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BUSINESS MEETING

HEARING

BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

UNITED STATES SENATE

ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

FIRST SESSION

SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

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COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

ONE HUNDRED SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST SESSION

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BUSINESS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2019

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS,
Washington, DC.

The committee met, pursuant to notice, at 9:19 a.m. in room 406, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Hon. John Barrasso (chairman of the committee) presiding.

Present: Senators Barrasso, Carper, Inhofe, Capito, Cramer, Braun, Rounds, Sullivan, Boozman, Wicker, Shelby, Ernst, Cardin, Whitehouse, Merkley, Gillibrand, Van Hollen.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. JOHN BARRASSO, U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF WYOMING

Senator BARRASSO. Good morning. I call this hearing to order.

Today we are going to consider two nominees, two bills, and eight General Services Administration resolutions. Senator Carper and I have agreed that we will begin voting at 9:30. At that time, I will call up the items on the agenda. We won't debate the items on the agenda while we are voting. Instead, we will begin debating the items on the agenda before we begin voting, and I will be happy to recognize any member who still wishes to speak after voting concludes.

We will consider two nominations: Aurelia Skipwith to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service; and Katherine Lemos to be a Member and the Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board.

The full committee held a hearing on both nominees earlier this month. Ms. Skipwith's nomination to be Director of the Fish and Wildlife Services has received bipartisan praise from more than 80 groups and individuals, including the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, the Union Sportsmen's Alliance, the Boone and Crockett Club's Conservation Policy Committee, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, American Farm Bureau Federation, Presidents of Howard and Purdue Universities, President and CEO of the Martin Luther King, Jr., National Memorial, and a coalition of 28 sportsmen and conservation groups.

Senator Carper and I have agreed that we will begin voting, as I have described. We also had Congressman William Lacy Clay, who represents Missouri's First congressional District, based in St. Louis, he was here to deliver a resounding endorsement of Ms. Skipwith when he introduced her at the nomination hearing. Congressman Clay testified to State the facts plainly: "Ms. Skipwith is one of the most talented, hardest-working and driven persons I

have ever known.” He noted, “If confirmed, Aurelia Skipwith will become the first African American to head the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This is a historical nomination.”

Dr. Lemos’ nomination to be Member and Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board has been endorsed by the former Executive Director and current Deputy Executive Director of the Federal Aviation Administration’s Accident Investigation and Prevention office, and Mark Chapman, a Boeing 787 pilot, who is a former chair of several aviation safety committees on the Airline Pilots Association. Professor Meshkati, an engineer and aviation safety professor at the University of Southern California, who has worked with the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board since its inception, and wrote of Dr. Lemos, “I strongly believe that Dr. Lemos is an embodiment of professional excellence in accident investigation, whose impeccable technical credentials and leadership experience are an invaluable asset to the U.S. Chemical Safety Board.”

Confirming Dr. Lemos is a priority. In December of this year, the Chemical Safety Board will be down to one member. We called upon the Administration to fill both the current and future vacancies at the agency. We cannot allow the agency to lose its quorum.

Today we will also consider two bills, S. 2260, Senator Sullivan’s and Senate Whitehouse’s Save Our Seas 2.0: Improving Domestic Infrastructure to Prevent Marine Debris Act, with a substitute amendment, and S. 2099, Senator Cramer’s White Horse Hill National Game Preserve Designation Area.

The Save Our Seas Act addresses the important issue of plastic pollution in our oceans. The bill supports increased scientific research to better understand and address the root causes of plastic pollution both here in the United States and around the world. It improves our waste management systems, particularly with regard to recycling infrastructure.

The White Horse Hill National Game Preserve Designation Act redesignates Sullys Hill National Game Preserve as the White Horse Hill National Game Preserve. Administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the preserve is within the Spirit Lake Indian Reservation near Devil’s Lake, North Dakota. The Spirit Lake Tribe has requested the preserve be renamed White Horse Hill, which is its traditional Dakota name.

Last, we will also consider eight resolutions to approve prospectuses providing for GSA leases. I urge my colleagues to support passage of each of the nominees, bills, and resolutions we are considering today. I would now like to turn to Ranking Member Carper.

**OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. THOMAS R. CARPER,
U.S. SENATOR FROM THE STATE OF DELAWARE**

Senator CARPER. Thanks, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, everyone.

As the Chairman said, on the agenda that we have before us today, two nominees, two pieces of legislation and eight General Services Administration lease prospectuses, including two prospectuses for Veterans Administration facilities.

The two nominations being considered by the committee today are Ms. Aurelia Skipwith and Dr. Katherine Lemos. Ms. Skipwith has been nominated to lead the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, an important agency responsible for enforcing Federal wildlife laws, and managing our Nation's treasured wildlife resources.

On August 29th, nearly 2 weeks before the nomination hearing, I sent Ms. Skipwith a letter, asking her to provide answers concerning the nature of her activities on behalf of one longtime employer, long with an explanation of the extent to which she has tried to avoid potential conflicts of interest since assuming her current responsibilities at the Department of Interior.

Less than 24 hours before our hearing, I still had not received a response. I then met personally with Ms. Skipwith on September 10th, and implored her to respond to my letter. Just hours before our nomination hearing, I finally did receive a response that, regrettably, was incomplete.

As I promised repeatedly during her nomination hearing on September 11th, I subsequently provided Ms. Skipwith with another opportunity to shed light on her disclosures, this time, through her responses to questions in plain English, for the hearing record. Yet again, she failed to be completely forthright in her responses.

In fact, in one of her responses, Ms. Skipwith actually suggested that I file a Freedom of Information Act request to obtain the information I was seeking, such as calendar records that would help paint a picture of the meetings she has taken since she joined the Department of Interior. Asking a Senator to FOIA for information that Ms. Skipwith can easily provide is a disappointing departure from how nominees typically handle such requests from lawmakers.

I regret to say that in the case of Ms. Skipwith, unfortunately, my willingness to give her some benefit of the doubt really has not been reciprocated by a serious effort on her part to be fully responsive to a number of questions. This situation does not instill, at least to me, and a number of our colleagues, confidence in her nomination.

If nominees before this committee do not choose to respond to legitimate and reasonable questions from any members of this committee during the confirmation process, it doesn't offer much in the way of assurance that they will prove to be more responsive after being confirmed. Even historical nominees have an obligation to fully respond to reasonable and appropriate questions that are asked of them by members of this committee during the nomination process.

Given these concerns, I am unable to support her nomination today. Having said that, if Ms. Skipwith is willing and able to fully produce the records that I have requested, as well as to engage with our members on other questions that were not completely answered, it would demonstrate to me that she recognizes the importance of congressional oversight, and I would strongly consider supporting her nomination on the Senate floor.

That leads me to the nomination of Dr. Katherine Lemos to serve on the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, an important, independent Federal agency that is charged with investigating industrial chemical accidents.

As with Ms. Skipwith, a number of our colleagues in the minority initially shared serious concerns with the Lemos nomination. In this case, several questions arose during the confirmation with respect to her views on climate change and its effect on the safety of chemical facilities; and in turn, to her ability to be an objective, independent safety investigator.

In the case of Dr. Lemos, however, the nominee clarified her responses in the questions for the hearing record and did assuage the concerns of the minority. Because she clarified her responses and did so in a timely manner, we are pleased to join our Republican colleagues in moving forward her nomination today.

In addition to considering these two nominations, we are also set to consider the Save Our Seas Act 2.0. As co-chair of the Senate Recycling Caucus, along with our colleague John Boozman, I appreciate and applaud the bipartisan leadership of Senators Whitehouse and Sullivan to improve recycling and address widespread and worsening problems in marine debris in Planet Earth.

As some of our colleagues know, prior to the markup, concerns were raised about one provision of the bill, a study on incineration, which has been removed from the substitute that we will vote on today. In recent days, however, we have heard from several other critics of this legislation that suggests we may have some additional work to do on this legislation. I am committed to that effort before the measure is considered by the full Senate.

Let me add one last brief comment before closing. That is just to say that I am happy that our committee is set to move legislation today that will change the name of Sullys Hill National Game Preserve in North Dakota to its Dakota name, the White Horse Hill National Game Preserve. This action by our committee will help to ensure that the Spirit Lake Tribe's story of the white stallion will be ingrained in our Nation's history for years to come. Quite simply, this is the right thing to do, and I want to thank Senator Cramer for his work.

With that, Mr. Chairman, I look forward to our business meeting. Thank you, along with our colleagues, members of our staffs for all the work that has been done to make it possible for what I hope will be a productive and brief meeting. Thanks a lot.

Senator BARRASSO. Thank you very much, Senator Carper. We do have enough members who have arrived. I want to move to the votes on the items on today's agenda. The Ranking Member and I have agreed to bring up one nominee for a separate vote, and then the Ranking Member has requested that this nominee receive a roll call vote. The Ranking Member and I have agreed to vote on the one nominee, two bills and eight General Services Administration resolutions en bloc by voice. Members may choose to have their votes recorded for specific items in that bloc vote, and then there will be plenty of time after the voting for our members to speak on the various issues.

So we will move at this point to the en bloc passage of the items other than Aurelia Skipwith, and that will be the roll call vote in a few seconds. Senators Sullivan and Whitehouse have revised the text of the substitute amendment to S. 2260 to reflect necessary modifications. The Ranking Member and I have agreed that the text of the revised Sullivan-Whitehouse substitute amendment to

S. 2260, which was sent to all offices yesterday, replaces the text that was circulated with the notice last Friday.

I would now like to call up Presidential Nomination 887, Katherine Lemos of California, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board; President Nomination 971, Katherine Lemos, again of California, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board; the revised Sullivan-Whitehouse Substitute Amendment to S. 2260, the Save Our Seas 2.0: Improving Domestic Infrastructure to prevent Marine Debris Act; S. 2099, the White Horse Hill National Game Preserve Designation Act; and eight General Services Administration Resolutions en bloc.

So I move to approve and report Presidential Nomination 887, Presidential Nomination 971, and S. 2099, approve the revised Sullivan-Whitehouse substitute amendment to S. 2260, and report S. 2260 as amended, and approve eight GSA Resolutions en bloc. Is there a second?

Senator CARPER. Second.

Senator BARRASSO. All those in favor, please say aye.

[Chorus of ayes.]

Senator BARRASSO. All those opposed, no.

[No audible response.]

Senator BARRASSO. In the opinion of the Chair, the ayes have it. We have approved Presidential Nomination 887, Presidential Nomination 971, S. 2099, S. 2260 as amended, which will be reported favorably to the Senate. We have also approved eight GSA Resolutions.

Senator Carper.

Senator CARPER. I don't know if this is the appropriate time. I would like to be recorded no on the Skipwith nomination. Are we going to do a roll call?

Senator BARRASSO. We are going to do a roll call. We are waiting for one member to arrive, and we will do a roll call, as you requested. We had agreed to, as we are waiting for the final member, Senator Cramer, would you like to make any comments at this point on the White Horse Hill?

Senator CRAMER. I would. First of all, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, Ranking Member Carper, for not only bringing this up, but for your support of it.

As the Chairman said, Sullys Hill is a national game preserve that is located wholly within the Spirit Lake Nation near Devil's Lake, North Dakota. This bill simply changes the game preserve's name from Sullys Hill to the English translation of its traditional Dakota name, White Horse Hill. I introduced the bill at the request of the tribal leaders, but it has the full support of the Governor and the State of North Dakota, and certainly of the tourism industry throughout the State and the local governments.

I think it is important to note that in 1931, the game preserve was named after General Alfred Sully. Unfortunately, Sully gained his recognition and his notoriety as someone who committed several massacres against Native Americans. The most notable massacre was on September 3d of 1863, in the Dakota territory as reprisal for the Dakota conflict of 1862. His troops destroyed a village of some 500 tipis, killing several hundred Indians. Many of the vic-

tims, descendants of the victims of that massacre, live on this very reservation where this hill is named after this general.

So with the issues that our Federal Government faces, changing the name of this preserve in North Dakota can seem like a small thing. But I assure you, it is no small thing to the people of the Spirit Lake Nation.

It has taken us 85 years to correct this mistake. I am sorry that it has taken so long, but I am grateful that we are correcting it now, and I hope that I can count on everyone's support. Thank you.

Senator BARRASSO. Well, thank you very much, Senator Cramer. I know Senator Whitehouse, as well as Senator Sullivan, would like to comment on their piece of legislation as we are waiting for Senator Capito. I call on you, Senator Sullivan.

Senator SULLIVAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank you and the Ranking Member for your work on this. I certainly want to thank my friend and colleague, Senator Whitehouse, for his leadership on this issue. This issue is addressing of ocean pollution and ocean plastics. We had a bill last year that the President signed called the Save Our Seas Act. This is the Save Our Seas Act 2.0.

I just want to mention, this committee has a real tradition of getting big things done, whether it is the Highway Bill or the TSCA legislation. I am certainly hopeful that this is another example of really important legislation that we are going to be able to move here.

The good news on this legislation is this is an environmental issue that is actually solvable. The estimates are that 10 rivers in Asia constitute almost 70 percent of all the ocean plastic pollution in the world, in all the oceans. So we can actually address this. We are doing it in a bipartisan manner, and this is a comprehensive bill. It has jurisdiction in Commerce here, and in the Foreign Relations Committee.

I want to thank the cosponsors of the Save Our Seas 2.0 legislation, who are EPW members, because there many: Senators Whitehouse, Booker, Carper, Van Hollen, Merkley, Cardin. I want to encourage all my colleagues to join us because we think this is going to move the President in support of this, his administration in support of this.

All the ocean and environmental groups are in support of this. Industry is in support of this. We have stakeholders who are going to hopefully make this move and get it done and it will really have an impact on cleaning up our oceans, which I think everybody here wants to do, whether you are a State like mine with a lot of coastline, or you are a State like Indiana that doesn't have any, but you still care.

Senator BARRASSO. Lake Michigan.

Senator SULLIVAN. Oh, Lake Michigan, sorry.

[Laughter.]

Senator SULLIVAN. Well, it is not an ocean, last time I checked, but it is a big body of water. Sorry. Who else? Senator Rounds—you know what I mean.

[Laughter.]

Senator SULLIVAN. So hopefully we can get this done soon. Again, I want to thank the Chairman and Senator Carper, in particular,

on working hard on this, and of course, Senator Whitehouse. Thank you.

Senator BARRASSO. Senator Whitehouse.

Senator WHITEHOUSE. Thank you, Chairman.

Let me join my friend, Dan Sullivan, in thanking both you and the Ranking Member for helping us work our way through to this day, where we have passed this bill by unanimous consent, effectively, by voice vote here in the committee.

Another section of the bill is in the Foreign Relations Committee for a vote today. We expect it is going to clear that, as well.

That gives us a lot of momentum to move forward. As Dan has pointed out, this is a very important issue. I just got back from the Save the Bay Run ocean cleanup in Rhode Island over the weekend. We do it with trash bags. Dan's State is on the Pacific, so they have a different scale to their problem. When we had our first hearing, his Alaska witnesses talked about having to clean up the shores with dumpsters and front-end loaders, and by the ton per mile rather than by the trash bags.

So this is an area where I think we can get a lot of good work done. There is a very clear focus, there are five Asian nations that have lousy upland waste management that causes the majority of this ocean plastic to be dumped into the Pacific. There are ten rivers around the world, most in Asia, that flow most of this out to sea.

So we have a lot of enthusiasm from the Administration, with the President, Secretary Pompeo, Trade Representative Lighthizer, all having made very strong public statements. So I think it is important to keep our momentum going, and I hope we can move quickly to a very positive vote, perhaps even a voice vote, unanimous consent on the Senate floor to move this along.

We have similar progress in the House, great bipartisanship in the House as well. So I think this is kind of a happy moment for the committee to be in strong agreement on strong environmental legislation that will hit an important problem for our planet. Thank you.

Let me also thank the former chairman, Senator Inhofe, who played such an important role in helping us get the original Save Our Seas Act into unanimous consent on the Senate floor as well. That is really what helped launch it. I was not expecting somebody from a square State to be so enthusiastic, and I appreciate it.

[Laughter.]

Senator INHOFE. It's not a square State?

Senator BARRASSO. Wyoming's the square State.

Senator WHITEHOUSE. OK, you two are going to debate about who's square, OK.

Senator INHOFE. I will share your comments with the people of the panhandle of Oklahoma.

[Laughter.]

Senator BARRASSO. At this happy moment, I would like to call up the Presidential nomination 964, Aurelia Skipwith of Indiana to be Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I move to approve and report the nomination favorably to the Senate. Is there a second?

Senator INHOFE. Second.

Senator BARRASSO. The Clerk will call the roll.

Senator CARDIN. Mr. Chairman, before you call the roll, I will speak for one moment, if I might. I believe we do need a confirmed leader for this agency.

I am disappointed that the information requested by the Ranking Member has not been provided. I think the request of the Ranking Member is extremely reasonable. I hope that that information will be made available before the nomination is brought to the floor. For the reasons that the Ranking Member said, I am not prepared today to support the nominee.

Senator BARRASSO. All right. The Clerk will call the roll.

Senator Van Hollen. Mr. Chairman?

Senator BARRASSO. Senator Van Hollen.

Senator Van Hollen. Senator Cardin and I have talked about this. Obviously, we have a strong interest in protecting the Chesapeake Bay, and all of us have an interest in environmental issues and fish and wildlife. For the same reasons that Senator Cardin indicated, I will be voting no here in this committee.

Senator BARRASSO. The Clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk. Senator Booker.

Senator CARDIN. No, by proxy.

The Clerk. Mr. Boozman.

Senator BOOZMAN. Yes.

The Clerk. Mr. Braun.

Senator BRAUN. Yes.

The Clerk. Mrs. Capito.

Senator CAPITO. Yes.

The Clerk. Mr. Cardin.

Senator CARDIN. No.

The Clerk. Mr. Carper.

Senator CARPER. No.

The Clerk. Mr. Cramer.

Senator CRAMER. Yes.

The Clerk. Ms. Duckworth.

Senator CARPER. No, by proxy.

The Clerk. Ms. Ernst.

Senator ERNST. Yes.

The Clerk. Mrs. Gillibrand.

Senator GILLIBRAND. No.

The Clerk. Mr. Inhofe.

Senator INHOFE. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Markey.

Senator CARPER. No, by proxy.

The Clerk. Mr. Merkley.

