporting the designation of September 21, 2023, as "National Teach Ag Day" and celebrating

75 years of the National Association of Agricultural Educators. **Page S4717**

Hispanic Restaurant Week: Senate agreed to S. Res. 377, recognizing Hispanic Restaurant Week and the contributions of Hispanic restaurant owners and employees to the restaurant industry. **Page S4717**

Measures Considered:

Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act—Agreement: Senate continued consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3935, to amend title 49, United States Code, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Aviation Administration and other civil aviation programs. **Pages S4689–S4707, S4709–16**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of the bill, post-cloture, at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, September 28, 2023; and that all time be considered expired at 11:45 a.m. **Page S4727**

Gee and McGrath Nominations—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, in consultation with the Republican Leader, Senate consider the nominations of Todd Gee, of the District of Columbia, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of Mississippi for the term of four years, and Tara K. McGrath, of California, to be United States Attorney for the Southern District of California for the term of four years; that there be 2 minutes of debate equally divided in the usual for on confirmation of each nomination; that upon the use or yielding back of time, Senate vote, without intervening action or debate on confirmation of the nominations, in the order listed; and that no further motions be in order. **Page S4702**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

Shanlyn A.S. Park, of Hawaii, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii.

1 Air Force nomination in the rank of general.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Marine Corps, Navy, Space Force. **Page S**

Messages from the House: Page S4727
Additional Cosponsors: Pages S4717–18
Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S4721–23
Additional Statements: Page S4717
Amendments Submitted: Page S4727
Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S4727
Recess: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and recessed at 6:54 p.m., until 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 28, 2023. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S4727.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FOREIGN OWNERSHIP

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine foreign ownership in United States agriculture, after receiving testimony from Senators Tester, Rounds, Baldwin, and Lankford; Gloria Montano Greene, Deputy Under Secretary of Agriculture for Farm Production and Conservation; Harrison M. Pittman, University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture National Agricultural Law Center, Fayetteville; and David L. Ortega, Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, East Lansing.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Armed Services: Committee ordered favorably reported 4,318 nominations in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 2860, to create protections for financial institutions that provide financial services to State-sanctioned marijuana businesses and service providers for such businesses, with an amendment.

MEDICARE

Committee on the Budget: Committee concluded a hearing to examine Medicare, after receiving testimony from Marilyn Moon, former Public Trustee, Medicare and Social Security Trust Funds, Social Security Administration; Chye-Ching Huang, New York University Law Tax Law Center, New York, New York; and James C. Capretta, American Enterprise Institute, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

S. 654, to amend the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act to reauthorize Delaware River Basin conservation programs;

An original bill entitled, "Brownfields Reauthorization Act"; and

An original bill entitled, "Strengthening Coastal Communities Act".

GSA OVERSIGHT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the General Services Administration, focusing on examining the Federal real estate portfolio, after receiving testimony from David Marroni, Acting Director, Physical Infrastructure Team, Government Accountability Office; and Nina Albert, Commissioner, Public Buildings Service, General Services Administration.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Thomas G. Day, of Virginia, to be a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission, and Katherine E. Oler, Judith E. Pipe, and Charles J. Willoughby, Jr., each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

WATER AS A TRUST RESOURCE

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine water as a trust resource, focusing on access in Native communities, after receiving testimony from Bryan Newland, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs; Benjamin Smith, Deputy Director, Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services; Kali Watson, Hawaiian Homes Commission Chairman, Kapolei; Crystalyne Curley, Navajo Nation Council, Window Rock, Arizona; Valerie Nurr'Aruluk Davidson, Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Anchorage; and Heather Tanana, Universal Access to Clean Water for Tribal Communities, San Clemente, California.

AI AND THE FUTURE OF ELECTIONS

Committee on Rules and Administration: Committee concluded a hearing to examine AI and the future of our elections, after receiving testimony from Steve Simon, Minnesota Secretary of State, Saint Paul; Trevor Potter, former Commissioner and Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, Campaign Legal Center, Maya Wiley, The Leadership Conference on

Civil and Human Rights, and Ari Cohn, TechFreedom, all of Washington, D.C.; and Neil Chilson, Utah State University Center for Growth and Opportunity, Logan.

CHINA

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine countering China's malign influ-

ence operations in the United States, after receiving testimony from Glenn Tiffert, Stanford University Hoover Institution, Stanford, California; Alan E. Kohler, Jr., Pamir Consulting, LLC, Vienna, Virginia; and Sarah Cook, Freedom House, Hong Kong, China.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: There were no Public Bills or Resolutions introduced in today's Record.

Additional Cosponsors:

Report Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024: The House considered H.R. 4368, making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. Consideration began yesterday, September 26th.

Pages H4649–59

Agreed to:

Boebert (No. 89 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that prevents USDA from using funds for woke courses, books and study guides (by a recorded vote of 217 ayes to 214 noes, Roll No. 421);

Pages H4652–53

Stauber (No. 99 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that prohibits any funds made available by this bill from being used to fund the Farm to School Network Racial Equity Learning Lab (by a recorded vote of 217 ayes to 216 noes, Roll No. 428); and

Page H4657

Miller (IL) (No. 101 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that prohibits funds to implement the Climate Corp (by a recorded vote of 217 ayes to 216 noes, Roll No. 429).

Pages H4657–58

Rejected:

Spartz (No. 76 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to state that none of the funds made available by this bill may be used to carry out commodity checkoff programs (by a recorded vote of 49 ayes to 377 noes, Roll No. 417);

Pages H4649–50

Boebert (No. 79 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to prevent funds for USDA's Equity Commission (by a recorded vote of 210 ayes to 216 noes, Roll No. 418);

Pages H4650–51

Hageman (No. 83 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to prevent funds from being used to mandate electronic identification eartags for cattle and bison (by a recorded vote of 97 ayes to 336 noes, Roll No. 419);

Page H4651

Good (VA) (No. 85 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to reduce to \$1 the salary of the Director of the Center for Drug Evaluation and Research at the FDA (by a recorded vote of 152 ayes to 278 noes, Roll No. 420);

Pages H4651–52

Good (VA) (No. 90 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to reduce to \$1 the salary of the Director of the Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology at the FDA (by a recorded vote of 158 ayes to 272 noes, Roll No. 422);

Page H4653

Good (VA) (No. 91 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to reduce to \$1 the salary of the Director of the Division of Risk Management at the FDA (by a recorded vote of 159 ayes to 272 noes, Roll No. 423);

Pages H4653–54

Good (VA) (No. 92 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to reduce to \$1 the salary of the Director of the Office of New Drugs at the FDA (by a recorded vote of 156 ayes to 273 noes, Roll No. 424);

Pages H4654–55

Good (VA) (No. 93 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to reduce to \$1 the salary of the Director of the Office of Compliance at the FDA (by a recorded vote of 161 ayes to 270 noes, Roll No. 425);

Page H4655

Good (VA) (No. 94 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to reduce to \$1 the salary of the Director of the Office of Medical Policy at the FDA (by a recorded vote of 160 ayes to 271 noes, Roll No. 426);

Pages H4655–56

Good (VA) (No. 95 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to reduce to \$1 the salary of the Director of the Office of Regulatory Policy at the FDA (by a recorded vote of 163 ayes to 267 noes, Roll No. 427); and

Pages H4656–57

Rosendale (No. 102 printed in part F of H. Rept. 118–216) that was debated on September 26th that sought to reduce the amount appropriated in this Act by \$717,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 71 ayes to 362 noes, Roll No. 430).