Senator MERKLEY. No.

The Clerk. Mr. Rounds.

Senator ROUNDS. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Sanders.

Senator CARPER. No, by proxy.

The Clerk. Mr. Shelby.

Mr. SHELBY. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Sullivan.

Senator SULLIVAN. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Van Hollen.

Senator Van Hollen. No.

The Clerk. Mr. Whitehouse.

Senator CARPER. No, by proxy.

The Clerk. Mr. Wicker.

Senator WICKER. Aye.

The Clerk. Mr. Chairman.

Senator BARRASSO. Aye. The Clerk will report.

The Clerk. Mr. Chairman, the ayes are 11 and the nays are 10.

Senator BARRASSO. The ayes are 11, the nays are 10, we have approved Nomination 964, which will be favorably reported to the U.S. Senate.

Senator CARPER. I have a unanimous consent request. I ask unanimous consent that we enter into the record a statement from Golden Gate Salmon Association, opposing Ms. Skipwith's nomination, as well as other letters and materials.

Senator BARRASSO. Without objection.

[The referenced material follows:]



Lobbying Ties Between Westlands Water District and Aurelia Skipwith, Nominee to Head the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Uncovered

San Francisco -- The Golden Gate Salmon Association has discovered that Aurelia Skipwith, who has been nominated to lead the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has failed to disclose lobbying ties between her former firm, Gage International, and the powerful Westlands Water District. This Wednesday, this nomination will be heard by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. At the head of USFWS, Ms. Skipwith would oversee the development and implementation of the controversial ESA biological opinion for the Central Valley Project that has come under scrutiny for blatant political interference, including suppressing staff recommendations and reassigning dozens of biologists. Ms. Skipwith's resume lists Gage International as a former employer and her testimony before the committee describes Leo Giacometto, with Gage Intl, as her fiancée. Public records indicate that from 2004-2010, Gage Intl and Mr. Giacometto received over a half million dollars from Westlands and a closely related group, the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority.

Ranking Member Senator Thomas Carper asked Ms. Skipwith in an August 29 letter to disclose former clients of Gage International who "may have interests before the U.S. government." Ms. Skipwith's response of September 10 fails to disclose Gage Intl's longstanding lobbying on behalf of the Westlands Water District and the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority.

In addition, the Department of the Interior has only posted a month and a half of Ms. Skipwith's calendar. Yet even this limited information reveals many meetings regarding issues that the Westlands Water District has a great deal of interest in, including reducing ESA regulation and the Fish and Wildlife Service's approval of Governor Brown's twin tunnels (also known as WaterFix), and a restoration requirement in the current FWS biological opinion for the Central Valley Project. Those meetings included Paul Souza of the USFWS who reassigned 20-30 NMFS employees who had worked on the CVP biological opinion. At the moment, it is not possible to know what an examination of Ms. Skipwith's full calendar would reveal.

The following is a statement of **John McManus**, president of the Golden Gate Salmon Association.

"The federal administration is leading an aggressive attack on the California salmon fishing industry and on salmon fishing jobs on behalf of the Westlands Water District. Aurelia Skipwith's nomination is a clear sign that this attack is accelerating. Westlands already has succeeded in having David Bernhardt, their former lobbyist, appointed to be the Secretary of the Interior. Now the Senate is considering the appointment of a former employee of a Westlands Water District lobbying firm as the director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Ms. Skipwith's undisclosed ties to Westlands raise serious questions

about her impartiality and her calendar clearly shows that she is deeply involved in issues in which Westlands has a deep interest. Given the ongoing political interference in Bay-Delta ESA biological opinions, these discoveries raise serious concerns about this nomination. The California salmon fishing industry can smell this swamp all the way in California. We urge the Committee to vote down this nomination or - at a minimum - to delay this hearing to allow additional investigation. Finally, we call on Governor Newsom to sign SB 1, which would give him new tools to resist the Bay-Delta rollback that the Trump Administration is planning to release soon."

The Golden Gate Salmon Association (www.goldengatesalmon.org) is a coalition of salmon advocates that includes commercial and recreational salmon fisherman, businesses, restaurants, a native tribe, environmentalists, elected officials, families and communities that rely on salmon.

GGSA's mission is to restore California salmon for their economic, recreational, commercial, environmental, cultural and health values. GGSA serves the sport and commercial anglers, businesses, conservationists and foodies that rely on salmon as a long-term, nutritious, sustainable resource.

Currently, California's salmon industry is valued at \$1.4 billion in annual economic activity in a normal season. The industry employs tens of thousands of people from Santa Barbara to northern Oregon. This is a huge economic bloc made up of commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen (fresh and salt water), fish processors, marinas, coastal communities, equipment manufacturers, tackle shops and marine stores, the hotel and food industry, tribes, and the salmon fishing industry at large. Salmon are the keystone species that reflect the health of both their fresh and salt water environment.

Senator BARRASSO. I have a number of letters of recommendation, over 80 stakeholders who have signed letters in support of Ms. Skipwith's nomination to serve as the Director. I ask unanimous consent to enter these endorsements into the record as well.
[The referenced information follows:]



WYOMING STOCK GROWERS ASSOCIATION

Guardian of Wyoming's Cow Country since 1872

President- Dennis Sun, Casper

Region I Vice President- JD Hill, Ranchester

Region III Vice President- Mantha Philips, Casper

Region V Vice President- Reg Philips, Dubois

Young Producers Assembly- Will Hudson, Sinclair

First Vice President- Scott Sims, McFadden

Region II Vice President- Steve Paisley, Wheatland

Region IV Vice President- Brad Mead, Jackson

Executive Vice President- Jim Magagna, Cheyenne

February 5, 2019

Senator John Barrasso
307 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Barrasso:

I write to express our endorsement of the re-nomination of Aurelia Skipwith, of Indiana, to serve as the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. On November 13, 2018, Ms. Skipwith was nominated by President Trump for this position. Over the past two years, I have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Skipwith as she currently serves as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. She is committed to the current Administration and its policies. I am impressed with her priority of getting into the field and engaging stakeholders to understand their perspective on key natural resource issues. Her acknowledgement of the unique challenges facing livestock producers in the West has been a welcome change from the previous administration.

Ms. Skipwith has established an impressive track record in both the public and private sectors. Her diverse background and education provide her with the unique skill set required to deal with subject matters of the Service, including endangered species, depredation by migratory birds and wildlife migration corridors. She thinks critically on the complex issues faced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and formulates solutions that are free from political and bureaucratic interference. She offers common sense solutions based on sound science and rule of law.

After receiving her Master's degree in Molecular Biology from Purdue University, she worked for a leading agriculture biotechnology company and later received her law degree from University of Kentucky's College of Law. With that science and legal combination, she was an attorney at Kentucky's leading agriculture company working to ensure the health and safety of the environment and animals by using all-natural products. Ms. Skipwith's career mirrors the foundation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which is the sustainability of plants and wildlife and working lands for all.

I believe it is important that the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service not only possess strong leadership skills, but also the education and experience required to enact policies based on scientific principles free from political and bureaucratic interference. Ms. Skipwith meets and surpasses these qualifications. WSGA requests that you urge President Trump to quickly re-nominate her. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Jim Magagna
Executive Vice President

"Shaping and Living The Code of The West"

P.O. BOX 206, CHEYENNE, WY 82003 • PH: 307.638.3942 • FX: 307.634.1210

EMAIL: INFO@WYSGA.ORG • WEBSITE: WWW.WYSGA.ORG • BLOG: WWW.REALRANCHERS.COM


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President
UAW

July 18, 2019

The Honorable Senator John Barrasso M.D.
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public
Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Senator Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public
Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

We write to express our strong support of the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to serve as the next Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service. Ms. Skipwith has established a tremendously impressive track record working with both the public and private sectors. Her diverse education and background provides her with the unique skill set required to address the many complex issues faced by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Over the past year, we have worked closely with Ms. Skipwith in her position as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Her ability to think critically and derive common sense solutions that are based on sound science has been clearly demonstrated in her actions. We have partnered with Ms. Skipwith on numerous projects to restore our refuge system infrastructure, provide access and change lives by creating a deep respect, love and admiration for the outdoors.

We believe it is vitally important that the next Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service not only possess strong leadership skills and the ability to form public and private partnerships, but also the education and critical decision making skills required to enact policies based on scientific principles free from political and bureaucratic interference. Ms. Skipwith meets and surpasses these qualifications and we urge you to approve her nomination.

Sincerely and Respectfully,

Scott Vance
CEO and Executive Director
Union Sportsmen's Alliance

UNION SKILLS. OUTDOOR PASSION. COMMON PURPOSE.

235 Noah Dr., Suite 200 • Franklin, TN 37064 • 877-872-2211 • www.UnionSportsmen.org



NATIONAL ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT
REFORM COALITION
1050 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW, 6th Floor
Washington, DC 20007
tel: 202.333.7481 fax 202.338.2416
www.nesarc.org

July 19, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith as Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

On behalf of the National Endangered Species Act Reform Coalition (NESARC), I am writing to express our support of Aurelia Skipwith for the position of Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). With great respect for Ms. Skipwith's exceptional qualifications, we are pleased to see her nomination to this federal leadership role.

NESARC is the country's oldest broad-based, national coalition dedicated solely to achieving improvements to the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and its implementation. Our members are committed to promoting effective and balanced legislative and administrative improvements to the ESA that support the protection of fish, wildlife, and plant populations as well as responsible land, water, and resource management.

Ms. Skipwith's substantial understanding of the public and private sectors make her an excellent choice for leadership at FWS. Her experience serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks at the Department of the Interior, combined with her background as a scientist and conservationist, position her well to lead the agency to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats.

NESARC urges the committee to advance this nomination as soon as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact me at ryany@fb.org, or NESARC's Executive Director, Jordan Smith at jas@vnf.com, with questions or if we may be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

Ryan R. Yates
Chairman



P.O. Box 1700
Helena, MT 59624
(406) 443-5541
treasurestateresources.org
Email: info@treasurestateresources.org

July 22, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso
The Honorable Thomas Carper
United States Senate
Committee on Environment and Public Works
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-6175

Dear Senator Barrasso and Senator Carper:

On behalf of the Treasure State Resources Association of Montana, I'd like to express our support for the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith of Indiana, to serve as the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Over the past two years, our association members have had the opportunity to work with Ms. Skipwith in her current role as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks. We appreciate that she makes it a priority to get into the field and engage stakeholders to understand their perspective on pressing issues.

The Treasure State Resources Association of Montana brings together diverse industry, organized labor, agriculture and recreation groups to work together on issues that affect land use and resource development in Montana.

The organization was formed in 1976 when representatives of organized labor, agriculture and industry recognized they had a common interest in seeing good jobs created by growing Montana's economic opportunities. Later, motorized recreation interests joined the mix as they saw the need to protect their access to public lands.

Ms. Skipwith has truly been a pleasure to work with on our issues. She has established an impressive track record in both the public and private sectors. Her diverse background and education provide her with the unique skill set required to deal with the key issues that would come under the purview of the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She thinks critically on complex challenges and formulates common sense solutions that are free from political and bureaucratic interference. Her decisions are based on sound science and the rule of law.

July 22, 2019
Recommendation for Ms. Aurelia Skipwith
Page 2

We believe it is important that the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service not only possess strong leadership skills, but also the education and experience required to enact policies based on scientific principles. Ms. Skipwith meets and surpasses these qualifications and we urge you to support her nomination.

Thank you both for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Mark Baker
President
Treasure State Resources Association of Montana

Cc: The Honorable Jon Tester, United States Senate
The Honorable Steve Daines, United States Senate



National Cattlemen's
Beef Association



July 23, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, MD
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

The Public Lands Council (PLC), National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), and American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) support the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to be Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). PLC is the only national organization dedicated solely to representing the roughly 22,000 ranchers who hold federal grazing permits and operate on federal lands. NCBA is the beef industry's largest and oldest national marketing and trade association, representing American cattlemen and women who provide much of the nation's supply of food and own or manage a large portion of America's private property. ASI is a federation of forty-five state sheep associations representing a diverse industry since 1865 and has been the national trade organization representing the interests of nearly 90,000 sheep ranchers located throughout the country who produce America's lamb and wool.

We were pleased last year when the President nominated Ms. Skipwith to serve as Director of the USFWS and continue to support her re-nomination during the 116th Congress. In her current role as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks at the Department of the Interior, she has been a valued partner and honest broker in her dealings with the livestock industry. She holds both a Juris Doctor from the University of Kentucky and a Master of Science in molecular genetics from Purdue University, giving her an educational background that exceeds the minimum qualifications for this role. Additionally, her private sector experience in the legal and agricultural professions have prepared her to address the diverse set of issues that will be under her purview.

As part of their business operations, livestock producers do vital work that benefits fish and wildlife, as well as the places they call home. They do this by improving water sources, revitalizing habitats, and maintaining the open spaces that all Americans enjoy. Having leaders at the USFWS who understand the agriculture industry, and the role it plays in the stewardship of America's lands and species, is vital to ensure the continuity of our national heritage.

PLC, NCBA, and ASI appreciate the opportunity to provide our input on behalf of our members – the nation's food and fiber producers. We respectfully request that Aurelia Skipwith be re-nominated to serve as the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Houston
President
National Cattlemen's Beef Assn.

Bob Skinner
President
Public Lands Council

Benny Cox
President
American Sheep Industry Assn.

CC:	The Honorable James Inhofe The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito The Honorable Kevin Cramer The Honorable Mike Braun The Honorable Mike Rounds The Honorable Dan Sullivan The Honorable John Boozman The Honorable Roger F. Wicker The Honorable Richard Shelby The Honorable Joni Ernst	The Honorable Benjamin L. Cardin The Honorable Bernard Sanders The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse The Honorable Jeff Merkley The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand The Honorable Cory A. Booker The Honorable Edward Markey The Honorable Tammy Duckworth The Honorable Chris Van Hollen
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In Your Area

NWTF applauds Skipwith nomination

7/19/2019

EDGEFIELD, S.C. — The National Wild Turkey Federation applauds President Trump's recent re-nomination of Aurelia Skipwith for director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and looks forward to her confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

Trump had previously nominated Skipwith, the current Department of the Interior's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, to be the director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in November of 2018.

"The NWTF and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service share a strong interest for the conservation of our nation's wildlife and public lands," NWTF CEO Becky Humphries said. "We look forward to working with Ms. Skipwith in her new role, as she has been a great partner in her current role as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Her background in both biology and law make her well suited to this key leadership position and in line with our efforts to Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt."

In her current role as Deputy Assistant Secretary for FWP, Skipwith and her team protect lands and waters within the national park and wildlife refuge systems. Skipwith earned her B.S. in biology from Howard University, M.S. in molecular biology from Purdue University, and J.D. from the University of Kentucky College of Law.

As a research biologist and a lawyer, Skipwith trails an extensive professional background in both public stewardship and corporate enterprise.

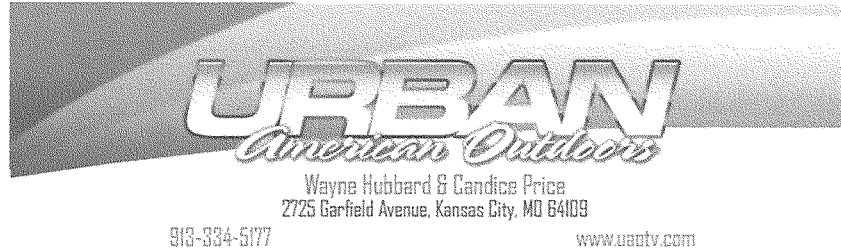
Read the full release from the Department of the Interior here.

<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-bernhardt-applauds-nomination-aurelia-skipwith-be-director-us-fish-and>

About the National Wild Turkey Federation

When the National Wild Turkey Federation was founded in 1973, there were about 1.3 million wild turkeys in North America. After decades of work, that number hit a historic high of almost 7 million turkeys. To succeed, the NWTF stood behind science-based conservation and hunters' rights. Today, the NWTF is focused on the future of hunting and conservation through its Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt. initiative — a charge that mobilizes science, fundraising and devoted volunteers to conserve or enhance more than 4 million acres of essential wildlife habitat, recruit at least 1.5 million hunters and open access to 500,000 acres for hunting. For more information, visit NWTF.org.

For more information, contact Pete Muller (803) 637-7698



August 6, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, Chairman
The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso, Ranking Member Carper, and Committee Members:

On behalf of Urban American Outdoors (UAO)—a nongovernmental organization that inspires conservation stewardship among families living in metropolitan areas through national outreach and community initiatives including a national syndicated TV show which reaches millions—I write to register UAO's fervent support of Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith's nomination as the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

While serving in her current position Deputy Assistant Secretary Skipwith championed conservation stewardship and reintroducing American families in metropolitan areas to outdoors activities rooted in our national heritage. At Urban American Outdoors' 2018 Urban Kids Fishing Derby on the National Mall in Washington D.C. Deputy Assistant Secretary Skipwith addressed the over 300 families and spoke of her support for results-driven conservation stewardship events like, UAO's fishing derby, that interest families living in local areas. In 2019 Deputy Assistant Secretary Skipwith attended the event and once again spoke and participated directly with families on the National Mall.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Skipwith brings the right skillset and experiences from the public, private, international sectors, and is well suited to lead the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service forward. We urge you to approve Aurelia Skipwith's nomination as the Director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Thank you for your consideration of our perspective, and please have a member of your staff contact Executive Director Candice Price for further information or questions by email address, which is uaotv@aol.com, and or by phone number (913) 334-5177.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Candice Price".

Candice Price
Executive Director

**American Woodcock Society * Archery Trade Association * Boone and Crockett Club
Camp Fire Club of America * Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation * Council to
Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports * Delta Waterfowl Foundation * Ducks
Unlimited * Houston Safari Club * Mule Deer Foundation * National Rifle Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation * National Wild Turkey Federation * North
American Falconers Association * North American Grouse Partnership * Pheasants
Forever * Pope and Young Club * Professional Guides and Outfitters of America * Quail
Forever * Quality Deer Management Association * Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Ruffed Grouse Society * Safari Club International * Sportsmen's Alliance * Theodore
Roosevelt Conservation Partnership * Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Forever * Wildlife Mississippi**

August 7th, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Senate Environment & Public Works
Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Senate Environment & Public Works
Committee
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

On behalf of the millions of hunters, anglers, recreational shooters, and other outdoor enthusiasts that our organizations represent, we are writing to express our strong support for the confirmation of Aurelia Skipwith to serve as the next Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Throughout her public service in the Department of the Interior, as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, Ms. Skipwith has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. Her accomplishments include expanding access for hunting and fishing, recognizing Urban National Wildlife Refuges, and designating sites on the African American Civil Rights Network.

If confirmed, Ms. Skipwith would be the first African American to serve as Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service marking a historic moment, not only for wildlife conservation, but for the nation as well. Additionally, her experience in the private sector has given her a keen understanding for the use of public-private partnerships to achieve favorable wildlife conservation outcomes. Ms. Skipwith will work diligently to enforce the nation's wildlife laws while improving relations with local governments and sportsmen.

We urge you to approve the confirmation of Aurelia Skipwith, so that the Senate may act to quickly confirm her as the next Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sincerely,

American Woodcock Society
Archery Trade Association
Boone and Crockett Club
Camp Fire Club of America
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
Council to Advance Hunting and the Shooting Sports
Delta Waterfowl Foundation
Ducks Unlimited
Houston Safari Club
Mule Deer Foundation
National Rifle Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Wild Turkey Federation
North American Falconers Association
North American Grouse Partnership
Pheasants Forever
Pope and Young Club
Professional Guides and Outfitters of America
Quail Forever
Quality Deer Management Association
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Ruffed Grouse Society
Safari Club International
Sportsmen's Alliance
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
Wild Sheep Foundation
Wildlife Forever
Wildlife Mississippi



August 10, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, MD
Chairman
Senate Environment & Public Works Comm.
410 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Senate Environment & Public Works Comm.
410 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper,

As a board member of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, I am pleased to endorse the nomination of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith to be Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

The Foundation's mission is to promote and defend liberty, personal responsibility, and free enterprise by using academically sound research and outreach. No place in the federal government should follow the cannon of sound research more than the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The USFWS is one of the most diverse federal agencies in our federal system and one where science is the key to its success.

Ms. Skipwith is well-suited to serve as USFWS director. She has experience in the private sector, working in the corporate world as a scientist and as a lawyer. Just as important is her free enterprise spirit, which has shown brightly as she has grown her own real estate business.

As a biologist and attorney with a federal agency and private industry and with her nonprofit experience, she has the diverse background, to not only use sound science to make decisions, but the background to use common sense in making decisions to balance the interests of fish and wildlife with the use of land in conservation, recreation management, and economic development. Please confirm her as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Doug Deason
President
The Deason Foundation
Deason Capital Services
Board Member of the Texas Public Policy Foundation



August 12, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

I am writing on behalf of the eight irrigation districts in Central Oregon's Deschutes Basin in support of Aurelia Skipwith to be confirmed by your committee and the Senate as the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

For over a decade, the irrigation districts, organized under the collective Deschutes Basin Board of Control, have been actively engaged with the Department of the Interior (Interior), especially the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), in our collaborative development of a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). We plan to complete the HCP next year, which we believe will benefit Central Oregon's economy and environment, and enhance habitat conditions for fish and wildlife such as the Oregon spotted frog, bull trout, steelhead and other species.

During this time, we have had the pleasure of working with several Interior and Service officials, including Ms. Skipwith. She has always been well briefed for our discussions, responsive, and has represented Interior and the Service in the most professional manner imaginable. More importantly, we have been continuously impressed by her commitment to the Service, where she has not only supported our work, but challenged us, to achieve the most responsible solutions for our communities and the environment. She has our complete support for this position.

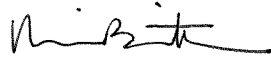
PO Box 919 - Madras, OR 97741

Deschutes Basin Board of Control Member Districts

*Arnold Irrigation District • Central Oregon Irrigation District • Lone Pine Irrigation District • North Unit Irrigation District
Ochoco Irrigation District • Svalley Irrigation District • Three Sisters Irrigation District • Tumalo Irrigation District
DBBC President - Mike Britton, 541-475-3625; mbrutton@northunitid.com*

I respectfully request your support for the confirmation of Ms. Skipwith to become the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely



Mike Britton
President

cc: Senator Jeff Merkley

PO Box 919 - Madras, OR 97741

Deschutes Basin Board of Control Member Districts

*Arnold Irrigation District • Central Oregon Irrigation District • Lone Pine Irrigation District • North Unit Irrigation District
Ochoco Irrigation District • Swalley Irrigation District • Three Sisters Irrigation District • Tumalo Irrigation District
DBBC President - Mike Britton, 541-475-3625; mbritton@northunitid.com*



**MONTANA
FARM BUREAU
FEDERATION**
502 S. 19th Ave. Ste 104
Bozeman, MT 59718

August 12, 2019

The Honorable John A. Barrasso III
Chairman
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington D.C. 20510

Chairman and Senator Carper,

It is my great pleasure to recommend and express my support for the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to serve as the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. On behalf of the farmers and ranchers across the state of Montana, Montana Farm Bureau Federation supports effective leadership at the Department that has a strong understanding of, and support for the agricultural industry. As a tireless advocate for Montana agriculture, we promote, protect and represent the interests of Montana's farmers and ranchers. Ms. Skipwith has shown her commitment to actively engage in key issues and is well suited to address the challenges our Montana members face.

We believe that President Trump has made an excellent choice for his nomination of Ms. Skipwith to be the next Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. Given her experience as an attorney we are convinced that she will lead the agency in a professional and honorable manner and work to enforce the laws of the United States.

Once again, the Montana Farm Bureau Federation on behalf of its over 20,000 Farmer and Rancher members are proud to support the nomination of Ms. Skipwith.

Sincerely,

John Youngberg
Executive Vice President



National Hydropower Association

601 New Jersey Ave. NW, Suite 660, Washington, DC 20001 • Tel 202.682.1700 • Fax 202.682.9478 • www.hydro.org

August 13, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, MD
Chairman
Senate Energy and Public Works
Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Senate Environment and Public Works
Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper,

On behalf of the National Hydropower Association, I write to support the confirmation of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith to be the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

NHA members have had several opportunities to work with Ms. Skipwith in her present position as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks in the Department of the Interior. In her current role, her team is responsible for ensuring the protection and stewardship of lands and waters within the national park and wildlife refuge systems.

Our members describe her as a dynamic leader with the scientific and management skills to effectively execute the Department of Interior's mission. As such, we believe that Ms. Skipwith would make an outstanding Director, and we fully support her confirmation.

For your background, the National Hydropower Association is a nonprofit national association dedicated to promoting the growth of clean, renewable hydropower and marine energy, which currently provides electricity to 30 million Americans. NHA represents more than 240 companies, from Fortune 500 corporations to family-owned small businesses. Our diverse membership includes public and investor-owned utilities, independent power producers, developers, equipment manufacturers and other service providers.

Thank you for considering this letter of support. Please feel free to contact Jeffrey Leahey at 202-750-8403 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Malcolm Woolf
President and CEO



THE PEREGRINE FUND

CONSERVING BIRDS OF PREY WORLDWIDE

Headquarters
World Center for Birds of Prey
5668 West Flying Hawk Lane
Boise, ID 83709
United States of America
208.362.3716

Arizona Field Office
P.O. Box 6123
Marble Canyon, AZ
86036

Africa Field Office
P.O. Box 45111
Nairobi, Kenya 00100

Madagascar Field Office
B.P. 4113
Antananarivo (101)
Madagascar

South America Field Office
Casilla 17-17-1044
Quito
Ecuador

14 August 2019

The Honorable Sen. John Barrasso, Chairman
The Honorable Sen. Thomas Carper, Ranking Member
US Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works

RE: Nomination of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith as Director, US Fish and Wildlife Service

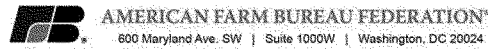
Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper,

The Peregrine Fund has worked with Ms. Aurelia Skipwith in support of US Fish and Wildlife Service efforts to restore Endangered Species for the past two years. We greatly appreciate her enthusiasm and understanding of the need for private sector partnerships in working together to restore our Endangered wildlife heritage. Aurelia's substantial first-hand experience understanding landowner and local government needs and concerns coupled with her background in biology provides her a comprehensive background for addressing Endangered Species Recovery.

The Peregrine Fund has worked closely since our founding 50 years ago with our most important domestic partner — the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Five decades ago we began an effort together to recover the Peregrine Falcon. In 1999 we celebrated the Recovery and Delisting of the Peregrine Falcon. Today The Peregrine Fund is partnered with the Fish and Wildlife Service in an effort to Recover the California Condor, Aplomado Falcon and Puerto Rican Sharp-shinned Hawk. Ms. Skipwith's experience with and commitment to Recovery of Endangered Species can serve to restore health to at risk species throughout the US and worldwide. If confirmed, we very much look forward to continuing to work with Ms. Skipwith in our partnership to steward our magnificent wildlife heritage.

Sincerely yours,

Richard T. Watson
President & CEO, The Peregrine Fund



ph. 202.406.3600
f. 202.406.3602
www.fb.org

August 15, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith as Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

The President's nomination of Aurelia Skipwith as Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service is great news for American agriculture. She understands the needs of America's farmers and ranchers and the critical balance required to promote effective wildlife conservation and to foster an innovative and productive agricultural economy. The American Farm Bureau Federation supports the swift confirmation of Ms. Skipwith.

Ms. Skipwith's substantial understanding of the public and private sectors make her an excellent choice for leadership at FWS. Her experience serving as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks at the Department of the Interior, combined with her background as a scientist and conservationist, position her well to lead the agency to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats.

AFBF urges members of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee to advance this nomination as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Zippy Duvall
President



The voice of fish and wildlife agencies

1100 First Street, NE, Suite 825
Washington, DC 20002
Phone: 202-838-3474
Fax: 202-350-9869
Email: info@fishwildlife.org

August 19, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas Carper, Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

I am writing on behalf of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (Association) in support of the nomination of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith to serve as the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The Association's mission is to support and advocate for the work of state fish and wildlife agencies and to assist those agencies in delivering science-based resource management in collaboration with public and private partners. All 50 states are members.

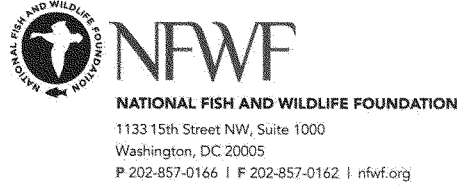
State fish and wildlife agencies have a long-standing, collaborative relationship with federal partners for managing the fish and wildlife resources and habitats of our great nation. The USFWS, in particular, is an important partner for conservation planning and delivery for migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, invasive species, fish and aquatic habitats, and wetlands systems, including those of the National Wildlife Refuge system. At a national scale the Association interacts daily with the senior leadership of the USFWS on such issues from a policy and regulatory perspective. In recent years, state fish and wildlife directors have met with senior leaders of the USFWS to discuss mutual policy interests, to enhance communications, and to advance positive conservation outcomes. In sum, we have considerable interest in this appointment.

We have worked with Ms. Skipwith, as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, on a variety of issues. We have found her to be an able, accessible, and effective communicator who is interested in, and responsive to, working with state fish and wildlife agencies. Indeed, Ms. Skipwith, with her science and policy background, her earnest interest in fish and wildlife conservation, and the value she places on partnerships and collaboration, leads the Association to believe she will be an effective national conservation leader. We look forward to working with her and we commend her to you for timely confirmation action.

Thank you in advance for considering this letter of support for Ms. Aurelia Skipwith.

Sincerely,

Ed Carter
President



August 19, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, Chairman
 The Honorable Thomas Carper, Ranking Member
 Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works
 410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
 Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

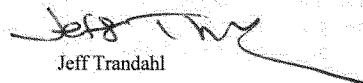
I have been a friend and colleague of Aurelia Skipwith during her tenure at the U.S. Department of Interior (DOI). She has been a very positive influence and has now shown an interest in expanding her role as the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Aurelia has proven that she is a strong professional with strict ethical principles. She lives those principles every day at DOI. I have watched her commit herself to more fully learning and appreciating the complex issues of resource management, species recovery and the protection of our Nation's wildlife. In addition, I have seen her work with career professionals to guide and inspire us to all work toward larger goals to make our Nation even better.

Aurelia should be given every consideration as you work to review her nomination. Her willingness to serve our country is both admirable and honest. I have enormous respect for her and her accomplishments. I look forward to continuing to work with her should her confirmation be completed.

Thank you for your consideration and please let me know if I can be of any assistance.

With best wishes,


 Jeff Trandahl

Pahrump Office
Nye County Government Center
2100 E. Walt Williams Drive
Suite 100
Pahrump, NV 89048
Phone (775) 751-7075
Fax (775) 751-7093



**Board of County
Commissioners
Nye County, Nevada**

Tonopah Office
Nye County Courthouse
William P. Boko Justice Facility
PO Box 153
Tonopah, NV 89049
Phone (775) 482-8191
Fax (775) 482-8198

August 20, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
456 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Subject: Letter of Support for Aurelia Skipwith

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

As you know, President Trump has nominated Aurelia Skipwith to be the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and your committee will be reviewing her record and qualifications to be confirmed for that position. On behalf of the Nye County, NV Board of Commissioners, I am writing to express our strong support for her confirmation. We believe that Ms. Skipwith has a unique set of skills that would make her an ideal Director of the FWS. We urge you to vote in favor of her nomination and to get her confirmation through the full Senate as soon as possible.

Nye County is 98 percent federal land. As a result, the County and our residents are constantly interacting with the federal land agencies, including the FWS, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Forest Service. We understand the need to balance the interests of economic development and environmental protection. We appreciate when our federal partners also understand the need for a balanced approach to land management.

Ms. Skipwith understands this. She has a scientific background, private sector experience and has worked at three federal agencies. This includes the U.S. Agency for International Development, U.S. Department of Agriculture and, most recently, as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. This public-private background is exactly what is needed to balance the needs of economic development and the environment. For too long, development in the West has been choked off by Washington bureaucrats that do not know how to achieve this balance.

Our support is not just based on her resume. Earlier this year, a delegation of Nye County Commissioners was in DC to talk to federal land managers about some difficult lands issues.

19-0315LB

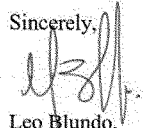
Nye County is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

Letter of Support for Aurelia Skipwith
August 20, 2019
Page 2

We met with Deputy Assistant Secretary Skipwith. She listened to our concerns and understood our point of view. She did not just give us what we wanted, but instead worked with us to make sure that our interests were heard and balanced with other competing interests. We believe the proposed solution will allow crucial development in Nye County while protecting an endangered species located on the land.

We fully understand that we will not always get what we want. But we do expect that our concerns will be heard and that federal officials will work with us and show the flexibility to entertain innovative solutions to lands issues. Ms. Skipwith demonstrated those skills. For that reason, we strongly support her nomination to be the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sincerely,



Leo Blundo,
Nye County Commissioner, District 4

LB/RS

Colonel John Domenech, Ph.D (USA-RET)
29332 Forrestal Avenue
Big Pine Key, Florida 33043

August 20, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, MD
Chairman
Senate Environment & Public Works
Comm.
410 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Senate Environment & Public Works
Comm.
410 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

The purpose of this memo is to unequivocally endorse the nomination of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith to be Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

As a resident of the Florida Keys and a Trustee of The College of the Florida Keys, I know the importance of the USFWS as it manages, studies and ensures sustainability of our fragile resources for future generations to enjoy. The USFWS is also vital to the college as a resource due to our renowned educational and workforce training opportunities associated with the marine environment. To enhance those offerings, we recently initiated a Bachelor of Science in Marine Resource Management and Conservation and I have personally spoken to Ms. Skipwith as to how the college relies upon the USFWS for its success and she assures me that such support will unabatedly continue.

Ms. Skipwith is well-suited to serve as USFWS director due to her diverse background in the private sector, biology, law and public service. In addition to working with her on the importance of USFWS impact on the college, we have discussed the endangered species management program as it relates to a number of Florida Keys species on that list—including the tiny Florida Key Deer which roam freely around my home on Big Pine Key. In that regard, I believe Ms. Skipwith is the right choice to guide the agency, in the best interests of US citizens, with balance as it tackles the contentious issue of removal of certain species from the threatened and endangered species list whether that species is a Florida panther in the Everglades, grey wolf in the Great Lakes area, Grizzly bear in around Yellowstone National Park or the Bear-paw poppy in the Mojave Desert.

It is my hope that the United States Senate will approve her nomination. In the meantime, I will continue to work with this fine public servant as she balances competing public demands on issues facing the USFWS. I am confident that she will make the right decisions for this and many generations to follow.

With kind regards,



Colonel John Domenech, Ph.D (USA-Ret)



August 20, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

The South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry supports the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to be Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) at the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). Ms. Skipwith is highly qualified to serve in this role and we look forward to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee advancing her nomination to the full Senate for confirmation.

Ms. Skipwith has a distinguished career as a public servant and is an expert on fish, wildlife, and natural habitat policy and regulation. Ms. Skipwith currently serves as DOI's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, and has worked closely with stakeholders to provide appropriate guidance for implementing sound federal policy regarding the management and conservation of public lands and wildlife.

Ms. Skipwith visited South Dakota at our invitation to be the keynote speaker for the 2018 Business Day at the Legislature. Her address and insights about the goals of the Trump Administration for the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks impressed business leaders, legislators and members of the Governor's cabinet.

Ms. Skipwith took the time to visit a number of national parks while she was in South Dakota to learn more about how the Department of Interior worked "on the ground". Being in a remote part of the country, her willingness to make those visits was very much appreciated.

Ms. Skipwith's confirmation would provide FWS with the key leadership and experience needed at DOI to manage important federal policies. As such, we urge you to swiftly act on Ms. Skipwith's nomination.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David Owen".

David Owen
President

CC: Senator John Thune, Senator Mike Rounds

PO Box 190 • 222 E. Capitol, Ste 15
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-0190
PH: 605.224.6161 • 1.800.742.8112
www.sdchamber.biz

The Voice of South Dakota Business



September 6, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, MD
 Chairman, Senate Environment & Public
 Works Committee
 410 Senate Dirksen Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
 Ranking Member, Senate Environment
 & Public Works Committee
 410 Senate Dirksen Office Building
 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

I am writing on behalf of the geothermal industry to express our support for the confirmation of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith to be the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Geothermal Resources Council is a non-profit professional association for the geothermal industry and community in the United States and abroad. We were founded in 1972 and are headquartered in Davis, California. We have over 1,300 members from around the world and are working to advance our industry by supporting the development of geothermal energy resources through communication of robust research, knowledge and guidance.