Pages H4658–59

H. Res. 723, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4365), (H.R. 4367), (H.R. 4665), and (H.R. 4368) was agreed to yesterday, September 26th. Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2024: The House considered H.R. 4365, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, September 28th.

Page H4659

Agreed to:

Calvert en bloc amendment No. 1 consisting of the following amendments printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216: James No. 1 that increase in Army RDT&E account of \$15 million with a reduction of \$15 million to O&M, Army; Buchanan No. 2 that increases and decreases O&M, Army by \$3 million to ensure foreign army bases have properly stocked ambulances and MedEvac helicopters; Buchanan No. 3 that provides \$1 million to Operations and Maintenance, Army to ensure the continuation of the Future Soldier Prep Course; reduces funding for Operations and Maintenance, Defense-Wide by \$1 million; Carbajal No. 4 that decreases O&M, Army by \$2,000,000 and increases RDT&E, Army by \$2,000,000 to bolster biotechnology research through university and industry research centers; Jacobs No. 5 that increases and decreases O&M funding by \$5m total across the services and Defense-Wide in support of additional funding to recruit and retain direct-care staff in Child Development Centers (CDCs); Kiggans No. 6 that increases and reduces Operation and Maintenance, Army by \$5,000,000 to support the Army Vantage program; McCormick No. 7 that provides an additional \$7.75 million for deployment and operationalization of additional sensor-based algorithms under the USAF Predictive Analytics and Decision Assistant (PANDA) system. Reduces funding for Army Operations and Maintenance, Facilities Sustainment, Restoration, and Mod-

ernization by \$7.75 million; Stevens No. 8 that increases \$5 million in funding within the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army (RDT&E, Army), Next Generation Combat Vehicle Advanced Technology for Virtual Proving Grounds Technology and reduces Operation and Maintenance, Army by \$5 million; Wilson No. 9 that increase and decrease funding by \$1,000,000 in Operation and Maintenance, Army to support personal protective equipment modernization for female service members and small stature male service members to ensure service members are given the appropriate equipment to perform at peak performance and avoid preventable injuries attributable to ill-fitting or malfunctioning personal protective equipment; Caraveo No. 10 that increases funding for Space Force RDT&E, Space Advanced Technology Development/Demo by \$10 million to ensure the Air Force Research Lab (AFRL) has continued resources to continue research and development on Adaptive Medium-Lift Engine Architecture. Decreases Navy O&M and Defense-Wide O&M by \$5 million each; Davis No. 11 that increases Operations and Maintenance, Navy, by \$8,606,779 to assist the Navy with information technology requirements and other associated costs to process legal claims associated with Camp Lejeune contaminated water lawsuits and decreases Operations and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, by the same amount to achieve cost-neutrality; Fallon No. 12 that increases Other Procurement, Army by \$55,000,000 to support HMMWV Anti-Rollover Safety Upgrades; Dunn No. 13 that funds a program to study traumatic brain injuries in veterans; Tony Gonzales (TX) No. 14 that increases and decreases Operation and Maintenance, Air Force by \$7.2 million with the intent to establish a modern Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) facility to maintain maximum readiness posture; Joyce No. 15 that decreases Air Force Research, Development, Test and Evaluation by \$4,000,000 and increases Air Force, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation by \$4,000,000 to support manufacturing technology with respect to the development of nanocomposite functional coatings; Crow No. 16 that increases funding for Space Force O&M, Space Launch Operations, by \$5,000,000, for “Multi-Mission Multi-Domain Space Launch Protection”. Reduces Defense-Wide O&M by \$5,000,000; Ezel No. 17 that increases Navy RDT&E, Air/Ocean Tactical Applications by \$8 million for “Autonomous Surface and Underwater Dual-Modality Vehicles” and decreases Operations and Maintenance, Space Force, by \$8 million; Kelly (MS) No. 18 that revises Army Aircraft Procurement with an additional \$10,000,000 for one UH–72B Lakota helicopter; Lamborn No. 19 that increases Space Force operation

and maintenance by \$2,500,000 and decreases Defense-Wide RDT&E \$2.5M; Bacon No. 20 that increases Air Force RDT&E by \$5 million for the purpose of modernizing defense nuclear command, control and communications (NC3) enterprise capabilities through USSTRATCOM's Research Engineering and Collaboration Hub (REACH) and reduces Defense-Wide Operations and Maintenance by \$5 million; Bacon No. 21 that increases Army RDT&E by \$5 million for the purpose of maximizing soldier performance and lethality through enhanced research of musculoskeletal health and physiology to improve individual resistance to injury and fatigue and reduced Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$5 million; Banks No. 22 that increases Defense Production Act Purchases by \$5 million to support the establishment of a reliable domestic source of tetranitrocarbazole (TNC) for ammunition and flare production and decreases Operations and Maintenance (O&M), Defense-Wide by \$5 million; Boebert No. 23 that redirects \$3 million from O&M to fund research for combat-related traumatic injuries; Boebert No. 24 that redirects \$5 million from O&M to fund Navy and Marine procurement of MK107 cartridges; Boebert No. 25 that redirects \$3 million from O&M to increase funding for the National Guard Counterdrug Program to train and equip our servicemembers to counter illicit fentanyl and synthetic opioids and the transnational criminal organizations that contribute to the fentanyl crisis; Boebert No. 26 that redirects \$3 million from O&M to increase funding for Counter Narcotics Support to enhance DOD's role in countering the flow of illicit fentanyl and synthetic opioids; Connolly No. 27 that increases/decreases Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide by \$5,000,000 for the purposes of implementing the 21st Century Integrated Digital Experience Act; Crow No. 28 that increases applied research funding for Space Force RDT&E, Space Technology, by \$2,500,000, for the "University Consortium for Space Technology". Reduces Defense-Wide O&M by \$2,500,000; Fitzgerald No. 30 that directs \$4 million in funding from O&M, Defense-Wide to RDT&E, Army to support Advanced Manufacturing Cell for Missile Fins and Components within End Item Industrial Preparedness Activities; Fitzpatrick No. 31 that increase RDT&E, Army by \$5 million and reduce Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by the same; Garamendi No. 32 that transfers \$3 million from the Office of the Secretary Defense's (OSD) travel budget to the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program to match the level authorized level under the House-passed NDAA (H.R. 2670): \$88 million total for FY24; Garbarino No. 33 that directs \$5 million in funding from the Defense-Wide Operation and

Maintenance account to the Navy's Research, Development, Test & Evaluation (RDT&E), Force Protection Applied Research account (PE 0602123N), to establish an Aircraft Corrosion Certification Initiative, which would utilize industry experience with airframe testing combined with environmental and dynamic testing; Houlahan No. 35 that directs \$5 million in funding from Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance to Air Force RDT&E to support development of Turbo Air Cooled HTPEM Hydrogen Fuel Cell; Issa No. 36 that increases and decreases by \$1 million Defense-Wide Operations & Maintenance accounts to highlight the need for the Department of Defense to fully implement Section 626 of H.R. 5515—John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, which authorized the establishment—across all services—of harmonized procedures for Gold Star (surviving) spouses and next of kin to gain unescorted access to military installations; James No. 37 that increasing the RDT&E, Army for Derisking Production of the Advanced Combat Transmission and decreasing O&M, Defense-Wide, by \$10 million; James No. 38 that increase in Aircraft Procurement, Air Force account of \$122.6 million with a reduction of \$122.6 million to Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance; Joyce No. 39 that reduces Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$15,000,000 and increases Other Procurement, Army by \$15,000,000 for the Army M971A3 Heavy Dump Truck (HDT) Program; Kamlager-Dove No. 40 that increases Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Army funding by \$7 million and reduces Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$7 million;

Keating No. 41 that increases funding of RDT&E, Navy by \$5 million to support the Navy's autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) mission and reduced Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$5 million; Kelly (MS) No. 42 that revises RDT&E, Army by increasing funding by \$5,000,000 for Denied Area Monitoring & Exploitation v2.5; Luna No. 46 that reduces the Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide account by \$1,000,000 and increases the Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide account by \$1,000,000; Luttrell No. 47 that \$15 million increase for the litter lift stabilization system in Army Aircraft Procurement with a \$15 million offset from Defense-Wide O&M; Luttrell No. 49 that repurposes \$5 million dollars from Defense-Wide O&M to Army RDT&E in order to support wearable TBI prevention devices; McClain No. 51 that increases in Army RDT&E account of \$7.5 million with a reduction of \$7.5 million to Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance; and Sherrill No. 65 that directs \$10 million from Defense-Wide Operations and Maintenance to

Army RDT&E, intended to fund assured munitions position, navigation, and timing (APNT) warfare, as authorized by the House-passed FY2024 NDAA;

Pages H4590–91

Calvert en bloc amendment No. 2 consisting of the following amendments printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216: Kuster No. 43 that increases Air Force Research, Development, Test and Evaluation funding by \$12 million to support Additive Manufacturing Digital Technology Maturation and Adoption and reduces Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$12 million; Lieu No. 44 that Increases Research, Test, Development, & Evaluation, Space Force, Space Innovation, Integration, and Rapid Technology Development funding by \$7.5 million to support Accelerating Space Operators Education and Experiential Learning and reduces Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$7.5 million; Lieu No. 45 that increases Space Force, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E), Space Technology funding by \$5,000,000 and reduces Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$5 million; Lynch No. 50 that increases the Defense Health Program by \$4 M to carry out the second year of the Special Operations TBI pilot program which provides treatment and care to Special Operations Forces impacted by Traumatic Brain Injury and other brain health issues. Offset by a reduction of \$4 M to O&M, Defense-Wide; McClain No. 52 that increases in Army RDT&E account of \$10 million with a reduction of \$10 million to Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance; McClain No. 53 that increases Other Procurement, Army, by \$15 million to provide funding for Infantry Squad Vehicles and reduces by \$15 million Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance; McCormick No. 54 that provides an additional \$4 million to enable continued development of the Paratrooper and Powered Paragliders Autopilot System (PAPPAS) and decreases funding for the Defense Personnel Accounting Agency Operations and Maintenance account by \$4 million; Miller (WV) No. 55 that \$1,000,000 increase in OM,DW–4GTN, Office of the Secretary of Defense with an offset in the same amount to fund the construction of the previously authorized memorial for the 13 servicemembers who lost their lives in the bombing at the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Afghanistan on August 26, 2021; Mills No. 56 that increases RDT&E, Air Force by \$2 million to provide funding for critical research and development projects in order to provide solutions in autonomous connectivity of autonomous machines while ensuring high levels of security and resilience and reduces Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by the same;

Norcross No. 58 that appropriates \$10,000,000 for Army RDT&E of high-performance polymer composites and coatings in the Arctic with an offset from Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance; Perry No. 59 that reduces funding for O&M, Defense-Wide by \$1 million and increases the Defense Health Program by the same amount for the purpose of furnishing Stellate Ganglion Block (SGB) therapy to personnel who elect to receive the treatment; Raskin No. 60 that increases funding available for the Tuberous Sclerosis Complex Research Program (TSCRCP) in the Defense Health Program by \$2 million with a reduction of \$2 million to Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance; Austin Scott (GA) No. 61 that appropriates an additional +\$4M in FY 24 in Air Force, RDT&E; PE0605828F; Acquisition Workforce-Global Reach for the USAF to begin the Digital Transformation for Aircraft Gun Systems initiative to develop and deliver digital models (digital transformation) for it's F–15, F–16, F–22, and A–10 20mm and 30mm aircraft gun systems. This reduces Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$4 million; Sessions No. 62 that increases funding by \$5,000,000 for RDT&E, Army (Army RDT&E Page 38, line 9) for spectrum sharing and management with adaptable and reconfigurable technology research and decreases Defense-Wide Operations & Maintenance (page 10, line 19) by \$5,000,000; Sewell No. 63 that decreases \$5 million from O&M Defense-Wide and increases \$5 million for the Defense Health Program to enhance the peer-reviewed pancreatic cancer research program; Sherrill No. 64 that directs \$2.5 million from Defense-Wide Operations and Maintenance to Army RDT&E, intended to fund armaments technology for unmanned systems, as authorized by the House-passed FY2024 NDAA; Sorenson No. 75 that increases the Air Force RDT&E account by \$5 million offset by a \$5 million reduction to the Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance account to support development, test and evaluation of lightweight UAV skins that are rapidly additively manufactured; Strong No. 76 that reduces Operations and Maintenance, Defensewide by \$2.5 million; increases Procurement, Defense-Wide by \$2.5 million; Strong No. 77 that reduces Operation and Maintenance, Defensewide by \$10 million; increases Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Army by \$10 million; Trahan No. 78 that increases (by \$5,000,000) funding for RDT&E, Soldier Lethality Advanced Technology, PE number 0603118A with an offset from operations and Maintenance, defense wide; Trahan No. 79 that increases Defense-Wide RDT&E, manufacturing technology program PE number 0603680S by \$6,000,000 with an offset from the Operations and Maintenance, defense wide account; Turner No. 80