Those members of the Geothermal Resources Council who have worked with Ms. Skipwith as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks believe her to be a dedicated, diligent, non-ideological and extremely talented public servant. We think her three university degrees in science and law will serve her well as she seeks to balance economic and environmental concerns to forge favorable wildlife conservation outcomes while enforcing the nation's wildlife laws. In short, we believe Ms. Skipwith would make an outstanding Director and we urge you to approve her confirmation.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me at wpettitt@mygeoenergy.org with any questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. Pettitt", is written above the printed name.

Will Pettitt, PhD
 GRC Executive Director



Protect The Harvest

August 26, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, Chairman
U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

We at Protect The Harvest would like to express our support for the confirmation of Aurelia Skipwith as Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. While her background, education, and experience qualify her greatly for the position, her professionalism and dedication to excellence are what truly set her apart.

We know Ms. Skipwith to be astute and insightful regarding the issues we face. With many interests at stake, we trust that her experience in both the public and private sectors, combined with her education in molecular biology and law, will make her a highly valuable asset not only to the Service, but to the people and places she serves.

Ms. Skipwith has done an outstanding job as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, and has come to be known for her dedication to balancing environmental and economic considerations in her collaborations with stakeholders. She understands the many complexities and interrelations of the science and laws involved in policy-making, and she possesses the critical thinking skills and common sense to identify potential repercussions, and then to effectively manage them if necessary.

Protect The Harvest respectfully urges you to confirm Ms. Skipwith as Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and we thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Forrest Lucas

Founder, Executive Director

Protect The Harvest

Protect The Harvest
Forrest Lucas
Founder, Executive Director
www.protecttheharvest.com





Office of the President

September 9, 2019

Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building,
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

On behalf of Purdue University, I am pleased to support the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith for Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in the Department of Interior. I am confident, if approved, Ms. Skipwith will make outstanding contributions to the mission and objectives of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Along with the Master of Science in molecular genetics she earned from Purdue University, she holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Kentucky. The combination of science, civics, and law provide the necessary educational foundation and perspective to serve the USFWS responsibly as Director. She has built a robust career in environmental science, agriculture, and conservation in both the private and public sectors. This broad experience with many diverse conservation stakeholders has provided her ample context from which to move the mission of USFWS forward.

Ms. Skipwith is the current Deputy Assistant Secretary of Interior for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks at the Department of the Interior. Among her many accomplishments while at the Department of Interior, Ms. Skipwith expanded access for hunting and fishing, recognized Urban National Wildlife Refuges, and designated sites on the African American Civil Rights Network. I am confident she will serve the Department of the Interior well as Director of USFWS.

On behalf of Purdue University, I appreciate the opportunity to promote Ms. Skipwith as an outstanding Boilermaker and civil servant. I encourage you to consider Ms. Skipwith's nomination favorably and confirm her as the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitchell Daniels".

Mitchell E. Daniels Jr.
President



Protecting Water for Western Irrigated Agriculture

P.O. Box 216 Klamath Falls, OR 97601
(541)-892-6244 www.familyfarmalliance.org

September 10, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso, Chairman
U.S. Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Ranking Member
Senate Environment and Public Works Committee
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

I am writing on behalf of the Family Farm Alliance in support of the nomination of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith to be the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

The Alliance is a grassroots organization of family farmers, ranchers, irrigation districts and allied industries in 16 Western states. The Alliance is focused on one mission: To ensure the availability of reliable, affordable irrigation water supplies to Western farmers and ranchers. We are also committed to the fundamental proposition that Western irrigated agriculture must be preserved and protected for a host of economic, sociological, environmental and national security reasons – many of which are often overlooked in the context of other national policy decisions.

Over the past several years, we have had the pleasure of working with Ms. Skipwith on our issues at the Department of the Interior. The Alliance believes Ms. Skipwith will bring a level of practical experience and intelligence, an understanding of the issues affecting Western farmers and ranchers, and a long-term vision for the future of the West to this important position in the Trump Administration. She has our complete support for this position.

I respectfully request your support for the Senate confirmation of Ms. Skipwith to become the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. We know she will serve our Nation well in this important position.

Sincerely,

Dan Keppen
Executive Director

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NEIL L. BRADLEY
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT &
CHIEF POLICY OFFICER

1615 H STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20062
(202) 463-5310

September 11, 2019

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

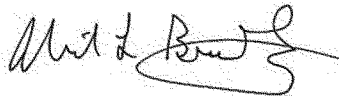
The U.S. Chamber of Commerce supports the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to be Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) at the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). Ms. Skipwith is highly qualified to serve in this role and we look forward to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee advancing her nomination to the full Senate for confirmation.

Ms. Skipwith has a distinguished career as a public servant and is an expert on fish, wildlife, and natural habitat policy and regulation. Ms. Skipwith currently serves as DOI's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, and has worked closely with stakeholders to provide appropriate guidance for implementing sound federal policy regarding the management and conservation of public lands and wildlife. She has also worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Agency for International Development.

In addition, Ms. Skipwith's experience in the private and non-profit sectors has provided her with the knowledge and expertise to implement federal policy objectives. For example, prior to her time at DOI, she founded an agricultural value chain platform that united small farmers and multinational buyers with the tools needed to meet the growing demand for food.

Ms. Skipwith's confirmation would provide FWS with the key leadership and experience needed at DOI to manage important federal policies. As such, we urge you to swiftly act on Ms. Skipwith's nomination.

Sincerely,



Neil L. Bradley

cc: Members of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

Aurelia Skipwith is the Right Choice

Thursday, October 25, 2018

The Boone and Crockett Club today endorsed the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith as the new U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director. Skipwith, an attorney and scientist, currently serves as deputy assistant secretary for fish, wildlife, and parks at the U.S. Department of the Interior.

"This is a critical appointment because our fish and wildlife are critical natural resources to our nation," said Paul Phillips, co-chairman of the Club's Conservation Policy Committee. "This might be stating the obvious, but the challenges facing our fish and wildlife require a deeper dive than what just lies on the surface. Skipwith has proven she has the knowledge, experience, and energy to not just maintain, but enhance these resources for all Americans."

"The Boone and Crockett Club has had a close relationship with the Fish and Wildlife Service dating back to 1905 when it was named the Bureau of Biological Survey," explained James L. Cummins, also a co-chairman of the Boone and Crockett Club's Conservation Policy Committee. "This was part of our founder, Theodore Roosevelt's strategy for wildlife conservation, the establishment of expert agencies."

The Bureau of Biological Survey was one of the nation's first conservation and management agencies. In addition to studying birds and mammals, the Survey's responsibilities included managing the nation's first wildlife refuges, controlling predators, enforcing wildlife laws, and conserving dwindling populations of migratory birds. The Bureaus of Fisheries and Biological Survey were transferred to the Department of the Interior in 1939. In 1940, they were combined and named the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

"I have had the privilege of working with Ms. Skipwith in her current capacity at the Department of the Interior," Cummins added. "The nation is fortunate to be the beneficiary of her service."



Jim Matheson
Chief Executive Officer

November 8, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Committee on Environment & Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment & Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) supports the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to be the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

NRECA is a national service organization for more than 900 not-for-profit rural electric cooperatives providing affordable, reliable electricity to approximately 42 million people in 47 states across our nation. Rural electric cooperatives are small businesses, most of which serve member-consumers, especially those in rural areas, facing significant economic challenges. NRECA believes in responsible stewardship of America's bountiful wildlife.

Ms. Skipwith's background makes her an excellent choice to lead the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She brings to the role unique and beneficial experience in both science and law. In the past two years, as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks at the Department of Interior, she has earned a reputation as a sound and reliable public servant. She will bring this education and institutional knowledge to this prestigious leadership position.

NRECA looks forward to the Senate Committee on Environment & Public Works advancing her nomination to the full Senate for confirmation.

Sincerely,

Jim Matheson
CEO, NRECA



HOWARD
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

November 13, 2018

Senator John Barrasso
United States Senate
307 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Barrasso,

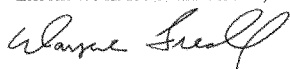
I write to proudly endorse the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith as the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

Ms. Skipwith is a distinguished alumna of Howard University having earned her bachelor of science degree in biology before going on to achieve a master's degree in molecular genetics from Purdue University, and a law degree from the University of Kentucky. Her strong academic credentials are matched by a distinguished professional career. Ms. Skipwith has parlayed her significant experience in both the public and private sector to serve admirably as the current Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks at the Department of Interior.

It is no surprise that a range of stakeholders and organizations have applauded her nomination. Trade groups, state attorneys general, and foundations have noted Ms. Skipwith's professional demeanor, pragmatism, open-mindedness, and thoughtful approach to the consequential and complex challenges faced by the USFWS.

I also note that Ms. Skipwith's nomination bears historical significance. If confirmed, she would be the first African American to hold this prestigious post. Please call on me if I can add additional reasons for my wholehearted support for Ms. Skipwith's prompt confirmation by the United States Senate.

Excellence in Truth and Service,



Wayne A. I. Frederick, M.D., MBA
President





National Cattlemen's
Beef Association



November 13, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso, MD
Chairman
Environment and Public Works Committee
United States Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Environment and Public Works Committee
United States Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

The Public Lands Council (PLC), National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), and American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) wish to express our support of Aurelia Skipwith to be Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS). PLC is the only national organization dedicated solely to representing the roughly 22,000 ranchers who hold federal grazing permits and operate on federal lands. NCBA is the beef industry's largest and oldest national marketing and trade association, representing American cattlemen and women who provide much of the nation's supply of food and own or manage a large portion of America's private property. ASI has been the national trade organization representing the interests of nearly 90,000 sheep ranchers located throughout the country who produce America's lamb and wool since 1865. ASI is a federation of forty-five state sheep associations representing a diverse industry

In her current role as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, Ms. Skipwith has been a valued partner and honest broker in her dealings with the livestock industry. A holder of a Juris Doctor from the University of Kentucky and a Master of Science degree in molecular genetics from Purdue University, she has an educational background that exceeds the minimum qualifications for this role. Additionally, her private sector experience in the legal and agricultural professions have prepared her to address the diverse set of issues that will be under her purview if confirmed.

As part of their business operations, livestock producers do vital work that benefits fish and wildlife, as well as the places they call home. They do this by improving water sources, revitalizing habitats, and maintaining the open spaces that Americans enjoy. Having leaders at the Department of Interior who understand the agriculture industry, and role it plays in the stewardship of America's lands and species, is vital to ensure the continuity of our national heritage.

PLC, NCBA, and ASI appreciate the opportunity to provide our input on behalf of our members – the nation's food and fiber producers. We strongly urge the swift confirmation of Aurelia Skipwith.

Sincerely,

Kevin D. Kester
President
National Cattlemen's Beef Assn.

Bob Skinner
President
Public Lands Council

Mike Corn
President
American Sheep Industry Assn.



November 14, 2018

The Honorable Senator John Barrasso M.D.
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Senator Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public
Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

I write this letter to strongly support the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to serve as the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. I worked closely with Ms. Skipwith during her time as a student at the University of Kentucky College of Law. I know that she possesses both the skillset and traits that make her prepared to serve as the next Director.

Ms. Skipwith was president of the International Law Society student organization while in law school. She took great effort to engage the organization in programming and activities that enhanced the academic experience of her fellow law students. Furthermore, Ms. Skipwith was one of four law students who participated in a new tradition for the graduating class to give back to the school through a class "Legacy Gift." The first gift from this endeavor was a piece of artwork by a local artist that is prominently displayed at the College of Law. Dean David Brennen also engaged Ms. Skipwith for student input into a major marketing research and re-branding initiative for UK College of Law. After her graduation, I continued to follow Ms. Skipwith's career, especially during the time she worked in Lexington, KY for Alltech.

Ms. Skipwith's career experience and academic background provide enough proof that she has the skillset to grasp and resolve complex issues. Further, Ms. Skipwith was one of the most organized and detail-oriented students with whom I had the pleasure of working. When managing programming or needing assistance, she came to me in a timely manner to understand the logistics, asked the right questions and was open to any guidance I may have provided regarding her efforts. She was always, and continues to be, professional, courteous, mature and a great representative for any agency where she may work. I have said before, and will say again, that I am confident Ms. Skipwith will continue to have a bright future ahead. She will be a great asset to our country in this Director position. I urge you to approve her nomination.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Daniel P. Murphy, Jr.' The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel P. Murphy, Jr.
Assistant Dean of Community Engagement & Diversity

seeblue.

Wm. LACY CLAY
1ST DISTRICT, MISSOURI

COMMITTEES:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES

Ranking Member

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
AND CONSUMER CREDIT

MEDICAL

SUBCOMMITTEE ON REINSURANCE

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
GOVERNMENT REFORM

MEDICAL

SUBCOMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

MEDICAL

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515 -2501

November 14, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Environment and Public Works
U.S. Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Environment and Public Works
U.S. Senate
410 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:
2428 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON D.C., 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-2406
FAX: (202) 226-3717

THOMAS F. EAGLETON U.S. COURTHOUSE:
111 S. 10TH STREET, SUITE 24.344
ST. LOUIS, MO 63102
PHONE: (314) 367-1970
FAX: (314) 367-1341

ST. LOUIS COUNTY OFFICE:
1281 GRAHAM RD, SUITE 202
FLORISSANT, MO 63031
PHONE: (314) 383-5240
FAX: (314) 383-8020

ST. LOUIS CITY OFFICE:
6830 GRAYSON
ST. LOUIS, MO 63116
PHONE: (314) 669-9393
FAX: (314) 669-9398

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

I am writing to extend my highest recommendation on behalf of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith as she seeks confirmation to serve our nation as the new Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Ms. Skipwith began her professional career as my constituent in St. Louis, Missouri. Since that time, the trajectory of her career has continued to rise and expand. She is a knowledgeable professional with a keen insight into policy and passion for science and its use to improve lives.

Aurelia Skipwith is an ardent conservationist and will bring her skill set and enthusiasm to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Ms. Skipwith has helped lead many of the top Interior Department priorities for the past year and a half including promoting the enjoyment of our country's public lands, expanding access for hunting and fishing, and leading the historic effort to designate sites on the African American Civil Rights Network, a personal priority of mine.

It has been my privilege and pleasure to know Ms. Skipwith, both as an extremely talented individual and dedicated public servant. I find her to be knowledgeable, fair minded and highly motivated, with a genuine dedication and commitment to her federal agency and its mission. I state, without hesitation, she has the initiative and drive and most importantly, the experience required to succeed as the new appointee to the position of Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

I strongly urge and recommend that Aurelia Skipwith be confirmed as the next appointee to lead the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Please give her your utmost consideration. Thank you for your time and attention, please feel free to contact me for more information.

Sincerely,

Wm. Lacy Clay
Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress



ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION

November 14, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso, MD
Chairman
Senate Environment & Public Works Comm.
410 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Senate Environment & Public Works Comm.
410 Senate Dirksen Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper,

The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) is pleased to endorse the nomination of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith to be Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

The USFWS is one of the most important federal agencies to RMEF and many other sportsmen organizations. RMEF has a vested interest in many issues and decisions that come before the agency, including implementation of the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation, predator and threatened and endangered species management, ecological services and administration of hunting access on certain federal lands.

Ms. Skipwith is well-suited to serve as USFWS Director. RMEF has enjoyed the opportunity to work with Ms. Skipwith during her tenure as USFWS Deputy Assistant Secretary the past couple of years. Ms. Skipwith has a diverse background with scientific and legal expertise. She is a biologist and attorney with federal agency, private industry and nonprofit experience. This profile indicates she will have the ability to balance the interests of wildlife (including game and nongame species) with land and recreation management.

From RMEF's perspective, the primary issue facing USFWS is removal of recovered species from the threatened and endangered species list, such as grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone and Northern Continental Divide Ecosystems and gray wolves in the Great Lakes states. We are confident Ms. Skipwith will help guide the agency to work with Congress and state wildlife agencies to ensure state management of these predators.

Thank you for the opportunity to endorse Ms. Skipwith's nomination. I encourage you and members of the Committee to contact me or my staff should you require additional information.

Sincerely,

R. Kyle Weaver
President & CEO

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NEIL L. BRADLEY
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT &
CHIEF POLICY OFFICER

1615 H STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20062
(202) 463-5310

November 15, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso
Chairman
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tom Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

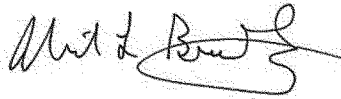
The U.S. Chamber of Commerce supports the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to be Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) at the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI). Ms. Skipwith is highly qualified to serve in this role and we look forward to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee advancing her nomination to the full Senate for confirmation.

Ms. Skipwith has a distinguished career as a public servant and is an expert on fish, wildlife, and natural habitat policy and regulation. Ms. Skipwith currently serves as DOI's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, and has worked closely with stakeholders to provide appropriate guidance for implementing sound federal policy regarding the management and conservation of public lands and wildlife. She has also worked for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Agency for International Development.

In addition, Ms. Skipwith's experience in the private and non-profit sectors has provided her with the knowledge and expertise to implement federal policy objectives. For example, prior to her time at DOI, she founded an agricultural value chain platform that united small farmers and multinational buyers with the tools needed to meet the growing demand for food.

Ms. Skipwith's confirmation would provide FWS with the key leadership and experience needed at DOI to manage important federal policies. As such, we urge you to swiftly act on Ms. Skipwith's nomination.

Sincerely,



Neil L. Bradley

cc: Members of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee



November 20, 2018

The Honorable Senator John Barrasso M.D.
Chairman
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Senator Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators:

I am Harry E. Johnson, Sr. President/CEO of The Memorial Foundation, formally The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial. At the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial, I was responsible for raising over \$127 million to build the Memorial.

I have known Ms. Skipwith for the past 2 years in her role as Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Fish and Wildlife and Parks. When I first heard of her appointment to the Department of the Interior, I was proud of the fact that she would be first person of color and a woman to hold such a distinguished position. In her role, I came to know her as an advocate for me and The Memorial Foundation. She has supported each program held at the MLK Memorial and has shared ideas on how to continue to make the MLK Memorial much more relevant to the broader community. Ms. Skipwith has always been willing to meet with National and Community Leaders not just to hear their concerns, but to also be an advocate for them as well.....her appointment is well deserved and earned.