that reduces DoD OM appropriated funding by \$2,500,000 and increases AF RDT&E appropriated funding by \$2,500,000 for Metals Affordability Initiative, line 016 PE 0603112F, Advanced Materials for Weapons Systems; Wasserman Schultz No. 81 that increases RDT&E, Defense-Wide, by \$10 million within Manufacturing Technology Program for Rapid Additive Manufacturing Critical Hardware. Decreases OM, Defense-Wide; Wilson (SC) No. 82 that increases RDT&E, Defense-Wide by \$16,500,000 for Hypersonic Advanced Composites Manufacturing and decreases \$16,500,000 from OM, Defense-Wide; Wilson (SC) No. 83 that increases RDT&E, Navy by \$6,000,000 for talent and technology for Navy power and energy systems and decreases OM, defense wide by \$6,000,000; Lamborn No. 84 that increases Army Research, Development, Test And Evaluation (RDT&E) by \$2,500,000 and decreases Army, Environmental Restoration funds by \$2.5M; Vasquez No. 85 that increases decreases DOD's Environmental Restoration budget by \$5M to prioritize remediating unexploded ordnance on Tribal Lands; Joyce No. 87 that increases Research, Test, Development, Evaluation, Defense-Wide by \$10,000,000 and reduces Defense-Wide Operation and Maintenance by \$10,000,000 for Additive Manufacturing Casting Research and Development; Tenney No. 88 that increases and decreases funding by \$150 million for Air Force Aircraft Procurement for the procurement of one LC-130J; Jackson Lee No. 90 that reduces funding for Procurement, Defense-Wide, by \$10 million and increases funding for Defense Health Programs by \$10 million in order to address Triple Negative Breast Cancer research; Dunn No. 91 that increases and decrease Army RDT&E by \$7 million to support a project to assist the ARL with accelerated, multifunctional material design and scaled hybrid manufacturing for harsh and extreme environments; Fischbach No. 92 that increases and decreases \$8 million in funding from Army RDT&E to support Synthetic Training Equipment within the Army Futures Command/Cross Functional Team Program; Guest No. 93 that increases and decreases Army RDT&E by \$3 million to support the Forward Infrastructure and Reconnaissance Engineering program, which would study the use of unmanned aerial vehicles for critical infrastructure assessments in difficult environments through the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center; Hern No. 94 that increases and decreases by \$10 million Army RDT&E for the Army Pathfinder program (Army, RDT&E, Line 11, 0602143A, Soldier Lethality Technology) for Human-Machine Teaming. Builds the cross-communication and cooperation between human and technology needed to leverage AI, decision support, and

machining to increase the effectiveness, efficiency, and lethality of the individual soldier; Hudson No. 95 that increases and decreases Army RDT&E by \$10,000,000 to ensure the Army's plan for spending the funds meets congressional intent; Lesko No. 96 that increases and decreases by \$5,000,000 for research, development, test, and evaluation for the Army, with the intent that the \$5 million increase will be used for continued planning, integration, and qualification of the engine enhancement on the CH-47 Chinook platform to enable the implementation of Reliability, Availability, and Maintainability improvements to the legacy engine and increase aircraft flight performance for the CH-47 (Army, RDT&E, PE 0607137A, Line 191 Chinook Product Improvement Program); McGovern No. 97 that increases and decreases by \$11 million Army RDT&E, Next Generation Combat Vehicle Advance Technology, for Autonomous Vehicle Mobility to modernize combat vehicles for multi-domain operations; Miller (WV) No. 99 that increases and decreases by \$7 million for research, development, test and evaluation for the Army with the intent that the \$7 million will be used for or in-house and single source awarded funding for applied research into source characterization and recovery of Rare Earth Element domestic reserves; Molinaro No. 101 that Increase-Decrease Amendment highlighting Congress' intent for continued support of the Advanced Air Mobility industry; Moylan No. 103 that increases Defense-Wide Accounts for RDT&E by \$100M with offsetting reductions; Wilson (SC) No. 105 that increases and decreases RDT&E, Army by \$5,000,000 to enable expansion of terrain capabilities and power management of Q-UGVs to enhance the individual warfighter and reduce the cognitive load; Ezell No. 106 that increases funding by \$4,000,000 for RDT&E, Navy (Navy RDT&E Page 38, line 16) to enhance optoelectronic technology research and decreases Defense working capital fund (page 41, line 5) by \$4,000,000; Franklin No. 107 that increases and decreases Navy RDT&E funding by \$10 million for critical and emerging technologies; Franklin No. 108 that increases Navy RDT&E funding by \$6.5 million for the Cyber Supply Chain Risk Management program and reduces Defense-Wide RDT&E; and Johnson (SD) No. 109 that increases and decreases by \$7 million Navy RDT&E, Naval Integrated Fire Control Counter Air Systems Engineering for the Stratospheric Balloon Research Program;

Pages H4591-93

Calvert en bloc amendment No. 3 consisting of the following amendments printed in part A of H. Rept. 118-216: Calvert En Bloc No. 3 Titus No. 86 that increases the National Guard and Reserve

Equipment Account by \$750,000 to support Aviation Status Dashboards with an offsetting reduction; LaHood No. 89 that increases and decreases by \$4.3 million Air Force Other Procurement funds to construct a replacement facility to protect equipment and munitions at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER); McGovern No. 98 that increases and decreases by \$8.4 million Army RDT&E, Night System Advanced Development, for Micro-LED Soldier System Display Prototype to support the design, development, and delivery of the U.S. Army's next generation full-color LED micro-display prototype, specifically tailored for dismounted soldier applications; Mills (FL) No. 100 that increases and decreases by \$3,000,000 for Army, RDT&E, with the intent that the \$3 million will be used for the development of advanced ultra-highmolecular-weight polyethylene (UHMWP) to decrease armor application weight and increase material performance; Morelle No. 102 that increases and decreases by \$5.6 million research, development, test and evaluation for the Army to emphasize the need to protect and expand our domestic capacity to manufacture and develop organic LED micro displays; Scanlon No. 104 that increases and decreases Army RDT&E by \$15 million for the integration and demonstration of Quad-ruped Unmanned Ground Vehicles; LaLota No. 110 that increases and Decreases the Navy-Wide Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation for the purposes of increasing Surface Mine Countermeasure Technology Insertion Competition; Peters No. 111 that increases and decreases Navy, RDT&E, Digital Warfare Office, Line 75, PE 0604027N by \$8 million for the "Software Radio for Weapons and Autonomous Vehicle Enablement (SR-WAVE)" to enable the Navy to evaluate and demonstrate advanced emerging software radio technology; Peters No. 112 that increases and decreases Navy, RDT&E, Digital Warfare Office, Line 75, PE 0604027N by \$8 million for the "Software Radio for Weapons and Autonomous Vehicle Enablement (SR-WAVE)" to enable the Navy to evaluate and demonstrate advanced emerging software radio technology; Self No. 113 that increases Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) Navy funding by \$5 million for Heterogeneous Photonic Integrated Circuit (HPIC) technology and reduces Defense Working Capital funding by \$5 million; Smith (NJ) No. 114 that increases the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Navy by \$4 million to establish a Digital Component Certification Center to inspect digital components, such as microchips, from foreign sources for inclusion in US vessels, vehicles, aircrafts, and weapons systems, and decreases the Defense Working Capital Funds by \$4 million; Bilirakis No. 115 that increases and decreases RDT&E, Air Force

by \$4.5 million for PE #0602102F, Line 5, Materials RDT&E Air Force, Project 624348, Materials for Electronics, Optics, and Survivability and reduces funding by the same amount for Future AF Integrated Technology Demos; Carey No. 116 that increases and decreases by \$7 million for research, development, test and evaluation for the Air Force with the intent that the \$7 million will be used for the development of a cognitive EW machine learning/neuromorphic processing device to counter AI-enabled adaptive threats; Joyce No. 117 that reduces the Air Force Research, Development, Test and Evaluation account by \$3,000,000 and increases Air Force, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, by \$3,000,000 to support Alloy Additive Manufacturing Research; Lamborn No. 118 that increases Research, Test, Development, and Evaluation, Air Force, and reduces Defense-Wide, Operational Test and Evaluation by \$5 million; Letlow No. 119 that Increases Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Air Force by \$10,000,000 for Air Force Global Strike Command Technology Transition and Innovation; reduces the Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation, Air Force by \$10,000,000; Pettersen No. 120 that moves five million dollars from the Defense Working Capital Funds to the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Air Force Account; Sewell No. 121 that decreases \$10 million from OM Defense-Wide and increases \$10 million for RDT&E, Air Force to support the Business Enterprise Systems Product Innovation (BESPIN); Soto No. 122 that increases and decreases Air Force RDT&E, aerospace sensors funding by \$5 million, for zero-trust environment for semiconductor technology, for the Air Force Research Lab trusted microchip manufacturing prototype program; Tenney No. 123 that increases and decreases funding by \$44 million for Air Force Research Development, Test, and Evaluation for the non-recurring engineering costs associated with converting a C-130J into an LC-130J with skis; Wenstrup No. 124 that increases the Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Air Force Account by \$3 million for the purpose of supporting state-of-art simulation capability for training future Critical Care Air Transport (CCAT) teams, while decreasing the Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation Air Force Account by \$3 million as an offset; Huizenga No. 126 that increases and decreases by \$5 million for Defense-Wide Research, Development, Test, and Evaluation to emphasize the Industrial base Analysis and Sustainment Support account for M-shaped hull manufacturing workforce development program; Buchanan No. 127 that increases and decreases Research, Development, Test and Evaluation, Defense-

Wide by \$1 million to combat future military training accidents and research ways to prevent them; Carey No. 128 that increases and decreases RDT&E, Defense-Wide by \$20 million so that the Department of Defense may utilize appropriations types to procure commercial cloud services aligned to the activity supported by those commercial services; Davis No. 129 that increases and decreases Defense-Wide RDT&E by \$8 million to conduct extensive RD, testing, and evaluating as well as developing use cases and establishing TTPs of unmanned ground systems; Deluzio No. 130 that increases and decreases, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) Defense-Wide funding by \$10,000,000 for Resilient Manufacturing Ecosystem via Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment Support; Ellzey No. 131 that Increases and decreases by \$5 million Defense-Wide Research, Development, Test and Evaluation funding with the intent that the \$5 million will be used for the rapid prototyping and fielding of unmanned surface vessels with advanced autonomous capabilities that are able to launch and recover from Naval Special Warfare Combatant Craft; Houchin No. 132 that increases Research, Test, Development, and Evaluation (RDT&E), Defense-Wide by \$6.5 million to support Additive Manufacturing Microelectronics Protection and reduces the same account by \$6.5 million; Hudson No. 133 that increases and reduces Defense-Wide RDT&E by \$5,000,000 for Combating Terrorism Technology Support; Kiggans No. 134 that increases and decreases Defense-Wide RDT&E by \$10 million to support research into 5G interference with military radar; Mills No. 135 that provides for an additional \$5 million to develop an alternate domestic source AC-130J Infrared Suppression System, fully offset by a reduction from Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment Support Research Development and Test account; Wenstrup No. 136 that increases the amount for Defense Health Programs, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation by \$7,000,000 for freeze-dried platelet hemostatic product development and decreases the amount for Operation and Maintenance, Air Force, by \$7,000,000; Kiggans No. 138 that increases and decreases funding for medical and health programs at the Department of Defense by \$1,000,000 to express the intent that the TRICARE reimbursement rate for pharmacies should be increased; Molinaro No. 139 that increases and decreases funding for the Defense Health Program by \$4,000,000 to ensure servicemembers and other eligible beneficiaries have access to comprehensive health care services, including for those with disabilities; Rouzer No. 140 that decrease and Increase the Defense Health Program account by \$7,800,000 for research, development, test and evaluation for the

purpose of conducting research identifying domestic critical ingredients necessary for the domestic production of Critical Pharmaceuticals identified by the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) in the anticipated report required under House Report 117-118 and solutions to mitigate pharmaceutical supply chain shortages; Cohen No. 141 that increases the amount for Defense Health Programs, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation by \$200,000 to study the incidence of cerebral palsy and hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy among children of servicemembers and decreases the amount for Defense Health Programs Operation and Maintenance by \$200,000; Kiggans No. 142 that increases and decreases funding for Tricare by \$1,000,000 to express the intent that the Tricare reimbursement rate should be increased for mental health providers; Finstad No. 143 that reduces the Defense Health Program Operations and Maintenance account by \$3M and increases the Defense Health Program RTDE account by \$3M for Medical Technology Development through the Health Research for Improved Medical Readiness and Health Care Delivery (USUHS) program for the purposes of developing an ionizing radiation countermeasure; Bergman No. 144 that increases and decreases the account for congressionally directed medical research programs at the Defense Health Agency to highlight the need for research into treatments and cures for Monoamine Oxidase Deficiency through the Autism Research Program; Molinaro No. 145 that increases and decreases funding for the Congressionally Directed Medical Research Program by \$9,000,000 to emphasize the importance of funding innovative and impactful research on autism and other autism-spectrum conditions; Molinaro No. 146 that reduces funds for the Office of the Inspector General by \$5,000,000 and increases counter-narcotic support by \$5,000,000; Williams No. 147 that increases and decreases Air Force RDT&E by \$5 million for the IoT Living Ecosystem; Alford No. 148 that provides \$5 million increase for Man-portable Doppler Radar System within Army RDT&E and reduces Operations and Maintenance, Defense-Wide, Secretary of Defense line by \$5 million; and Fry No. 159 that prohibits federal funds from being used to eliminate ROTC programs at institutions of higher education;

Pages H4593-96

Luttrell amendment (No. 48 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118-216) that provides \$15 million in funding for the DoD wide Psychedelic Medical Clinical Trials;

Pages H4596-97

Crenshaw amendment (No. 137 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118-216) that provides funding for the Defense Health Agency to submit a report to Congress on options to ensure that active-duty service members who are suffering from Traumatic Brain

Injuries (TBI) and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) are able to participate in clinical trials under the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purposes of studying the effectiveness of psychedelic substances; **Pages H4597–98**

Griffith amendment (No. 150 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that strikes references to China in lines 18 and 19 on page 132; **Pages H5699–H4600**

Clyde amendment (No. 154 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that prohibits funds to implement or enforce recommendation of the Naming Commission in regards to the Reconciliation Monument in Arlington National Cemetery (agreed to by voice vote after unanimous consent that the request for a recorded vote be withdrawn to the end that the amendment stands disposed by the earlier voice vote that was recorded thereon. Agreed to without objection.) **Pages H4603–04, H4614**

Craig amendment (No. 157 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to deploy United States Armed Forces to Ukraine; **Pages H4606–07**

Greene (GA) amendment (No. 164 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used to pay Defense Secretary Lloyd James Austin III a salary that exceeds \$1; **Pages H4610–11**

Hageman amendment (No. 165 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that prohibits regular telework and remote work for DoD civilians and contractors; **Pages H4611–13**

D'Esposito amendment (No. 167 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that prevents funds in this act to be used to house migrants on military installations who entered this country through our open southern border; **Pages H4614–15**

Norman amendment (No. 168 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that prohibits funds for all offices of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; **Pages H4615–16**

Norman amendment (No. 169 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that to prohibit the provision of gender transition procedures, including surgery or medication, through the Exceptional Family Member Program; **Pages H4616–17**