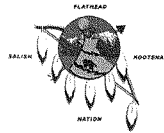
Now that she has been nominated to become the Director of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, I am excited to write this letter on her behalf. Why am I excited? I am excited because she will be the first Black Director and I know that she will bring with her the zeal and ability for helping others at the Fish and Wildlife Service as well as help the environment.

I am sure with Ms. Skipwith's diverse career background as a biologist and lawyer, and with her very positive attitude she will be able to make a difference in the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, just as she has done all across the Interior Department. In my humble opinion, Ms. Skipwith's educational background and her ability to lead people in a variety of settings and disciplines make her more than qualified to serve in this capacity. She will serve our President and the citizens of the United States with honor and distinction. I do hope that the committee advances her appointment.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Harry E. Johnson, Sr.
President/CEO



A Confederation of the Salish,
Pend d' Oreille
and Kootenai Tribes

THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
OF THE FLATHEAD NATION
P.O. BOX 278
Pablo, Montana 59855
(406) 275-2700
FAX (406) 275-2806
www.cskt.org



A People of Vision

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Ronald Trahan - Chairman
Leonard W. Gray - Vice Chairman
Shelly R. Fyant - Secretary
Anita Matt - Treasurer
Len TwoTeeth
James Steele Jr.
Carole Lankford
Dennis Clairmont
Charmel R. Gillin
Myma L. DuMontier

November 27, 2018

Honorable John A. Barrasso, Chairman Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510	Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Ranking Member Committee on Environment and Public Works United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510
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Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper,

On behalf of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (Tribes) I am writing to you in support of the nomination of Ms. Aurelia Skipwith to be the Director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (Service). I understand that Tribal staff have had constructive discussions with her and believe that she would be an effective leader for the Service. It is also my understanding that Ms. Skipwith shares the Secretary's views of Indian Self-Determination and Tribal Self-Governance as being effective methods of local control governance.

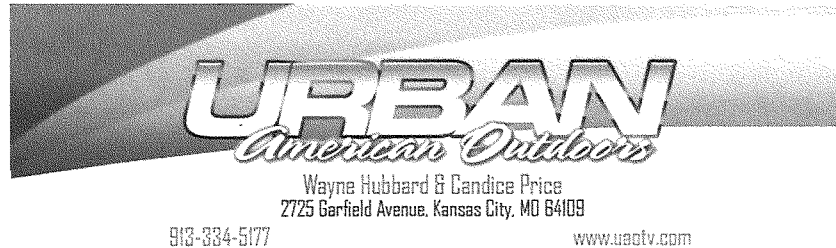
The Tribes have a large and active Natural Resources Department which has a long history of cooperative work with the Service. I am confident that, under Ms. Skipwith's leadership, the Service's role as a productive Tribal partner would only grow.

I urge your Committee to recommend confirmation of Ms. Skipwith to be the next Director of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Thank you,


Ronald Trahan, Chairman

cc: Senator Jon Tester
Senator Steve Daines



November 26, 2018

The Honorable John Barrasso, Chairman
The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Barrasso, Ranking Member Carper, and Committee Members:

On behalf of Urban American Outdoors (UAO) - a nongovernmental organization that inspires conservation stewardship among families in urban areas through national outreach and community initiatives, including a nationally syndicated TV show which has reached millions - I write to fervently express support for Deputy Assistant Secretary Aurelia Skipwith's nomination as the next Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

In her current position, Deputy Assistant Secretary Skipwith has championed our nation's heritage of conservation stewardship. For example, at UAO's 2018 Urban Kids Fishing Derby on the National Mall in Washington, DC, she addressed more than 300 family members expressing her support for results-driven conservation stewardship events like our fishing derbies which are held in communities across the country.

Deputy Assistant Secretary Skipwith, with her strong skills set and experience in the public and private sectors, is well suited to lead the agency for which she has been nominated. Thus, I urge you to approve her nomination as the Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

If any of you have any questions or need additional information, please have a member of your staff contact me at uaotv@aol.com or (913) 334-5177. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Candice Price
Executive Director


Board of Directors

Richard L. Trumka
USA Board Chairman
President
AFL-CIO

Kinsey M. Robinson
USA Treasurer
International President
IURWAW

James Boland
International President
BAC

Brent Booker
Secretary-Treasurer
NAITU

Frank J. Christensen
General President
IUEC

William T. Creeden
Secretary-Treasurer
IBB

White Fosburgh
President and CEO
TRCP

Gary Jones
President
UAW

Carl Kennebrew
President
IUE-CWA

D. Michael Langford
National President
UWUA

Robert Martinez, Jr.
International President
IAMAW

James P. "Bud" McCourt
General President
IAHFWA

Mark McManus
General President
UA

Terry O'Sullivan
General President
LIUNA

Kenneth E. Rigmaiden
General President
IUPAT

Joseph Sellers, Jr.
General President
SMART

DeMaurice Smith
Executive Director
NFLPA

Daniel E. Stepano
General President
OPCMIA

Lonnie R. Stephenson
International President
IBEW

December 3, 2018

The Honorable Senator John
Barrasso M.D.
Chairman
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate

The Honorable Senator
Thomas R. Carper
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment
and Public Works
United States Senate

Dear Chairman Barrasso and Ranking Member Carper:

We write to express our strong support of the nomination of Aurelia Skipwith to serve as the next Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service. Ms. Skipwith has established a tremendously impressive track record working with both the public and private sectors. Her diverse education and background provides her with the unique skill set required to address the many complex issues faced by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Over the past year, we have worked closely with Ms. Skipwith in her position as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. Her ability to think critically and derive common sense solutions that are based on sound science has been clearly demonstrated in her actions. We have partnered with Ms. Skipwith on numerous projects to restore our refuge system infrastructure, provide access and change lives by creating a deep respect, love and admiration for the outdoors.

We believe it is vitally important that the next Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service not only possess strong leadership skills and the ability to form public and private partnerships, but also the education and critical decision making skills required to enact policies based on scientific principles free from political and bureaucratic interference. Ms. Skipwith meets and surpasses these qualifications and we urge you to approve her nomination.

Sincerely and Respectfully,

Scott Vance
CEO and Executive Director
Union Sportsmen's Alliance

UNION SKILLS. OUTDOOR PASSION. COMMON PURPOSE.

4800 Northfield Lane • Spring Hill, TN 37174 • 877-872-2211 • www.UnionSportsmen.org



Lobbying Ties Between Westlands Water District and Aurelia Skipwith, Nominee to Head the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Uncovered

San Francisco -- The Golden Gate Salmon Association has discovered that Aurelia Skipwith, who has been nominated to lead the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has failed to disclose lobbying ties between her former firm, Gage International, and the powerful Westlands Water District. This Wednesday, this nomination will be [heard by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee](#). At the head of USFWS, Ms. Skipwith would oversee the development and implementation of the controversial [ESA biological opinion](#) for the Central Valley Project that has come under scrutiny for blatant political interference, including suppressing staff recommendations and reassigning dozens of biologists. Ms. Skipwith's [resume](#) lists Gage International as a former employer and her [testimony](#) before the committee describes Leo Giacometto, with Gage Intl, as her fiancée. Public records indicate that from 2004-2010, Gage Intl and Mr. Giacometto received over a half million dollars from Westlands and a closely related group, the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority.

Ranking Member Senator Thomas Carper asked Ms. Skipwith in an August 29 letter to disclose former clients of Gage International who "may have interests before the U.S. government." Ms. Skipwith's response of September 10 fails to disclose Gage Intl's longstanding lobbying on behalf of the Westlands Water District and the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority.

In addition, the Department of the Interior has only posted a month and a half of [Ms. Skipwith's calendar](#). Yet even this limited information reveals many meetings regarding issues that the Westlands Water District has a great deal of interest in, including reducing ESA regulation and the Fish and Wildlife Service's approval of Governor Brown's twin tunnels (also known as WaterFix), and a restoration requirement in the current FWS biological opinion for the Central Valley Project. Those meetings included Paul Souza of the USFWS who reassigned 20-30 NMFS employees who had worked on the CVP biological opinion. At the moment, it is not possible to know what an examination of Ms. Skipwith's full calendar would reveal.

The following is a statement of **John McManus**, president of the Golden Gate Salmon Association.

"The federal administration is leading an aggressive attack on the California salmon fishing industry and on salmon fishing jobs on behalf of the Westlands Water District. Aurelia Skipwith's nomination is a clear sign that this attack is accelerating. Westlands already has succeeded in having David Bernhardt, their former lobbyist, appointed to be the Secretary of the Interior. Now the Senate is considering the appointment of a former employee of a Westlands Water District lobbying firm as the director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Ms. Skipwith's undisclosed ties to Westlands raise serious questions

about her impartiality and her calendar clearly shows that she is deeply involved in issues in which Westlands has a deep interest. Given the ongoing political interference in Bay-Delta ESA biological opinions, these discoveries raise serious concerns about this nomination. The California salmon fishing industry can smell this swamp all the way in California. We urge the Committee to vote down this nomination or - at a minimum - to delay this hearing to allow additional investigation. Finally, we call on Governor Newsom to sign SB 1, which would give him new tools to resist the Bay-Delta rollback that the Trump Administration is planning to release soon."

The Golden Gate Salmon Association (www.goldengatesalmon.org) is a coalition of salmon advocates that includes commercial and recreational salmon fisherman, businesses, restaurants, a native tribe, environmentalists, elected officials, families and communities that rely on salmon.

GGSA's mission is to restore California salmon for their economic, recreational, commercial, environmental, cultural and health values. GGSA serves the sport and commercial anglers, businesses, conservationists and foodies that rely on salmon as a long-term, nutritious, sustainable resource.

Currently, California's salmon industry is valued at \$1.4 billion in annual economic activity in a normal season. The industry employs tens of thousands of people from Santa Barbara to northern Oregon. This is a huge economic bloc made up of commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen (fresh and salt water), fish processors, marinas, coastal communities, equipment manufacturers, tackle shops and marine stores, the hotel and food industry, tribes, and the salmon fishing industry at large. Salmon are the keystone species that reflect the health of both their fresh and salt water environment.

Senator BARRASSO. With that, the voting part of the business meeting has finished. I appreciate the comments by Senator Cramer as well as Senator Sullivan and Senator Whitehouse. Are there any other members who would like to be recognized?

If not, I ask unanimous consent that the staff have the authority to make technical and conforming changes to each of the matters approved today. With that, the business meeting is concluded.

[Whereupon, at 9:42 a.m., the hearing was concluded.]

[Additional material submitted for the record follows:]

EPW AMENDMENT FILING PROCESS

All amendments MUST be **filed and time stamped by 9:15 a.m. on Tuesday, September 24, 2019**. EPW Committee rules require all first degree amendments be filed with the Chairman of the Committee at least 24 hours before a business meeting. Please bring your amendment(s) to the EPW Majority Front Office (**SD-410**) so they can be **time stamped** as soon as they are received. Copies of the amendments will be available in SD-410.

To expedite the process of providing you with all the information, please do the following:

- Please also email a copy of your amendment(s) to sam_french@epw.senate.gov by 9:15 a.m. on September 24, 2019. Emailed amendments **are not considered official submissions**. Hard-copies must be delivered by the deadline and time stamped.
- Provide 50 copies of your amendment(s) at time of filing on September 24, 2019. (Please bring to SD-410.) If copies will not be completed by 9:15 a.m., please **DO NOT** wait for all 50 copies, rather bring at least ONE copy to meet the deadline for time stamping.
- All copies of amendments must have a short summary stapled to the front upon submission.
- Label the amendments as well as the summary page with the amendment number. All amendments should be labeled with the bill number and the number of the amendment as well as the Senator introducing the amendment. (Example: S. XXX, Barrasso #1).

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2099

To redesignate the Sullys Hill National Game Preserve in the State of North Dakota as the White Horse Hill National Game Preserve.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 11, 2019

Mr. CRAMER (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works

A BILL

To redesignate the Sullys Hill National Game Preserve in the State of North Dakota as the White Horse Hill National Game Preserve.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “White Horse Hill Na-
5 tional Game Preserve Designation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF WHITE HORSE HILL NATIONAL**
7 **GAME PRESERVE, NORTH DAKOTA.**

8 (a) REDESIGNATION.—The first section of the Act of
9 March 3, 1931 (46 Stat. 1509, chapter 439; 16 U.S.C.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION
SAN DIEGO, CA
PCA-01-SD20**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 164,000 rentable square feet of space, including 100 official parking spaces, for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Administration, currently located at 8808, 8810, 8880, 8898 Rio San Diego Drive and 5715 Kearny Villa Road in San Diego, CA at a proposed annual cost of \$7,052,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the

lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Chairman

Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

1 674a), is amended by striking “Sullys Hill National Game
2 Preserve” and inserting “White Horse Hill National Game
3 Preserve”.

4 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2 of the
5 Act of March 3, 1931 (46 Stat. 1509, chapter 439; 16
6 U.S.C. 674b), is amended by striking “Sullys Hill Na-
7 tional Game Preserve” and inserting “White Horse Hill
8 National Game Preserve”.

9 (c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
10 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
11 States to the Sullys Hill National Game Preserve shall be
12 considered to be a reference to the “White Horse Hill Na-
13 tional Game Preserve”.

○

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY
CHICAGO, IL
PIL-01-CH20**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 184,042 rentable square feet of space, including 32 official parking spaces, for the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Commerce, and the Federal Housing Finance Agency, for a proposed maximum leasing rate of \$7,166,595 for a lease term of up to 3 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during

the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Chairman

Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
KANSAS CITY, MO
PMO-02-KC20**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 204,607 rentable square feet of space, including 104 parking spaces, for the Department of Transportation and the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, at a proposed annual cost of \$4,982,181 for a lease term of up to 5 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during

the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Chairman

Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

**UNITED STATES SENATE - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
NOMINATION REFERENCE AND REPORT RECEIPT**

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE: Environment and Public Works

HSOB-407

DATE DELIVERED: June 24, 2019

TRANSMITTED BY E-MAIL

Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

PN887

Katherine Andrea Lemos, of California, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years, vice Mark A. Griffon, resigned.

NOMINATION REFERENCE AND REPORT

PN887

AS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION,
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
June 24, 2019.

Ordered, That the following nomination be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Katherine Andrea Lemos, of California, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years, vice Mark A. Griffon, resigned.

_____, 2019.
(Date)

Reported by Mr. Barrasso _____
(Signature)

with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed.

☐ The nominee has agreed to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

EPW
PN887

The White House,

JUN 24 2019

*To the
Senate of the United States.*

I nominate Katherine Andrea Lemos, of

California, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard
Investigation Board for a term of five years, vice Mark A.
Griffon, resigned.

DONALD J. TRUMP

**UNITED STATES SENATE - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
NOMINATION REFERENCE AND REPORT RECEIPT**

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE: Environment and Public Works

HSOB-407

DATE DELIVERED: July 17, 2019

TRANSMITTED BY E-MAIL

Department of the Interior

PN964

Aurelia Skipwith, of Indiana, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
vice Daniel M. Ashe, resigned.

NOMINATION REFERENCE AND REPORT

PN964

AS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION,
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
July 17, 2019.

Ordered, That the following nomination be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Aurelia Skipwith, of Indiana, to be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, vice Daniel M. Ashe, resigned.

_____, 2019,
(Date)

Reported by Mr. Barrasso _____
(Signature)

with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed.

☐ The nominee has agreed to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

The White House,

EPW
PN964

JUL 17 2019

*To the
Senate of the United States.*

I nominate Aurelia Skipwith, of Indiana, to

be Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service,

vice Daniel M. Ashe, resigned.

DONALD J. TRUMP

**UNITED STATES SENATE - OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
NOMINATION REFERENCE AND REPORT RECEIPT**

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE: Environment and Public Works

HSOB-407

DATE DELIVERED: July 22, 2019

TRANSMITTED BY E-MAIL

Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board

PN971

Katherine Andrea Lemos, of California, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years, vice Vanessa Lorraine Allen Sutherland, resigned.

NOMINATION REFERENCE AND REPORT

PN971

AS IN EXECUTIVE SESSION,
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
July 22, 2019.

Ordered, That the following nomination be referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works:

Katherine Andrea Lemos, of California, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years, vice Vanessa Lorraine Allen Sutherland, resigned.

_____, 2019.
(Date)

Reported by Mr. Barrasso _____
(Signature)

with the recommendation that the nomination be confirmed.

☐ The nominee has agreed to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
ALBUQUERQUE, NM
PNM-01-AL20**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 168,000 rentable square feet of space, including 689 official parking spaces, for the Social Security Administration currently located at 500 Lead Avenue SW and 410 Lead Avenue SW in Albuquerque, NM at a proposed annual cost of \$4,704,000, for a lease term up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the

lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Chairman

Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

EPW
PN971

The White House,

JUL 22 2019

*To the
Senate of the United States.*

I nominate Katherine Andrea Lemos, of

California, to be Chairperson of the Chemical Safety and Hazard
Investigation Board for a term of five years, vice Vanessa
Lorraine Allen Sutherland, resigned.

DONALD J. TRUMP

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. SECRET SERVICE
BROOKLYN, NY
PNY-02-BR20**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 94,000 rentable square feet of space for the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Secret Service, currently located at 335 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY at a proposed annual cost of \$6,110,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the

lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Chairman

Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NEW YORK, NY
PNY-02-NY20**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 65,796 rentable square feet of space, including 7 official parking spaces, for the Department of Education currently located at 32 Old Slip, New York, NY, at a proposed cost of \$4,342,536 for a lease term of up to 5 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Chairman

Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
SOUTH HAMPTONS ROAD, VA
PVA-01-HA20**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 215,000 rentable square feet of space, including 1,050 official parking spaces, for the Veterans Health Administration, at a proposed annual cost of \$9,030,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the

lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.