Ogles amendment (No. 170 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that prohibits the removal of companies from the Section 1260H List of Chinese Civil-Military Fusion companies; **Page H4617**

Ogles amendment (No. 171 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that prohibits funding for NewsGuard, an organization that purportedly assesses the reliability of news sites; **Pages H4617–18**

Rosendale amendment (No. 172 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that none of the funds made

available by this Act may be used to require a member of the Armed Forces or a civilian employee of DoD to receive a vaccination against COVID–19; **Pages H4618–20**

Roy amendment (No. 173 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that increases funding for the Inspector General by \$20 million for an Office of the Special Inspector General for Ukraine Assistance, if authorized, to enhance oversight and accountability measures for funds appropriated for Ukraine; reduces Inspector General by \$20 million; **Pages H4620–21**

Roy amendment (No. 174 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that reduces the salary of Cyrus Salazar (Director of DoD's Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) to one \$1; **Pages H4621–22**

Roy amendment (No. 176 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that none of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the Marine Corps University Brute Krulak Center's Reynolds Scholars Program; **Pages H4623–24**

Roy amendment (No. 177 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be used to implement President Biden's climate change Executive orders; **Pages H4624–26**

Tiffany amendment (No. 178 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that prohibits the Department of Defense from creating, procuring, or displaying any map that depicts Taiwan or any offshore island under the administration of the government of Taiwan as part of the territory of Communist China; **Page H4626**

Tiffany amendment (No. 179 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that exempts members of the U.S. military, and civilian employees of the Department of Defense, from arbitrary restrictions on official travel to Taiwan and normal communication with Taiwanese officials imposed by the U.S. Department of State through the "Memorandum for All Department and Agency Executive Secretaries" entitled "Revised Guidelines on Interaction with Taiwan" dated June 29, 2021; **Pages H4626–27**

Rosendale amendment (No. 180 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that prohibits the use of funds made available by this Act from enforcing any COVID–19 mask mandates; and **Page H4627–28**

Houlahan amendment (No. 34 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that directs \$50 million from O&M Defense-Wide to the Defense Production Act Purchases account, intended to fund the Advanced Defense Capabilities Pilot Program, as authorized by Section 853 of the House-passed FY24 NDAA and Section 831 of the Senate-passed FY24 NDAA (by a recorded vote of 240 ayes to 191 noes, Roll No. 431). **Pages H4596, H4659–60**

Rejected:

Norton amendment (No. 125 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to increase and decrease by \$10 million for research, development, test and evaluation for the Space Force with the intent that the \$10 million will be used for Single-Stage-to-Orbit Propulsion Research (Space Force RDT&E, Line 44, PE#1206860SF, Rocket Systems Launch Program (RSLP)) (failed by voice vote after unanimous consent that the request for a recorded vote be withdrawn to the end that the amendment stands disposed by the earlier voice vote that was recorded thereon. Agreed to without objection.) **Page H4597**

Biggs amendment (No. 149 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to decrease Section 8104, Ukraine Security Assistance Initiative by \$300,000,000, and increases the Spending Reduction Account by \$300,000,000 (by a recorded vote of 104 ayes to 330 noes, Roll No. 432); **Page H**

Plaskett amendment (No. 151 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to strike section 8149 (by a recorded vote of 203 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 433); **Pages H4598–99, H4660**

Boebert amendment (No. 152 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to reduce the salary of Shawn Skelly, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Readiness to \$1 (by a recorded vote of 150 ayes to 282 noes, Roll No. 434); **Pages H4601–02, H4661–62**

Boebert amendment (No. 153 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to reduce the salary of Norvel Dillard, Director of Diversity and Inclusion Management at the Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion of the Department of Defense, to \$1 (by a recorded vote of 184 ayes to 248 noes, Roll No. 435); **Pages H4602–03, H4662**

Clyde amendment (No. 155 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to prohibit funds from being used to implement section 370 of Public Law 116–283 (by a recorded vote of 172 ayes to 261 noes, Roll No. 436); **Pages H4604–05, H4662–63**

Connolly amendment (No. 156 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to prohibit funds from being used in violation of section 129a of title 10, United States Code: General policy for total force management (by a recorded vote of 215 ayes to 218 noes, Roll No. 437); **Pages H4605–06, H4663–64**

Gaetz amendment (No. 160 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to prohibit security assistance for Ukraine (by a recorded vote of 93 ayes to 339 noes, Roll No. 438); **Pages H4608–09, H4664**

Gaetz amendment (No. 161 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to prohibit funds made available by the bill from being used to transfer cluster munitions (by a recorded vote of 160 ayes to 269 noes, Roll No. 439); **Pages H4609–10, H4664–65**

Jayapal amendment (No. 166 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to prohibit the use

of funds to administer the unfunded priorities list (by a recorded vote of 176 ayes to 258 noes, Roll No. 440); and **Pages H4613–14, H4665–66**

Roy amendment (No. 175 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that sought to state that none of the funds appropriated by this act may be used to carry out the observance of Pride Month authorized by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness for the Cultural Observances and Awareness Events List (by a recorded vote of 202 ayes to 231 noes, Roll No. 441). **Pages H4622–23, H4666**

Withdrawn:

Fallon amendment (No. 158 printed in part A of H. Rept. 118–216) that was offered and subsequently withdrawn that sought to have the salary of Kelisa Wing, within the Department of Defense, reduced to \$1.00. **Pages H4607–08**

H. Res. 723, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4365), (H.R. 4367), (H.R. 4665), and (H.R. 4368) was agreed to yesterday, September 26th. Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2024: The House considered H.R. 4367, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. Consideration is expected to resume tomorrow, September 28th. **Page H4659**

Agreed to:

Joyce en bloc amendment No. 1 consisting of the following amendments printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–216: Boebert (No. 1) that redirects funding from DHS bureaucracy to fund CBP fentanyl detection at Border Patrol Checkpoints; Buchanan (No. 3) that increases the Science and Technology Directorate, R&D by \$3 million to provide for research into using physical surveillance technology and AI technology in conjunction with the additional physical technology; decreases funds by \$3 million from the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management; Buchanan (No. 4) that increase United States Secret Service, Operations and Support, by \$2 million to bolster investigations for missing and exploited children; decrease funds by \$2 million from the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management; Buchanan (No. 5) that increase Customs and Border Protection, Operations and Support, by \$3 million to bolster funding for Non-Intrusive Inspection and opioid detection technology; decrease funds by \$3 million from the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management; Frankel (No. 7) that increases and decreases funding for the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management, Operations and Support by \$1 million to support the implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) strategy including staffing, programming, and research to bolster WPS efforts in DHS, in addition

to department-wide training to ensure officials understand how the inclusion of women increases the effectiveness of security related policies and programs, and specific steps that they can take to promote women's participation; Wagner (No. 9) that increases the ICE/HSI appropriation by \$24 million and decreases the Office of Secretary and Executive Management by \$27.5 million for the purpose of supporting child exploitation and child sexual abuse material (CSAM) investigations; Kim (No. 12) that decreases \$5,000,000 from the Management Directorate for operations and support and increases \$5,000,000 for the National Urban Search & Rescue Response System; Gottheimer (No. 14) that increases and decreases funding by \$1 million from U.S. Customs and Border Protection Operations and Support to support CBP's focus on global auto theft rings that use U.S. ports to export stolen cars to other countries; Grothman (No. 15) that increases and decreases Customs and Border Protection's (CBP) Operations and Support budget to highlight the need for a report on the expanded use of canine units within CBP outside of the Office of Field Operations for the purpose of detecting migrants and narcotics along the southern border with recommendations for Congress to provide funding for such expanded use; Pence (No. 16) that increases-decreases funding by \$1 million for Customs and Border Protection P-3 aircraft propulsion upgrades, which extend time-onstation, boost operational range, and significantly reduce maintenance costs; Wagner (No. 17) that increases and reduces U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Operations and Support, by \$1 to prioritize the elimination of delays in Trusted Traveler Program application processing times; Trahan (No. 18) that increases and decreases Customs and Border Patrol's Operation and Support budget to highlight the need for a report on the use of previous funding and funding gaps for handheld electronic fentanyl interdiction devices, specifically handheld mass spectrometer devices and handheld Raman spectrometer devices; Vasquez (No. 20) that increases and decreases CBP's Procurement, Construction, and Improvements budget by \$10M to ensure CBP prioritizes the procurement of autonomous border technology to enhance security and humanitarian response between land ports of entry; Molinaro (No. 21) that increase-decrease amendment to highlight the importance of the Coast Guard's Marine Environmental Program to fight against pollution and illegal dumping in the Hudson River; Houlihan (No. 22) that increases and decreases the funding for integrated operations at Customs and Border Patrol, to emphasize the need for counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems reform; Menendez (No. 30) that increases and decreases the budget for CISA to support funding for the Chem-

ical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) program, particularly to improve training of facility inspectors; Gottheimer (No. 31) that increases and decreases funding for FEMA Operations and Support to improve access, outreach, and transparency for Non-profit Security Grant Program applicants; Molinaro (No. 32) that increase-decrease amendment to ensure that the needs of those with intellectual and developmental disabilities are considered during FEMA emergency assistance; Tony Gonzales (TX) (No. 33) that increases Operation Stonegarden funding by \$10,000,000 and decreases Science and Technology Directorate Research and Development account by \$10,000,000; Pascrell (No. 34) that increases Assistance to Firefighter Grants by \$10 million and Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grants by \$10 million; Pascrell (No. 35) that increases Nonprofit Security Grant Program by \$20 million; Rose (No. 36) that ensures that \$5 million of the funds appropriated under Public Transportation Security Assistance, Railroad Security Assistance, and Over-the-Road Bus Security (OTRBS) Assistance goes towards OTRBS Assistance; and Buchanan (No. 37) that increases and decreases the Disaster Relief Fund by \$10 million to bring additional attention to the need for greater investments in pre-disaster mitigation efforts; **Pages H4628–46**

Santos amendment (No. 8 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–216) that increases ICE appropriation by \$34,860,000 and decreases the Office of the Secretary and Executive Management by \$39,860,000 and for the purposes of re-establishing the VOICE office within ICE; **Pages H4646–47**

McCormick amendment (No. 10 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–216) that increases the amount withheld from Office of the Secretary and for executive management for operations and support from \$25 million to \$35 million if they do not submit the reports required by subsection (g) of section 1092 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (6 U.S.C. 223) and subsection (b) of section 386 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996; and

Pages H4647–48

Arrington amendment (No. 11 printed in part B of H. Rept. 118–216) that increases and decreases the DHS Management Directorate Operations and Support by \$10,000,000 to emphasize the importance of reaffirming the states' constitutional and sovereign right to defend their border **Pages H4648–49**

H. Res. 723, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4365), (H.R. 4367), (H.R. 4665), and (H.R. 4368) was agreed to yesterday, September 26th.

Quorum Calls—Votes: Fourteen recorded votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H4567–49 and H4659–66.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 12:49 a.m.

Joint Meetings

UN AND UKRAINE

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine the United Nations and Ukraine, after receiving testimony from Sergiy Kyslytsya, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations; Thomas Grant, University of Cambridge; and Natasha Hall, CSIS Middle East Program.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Armed Services: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Derek H. Chollet, of Nebraska, to be Under Secretary for Policy, and Cara L. Abercrombie, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of Defense, 9:30 a.m., SD–G50.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine opportunities to counter the People's Republic of China's control of critical mineral supply chains through increased mining and processing in the United States as well as international engagement and trade, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight, to hold hearings to examine solutions to address beverage container waste, 10 a.m., SD–406.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the nominations of Marjorie A. Rollinson, of Virginia, to be Chief Counsel for the Internal Revenue Service and an Assistant General Counsel in the Department of the Treasury, and Patricia Hart Neuman, of the District of Columbia, and Demetrios L. Kouzoukas, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund, both to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund, and both to be a Member of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider the nominations of Richard E.N. Federico, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, Joshua Paul Kolar, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit, Jeffrey M. Bryan, to be United States District Judge for the District of Minnesota, Eumi K. Lee, to be United States District Judge

for the Northern District of California, and Deborah Robinson, of New Jersey, to be Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, Executive Office of the President, 10 a.m., SH–216.

Committee Meetings

EXAMINING THE POLICIES AND PRIORITIES OF THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Committee on Education and Workforce: Subcommittee on Workforce Protections held a hearing entitled “Examining the Policies and Priorities of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration”. Testimony was heard from Douglas L. Parker, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, Department of Labor.

REVITALIZING AMERICA THROUGH THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Environment, Manufacturing, and Critical Materials held a hearing entitled “Revitalizing America Through the Reauthorization of the Brownfields Program”. Testimony was heard from Barry Breen, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Land and Emergency Management, Environmental Protection Agency; and public witnesses.

PROPOSALS TO ENHANCE PRODUCT SAFETY AND TRANSPARENCY FOR AMERICANS

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Innovation, Data, and Commerce held a hearing entitled “Proposals to Enhance Product Safety and Transparency for Americans”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Securities and Exchange Commission”. Testimony was heard from Gary Gensler, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission.

NO INCENTIVES FOR TERRORISM: U.S. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TAYLOR FORCE ACT AND EFFORTS TO STOP ‘PAY TO SLAY’

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East, North Africa, and Central Asia held a hearing entitled “No Incentives for Terrorism: U.S. Implementation of the Taylor Force Act and Efforts to Stop ‘Pay to Slay’”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EXAMINING THE CURRENT U.S.-SOUTH AFRICA BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on Africa held a hearing entitled “Examining the Current U.S.-South Africa Bilateral Relationship”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

THE FUTURE OF HOMELAND SECURITY: ADDRESSING THE RISE OF TERRORISM IN AFRICA

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Counterterrorism, Law Enforcement, and Intelligence held a hearing entitled “The Future of Homeland Security: Addressing the Rise of Terrorism in Africa”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ADVANCEMENT: GAO MODERNIZATION

Committee on House Administration: Subcommittee on Modernization held a hearing entitled “Legislative Branch Advancement: GAO Modernization”. Testimony was heard from Gene Dodaro, Comptroller General, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT OF THE U.S. COPYRIGHT OFFICE

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Courts, Intellectual Property, and the Internet held a hearing entitled “Oversight of the U.S. Copyright Office”. Testimony was heard from Shira Perlmutter, Register of Copyrights and Director, U.S. Copyright Office, Library of Congress.