Chairman

Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
FREDERICKSBURG, VA
PVA-01-VA19**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 364,831 net usable square feet of space, including 2,600 official parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs currently located in Fredericksburg, VA, at a proposed annual cost of \$14,844,973 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the

lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Chairman

Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

JOHN BARRASSO, WYOMING, CHAIRMAN

JAMES M. INHOFE, OKLAHOMA	THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE
SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, WEST VIRGINIA	BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, MARYLAND
KEVIN CRAMER, NORTH DAKOTA	BERNARD SANDERS, VERMONT
MIKE BRAUN, INDIANA	SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, RHODE ISLAND
MIKE ROUNDS, SOUTH DAKOTA	JEFF MERKLEY, OREGON
DAN SULLIVAN, ALASKA	KRISTEN GILLIBRAND, NEW YORK
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ROGER WICKER, MISSISSIPPI	EDWARD J. MARKEY, MASSACHUSETTS
RICHARD SHELLEY, ALABAMA	TAMMY DUCKWORTH, ILLINOIS
JONI ERNST, IOWA	CHRIS VAN HOLLER, MARYLAND

RICHARD M. RUSSELL, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
MARY FRANCES REPKO, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION
SAN DIEGO, CA
PCA-01-SD20

RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 164,000 rentable square feet of space, including 100 official parking spaces, for the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Benefits Administration, currently located at 8808, 8810, 8880, 8898 Rio San Diego Drive and 5715 Kearny Villa Road in San Diego, CA at a proposed annual cost of \$7,052,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

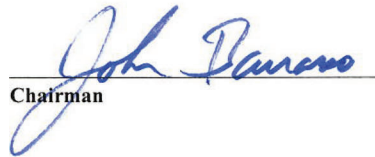
Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the

lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.


Chairman


Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

JOHN BARRASSO, WYOMING, CHAIRMAN

JAMES M. INHOFE, OKLAHOMA	THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE
SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, WEST VIRGINIA	BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, MARYLAND
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RICHARD M. RUSSELL, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
MARY FRANCES PERKO, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY
CHICAGO, IL
PIL-01-CH20

RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 184,042 rentable square feet of space, including 32 official parking spaces, for the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Commerce, and the Federal Housing Finance Agency, for a proposed maximum leasing rate of \$7,166,595 for a lease term of up to 3 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

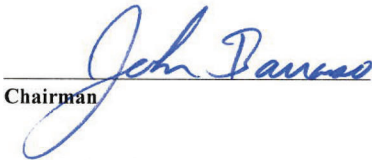
Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during

the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.


Chairman


Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

JOHN BARRASSO, WYOMING, CHAIRMAN

JAMES M. INHOFE, OKLAHOMA	THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE
SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, WEST VIRGINIA	BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, MARYLAND
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RICHARD M. RUSSELL, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
MARY FRANCES REPKO, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
KANSAS CITY, MO
PMO-02-KC20

RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 204,607 rentable square feet of space, including 104 parking spaces, for the Department of Transportation and the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, at a proposed annual cost of \$4,982,181 for a lease term of up to 5 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

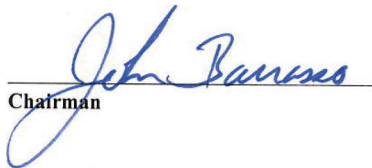
Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during

the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.


Chairman


Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

JOHN BARRASSO, WYOMING, CHAIRMAN

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SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, WEST VIRGINIA	BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, MARYLAND
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MARY FRANCES REPKO, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

LEASE
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION
ALBUQUERQUE, NM
PNM-01-AL20

RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 168,000 rentable square feet of space, including 689 official parking spaces, for the Social Security Administration currently located at 500 Lead Avenue SW and 410 Lead Avenue SW in Albuquerque, NM at a proposed annual cost of \$4,704,000, for a lease term up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

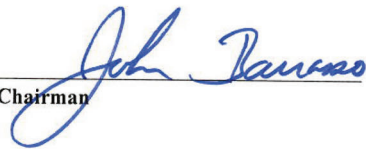
Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the

lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.


Chairman


Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

JOHN BARRASSO, WYOMING, CHAIRMAN

JAMES M. INHOFE, OKLAHOMA	THOMAS R. CARPER, DELAWARE
SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, WEST VIRGINIA	BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, MARYLAND
KEVIN CRAMER, NORTH DAKOTA	BERNARD SANDERS, VERMONT
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RICHARD M. RUSSELL, MAJORITY STAFF DIRECTOR
MARY FRANCES REPKO, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
U.S. SECRET SERVICE
BROOKLYN, NY
PNY-02-BR20

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 94,000 rentable square feet of space for the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Secret Service, currently located at 335 Adams Street, Brooklyn, NY at a proposed annual cost of \$6,110,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

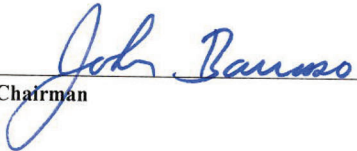
Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the

lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.


Chairman


Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
NEW YORK, NY
PNY-02-NY20

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 65,796 rentable square feet of space, including 7 official parking spaces, for the Department of Education currently located at 32 Old Slip, New York, NY, at a proposed cost of \$4,342,536 for a lease term of up to 5 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

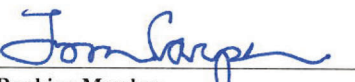
Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.


Chairman


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Adopted: September 25, 2019

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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
SOUTH HAMPTONS ROAD, VA
PVA-01-HA20**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 215,000 rentable square feet of space, including 1,050 official parking spaces, for the Veterans Health Administration, at a proposed annual cost of \$9,030,000 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

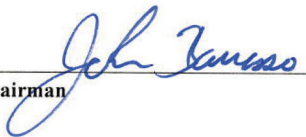
Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

Provided further, the Administrator of General Services may not enter into this lease if it does not contain a provision barring any individual holding a Federally-elected office, regardless of whether such individual took office before or after execution of this lease, to directly participate in, or benefit from or under this lease or any part thereof and that such provision provide that if this lease is found to have been made in violation of the foregoing prohibition or it is found that this prohibition has been violated during the term of the lease, the lease shall be void, except that the foregoing limitation shall not apply if the

lease is entered into with a publicly-held corporation or publicly-held entity for the general benefit of such corporation or entity.

Provided further, prior to entering into this lease or approving a novation agreement involving a change of ownership under this lease, the Administrator of General Services shall require the offeror or the parties requesting the novation, as applicable, to identify and disclose whether the owner of the leased space, including an entity involved in the financing thereof, is a foreign person or a foreign-owned entity; provided further, in such an instance, the Administrator of General Services shall notify the occupant agency(ies) in writing, and consult with such occupant agency(ies) regarding security concerns and necessary mitigation measures (if any) prior to award of the lease or approval of the novation agreement.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall not delegate to any other agency the authority granted by this resolution.


Chairman


Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

JOHN BARRASSO, WYOMING, CHAIRMAN

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SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO, WEST VIRGINIA	BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, MARYLAND
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United States Senate
COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6175

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

**LEASE
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
FREDERICKSBURG, VA
PVA-01-VA19**

**RESOLVED BY THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS OF
THE UNITED STATES SENATE**

that pursuant to title 40 U.S.C. § 3307, a prospectus providing for a lease of up to 364,831 net usable square feet of space, including 2,600 official parking spaces, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs currently located in Fredericksburg, VA, at a proposed annual cost of \$14,844,973 for a lease term of up to 20 years, a description of which is attached hereto and by reference made part of this resolution, is approved.

Approval of this prospectus constitutes authority to execute an interim lease for all tenants, if necessary, prior to execution of the new lease.

Provided, that to the maximum extent practicable, the Administrator of General Services shall require that the procurement include energy efficiency requirements as would be required for the construction of a federal building.

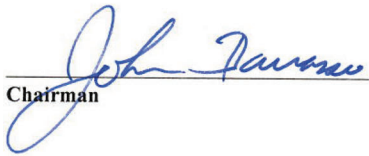
Provided further, that the Administrator shall require that the delineated area of the procurement is identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, *except that*, if the Administrator determines that the delineated area of the procurement should not be identical to the delineated area included in the prospectus, the Administrator shall provide an explanatory statement to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the United States Senate prior to exercising any lease authority provided in this resolution.

Provided further, that the Administrator shall provide to the Chairman or Ranking Member of the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate, in a timely manner, requested documents and information regarding this prospectus and resulting contractual materials, without redaction other than redactions to exclude business confidential, proprietary, and/or procurement sensitive information.

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Chairman


Ranking Member

Adopted: September 25, 2019

Calendar No. _____

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2099

[Report No. 116-_____]

To redesignate the Sullys Hill National Game Preserve in the State of
North Dakota as the White Horse Hill National Game Preserve.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 11, 2019

Mr. CRAMER (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and
Public Works

_____, (legislative day, _____), _____

Reported by Mr. BARRASSO, without amendment

A BILL

To redesignate the Sullys Hill National Game Preserve in
the State of North Dakota as the White Horse Hill
National Game Preserve.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “White Horse Hill Na-
5 tional Game Preserve Designation Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF WHITE HORSE HILL NATIONAL**
2 **GAME PRESERVE, NORTH DAKOTA.**

3 (a) REDESIGNATION.—The first section of the Act of
4 March 3, 1931 (46 Stat. 1509, chapter 439; 16 U.S.C.
5 674a), is amended by striking “Sullys Hill National Game
6 Preserve” and inserting “White Horse Hill National Game
7 Preserve”.

8 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 2 of the
9 Act of March 3, 1931 (46 Stat. 1509, chapter 439; 16
10 U.S.C. 674b), is amended by striking “Sullys Hill Na-
11 tional Game Preserve” and inserting “White Horse Hill
12 National Game Preserve”.

13 (c) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, reg-
14 ulation, document, paper, or other record of the United
15 States to the Sullys Hill National Game Preserve shall be
16 considered to be a reference to the “White Horse Hill Na-
17 tional Game Preserve”.

Calendar No. _____

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 2260****[Report No. 116-_____]**

To provide for the improvement of domestic infrastructure in order to prevent
marine debris, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 24, 2019

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr.
BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COONS, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. MERKLEY) introduced
the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee
on Environment and Public Works

_____ (legislative day, _____), _____

Reported by Mr. BARRASSO, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To provide for the improvement of domestic infrastructure
in order to prevent marine debris, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; DEFINITIONS.**

2 (a) ~~SHORT TITLE.~~—This Act may be cited as the
3 “Save Our Seas 2.0: Improving Domestic Infrastructure
4 to Prevent Marine Debris Act”.

5 (b) ~~DEFINITIONS.~~—In this Act:

6 (1) ~~EPA ADMINISTRATOR.~~—The term “EPA
7 Administrator” means the Administrator of the En-
8 vironmental Protection Agency.

9 (2) ~~INDIAN TRIBE.~~—The term “Indian Tribe”
10 has the meaning given the term “Indian tribe” in
11 section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
12 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304), without re-
13 gard to capitalization.

14 (3) ~~INTENDED USE PLAN.~~—The term “intended
15 use plan” means a plan developed by a State under
16 section 3(c)(1).

17 (4) ~~NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.~~—The term
18 “nonprofit organization” means an organization that
19 is described in section 501(c) of the Internal Rev-
20 enue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under sec-
21 tion 501(a) of such Code.

22 (5) ~~POST-CONSUMER MATERIALS MANAGE-~~
23 ~~MENT.~~—The term “post-consumer materials man-
24 agement” means the systems, operation, supervision,
25 and aftercare of processes and equipment used for

1 ~~post-use material (including packaging, goods, prod-~~
2 ~~ucts, and other materials), including—~~

3 ~~(A) collection;~~

4 ~~(B) transport;~~

5 ~~(C) safe disposal of waste that cannot be~~
6 ~~recovered, reused, recycled, repaired, or refurb-~~
7 ~~ished; and~~

8 ~~(D) systems and processes related to post-~~
9 ~~use materials that can be recovered, reused, re-~~
10 ~~cycled, repaired, or refurbished.~~

11 ~~(6) STATE.—The term “State” means—~~

12 ~~(A) a State;~~

13 ~~(B) an Indian Tribe;~~

14 ~~(C) the District of Columbia; and~~

15 ~~(D) a territory or possession of the United~~
16 ~~States.~~

17 ~~(7) STATE LOAN FUND.—The term “State loan~~
18 ~~fund” means a post-consumer materials manage-~~
19 ~~ment revolving State loan fund established by a~~
20 ~~State under section 3(a)(2)(B).~~

21 ~~(8) UNDER SECRETARY.—The term “Under~~
22 ~~Secretary” means the Under Secretary of Commerce~~
23 ~~for Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator of~~
24 ~~the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-~~
25 ~~tion.~~

1 **SEC. 2. STRATEGY FOR IMPROVING POST-CONSUMER MA-**
2 **TERIALS MANAGEMENT AND WATER MAN-**
3 **AGEMENT.**

4 (a) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—Not later than 1 year after the
5 date of enactment of this Act, the EPA Administrator
6 shall, in consultation with stakeholders, develop a strategy
7 to improve post-consumer materials management and resi-
8 dential recycling infrastructure, particularly for post-con-
9 sumer materials management that is (at the time of enact-
10 ment of this Act) not meeting existing national standards,
11 for the purpose of reducing potential leakage of plastic
12 waste and other post-consumer materials into waterways
13 and oceans.

14 (b) ~~RELEASE.~~—On development of the strategy
15 under subsection (a), the EPA Administrator shall—

16 (1) distribute the strategy to States and units
17 of local government; and

18 (2) make the strategy publicly available for use
19 by—

20 (A) for-profit private entities involved in
21 post-consumer materials management; and

22 (B) other nongovernmental entities.

23 (c) ~~SENSE OF CONGRESS.~~—It is the sense of Con-
24 gress that the strategy under subsection (a) should include
25 guidance, for the purpose of reducing potential leakage of

1 plastic waste and other post-consumer materials into wa-
2 terways and oceans, relating to—

3 (1) the harmonization of post-consumer mate-
4 rials management protocols, such as waste collection
5 and municipal recycling, including—

6 (A) best practices for the collection of resi-
7 dential recyclables;

8 (B) improved quality and sorting of resi-
9 dential recyclable materials through opportuni-
10 ties such as—

11 (i) education and awareness pro-
12 grams;

13 (ii) improved infrastructure, including
14 new equipment and innovative technologies
15 for processing of recyclable materials;

16 (iii) enhanced markets for recycled
17 material; and

18 (iv) standardized measurements; and

19 (C) increasing capacity for more types of
20 plastic (including plastic films) and other mate-
21 rials to be collected, processed, and recycled or
22 repurposed into usable materials or products;

23 (2) the development of new strategies and pro-
24 grams that prioritize engagement and cooperation
25 with States and the private sector to expedite efforts

6

1 and assistance in States to partner with, encourage,
2 advise, and facilitate the development and execution,
3 where practicable, of projects, programs, and initia-
4 tives—

5 (A) to improve the capacity, security, and
6 standards of operations for post-consumer ma-
7 terials management;

8 (B) to monitor and track how well post-
9 consumer materials management entities are
10 functioning, based on uniform and transparent
11 standards developed in cooperation with munic-
12 ipal, industrial, Federal, and civil society stake-
13 holders;

14 (C)(i) to identify the operational challenges
15 of post-consumer materials management; and

16 (ii) to develop policy and programmatic so-
17 lutions to those challenges; and

18 (D) to end intentional and unintentional
19 incentives for municipalities, industries, and in-
20 dividuals to improperly dispose of municipal
21 post-consumer materials; and

22 (3) strengthening markets for products with
23 high levels of recycled plastic content.

24 (d) COMPLEMENTARY ACTIVITIES.—It is the sense of
25 Congress that the strategy developed under subsection (a)

1 should include guidance on activities that are complemen-
2 tary to the activities described in subsection (c), such as—

3 (1) reducing waste at the source of the waste;
4 including anti-litter initiatives;

5 (2) developing effective post-consumer materials
6 management provisions for—

7 (A) national pollutant discharge elimi-
8 nation system permits issued to municipal sepa-
9 rate storm sewer systems under section 402 of
10 the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (~~33~~
11 ~~U.S.C. 1342~~); and

12 (B) stormwater management plans;

13 (3) capturing post-consumer materials at
14 stormwater inlets; at stormwater outfalls; or in bod-
15 ies of water;

16 (4) providing education and outreach relating to
17 post-consumer materials movement and reduction;
18 and

19 (5) monitoring or modeling post-consumer ma-
20 terial flows and the reduction of post-consumer ma-
21 terials resulting from the implementation of best
22 management practices.

1 **SEC. 3. POST-CONSUMER MATERIALS MANAGEMENT STATE**

2 **REVOLVING FUNDS.**

3 ~~(a) BLOCK GRANTS TO STATES TO ESTABLISH LOAN~~
4 ~~FUNDS.—~~

5 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—~~The EPA Administrator
6 shall offer to enter into agreements with eligible
7 States to make capitalization block grants, including
8 letters of credit, to the States under this sub-
9 section—

10 ~~(A) to support improvements to local post-~~
11 ~~consumer materials management, including mu-~~
12 ~~nicipal recycling programs;~~

13 ~~(B) to assist local waste management au-~~
14 ~~thorities in making improvements to local waste~~
15 ~~management systems—~~

16 ~~(i) to meet waste management stand-~~
17 ~~ards, particularly with respect to systems~~
18 ~~falling significantly below national stand-~~
19 ~~ards, as determined by the EPA Adminis-~~
20 ~~trator; and~~

21 ~~(ii) to implement the strategy devel-~~
22 ~~oped under section 2(a);~~

23 ~~(C) to deploy waste interceptor tech-~~
24 ~~nologies, such as “trash wheels” and litter~~
25 ~~traps, to manage the collection and cleanup of~~
26 ~~aggregated waste from waterways; and~~

1 ~~(D)~~ for such other purposes as the EPA
2 Administrator determines to be appropriate.

3 ~~(2) ELIGIBILITY.—~~To be eligible to receive a
4 capitalization block grant under this subsection, a
5 State shall—

6 ~~(A)~~ enter into a capitalization agreement
7 with the EPA Administrator under paragraph
8 ~~(1)~~; and

9 ~~(B)~~ establish a post-consumer materials
10 management revolving State loan fund.

11 ~~(3) DEPOSIT.—~~Funds from a capitalization
12 block grant to a State under this subsection shall be
13 deposited in the State loan fund established by the
14 State.

15 ~~(4) PERIOD.—~~Funds from a capitalization block
16 grant to a State under this subsection shall be avail-
17 able to the State for obligation—

18 ~~(A)~~ during the fiscal year for which the
19 funds are authorized; and

20 ~~(B)~~ during the following fiscal year.

21 ~~(5) ALLOTMENT.—~~Funds made available to
22 carry out this section shall be allotted to States at
23 the discretion of the EPA Administrator.