DESTROYING AMERICA’S BEST IDEA: EXAMINING THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION’S USE OF NATIONAL PARK SERVICE LANDS FOR MIGRANT CAMPS

Committee on Natural Resources: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Destroying America’s Best Idea: Examining the Biden Administration’s Use of National Park Service Lands for Migrant Camps”. Testimony was heard from Joann Ariola, City Council Member, District 32, New York City, New York; Jaime Williams, Assemblymember, 59th District, State Assembly, New York; and public witnesses.

COMBATING RANSOMWARE ATTACKS

Committee on Oversight and Accountability: Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation; and the Subcommittee on Economic Growth, Energy Policy, and Regulatory Affairs held a joint hearing entitled “Combating Ransomware Attacks”. Testimony was heard from Lacey Gosch, Assistant Superintendent of

Technology, Judson Independent School District, Live Oak, Texas; and public witnesses.

UKRAINE SECURITY ASSISTANCE AND OVERSIGHT SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Committee on Rules: Full Committee held a hearing on H.R. 5692, the “Ukraine Security Assistance and Oversight Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024” [Rule Markup Only]. The Committee granted, by a record vote of 9–4, a rule providing for consideration of H.R. 5692, the “Ukraine Security Assistance and Oversight Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024”, under a closed rule. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions in the bill. The rule provides thirty minutes of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. The rule provides one motion to recommit. The rule provides that during further consideration of H.R. 4365, the further amendments specified in section 3 shall be considered as adopted. Finally, the rule provides that during further consideration of H.R. 4367, the further amendment specified in section 5 shall be considered as adopted.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AT THE EPA

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Science and Technology at the EPA”. Testimony was heard from Michael S. Regan, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency.

ACTION THROUGH INNOVATION: PRIVATE SECTOR SOLUTIONS TO RECOUPING STOLEN PANDEMIC LOAN FUNDS

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Action Through Innovation: Private Sector Solutions to Recouping Stolen Pandemic Loan Funds”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Ways and Means: Full Committee held a business meeting on documents protected under Internal Revenue Code section 6103. A motion to submit to the United States House of Representatives documents protected under Internal Revenue Code Section 6103 was agreed to. Part of this meeting was closed.

House

Committee on Armed Services, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Examining Irregularity in the Strategic Basing Process for U.S. Space Command”, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Workforce, Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Development, hearing entitled “How SCOTUS’s Decision on Race-Based Admissions is Shaping University Policies”, 10:15 a.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled “Investigating the Role of Electric Infrastructure in the Catastrophic Maui Fire”, 10 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Energy, Climate, and Grid Security, hearing entitled “Powering America’s Economy, Security, and Our Way of Life: Examining the State of Grid Reliability”, 10:30 a.m., 2322 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, Full Committee, hearing entitled “Reclaiming Congress’s Article I Powers: Counterterrorism AUMF Reform”, 10 a.m., HVC–210.

Full Committee, hearing entitled “Communism on Our Doorstep: The Threat of China’s Malign Influence in Latin America”, 2 p.m., HVC–210.

Subcommittee on Indo-Pacific, hearing entitled “Lasers and Water Cannons: Exposing the Chinese Communist Party’s Harassment in the South China Sea”, 2 p.m., 2200 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Transportation and Maritime Security, hearing entitled “Projecting Presence and Power in the Indo-Pacific: An Examination of the United States Coast Guard’s Contributions to Maritime Security”, 10 a.m., 310 Cannon.

Committee on House Administration, Full Committee, markup on Committee Resolution 118–22, updates and modernizes the Members Congressional Handbook; Committee Resolution 118–23, updates and modernizes the Committee Handbook; Committee Resolution 118–24, updates and modernizes the Eligible Congressional Member Organization (ECMO) Handbook; Committee Resolution 118–21, to approve an additional Committee Consultant Contract Agreement with the Committee on the Budget; legislation to update House Rule 24 Clause 8 to clarify the Franking blackout period is 60 days prior to an election in which the members name will appear on a ballot to bring House Rules in line with the statute; H.R. 3196, the “Architect of the Capitol Appointment Act of 2023”; H. Res. 458, requiring foreign state media outlets with credentialed members in the House news media galleries to comply with the Foreign Agents Registration Act by prohibiting the admission into such galleries of reporters and correspondents who are representatives of such outlets who are not in compliance with the requirements of such Act, and for other purposes; legislation which Extends the Federal Election Commission’s Administrative Fine Program by 10 years; H.R. 4474, the “Confirmation of Congressional Observer Access Act

of 2023”; and H.R. 4460, the “NO VOTE for Non-Citizens Act”, 12 p.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on the Judiciary, Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5736, the “Federal Accountability in Interviews Reform Act”; H.R. 1105, the “Debbie Smith Act of 2023”; H.R. 5721, the “Rape Kit Backlog Progress Act of 2023”; H.R. 4531, the “Support for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act”; H.R. 2553, the “No More Political Prosecutions Act”; H.J. Res. 11, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve; and H.R. 786, to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide an additional place for holding court for the Pecos Division of the Western District of Texas, and for other purposes, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife and Fisheries, hearing on H.R. 2437, to revise the boundaries of a unit of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System in Topsail, North Carolina, and for other purposes; H.R. 3415, the “Pilot Butte Power Plant Conveyance Act”; H.R. 4385, the “Drought Preparedness Act”; and H.R. 5490, the “BEACH Act”, 10 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Indian and Insular Affairs, hearing entitled “Tribal Autonomy and Energy Development: Implementation of the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act”, 10:15 a.m., 1334 Longworth.

Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, hearing on H.R. 1121, the “Protecting American Energy Production Act”; and H.R. 5616, the “BRIDGE Production Act of 2023”, 2:15 p.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Accountability, Full Committee, hearing entitled “The Basis for an Impeachment Inquiry of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.”, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Rural Development, Energy and Supply Chains, hearing entitled “Energy Independence: How Burdensome Regulations are Crushing Offshore Small Energy Producers”, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled “Clean Water Infrastructure Financing: State and Local Perspectives and Recent Developments”, 10 a.m., 2167 Rayburn.

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing entitled “VA’s Fiduciary Program: Ensuring Veterans’ Benefits are Properly Managed”, 10 a.m., 360 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Work and Welfare, hearing entitled “Modernizing Child Welfare to Protect Vulnerable Children”, 10 a.m., 2020 Rayburn.

Full Committee, markup on H.R. 5688, the “Bipartisan HSA Improvement Act of 2023”; and H.R. 5687, the “HSA Modernization Act of 2023”, 1 p.m., 1100 Longworth.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, September 28

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will continue consideration of the motion to proceed to consideration of H.R. 3935, Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act (the legislative vehicle for the continuing resolution), post-cloture, and vote on the motion to proceed thereon at 11:45 a.m.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

9 a.m., Thursday, September 28

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: Continue consideration of H.R. 4368—Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024. Continue consideration of H.R. 4365—Making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024. Continue consideration of H.R. 4367—Making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024.

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Congressional Record

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