24 ~~(6) REALLOTMENT.—~~Any funds not obligated
25 by a State by the last day of the period for which

1 the block grants are available shall be reallocated in
2 accordance with paragraph (5).

3 ~~(b) USE OF FUNDS.—~~

4 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—~~Amounts deposited in a
5 State loan fund, including loan repayments and in-
6 terest earned on the amounts, shall be used only—

7 ~~(A) for providing loans or loan guarantees;~~

8 ~~(B) for outcomes-based or performance~~
9 ~~payments; or~~

10 ~~(C) as a source of reserve and security for~~
11 ~~leveraged loans.~~

12 ~~(2) LIMITATIONS.—~~Loans or loan guarantees
13 made by a State under paragraph (1)(A)—

14 ~~(A) may be used only for expenditures of~~
15 ~~a type or category that the EPA Administrator~~
16 ~~has determined, through guidance, will—~~

17 ~~(i) facilitate compliance with an in-~~
18 ~~tended use plan; or~~

19 ~~(ii) otherwise significantly further the~~
20 ~~purposes described in subparagraphs (A)~~
21 ~~through (C) of subsection (a)(1); and~~

22 ~~(B) may not be used for the acquisition of~~
23 ~~real property or an interest in real property,~~
24 ~~unless the acquisition is—~~

11

1 (i) integral to an intended use plan;

2 and

3 (ii) from a willing seller.

4 (c) INTENDED USE PLANS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—After providing for public
6 review and comment, each State that has entered
7 into a capitalization agreement under subsection
8 (a)(1) annually shall prepare a plan that identifies
9 the intended uses of the amounts available from the
10 State loan fund of the State.

11 (2) CONTENTS.—An intended use plan shall in-
12 clude—

13 (A) a list of the projects to be carried out
14 by entities receiving the loans in the first fiscal
15 year that begins after the date of the intended
16 use plan, including a description of the project;

17 (B) a description of how the funds will
18 support disadvantaged communities;

19 (C) an explanation of any local restrictions,
20 such as flow control measures, that restrict ac-
21 cess to recyclable materials;

22 (D) the criteria and methods established
23 for the use of the funds; and

1 ~~(E)~~ a description of the financial status of
 2 the State loan fund and the short- and long-
 3 term goals of the State loan fund.

4 ~~(3)~~ LIST OF PROJECTS.—Each State, after no-
 5 tice and opportunity for public comment, shall pub-
 6 lish, and periodically update, a list of projects in the
 7 State that are eligible for assistance under this sec-
 8 tion, including—

9 ~~(A)~~ the priority assigned to each project;
 10 and

11 ~~(B)~~ to the maximum extent practicable,
 12 the expected funding schedule for each project.

13 ~~(d)~~ FUND MANAGEMENT.—

14 ~~(1)~~ IN GENERAL.—Each State loan fund shall
 15 be established, maintained, and credited with repay-
 16 ments and interest, and the fund corpus shall be
 17 available in perpetuity in accordance with this sec-
 18 tion.

19 ~~(2)~~ INVESTMENT AUTHORIZED.—To the extent
 20 amounts in the State loan fund of a State are not
 21 required for current obligation or expenditure, the
 22 amounts shall be invested in interest bearing obliga-
 23 tions.

24 ~~(e)~~ STATE CONTRIBUTIONS.—Each capitalization
 25 agreement entered into under subsection (a)(1) shall re-

1 quire that the State deposit in the State loan fund from
2 State funds an amount equal to not less than 20 percent
3 of the total amount of the block grant to be made to the
4 State on or before the date on which the block grant pay-
5 ment is made to the State.

6 ~~(f) ADMINISTRATION OF STATE LOAN FUND.—~~

7 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State annually may~~
8 ~~use not greater than 4 percent of the funds allotted~~
9 ~~to the State under this section to cover the reason-~~
10 ~~able costs of administration of the programs under~~
11 ~~this section, including the recovery of reasonable~~
12 ~~costs expended to establish a State loan fund that~~
13 ~~are incurred after the date of enactment of this Act.~~

14 ~~(2) GUIDANCE AND REGULATIONS.—The EPA~~
15 ~~Administrator shall issue guidance and promulgate~~
16 ~~regulations as are necessary to carry out this sec-~~
17 ~~tion, including guidance and regulations—~~

18 ~~(A) to ensure that each State commits and~~
19 ~~expends funds allotted to the State under this~~
20 ~~section as efficiently as practicable in accord-~~
21 ~~ance with this section and applicable State law;~~

22 ~~(B) to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse;~~
23 ~~and~~

24 ~~(C) to ensure that the States receiving~~
25 ~~block grants under this section use accounting,~~

1 audit, and fiscal procedures that conform to
2 generally accepted accounting standards.

3 (3) STATE REPORT.—Not less frequently than
4 every 2 years, each State administering a State loan
5 fund under this section shall submit to the EPA Ad-
6 ministrator a report describing the activities carried
7 out under this section, including the findings of the
8 most recent audit of the State loan fund and the en-
9 tire State allotment.

10 (4) AUDITS.—The EPA Administrator shall pe-
11 riodically audit all State loan funds established by,
12 and all other amounts allotted to, the States in ac-
13 cordance with procedures established by the Comp-
14 troller General of the United States.

15 (g) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL LAW.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The EPA Administrator
17 shall ensure that all laborers and mechanics em-
18 ployed on projects funded directly, or assisted in
19 whole or in part, by a State loan fund established
20 by this section shall be paid wages at rates not less
21 than those prevailing on projects of a character simi-
22 lar in the locality as determined by the Secretary of
23 Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter
24 31 of part A of subtitle II of title 40, United States
25 Code.

1 ~~(2) AUTHORITY.~~—With respect to the labor
 2 standards specified in paragraph ~~(1)~~, the Secretary
 3 of Labor shall have the authority and functions set
 4 forth in Reorganization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950
 5 (~~64 Stat. 1267; 5 U.S.C. App.~~) and section 3145 of
 6 title 40, United States Code.

7 ~~(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.~~—There
 8 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
 9 \$300,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025.

10 **~~SEC. 4. GRANT PROGRAMS.~~**

11 ~~(a) POST-CONSUMER MATERIALS MANAGEMENT IN-~~
 12 ~~FRAS~~TRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM.—

13 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.~~—The EPA Administrator
 14 may provide grants to units of local government, In-
 15 dian Tribes, and local post-consumer materials man-
 16 agement entities—

17 ~~(A) to assist those entities in making im-~~
 18 ~~provements to post-consumer materials manage-~~
 19 ~~ment—~~

20 ~~(i) to meet waste management stand-~~
 21 ~~ards; and~~

22 ~~(ii) to implement the strategy devel-~~
 23 ~~oped under section 2(a); and~~

24 ~~(B) to support improvements to local post-~~
 25 ~~consumer materials management, including tra-~~

ditional and innovative recycling and reuse technologies and processes for transforming recyclable plastics into commodity-grade materials for use.

(2) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a grant under paragraph (1), an applicant shall submit to the EPA Administrator an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the EPA Administrator may require.

(b) DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The EPA Administrator may provide competitive grants to units of local government (including units of local government that own treatment works (as defined in section 212 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292))), Indian Tribes, and public water systems (as defined in section 1401 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f)), as applicable, to support improvements in removing plastic waste from drinking water, including planning, design, construction, technical assistance, and planning support for operational adjustments.

(2) PREFERENCE.—In making grants under paragraph (1), the EPA Administrator shall give preference to applicants that—

1 ~~(A) seek to improve the removal of micro-~~
2 ~~plastics, including microfibers, from drinking~~
3 ~~water; and~~

4 ~~(B) have demonstrated prior commitment~~
5 ~~and success in reducing other pollution sources~~
6 ~~in drinking water, such as lead and other con-~~
7 ~~taminants.~~

8 ~~(3) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a~~
9 ~~grant under paragraph (1), an applicant shall sub-~~
10 ~~mit to the EPA Administrator an application at~~
11 ~~such time, in such manner, and containing such in-~~
12 ~~formation as the EPA Administrator may require.~~

13 ~~(c) WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS.—~~

14 ~~(1) IN GENERAL.—The EPA Administrator~~
15 ~~may provide grants to units of local government (in-~~
16 ~~cluding units of local government that own treat-~~
17 ~~ment works (as defined in section 212 of the Federal~~
18 ~~Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292))) and~~
19 ~~public water systems (as defined in section 1401 of~~
20 ~~the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f)); as~~
21 ~~applicable, to support improvements in removing~~
22 ~~plastic waste from wastewater.~~

23 ~~(2) PREFERENCE.—In making grants under~~
24 ~~paragraph (1), the EPA Administrator shall give~~
25 ~~preference to applicants that—~~

1 ~~(A)~~ seek to improve the removal of micro-
2 plastics, including microfibers, from wastewater;
3 and

4 ~~(B)~~ have demonstrated prior commitment
5 and success in reducing other pollution sources
6 in wastewater, such as nutrient pollution and
7 other contaminants.

8 ~~(3)~~ APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a
9 grant under paragraph ~~(1)~~, an applicant shall sub-
10 mit to the EPA Administrator an application at
11 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
12 formation as the EPA Administrator may require.

13 ~~(d)~~ TRASH-FREE WATERS GRANTS.—

14 ~~(1)~~ IN GENERAL.—The EPA Administrator
15 may provide grants to political subdivisions of States
16 and units of local government, Indian Tribes, and
17 nonprofit organizations—

18 ~~(A)~~ to support projects to reduce the quan-
19 tity of solid waste in bodies of water by reduc-
20 ing the quantity of waste at the source, includ-
21 ing through anti-litter initiatives;

22 ~~(B)~~ to enforce local post-consumer mate-
23 rials management ordinances;

24 ~~(C)~~ to implement the solid waste provisions
25 of a national pollutant discharge elimination

1 system permit issued to a municipal separate
2 storm sewer system under section 402 of the
3 Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C.
4 1342);

5 (D) to capture post-consumer materials at
6 stormwater inlets; at stormwater outfalls; or in
7 bodies of water;

8 (E) to provide education and outreach
9 about post-consumer materials movement and
10 reduction; and

11 (F) to monitor or model flows of post-con-
12 sumer materials; including monitoring or mod-
13 eling a reduction in trash as a result of the im-
14 plementation of best management practices for
15 the reduction of plastic waste and other post-
16 consumer materials in sources of drinking
17 water.

18 (2) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a
19 grant under paragraph (1), an applicant shall sub-
20 mit to the EPA Administrator an application at
21 such time, in such manner, and containing such in-
22 formation as the EPA Administrator may require.

23 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),
25 there are authorized to be appropriated, for each of

1 the programs described in this section, \$50,000,000
 2 per year for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2025.

3 ~~(2) NO IMPACT ON OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS.—~~

4 ~~(A) IN GENERAL.—~~No funds shall be made
 5 available under paragraph (1) to carry out sub-
 6 sections (b) and (c) in a fiscal year if the total
 7 amount made available to carry out the pro-
 8 grams described in subparagraph (B) for that
 9 fiscal year is less than the total amount made
 10 available to carry out the programs described in
 11 subparagraph (B) for fiscal year 2019.

12 ~~(B) PROGRAMS DESCRIBED.—~~The pro-
 13 grams referred to in subparagraph (A) are—

14 ~~(i) State drinking water treatment re-~~
 15 ~~volving loan funds established under sec-~~
 16 ~~tion 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act~~
 17 ~~(42 U.S.C. 300j-12);~~

18 ~~(ii) programs for assistance for small~~
 19 ~~and disadvantaged communities under sub-~~
 20 ~~sections (a) through (j) of section 1459A~~
 21 ~~of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C.~~
 22 ~~300j-19a); and~~

23 ~~(iii) State water pollution control re-~~
 24 ~~volving funds established under title VI of~~

1 the Federal Water Pollution Control Act
2 (~~33~~ U.S.C. 1381 et seq.).

3 **SEC. 5. STUDY ON REPURPOSING PLASTIC WASTE IN IN-**
4 **FRAS**TRUCTURE.

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
6 (referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) and the
7 EPA Administrator shall seek to jointly enter into an ar-
8 rangement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engi-
9 neering, and Medicine under which the National Acad-
10 emies will—

11 (1) conduct a study of the feasibility and advis-
12 ability of innovative uses of plastic waste in road-
13 ways, bridges, and other infrastructure; and

14 (2) as part of the study under paragraph (1)—

15 (A) identify international examples of—

16 (i) the use of materials described in
17 that paragraph; and

18 (ii) projects in which the use of plastic
19 waste has been applied;

20 (B) assess the economic benefits, if any,
21 including employment opportunities, to munici-
22 palities and States in investing in innovative
23 reuse of plastic waste in infrastructure; and

24 (C) if the National Academies consider
25 uses described in that paragraph to be advis-

1 able, make recommendations with respect to
2 what Federal testing standards and other bar-
3 riers may need to be addressed to enable those
4 uses, including with respect to ensuring human
5 health and safety.

6 (b) ~~REPORT REQUIRED.~~—Not later than 2 years
7 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall
8 submit to Congress a report on the study conducted under
9 subsection (a).

10 (c) ~~GRANT PROGRAM.~~—

11 (1) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—If the National Academies
12 consider the innovative uses of plastic waste de-
13 scribed in subsection (a)(1) to be advisable, and the
14 Secretary agrees, the Secretary shall establish a
15 grant program to encourage those uses.

16 (2) ~~DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.~~—If the Sec-
17 retary establishes a grant program under paragraph
18 (1), the Secretary shall carry out the grant program
19 by selecting, through a competitive process, not more
20 than 5 projects to demonstrate the uses described in
21 subsection (a)(1), each of which shall be located in
22 a different region of the United States.

23 (3) ~~REPORT.~~—Not later than 180 days after
24 the date on which the last demonstration project, if
25 any, is completed under paragraph (2), the Sec-

1 retary shall submit to Congress a report summa-
2 rizing the results of the demonstration projects, in-
3 cluding—

4 (A) the total quantity of plastic waste redi-
5 rected from the waste stream into infrastruc-
6 ture;

7 (B) the durability of the infrastructure
8 constructed with plastic waste; and

9 (C) any cost savings achieved through the
10 use of plastic waste in the demonstration
11 projects.

12 (d) ~~AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—~~There
13 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
14 essary to carry out this section.

15 **SEC. 6. STUDY ON OPTIONS TO ADVANCE TECHNOLOGIES**
16 **FOR CONVERTING PLASTIC WASTE TO**
17 **CHEMICALS, FEEDSTOCKS, AND OTHER**
18 **PRODUCTS.**

19 (a) ~~IN GENERAL.—~~The EPA Administrator shall
20 seek to enter into an arrangement with the National Acad-
21 emies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine under which
22 the National Academies will conduct a study on options
23 to advance technologies (including pyrolysis,
24 hydropyrolysis, methanolysis, gasification, and enzymatic

1 breakdown) for converting plastic waste to useful prod-
2 ucts, such as chemicals, feedstocks, fuels, and energy.

3 (b) INCLUSIONS.—As part of the study under sub-
4 section (a), the National Academies shall conduct an eval-
5 uation of—

6 (1) the air emissions associated with tech-
7 nologies described in that subsection; and

8 (2) an evaluation of the ability of those tech-
9 nologies to become cost-competitive with other op-
10 tions for obtaining source materials or producing en-
11 ergy.

12 (c) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 2 years
13 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the EPA Ad-
14 ministrator shall submit to Congress a report on the study
15 conducted under subsection (a).

16 **SEC. 7. STUDY ON EFFECTS OF MICROPLASTICS IN FOOD**
17 **SUPPLIES AND SOURCES OF DRINKING**
18 **WATER.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—The EPA Administrator, in con-
20 sultation with the Under Secretary, shall seek to enter into
21 an arrangement with the National Academies of Sciences,
22 Engineering, and Medicine under which the National
23 Academies will conduct a human health and environmental
24 risk assessment on microplastics, including microfibers, in
25 food supplies and sources of drinking water.

1 (b) ~~REPORT REQUIRED.~~—Not later than 2 years
2 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the EPA Ad-
3 ministrator shall submit to Congress a report on the study
4 conducted under subsection (a) that includes—

5 (1) a science-based definition of “microplastics”
6 that can be adopted in federally supported moni-
7 toring and future assessments supported or con-
8 ducted by a Federal agency;

9 (2) recommendations for standardized moni-
10 toring, testing, and other necessary protocols relat-
11 ing to microplastics;

12 (3)(A) an assessment of whether microplastics
13 are currently present in the food supplies and
14 sources of drinking water of United States con-
15 sumers; and

16 (B) if the assessment under subparagraph (A)
17 is positive—

18 (i) the extent to which microplastics are
19 present in the food supplies and sources of
20 drinking water; and

21 (ii) an assessment of the type, source,
22 prevalence, and risk of microplastics in the food
23 supplies and sources of drinking water;

24 (4) an assessment of the risk posed, if any, by
25 the presence of microplastics in the food supplies

1 and sources of drinking water of United States con-
2 sumers that includes—

3 (A) an identification of the most signifi-
4 cant sources of those microplastics; and

5 (B) a review of the best available science
6 to determine any potential hazards of micro-
7 plastics in the food supplies and sources of
8 drinking water of United States consumers; and
9 (5) a measurement of—

10 (A) the quantity of environmental chemi-
11 cals that absorb to microplastics; and

12 (B) the quantity described in subpara-
13 graph (A) that would be available for human
14 exposure through food supplies or sources of
15 drinking water.

16 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
17 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
18 essary to carry out this section.

19 **SEC. 8. REPORT ON ELIMINATING BARRIERS TO INCREASE**
20 **THE COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLE MATE-**
21 **RIALS.**

22 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
23 of this Act, the EPA Administrator shall submit to Con-
24 gress a report describing—

(1) the economic, technological, resource availability, or other barriers to increasing the collection of recyclable materials; and

(2) recommendations to overcome the barriers described under paragraph (1).

6 ~~SEC. 9. REPORT ON ECONOMIC INCENTIVES TO SPUR DE-~~
7 ~~VELOPMENT OF NEW END-USE MARKETS FOR~~
8 ~~RECYCLED PLASTICS.~~

9 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
10 of this Act, the EPA Administrator shall submit to Con-
11 gress a report describing the most efficient and effective
12 economic incentives to spur the development of additional
13 new end-use markets for recyclable plastics (including
14 plastic film); including the use of increased recycled con-
15 tent by manufacturers in the production of plastic goods
16 and packaging.

17 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; DEFINITIONS.**

18 (a) *SHORT TITLE*.—*This Act may be cited as the*
19 *“Save Our Seas 2.0: Improving Domestic Infrastructure to*
20 *Prevent Marine Debris Act”*.

21 (b) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this Act:*

(1) *EPA ADMINISTRATOR.*—The term “EPA Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

1 (2) *INDIAN TRIBE*.—The term “Indian Tribe”
2 has the meaning given the term “Indian tribe” in sec-
3 tion 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Edu-
4 cation Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304), without re-
5 gard to capitalization.

6 (3) *NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION*.—The term “non-
7 profit organization” means an organization that is
8 described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue
9 Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section
10 501(a) of such Code.

11 (4) *POST-CONSUMER MATERIALS MANAGE-*
12 *MENT*.—The term “post-consumer materials manage-
13 ment” means the systems, operation, supervision, and
14 long-term management of processes and equipment
15 used for post-use material (including packaging,
16 goods, products, and other materials), including—

17 (A) collection;

18 (B) transport;

19 (C) safe disposal of waste that cannot be re-
20 covered, reused, recycled, repaired, or refur-
21 bished; and

22 (D) systems and processes related to post-
23 use materials that can be recovered, reused, recy-
24 cled, repaired, or refurbished.

25 (5) *STATE*.—The term “State” means—

1 (A) a State;
2 (B) an Indian Tribe;
3 (C) the District of Columbia;
4 (D) a territory or possession of the United
5 States; or

6 (E) any political subdivision of an entity
7 described in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

8 (6) *UNDER SECRETARY*.—The term “Under Sec-
9 retary” means the Under Secretary of Commerce for
10 Oceans and Atmosphere and Administrator of the Na-
11 tional Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

12 **SEC. 2. STRATEGY FOR IMPROVING POST-CONSUMER MATE-**
13 **RIALS MANAGEMENT AND WATER MANAGE-**
14 **MENT.**

15 (a) *IN GENERAL*.—Not later than 1 year after the date
16 of enactment of this Act, the EPA Administrator shall, in
17 consultation with stakeholders, develop a strategy to im-
18 prove post-consumer materials management and infrastruc-
19 ture for the purpose of reducing plastic waste and other
20 post-consumer materials in waterways and oceans.

21 (b) *RELEASE*.—On development of the strategy under
22 subsection (a), the EPA Administrator shall—

23 (1) distribute the strategy to States; and

24 (2) make the strategy publicly available for use
25 by—

- 1 (A) *for-profit private entities involved in*
 2 *post-consumer materials management; and*
 3 (B) *other nongovernmental entities.*

4 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF THE SENATE FOR ISSUES TO BE IN-**
 5 **CLUDED IN STRATEGY FOR POST-CONSUMER**
 6 **MATERIALS MANAGEMENT AND WATER MAN-**
 7 **AGEMENT.**

8 *It is the sense of the Senate that the strategy under*
 9 *section 2 should address, for the purpose of reducing plastic*
 10 *waste and other post-consumer materials in waterways and*
 11 *oceans—*

12 (1) *the harmonization of post-consumer mate-*
 13 *rials management protocols, including—*

14 (A) *best practices for the collection of post-*
 15 *consumer recyclables;*

16 (B) *improved quality and sorting of post-*
 17 *consumer recyclable materials through opportu-*
 18 *nities such as—*

19 (i) *education and awareness programs;*

20 (ii) *improved infrastructure, including*
 21 *new equipment and innovative technologies*
 22 *for processing of recyclable materials;*

23 (iii) *enhanced markets for recycled ma-*
 24 *terial; and*

25 (iv) *standardized measurements; and*

1 (C) increasing capacity, where practicable,
2 for more types of plastic (including plastic films)
3 and other materials to be collected, processed,
4 and recycled or repurposed into usable materials
5 or products;

6 (2) the development of new strategies and pro-
7 grams that prioritize engagement and cooperation
8 with States and the private sector to expedite efforts
9 and assistance for States to partner with, encourage,
10 advise, and facilitate the development and execution,
11 where practicable, of projects, programs, and initia-
12 tives—

13 (A) to improve operations for post-consumer
14 materials management;

15 (B) to monitor how well post-consumer ma-
16 terials management entities are functioning;

17 (C)(i) to identify the operational challenges
18 of post-consumer materials management; and

19 (ii) to develop policy and programmatic so-
20 lutions to those challenges; and

21 (D) to end intentional and unintentional
22 incentives to improperly dispose of post-con-
23 sumer materials;

24 (3) strengthening markets for products with high
25 levels of recycled plastic content; and

1 (4) *the consideration of complementary activi-*
 2 *ties, such as—*

3 (A) *reducing waste at the source of the*
 4 *waste, including anti-litter initiatives;*

5 (B) *developing effective post-consumer mate-*
 6 *rials management provisions in stormwater*
 7 *management plans;*

8 (C) *capturing post-consumer materials at*
 9 *stormwater inlets, at stormwater outfalls, or in*
 10 *bodies of water;*

11 (D) *providing education and outreach relat-*
 12 *ing to post-consumer materials movement and*
 13 *reduction;*

14 (E) *monitoring or modeling post-consumer*
 15 *material flows and the reduction of post-con-*
 16 *sumer materials resulting from the implementa-*
 17 *tion of best management practices; and*

18 (F) *incentives for manufacturers to design*
 19 *packaging and consumer goods that can more*
 20 *easily be recycled, repurposed, or otherwise re-*
 21 *moved from the waste stream after their initial*
 22 *use.*

23 **SEC. 4. GRANT PROGRAMS.**

24 (a) *POST-CONSUMER MATERIALS MANAGEMENT IN-*
 25 *FRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM.—*

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The EPA Administrator may*
2 *provide grants to States, as defined in section 1(b)(5),*
3 *to implement the strategy developed under section*
4 *2(a) and—*

5 *(A) to support improvements to local post-*
6 *consumer materials management, including mu-*
7 *nicipal recycling programs;*

8 *(B) to assist local waste management au-*
9 *thorities in making improvements to local waste*
10 *management systems;*

11 *(C) to deploy waste interceptor technologies,*
12 *such as “trash wheels” and litter traps, to man-*
13 *age the collection and cleanup of aggregated*
14 *waste from waterways; and*

15 *(D) for such other purposes as the EPA Ad-*
16 *ministrator determines to be appropriate.*

17 (2) *APPLICATIONS.*—*To be eligible to receive a*
18 *grant under paragraph (1), the applicant State shall*
19 *submit to the EPA Administrator an application at*
20 *such time, in such manner, and containing such in-*
21 *formation as the EPA Administrator may require.*

22 (3) *CONTENTS OF APPLICATIONS.*—*In developing*
23 *application requirements, the EPA Administrator*
24 *shall consider requesting that a State applicant pro-*
25 *vide—*

1 (A) a description of the project or projects
2 to be carried out by entities receiving the grant;

3 (B) a description of how the funds will sup-
4 port disadvantaged communities; and

5 (C) an explanation of any limitations, such
6 as flow control measures, that restrict access to
7 recyclable materials.

8 (4) *REPORT TO CONGRESS.*—Not later than Jan-
9 uary 1, 2023, the EPA Administrator shall submit to
10 the Committee on Environment and Public Works of
11 the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and
12 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a re-
13 port that includes—

14 (A) a description of the activities carried
15 out under this subsection;

16 (B) estimates as to how much plastic waste
17 was prevented from entering the oceans and
18 other waterways as a result of activities funded
19 by the grant; and

20 (C) a recommendation on the utility of
21 evolving the grant program into a new waste
22 management State revolving fund.

23 (b) *DRINKING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS.*—

24 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—The EPA Administrator may
25 provide competitive grants to units of local govern-

1 *ment, including units of local government that own*
2 *treatment works (as defined in section 212 of the Fed-*
3 *eral Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292)),*
4 *Indian Tribes, and public water systems (as defined*
5 *in section 1401 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42*
6 *U.S.C. 300f)), as applicable, to support improvements*
7 *in removing plastic waste and post-consumer mate-*
8 *rials, including microplastics and microfibers, from*
9 *drinking water, including planning, design, construc-*
10 *tion, technical assistance, and planning support for*
11 *operational adjustments.*

12 (2) *APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a*
13 *grant under paragraph (1), an applicant shall submit*
14 *to the EPA Administrator an application at such*
15 *time, in such manner, and containing such informa-*
16 *tion as the EPA Administrator may require.*

17 (c) *WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE GRANTS.—*

18 (1) *IN GENERAL.—The EPA Administrator may*
19 *provide grants to units of local government, including*
20 *units of local government that own treatment works*
21 *(as defined in section 212 of the Federal Water Pollu-*
22 *tion Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1292)), Indian Tribes,*
23 *and public water systems (as defined in section 1401*
24 *of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f)), as*
25 *applicable, to support improvements in removing*

1 *plastic waste and post-consumer materials, including*
2 *microplastics and microfibers, from wastewater.*

3 (2) *APPLICATIONS.*—*To be eligible to receive a*
4 *grant under paragraph (1), an applicant shall submit*
5 *to the EPA Administrator an application at such*
6 *time, in such manner, and containing such informa-*
7 *tion as the EPA Administrator may require.*

8 (d) *TRASH-FREE WATERS GRANTS.*—

9 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The EPA Administrator may*
10 *provide grants to units of local government, Indian*
11 *Tribes, and nonprofit organizations—*

12 (A) *to support projects to reduce the quan-*
13 *tity of solid waste in bodies of water by reducing*
14 *the quantity of waste at the source, including*
15 *through anti-litter initiatives;*

16 (B) *to enforce local post-consumer materials*
17 *management ordinances;*

18 (C) *to implement State or local policies re-*
19 *lating to solid waste;*

20 (D) *to capture post-consumer materials at*
21 *stormwater inlets, at stormwater outfalls, or in*
22 *bodies of water;*

23 (E) *to provide education and outreach*
24 *about post-consumer materials movement and re-*
25 *duction; and*

1 (F) to monitor or model flows of post-con-
2 sumer materials, including monitoring or mod-
3 eling a reduction in trash as a result of the im-
4 plementation of best management practices for
5 the reduction of plastic waste and other post-con-
6 sumer materials in sources of drinking water.

7 (2) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to receive a
8 grant under paragraph (1), an applicant shall submit
9 to the EPA Administrator an application at such
10 time, in such manner, and containing such informa-
11 tion as the EPA Administrator may require.

12 (e) APPLICABILITY OF FEDERAL LAW.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The EPA Administrator shall
14 ensure that all laborers and mechanics employed on
15 projects funded directly, or assisted in whole or in
16 part, by a grant established by this section shall be
17 paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on
18 projects of a character similar in the locality as deter-
19 mined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with
20 subchapter IV of chapter 31 of part A of subtitle II
21 of title 40, United States Code.

22 (2) AUTHORITY.—With respect to the labor
23 standards specified in paragraph (1), the Secretary of
24 Labor shall have the authority and functions set forth
25 in Reorganization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950 (64

1 *Stat. 1267; 5 U.S.C. App.) and section 3145 of title*
 2 *40, United States Code.*

3 (f) *LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—A grant under*
 4 *this section may not be used (directly or indirectly) as a*
 5 *source of payment (in whole or in part) of, or security for,*
 6 *an obligation the interest on which is excluded from gross*
 7 *income under section 103 of the Internal Revenue Code of*
 8 *1986.*

9 (g) *AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—*

10 (1) *IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),*
 11 *there are authorized to be appropriated—*

12 (A) *for the program described subsection*
 13 (a), *\$55,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021*
 14 *through 2025; and*

15 (B) *for each of the programs described sub-*
 16 *sections (b), (c), and (d), \$10,000,000 for each of*
 17 *fiscal years 2021 through 2025.*

18 (2) *NO IMPACT ON OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS.—*

19 (A) *IN GENERAL.—No funds shall be made*
 20 *available under paragraph (1) to carry out sub-*
 21 *sections (b) and (c) in a fiscal year if the total*
 22 *amount made available to carry out the pro-*
 23 *grams described in subparagraph (B) for that*
 24 *fiscal year is less than the total amount made*

1 *available to carry out the programs described in*
 2 *subparagraph (B) for fiscal year 2019.*

3 *(B) PROGRAMS DESCRIBED.—The programs*
 4 *referred to in subparagraph (A) are—*

5 *(i) State drinking water treatment re-*
 6 *volving loan funds established under section*
 7 *1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act (42*
 8 *U.S.C. 300j–12);*

9 *(ii) programs for assistance for small*
 10 *and disadvantaged communities under sub-*
 11 *sections (a) through (j) of section 1459A of*
 12 *the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C.*
 13 *300j–19a); and*

14 *(iii) State water pollution control re-*
 15 *volving funds established under title VI of*
 16 *the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33*
 17 *U.S.C. 1381 et seq.).*

18 **SEC. 5. STUDY ON REPURPOSING PLASTIC WASTE IN INFRA-**
 19 **STRUCTURE.**

20 *(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation*
 21 *(referred to in this section as the “Secretary”) and the EPA*
 22 *Administrator shall jointly enter into an arrangement with*
 23 *the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Med-*
 24 *icine under which the National Academies will—*

- 1 (1) *conduct a study on the uses of plastic waste*
- 2 *in infrastructure; and*
- 3 (2) *as part of the study under paragraph (1)—*
- 4 (A) *identify domestic and international ex-*
- 5 *amples of—*
- 6 (i) *the use of plastic waste materials*
- 7 *described in that paragraph;*
- 8 (ii) *infrastructure projects in which the*
- 9 *use of plastic waste has been applied; and*
- 10 (iii) *projects in which the use of plastic*
- 11 *waste has been incorporated into or with*
- 12 *other infrastructure materials;*
- 13 (B) *assess—*
- 14 (i) *the effectiveness and utility of the*
- 15 *uses of plastic waste described in that para-*
- 16 *graph;*
- 17 (ii) *the extent to which plastic waste*
- 18 *materials are consistent with recognized*
- 19 *specifications for infrastructure construction*
- 20 *and other recognized standards;*
- 21 (iii) *relevant impacts of plastic waste*
- 22 *materials compared to non-waste plastic*
- 23 *materials;*
- 24 (iv) *the health, safety, and environ-*
- 25 *mental impacts of—*

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1 (I) plastic waste on humans and
2 animals; and

3 (II) the increased use of plastic
4 waste for infrastructure;

5 (v) the ability of plastic waste infra-
6 structure to withstand natural disasters, ex-
7 tremes weather events, and other hazards;
8 and

9 (vi) plastic waste in infrastructure
10 through an economic analysis; and

11 (C) make recommendations with respect to
12 what standards or matters may need to be ad-
13 dressed with respect to ensuring human and ani-
14 mal health and safety from the use of plastic
15 waste in infrastructure.

16 (b) *REPORT REQUIRED*.—Not later than 2 years after
17 the date of enactment of this Act and subject to the avail-
18 ability of appropriations, the Secretary and the EPA Ad-
19 ministrator shall submit to Congress a report on the study
20 conducted under subsection (a).

21 **SEC. 6. STUDY ON EFFECTS OF MICROPLASTICS IN FOOD**
22 **SUPPLIES AND SOURCES OF DRINKING**
23 **WATER.**

24 (a) *IN GENERAL*.—The EPA Administrator, in con-
25 sultation with the Under Secretary, shall seek to enter into

1 *an arrangement with the National Academies of Sciences,*
2 *Engineering, and Medicine under which the National Acad-*
3 *emies will conduct a human health and environmental risk*
4 *assessment on microplastics, including microfibers, in food*
5 *supplies and sources of drinking water.*

6 (b) *REPORT REQUIRED.*—*Not later than 2 years after*
7 *the date of enactment of this Act, the EPA Administrator*
8 *shall submit to Congress a report on the study conducted*
9 *under subsection (a) that includes—*

10 (1) *a science-based definition of “microplastics”*
11 *that can be adopted in federally supported monitoring*
12 *and future assessments supported or conducted by a*
13 *Federal agency;*

14 (2) *recommendations for standardized moni-*
15 *toring, testing, and other necessary protocols relating*
16 *to microplastics;*

17 (3)(A) *an assessment of whether microplastics*
18 *are currently present in the food supplies and sources*
19 *of drinking water of United States consumers; and*

20 (B) *if the assessment under subparagraph (A) is*
21 *positive—*

22 (i) *the extent to which microplastics are*
23 *present in the food supplies and sources of drink-*
24 *ing water; and*

1 (ii) an assessment of the type, source, preva-
2 lence, and risk of microplastics in the food sup-
3 plies and sources of drinking water;

4 (4) an assessment of the risk posed, if any, by
5 the presence of microplastics in the food supplies and
6 sources of drinking water of United States consumers
7 that includes—

8 (A) an identification of the most significant
9 sources of those microplastics; and

10 (B) a review of the best available science to
11 determine any potential hazards of microplastics
12 in the food supplies and sources of drinking
13 water of United States consumers; and

14 (5) a measurement of—

15 (A) the quantity of environmental chemicals
16 that absorb to microplastics; and

17 (B) the quantity described in subparagraph

18 (A) that would be available for human exposure
19 through food supplies or sources of drinking
20 water.

1 **SEC. 7. REPORT ON ELIMINATING BARRIERS TO INCREASE**
2 **THE COLLECTION OF RECYCLABLE MATE-**
3 **RIALS.**

4 *Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of*
5 *this Act, the EPA Administrator shall submit to Congress*
6 *a report describing—*

7 *(1) the economic, educational, technological, re-*
8 *source availability, legal, or other barriers to increas-*
9 *ing the collection, processing, and use of recyclable*
10 *materials; and*

11 *(2) recommendations to overcome the barriers de-*
12 *scribed under paragraph (1).*

13 **SEC. 8. REPORT ON ECONOMIC INCENTIVES TO SPUR DE-**
14 **VELOPMENT OF NEW END-USE MARKETS FOR**
15 **RECYCLED PLASTICS.**

16 *Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of*
17 *this Act, the EPA Administrator shall submit to Congress*
18 *a report describing the most efficient and effective economic*
19 *incentives to spur the development of additional new end-*
20 *use markets for recyclable plastics (including plastic film),*
21 *including the use of increased recycled content by manufac-*
22 *turers in the production of plastic goods and packaging.*